

MALAMALA GAME RESERVE GAME REPORT – JULY 2015

AREAS COVERED: MARTHLY / EYREFIELD / MALAMALA / FLOCKFIELD / CHARLESTON

WEATHER SUMMARY – JULY

	Celsius (°C)	Fahrenheit (°F)
Maximum temperature	32	90
Minimum temperature	7	45
Mean maximum	26.6	79.8
Mean minimum	12.5	54.4
Rainfall (mm)	0	
Days of rain	0	

*AGES ARE APPROXIMATIONS AS AT END OF JULY 2015

LIONS

STYX PRIDE = 11

1 ADULT FEMALE	12 YEARS 6 MONTHS
1 ADULT FEMALE	7 YEARS 6 MONTHS
2 ADULT FEMALES	4 YEARS 6 MONTHS
2 ADULT MALES	4 YEARS 6 MONTH
2 SUB ADULT FEMALES	1 YEAR 8 MONTHS
3 CUBS	3 MONTHS

MALA MALA, EYREFIELD
(17 sightings)

The month of July had three more sightings of the Styx pride, than June. The first of which was of the two, four and a half year old lionesses and two cubs around Buffalo Bush dam, the following sightings were of; one of the young males around Clarendon open area, and the two sub-adult lionesses at Tsebe rocks, who were seen the following day close to Campbell koppies on the fourth of the month.

Almost a week after having been seen last, all four adult lionesses were seen together with the three cubs. on the ninth of July They were not the only lions at this sighting however, as they were seen in the

presence of the two Clarendon males. It was interesting that the same day these seven were seen, the two sub-adult lionesses were too, a few kilometres away. Are these two possibly trailing the pride?

Over the course of the next two days; the Clarendon males, four adult lionesses from the Styx pride, the three cubs as well as the previously shunned sub-adult females were all seen feeding off a carcass in the company of an unknown pride of seven from the north, which has been seen in northern Eyrefield on a handful of occasions previously. As the carcass was slowly diminished, so the tension began to rise between the different prides, which ended in the pride of seven from the north and the Styx pride chasing one another around, while their cubs high tailed it in search of safety. The newest members of the Styx pride manage to find refuge in a drainage line.

Over the course of the next two weeks, one of the adult females from the Styx pride was seen mating with the Clarendon males, the remaining three adults were seen on their own, as well as in the presence of the two sub-adult females, and there was no sign of the three cubs.

During the last week of the month, a sigh of relief was breathed as the cubs were seen with the four adult females from the pride. These seven individuals were seen sharing a buffalo carcass with the two Clarendon males, around the central parts of the Mlowathi river, after which they all slowly made their way north towards Mlowathi dam. The two sub-adult lionesses were not seen with the pride again during July, spending a few days together around the lower reaches of the Mlowathi river.

EYREFIELD PRIDE = 7

2 ADULT FEMALES

8 YEARS 1 MONTH

1 ADULT FEMALE

8 YEARS 0 MONTHS

1 SUB-ADULT MALE

3 YEARS 5 MONTHS

1 SUB-ADULT FEMALE

3 YEARS 5 MONTHS

1 SUB-ADULT MALE

3 YEARS 2 MONTH

1 SUB-ADULT MALE

2 YEARS 11 MONTHS

MALA MALA, FLOCKFIELD

(10 sightings)

One less sighting than June, one more than May - the Eyrefield pride were seen on ten occasions during July. There is clearly a divide within the pride, as the young males were seen fairly sporadically in the company of any of the females. Perhaps all of the pressure the pride was under during June initiated the split.

The three males were the first representatives from the Eyrefield pride seen in July, close to Matumi rocks. A majority of the sightings of this pride, for the rest of the month were of the females. One of which was seen yet again in the company of the lions from the Matshapiri pride on a number of occasions - not only were they seen together, they were also seen mating.

Possibly a combination between the fact that the Eyrefield pride is more of a winter pride on MalaMala, moving in when conditions become a bit drier, and the presence of the Matshapiri pride on the property - this pride was seen on both the eastern and western bank of the Sand River during July, on one such occasion three of the members (two females and one young male) were seen close to the old Kikilezihash breakfast spot on an adult male kudu kill, which they shared for almost two days before they moved off and allowed the vultures to clean up the rest of the carcass.

