



August 2012

Written and edited by John
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Painted Dog Conservation Inc

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Vice Chairman – Angela Lemon
Treasurer – Carol Shannon
Secretary – Alyson Handfield

Patrons: Tony Park
Bradley Trevor Greive

From the Chairman

To all our members, donors and supporters, I hope the winter blues will be overcome with this bumper edition newsletter. Great updates from our supported projects in Zambia, Bradley Trevor Greive our much loved Patron and Geoff Hoddy, one of our long time supporters.

Thanks To Mike Palmer and Evelyn Wong who supported my recent eventful field trip to Zambia. Our work continued with visits to South Luangwa and Liuwa Plain National Parks.

My first visit to Liuwa was an amazing experience, not only for the wildlife and stunning backdrop but we were also privileged to assist with the capture and radio-collaring of 50 Wildebeest for a migratory study.

Geoff Hoddy joined me for the whole trip and he diarised the action which you will read below.

Bec Wood (PDC Inc. committee member) and Lizzie Arcaro (Perth Zoo) also visited our supported projects and by all accounts had a great time.

I would like to express our sincere thanks and gratitude to our devoted supporters. We extend a warm welcome to our new Life members: Julie-Ann Smith, National Zoo & Aquarium and John Dumancic. A warm welcome is also extended to our new members and members who have renewed again for another year of support. Thank you.

Since our last newsletter we bid farewell to our hardworking Secretary Maxene Kowaleski who has taken up new employment opportunities which prevent her undertaking the role, though she will continue to support PDC Inc in many other ways. Thanks Maxene for your efforts of the past couple of years.

Maxene's replacement, Alyson Handfield has stepped up to the mark as Secretary and with her passion and dedication, I am sure she will achieve great things for the association. Alyson gives us a brief overview of herself further on in the newsletter.

We are also privileged to have finalised a new Treasurer, Carol Shannon, Life Member PDC Inc. and Director Corporate & Commercial Development at Perth Zoo. With a wealth of experience and professionalism we look forward to working with Carol. We will feature a short Biography on Carol in the next newsletter.

Our next function will be at 7pm, Saturday 18th August at Zebra's African Steakhouse Point Walter Road, Bicton. A three-course meal at \$55 per head followed by updates of our recent field trip and auction will be the order of the night. We look forward to seeing you all there. RSVP by 10th August to Angela Lemon at lemonj@ozemail.com.au or use the booking form attached to the flyer in the newsletter.

Kind regards

John Lemon

Chairman

PDC Inc.



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Magical Zambia by Geoff Hoddy

I was fortunate enough to go to Zambia with John Lemon in May this year to visit two projects that PDC Inc. support as part of the Zambian Carnivore Programme (ZCP). Having been to Africa 15 times visiting Zimbabwe, Botswana, Namibia and South Africa I knew every trip was different and magical in some way and once again I was not disappointed.

The adventure was in 2 halves. The first was South Luangwa National Park and the second was Liuwa Plain National Park, the home of the magnificent lioness "Lady". You can imagine it was all in front of me. http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WG_FU3NNNgw



Lady Liuwa

After catching 3 aircraft and finally arriving at Mfuwe airport some 24 hours later I was ready to experience some wildlife adventure! Arriving at base camp I met 2 of the researchers working with the Zambian Carnivore Programme, Eli and Egil and was made to feel very welcome. A quick tour of the site then guided to my tent.

Over dinner that night we discussed and set up an itinerary/plan for the 10 days that we were there. Bearing in mind Dr Matt Becker was arriving a few days later and the plan was going to change. From memory I think the plan was changed 15 times and we finished up with plan AA15.

First adventure an early morning departure to locate the "Kaingo



Kaingo Pack ready for the hunt

Pack" of Painted Dogs containing 7 individuals with the alpha female heavily pregnant! After locating them, I was able to take some amazing photos and had the privilege of staying with them the whole day. As night fell the pack began to hunt with the pregnant female struggling to keep up. After a couple of failed attempts dinner was served down by the river. We couldn't get as close to them as we wanted without disturbing them and after a full day decided to return to base camp and allow them to settle overnight.

Next morning Eli compared the photos we had taken to the information in his data base checking and identifying.

Today John plans to meet up with Bec and Lizzie (from the Perth Zoo) who are on their last leg of an African adventure. Together they planned to visit local schools and have a meeting with the teacher responsible for running the Wildlife education program that PDC Inc support and also a visit to Chipembele (which means Black rhino in Nyanja) another locally run foundation. This facility has to be seen to be believed. In all my trips to Africa I have never seen anything like it. Operated by Anna and Steve Tolan its success is a credit to them. It would put most museums and education facilities to shame.



Chipembele activity room

Out again, Eli, our scout Thomas and I began our day with a 5 hour trip on extremely rough roads, with a very diverse and beautiful country side. We were on a mission to track "Scar Face" a collared male lion. An encounter with a crocodile when just a cub earned him his name. We had planned to get as close as possible to download data from the GPS collar that he wears. There was a fear that he could cross the river and enter the Game Management Area (GMA) and become a hunter's trophy. My job for the day was to sit on the spare tyre on the roof rack, aerial in one hand, receiver in the other, and hang on with my butt cheeks and legs while ducking branches, thorn laden vines and watching out for potholes so I didn't get thrown off. All this while intently listening for the faintest of "beep beeps" on the hand set which is now bashing against my left ear. With my whole body feeling bashed and bruised we tracked for hours with no result. I could barely believe it when I heard the first "beep" We came to a halt, the receiver had two frequencies

programmed into it. One for "Scar Face" the other for a lioness with 4 cubs, success at last! Eli quickly instructed me to get off the roof and into the vehicle. In a flash I was there and never would I have thought that a seat in an old land rover could feel like heaven.



Eli, Thomas and I tracking for Scar Face

We slowly weaved our way through tall grass, trees, and termite mounds with the sound on the transmitter getting louder as we went. Finally, I had a visual under a tree in the shade 6 heads looking at us. You begin to feel your heart race. Having been with researchers in Zimbabwe darting and re-collaring lions previously, it was not a new experience. It doesn't matter, a lioness with cubs is not something to be taken lightly. The emotion you feel is hard to describe, this ultimate hunter is only metres away staring at you. Sitting in the open top vehicle taking as many snaps as I could, I just watched Mum groom her young family with her tongue. After ensuring everything was good, we left to track "Scar Face" again. As night was falling we decided to camp the night on the mud flats. I was assured that the water here was to clear of crocodiles! Pasta for dinner, cooked on a single burner gas cooker, boiled eggs and a can of coke. After our day it was an awesome dinner. I was starving!

