



Game Report



A Cape clawless otter by ranger David den Hartog

MalaMala Game Reserve
October 2024

It's all about the wildlife!

THE MONTH'S WEATHER SUMMARY					
Temperature					
Celsius (°C)			Fahrenheit (°F)		
	Actual	Average		Actual	Average
Maximum	36	30		97	86
Minimum	11	20		52	68
Rainfall					
Millimetres		Inches		Days of rain	
10		0.4		4	

TOTAL SIGHTINGS	
Lion	93
Leopard	174
Elephant	249
Buffalo	69
Cheetah	0
Cape Hunting Dog	16

**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	17 impala, 3 bushbuck, 2 buffalo, 2 nyala, 2 warthog, 1 zebra
Leopard	27 impala, 3 bushbuck, 1 nyala, 1 scrub hare
Cheetah	N/A
Cape Hunting Dog	5 impala, 1 bushbuck, 1 steenbok

*AGES ARE APPROXIMATIONS

LION PRIDES

THE KAMBULA PRIDE = 18

1 ADULT FEMALE	± 11 YEARS 4 MONTHS
4 ADULT FEMALES	± 6 YEARS 3 MONTHS
9 CUBS	1 YEAR 10 MONTHS
1 CUB	1 YEAR 8 MONTHS
3 CUBS	1 YEAR 3 MONTHS

MALAMALA, FLOCKFIELD, NORTHERN CHARLESTON

(35 sightings)

The members of the Kambula pride were seen almost twice as often this month, spending much of their time near the Sand River as the delayed summer rains cause larger game to make their way to the last remaining water source.

Noteworthy Sightings:

- On the 1st, five cubs were west of Lion Rocks, while the rest of the pride were in the Sand River at its confluence with the Rock Drift Donga.
- The entire pride was joined by the Ndhzenga males on the 3rd, far east along the MalaMala Flockfield Boundary. The two males were still with them two days later, south of Lion Rocks.
- Two lionesses killed two impalas at Hyena Waterhole on the 9th, while the rest of the pride were with the Ndhzenga males at Old Dudley Crossing.
- The next day, most of the pride were with one Ndhzenga male far east of Piccadilly Crossing, but one lioness was at Styx Crossing and she was at West Street Bridge the following day.
- On the 12th, she was at West Street Pans while another lioness joined an Ndhzenga male at Styx Crossing and was seen with him again on the 15th at Kapen Rocks.
- They killed a bushbuck at Confluence Crossing on the 14th and all but one lioness was south of Confluence Crossing on the 17th. The other lioness was at Styx Rocks.
- After days of trailing a buffalo herd, they killed one in the Rock Drift Donga along the Charleston Flockfield Boundary on the 20th. The females chased off the young Styx male before having their kill stolen by their own kin, two of the Kambula Males. Accepting defeat, they moved on but then killed another sub-adult buffalo to the west of Lion Rocks.
- The next day, they were feeding on a warthog kill near Styx Rocks and killed an impala further west on the 22nd, but two of their cubs were found alone near Kapen Rocks.
- The two cubs and a lioness ate an impala kill at West Street Bridge on the 23rd and the next day this same lioness and an Ndhzenga male killed two impalas in front of Rattray's Camp.
- A lioness killed a warthog at West Street Bridge on the 26th, which she shared with two cubs.
- On the 28th, 13 members of the pride and an Ndhzenga male took advantage of dramatic storm conditions to successfully hunt two bushbuck and two impalas at Sandpit Crossing.
- Seven members were with the Ndhzenga males at the Airstrip the next day, while the rest of the pride was reported to be further west of the boundary where they killed the female cub of the Nkoveni female.
- On the 31st, one lioness and three cubs were at Old Wildebeest Crossing when they were chased by elephants.

