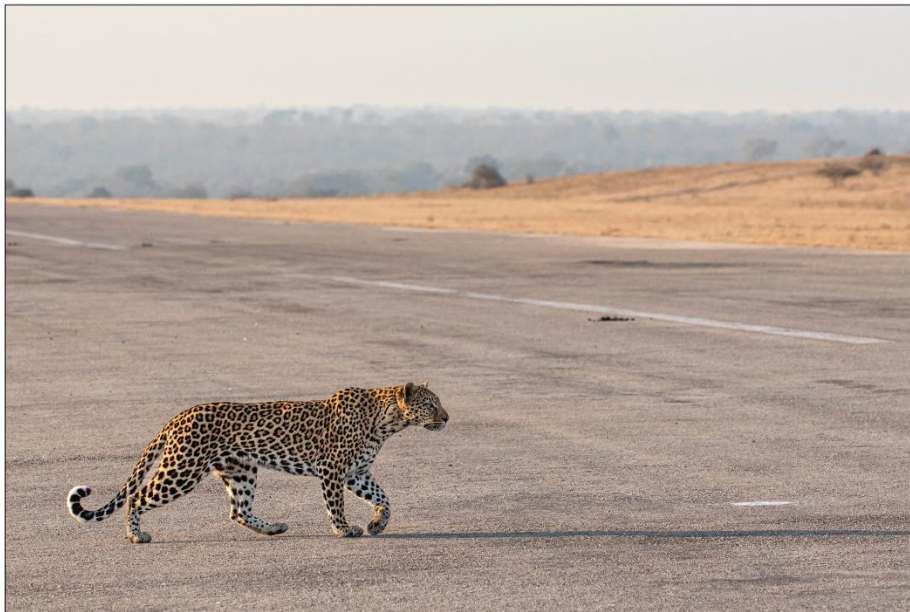




# Game Report



The Three Riivers female crosses the Airstrip by Ranger Victoria Craddock

MalaMala Game Reserve  
August 2022

*It's all about the wildlife!*

THE MONTH'S WEATHER SUMMARY					
Temperature					
Celsius (°C)			Fahrenheit (°F)		
	Actual	Average		Actual	Average
Maximum	35	27	Maximum	95	80
Minimum	7	12	Minimum	45	54
Rainfall					
Millimetres		Inches		Days of rain	
0		0		0	

TOTAL SIGHTINGS	
Lion	92
Leopard	148
Elephant	139
Buffalo	70
Cheetah	3
Cape Hunting Dog	11

*\*Sightings are tallied by day and not by drive. E.g., an individual leopard seen during the morning and afternoon drive on the same day is regarded as a single sighting.*

KILL STATS	
Lion	1 kudu, 2 buffalo, 1 impala, 1 giraffe
Leopard	20 impala, 1 vervet monkey, 2 bushbuck, 1 duiker, 1 scrub hare
Cheetah	2 impala
Cape Hunting Dog	1 impala, 1 kudu, 1 unknown

*\*AGES ARE APPROXIMATIONS*

## LION PRIDES

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### **THE KAMBULA PRIDE = 21**

3 ADULT FEMALES	± 9 YEARS 5 MONTHS
3 ADULT FEMALES	± 9 YEARS 2 MONTHS
6 SUB ADULT FEMALES	± 4 YEARS 0 MONTHS
5 SUB ADULT MALES	± 4 YEARS 0 MONTHS
1 SUB ADULT FEMALE	3 YEARS 3 MONTHS
1 SUB ADULT MALE	3 YEARS 3 MONTHS
2 CUBS	1 YEAR 5 MONTHS

*MALAMALA, FLOCKFIELD, NORTHERN CHARLESTON*

(44 sightings)

Finally, after much observation and gathering of identification pictures, it appears that we have a more comprehensive breakdown of the splits of this pride:

Kambula Group A – two lionesses and two cubs.

Kambula Group B – four young male lions and two young female lions.

Kambula Group C – four adult females and three young female lions.

