

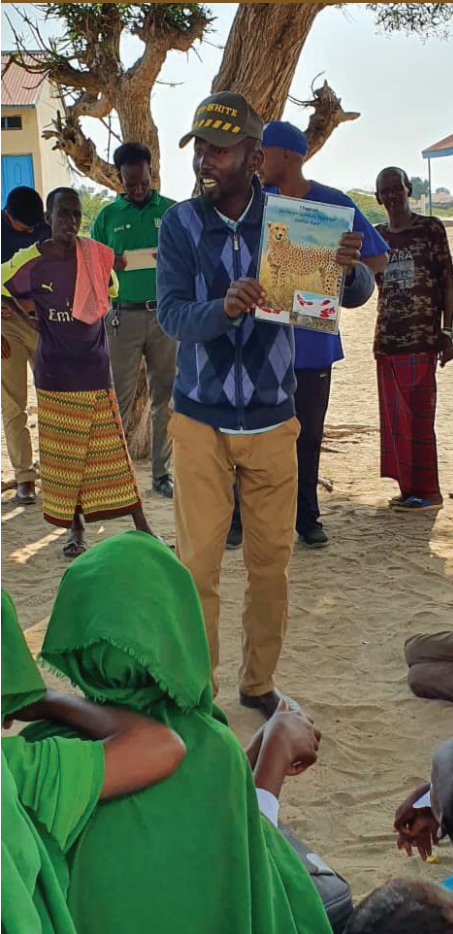


CCF is an international non-profit incorporated association dedicated to the long-term survival of the cheetah and its ecosystems.

RESEARCH

CONSERVATION

EDUCATION



Conservation



HUMAN-WILDLIFE CONFLICT MITIGATION

Ninety percent of Namibia's cheetahs live on livestock and game farms, outside protected areas, alongside rural farming communities. This proximity makes cheetahs more visible to farmers and exposes them to livestock and game farming enterprises. Unfortunately, cheetahs and other predators have historically been perceived as threats rather than valuable components of a thriving ecosystem. For farmers, especially those who are economically disadvantaged, the loss of even a single animal can have devastating consequences.

During the 1980s, Namibia's cheetah population was drastically reduced by half, with over 8,000 cheetahs removed from the landscape by livestock and game farmers. Recognizing the importance of maintaining ecosystem balance, Dr. Marker established conservation strategies to promote sustainable land use while fostering coexistence with native predator species. In 1991, CCF began researching conflict mitigation, which led to the development of the integrated livestock and wildlife management training known today as Future Farmers of Africa (FFA). CCF's researchers create and test predator-friendly livestock management techniques and tools on their Model Farm. These solutions are promoted through farmer publications, media, agricultural shows, meetings, colleges, universities, and FFA training courses to prevent further cheetah population decline.

CCF's most effective non-lethal predator control tool for farmers is the CCF Livestock Guarding Dog (LGD). Anatolian shepherd and Kangal dogs are bred, trained, and placed with farmers at minimal cost to protect small stock like goats and sheep. The presence of these large dogs with their loud barks deters most predators, resulting in over an 80% reduction in predation rates for farmers using CCF LGDs. This reduces the need for farmers to harm cheetahs. Since 1994, the LGD program has placed over 750 dogs in Namibia and has inspired similar initiatives in South Africa, Botswana, Tanzania, as well as other regions worldwide.

CCF has played a crucial role in advancing the conservancy system in Namibia, which effectively combats domestic poaching of endangered wildlife species and serves as a successful African model. Conservancies require defined membership, boundaries, committees, and equitable benefit distribution, linking the fate of local people with that of wildlife for mutual thriving. CCF is actively involved in the Waterberg Conservancy and is a founding member of the Greater Waterberg Landscape initiative, contributing to its steering committee. Additionally, CCF is a member of the Namibian Association of Community-based Support Organizations (NACSO). Utilizing Namibia's conservancy system as a model, CCF is establishing a similar organization, the Somaliland Association of Community-based Support Organizations (SACSO), in collaboration with the Somaliland government and NGOs in Somaliland.