THE NTSEVU PRIDE = 10

2 ADULT FEMALES

1 ADULT FEMALE

3 CUBS

MARTHLY, EYREFIELD, MALAMALA

(29 sightings)

11 YEARS 7 MONTHS

± 11 YEARS 4 MONTHS

0 YEARS 11 MONTHS

Despite the loss of their four youngest cubs, the rest of the pride are recovering well from their bout of mange and had a very successful month in terms of hunting, taking full advantage of the dry conditions and successfully caught most of their prey in the Sand River.

Noteworthy sightings:

- On the 1st, they killed an impala northwest of Lower Mlowathi Crossing and stole an impala kill from the Piccadilly female the next day to the west of Bicycle Crossing.
- They had another impala kill at Bicycle Crossing on the 4th and remained in this area until the 7th, when they killed another impala closer to the Causeway.
- On the 9th, they killed an impala at Sandpit Crossing and killed another impala in front of Sable Camp two days later.
- The three lionesses were at Sandpit Crossing on the 12th and were joined by the cubs at a nyala kill the next day at the Hippo pools west of Bicycle Crossing.
- From the 14th to the 16th, they were at Elephant Rock Lookout.
- On the 17th, they were feeding on a nyala kill at the Causeway and were joined by the Ndhzenga males.
- They were still in this area the next day, but with only one Ndhzenga male.
- They killed an impala in front of the MalaMala Camp on the 21st and were south of Stwise on the 22nd and 23rd.
- They were joined by an Ndhzenga male to the west of Bicycle Crossing on the 27th.
- On the 30th, they were south of Kigelia Crossing when the Manyeleti River came down in flood.

THE SAND RIVER PRIDE = 8

2 ADULT FEMALES

1 ADULT FEMALE

1 ADULT FEMALE

2 SUB-ADULT FEMALES

SOUTHERN CHARLESTON

(1 sighting)

± 6 YEARS 3 MONTHS

4 YEARS 9 MONTHS

4 YEARS 2 MONTHS

3 YEARS 2 MONTHS

Unfortunately, there has been no further sign of the cubs that were born last month. On the 27th, two lionesses were with the Nkuhlu males at Rocky Crossing.

THE NKUHUMA PRIDE = 8

2 ADULT FEMALES

2 ADULT FEMALES

4 SUB-ADULTS (3 FEMALES & 1 MALE)

WESTERN & CENTRAL EYREFIELD

(0 sightings)

± 8 YEARS 2 MONTHS

± 5 YEARS 4 MONTHS

± 3 YEARS 6 MONTHS

They were not reported on MalaMala in October.

THE TORCHWOOD PRIDE = Unknown

5 ADULT FEMALES

6 ADULT FEMALES

7 MALE CUBS

EASTERN EYREFIELD

(3 sightings)

UNKNOWN AGES

8 YEARS 6 MONTHS

±1 YEAR 9 MONTHS

Three lionesses were finishing off a zebra kill southwest of Ostrich Koppies on the 6th and another lioness and seven male cubs were at Matshapiri Dam. Three lionesses with two cubs were at Matshapiri Dam again on the 9th.

MALE LIONS

THE NDHZENGA MALES = 2

1 ADULT MALE

± 9 YEARS 8 MONTHS

1 ADULT MALE

± 9 YEARS 3 MONTHS

*WESTERN MALAMALA, FLOCKFIELD & CHARLESTON**Dominant over the Kambula pride and Ntsevu pride.**First Encountered on MalaMala September 2020*

(29 sightings)

Although no physical fights were observed this month, there seems to be mounting pressure on these two males as other male coalitions and nomads were seen on the boundaries of their territory.

