

# Monthly Report

October 2016



# CRM Staff



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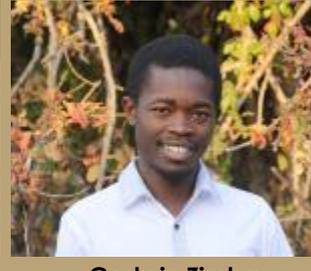
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# Updates on Community Engagement

## Community Engagement Update

This month community engagement for CRM Liwonde has been focused on visiting communities West of the Shire which have seen an increase in hyaena activity (Figure 1).



**Figure 1.** CRM Liwonde team visiting a farm which has seen recent human-carnivore conflict.

Visiting these communities our team has developed a strong network of people in this problem area. On top of community visits, this month our outreach team has also conducted; school outreach (Figure 2), and a visit to a local police station (see Appendix I for a complete summary of outreach work for October, 2016).



**Figure 2.** CRM Liwonde outreach team during a school visit, October, 2016.

## Kwenje village hyaena conflict

On October 10th 2016, the CRM Liwonde team received information from African

Parks personnel regarding goats killed by hyaenas. The incident took place just outside the Western boundary of the park in Kwenje village. Godwin Zimba, our community engagement officer and volunteer Zsuzsanna Bird, responded immediately. Upon arrival two young goats were found being processed for meat. Our team was told that villagers heard hyaenas attempting to break into the goat kraal (Figure 3), and then chasing goats, at which point the owners of the house and their neighbours, left their homes and began chasing the hyaenas.



**Figure 3.** Kraal in which goats were taken from during the attack in Kwenje village.

They say they were able to retrieve the partially eaten goats and begin the process of butchering them. Due to the chase, no hyaena tracks were found in the area. These reports come after similar reports from a neighbour in which a goat was confirmed to be killed by a hyaena on September 23rd, 2016. Our team continues to follow up in this community and hopes to help develop kraals which could help act as a preventative to future conflict.

# CRM findings - Liwonde NP Field station

## Darting attempt of LSC01

Most of this month has been consumed with the potential darting of LSC01. After LSC01 changed den sites to the Northern Sanctuary last month, our team began baiting the area in an attempt to locate her. This proved successful and when the LWT Vet Dr. Amanda Salb arrived on the 19th of October they were able to move immediately. We were able to set up a new bait site and attempt to dart from the near the waterhole hide. On the first night, LSC01 came in at 18:45 to drink from the waterhole. Unfortunately, she was too far to dart. After quickly spotlighting her, she was already on to our team and left the area. The following night, although her cubs returned, she did not and could be heard on the telemetry walking out of signal away from the waterhole. Our team continues to monitor her movements in this area through the use of camera traps and bait sites. It is hoped that some habituation work can be done from the hide, to prepare for a second attempt.

