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Our achievements at a glance – Over the past 7 months we have worked tirelessly and with utter commitment to continue helping our resident African wild dogs, all wildlife and the communities we support, and will continue to do so into 2020! [#WatchThisSpace](#)

- 🐾 Proud to report **strong populations of wild dogs** in both Savé Valley Conservancy (SVC) and Gonarezhou National Park (GNP); 89 adults in 12 packs in SVC and 117 adults in 8 packs in GNP
- 🐾 **5 adult wild dogs saved from deaths by wires and 2 wild dog puppies saved** in the midst of a snaring crisis
- 🐾 Carried out the 11th (in GNP) and 12th (in SVC) **annual carnivore spoor surveys** critical to the long-term conservation of all large carnivores
- 🐾 An additional **1,451 domestic dogs vaccinated** against the rabies virus to protect wild dogs and other wildlife
- 🐾 Welcomed our **new attachment student, Talent Chinguwa**, who will live onsite with us for a year!
- 🐾 **26 rural primary schools** - directly involving 270 children, 68 teachers, and over 151 community members - participated in our annual **community conservation cluster competitions**
- 🐾 Provided the opportunity for **610 rural scholars** to visit SVC and GNP and experience wildlife first-hand through our annual conservation and leadership field course (30 students) and our popular day trips into wildlife areas (580 students + many more adult community members!)



Did you enjoy what you read above – would you like to know more?

Please see below for more facts and photos of what we have been doing to conserve Zimbabwe's wildlife and uplift her people, as well as for loads more cute wild dog photos, of course!

Despite a very bad year for snare-wire poaching, the wild dogs continue to do well

2019 was a challenging year for our resident African wild dogs and all wildlife in the midst of Zimbabwe's economic collapse and severe drought, with a significant and severe increase in bushmeat poaching being one of the knock-on effects.

Whilst the wild dog population has remained stable for this year, we have had a number of alpha dogs killed/affected by snare wires leading up to and during the 2019 denning season which upset the social structure and dynamics of their packs. We will be watching these packs carefully in 2020.

We had a total of 50 puppies born in SVC and a minimum of 49 puppies born in GNP. In December 2019, we recorded a 56% survival rate of puppies. As we catch up with our packs in 2020, we are anxious to see how the puppies are doing, and hope to see healthy recruitment into the new year!

There is never a dull moment watching wild dogs – please see below for a glimpse into life at the den for our resident wild dog packs!



Welcome to the team, Talent Chinguwa

Talent joined us from the National University of Science and Technology in October 2019. She will spend her attachment year with us whilst she completes her Bachelor of Science Honours Degree in Forest Resources and Wildlife Management.

Talent is very passionate about wildlife conservation and we are proud to be able to enrich her learning experience, and develop her understanding of conservation science and practical knowledge on how to protect Zimbabwe's wildlife.

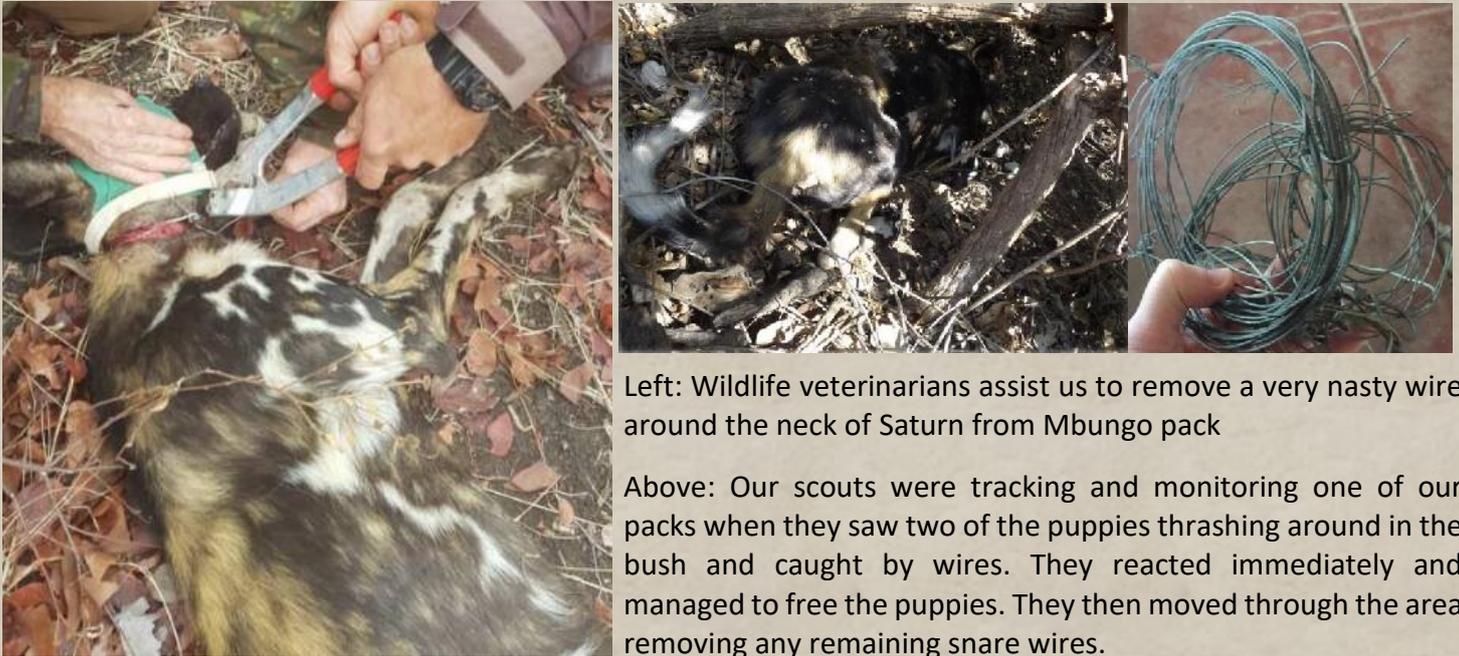
Talent will assist the AWCF team with all aspects of our programs during her time with us, from field research to our community education work. She will also complete a research thesis/project which she is determined to publish.