Noteworthy sightings:

- On the 3rd, they were with the Kambula pride far east along the MalaMala Flockfield Boundary and were at Piccadilly Crossing the next day.
- They were back with the Kambula Pride south of Lion Rocks on the 5th and were at Piccadilly Triangle two days later. They joined the Kambula Pride at Old Dudley Crossing on the 9th.
- He left them the next day and stole a kill from the Three Rivers female at West Street Bridge.
- On the 12th, one male was with a Kambula lioness at West Street Pans and the other male was with another Kambula lioness at Styx Crossing.
- They were still apart the next day when one male was at Lower Mlowathi Crossing and the other was further north near Tlebe Rocks.
- Both were at Emsagwen Waterhole on the 14th and one male was with a Kambula lioness at Kapen Rocks the next day, while the other was at Hyena Waterhole.
- They were on the Airstrip on the 16th and were with the Ntsevu pride and a nyala kill at the Causeway the next day.
- On the 18th, one male was with the Ntsevu pride at the Causeway and the other was trailing a herd of buffalo with the Kambula Pride east of Kapen Rocks.
- They stole the remains of a buffalo kill from the Kambula males in the Rock Drift Donga to the east of Charleston North Crossing on the 21st.
- On the 24th, the older male and a Kambula lioness killed two impalas in front of Rattray's Camp. There were also reports that the younger male was mating with the Kambula Breakaway female to the west of Rattray's Camp.
- He was feeding on another impala kill at the Airstrip the next day and joined the Ntsevu pride west of Bicycle Crossing on the 27th.
- On the 28th, one male was with the Kambula pride at Sandpit Crossing when they killed two bushbuck and two impalas and the other brother was at Fred's Tree.

THE NORTHERN AVOCA MALE = 1

1 ADULT MALE

± 11 YEARS 4 MONTHS

NOMADIC

First encountered in late 2019.

(1 sighting)

He was on the Kruger National Park Boundary, east of 4ways Crossing on the 8th.

THE NKUHLU MALES = 6

2 ADULT MALES

± 6 YEARS 2 MONTHS

4 ADULT MALES

± 5 YEARS 2 MONTHS

CHARLESTON

Dominant over the Sand River pride.

First encountered on MalaMala Game Reserve in 2022

(2 sightings)

Two of the males were attempting to hunt buffalo at Charleston Rock on the 25th and on the 27th, three of the males were at Rocky Crossing with two of the Sand River lionesses.

THE SOUTHERN AVOCA MALE = 1

1 ADULT MALE

± 11 YEARS 8 MONTHS

NOMADIC

First encountered on MalaMala Game Reserve

(1 sighting)

Ensuring his survival, this old male lion as teamed up with an unrelated individual. He was seen with the “Kruger” Male at Clarendon Dam on the 30th.

OTHER LIONS ENCOUNTERED:

- **STYX MALE & KAMBULA BREAKAWAY FEMALE** (3 sightings) – They were at Charleston North Crossing on the 14th. On the 20th, the Styx male went to investigate a commotion from a herd of buffalo in the Rock Drift Donga, east of the Sand River and was chased off by the Kambula pride who had made a buffalo kill in this area. He was at Beaumont’s Hippo pools on the 27th and there were reports that the younger Kambula lioness was mating with an Ndhzenga male further west of Rattray’s Camp.
- **KAMBULA MALES** (2 sightings) – Two males from this coalition of six chased their own kin off a buffalo carcass in the Rock Drift Donga, south of the Charleston Flockfield Boundary, but they were robbed themselves the next day by the Ndhzenga males.
- **GIJIMA MALES** (2 sightings) – They were near Trollip’s Camp on the 10th and in the Sand River across from Trollip’s Camp on the 16th.
- **“KRUGER” MALE** (2 sightings) – This older male, not to be confused with the ‘KRUGER MALES/SONS OF MANTIMAHLE MALES’ was seen at Mlowathi Dam on the 22nd and was with the Southern Avoca male at Clarendon Dam on the 30th.
- Three **UNIDENTIFIED YOUNG MALES** were at Clarendon Dam on the 5th and at Matshapiri Dam on the 12th.

THE TOTAL NUMBER OF LIONS ENCOUNTERED	56 (23 cubs)
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LEOPARDS
FEMALE LEOPARDS:

THE PICCADILLY FEMALE

10 YEARS 9 MONTHS

WESTERN EYREFIELD, MARTHLY

Daughter of the Kikilezi female[†], independent first quarter of 2016.