FOURWAYS PRIDE = 2

1 ADULT FEMALE	UNKNOWN AGE
1 SUB ADULT FEMALE	5 YEARS 1 MONTH
EASTERN MALA MALA, EASTERN EYREFIELD, EASTERN FLOCKFIELD	
(0 sightings)	

There were no confirmed sightings of this pride.

MARTHLY PRIDE = 7

2 ADULT FEMALES	12 YEARS 11 MONTHS
1 SUB-ADULT FEMALE	4 YEARS 3 MONTHS
3 MALE CUBS	2 YEARS 1 MONTH
1 FEMALE CUB	2 YEARS 1 MONTH
MARHTLY	
(3 sighting)	

We had a couple more sightings of this pride during July, than in the two months previously. Keeping true to their namesake, all of these were in and around Marthly. The first of which was six days into the month, where they were found midway along elephant rock lookout. The members are all looking in great health, with the young males' manes really looking good for their age - a characteristic which can be attributed to strong paternal genes received from the Manyalethi males.

They were seen again the following day, having moved during the night, and were found on the track which runs west from bicycle crossing. Their movement continued, however this time it was westwards off of the property. Their return was not for two weeks, when the full complement of the pride were seen, yet again, on the track west of bicycle crossing.

CHARLESTON PRIDE = 3

1 ADULT FEMALE	10 YEARS 6 MONTHS
2 SUB ADULT MALES	4 YEARS 2 MONTHS
2 MALE CUBS	± 4 MONTHS
CHARLESTON	
(10 sightings of the female; 9 of the two male cubs; 6 of the two males)	

The Charleston pride, or members thereof, were seen on almost half of the days during the month. Our first encounter with these animals was on the first of July, when they were found on the northern bank of the Sand River on a buffalo kill. The tracks indicate that the males had made the kill, then moved off to go and call the female and her cubs - who were around the entrance of calabash drive. The members of the Charleston pride spent the remainder of the day, as well as the following in this area finishing off the carcass.

The males moved off, once the carcass was done and were seen around ridge rocks a few days later. The female and her cubs, slowly moved back to calabash crossing, sticking close to the edge of the Sand River. Towards the middle of the month the Charleston lioness successfully captured a bushbuck, which provided her and her two offspring a meal for the remainder of the afternoon.

The second half of the month, found the lioness and her two cubs spending time between flat rocks and Trollip's hippo pools, where they were joined by the two males. The cubs are doing very well, and getting more and more adventurous every month - which has given us many excellent opportunity to watch these two grow and learn the skills which they will make use of one day, such as stalking and pouncing. These aren't always so well received by their cousins, and often get hissed at by the two males who don't seem to enjoy having their nap interrupted by the playful duo.

TJELLAHANGA PRIDE=9

2 ADULT FEMALES

UNKNOWN AGES

1 SUB-ADULT FEMALE

± 3 YEARS 6 MONTHS

6 SUB-ADULT MALES

± 3 YEARS 6 MONTHS

EASTERN CHARLESTON, EASTERN FLOCKFIELD, EASTERN MALAMALA

(0 sightings)

There were no confirmed sightings of this pride.

JAKKALSDRAAI MALES = 2

2 SUB ADULT MALES

5 YEARS 1 MONTH

WESTERN FLOCKFIELD, WESTERN CHARLESTON

(0 sightings)

There were no confirmed sightings of this pride.

CLARENDON MALES = 2

2 ADULT MALES

±10 YEARS 7 MONTHS

NORTHERN EYREFIELD, EASTERN MARTHLY

(10 sightings)

This impressive pair of male lions are becoming a regular feature on MalaMala, and no one is complaining at all. They were seen on ten occasions during July, eight of which were with members of

the Styx pride. In addition to this, one such sighting involved the Clarendon males, an unknown pride of seven from the north as well as the Styx pride on a buffalo kill in the north eastern parts of the property. This was not the only buffalo carcass these two were seen on during the month, as they were seen a second time around the central parts of the Mlowathi River with seven members of the Styx pride.