We erected two single tents. I guess Eli is used to it but his bed that night was on the roof rack with just a thorn encrusted blanket. No crocs?? Why is he on the roof? It's been a long time since I last camped out, sleeping on the hard ground, with only an old piece of rubber and an old blanket I found in the vehicle,

freezing all night, it definitely wasn't the Hilton but I was there to enjoy the experience and I certainly did. A leopard visited during the night and we could hear the elephants nearby, Impala all around. The magical sounds of Africa! No sounds from "Scar Face" though.

A hearty breakfast of jungle oats was followed by the commencement of repairing punctures we had sustained the day before. Before this trip was over we were to become a well oiled "Formula One Crew" suffering 8 punctures in total. A friendly reminder from the high lift jack handle to my jaw, to keep well clear, Ouch!

I resumed my spot on the roof, again with the equipment tracking "Scar Face". By now my brain was saying here puss puss! The plan to cross the river and track north was interrupted by our scout spotting dogs in the river in the process of making a kill, eyes of an eagle.

Awesome!!

Get down!! Oh yeah!!



As we approached the male impala was in his death throws. 2 Males and a single female with an injury to her left leg were attacking. Watching the interaction between all 3 attackers and how nimble they were in the water was just amazing. The image is still with me and I find it difficult to explain, sitting there in a front row seat watching as a fish eagle was picking up bits of meat as it floated down stream, vultures and marabou storks coming in for their unearned pieces. The water downstream was a flow of red near the carcass. It was time to pinch myself. Front row seat the camera clicking away.

The dogs left, and returned a few times for a bit more while the chaos between the vultures and marabou storks continued. We returned approximately 2 hours later still attempting to locate "Scar Face", to a pile of bones stripped clean and the vultures sunning themselves on the river bank, a lone Marabou picking over the remnants. To see the dogs here is very rare they have a large area to roam. To our surprise when Eli compared the photos we had taken with the data base the female was the one missing from the Kanigo pack. She has joined up with the 2 males to form a new pack in this area. It is amazing how far these dogs travel and how they find each other. We actually saw them mating which is reassuring for the packs future.

We drove back to camp that day; I was looking forward to a

shower and my little snug tent and some of Doris's homemade bread. Doris looks after the camp and bakes. That night lying in my tent with the window flaps open, the hippos in the river grunting, the owls hooting I was nice and warm, just going over in my mind of what I had just witnessed, only to be woken by the snapping and munching of vegetation. Elephants!! As I laid there the herd started walking past, it was a moon lit night. The silhouette of the trees and these gentle giants right there only a thin piece of canvas between us, it is an amazing experience to be this close to nature.

Day 7 saw John and me helping deploy 5 scouts deep into the national park. Rachel McRobb runs the

South Luangwa Conservation Society which operates anti poaching patrols in the valley. She is an amazing woman with a huge workload. I would spend the second part of our trip with Rachel as she was going to join us in Liuwa Plains. With her darting license she would assist with the darting and collaring of the 50 wildebeest, more later.

Back to the deployment. We were driving the landrover that Syd and Sue Chipchase donated. John and I in the front with 4 scouts in the back seat with all the tents, food, water, guns and personal gear, plus another scout in the back section.



John with the PDC Inc/Perth Zoo anti-poaching team

We were a bit cramped. I have never been a Land rover fan before, however this old girl impressed me. The roads, rather tracks, plus river crossings and obstacles, she just kept going. Four hours there and 4 hours back.

Passing through villages, kids running along beside us wanting their pictures, a life so far removed from our own.

We swapped drivers on the way back and I was doing great. The last river crossing, no problems, and then John said drop me off on the other side, then back up and cross the river again for some action shots. Bloody hell, what is this water doing inside the car? You guessed it; I backed off the track into the deep. She would not pull out. Just going deeper and deeper, I was starting to panic. This is the only vehicle going at present, the others in for repairs. The locals who were swimming near us thought it was funny. They came from everywhere offering advice, then arguing among themselves, meanwhile the fan blade on the engine now throwing the water up over the engine. I yelled out "Pick it up" which they did and walked the rear end back onto

the track and put some rocks under the wheels. Already frogs were making their new homes on the bonnet and windscreen. By this time John was behind the wheel wet from the waist down with his boots still on. Then all of a sudden traction she is coming out. All I could do was yell go! Go! Once on the dry bank, we opened the door with water gushing out and the frogs enjoying the waterfall. Then out of nowhere I was surrounded!! Money bowana!!! What for all of you? Sure was the answer. By this time the number had inflated, Mums, kids, dogs, about 60 in total. It reminded me of the movie "The Gods must be crazy". I said to John let's get out of here, which we did, the vehicle safe and going well.



John and the advisors

The following day Matt arrived and the plan was changed from A to Z as it does in Africa. It was now a quiet day in camp drying out the car and John's boots that smelled like baboon poo.

The next three days saw us involved in attempting to save the teachers dog after a hyena attack, rescue a hippo from a well and looking at a snare on a giraffe. Then flying over the park in a 1968 Cessna with Rob (a great pilot) tracking the dogs and finally "Scar Face" (Yes he is alive), a long way from camp but he is alive. Matt took GPS readings for the ground crew.



I have not mentioned this yet but now I will. So far I have no bites, going well, however John has been bitten by Tsetse flies, nasty and worst of all a baboon spider. His foot is twice the size and it looks painful and he has a cold.



John swollen foot and friend



Middle and Above: Domestic Dog and Hippo emergencies

The next day has us leaving going to Lusaka to meet up with Egil who is there looking for another vehicle and getting gear organized for our trip to Liuwa plains.

Finally we are off in the Isuzu that was purchased from Steve Harrison from SAVE Foundation.

Loaded to the max we had to drive 700 km to "Mongu". Our trip will take us through Kafue National Park. Kafue was first established as National Park in the 1950s by the legendary



Radio tracking above the South Luangwa Valley



The unstoppable Isuzu

Norman Carr; Kafue is one of the largest national parks in the whole of Africa. Despite its size and prominent location, only two hours' drive from Livingstone, it remains little known and largely unexplored and holds possibly the greatest diversity of wildlife of any national park in Africa

On the way we stopped for a comfort stop and John was attacked by Tsetse again. I didn't suffer a bite. We arrived on dusk found a motel, o.m.g. there was more mozzies in our room than in the entire town. Next day more shopping, our last chance, Baked beans, salty crabs, bully beef, jungle oats, pasta and our main food, eggs. Off to the boat.



Rachel aboard the African Parks Boat

Mongu sits on the edge of the river system. What a place. People loading supplies onto these long wooden boats including fridges, goats and you name it. It is an ant's nest. TAP (That's Africa Pal) One of the captain of the boats fell overboard, blind drunk. Could not believe it!



Freeway from Kalabo to Mongu. Up or down stream!