The above breakdown leaves two young males and three young females unaccounted for. Both young males were seen in August, so we can confirm that they are alive but are not moving with Kambula Group B. The unaccounted-for young females are trickier to explain. It is likely that Kambula Group C is a fluid grouping and that the young females come and go. While sightings of Kambula Group C are consistently of seven lionesses, we cannot confirm if they are the same individuals each time. Lionesses from this grouping continue to mate with the Ndhzenga males.

### **Noteworthy sightings:**

- Kambula Group C was at Charleston North Crossing on the 14<sup>th</sup>. They enjoyed the company of the Ndhzenga males. Kambula Group B was also seen on the 14<sup>th</sup> in the most eastern parts of the Kapen River.
- Kambula Group A killed a buffalo bull west of Bicycle Crossing on the 17<sup>th</sup>. One of the lone young males was around Mlowathi Koppies on the same day.
- On the 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup>, Kambula Group A fed on the remains of their buffalo kill. Interestingly, they were joined by the lone young male and the frail Ndhzenga male on both days.
- Two lionesses mated with a Ndhzenga male north of the Rock Drift Donga on the 23<sup>rd</sup>, 24<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup>
- Kambula Group A and Kambula Group B were on opposite sides of Matshapiri Open Area on the 25<sup>th</sup>. As far as we are aware, they remained oblivious of one another.
- Three young lionesses killed an impala around Lion Waterhole on the 25<sup>th</sup>.
- Kambula Group C had an altercation with the Styx pride on the last day of the month, around Calabash Crossing. Three Ndhzenga males were present.

**THE NKUHUMA PRIDE = 20**

2 ADULT FEMALES	± 9 YEARS 8 MONTHS
1 ADULT FEMALE	9 YEARS 1 MONTH
3 ADULT FEMALES	± 6 YEARS 2 MONTHS
4 SUB ADULT MALES	± 3 YEARS 2 MONTH
2 SUB ADULT FEMALES	± 3 YEARS 2 MONTH
1 SUB ADULT MALE	2 YEARS 8 MONTHS
7 CUBS	± 1 YEAR 4 MONTHS

*WESTERN EYREFIELD*

(11 sightings)

Members of this pride were seen on 11 days in August. More and more, we are seeing them moving as a unit of 18.

The two oldest lionesses have broken away from the pride and are now territorial in the western section of the Sabi Sands Nature Reserve. They have had one litter of cubs with the Plains Camp Males. Therefore, we will start to refer to these lions as the Nkuhuma Break Away Pride from next month, and they will not be reported under this section.

**Noteworthy sightings:**

- Four lionesses, seven cubs and all seven sub-adults were with the Northern Avoca males at Mlowathi Dam on the 2<sup>nd</sup>.
- The group mentioned above was found sharing a buffalo kill east of Matumi Rocks on the 15<sup>th</sup>. They remained in the area the following day.
- On the 18<sup>th</sup>, the sub-adults and one lioness were around Tlebe Rocks.
- The three lionesses and seven cubs had a failed attempt at an impala hunt around the Sausage Spot on the 24<sup>th</sup>.

**THE SAND RIVER PRIDE = 14**

2 ADULT FEMALES	± 9 YEARS 1 MONTH
2 ADULT FEMALES	± 4 YEARS 1 MONTH
1 SUB ADULT FEMALE	2 YEARS 7 MONTHS
3 SUB ADULTS (1 FEMALE & 2 MALES)	2 YEARS 0 MONTHS
6 CUBS	1 YEAR 0 MONTHS

*SOUTHERN CHARLESTON*

(5 sightings)

This pride is almost always found near the Sand River as the bush dries. In an entertaining sighting on the 13<sup>th</sup>, members of this pride unsuccessfully tried to hunt a buffalo bull, a bushbuck and a nyala ewe before they settled in the shade of a wild date palm.