In addition to the time spent on kills with the Styx pride during July, the two Clarendon males were also seen mating with one of the females - the prospect of increasing the size of the pride is an exciting one, especially now as the sub-adult male is no longer around, and the two, four and a half year old males have moved on.

MANYELETHI MALES = 4 **± 10 YEARS 10 MONTHS**
MATRHLY, EYREFIELD, MALA MALA, NORTHERN FLOCKFIELD
DOMINANT OVER THE STYX, EYREFIELD, FOURWAYS, MARTHLY AND
BREAKAWAY MARTHLY PRIDES
(0 sightings)

There were no confirmed sightings of the Manyalethi males.

MATSHAPIRI PRIDE = 3
2 ADULT MALES **±5 YEARS 3 MONTHS**
1 ADULT LIONESS **±3 YEARS 3 MONTHS**
(21 sightings)

Lion sightings in July were dominated by the newest addition to the prides on MalaMala - the Matshapiri pride were seen on 21 different occasions. More than half of these were made up of the males from the pride, who were seen between the borehole and the airstrip. They have stepped into an unclaimed area and are definitely making their presence well known.

During the 16 sightings of one, or both, of the males - they were seen with females from their pride as well as those from the Eyrefield pride. On a few occasions the males were seen mating with the lionesses from the Eyrefield pride between the airstrip and flockfield lookout. In addition to the mating, the males were also around for the capturing, killing and eating of two buffalo calves which were taken from the same herd of buffalo, on the same day. The first calf was taken by the males, the second by the females from the Matshapiri pride.

Other lions encountered

A couple of lionesses were seen in the Sand River, north of West Street bridge during July. Their positioning was fairly unaccessible, however - we assume them to be members from the Matshapiri pride.

An unknown pride of 7 (2 adult lionesses, 2 sub-adult lionesses, 3 sub-adult males) were seen in the north eastern parts of the property, sharing a buffalo kill with the Clarendon males, the four adult lionesses from the Styx pride and their three cubs. This peaceful situation did not last too long, and eventually there was a semi-violent, mass exodus from the area by all parties involved as the food was exhausted.

In addition to this unknown pride, there was another of eight in the area of Misters Koppies (4 lionesses, 2 males, 2 sub-adult males). They too were seen on a buffalo kill, which lasted a day and obviously did not satiate all of the members hunger as the two young males were seen finishing off a buffalo calf at Charleston rock the following day.

NUMBER OF DIFFERENT LIONS ENCOUNTERED (approximate)

July	51
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LEOPARDS:

BICYCLE CROSSING MALE

13 YEARS 5 MONTHS

WESTERN MALAMALA, WESTERN FLOCKFIELD, WESTERN CHARLESTON

(9 sightings)

The Bicycle crossing male graced us with his presence on the first day of the month, and a further eight times, during July. A total of nine sightings in one month is a new record for 2015. The first sighting of this impressive male leopard, and the following two, were around the southern parts of Flockfield lookout. Initially he was seen in the area on the last day of June, with a fully grown male warthog kill which he had cached in a river bush willow overlooking the Sand River. He fed on this for the first three days of July, but ended up losing the last few percent of the carcass to an opportunistic lioness from the Matshapiri pride, who was seen around West Street bridge earlier that afternoon. He did not seem too concerned by this, as he had already eaten his fill, and proceeded to head south along the river bank and remind any potential competitors that this is his territory.

During the rest of July, the Bicycle crossing male was seen between the bottom track of the Tamboti thickets and Borehole road, and a few places locations in between. He is still very active in patrolling his territory, and is always good to see this spectacular individual.

AIRSTRIP MALE

9 YEARS 1 MONTH

WESTERN MALAMALA, WESTERN FLOCKFIELD

(20 sightings)

The Airstrip was officially the most viewed leopard during the month of July, being seen a total of 20 times. He was viewed almost on our northern boundary and as far south as the Ngoboswan donga. On six

occasions he was seen with kills, the first of which he shared with the Kikilezi female and her two offspring, the second he was seen attacking a juvenile nyala at the same time as a hyena in the Manyalethi river, as well as a fully grown female warthog near Piccadilly pans. The latter incident he stalked and pounced on the warthog who offered a fair amount of resistance, which attracted the attention of a female hyena. In addition to killing the warthog he had to defend his quarry from the opportunistic hyaenid. The effort paid off as once successfully treed, the warthog fed the Airstrip male for almost three full days. The last kill he was seen on, was similar to the first, and the Airstrip male was seen in the company of the Kikilezi female and her two daughters sharing their impala.