Removing snares and saving lives

We have had to increase our monitoring efforts over the past year and check our resident packs (especially the high risk packs) more frequently, in order to better respond to the threat of snaring and attend to affected individuals as quickly as possible.

Over the past 7 months we have saved 5 adult wild dogs and 2 puppies from deaths from wires.



Left: Wildlife veterinarians assist us to remove a very nasty wire around the neck of Saturn from Mbungo pack

Above: Our scouts were tracking and monitoring one of our packs when they saw two of the puppies thrashing around in the bush and caught by wires. They reacted immediately and managed to free the puppies. They then moved through the area removing any remaining snare wires.

The above is testament to our intensive direct monitoring and why having our scouts active and present in the field is so critical! #PleaseKeepThemThere!

To **meet our scouts**, please click [here](#), and to **support their efforts** and help them save more wild dogs, click [here](#).

Community education and engagement is key to sustainable conservation

We have carried out a number of activities over the past 7 months which directly aimed to provide opportunities for community upliftment and to bring people onside with wildlife conservation.



Left (top to bottom): Our education officer, Victor Chibaya, engages with rural children about wildlife conservation; scholars enjoy themselves on a day trip in GNP; Goko Primary School scholars ecstatic to be the winners of their local conservation cluster competition.



Right (top to bottom): Our 30 scholarship students during their annual field course learning from their peers and developing public speaking; working with local teachers to develop conservation clubs in the schools; Victor Chibaya engages with community members during our recent rabies campaign.



Please consider becoming part of our pack and supporting our work?

There are various ways you can financially connect with us and support our work:

1. Visit our safe and secure [PayPal account](#) and consider a once off donation or **becoming a regular donor**
2. Prefer an EFT or to set up a standing order? We have accounts in the [US, U.K., Zimbabwe and South Africa](#)
3. **Follow, like, and share** our social media posts on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), and [Instagram](#)
4. Become an ambassador for AWCF – shout off the rooftops, run a marathon, or jump out of a plane for us!

Any amount of support is always welcome!

US\$15 = wound spray/gauze to treat injured wild dogs

US\$50 = a pair of boots for our scouts

US\$150 = diesel for our education program for one month

US\$400 = sponsor a scholarship student for a year

US\$1,800 = rabies vaccination campaign in communities

US\$2,500 = Satellite tracking collar to monitor our resident packs



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Our Sincere Thanks for Your Support

We would like to express a genuine thank you to all of the organisations and the handful of private donors who have so generously supported our work.

Thanks to National Geographic; Painted Dog Conservation Inc, Australia; Educasa Foundation; Disney Conservation Fund; Frederick S. Upton Foundation; SAVE African Rhino Foundation; Cincinnati Zoo; Brevard Zoo; Pittsburgh Zoo; Columbus Zoo and Aquarium; Charlbury & Overseas Community Projects; Painted Wolf Wines and TUSK Trust.

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We thank the managers of the Savé Valley Conservancy for their support as well as access to their properties to monitor the wild dogs, and the Ministry of Education and local District Schools Inspectors for their support of our education work.