Mother of the Ngungwe female & son of the Piccadilly female.

(14 sightings)

On the 1st, she had an interaction with a Honey badger to the west of Bicycle Crossing and was also here the next day with an impala kill, while her son was nearby with a kill of his own. She was south of the Causeway with a fresh impala kill on the 3rd and remained here until the next day. She was at the Hippo pools west of Bicycle Crossing on the 8th and on the 17th, she was joined by the Maxim's male to the south of the Causeway with the Xinkhova female nearby. She had an impala kill along the same stretch of Sand River on the 19th and the next day, she had an interaction with the Maxim's male and Xinkhova female further south. On the 22nd, she killed an impala near Bicycle Crossing and remained here until the next day. On the 27th and 28th, she was near the Sycamore fig tree west of Bicycle Crossing. On the 30th, she was feeding on a hoisted impala kill on the western bank of the Mlowathi River north of Bicycle Crossing when the Manyeleti River came down in flood.

THE STONE DRIFT FEMALE

3 YEARS 9 MONTHS

WESTERN MALAMALA & WESTERN EYREFIELD

Daughter of the Nkoveni female, independent last quarter of 2022.

(15 sightings)

She was our most viewed leopard in October. On the 6th, she had a bushbuck kill east of Kikilezihash Crossing and was at the Causeway the next day. She killed an impala north of West Street Bridge on the 9th and was feeding on remains of a nyala kill in the Ngoboswan Donga, east of the Sand River, on the 13th and 14th. She was at the hippo pools south of the Causeway on the 16th and was with the Flat Rock male east of Kikilezihash Crossing on the 23rd, where she was chased off by a troop of baboons. On the 25th, she was east of Plank's Pan and was at Sandpit Crossing the next day. On the 27th, she joined the Maxim's male, the Nkoveni female and her two cubs to the north of Maxim's Lookout but was chased up the tree by the male. She was unwillingly sharing an impala kill with the Maxim's male at West Street Bridge on the 29th and was still in the area the next day. On the 31st, she was in the Sand River north of Maxim's Lookout when she stumbled upon the sleeping members of the Kambula pride, who she skilfully managed to avoid without notice and continued making her way southwards.

THE SIBUYE FEMALE**2 CUBS (1 MALE, 1 FEMALE)***WESTERN EYREFIELD**Daughter of the Kikilezi female*, independent first quarter of 2016.**Mother of the Tlebe Rocks female, Langa female & Xaxa male.**(7 sightings, 2 of female, 2 of female & cubs, 3 of the cubs)*

10 YEARS 9 MONTHS

1 YEAR 8 MONTHS

These three leopards were seen on fewer occasions in October, potentially laying low with the arrival of the Tortoise Pan male in the area. The male cub was at Matshapiri Dam on the 9th and his mother was around Mlowathi Dam the next day. The male cub was still at Matshapiri Dam on the 12th and the Sibuye female was chased by the Tortoise Pan male midway along the Mlowathi River on the 19th, while the male cub was at Mlowathi Dam. From the 23rd to the 24th, all three of them fed on an impala carcass east of the Mlowathi River, north of the Tlebe Rocks Donga.

THE ISLAND FEMALE*WESTERN FLOCKFIELD & SOUTHERN MALAMALA**Daughter of the Tamboti female*, independent first quarter of 2015.**Mother of the Drum Crossing female.**(12 sightings)*

11 YEARS 8 MONTHS

She was at Styx Crossing on the 4th and at Flockfield Camp the next day. On the 11th, she was south of West Street Bridge and was at Kapen Rocks the following day. She was at Confluence Crossing on the 15th and 16th. She was northeast of West Street Bridge on the 18th and was on the eastern bank of the Sand River opposite Rattray's Camp on the 22nd. The next day, she was at West Street Bridge and had an impala kill south of Flockfield Lookout on the 24th. She was north of Styx Crossing on the 25th and was south of West Street Bridge on the 29th.

