

WATER FROM FAR AWAY!

Also in Caprivi like everywhere else in Namibia was a bad raining season!

Already at the beginning of march most of the park swamps and channels were drying up. Bad news ahead we all thought...

The water levels on the Harubandi, the channel in front of the lodge were so bad that we had to move our boat "Chief Shifu" to the Linyanti.

Then in June the water levels started rising every day, the waters from the highlands of Angola were finally here.

Immediately huge herds of elephants started moving into the park from Botswana.

They started their journey all the way from Chobe to come and feed in the rich Nkasa upala NP marshes. The beauty of herds of elephants, ranging from tiny babies to the enormous cows and bulls swimming across the natural boundary of the Linyanti river as the amber sun begins to dip into the horizon is hard to explain until when you experience it.



LET'S STOP KILLING THE CAPRIVI LIONS!

Since the end of last year in the Mudumu South Complex (Balyerwa, Wuparo and Dzoti conservancy) there has been many problems of HWC (human wildlife conflict). The lions moved their range out of the park and started targeting cows from local communities.



the result was tragic! For the farmers and for the lions... many were shot dead and also Cleopatra the old female of the Lupala pride was killed!!!!

Nkasa Lupala Tented Lodge raised the problem immediately with the competent authorities, NGOs and community members. Lise Hanssen from the Caprivi Carnivore Project has taken the lead in responding

Lise is partnering with Paul Funston, director of Panthera's lion program for Africa to start the Caprivi Carnivore Panthera Scouts Project to tackle lion related human-wildlife conflict and to guide research and conservation of large carnivores in the Caprivi Region of Namibia.

The first stage started and a Land Cruiser was funded by Panthera for the Caprivi Carnivore/Panthera Scout collaboration. This phase will focus on building capacity within the community



funding the improvement of cattle kraals in the worst affected areas. The lion-proof kraals will keep cattle largely safe from lion attack and thus fewer HWC reports and fewer lions killed.

The next stage of the project will be to monitor certain key prides of lions and equip and train a team of game guards (Panthera Scouts) to respond to reports of HWC. The radio-collars will allow the locations of the



lions to be monitored, allowing the Panthera Scouts to communicate this information through to local communities and respond to the presence of lions.

All of this requires funding and Nkasa Lupala Tented Lodge is also active in trying to find resources to support this project.

We will let you soon know how you can help!

LANSCAPES OF NKASA LUPALA



NEWS IN BRIEF



NKASA LUPALA WAS AWARDED WITH A TRIPADVISOR CERTIFICATE OF EXCELLENCE IN 2013

Thanks to all that wrote and supported us!

WATERBUKS

The 18 July more waterbuck where released in Wuparo conservancy. This follows last year relocation programme for conservancies in Namibia, sponsored by MCA Namibia. Well done!



A NEW LION AT THE LODGE!

On the 21 July 2013 around 10:44 Ettore Nshimwe Micheletti was born in Windhoek! Laura and the baby boy are fine and looking forward to be back soon at the lodge!

BIRDS OF NKASA LUPALA

MALACHITE KINGFISHER *ALCEDO CRISTATA*

The Malachite kingfisher is common in many areas of southern Africa, living in a wide variety of aquatic habitats. It feeds mainly on fish, as well as amphibians and insects. Both sexes dig a burrow, which is used as a nesting site, and placed in the banks of rivers or streams. It lays 3-6 eggs, which are incubated by both



sexes, for 14-16 days. The chicks are brooded for the first few weeks of their lives, before leaving the nest at 22-25 days old. They start fishing within one week of fledging, sometimes "catching" twigs and leaves.

- ITA: Martin pescatore crestato
- DE: Haubenzwergfischer
- FR: Martin-pêcheur huppé
- NED: Malachiet ijsvogel

Download the Nkasa Lupala NP birds chek list pdf file on our webiste www.nkasalupalalodge.com