**THE MARTHLY PRIDE = 1**

1 SUB ADULT FEMALE

3 YEARS 5 MONTHS

*MARTHLY*

(0 sightings)

The Marthly lioness was not seen this month. However, reports from neighbouring properties suggest that she has linked up with an older Mhangeni lioness.

**THE TORCHWOOD PRIDE = 20**

7 ADULT FEMALES

UNKOWN AGES

6 ADULT FEMALES

± 6 YEARS 7 MONTHS

7 CUBS

± 2 YEARS 0 MONTHS

*EASTERN EYREFIELD*

(0 sightings)

The Torchwood pride was not seen in August.

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**MALE LIONS**


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**THE NDHZENGA MALES = 4**

2 ADULT MALES

± 7 YEARS 6 MONTHS

2 ADULT MALES

± 7 YEARS 1 MONTHS

*WESTERN CHARLESTON**Dominant over the Styx and Kambula Prides.**First Encountered on MalaMala September 2020*

(21 sightings)

This month highlighted what we have observed previously, that the male with the club foot is spending increasingly less time with his brothers. Mating activity between these males and lionesses from the Kambula pride continues.

**Noteworthy sightings:**

- Three males (excluding the male with the club foot) were with Kambula Group C around Charleston North on the 7<sup>th</sup>. The same group was at the same place on the 14<sup>th</sup>.
- On the 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup>, the male with the club foot joined the Kambula Group A as they fed on a buffalo carcass west of Bicycle Crossing. This is the first time we have recorded a Ndzenga male close to the cubs of the Kambula pride. In his poor condition, he prioritised food over infanticide.
- On the 21<sup>st</sup>, the male with the club foot was alone around the White Stones.
- Three males found themselves in the middle of a brawl between two of their prides on the 31<sup>st</sup> when the Kambula pride had an altercation with the Styx pride at Calabash Crossing.

**THE NORTHERN AVOCA MALES = 2**

2 ADULT MALES

± 9 YEARS 2 MONTHS

*WESTERN EYREFIELD*

*Dominant over the Nkuhuma pride.*

*First encountered in late 2019.*

(6 sightings)

In half of the recorded sightings, these males were together with the members of the Nkuhuma pride (detailed in the pride section). Both males were north of the Old Borehole on the 14<sup>th</sup>. A male was alone 24<sup>th</sup> at Mlowathi Pans. On the 25<sup>th</sup>, one male was north of Mlowathi Dam.

**THE SOUTHERN AVOCA MALES = 2**

2 ADULT MALES

± 9 YEARS 6 MONTHS

*SOUTHERN CHARLESTON*

*Dominant over the Sand River Pride.*

*First encountered on MalaMala Game Reserve*

(0 sightings)

These males were not seen this month.

**Other Lions Encountered:**

- The **STYX** pride was seen on three occasions this month. On the 31<sup>st</sup>, in the most dramatic of their appearances, they were involved in a fight with lionesses from the Kambula pride. It is unclear whether any of the lions were seriously injured, but one young Styx lion bore the brunt of the attack.

THE TOTAL NUMBER OF LIONS ENCOUNTERED	92 (21 cubs)
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## LEOPARDS

### FEMALE LEOPARDS:

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#### **THE ISLAND FEMALE**

9 YEARS 6 MONTHS

WESTERN FLOCKFIELD, SOUTHERN MALAMALA

*Daughter of the Tamboti female, independent first quarter of 2015.*

*Mother of the Daughter of the Island female.*

(7 sightings)

#### **Noteworthy sightings:**

- She interacted with the Piccadilly female over two carcasses around the entrance to Rattray's Camp on the 1<sup>st</sup>.
- On the 19<sup>th</sup>, the Island female was one of six leopards that came together over a carcass west of West Street. The Maxim's male showed a particular distaste towards this female, chasing her into a tree while the Inyathini male slinked off. The Piccadilly female and Three Rivers female were also in the area and milled around, while the daughter of the Island female watched from a distance. Later that evening, this female had an altercation with her only surviving offspring, sending the young leopard into the canopy of a large torchwood tree.
- The last sighting of this female was on the 27<sup>th</sup>, when she was in White Cloth Open Area.