To follow up on his injuries which were reported during the last half of June, the Airstrip male is in good health yet again and has even been venturing onto the western bank more often. Who knows, perhaps he has his eye set on the area he once roamed - the Treehouse male better be on the lookout.

CHARLESTON MALE **9 YEARS 1 MONTH**
EASTERN CHARLESTON, NORTHERN TOULON
(0 sightings)

There were no confirmed sightings during the reported period.

WEST STREET MALE **6 YEARS 3 MONTHS**
WESTERN MALAMALA, WESTERN FLOCKFIELD
(0 sightings)

There were no confirmed sightings during the reported period.

TREEHOUSE MALE **± 5 YEARS 7 MONTHS**
WESTERN MALAMALA
(13 sightings)

He may not have been viewed as often as the Airstrip male during July, but the Treehouse male is certainly dominating the western bank. He was seen 13 times during the month, our initial encounter of him was on the first day of the month when he was seen towards the southern end of the airstrip, heading in the direction of West Street bridge.

He was obviously keen on getting something to eat as well as have something to wash it down with, as he caught a fully grown male bushbuck south of West street bridge and put it into a sausage tree on the bank of the Sand River. He was seen here the following day too, and was approached by the Island female who was possibly looking for an easy meal - the Treehouse male was not in the mood for sharing. The young female got the hint soon enough and moved off elsewhere.

Less than a week later, this young gun was seen mating with the Tamboti female over a period of two days, west of the Airstrip. Taking over such a well established territory does have it's advantages, which

the Treehouse male cashed in on during July as two weeks after he was seen mating with the Tamboti female, he was seen mating with her daughter too - the Island female.

The few sightings of this stately, young male, during July were south of West Street pans. He was on an impala kill, which fed him for two days before he made his way to the river to drink and continue moving around the western bank, proclaiming it as his to all those which were listening.

TSLEBE ROCKS MALE

± 9 YEARS 1 MONTH

NORTHERN EYREFIELD

(3 sightings)

Seen once more during July, than the month previously, the Tsebe rocks male was first seen where the Nwana Nonantshemeni donga meets Old Borehole road. We followed him for quite some time, and soon realised that there was a second leopard in the area - a young female. It appeared he was aware of her presence in the area, and her his. Their paths did not cross, however the leopardess did not dare move from her place of cover.

Our second and third encounters with this leopard, were both west of the northern parts of the Mlowathi River, within two days of one another - in the last half of July.

PRINCESS ALICE PANS MALE

14 YEARS 7 MONTHS

WESTERN MALAMALA

(0 sightings)

There were no confirmed sightings during the reported period

GOWRIE MALE

± 7 YEARS 11 MONTHS

NORTHWESTERN EYREFIELD

(0 sightings)

There were no confirmed sightings during the reported period

RIVER ROCKS MALE

6 YEARS 0 MONTHS

(0 sightings)

There were no confirmed sightings during the reported period

KIKILEZI FEMALE
2 FEMALE CUBS

13 YEARS 9 MONTHS
1 YEAR 7 MONTHS

WESTERN MALA-MALA, WESTERN EYREFIELD, MARTHLI

(9 sightings of female, 1 sighting of female and cub(s), 17 sightings of cub(s) without female)

Increasing on the already impressive number of sightings during June - the Kikilezi trio were seen 23 of 31 days during July. Of these 23 days in which they were seen, there were only a few occasions which all three were seen together - similarly to June.

On seven occasions, one or more of these three leopards were seen on kills - of their own, or scavenged. The first of which, was on the northern bank of the Ngoboswan donga, where a sub-adult male impala had fallen victim. The Kikilezi female and her two daughters were seen feeding on the carcass on the fifth of the month, only to be joined later by the Airstrip male. The following day, an opportunistic pair of hyenas passed by and collected the small remains of the carcass while the Kikilezi female and her daughters watched from afar. The Ngoboswan donga was a popular choice of refuge for these three during July, and were seen in the same place less than a week later on a duiker kill.