Off we go down the narrow waterways making our way to the magnificent Zambezi. Wildlife everywhere fishermen in makuros (dug-out canoes) trying to sell us "Bream" which we bought for dinner.

Onto the Zambezi then down a narrow waterway nearly 4 hours later we arrived at "Kalabo", a small fishing town where the river and tributaries finish or divert. This is where our Land Cruiser is waiting for us to load and head for base camp.



Fresh is best



Me standing on the Liuwa side of the river at Kalabo

Liuwa Plain National Park is still some 3+ hours away. Once we were there we met up with the African Parks staff who manages the area, Craig and Raquel, who made us very welcome. In addition, I had the honour of Meeting Herbert Bauer, the man responsible for making the Documentary, "The Last Lioness" see attached link http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WG_FU3NNgw

With no room left in the vehicle once it was loaded, John and I made our way to the roof. Here we go again; I had just begun to feel the circulation back in my butt cheeks. Over 3 ½ hours later we arrived at base camp. A treed area in the middle of vast grass plains.



Liuwa's endless plains

The home of "Lady" and her 2 mates. Big male lions exceeding 250+kg that often come into camp on a regular basis and are to be respected. They bailed up one of the researchers in the toilet block! The camp was busy preparing for the following day, the first scheduled day for darting and collaring the wildebeest. In camp now were Ian Parsons (head vet), Rachel, John (the Kiwi Chopper Pilot now living in Zambia), Jassiel (ZCP Liuwa based researcher), Dr Matt Becker, Dr Dave Christianson (Montana State University), Herbert was filming the entire process for his new documentary. With everyone extremely busy with preparations John and I became the chefs and prepared the fish and potatoes we had bought earlier.



Kitchen, dining and lab!

That night sharing my tent with the President of PDC Inc. we listened once again to the magical sounds of the bush.

Lions calling (Lady), that deep cut half noise they make that can apparently travel for over 4 kms; Hyena making their noise that starts low and finishes high, . Moonlit night with no wind, smell of the camp fire, serenity. This is Africa,

John was up before day break - hey I don't snore—I think gee!

Jungle oats, coffee, a plan is hatched let's do it.

Ground crew I and the helicopter work separately. The chopper flies north to the big herds. Ground crew I keeps close to camp try to process animals from the smaller scattered herds.

The aim of the project is to radio collar 50 Wildebeest over the 3600 square kilometres to establish home ranges and migratory patterns. This is the second largest migration in Africa and very little is known about it. Other questions such as will the herd sizes support the reintroduction of carnivores such as lion, leopard, cheetah etc? What affect on the hyena population?

When the animals were anaesthetised each group had to:- collect blood, tail hair and tissue sample for DNA/genetic work, Faeces, parasites (such as red legged ticks), Measure and photograph teeth, measure head to tail and shoulder to toe, pregnancy test, general body condition scoring, fit a radio collar – check frequency is working.

Most importantly we had to monitor her health under anesthetic.

That's where I get a start! Once the animal is down and the vet gives the all clear we all move in

"Don't touch the dart" M99 (deadly to humans with only a drop in an eye for example could prove fatal)

I would straddle her much like mounting a horse, ensuring her legs were folded correctly, support her weight, with my legs, keeping her upright while bending forward, grabbing her horns keeping the nose out of the sand so she can breathe properly, listening to her breathing ensuring saliva was dripping out of her mouth. Once the vet had cleared her tongue and blindfolded her it was time to start work.

Then all of a sudden a commotion! What's going on? Lady is hunting right next to us. All I saw was legs in the air, dust, and then Lady suffocating a wildebeest. Once she had taken her prize she began looking at us as if to say "Hey how good am I!"

She is an amazing lion with big shoulder muscles but at the same time you are tempted to just want to give her a hug.

I tell you these animals (wildebeest) had the best people on them, at all times their health being the main focus. The nominated data collector continually checks off the list vital statistics and recording every move. The less time the animal is under the better it is for them.



John restraining a Wildebeest as Herbert captures the moment

Combined we collared 19 on the first day. Around the camp fire that night we were singing our praises. This is easy, we will have all this done in 2 ½ days. Starting the next day in the same way, however overnight the wildebeest broadcast went out, "Stay away from that Land cruiser" and they had scattered. Each time we got closer they would bolt. By lunch time the count was nil. Change of plans again but we finished them all in the 2/12 days and well short of the envisaged 5. Without the helicopter we would have no chance.

Around camp that night was great cause for celebration. John Lemon the comedian kept us entertained, even the scouts enjoyed his humor. Sure! Jassiel even baked a camp fire cake, unbelievably good!

The next day was a day of sorting all the samples that had been taken and it took most of the day.

I entered some of the frequencies on the handsets. A local vet Nicholas also joined us to gain more knowledge of these amazing animals, I must say that prior to this visit a wildebeest was just a wildebeest. I now hold them in a much different light.



Freeway from Kalabo to Mongu. Up or down stream!

Then a new adventure Lion tracking!

Two lionesses had recently been introduced to the area as friends for "Lady" to start a pride. African Parks wanted Matt to locate them and ensure their collars were still fitted correctly and give an opinion of their health. They hadn't been seen in our area for a few days so Mark (the pilot) of the fixed wing and Matt took off at day break to track them from the air. The ground crew was to make ready and wait. They located a signal and told us to meet at the airport. The signal was near a local village which meant we had to track through long grass and up and down dry river beds. The signal was distorted. An old collar in the rear of the vehicle was interfering with the signal. It was decided to throw it out the vehicle and pick it up later. Zeroing in now, we realized that something was still not right. The signal seemed to be coming from a waterhole. We sent the scout to check in case she is laying in wait in the long grass for the wildebeest. No such luck.

Matt said, she is in the water; obviously dead!! We all felt sick!

Matt, Rachel, Raquel and Armstrong the scout, took off their boots and went in with Herbert filming the going on.

After about an hour with no success and no body found, just some old bones, the signal was still coming from the water hole. I decided to go in. Now being a clean living aussie bloke, how is it that I am now in the middle of the African bush, in only my jocks, in a water hole that is full of mud, leaches and omg the smell. After a short while I asked Matt where exactly he thought the signal was coming from. He pointed to an area that had been searched many times already, but I found myself digging deep into the mud and I found it!!! The collar had been cut off the animal. Did this mean the animal had been killed by poachers? Further



Me holding the cut collar.

investigations are still underway.

We were all saddened by what we had found.

Herbert had been filming the whole time, with me recovering the collar in all my glory. Afterwards I reminded him that the water was cold so if that piece of film made it to the documentary could he please enhance certain areas. The other lioness had to be darted and placed in a boma for security until findings of the investigation were sorted.

Well I think I have more than covered my adventure and hope you have enjoyed reading about my experiences.