#### **THE NKOVENI FEMALE**

10 YEARS 0 MONTHS

#### **2 FEMALE CUBS**

1 YEAR 7 MONTHS

WESTERN MALAMALA & SOUTHERN MARTHLY

*Daughter of the Mashaba female, independent early 2014.*

*Mother of the Plaque Rock female.*

(28 sightings, 9 of female, of 5 female and cub/s, 14 of cub/s)

The Nkoveni female shows little sign of pushing her older cubs into fledged independence. A theory proposed by Panthera might explain this behaviour, that mother leopards prioritise current offspring over future reproductive output.

#### **Noteworthy sightings:**

- The three leopards shared an impala ewe on the 1<sup>st</sup>, south of MalaMala Camp. The 3:2 cub did the catching and hoisting of this family feast.
- All three leopards were together again on the 6<sup>th</sup> around the Old Airstrip.
- On the 10<sup>th</sup>, the female was in the same area as the Maxim's male when both leopards were found around the Causeway.
- On the 14<sup>th</sup>, the 3:2 cub caught and hoisted a scrub hare west of MalaMala Camp.
- Both cubs were around MalaMala Camp on the 16<sup>th</sup>.
- Mother and both cubs were together around the Settling Ponds on the 17<sup>th</sup>.
- The Nkoveni female was seen far from her normal range on the 19<sup>th</sup> when she was found northeast of Maurice's Pan.
- On the 31<sup>st</sup>, the 3:2 cub killed and hoisted an adult bushbuck ewe south of Sand Pit Crossing. Her mother and sister joined her later that day.

**THE DAUGHTER OF THE ISLAND FEMALE**

2 YEAR 0 MONTHS

SOUTHERN MALAMALA

Daughter of the Island female, independent February 2022.

(8 sightings)

The daughter of the Island female was seen more than her mother this month.

**Noteworthy sightings:**

- The first time she was seen was on the 2<sup>nd</sup>, around West Street. Her mother was also in the area.
- On the 19<sup>th</sup>, she was one of the six leopards around West Street. Her mother surprised her with an aggressive advancement, sending her to seek refuge in the canopy of a nearby tree.
- The last sighting of this young female was on the 27<sup>th</sup> when she was around Matshapiri Open Area.

**THE SIBUYE FEMALE**

8 YEARS 7 MONTHS

WESTERN EYREFIELD

*Daughter of the Kikilezi female, independent first quarter of 2016.**Mother of the Tlebe Rocks female, Langa female & Xaxa male.*

(3 sightings)

This female was seen on three days this month. On the 2<sup>nd</sup>, she entertained rangers as she successfully hunted a vervet monkey south of Mlowathi Pans. Unfortunately, the Flat Rock male arrived and stole her primate prize. She was north of Mlowathi Pans on the 5<sup>th</sup>. The last time this female was seen was on the 19<sup>th</sup> when she was northeast of Ostrich Koppies. Perhaps she is looking to shift her territory into what was the Emsagweni female's territory.

**THE TLEBE ROCKS FEMALE**

4 YEARS 7 MONTHS

**MALE CUB**

9 MONTHS

CENTRAL &amp; WESTERN EYREFIELD

Daughter of the Sibuye Female, independent second quarter 2019.

(4 sightings of female)

This female was seen four days this month. Her male cub was not seen this month. The first sighting of the female was on the 6<sup>th</sup> when she was north of Fred's Tree. The next day she was around Lower Mlowathi Crossing. She was last seen on the morning of the 28<sup>th</sup>, back at Lower Mlowathi Crossing.

**THE EMSAGWENI FEMALE**

12 YEARS 8 MONTHS

**2 CUBS**

11 MONTHS

NORTH/EASTERN MALAMALA AND EYREFIELD

*Daughter of the Kikilezi female, independent first quarter of 2012.**Mother of the Ngoboswan and Eyrefield Males.*

(0 sightings)

With an absence of four months on MalaMala, this is the last time the Emsagweni female will feature in her own section of this Game Report. However, if she reappears, we will include her in the 'other leopards' section.