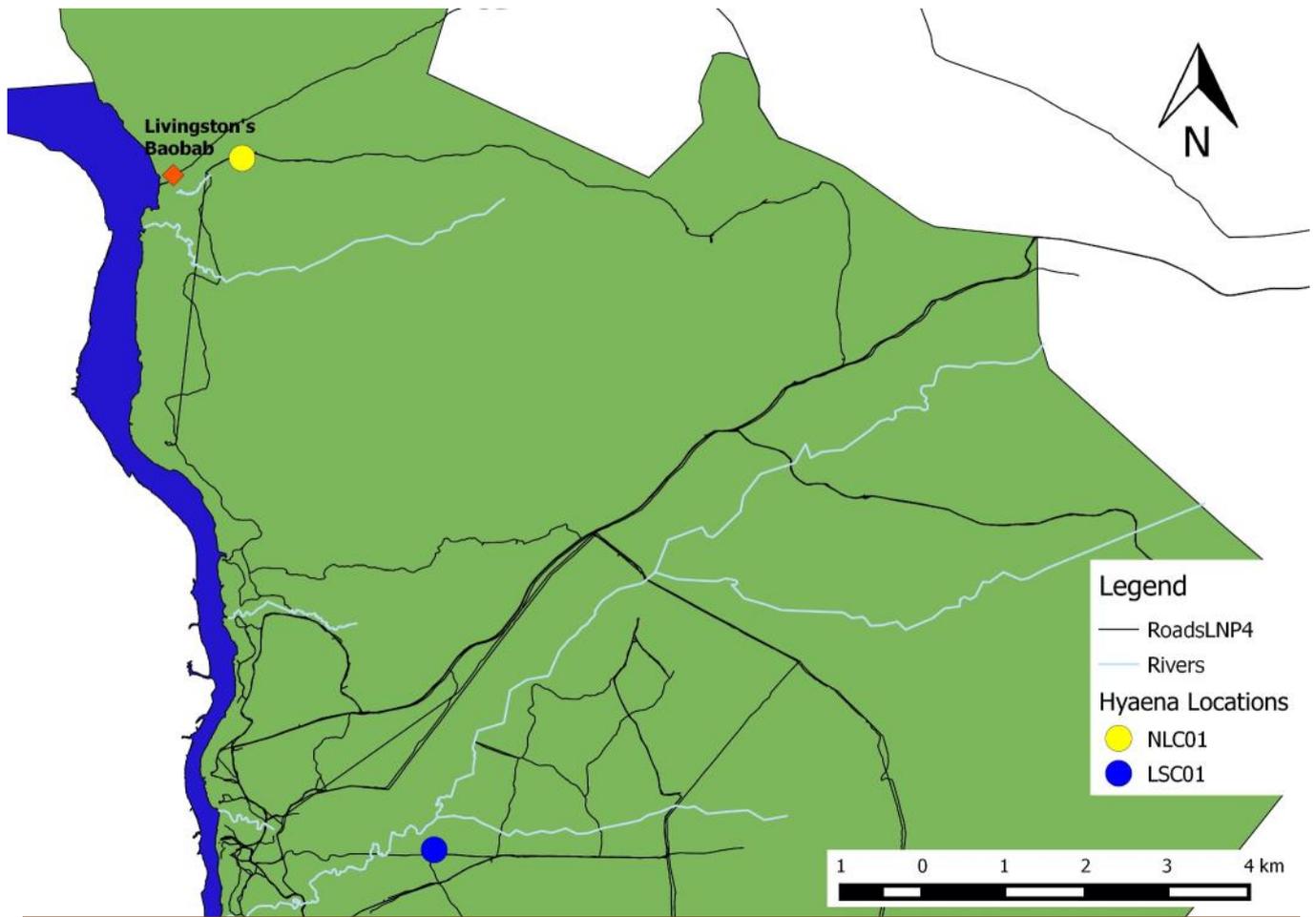
## New hyaena and potential new clan for LNP

This month while baiting East of Livingstone's Baobab our team was able to identify a new hyaena. Our team began baiting here in hopes to determine what individuals were in this area after having tracks reported. After waiting most of the month, they were rewarded with an identifiable photo of a hyaena (Figure 4 A/B). This individual is a very old female (teats visible in some photos) and was seen



**Figure 4.** Right side (A) and left side (B) ID shots of new hyaena (NLC01) identified East of Livingston's Baobab.

roughly 9km (Figure 5) from Waterhole 1 near the highest ranked individual in the LSC clan. This individual has now been given the ID of NLC01 (Northern Liwonde Clan 01) This is very exciting news for our team, as this may be another clan in the park. We continue to investigate this area in hopes to identify more individuals.



**Figure 5.** Location where the new hyaena (NLC01) has been photographed in relation to where LSC01 has been camera trapped most recently.

## New den site discoveries

Last month the lower sanctuary clan (LSC) moved from their usual den site into the Northern section of the Rhino Sanctuary. As a follow up to these findings, our team has spent the month of October radio tracking in search of potential den sites in this region. This has yielded three new potential den sites. These sites are now being camera trapped to check for hyaena activity. Finding these den sites has helped us to collect four scats this month, (Appendix II), and will help us with future investigations into clan composition, (Appendix III), as well as give us good insight into the seasonal movements of individuals. They will continue to investigate these sites and search for others as the majority of the LSC has not been seen this month.