Oh' John suffered 2 broken ribs. The vehicle he was in went down an Aardvark hole and he fell forward into the bar work. Ouch!

I got home unscathed; until I went into my Alpaca paddock and the male (aptly named (Africa) rammed me into the fence.

I would sincerely like to thank John Lemon for allowing me to accompany him and giving me this ultimate experience.

Also, I would like to thank Dr Matt Becker for allowing me to assist on the Wildebeest collaring project, as well as all the people who made my trip a memorable one.



John, Matt and Rachel, Fine dining African style.

I realize not many people can experience exactly what I have just done, this article is just a miniscule of what happened over the 3 weeks I was away, but I implore you GO to Africa if the opportunity presents itself to you. You won't be disappointed.

Cheers

Geoff Hoddy





Painted Dog Conservation Inc is pleased to announce their first Fundraising Function for 2012 – a dinner at Zebra's African Steakhouse, where you will hear about John's recent trip to Zambia to undertake field work with the Zambian Carnivore Programme, including a sneak preview of our upcoming documentary!

7pm, Saturday 18 August 2012

**Zebra's African Steakhouse
Point Walter Road, Bicton**

\$55 per head for a three-course meal

RSVP by 10 August 2012 to Angela Lemon at lemonj@ozemail.com.au or use the booking form below.

Ticket Order and Payment Form: Fundraising Dinner, 18 August 2012

Please note that PDC Inc does not recommend provision of credit card details via email, and will not request them.

Name:

Address:

Number of tickets required: x \$55 = \$

Payment Method: Cheque Visa Mastercard

Card Number.....Expiry Date.....

Name on Card.....

Signature:.....

This transaction will show as "Painted Dog Conservation Incorporated" on your statement.

Please send completed order forms to
49 Waratah Boulevard
Canning Vale WA 6155.

Painted Dog Conservation Inc
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History of Liuwa Plain National Park

The Liuwa Plains have long been regarded as a special place. As early as the 19th century, it was declared a 'game reserve' by the Litunga, the traditional king of Barotseland. Traditionally, the plains were the Litunga's private hunting ground, and the villagers were charged with looking after the animals for him. Then in 1972 Liuwa Plain became a national park, and its management was taken over by central government – although the local people continue to have rights to utilise parts of the park and its plains for grazing, harvesting of traditional plants, and fishing in the rivers.

The Liuwa Plain Ecosystem forms a huge ecological network the size of Italy.

In the Lozi language that is spoken all over western Zambia, the word 'Liuwa' means 'plain'. There's a local legend of how one Litunga planted his walking stick on the plains, where it grew into a large mutata tree. This tree can still be seen in the national park.

Widespread poaching, mainly by refugees and warring factions from the Angola war, over the last several decades along with unsustainable trophy hunting extirpated most of the park's large mammal species. In 2003, African Parks Zambia (APZ) assumed management of Liuwa in partnership with the Zambian Wildlife Authority (ZAWA) and the Barotse Royal Establishment tribal authority. APZ's vision has been to protect and restore the ecosystem, its processes, and the human populations that depend on it through legal and traditional instruments. As a result, wildlife species and populations are being rapidly restored through increased protection efforts such as anti-poaching patrols and reintroductions of many species. One hallmark of their success has been tremendous improvements among large ungulates such as wildebeest (*Connochaetes taurinus*) that more doubled in number from 15,000 in 2003 to over 40,000 at present.

Liuwa Plain is certainly the most fascinating parks in the region, but getting there currently requires an expedition.

Geography of Liuwa Plain National Park

Until the last few years, there have not really been any roads at all in the national park; it's just been 3,660km² of untouched Africa. The majority of the Liuwa Plain National Park is covered with huge, honey-coloured grassy plains – measuring about 70km long and 30km wide

Within this huge open area, you'll find the occasional small tree-island, cluster of raffia palms, or open pan interrupting the flatness. Often you can look 360 degrees around you and see nothing but a level expanse. The environment is unlike any other park in Zambia.

Much of the huge Liuwa Plains become flooded from around December to April. The waters are said to rise in the north, and spread south. This flooding drives the wildebeest migration, for which the park is famous; the herds move out of the woodlands to the north, and on to the open plains for new, fresh grazing.

In the centre of Liuwa Plains, and especially to the south of this enormous grassy plain, there are a scattering of flat, open pans. Many of which hold their water well into the dry season – and

these are always worth investigating. They vary immensely; on any given day some will appear almost lifeless, whilst others host real concentrations of birds or antelope.

Mammals and reptiles of Liuwa Plain

As is often the case in large open areas, Liuwa's larger mammals tend to group together into great herds when on Liuwa Plains – and these are much of the park's attraction. The wildlife census in 1991 estimated there were about 30,000 blue wildebeest, 8,000 tsessebe, 1,000 zebra and 10,000 other large mammals – including herds of buffalo, red lechwe, eland, Lichtenstein's hartebeest and roan antelope, plus assorted pairs of reedbuck and the delightful, diminutive oribi which are so common there.

Subsequent surveys suggest that game numbers were declined significantly towards the end of the 1990s and in the first few years of the 21st Century. By 2003 blue wildebeest numbers in Liuwa Plains were estimated at only 15,000. This decline was stopped with much more active protection thanks to the African Parks Network, which took on the park as one of its projects in 2003-4. They've spent a lot of time and money on conservation of the park, and the development of its surrounding communities since then – and this appears to have paid off. Liuwa's blue wildebeest are now estimated to number as many as 45,000 – and anecdotal evidence is that other species are also benefiting.

Predators are also well-represented in Liuwa. Lion, leopard, cheetah, Painted dog and hyena all occur there.

Leopard occurs within the national park, though the surrounding forest is a better habitat for them than the plain itself.

Birds found in Liuwa Plain National Park

About 319 bird species have been recorded in or around the Liuwa Plains. Bob Stjernstedt, a Zambian birding expert, comments that because Liuwa is seldom visited, many more birds are sure to be added to this list.

In dry months such as September, the birding is amazing. Spectacular groups of crowned cranes often numbering several hundred birds; groups of wattled cranes, and flocks of several hundred pelicans have been seen.

When the pans fill up, yellow-billed, open-billed, saddle-billed and marabou storks arrive, with grey herons, spoonbills, egrets, three-banded and lots of blacksmith's plovers, spur-winged and pygmy geese, and many other water birds. Slaty egrets are seen in groups, a rare occurrence elsewhere.