**THE THREE RIVERS FEMALE  
MALE CUB**

6 YEARS 4 MONTHS  
1 YEAR 1 MONTH

WESTERN FLOCKFIELD, WESTERN MALAMALA

*Daughter of the Kikilezi female, orphaned on 22<sup>nd</sup> May 2017.*

(6 sightings, 3 of female, 3 of female and cub)

The female was seen with her cub as often as she was alone this month. Many leopards have visited the territory of this female this month, but she continues to make her presence known while keeping her cub safe.

**Noteworthy sightings:**

- The Maxim's male defended the female and cub on the night of the 7<sup>th</sup> when the Eyrefield male aggressively advanced toward the duo.
- The female and her cub fed on the remains of an impala ram on the 18<sup>th</sup>, south of Kikilezihash Crossing.
- The female was without her cub on the 19<sup>th</sup> when she was involved in a six-leopard interaction west of West Street.
- The last sighting of the female was on the 25<sup>th</sup> when she crossed the Airstrip.

**THE PLAQUE ROCK FEMALE**

4 YEARS 5 MONTHS

WESTERN MALAMALA

*Daughter of the Nkoveni female, independent last quarter of 2019.*

(4 sightings)

In the past eight weeks, we have seen more of the Plaque Rock female than we typically expect. It might be because she is mating again. Or, perhaps, the Nkoveni female is starting to create space for her litter to go independent, and the Plaque Rock female is taking advantage.

She was around the Broken Dam on the 13<sup>th</sup>. Then, on the 20<sup>th</sup>, she shared a kill with her younger sister, the 3:2 cub of the Nkoveni female, when both leopards were seen in a tree west of the Old Airstrip. The final two sightings of this female were on the 24<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup> when she was mating with the Maxim's male in the area between the Causeway and Maxim's Lookout.

**THE LOOKOUT FEMALE**

± 12 YEARS 7 MONTHS

**CUB**

4 MONTHS

NORTHERN FLOCKFIELD

*First encountered on MalaMala Game Reserve in late 2015.*

*Mother of the Kapen female & Son of the Lookout female.*

(5 sightings, 2 of female, 3 of female and cub)

Five sightings of this female were enjoyed this month. Three of which were with her cub.

The female and her cub were east of White Cloth on the 1<sup>st</sup>. She led her cub to a duiker kill south of the White Cloth on the 8<sup>th</sup>. The female was in the same area the following two days. The female was alone on the 13<sup>th</sup> when she was at Lion Waterhole.

**THE PICCADILLY FEMALE  
DAUGHTER**

8 YEARS 7 MONTHS  
2 YEARS 5 MONTHS

WESTERN EYREFIELD, MARTHLY

*Daughter of the Kikilezi female, independent first quarter of 2016.  
(10 sightings of female)*

The Piccadilly female ventured beyond her territory multiple times this month but continues to return to her home, Marthly.

**Noteworthy sightings:**

- On the 1<sup>st</sup>, she was around Rattray's Camp, where she had a stand-off with the Island female over two impala carcasses.
- She was at Elephant Rock on the 2<sup>nd</sup>.
- She mated with the Flat Rock male around Paraffin Drift on the 12<sup>th</sup>. The pair were mating again on the 16<sup>th</sup>, around Elephant Rock.
- She was one of the six leopards around West Street on the 19<sup>th</sup>.
- On the 26<sup>th</sup>, she was around Maurice's Pan.
- The last day she was seen was on the 31<sup>st</sup>, opposite MalaMala Camp.

**THE KAPEN FEMALE  
MALE CUB**

4 YEARS 10 MONTHS  
10 MONTHS

SOUTHERN FLOCKFIELD

*Daughter of the Lookout female, independent first quarter of 2019.  
(1 sighting)*

We are delighted to report that the Kapen female made her first appearance since March! She was found on the 31<sup>st</sup> east of Jakkalsdraai Open Area.