## CHC02 visits MVUU

This month, one of our Chinguni Hill Clan (CHC) members made the journey up to MVUU and, was spotted near the HELP Malawi house in camp. It is known that both the CHC and LSC are a fission fusion clan, meaning that although individuals may spend most of their time away from each other, they occasionally will come together and, do not fight over respective territories. Although, it is therefore expected to occasionally see CHC members around the centre of the park, it is amazing to see a two legged individual travel so far. Luckily, Krisz, from the rhino team, was able to obtain videos of CHC02 making its way through camp, allowing our team to properly identify the individual and see how it is coping with his injuries.

## Bait sites for October

This month we have received four different deceased animals; crocodile (*Crocodylus niloticus*) two waterbuck (*Kobus ellipsiprymnus*) and, buffalo (*Syncerus caffer*) from AP to use for four bait sites (Appendix IV). These animals were set up in a few different locations in the park to try and gather data on clan composition and opportunistic sightings of carnivores, see (Appendix V). The results of these bait sites are as follows:

### Waterbucks at Waterhole One (WH1)

This month our team focused baiting at WH1 to help prep for darting LSC01. For this we used two waterbucks over the course of the month. While baiting here our team was not only able to obtain photos of LSC01 and her cubs, but they also determined that this is where she leaves her cubs while out hunting, (Figure 6).



Figure 6. LSC09 and cubs LSC14 and LSC15 at WH1 bait site

### Crocodile

A bait site was set up in the northern section of the park using dead crocodile, just 2km South of Livingstones Baobab. The crocodile was actually not touched by anything over its time set up. It was however visited by a hyaena that was unfortunately unable to be identified.

### Waterbuck legs

In the North of the park waterbuck legs were also set. These were placed just East of Livingstones Baobab, in hopes to attract

whatever hyaena visited the crocodile to confirm an ID. The waterbuck legs proved more successful in this area, bringing in a new hyaena (NLC01).

### Buffalo

This carcass was too large to leave at WH1 and therefore was placed just 3km South of Livingstones Baobab. Thus far, only a Palm-nut vulture (*Gypohierax angolensis*) has visited this bait site (Figure 7).