Secretary birds and Denham's and white-bellied bustards are common; and the park is noted for large numbers of the migrant black-winged pratincoles, a finely-marked swift-like bird which is rare further east. Other 'special' birds in Liuwa Plains include the pink-billed and clapper larks, swamp boubou, rosy-breasted longclaw, sharp-tailed starling, long-tailed widow and white-cheeked bee-eater. Liuwa Plains is also a great area for raptors from the greater kestrel to bateleur and martial eagles, palmnut vultures and fish eagles. Pel's fishing owl is found along Luangwa River to the south and the Luambimba River in the north.

Seasons in Liuwa Plains

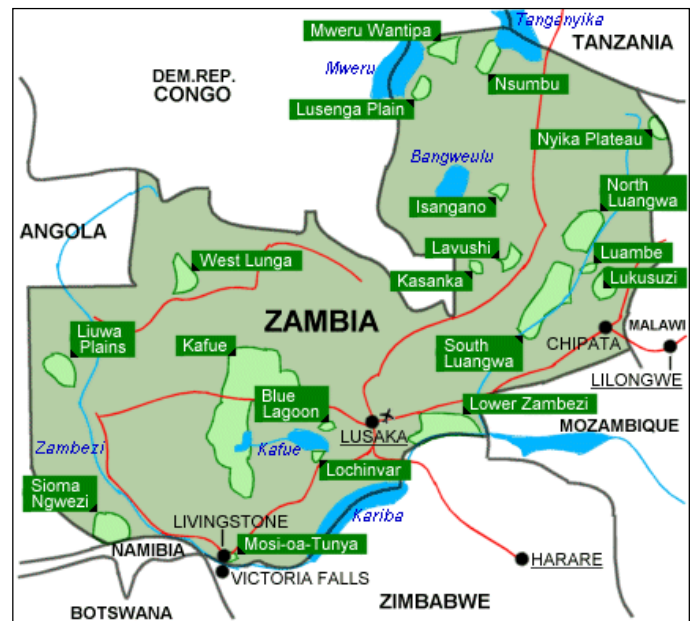
From January to about April, a large area of Liuwa Plains is covered in shallow water; and all the pans in the south of the park are full – perfect for the large herds of herbivores which gather there, and the large numbers of birds which also arrive.

However, around May-July the plains dry up, the waters recede northwards, and gradually the herds move that way also. They desert the waterholes of the southern side of the plain, and move back northwest, eventually melting back into the woodlands which surround the park. Plenty of resident wildlife remains, relying on a scattering of pans which retain their water for most of the year.

From August to October the herds start drifting southwards again. At first, in September, you'll find just a few herds, typically just a few hundred wildebeest, venturing south on to the northern areas of the plain – but gradually as the rains approach these increase in number and move further south into the park.

In November and December the first rains are falling, and then Liuwa Plains are teeming with game. November is classically the best time to visit the park – a balance between catching the best of the game, and yet avoiding any danger of getting permanently stuck in deep mud.

For those who are feeling seriously adventurous, the park is accessible from around February to April.



Creature Feature: The Zorilla

The Zorilla (*Ictonyx striatus*, also called the African polecat, striped polecat, zoril or zorille) is a member of the Mustelidae family (weasels) which somewhat resembles a skunk.

It is found in savannahs and open country in sub-Saharan Africa, excluding the Congo basin and West Africa.

Like other polecats, this carnivore is nocturnal. It has several means of avoiding predators - including the ability to emit foul-smelling secretions from its anal glands, playing dead and climbing trees.

The animal is mainly black, but has four prominent white stripes running from the head, along the back to the tail.

The striped polecat is typically 60 cm (24 in) long including a 20-cm tail. It lives for up to 13 years.

The Guinness Book of Animal Records claims a zorilla once kept 9 lions at bay while it was scavenging their kill, to illustrate the claim it is indeed the worst-smelling animal.

The striped polecat is solitary, tolerating contact with others only to mate.

Young are generally born between September and December, with one to three young per litter.



SLCS Wild Dog Anti-snaring Team Update

We had a fantastic visit from John Lemon, Painted Dog Conservation Inc and Geoff Huddy from SAVE Foundation in May.

Apart from being incredibly helpful with SLCS activities by dropping anti-snaring teams on patrol, helping to rescue a hippo from a pit and trying to save a domestic dog attacked by a hyaena, the support we receive from Painted Dog Inc continues to provide a safer environment for wild dogs and most other species in South Luangwa by making certain our patrols are well equipped, incentivised and can be deployed.

The anti-snaring team conducts regular day patrols and long patrols pulling out hundreds of snares which would otherwise trap and certify the death of many animals.

Recently the anti-snaring team has pulled out 300 snares alone from the Luamfwa region in the southern section of the park.

Most packs are currently denning at this time of year and so location data provided by the Zambian Carnivore Programme is vital for us to direct our patrols and ensure the immediate areas surrounding dog dens are safe from snares.

I was also lucky to be able to join John, Geoff and Dr. Becker from ZCP for a week in Liuwa National Park in Western Zambia helping to collar wildebeest.

Again John and Geoff proved to be hands on, practical people whose contribution to the operation was invaluable.

Thanks so much to PDC Inc. for their support to our projects in Zambia.



Zambian Carnivore Programme Update

It's been another incredibly busy season so far in Zambia and hard to believe as I finally sit down to write that it's been over a month since we welcomed John Lemon and Geoff Hoddy to Zambia. It was great to see John again in the country as he hadn't been able to visit in some time and as an active member of the ZCP Board of Trustees, in addition to all his work in PDC Inc., we had plenty to discuss and see. For Geoff it was his first trip to Zambia and to our projects, so we were eager to show them both around and make sure it was hopefully evident that PDC Inc.'s generous support to us was going to good things.

John and Geoff arrived in Lusaka mid-May and promptly flew up to the Luangwa where they joined us, South Luangwa Conservation Society (SLCS) and Chipembele Wildlife Educational Trust (CWET) for work, staying at the ZCP camp along the Luangwa River and assisting us and our partner organizations with work and discussions on future collaborations and projects.

In the beginning of the cold dry season the dogs were just beginning to den and so the guys enjoyed a number of good dog sightings of the packs. Among the animal highlights were tracking dogs from the Kaingo pack and the newly formed pack in the Kapamba as they hunted puku and impala. Geoff accompanied Eli down to the Kapamba River to track one of the Kaingo dispersing females, who has moved 35km to meet up with two new males. Despite six flats the multi-day trip was a success, culminating in the dogs making a kill of a puku in the Kapamba River. As the primary natural limiting factor on dogs, lions are of key importance and a number of outings were made to collect data on the local prides and coalitions as well.

As we've highlighted in the past wire snare poaching is likely to be the biggest threat to wild dogs in the Luangwa. ZCP and SLCS have worked closely with PDC Inc. and the Perth Zoo to reduce the threat of snaring with wild dogs through the formation of the SLCS wild dog anti-snaring team which targets areas of high risk and importance for dogs based on ZCP data. John and Geoff provided transport to the team for a patrol deployment in the far northern sector of our study area as well, utilizing the trusty Series III Land Rover donated last year by Syd and Sue Chipchase! Unlike many trips with our other vehicles it was thankfully mechanically uneventful!

