



November 2011 Cheetah and Wild Dog Update:

General Reserve News:

The recently cleared land on either side of the main entrance road has become a favourite hunting ground for most of the cheetah groups. This has made for wonderful sightings by our guests on their way to Okonjima. Many visitors are reporting seeing cheetah hunting, stalking or just lazing around near the road.

The Siblings:



Hammer, Bones, Spud and Coco made 4 kills in one week. On the 4th & the 6th they caught a baby eland. On the 9th they caught a fully grown male kudu and on the 10th they caught a hartebeest. An interesting observation has been the lack of interest shown in hunting warthogs by the Siblings – a previous bad experience perhaps?

Mulder:

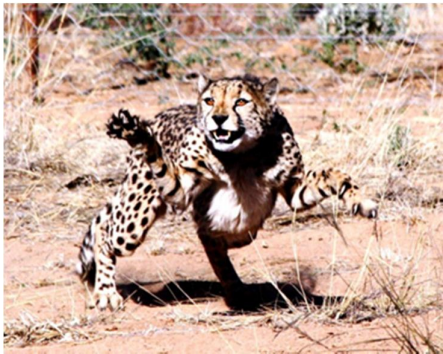
Mulder is back from the vets and doing well. During his release back into the reserve he briefly reunited with his group but he has now ventured off on his own, leaving Tintin and Abbey to fend for themselves.

Fortunately, Tintin & Abbey are very successful hunters and caught a duiker and a warthog on the 7th and a kudu on the 8th. On the 10th they caught another young kudu, which just proves how often a cheetah will hunt.

Charlie and Trish are still hanging around Northdam and we only recorded one kill for the week which was a young kudu on the 9th. Both are fit and healthy.

Tongs still hunts on his own and was found on a steenbuck kill on the 9th, close to Damlise. It seems Steenbuck is now his favourite flavour.

We have no record of any kills lately made by Cyclops, but our monocular wonder boy is in great condition, so he must be looking after himself.



Zen, Zippy and Toby on the other hand have had a well recorded 2 weeks as they shadowed a large group of 30 plus eland along the main reserve road. They caught 4 calves in 6 days and the only time they left the eland herd was when they caught an adult kudu.

The Wild Dogs:

The dogs were released into the reserve on 11th September and we are still subsidising part of their diet. They do seem to be increasingly successful at their hunts and are catching on fast, but it's definitely been a tougher ride for them than for the cheetahs.



They spent the end of October and the 2nd and 3rd of Nov in the far north section of the reserve, but were back at *Alcatraz* by the 4th which is their favourite spot in the 16 000ha reserve. On the 4th Dave saw them on a young kudu kill, but by the 6th he felt they needed a little booster to their diet and gave them a few small pieces of meat. By the 7th their stomachs were full and their faces showed

evidence of a successful kill. On the 10th Dave again found them on an oryx kill in the western section of the reserve.

The Okonjima & Africat Team
6th Dec, 2011