The daughters of the Kikilezi female were found half way through the month with the remains of an impala kill, which had been abandoned by a pack of cape hunting dogs. These morsels were not enough to satisfy the hunger of these growing leopardesses, and were located a few days later with their mother in the Manyalethi River sharing an adult female nyala carcass. This was not the last kill they shared during July, as the Kikilezi female and one of her daughters actually worked together and managed to capture a fully grown impala south of Piccadilly pans. True to form the Airstrip male located the stashed prey, and uninvitedly spent the remainder of the afternoon on the kill, eating his fill before continuing his territorial patrols into the evening.

The 2:2 spot pattern daughter of the Kikilezi female made her own kill during July, and was found with a successfully treed sub-adult female impala carcass on the western bank of the Mlowathi River. We are certain her sister was in the area, although she was not located.

TAMBOTI FEMALE

7 YEARS 10 MONTHS

WESTERN FLOCKFIELD, WESTERN MALA MALA

(7 sightings)

Five more sightings of the Tamboti female in July, than the month previously. A very busy month for this female as she was seen patrolling her territory, mating yet again with the Treehouse male on two occasions. During the second, she took a brief interlude and captured an unassuming scrub hare. In the last week of the month, she was seen three times - two of which found her around the southern parts of the old airstrip with a female impala carcass stashed in a jackalberry tree.

ISLAND FEMALE

2 YEARS 5 MONTHS

WESTERN FLOCKFIELD, WESTERN MALA MALA

(4 sightings)

In a similar fashion to June, the Island female was seen on four occasions. All of which were well inside her mother's territory, which at this stage would result in some form of conflict due to the fact that the pair are completely independent from one another. In addition to this, the Tamboti female has been seen mating with the Treehouse male - indicating she is trying for a third (and hopefully successful) litter of cubs, even less leeway will be given to her almost two and half year old daughter.

The Tamboti female was not the only one seen mating with the Treehouse male during July. On the 18th of the month, the Island female was seen mating with him on eastern part of the track which leads from the booms to the causeway.

MLOWATHI FEMALE **8 YEARS 6 MONTHS**
DAUGHTER OF THE MLOWATHI FEMALE **±1 YEAR 8 MONTHS**
NORTHWESTERN EYREFIELD
(0 sightings of the Mlowathi female, 0 sightings of the daughter of the Mlowathi female)

There were no confirmed sightings during the reported period

OSTRICH KOPPIES FEMALE **10 YEARS 7 MONTHS**
MALE CUB **1 YEAR 1 MONTH**
EYREFIELD
(5 sightings of female, 0 sightings of female and cub, 1 sighting of cub without female)

We were fortunate enough to have five great sightings of the Ostrich Koppies female five times during the month of July. All of which were scattered throughout her territory of Eyrefield. In addition to this, we also encountered her son around Matshapiri dam. Although he is just over a year of age, he is already larger than his mother and it is possible that he may be starting his journey towards independence, let's wait and see what August has in store for this family of two.

MATSHAPIRI FEMALE **14 YEARS 9 MONTHS**
CUBS OF THE MATSHAPIRI FEMALE **±7 MONTHS**
EASTERN MALA MALA, EASTERN EYREFIELD
(3 sightings of the Matshapiri female; 0 sighting of the female and cub/s, 0 sightings of her cub/s)

As with July, the Matshapiri female was seen three times during the month. Our first sighting of her, was at the junction of Matshapiri Dam road and Rhino Walk where she was feeding off the remains of a duiker - definitely one of her favourite meals.

Yet again, there was no sign of either of the the Matshapiri female's cubs, who were both seen initially in March and once in April. One was seen in May, and neither have been seen since then.

DUDLEY FEMALE **16 YEARS 10 MONTHS**
WESTERN FLOCKFIELD
(8 sightings)

Every month the Dudley female manages to astound us with her resilience, she is looking good for a leopard of almost 17 years of age. She was seen eight times during July, all of the sightings of which were along the western bank of the Sand River - stretching from Confluence crossing to MalaMala main camp, which she strolled past.

