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### AFRICAN WILDLIFE CONSERVATION FUND IN 2014!

It is hard to believe we are already in June of the New Year, but wow what a busy past six months it has been! As we, the AWCF team, strive to reach our goals for this year we would like to share some of our conservation highs and progress thus far, made possible only by the generous support of individuals such as yourself! Have a look through the couple of pages below to see what your funds, and very valued support, is helping to achieve, and thank you for helping make our conservation aspirations a reality.

As always, don't forget to visit our [website](#), join us on [Facebook](#), follow us on [Twitter](#), and subscribe to our [blog](#) to receive more regular updates on our work!

### DENNING SEASON IS WELL UNDERWAY!

Our scouts have worked flat out to locate the dens of eight of our 11 focal packs in Savé Valley Conservancy, and are hot on the heels of the others! Mapura pack has stayed loyal to Chishakwe, and even though their den is in an awkward location for viewing, they are frequently sighted hunting on the airstrip. Splinters pups emerged a month ago totalling 13 in number, and Batanai pack seem to have close to 10 or 11 pups (an accurate count still needs to be obtained). The rest of the packs' pups are due to emerge shortly, so keep an eye on our [Facebook](#) page for regular updates and plenty of photos!



Bushnell 06-08-2014 14:54:02



Atwood 5/18/2014 9:11:06

### COLLARS FITTED FOR LONG-TERM MONITORING...

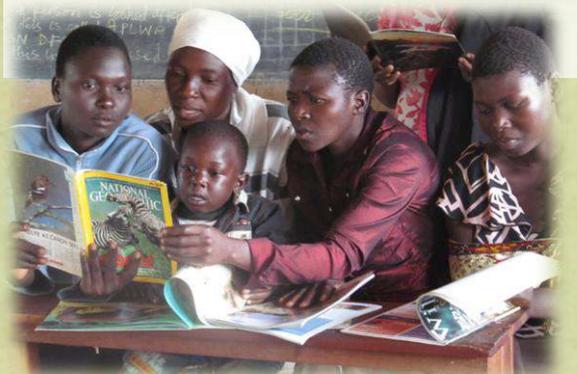
Last year we lost five of our collared dogs to lion attacks and wire-snaring. This severely impacted our monitoring and research capabilities so we are very pleased to have collared four dogs from three different packs over the last few months!

Collaring events are always a great learning opportunity for our scouts and attachment students!



### SCHOOLS EDUCATION AND COMMUNITY OUTREACH GOES FROM STRENGTH TO STRENGTH...

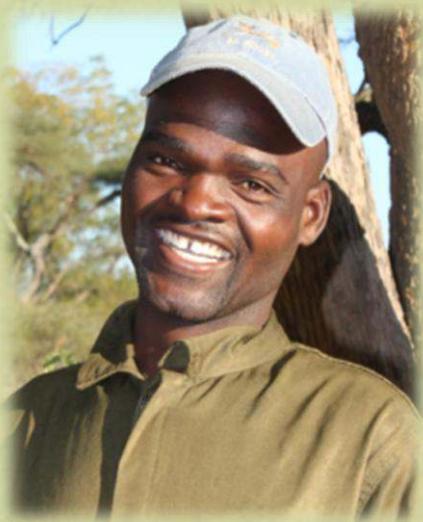
Victor Chibaya, our Community Liaison Officer, has hit the academic ground running this year and the few photos below barely do his efforts justice! Old and young have gathered in school classrooms and community halls to listen to what Victor has to say about AWCF, African wild dogs and conservation in general. His wildlife DVD's (especially for children who have never even seen a TV) are a phenomenal way to reach children with our message, and the mobile library books are utilised at a rapid rate as community members stream in to learn more about nature, wildlife and their role in conservation!



### OUR SCOUT UNIT GROWS IN CAPACITY!

Moffat Nerwanda is our newest addition to the team, and was employed as a scout and tracker in April 2014. He was recruited by our head scout, Rueben Bote, and shows an eagerness to learn and genuine interest in the natural world. We believe with time, and training, he will develop into an astute tracker and a real asset to the team!

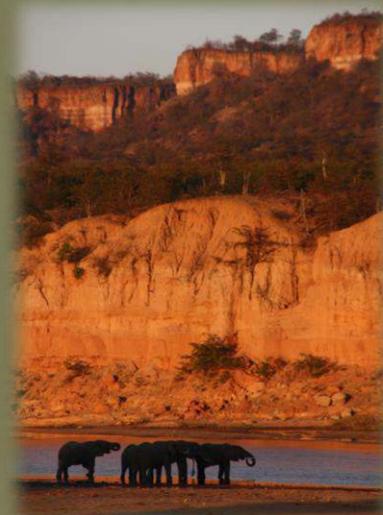
With an extra scout in the north of the conservancy, Misheck (our senior scout), has relocated to the south. This will enable more efficient and hands-on monitoring of our resident packs throughout the conservancy with additional conservation benefits for the species.



### WILD DOG CONSERVATION IN GONAREZHOU NATIONAL PARK

The late, and heavy, rains this year made getting stuck into the field a little harder than usual, but very little slows down AWCF head scout, Rueben Bote. Rueben is tracking wild dog packs and locating dens, and following up on AWCF's Predator Project work in Gonarezhou National Park; one of the key wildlife areas of the Zimbabwean portion of the Greater Limpopo Transfrontier Conservation Area, and one of our focal study sites!

Rueben has already located three wild dog dens and picked up activity for plenty more packs. Rueben is also helping to train rangers in the Park about spoor tracking and research skills, and his increased presence within the Park will undoubtedly result in improved research and conservation outputs.



### LOOKING AHEAD...

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Over the next six months we look forward to watching the newly born pups grow and become integral members of their pack. We hope for a successful denning season, and look forward to the culmination of one attachment student's time with us, and to welcoming a new one. We hope to be able to strengthen our current conservation projects and strive to be ever more active on the transfrontier scale, extending our efforts to other key wildlife areas within the Zimbabwean Lowveld.

### AWCF 'WISH LIST' 2014

- Petrol to keep one scout in the field for a month US\$130
- Tracking antennas for our scouts US\$166/antenna
- VHF collars to locate packs US\$260/collar
- Trail cameras to monitor activity at den sites US\$300/camera
- Jailing JH125L motorbikes for scout mobility in the field US\$1 500/bike
- GPS/Satellite collars to monitor movements and dispersals US\$2 000/collar

Please do not hesitate to contact us ([rosemary@africanwildlifeconservationfund.org](mailto:rosemary@africanwildlifeconservationfund.org)) if you would like to support us in any other way! Details of our Zimbabwean, South African, USA or UK accounts are available on request, or make use of our safe and secure PayPal link ([www.africanwildlifeconservationfund.org/donate/](http://www.africanwildlifeconservationfund.org/donate/))