

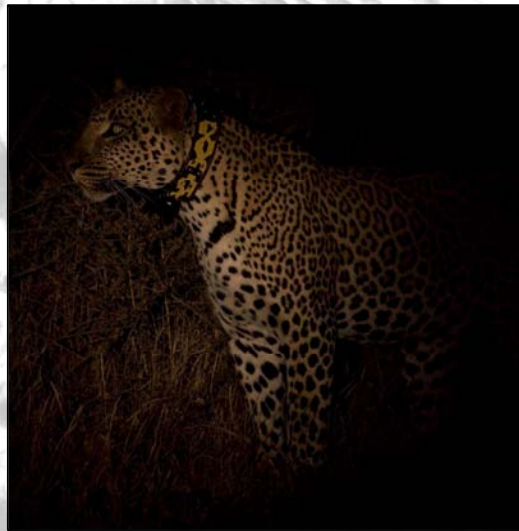
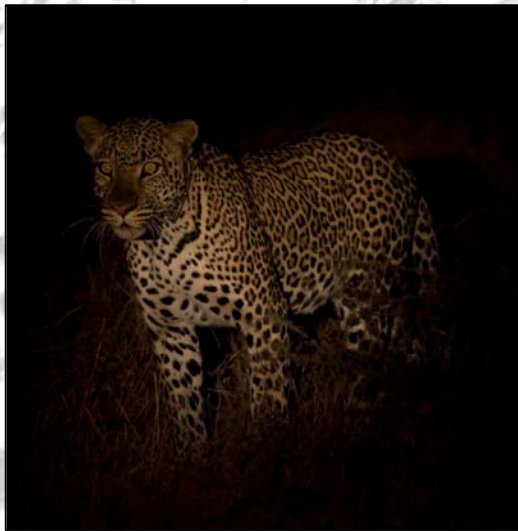


# *The Northern Tuli Predator Project*

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## **Predator Project News**

A new capture spell is underway with my leopard research project. The objective of this is to place a few new radio collars on especially male's leopards. This forms part of an ongoing academic study focused on leopard population dynamics. During the last few days of capture, a beautiful male leopard was collared. This male was seen in 2008 on two different camera traps placed south of his area of recent capture. He's since grown to have become a stunning young adult. A whole new chapter awaits to see where he goes and moves... only time will tell.



**Pictures from camera traps set in 2008, all from the same male leopard.**

## **Leopards**

Leopard sightings in June picked up significantly compared to May. The adult male living around Main Camp was seen on numerous occasions. His tracks were even found inside Main Camp on two occasions! A beautiful young female was also seen North of Main Camp and another just South of Fika Futi Camp.



## **Lions**

The central pride was fairly fragmented over the last couple of weeks, with most of the sightings in the far south, close to the Limpopo River. ‘Scar nose’, the oldest adult female wasn’t seen for weeks and it was surprising to have seen one of her youngest cubs, a young male, with some of the other pride sub-adults. We’re not sure where the mother is currently as her cub is still very dependent on her for nutrients. Other sightings of this pride were frequent and provided some fantastic photographic opportunities. An adult lioness with three sub-adults was seen at the Mashatu / Pitsane border. This female is believed to be the last remaining member of the once called ‘Majale Island’ Pride. It’s wonderful to see her back in the Northern Tuli Game Reserve, since I last saw her in South Africa on private farmland with a male lion that subsequently got shot.



### **Spotted Hyena & Black Back Jackal**

The female with her young pup is still at her density on the Majale River. What makes this female and her cub's den so interesting is the fact that their density is not more than 2m away from an active warthog borrow! They all live together in their little – village. Spotted hyaenas were seen across the whole landscape and their unmistakable whooping call heard almost every single night.

Black backed jackal was also found frequently all across the Mashatu landscape. Some wonderful sightings of these witty & intelligent carnivores were seen.





**Cheetahs**

The coalition of three males were yet again seen on a few occasions, but this ranging from Jackals Koppie in the far South-East, to Frazer Jones' Weir in the Central area.

Regards,

Andrei