THE THREE RIVERS FEMALE**FEMALE CUB***WESTERN FLOCKFIELD & WESTERN MALAMALA**Daughter of the Kikilezi female*, orphaned on 22nd May 2017.**Mother of the Nsuku male.**(12 sightings, 6 of female, 6 of female & cub)*

8 YEARS 3 MONTHS

7 MONTHS

On the 1st, she stole an impala kill from scavengers at Old Wildebeest Crossing and was at the Airstrip on the 5th. She killed a Scrub hare with her cub near Princess Alice Pans on the 6th and they were feeding on a bushbuck kill further east the next day. They were feeding on an impala kill north of West Street Bridge on the 10th and 11th, but it was stolen by the Ndhzenga male before they could finish their meal. They were south of the Airstrip on the 13th and 14th. On the 21st, she had an impala kill on the western boundary near Piet's Bridge but it was later stolen by hyenas. They were both at Princess Alice Pans the next day and she stole an impala kill from two Black-backed jackals at the Airstrip on the 26th. She was north of Princess Alice Pans on the 29th.

THE XINKHOVA FEMALE

3 YEARS 9 MONTHS

*WESTERN MALAMALA & SOUTHERN MARTHLY**Daughter of the Nkoveni female, independent last quarter of 2022.*

(10 sightings)

She has been seen spending more time on MalaMala this month, but with the delay of the rainy season, she has been competing with her mother for territory and resources along the Sand River. On the 1st she was on the northern parts of the Old Airstrip and on the 11th, she was in the same area as the Maxim's male and the Nkoveni female to the north of Maxim's Lookout. The next day she was west of Sandpit Crossing and was north of the Old Airstrip on the 15th. She was in the same area on the 17th and had a physical fight with the Nkoveni female at the Causeway the next day. On the 20th, she was west of MalaMala Camp with the Piccadilly female and the Maxim's male nearby. The next day she had an impala kill hoisted in a tree at the Old Airstrip and had another kill in the Sable Camp Rotunda on the 22nd. On the 29th, she was at Bicycle Crossing.

THE NKOVENI FEMALE

12 YEARS 2 MONTHS

2 CUBS (1 MALE, 1 FEMALE)

9 MONTHS

*WESTERN MALAMALA**Daughter of the Mashaba female, independent early 2014.**Mother of the Plaque Rock female, Xinkhova female, and Stone Drift female.*

(22 sightings, 4 of female, 13 of female & cubs, 5 of cubs)

The three of them were seen on numerous occasions this month. On the 3rd, the two cubs were north of Maxim's Lookout and were with their mother the next day at the Airstrip. The cubs were at the Airstrip Quarry on the 6th, while the Nkoveni female had an impala kill at Old Wildebeest Crossing with the Flat Rock male. From the 8th to the 10th, they were at the Airstrip and the Parking Bay. On the 11th, she was north of Maxim's Lookout with the Maxim's male and Xinkhova female. Her cubs joined her the next day and they met the Maxim's male here on the 14th. On the 18th, they were west of the Old Airstrip when they came upon the Xinkhova female, and in an attempt to chase her out of the territory, the Nkoveni female physically attacked her daughter. The cubs were north of the Parking Bay on the 20th but reunited with their mother on the 21st. They were near the Windsock on the 22nd and 25th. On the 27th, they were north of Maxim's Lookout and the cubs were interacting with the Maxim's male, while the Stone Drift female was also in the area. On the 28th and 29th, they were finishing an impala kill near the Old Airstrip. Later that evening, they crossed west to our neighbours with a storm behind them and we got the reports that they walked directly into the Kambula pride who killed the female cub and attacked the Nkoveni female, while the male cub escaped up a tree. The Nkoveni female got away with some injuries and was seen again the next day but there was no further sign of the male cub by the end of the month.