As the end of the month neared John and Geoff, Rachel McRobb from SLCS, and I flew to Lusaka with loads of field gear, piling into the Isuzu- Holden truck donated by PDC Inc. last year, and drove 600km west to the city of Mongu, the jumping off point for getting to Liuwa Plain National Park. Following a long boat ride up the river and another drive into camp we were finally in Liuwa.

In collaboration with African Parks and WWF-Netherlands and WWF-Zambia we were initiating a long-term wildebeest study aimed at determining the factors limiting this keystone species' recovery in Liuwa. As the system continues to be restored through AP management one of the critical questions is how many wildebeest can we expect there to be? At the moment there is over 40,000, but whether this will soon level off or continue to increase has big management and conservation implications for Liuwa and the greater Liuwa-Mussumma Transfrontier Conservation Area (LMTFCA) with Angola. Thus our collaborative study is aimed at evaluating survival, reproduction and mortality of adult cow wildebeest and the influences of climate, predation, and people on them. To do this we needed a representative sample of collared animals whose fate we could follow, and in a place like Liuwa this was no small task, requiring a helicopter and ground based operation to deploy 50 collars. It was an ambitious task but thanks to everyone's hard work and expertise it was able to be completed in three days.

While this took up the bulk of our time we still had a chance to experience Liuwa, including a front row seat to Lady Liuwa making a wildebeest kill, a group of 5 cheetah, and plenty of hyena up close and personal. The local dogs had just begun denning less than 500m from a village so to avoid disturbing them we did not visit them, but reason to return! We really enjoyed John and Geoff's visit and hope they can return soon, hopefully to see our Kafue project as well which has made great strides this season. Their efforts for conservation of dogs are continually inspiring and humbling and thanks again to them and to all of PDC Inc. for your support in literally all facets of our work!

Sincerely,

Matt Becker

CEO/Programme Manager, Zambian Carnivore Programme



Zambian Carnivore Programme Update

As the rains have ceased and the cold dry season is upon us, we are in the midst another busy dry season in Zambia. Fieldwork rapidly slows with the onset of the wet season, which makes most of our study areas impassable, and so the rains are always a good chance to catch up on work, planning, and fund-raising.

Despite this, we look forward to the possibility of much more field work during the upcoming seasons thanks to the Mfuwe Lodge/Bush Camp Company's generous donation of an airplane for joint anti-poaching and research work with our partner organization the South Luangwa Conservation Society. In addition WWF-Netherlands has assisted us in funding operating costs for this essential conservation tool.

This quarter was quite remarkable for ZCP. Firstly, we welcomed two Zambian graduate students from the Zambia Wildlife Authority (ZAWA) to Montana State University. Additionally, we initiated a leopard camera trap survey in South Luangwa National Park, and assisted in addressing the ever-increasing impacts of snaring on Zambia's outstanding wildlife resources.

Thanks again for all your support and we look forward to an outstanding 2012 field season,
Matt and the ZCP Team



ZCP and Montana State University Welcome ZAWA Graduate Students to the United States

Dr. Wigganson Matandiko completes first semester of graduate school at Montana State University

The first quarter of 2012 marked the successful completion of Dr. Wigganson Matandiko's first semester as a Ph.D. student at Montana State University (MSU) in Bozeman, Montana. The former ZAWA Head of Veterinary Services was awarded the prestigious Fulbright scholarship in 2011. Wigganson is co-advised by MSU Professor Dr. Scott Creel and ZCP CEO Dr. Matt Becker; and his research will focus on large mammal predator-prey dynamics and disease ecology in Zambia. In addition to his Fulbright Dr. Matandiko is supported through the National Science Foundation (NSF) as part of an initiative evaluating the direct and indirect impacts of large carnivores on ecosystems, and the effects of carnivore removal.



Despite being approximately 18,000 km away from his family in the high elevation cold environment of the Northern Rocky Mountains, Wigganson has excelled in his first year as a student, taking extremely challenging graduate courses and developing his field research project for this season in Kafue.

Unfortunately such work left little time for enjoying the outdoor opportunities that Montana affords but he still managed to be active in MSU's African Society organization and the local church, and upon his fellow graduate students' urging even partook in downhill skiing on the local mountain resort; we'll get pictures next time! With the field season upon us ZCP welcomed Wigganson's return to Zambia in June to commence his field research before taking classes again at MSU next year.

Jassiel M'soka to begin graduate study at MSU in January 2013

After successfully setting up a new project in one of Zambia's most outstanding yet extremely challenging ecosystems, Liuwa Project Manager Jassiel M'soka fulfilled one of his career goals by obtaining funding to pursue a Master's degree at Montana State University. Jassiel received the Schink Scholarship via the Wildlife Conservation Network (WCN) and National Science Foundation funding to begin at MSU in January 2013. Co-advised by Dr. Scott Creel and Matt Becker, Jassiel will be focusing his studies on carnivore guild dynamics, specifically looking at recovering cheetah and African wild dog populations in Liuwa Plain and interactions with competing spotted hyena and lion. A portion of his study will include the first ever genetic mark-recapture study using detection dogs in Zambia, in conjunction with Working Dogs for Conservation. This effort, funded by WWF-Netherlands and National Geographic's Big Cats' Initiative, will help provide key information on the distribution and abundance of what are potentially key transboundary populations between Zambia and Angola.

The logistics of doing even the simplest things in Liuwa are



always challenging, but Jassiel always has a never-ending optimism and determination that has been the deciding factor in the Liuwa Project's success

"I have made it to Kalabo (Park headquarters); it was an adventure! I exhausted all the forms of transport available on the plains in one day!!! A journey that was supposed to take 2 hours ended up taking 10 hours! Started off from Mongu at 0920hrs with a "speedboat" it started giving problems along the way and we had to change to a barge, that proved to be too slow and we went onto a longboat, with 36 passengers at one time; also got into a canoe...just to get onto an island and back. Arrived in Kalabo about 1900hours, let the adventure begin!!!!" Excerpt from Jassiel's first trip to Liuwa after the rains

Aerial Support for Conservation Comes to the Luangwa Valley with the Support of Mfuwe Lodge and Bushcamp Company



The Luangwa valley is one of the region's most outstanding wildlife areas, largely owing to the massive tracts of land centered around South Luangwa National Park and its adjoining Game Management Areas. However, owing to its size, seasonal inaccessibility, and limited road network the area is extremely difficult to conduct wildlife research, management and conservation efforts. Coupled with the fact that large carnivores can range over thousands of square kilometers and ground-based work is extremely challenging and inefficient. After years of wishing, aerial support became a reality in 2011 thanks to the generosity of Mfuwe Lodge and the Bushcamp Company, who donated a plane for joint operations between South Luangwa Conservation Society and ZCP, and to WWF-Netherlands who

has supported plane operations. A Cessna 180 is an ideal plane for collaborative surveillance and research work and completely changes the game for wildlife conservation in the Luangwa. We cannot thank Mfuwe Lodge and the Bushcamp Company enough for providing this opportunity and will keep you updated as the plane arrives in the valley this year and work begins.