While she remains an important leopard on MalaMala, this will be the last time she has a section of her own, as the infrequency of sightings does not warrant its own chapter.

## MALE LEOPARDS

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### **THE MAXIM'S MALE**

± 8 YEARS 0 MONTHS

*WESTERN FLOCKFIELD & MALAMALA*

*First seen on MalaMala Game Reserve in early 2019.*

(13 sightings)

The Maxim's male made 13 appearances this month!

#### **Noteworthy sightings:**

- The first sighting of this male was on the 3<sup>rd</sup> when he was around the windsock.
- On the 7<sup>th</sup>, the Maxim's male exhibited what it means to be a good leopard father when he protected the cub of the Three Rivers female from an aggressive advance from the Eyrefield male around Flockfield Tower.
- He was in the same area as the Nkoveni female on the 13<sup>th</sup>, when both leopards were opposite the MalaMala Camp swimming pool.
- On the 16<sup>th</sup>, he stole an impala kill from an unknown young male south of Flockfield Tower. He remained in the area for the following two days.
- On the 19<sup>th</sup>, the Maxim's male was one of six leopards that interacted over an impala ram carcass west of West Street (see the section on the Island female for details).
- On the 24<sup>th</sup>, he mated with the Plaque Rock female around the Causeway.
- He was found mating with the Plaque Rock female again on the 26<sup>th</sup>, north of Maxim's Lookout.

### **THE NGOBOSWAN MALE**

4 YEARS 9 MONTHS

*MARTHLY & WESTERN EYREFIELD*

*Son of the Emsagweni female, independent late 2019.*

(7 sightings)

Relative to the leopard surge experienced on the Western Bank, the antics of the Ngoboswan male remained calm and consistent this month.

#### **Noteworthy sightings:**

- He had an impala ram hoisted west of Campbell Koppies on the 2<sup>nd</sup>.
- On the 19<sup>th</sup>, he was on patrol when he was found around Mlowathi Pans.
- He dragged and hoisted an impala ewe carcass north from Senegal Bush on the 21<sup>st</sup>. He fed on this carcass for the next day.
- The last sighting for the month was on the 29<sup>th</sup> when he was east of Mlowathi Dam.

**THE ACCIPITER MALE**

± 12 YEARS 0 MONTHS

*EASTERN & CENTRAL MALAMALA & FLOCKFIELD**First seen on MalaMala Game Reserve in late 2015.*

(7 sightings)

Remarkably, this month, the Accipiter male was seen as frequently as the Ngoboswan male.

**Noteworthy Sightings:**

- The first sighting of this male was on the 2<sup>nd</sup> when he was found north of West Street.
- He stole an impala ewe kill from this presumed son, the Redhawk male, on the 22<sup>nd</sup>, east of White Cloth Open Area.
- On the 25<sup>th</sup>, he was at the confluence of the Matshapiri River and Hogvaal Donga.
- The last sighting of this male was on the 31<sup>st</sup>, south of West Street.

**THE EYREFIELD MALE**

4 YEARS 9 MONTHS

*NOMADIC (Eastern Eyrefield and eastern MalaMala)**Son of the Emsagweni female, independent late 2019.*

(3 sightings)

The Eyrefield male was seen three times this month. His movements continue to be that of a nomadic male. On the 4<sup>th</sup>, he was around Buffalo Bush Dam. He made advances towards a kill that the Three Rivers female and cub had on the Western Bank on the 7<sup>th</sup>. But, unbeknown to him, the dominant Maxim's male was in the area and attacked the Eyrefield male to protect his offspring. Lastly, on the 10<sup>th</sup>, he was found on the western ramp of Confluence Crossing. He was sporting superficial wounds behind his right armpit.

