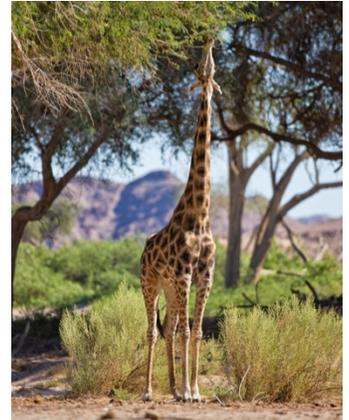




## GIRAFFE CONSERVATION IN NORTHWEST NAMIBIA

Natural Selection has partnered with the Giraffe Conservation Foundation (GCF) at the recently opened Hoanib Valley Camp in Namibia. This partnership is especially important due to the steady decline in giraffe numbers, with two of the four species classified by IUCN as “critically endangered” and “endangered”. GCF has worked tirelessly to highlight the plight of these statuesque animals with their dedication to giraffe research, awareness campaigns and strategies for giraffe management. Without their work, giraffe would silently disappear across Africa.

At Hoanib Valley Camp, desert-adapted giraffe are being monitored and their social dynamics studied. Guides and guests assist GCF with data collection while exploring the living strategies of this Angolan subspecies. Funds from the camp go to GCF to assist with giraffe programs across the continent.



### Supporting Sustainable Harvesting

KPR, home to Sable Alley, Hyena Pan and Skybeds, boasts an abundance of wildlife, but integral to the ecosystem and oft overlooked is the grass! Khwai community members of all ages visit the reserve annually to harvest grass, which they use to sell and build. We sponsor tents, food and transport for 26 such families for the 3 months of harvesting, working together on area management and sustainable natural resource use.

### How does Natural Selection Make a Difference?

1. We carefully select conservation partners that can help us make a real difference in African wildlife conservation.
2. We fund projects from our Natural Selection Conservation Trust that receives 1.5% of Natural Selection's revenue.
3. We commit to operating in areas in need of conservation attention and working with communities on strategies to conserve wildlife while improving livelihoods.

## Coaching for Conservation in Action

Natural Selection launched Coaching for Conservation's camp-adapted program for kids earlier this year. Now guides at Meno a Kwena are spreading the program into Moreomaoto Village where it will be delivered formally next year. Below, our dedicated guide and Coaching for Conservation champion Mpaphi Dakaelo is coaching young Meno a Kwena guests and children from the village in fun Coaching for Conservation games.





**LIONS AT SAFARIHOEK & ETOSHA MOUNTAIN LODGE**

The Etosha Rand Lion Project is monitoring lions in Etosha Heights and other reserves to determine best management practices for this iconic and threatened species.

Reserves are an increasingly important safe haven for lions but only if well managed. Lions at Etosha Heights, home to Safarihoek and Etosha Mt. Lodge, move freely between the reserve and Etosha National Park, making them a unique example of a “reserve” population that also plays an important role in the greater ecosystem. Lion numbers across Africa have been declining due to reduced habitat, poor management practices and human - wildlife conflict.

**CONSERVATION FOR KEEPS**



The Natural Selection Conservation Trust sponsors the Khomas Environmental Education Programme (KEEP), which educates children on the importance of respecting our environment and the wildlife in it. Targeting schools in impoverished areas of Windhoek, Namibia, it is also an opportunity for urban kids to see the bush for the first time and experience the thrill of seeing animals in their natural environment. The result is a successful experience-based program with fun active learning opportunities for budding conservationists.

**Natural Selection and Elephants for Africa, Botswana**

In a new partnership with EFA, we are beginning strategy workshops for people living near wildlife. From teaching chilli farming to understanding wildlife behavior, we aim to assist communities near Makgadikgadi National Park.

**COMMUNITIES AND A GROWING MIGRATION**

**What brings a village chief, a safari guide and a scientist under one roof for three days? Wildlife, and lots of it.**

Thronges of zebra, wildebeest and elephant have been migrating through the Makgadikgadi National Park and surrounds in search of water and grazing. Until recently, the migration that historically moved through Botswana hadn't been seen since the 1960's. The resurgence surprised everyone, especially local residents whose cattle were suddenly sharing the Boteti River with thousands of zebra and whose crops were being shared, like it or not, with long-nosed pachyderms.



In September, representatives of wildlife, tourism, government and local communities were brought together by Natural Selection's Makgadikgadi Conservation Initiative to find a mutually beneficial solution. In the 3 day stakeholder workshop, held at Camp Kalahari, we tackled tricky discussions around cattle-predating lions, crop-raiding elephants and the need for economic and livelihood improvements in the area.

Together with the Round River Conservation and the Okavango Research Institute, we are forging ahead with data collection that will inform decisions on land use. This includes wildlife numbers, water and grazing availability and the mapping out of seasonal land uses. Our goal is to determine how wildlife can move through the area uninhibited and how wildlife - friendly communities can benefit.

The migration can be seen at Jack's Camp, San Camp, Camp Kalahari or Meno a Kwena where you may also catch our researchers hard at work.

**NATURAL SELECTION CONSERVATION TRUST**

If you would like to donate and support these and our other projects, please send your donation to:

**Natural Selection Conservation Trust**  
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