



KWANDO  
SAFARIS

01 November 2007 – 30 November 2007

fast facts

Game Sightings

## Lagoon

- A single lioness seems to have joined the coalition of four male lions. Two of the males sustained some injuries during their buffalo hunts and one of them is limping. The injuries do not look too serious though.
- Leopard sightings were excellent during this month. A female leopard was found with an Impala kill. She was very relaxed and provided good photographic opportunity. Other sightings included a female with cub as well as a young male and female hunting in different areas.
- The three new male Cheetah in the area are now getting used to the vehicles and are very relaxed. They were seen on numerous occasions hunting and feeding. The two brothers also put in an appearance. They were also seen hunting and feeding on a kill on the eastern side of the airstrip. Three young males were briefly seen in the area but were very nervous and did not stay very long.
- The Lagoon pack of six adult Wild dogs and seven pups are still together. They have been seen killing Impala almost everyday. Two male dogs briefly appeared in the area and got into a fight with the Lagoon pack. The sub-adult females did however show some interest in the new males. An old single male dog was also seen roaming in the area.
- The large breeding herds of Elephant have disappeared into the Mopane forests since the rain has started. Some of the smaller herds and bachelor males were still seen feeding on the flood planes.
- The big herds of Buffalo have also started moving into the mopane forest now that the rain has started. Small bachelor herds still remain in the area and are seen on a regular basis.
- Chameleons have started appearing again and were seen on nearly every night drive. Hyena and Jackal were also seen every night. A very rare sighting was reported when the game drives followed a Caracal and saw it hunting and killing a Springhare.
- General game sightings were fantastic during this month as all the Tsessebee's and Impalas are having their babies now. Many Zebra were also seen as well as Giraffe, Kudu, Lechwe, Waterbuck, Reedbuck, Sable and Roan Antelope.

- Excellent sightings of Porcupines, Aardvark, Civet, Serval, Wildcat and Honey Badger were reported during night drives.
- Birding was very good during this month. Almost all of the summer residents are now in attendance. Some of the birds seen were Woodlands Kingfishers, Whalbergs Eagle, Wattled Cranes and Ground Hornbills. Two big Pythons were seen during the game drives. One of the Pythons was seen interacting with the Wild Dog pups.

## Lebala

- The pride of three lionesses and their eight cubs were seen roaming around the airstrip killing Warthogs almost every second day. The two dominant male Lions killed a Buffalo one hundred meters from the camp. They were later joined by the whole pride and stayed with the kill for two days. The pride managed to kill two more Buffalo during the month.
- The young male Leopard has become a regular sighting in the Lebala area. He was seen hunting and killing a Tree Squirrel. A female Leopard was located almost in the same area with a baby Impala kill. Two different male Leopards were also seen in the Lebala area. One was found hunting close to the airstrip and the other was seen hunting in the mopane woodlands.
- A very relaxed female Cheetah was seen hunting and relaxing on numerous occasions during the month. Two male Cheetahs were also found feeding on an Impala carcass. They stayed for two days and moved North towards Lagoon camp.
- A pack of 10 adult Wild Dogs and two puppies were found feeding on a Tsessebe carcass. A single male Wild Dog, very old and weak, was found at Twin Pools. This dog was aimlessly wandering around for two days before disappearing.
- After the first rains the big breeding herds of Elephant disappeared into the Mopane forests only to find they had to return to the flood planes when the rains did not continue.
- Several Buffalo herds were located at various places drinking and some males mating with females. Small bachelor herds were also seen running through the area.
- Birding has been very good this month with all the summer migrants accounted for. Carmine Bee-eaters, Blue cheek Bee -eaters, Paradise Fly Catchers and Broad billed Rollers were some of the birds that made for a very colourful display. Bullfrogs showed up with the rains as well as African Rock Pythons, Snouted and Spitting Cobras.
- Hyenas were located feeding on a young elephant carcass as well as at a lion kill. Both species of Jackal were seen at these kills as well. A clan of Hyena were also seen fighting with the Wild Dogs over a Tsessebe kill.

- General game sightings have been very good through out the month due to the Impalas, Tsessebe and Wildebeest dropping their young. Good sightings of Roan Antelope were also reported.
- A very shy Aardvark was located along the old Lebala road. Mongoose, Caracal, Honey Badger and Serval were very common sightings during the month. Bat Eared fox were also seen on a regular basis.
- Night sightings were good with both species of Jackal being seen. Spotted Hyena and Jackal were seen feeding on an Elephant carcass. Some of the Hyena clans managed to kill a very old Buffalo cow near the airstrip and they managed to finish it off overnight.
- Birding was excellent during this month, with most of the summer residents around. The Carmine Bee-Eaters are breeding and the weavers are busy making nests. Some Paradise Flycatchers were also seen around camp.
- Civet, Serval, Porcupines as well as Honey Badgers were common sightings throughout the month. Various Mongoose species were also seen.

### **Kwara and Little Kwara**

- The very successful coalition, of seven male Lions, still roams the Kwara area. One of the two dominant males has disappeared and information from the neighbouring concession confirmed that buffalo killed him. His brother in arms, has an injured hind leg, and was seen hanging around in the vicinity of the camp. The Tsum-Tsum pride, consisting of seven Lionesses and one male, were seen hunting Warthog, Tsessebe and Zebra, but they were not successful. They did manage to kill a Tsessebe later in the month, and were seen feeding on the kill. The male was also seen mating with one of the Lionesses. Another coalition of four male Lions was seen sleeping in the Tsum-Tsum area.
- The well-known female Leopard and her cub returned to the Kwara area after not being seen for a couple of weeks. She managed to kill an impala and were seen feeding on the kill with her sub adult female offspring. She also managed to kill a Reedbuck but lost part of the kill to a Spotted Hyena.
- The female Cheetah and her three cubs were seen hunting Impala and Tsessebe but they were not successful. They bumped in to a pack of Wild Dogs, near Impala pan, and had a narrow escape when the dogs decided to chase them. The three brothers were also seen regularly throughout the month.
- Wild Dog sightings were very good during the month, as the pack of 22 dogs were seen frequently. The pack consists of 13 adult dogs and 9 pups. They were followed on numerous of their hunts and were seen robbing Baboons of there Impala kills.
- A number of bachelor Elephant herds were seen at the lagoon in front of camp. They were drinking and splashing around in the mud. No sighting of breeding herds was reported during this month.

- The big herds of Buffalo were seen during the month, until the rains started. They then all disappeared in to the mopane forest and now only small breeding herds visits the area.
- Hyena was seen most nights patrolling around the camps and good interaction between them and the Wild Dogs were reported. Both Black Backed and Side-Striped Jackal were seen during the night drives. One of the game drives also saw some Bat Eared Fox.
- General game sightings were excellent throughout the month. The Impala, Tsessebe and Wildebeest are busy dropping their young, so lots of newborn babies around. An unusual sighting of some male Baboons killing Impala newborns was also reported.
- Good sightings of Civet, Serval and African Wild Cat have been reported. Serval and Genets were also seen on some of the drives.
- A fantastic sighting of two Secretary birds fighting with a Spitting Cobra was reported by the game drives. The Secretary Birds managed to kill the Cobra in the end. Birding in general was very good with the heronry being very active. Some of the species sighted were, Wattled Cranes, Ground Hornbills, Meyers Parrots, Slaty Egrets and Lappet Faced Vultures that were busy nesting.