**THE SPLIT ROCK MALE**

8 YEARS 1 MONTH

*CHARLESTON**Son of the Ostrich Koppies female, independent latter half of 2015.*

(4 sightings)

The Split Rock male appears to be shifting his territory further north, as he is frequently seen in the southern parts of Flockfield. On the 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup>, he fed on an impala ewe carcass east of Lion Waterhole. He was found around Charleston North Crossing on the 18<sup>th</sup> and followed north into western Flockfield. On the 23<sup>rd</sup>, he was in the southern parts of Charleston when a pack of Cape hunting dogs chased him up a tree north of Rocky Crossing. The same Cape Hunting Dogs chased the Hanyile male, and both males were salivating and scent marking, suggesting that the males were having an altercation before the Cape hunting dogs chased them both.

### Other Leopards Encountered:

- A young (2:3) male was seen four times this month. We estimate he is around a year old. Although not a leopard to run away, he is watchful of our vehicles. The first time he was seen was on the 1<sup>st</sup> when he was north of the Windmill. On the 24<sup>th</sup>, he was at New Rocks, and the following day he was west of the Windmill. Lastly, on the 31<sup>st</sup>, he was at the Windmill.
- A sub-adult male was on the Gowrie Boundary west of the Mlowathi River on the 2<sup>nd</sup>.
- The **FLAT ROCK MALE** stole a kill from the Sibuye Female south of Mlowathi Pans on the 2<sup>nd</sup>. He mated with the Piccadilly female east of Paraffin Drift on the 12<sup>th</sup> and at Elephant Rock Lookout on the 16<sup>th</sup>. He was west of Bicycle Crossing on the 25<sup>th</sup>. On the 31<sup>st</sup>, he was west of Stwise.
- The **TENGILE FEMALE** and cubs had a bushbuck north of Trollip's Camp on the 4<sup>th</sup>. On the 9<sup>th</sup>, all three leopards were on an impala kill in northern Toulon. The two cubs were north of KK Pans on the 22<sup>nd</sup>, 23<sup>rd</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup>. Both cubs were southwest of Trollip's Camp on the 28<sup>th</sup>. On the 31<sup>st</sup>, all three leopards had an impala kill at Trollip's Hippo Pools.
- The **INYATHINI MALE** fed off the Kudu killed by the Kambula Pride at Flockfield Pool on the 7<sup>th</sup>. He was south of Vulture Waterhole on the 11<sup>th</sup>. He was in the six-leopard sighting southeast of West Street Pans on the 19<sup>th</sup>.
- An unidentified female was seen briefly at Donald's Crossing on the 8<sup>th</sup>.
- The **NCHILE MALE** had an impala kill in central Toulon on the 9<sup>th</sup>.
- The **FLOCKFIELD MALE** was in southern Charleston on the 9<sup>th</sup>. He had an impala kill on the 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> north of Charleston Koppies. He was east of Charleston North Crossing on the 16<sup>th</sup>. He was at Entrance Sibuye Drive on the 24<sup>th</sup>. On the 29<sup>th</sup>, he was north of Zebra Skull.
- The **REDHAWK MALE** was west of Emsagwen Open Area on the 10<sup>th</sup>. He had an impala kill east of White Cloth Open Area on the 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> before the Accipiter male stole the kill on the 22<sup>nd</sup>. On the 29<sup>th</sup>, he was south of Donald's Crossing.
- The **ROCKY RIDGE FEMALE** was in north-western Toulon on the 11<sup>th</sup>. Both cubs were east of Schotia Dam (Toulon) on the 15<sup>th</sup>.
- The **GOLOYNI FEMALE** (*Daughter of the Ntsumi female*) was at the Old Dudley Crossing on the 15<sup>th</sup>.
- An unidentified male had an impala kill stolen from him by the Maxim's male southeast of Flockfield Tower on the 16<sup>th</sup>.
- An unidentified female was at Charleston North Crossing on the 17<sup>th</sup>.
- The **XIVINDZI FEMALE** had an impala kill in central Toulon on the 19<sup>th</sup>. She mated with the Hanyile male west of KK Crossing on the 28<sup>th</sup>.
- An unidentified male was at the confluence of the Rock Drift Donga and the Sand River on the 21<sup>st</sup>.
- The **RIVER ROCKS FEMALE** was moving northeast from Entrance Sibuye Drive on the 22<sup>nd</sup>. She was at Charleston North Crossing on the 31<sup>st</sup>.
- The **XIVATI FEMALE** was at Sands End Crossing (Toulon) with a nyala ewe kill on the 23<sup>rd</sup>.
- The **SANDS END MALE** was in the Sand River at Toulon House on the 23<sup>rd</sup>.
- The **HANYILE MALE** was north of Rocky Crossing on the 23<sup>rd</sup> (see Split Rock male). He was mating with the Xivindzi female west of KK Crossing on the 28<sup>th</sup>.
- An unidentified female was at Dudley Dam on the 28<sup>th</sup>.
- An unidentified female was in the Nwana Nonanshemeni Donga on the 30<sup>th</sup>.
- The **NTSUMI FEMALE** and cub had an impala kill southwest of Beaumont's Camp on the 31<sup>st</sup>.
- The **N'WETI MALE** was southeast of Charleston North Crossing on the 31<sup>st</sup>.

