

## COLLAR A LION PROJECT UPDATE – JULY 2024

Hi,

Once again I thank my sponsors / donors on this project – it is really appreciated by us all at SACT and in particular the future of wild lions in Southern Africa.

This short report, on the work being done in Hwange National Park by the WILDCRU / WILDCAT Trust and supported by SACT, gives a general overview of this well-established lion research program! I personally have been very involved with this project for well over 15 years, having spent many weeks in Hwange National Park assisting the research team, from deployment of collars to photographic work on lion whisker spots to funding the Scorpions Anti-Poaching Unit, so it is my time to give back to the project by assisting with promoting and funding this long-standing project. I have spent much time in the field for which I am eternally grateful to all concerned.

SACT – we have supplied two SAT lion tracking collars to WILDCRU – one collar deployed on a "historic problem lioness", the second collar not yet deployed, but we expect it will be used in the near future. I also anticipate WILDCRU will draw on SACT to supply further lion tracking collars in the near future – the drought conditions in Zimbabwe/Hwange, increases the potential for human / animal conflict (lions preying on domestic livestock owned by rural subsistence farmers).



Hangano (right )and mother Tex feeding on a livestock carcass.

Our new VUSA, the lion guardian educational comic, is well in production, and should be distributed to the rural schools adjacent to the border of Hwange National Park.

Please take 5 minutes to read this simple report (only two pages) as it gives you an idea of the operational costs and how your sponsorship / donation is being utilized on our project.

The other supported project under this banner "Collar A Lion" program, in Kruger National Park, with our project partners, Nelson Mandela University / South African National Parks, we have supplied a total of 10 SAT lion tracking collars, and at the beginning of this week, 5 of the collars have been deployed in various locations in Kruger, full details of collar number , where deployed on a lioness, will

be supplied to me in due course by the research teams on our partners, Prof Jan Venter of Nelson Mandela University. I will compile a complete report and allocation of specific collars in this report.



Jan, Lufuno and Heath fitting tracking collar to a lion



Prof Jan Venter, Sorina Venter (daughter- research student), Julia Morris and Heath Currie (research assistants) collared lioness

Thanking you for your continued support and interest in our lion conservation program.

Yours in Conservation,  
BRIAN COURTENAY