Cheetah Conservation Fund

Dr. Laurie Marker, Dr. Bruce Brewer
Cheetah Conservation Fund, CCF Bush
Mission

To be the internationally recognized centre of excellence in the conservation of cheetahs and their ecosystems.

CCF works with all stakeholders to develop best practices in research, education, and land use to benefit all species, including people.
CCF as an Organization

- CCF is an International NGO with headquarters in Namibia.
- In Namibia CCF is a Section 21 company - not for gain.
- CCF has formal organizational partners in:
  - United States, United Kingdom, Canada, Netherlands,
  - France, Germany, Italy and Japan.
CCF International Scope

• CCF has assisted the establishment of local cheetah conservation organizations in:
  – Kenya, Botswana, South Africa, Iran, Zimbabwe.

• CCF consults with colleagues and government agencies in other cheetah range countries including: Zambia, India, Algeria, Ethiopia, Angola, Mozambique, Southern Sudan and Niger.

• CCF is a core member of the IUCN Cat Specialist Group helping develop regional strategies for cheetahs throughout their range.

• Contributes to international biomedical databases and maintains a Genome Recourse Bank.
CCF’s Programmes

- Livestock Guarding Dogs
- Education of students
- Future Farmer’s of Africa Training
- Working with Range Counties
CCF Conservation Research Programmes

• CCF has developed models for mitigating human wildlife conflict, including the use of livestock guarding dogs and farmer’s training.
• CCF investigates and applies carnivore census technology including radio-telemetry, camera trapping, and genetic DNA analysis.
• CCF shares its findings in both peer reviewed and other publications and lectures internationally.
• CCF responds to farmer and MET requests regarding “problem” cheetah or improperly housed captive animals working with LCMAN.
CCF Namibian Research Area

opportunistic collection of biomaterials for research

Trapped cheetahs
Blood samples
Fecal samples
Necropsies
Understanding cheetah ecology

- Radio-collared cheetahs to understand movements on Namibian farmland
- Vast ranges of up to 3000km$^2$ need **huge** areas to persist
- Data are vital for effective conservation strategies
- Developing census methods
Releases and Re-Introductions

Expansion of cheetah range into southern Namibia
CCF Education Programmes

• CCF emphasizes education and conducts programmes at CCF Centre and at schools throughout the country (> 15,000 students per yr).
• CCF conducts farmer and conservancy training (>2500).
• CCF conducts international training courses in Conservation Biology and Human Wildlife Conflict (> 700).
• CCF hosts PolyTech and UNAM interns (~100) and international university students (>300).
CCF Namibia Research Centre opened in 2000
CCF Facilities and Impact

• CCF Open to the Public Field Research Centre (~6,000 visitors per yr) is a part of the Waterberg Conservancy, the Greater Waterberg Complex and borders the Waterberg Plateau Park.

• CCF operates a Model Farm to train, test and refine integrated livestock and wildlife management programmes and is an active member of CANAM.

• CCF is a Rhino Custodian and steward of MET’s black rhino on the CCF Lands Trust.

• CCF operates CCF Bush, PTY LTD to encourage sustainable utilization of the encroaching thornbush and produces BushBlok.

• CCF creates employment for ~ 80 people - 2009 economic impact assessment by U Neb. = ~ $30 million impact to the country.
Helping Save Cheetahs