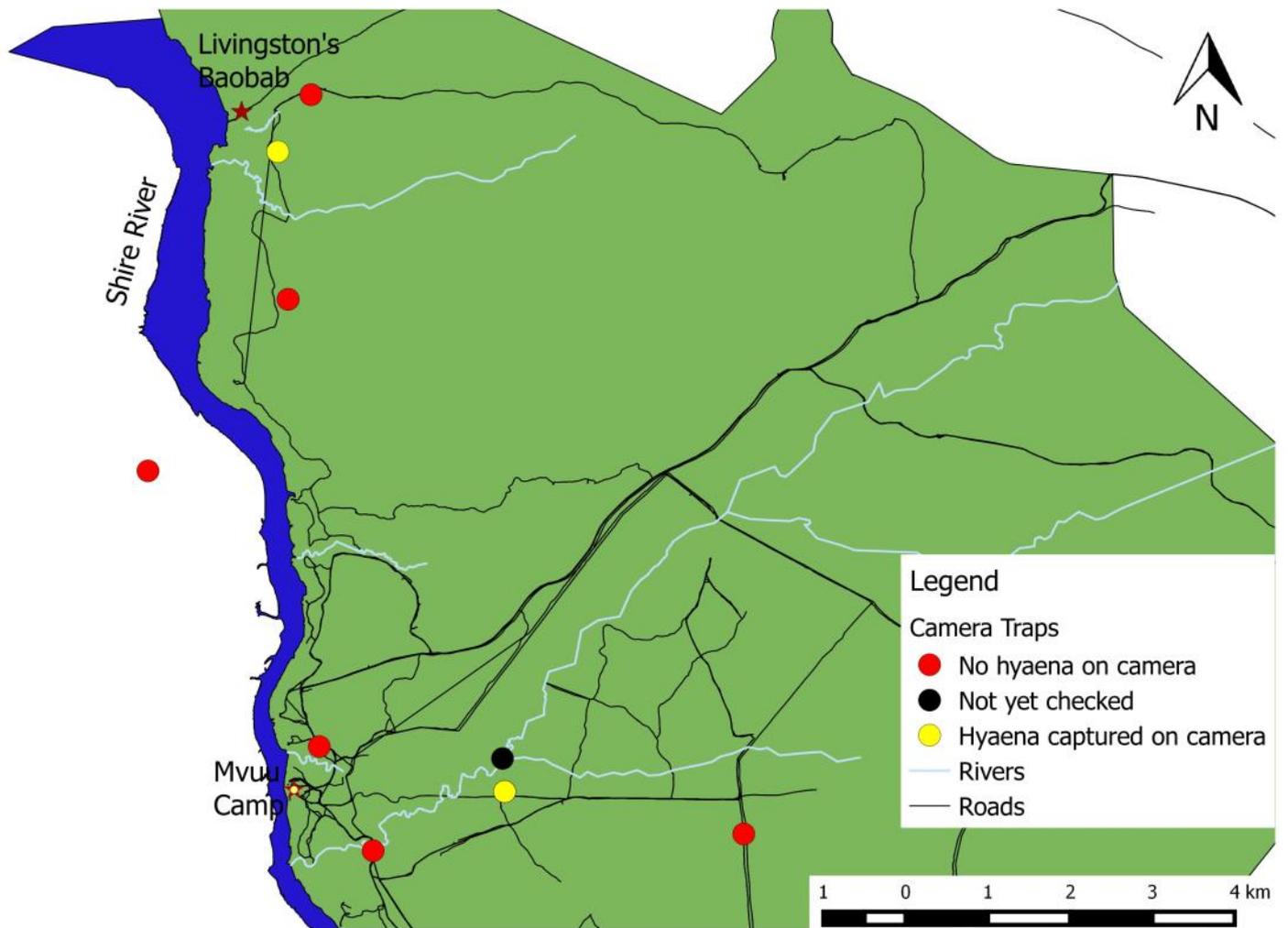
Figure 7. Palm-nut vulture visiting the buffalo bait site.

### Camera trapping in October

An addition to bait sites, camera traps have been set at five different locations this month, (Appendix VII). All cameras were placed in areas which hyaena sightings had been reported or tracks had been seen. A camera trap was set on the Western side of the Shire in an attempt to obtain the first photos of the West Side Clan (WSC). Unfortunately after two weeks, no hyaena were caught on camera. Nevertheless, it is important to note that a pack of domestic dogs (*Canis lupus familiaris*) were caught on camera on this side, (Figure 8 & Figure 9).



Figure 8. Pack of domestic dogs on the West of the Shire



**Figure 9.** Locations of camera traps and where hyaena photos were captured during October, 2016 in Liwonde National Park

# CRM Funders and Supporters

CRM would like to thank all our funders and collaborators.



Bringing the wild back to life



Appendix I. Summary of outreach work near LNP completed this month, September 2016.

Date	Type	District	Village/Location	Materials Distributed	Outcomes
30/09/2016	Initial contact	Machinga	Masanje Village	4 Leaflets	Initial contact made with Ntangave Primary School, Masanje Primary School and Masanje Community Secondary School.
03/10/2016	Initial contact	Zomba	Chancellor College	None	Initial contact and introductions made Environmental Justice and Sustainability Clinic and the Biological Society at
05/10/2016	Initial contact	Balaka	Mwamadi Village, Ligwang'wa Village	2 Leaflet	Introducing project to chiefs Natural Resources Committee
07/10/2016	Initial Contact	Balaka	Mwamadi Village William Village	4 Leaflets	Met chair of Natural Resources Committee Initial contact with Chief.
7/10/2016	Follow up	Balaka	Williams Village	None	Follow up on carnivore conflict with livestock
10/10/2016	Follow up	Balaka	Kwenje Village	None	Response to human-carnivore conflict, goats taken by hyaenas
12/10/2016	Education Meeting	Machinga	Makote Village	None	Met to train facilitators
18/10/2016	Initial contact	Balaka	Ulongwe, Ligwang'wa	5 Leaflets	Introduce project to Ulongwe police station Introduced project to Chief
18/10/2016	Initial contact	Balaka	Nsulu	3 Leaflets	Introducing the project, follow up on carnivore-human conflict reports and, setting up a network of facilitators

Appendix II. Scat collection summary for LNP, October 2016.