THE LOOKOUT FEMALE

±14 YEARS 9 MONTHS

1 CUB

±6 MONTHS

*WESTERN FLOCKFIELD**First encountered on MalaMala Game Reserve in late 2015.**Mother of the Kapen female & the Redhawk male.**(9 sightings, 1 of female, 7 of female & cub, 1 of cub)*

She was in the Kapen River near Hyena Waterhole on the 3rd and her cub was alone at Dudley Lookout the next day. They were together at Styx Crossing on the 5th and were further west on the 11th. They were north of Hyena Waterhole on the 24th and were closer to Hyena Waterhole three days later. They were between Hyena Waterhole and Styx Crossing from the 28th to the 31st.

THE KAPEN FEMALE

8 YEARS 0 MONTHS

2 CUBS

1 MONTH

*CENTRAL FLOCKFIELD**Daughter of Lookout female, independent first quarter 2019**Mother of the New Rocks female.**(3 sightings, 2 of female, 1 of female & cubs)*

We will be introducing the Kapen female to the main section as she is a notable territorial female in central Flockfield. Exciting news for the Kapen female this month as she was found at a previously used rocky den site south of Styx Crossing twice this month; first on the 9th and then again on the 21st, with two tiny cubs! The den site is currently closed due to the age of the cubs, but we look forward to officially meeting the new cubs in the weeks to come. She was south of Styx Crossing on the 28th.

THE TLEBE ROCKS FEMALE

6 YEARS 9 MONTHS

1 CUB

8 MONTHS

*CENTRAL & WESTERN EYREFIELD**Daughter of the Sibuye Female, independent second quarter 2019.**(8 sightings, 4 of female, 3 of female & cub, 1 of cub)*

She was south of Campbell Koppies on the 2nd and was with her cub further south on the 5th. On the 9th, she was at Piccadilly Triangle and was sharing an impala kill with her cub at Fred's Tree two days later. They were in the area the next day and the cub was south of Campbell Koppies on the 13th. She was in this area two days later and they were together south of Campbell Koppies on the 31st.

MALE LEOPARDS

THE MAXIM'S MALE

± 10 YEARS 2 MONTHS

WESTERN FLOCKFIELD & MALAMALA

First seen on MalaMala Game Reserve in early 2019.

(9 sightings)

He was at Flockfield Pools on the 9th and was north of Maxim's Lookout on the 11th with the Nkoveni female, while the Xinkhova female was nearby. The next day he was feeding on an impala kill at Kikilezihash Crossing and met up with the cubs of the Nkoveni female north of Maxim's Lookout on the 14th. On the 17th, he was north of West Street Bridge having a passive territorial dispute with the Flat Rock male and met up with the Piccadilly female near the Causeway later that day. He was west of MalaMala Camp with the Piccadilly female on the 20th, once again with the Xinkhova female hovering nearby. He was at Bicycle Crossing on the 24th and was socializing with the Nkoveni female and her cubs north of Maxim's Lookout on the 27th before chasing the Stone Drift female away from them. On the 29th, he stole an impala kill from the Stone Drift female north of West Street Bridge.

THE FLAT ROCK MALE

11 YEARS 6 MONTHS

MARTHLY, WESTERN & CENTRAL EYREFIELD

Son of the Porcupine female. First seen on MalaMala in early 2017.*

(14 sightings)

We enjoyed numerous sightings of the Flat Rock male in October. He was north of the Causeway on the 2nd and had a fresh nyala kill at Manyeleti Crossing the next day, where he remained until the 5th. He was sharing an impala kill with the Nkoveni female at Old Wildebeest Crossing on the 6th and was at Matshapiri Open Area Crossing on the 8th. He was back at the Causeway on the 12th and was further east at Emsagwen Waterhole the next day. He had his regular territorial dispute with the Maxim's male at West Street Bridge on the 17th and was at Bicycle Crossing staring him down again on the 20th. He shared an impala kill with the Stone Drift female near Kikilezihash Crossing on the 23rd before they were interrupted by a troop of baboons. He was north of Campbell Koppies on the 31st.