TOTAL NUMBER OF LEOPARDS ENCOUNTERED	40 (9 cubs)
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## CHEETAH

Three sightings of cheetah were recorded this month. The female cheetah and her male cub were seen twice this month. On the 12<sup>th</sup>, the female caught an impala ewe on the Airstrip, and both cheetahs were south of the Airstrip the following day. On the evening of the 18<sup>th</sup>, while rangers followed members of the Nkuhuma pride, they came across a cheetah on an impala kill southwest of the old borehole in Eyrefield. Due to it being after dark and the presence of the lions, the rangers left the cheetah straight away.

TOTAL NUMBER OF CHEETAH ENCOUNTERED	3 (1 cub)
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## CAPE HUNTING DOGS

The **OTTAWA PACK** (8 adults) was viewed seven times this month. The first sighting of this pack was on the 3<sup>rd</sup> when they were in the Sand River north of Maxim's Lookout. On the 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup>, they spent time south of Princess Alice Pans. On the 18<sup>th</sup>, the pack was at Matshapiri Dam and moved south from here. The next day, the pack was found on an impala kill on the eastern bank of the Sand River north of West Street Bridge. However, they had their kill stolen from them by a clan of Hyena. The pack returned on the hunt and caught a young kudu north of White Cloth Open Area. The following day the pack was at Confluence Crossing. On the 28<sup>th</sup>, the pack was in the Sand River opposite Sable Camp.

The **LEEUPAN PACK** (9 adults and 6 pups) was viewed three times this month.

Four pack members chased the Hanyile and Split Rock male leopards north of Rocky Crossing on the 23<sup>rd</sup>. The following day nine adults and six pups had an impala kill north of Jakkalsdraai Open Area. Three adults were at the Windmill on the 26<sup>th</sup>.

Members of the **TOULON PACK** were seen in Toulon on the 11<sup>th</sup>.

TOTAL NUMBER OF CAPE HUNTING DOGS ENCOUNTERED	38 (6 pups)
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## CAPE BUFFALO AND ELEPHANTS

This month we recorded **70 Cape buffalo** sightings and **139 elephant** sightings. We expect to see higher numbers of these two water-dependent species in August. However, due to the late rains, we are not recording as many sightings as we typically would at this stage of the dry season. As August ended, sightings increased as the landscape continued to dry.

## Other sightings of interest

The **HYENA DEN SITE** on the MalaMala/Flockfield Boundary east of Hogvaal road is still active. Three **CAPE CLAWLESS OTTERS** were in the Sand River at Matumi Rocks on the 20<sup>th</sup>. **HONEY BADGER** sightings were again good this month. A few **JACKAL** sightings were recorded this month.