Date	Scat ID	Clan	Latrine	Location	X	Y
02/10/2016	LWD_SH27	LSC	No	Namatunu River	-14.8477	35.31978
02/10/2016	LWD_SH28	LSC	No	Namatunu River	-14.84828	35.31948
02/10/2016	LWD_SH29	LSC	Maybe	Namatunu River	-14.84941	35.31889
24/10/2016	LWD_SH30	LSC	No	Waterhole 1	-14.85202	35.31983

## Appendix VIII: Mammals of Liwonde National Park

All mammals seen on transects, camera traps, acoustic surveys or opportunistic surveys.

Animals reported by a DNPW Parks staff member and reported to CRM are marked with an asterisk (\*).

<b>Artiodactyla</b>		
	<b>Bovidae</b>	
	<i>Sylviacapra grimmia</i>	Common duiker
	<i>Raphicerus sharpei</i>	Sharpe's Grysbok
	<i>Redunca arundinum</i>	Common reedbuck
	<i>Ourebia ourebi</i>	Oribi
	<i>Kobus ellipsiprymnus</i>	Common Waterbuck
	<i>Alcelaphus buselaphus</i>	Hertebeest
	<i>Hippotragus equinus</i>	Roan
	<i>H. niger</i>	Sable
	<i>Aepyceros melampus</i>	Impala
	<i>Tragelaphus scriptus</i>	Bushbuck
	<i>T. srepsiceros</i>	Greater Kudu
	<i>Taurotragus oryx</i>	Common Eland
	<i>Syncerus caffer</i>	African Cape Buffalo
	<b>Suidae</b>	
	<i>Potamochoerus porcus</i>	Bushpig
	<i>Phacochoerus aethopicus</i>	Warthog
	<b>Hippopotamidae</b>	
	<i>Hippopotamus amphibius</i>	Hippopotamus
<b>Perissodactyla</b>		
	<b>Equidae</b>	
	<i>Equus quagga</i>	Common zebra
	<b>Rhinocerotidae</b>	
	<i>Diceros bicornis</i>	Black rhinoceros
<b>Proboscidae</b>		
	<b>Elephantidae</b>	
	<i>Loxodonta africana</i>	African Elephant
<b>Carnivora</b>		
	<b>Viverridae</b>	
	<i>Gennetta tigrina</i>	Large spotted genet
	<i>Genetta genetta</i>	Small spotted genet
	<i>Civettictis civetta</i>	African civet
	<i>Mungos mungos</i>	Banded mongoose
	<i>Ichneumia albicauda</i>	White-tailed mongoose
	<i>Bdeogale crassicauda</i>	Bushy-tailed mongoose
	<i>Herpestes sanguinea</i>	Slender mongoose
	<b>Hyaenidae</b>	
	<i>Crocuta crocuta</i>	Spotted hyaena
	<b>Felidae</b>	
	<i>Leptailurus serval</i>	Serval
	<b>Canidae</b>	
	<i>Canis adustus</i>	Side-Striped Jackal
<b>Primates</b>		
	<b>Cercopithecidae</b>	
	<i>Papio cynocephalus</i>	Yellow baboon
	<i>Cercopithecus aethiops</i>	Vervet monkey
<b>Rodentia</b>		
	<b>Hystricidae</b>	
	<i>Hystrix africaeaustralis</i>	Porcupine
	<b>Leporidae</b>	
	<i>Lepus saxatilis</i>	Scrub hare