THE SPLIT ROCK MALE

10 YEAR 3 MONTHS

FLOCKFIELD, MALAMALA & CHARLESTON

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

(4 sightings)

He was at Dudley Lookout on the 6th and along the northern parts of the Tjellahanga River on the 13th. The next day he was at Styx Rocks and was in the Tamboti Thickets on the 22nd.

THE EYREFIELD MALE

6 YEARS 11 MONTHS

*NOMADIC**Son of the Emsagweni female[†], independent in late 2019.*

(4 sightings)

He was feeding on an impala kill on the Gowrie Boundary, west of the Matshapiri River on the 1st. Despite his seeming lack of testicles, the Mondzo female tried to entice the Eyrefield male into mating with her on the 5th and 6th at Clarendon Dam. He was at Matshapiri Dam on the 27th.

THE NGOBOSWAN MALE

6 YEARS 11 MONTHS

*WESTERN EYREFIELD**Son of the Emsagweni female[†], independent in late 2019.*

(0 sightings)

Two full months have passed since the last sighting of this male and the hope that he survived his injuries from August are dwindling, especially as the Tortoise Pan male seems to have taken up his previous territory.

THE SON OF THE PICCADILLY FEMALE

1 YEARS 9 MONTHS

*MARTHLY**Son of the Piccadilly female, independent in late 2024.*

(8 sightings)

As he is now independent from his mother, we have given him his own section in the game report and for now he seems to be spending much of his time in Marthly. He was west of Bicycle Crossing on the 1st and was joined by his mother here the next day, each with their own impala kill. He was still in this area on the 3rd and the next day he was north of Matumi Rocks. On the 11th, he was west of Bicycle Crossing and was feeding on an impala kill at Bicycle Crossing on the 25th. He also killed a bushbuck here the next day and remained in the area until the 27th.

OTHER LEOPARDS ENCOUNTERED:

- **NEW ROCKS FEMALE** (0 sightings) – She is still nomadic in central and eastern Flockfield, but since she has been independent for a while we have decided to give the Daughter of the Kapen female a new name! The New Rocks female was not seen in October.
- **TENGILE FEMALE & CUB** (8 sightings) – On the 2nd, she chased the River Rocks female from her kill opposite Beaumont's Camp and they were both south of Beaumont's Camp on the 8th. They were at Trollip's Hippo Pools on the 11th and she was at Beaumont's Camp on the 14th. They were north of Trollip's Camp on the 16th and opposite Beaumont's Camp on the 20th. She was south of Beaumont's Camp on the 27th, while her cub was north of Trollip's Camp.
- **RIVER ROCKS FEMALE** (7 sightings) – On the 1st, she was west of Jakkalsdraai Open Area and she killed an impala opposite Beaumont's Camp on the 2nd, before being chased by the Tengile female. She was at the Kapen Breakfast Spot on the 4th and she was near River Rocks on the 20th. She was in the Sand River at the Rock Drift Donga on the 22nd and was still here the next day when she had to aggressively defend her impala kill against her son, the Nambu male. She was around Jakkalsdraai Open Area on the 30th.