Leopard Camera Trap Survey begins in South Luangwa National Park

Little is known about the leopards of South Luangwa National Park, a population that has received fame for frequent sightings but no scientific attention. In May 2012, ZCP in collaboration with the Zambia Wildlife Authority began the first study ever in the park to estimate the number of these solitary cats and to evaluate their dynamics in the park's high-density leopard habitats.

Funded by Rufford Small Grants for Conservation ZCP acquired camera traps that can photograph passing leopards (and any other wildlife), most often with the animal not even noticing! Individual leopards will be identified using their unique spot patterns, and the frequency of their re-detection over the study period will allow ZCP to estimate leopard abundance and density in the study area.

Snaring continues to Impact Large Carnivores in Luangwa and Kafue

Collaborative anti-snaring work continued in the Luangwa between SLCS and ZCP, with the Lion Anti-Snaring Team and Wild Dog Anti-Snaring teams covering key areas of high risk for both species and furthering our understanding of snaring trends and patterns in the Luangwa. Unfortunately snaring continues to be a serious problem for large carnivores and their prey in the area despite extensive efforts to combat it. Both organizations are working with national and regional agencies and organizations to help address this major threat to Zambia's outstanding wildlife areas.

Similarly following the first season of the Kafue Project, snaring appears to significantly impact on large carnivores in many sections of the Kafue. The first season of the Kafue Project in 2011 saw 6 lions with snares and a number of snare injuries on wild dogs as well as documentation of snared cheetah. ZCP will continue to work with ZAWA and partner organizations in addressing this growing problem.



A to Z Conservation Education Exchange

Chipembele Wildlife Education Trust in South Luangwa, Zambia has formed a partnership with Pulteney High School in Adelaide. There are exciting plans for an exchange of students from Conservation Clubs in Pulteney and Mfuwe Secondary School. After an extensive selection process, fifteen students from Pulteney in years 10 and 11 have been chosen and will go to Mfuwe in June 2013 for 2 1/2 weeks. Then in 2014 ten Chipembele students will go to Adelaide! The focus of the trips will be conservation but it is hoped that there will also be an exchange of cultural information, and great personal development.

The 'A to Z Conservation Education Exchange' is the brainchild of Emma Still (Educator, Monarto Zoo and longtime supporter of Chipembele), Ian Walton (Educator, Monarto Zoo) and Christina Jarvis (Head of Geography, Pulteney High). In January Emma and Christina went to stay at Chipembele for 2 weeks to assess the viability of the project, carry out risk assessment and start to make firm connections. Emma stayed on for another 6 weeks, assisting in their conservation education programmes with her creative expertise and enormous pool of conservation education knowledge and experience.

Emma is holding a fund raising art event called Creating 4 Conservation over the weekend of 2nd to 4th November at Pulteney High School and Anna from Chipembele will be opening it. All the funds raised this year will go into the Chipembele A to Z fund for the underprivileged Zambian students to be able to travel to Adelaide in 2014. For more information about the event please contact Emma on estill@zoossa.com.au



Safari vehicle makes learning fun

The second term of the school year (May to July) is always the busiest at Chipembele. At the beginning of June they acquired a safari style Land Cruiser, from the generous donations of a number of supporters. It can comfortably seat 15 teenage students and allows Ben, the Conservation Education Manager, to take them out more regularly into the National Park and other wild places, on game drives and field trips and do inter school conservation club visits. Every Friday afternoon Ben and a Zambian Carnivore Project member of staff take them into the Park for some research, such as locating collared animals or checking camera traps and later downloading the information on computers in the Chipembele Student Resource Office. They learn scientific techniques, discover more about the natural world, hone their computer skills and have a whole load of fun too... conservation education at its best!

Anna and Steve Tolan
CEO and Programme Director
Chipembele Wildlife Education Trust



A Tale of Two Jungles — An Update from Patron Bradley Trevor Greive

Since leaving the wondrous cloud forests of Costa Rica I have been braving the fetid Hollywood jungle after selling the television series option for my upcoming book, *Adventure Story*. Instead of risking life and limb while trekking my way through the verdant mountains, I've been risking my sanity while wading through vile and vapid executive excrement. But like all epic quests, the journey offers its own reward, and in this case I have banked countless highly embarrassing and vaguely amusing stories during my harrowing Hollywood expedition — such as the time I was using the men's bathroom at Dreamworks (a major Hollywood studio), and a senior TV executive marched into the relieve himself at the urinal, beside me, and brought his (male) assistant along with him to continue taking notes (!!!). As I stood there, pain-faced and imprisoned mid-flow, the executive gestured expansively with his one free hand and blathered on about upcoming meetings and fatuous restaurant bookings. Meanwhile the wide-eyed assistant, perched eagerly on our shared trough-ledge, frantically scribbled away in his large notebook with such feverish intensity I remain pretty sure he was sketching my penis.

Moving on.

One of the things I love about PDC Inc is that our mission truly is a great adventure. We are all of us hoping to achieve something remarkable, namely; the salvation of rare and extraordinary creatures, and against all odds. The environment in which our programs are most needed are harsh and unforgiving, the political atmosphere we have to operate in is often difficult to breathe, if not downright toxic and deadly, and of course the financial situation is nothing if not dire. In such adverse conditions it takes a truly remarkable team to even attempt to attain such lofty goals as ours, let alone repeatedly triumph, as we have — but thankfully we do have a truly remarkable team, and with your continued support they shall continue to bravely put themselves in harm's way in order that through compassion, hard work, sacrifice and sound science, the Painted Dog and so many other remarkable creatures will survive this difficult age, so that you, your children, your grandchildren, and your great grandchildren's grandchildren will be able to share this sacred earth with them.

John Lemon's many harrowing experiences and movie star hair remind me of one of my heroes, Hans Schomburgk (1880 - 1967), a lusty historical figure whom I have enjoyed researching for my *Adventure Story* book and TV series. In particular it reminds me of a story I like to describe as "The Swine of Redemption".