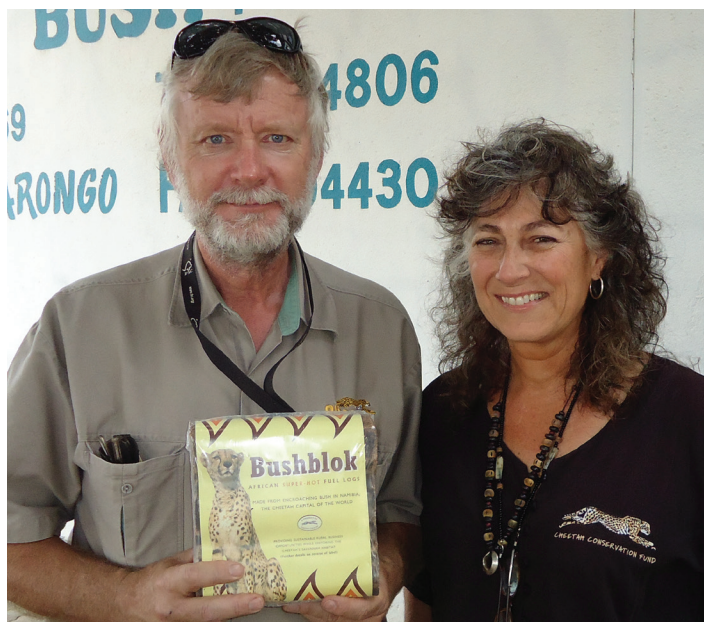
	Species	Tracks Front/Back	Prey Location	Prey Size	Claw Marks	Stomach	Fang Location	Parts Eaten	Bones	Other Evidence	cm	mm
A	Domestic Dog		Anywhere	0-400kg	None					Wool, fur, skin & remains scattered. No marks on throat.	1	10
B	Caracal		Anywhere	10-25kg						Wool, fur pulled out & scattered. Does not eat skin or guts. Red dirt on prey skin.	2	20
C	Black-backed Jackal		Anywhere	0-50kg	None					Wool, fur pulled out & scattered. Does not eat skin or guts. Red dirt on prey skin.	3	30
D	Cheetah		Anywhere	0-50kg	None					Wool, fur pulled out & scattered. Does not eat skin or guts.	4	40
E	Lion		Anywhere	Over 100kg						Wool, fur pulled out & scattered. Does not eat skin or guts.	5	50
F	Brown Hyena		Anywhere	0-50kg	None					Wool, fur, skin and remains scattered. Bones all found. Only scattered debris, such as hooves, blood and guts remain.	6	60
G	Spotted Hyena		Anywhere	0-400kg	None					Heavy carcass remains. With a large claw, no evidence remains.	7	70
H	Leopard		Anywhere	All sizes						Wool, fur, skin and remains scattered. Bones all found. Only scattered debris, such as hooves, blood and guts remain.	8	80
I	African Wild Dog		Anywhere	0-400kg	None					Heavy carcass remains. With a large claw, no evidence remains.	9	90
J	Wild Dog		Anywhere	0-400kg	None					Heavy carcass remains. With a large claw, no evidence remains.	10	100

THE TOOLS FOR CONFLICT MITIGATION

CCF provides training resources to assist in Human-Wildlife Conflict Mitigation. Their farmer training book "A Guide to Integrated Livestock and Predator Management" and teacher's resource book "A Predator's Role in the Ecosystem" are used to educate farmers, teachers, and students on non-lethal measures to prevent livestock losses. CCF's educational teams utilize resources like the Kill ID chart to aid in their training activities. These materials are provided to all participants in CCF's coursework, teacher, and field training programs.

CCF BUSH AND BUSHBLOK®

Cheetahs' hunting behavior is adapted to open or semi-open savannahs, but bush encroachment caused by factors like droughts, climate change, and overgrazing has altered Namibian farmlands, affecting the habitat and prey species mix. To address this, CCF developed the CCF Bush project in 2001, promoting habitat restoration and bush thinning while creating a sustainable market for harvested biomass products. The project has selectively harvested acres of bush to produce BUSHBLOK®, an eco-friendly, low-emission, high-heat premium fuel log. CCF's efforts received recognition, including the Tech Museum's Intel Prize for the Environment in 2008. CCF aims to establish ecological standards for expanded bush harvesting to restore significant tracts of cheetah habitat in Namibia. The project is certified by the Forest Stewardship Council (FSC®)(FSC-C004580) for responsible and sustainable forest resource management. The Biomass Technology Demonstration Centre (BTDC) and BUSHBLOK® production operation provide employment opportunities for over 50 Namibians, with the potential for further growth.



ILLEGAL WILDLIFE TRADE

Although trade in wildlife species products is regulated by the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES) both international and national laws, the Illegal Wildlife Trade is estimated to be worth between \$50-150 billion annually. Cheetahs, listed as an Appendix 1 species under CITES, are often removed from the wild for their body parts or, more so, the illegal pet trade.

CCF first became actively involved with issues involving the illegal trade in cheetahs in 2005. Since then, CCF has been monitoring cheetah trafficking and organizing confiscations through the proper authorities whenever possible. CCF collects genetic samples for analysis and trains staff at cheetah-holding facilities to ensure the proper care for confiscated animals.

CCF also works to educate the public about illegal trade. Even though the intrinsic nature of illegal wildlife trade makes it difficult to collect full or reliable information, CCF has recorded hundreds of cases involving over 2,000 cheetahs. Currently, CCF holds the most extensive database for cheetah trafficking worldwide. CCF takes every opportunity at national and international forums to ensure that the problem is not ignored. CCF participates in the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES) inter-sessional working group on the illegal trade in cheetah and was instrumental in making recommendations unanimously adopted by CITES at CoP17, and with the Convention for Migratory Species (CMS) African Big Cat Initiative (ACI).

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Cheetah
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