- **NAMBU MALE** (5 sightings) – As he is now independent from his mother, we have given the Son of the River Rocks female a new name! The Nambu male (meaning “River” in Xitsonga) was seen interacting with a pangolin south of Jakkalsdraai Open Area on the 1st and he tried to steal an impala kill from his mother in the Rock Drift Donga on the 23rd. He was still in this area the next day and was at Beaumont’s Hippo Pools on the 27th. He was west of Beaumont’s Camp on the 29th.
- **MONDZO FEMALE** (2 sightings) – She was attempting to mate with the Eyrefield male at Clarendon Dam on the 5th and 6th.
- **NTSUMI FEMALE & 2 CUBS** (1 sighting) – One cub was south of Beaumont’s Camp on the 16th.
- **2:3 MALE** (4 sightings) – He was eating an impala south of the eastern parts of the Charleston Flockfield Boundary on the 1st and 2nd. He was at Buffalo Bush Dam on the 21st and Paddy’s Pools on the 22nd.
- **N’WETI MALE** (3 sightings) – On the 1st, he was west of Jakkalsdraai Open Area and south of Charleston North Crossing on the 12th. He was north of Beaumont’s Camp on the 25th.
- **TORTOISE PAN MALE** (2 sightings) – This male seems to have taken over the northwest section of Eyrefield as his territory since the Ngoboswan male has not been seen here in months. He was on the Gowrie Boundary east of the Mlowathi River on the 18th and chased the Sibuye female midway along the Mlowathi River on the 19th.
- **NKOVA MALE** (2 sightings) – He was at Charleston Rock on the 1st and was mating with an unknown female at Flat Rocks on the 7th.
- **NKUWA 2:2 MALE** (1 sighting) – The Nkuwa 2:2 male was north of Kapen Rocks on the 4th.
- A **NON-IDENTIFIED FEMALE** was seen west of Charleston North Crossing on the 2nd.
- A **NERVOUS FEMALE** was midway along the Charleston Flockfield Boundary on the 22nd.

TOTAL NUMBER OF LEOPARDS ENCOUNTERED	38 (11 cubs)
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CHEETAH

There was no cheetah seen on MalaMala in October.

TOTAL NUMBER OF CHEETAH ENCOUNTERED	0 (0 cubs)
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CAPE HUNTING DOGS

- **TOULON PACK (7 ADULTS, 3 PUPS)** (6 sightings) – They were in the Kapen River near the Sand River on the 9th and were in the Rock Drift Donga the next day. They were at Lion Rocks on the 11th and killed a steenbok far east of Matshapiri Open Area on the 19th. Only the adults were south of Kapen Rocks on the 21st where they killed an impala and again there was no sign of the pups the next day when the adults were at Charleston North Crossing.
- **“FLOCKFIELD PACK” (5 ADULTS, 7 PUPS)** (3 sightings) – They were south of the Windmill on the 3rd and near Clarendon Dam on the 20th. They were at Matshapiri Dam on the 24th.
- **PACK OF THREE (3 ADULTS)** (7 sightings) – This pack made up of one female and two males have been encountered regularly on MalaMala in the last few months. On the 5th, they killed an impala to the north of West Street Bridge and they were along the Mlowathi River on the 14th. They were back at West Street Bridge the next day and killed an impala and a bushbuck. Only the female and a male were seen at the Causeway with an impala kill on the 21st and they were further east the next day. The same two had a kill at Sandpit Crossing on the 26th and had their impala kill stolen at Bicycle Crossing on the 31st.

TOTAL NUMBER OF CAPE HUNTING DOGS ENCOUNTERED	25 (10 pups)
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CAPE BUFFALO AND ELEPHANTS

We recorded **249 sightings** of **Elephants** in October with 236 of those sightings being of herds and the only 13 sightings were of lone bulls and bachelor groups.

There was a total of **69 sightings** of Cape buffalo this month, with almost equal sightings of bulls and herds, being at 35 and 34 sightings respectively.

OTHER SIGHTINGS OF INTEREST

- Overall, there were **17 sightings** of **SPOTTED HYENA** with two of those being at the den site in Jakkalsdraai Open Area.
- There were **9 sightings** of **CAPE CLAWLESS OTTERS** in October! Mostly around the Causeway.
- **BLACK-BACKED JACKALS** and **HONEY BADGERS** were seen **7 times** each this month. A pair of Black-backed jackals are also using the area around the Airstrip Parking Bay as a den site with three young pups being seen. **SIDE-STRIPED JACKALS** were only seen **once** at Clarendon Dam.
- **SOUTHERN GROUND HORNBILLS** were seen on **6 occasions**, while **OSTRICHES** and **SECRETARY BIRDS** were seen **twice** each.