In the early 1900s, Carl Hagenbeck, a German animal dealer and zoo owner, heard startling tales of the semi-mythical Nigbwe; a gigantic and reputedly savage purple-black Liberian hog that charged through the night carrying an enormous diamond in its mouth. An aggressively opportunistic Belle Époque entrepreneur, Hagenbeck desperately wanted to be first person to have this rare creature in his collection and needed little encouragement to launch an expedition.

Based on impossible folktales, antiquated scientific observations, and some bold claims from anonymous members of the British Colonial Service, Hagenbeck realized this was no ordinary mission, and so he immediately sought out the professional big game hunter, adventurer, and playboy hunk, Major Hans Schomburgk; a man's man who was a Boer War veteran, a former police officer, had mapped remote corners of Angola and Liberia, and proudly retained the personal motto, "Nothing Is Impossible" ... at least until he tried to stay happily married to a German actress ...



Hans Schomburgk - 1907

Schomburgk reluctantly accepted Hagenbeck's dangerous commission, knowing that what he had been tasked to do was considered foolhardy at best, and suicidal at worst. Schomburgk, who had survived sleeping sickness and shipped the first wild elephants to Europe from East Africa, was always up for a challenge but, depending who he spoke to, the creature he sought had either never existed, had become extinct or, if it still existed, wasn't something you ever wanted to run into; a fact passionately affirmed by the usually intrepid Gola hunters, who described his quarry in terrified Pidgin English thus:

"Him be big past pig, but him be pig and love water, but him be saucy too much, we all fear for true true. Him teeth be like knife, he fit to bite man in two one time."

The initial 1909 expedition did not go at all well, largely because that the beast they sought turned out to be bigger and far more dangerous and unpredictable than any wild hog Schomburgk planned to encounter. After spending a sizeable chunk of Hagenbeck's fortune, Schomburgk claimed to have found the Nigbwe, but he failed to kill or capture this elusive and dangerous beast and, after returning to civilisation empty-handed, his subsequent description of what he believed to be the 'extinct' Pygmy Hippo made him a laughing stock - He was publicly branded a fool and a fraud.

Two years later, with Hagenbeck's backing, Schomburgk tried again. However this time, after suffering great hardships and adversity, including attacks by cannibals while traversing unknown quarters of Golah-land, he was wildly successful - safely delivering the first group of live Pygmy Hippos to a startled European audience in 1911.

In a strange but true story of redemption, Schomburgk underwent a curious epiphany after capturing the elusive pygmy hippo and redeeming his public reputation - He gave up professional hunting, and went on to become a leading wildlife conservationist and celebrated filmmaker. More importantly, it is because of these captured animals that the Pygmy Hippo is not extinct (as are the remaining two Pygmy Hippo sub-species) - indeed virtually every conservation breeding program on this entire planet can be traced back to the five Liberian Pygmy Hippos that Hans Schomburgk shipped to Hamburg in 1911. In fact every single Pygmy Hippo bred in a conservation zoo in North America can trace it's lineage back to William Johnson Hippopotamus (aka 'Billy'), a male Pygmy Hippo captured in

Liberia by Hans Schomburgk, and given to President Calvin Coolidge by the rubber baron, Harvey Firestone, in 1927.

I share this bizarre and heroic story with you for two reasons - first to acknowledge how lucky we are that John Lemon was born a hundred years after his time - because the modern world just doesn't turn out tough and capable adventurers like it used to.

Secondly, I want to point out that dangerous and difficult conservation field programs have succeeded before, and can succeed again. You have to get the best people, believe in them, and put your money where your mouth is - We are to John Lemon and the PDC Inc. team, as Carl Hagenbeck was to Hans Schomburgk and his brave crew.

As is my custom, I close my Patron's Letter with a call to action. Yes, I'd like you to spread the word about how critical the PDC Inc.'s work is if we hope save the Painted Dog and other unique but tragically endangered animals from impending extinction. Yes, I'd ask you to please renew your membership and also to invite at least two like-minded friends to join the PDC Inc. as well. And yes, I encourage you make a tax deductible Donation, Adopt a Dog, and purchase delightful gifts for worthy recipients (including yourself) from the outstanding collection of fabulous fundraising wares available via the PDC Inc. Website www.painteddogconservation.iinet.net.au and also at African Ambience (<http://www.africanambience.com.au/>).

Thank you once again for enduring the shapeless and vaguely profane blurtage of your wayward Patron, and more importantly for your ongoing support of Painted Dog Conservation Inc. - we simply couldn't accomplish anything without you!

Bradley Trevor Greive
Patron

Committee Profile: Secretary Alyson Handfield

PDC Inc new Secretary Alyson Handfield gives us her quick six answers to "Tell us about you"

- I was born in Canada, near Ottawa.
- I am vegan; I do not believe in eating or using animal products.
- I moved to Australia in 2005 and lived in Exmouth for 4 years where I worked as a Dive Instructor, teaching people about the "vulnerable" Whale Shark and educating people on all the other amazing marine mammals that are under threat.
- Animals have been my passion for as long as I can remember, before I could read I would sit for hours and look at books about animals and watch documentaries on TV for hours on end.
- I have always been interested in Painted Dogs, they are such a majestic creature that we really need to fight to save.
- Humans need to learn how to live alongside animals, they were here before us and if we don't do something NOW they will not be here tomorrow.
- I am currently working at Cat Haven, and am enrolled at Murdoch University. I am studying BSc with a double major in Biomedical Science and Molecular Biology and a minor in Statistics.

Welcome aboard, Alyson!





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Conservation through action and education

Find us on the Web

www.painteddogconservation.iinet.net.au
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The Object of the Association is:

To advance conservation for the public benefit of the African Painted Dog, (also referred to as a Wild Dog) *Lycaon pictus*, through education promoting and disseminating research into such conservation and seeking to achieve their sustainable management.



Would You Like To Help?

Our supported projects do NOT receive any government funding and is wholly reliant on donations to continue its operations.

The key factor in retaining the workers from the local communities – both skilled and unskilled who are classed as staff – is to have sufficient funding available to pay them a reasonable wage.

Please consider a donation for the work to continue.

All donations received are put without deduction to the benefit of the African Painted Dog.

Here's What to Do

Forward a cheque or money order (within Australia) made payable to:

Painted Dog Conservation Inc
C/- The Treasurer
Post Office Box 637
South Perth WA 6951

Credit cards (Overseas and Australia): We can accept either Visa or Mastercard. Please tear off the slip below and forward to the Treasurer, whose address appears above.

Credit Card Transaction

Please note that PDC Inc does not recommend provision of credit card details via email, and will not request them.

Name:

Address:

Credit Card Type: Visa / Mastercard

Card Number.....Expiry Date.....

Name on Card.....

Amount:.....\$AUD / \$USD Signature:.....

Australian Residents: Donations or gifts over \$2.00 are tax deductible.