A major highlight during the sightings of the Dudley female during July, was watching her stalk and capture a large water monitor lizard, around Sandpit crossing.

DAUGHTER OF THE DUDLEY FEMALE
WESTERN FLOCKFIELD
(0 sightings)

2 YEARS 4 MONTHS

There were no confirmed sightings during the reported period.

EMSAGWENI FEMALE
MALA-MALA
(5 sighting)

5 YEARS 7 MONTHS

Seeing a leopard with a cub/s is always an enjoyable moment, and we were in luck during July when we viewed the elusive Emsagweni female on five different occasions. Two of which included this female, and her cub - who was not seen at all during June.

The Emsagweni female was most commonly seen around the central to northern parts of the Matshapiri river, specifically Emsagwen waterhole. A well used source of water, by a large number of animals in the area due to the very dry conditions in the area.

FLOCKFIELD FEMALE
CENTRAL & EASTERN FLOCKFIELD, NORTHERN CHARLESTON
(0 sightings)

11 YEARS 3 MONTH

There were no confirmed sightings during the reported period.

Other leopards encountered:

- **No ID males:** (10 sightings)
 - o There were eight sightings of seven unidentified male leopards in July:
 - One was at Emsagwen waterhole, yet again. This will be his fourth month he has been seen around this area.
 - One young male seen around Mlowathi dam - we have learnt this individual was born in November 2012, who is the son of the Tslebe rocks male. There was also another unidentified male seen at Mlowathi dam in July. Between these two

leopards, there were four sightings.

- The remaining four were seen between eastern Flockfield and Charleston.
- **No ID females:** (9 sightings)
 - o Six different unidentified female leopards were encountered during nine different sightings. Five of these included kills. The first of which was a young female who was seen on four occasions at Mlowathi dam, who was catching and eating the catfish who were stranded in the mud pools of the drying dam. It made for some very entertaining viewing, as there was a hippo in said mud pools too. The second female involved with a kill was at Paradise Valley pans, who had captured a bushbuck and stored it in a tree.
 - o The 3:3 female which has been seen over the last few months, on the eastern bank, was seen yet again on the bottom track of the Tamboti thickets.
 - o A female leopard and two cubs were seen On Campbell road, north of Charleston north.

NUMBER OF DIFFERENT LEOPARDS ENCOUNTERED (approximate)

July	28
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CHEETAH

Not the busiest month, in terms of cheetah sightings - we did have seven encounters with three different animals. The first of which is the male coalition which spend some time around Clarendon dam, on the 11th of the month. The following two cheetah sightings were of one of these two individuals, once again at Clarendon dam and the second occasion was on Emsagwen, east of the Matshapiri River. Perhaps they got separated by some incident, however they were reunited by the 22nd of the month, when they were

located in Clarendon open area. These two moved south and west, eventually ending up in wild dog rocks open area, where they proceeded to stalk and successfully take down a juvenile zebra - quite a show for the people who witnessed the event.

The third individual which we viewed, on three occasions, was a female. She has been seen previously on the western bank around the airstrip. True to form, she was first located on the airstrip and over the next few days spent time at Flockfield drift and around Prince Alice Pans.

NUMBER OF DIFFERENT CHEETAH ENCOUNTERED

July	3
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CAPE HUNTING DOGS

July was a spectacular month for cape hunting dog sightings at MalaMala, who were seen every single day. Both litters of puppies, over the duration of the month, ventured further and further from the vehicle and began exploring the area around the densite. This kept all of the adult members of the pack on their toes, as there was lots of teaching to be done.

This pack made three kills, that we can confirm, two bushbuck and one impala. This is not saying they did not hunt more frequently, as the adults coming back to the den and feeding the younger members of their pack was seen on a fairly regular basis.

NUMBER OF DIFFERENT CAPE HUNTING DOGS ENCOUNTERED (approximate)

July	25
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CAPE BUFFALO AND ELEPHANTS

The winter continues, as the grass gets drier and even the smallest remnants of pools of water disappear,.

As a result, the appeal of the Sand River gets stronger every day. The sightings of elephant and buffalo around the river have truly been spectacular this month.

Cape buffalo were seen every day during July, these sightings were comprised of: 241 individual animals, 2 herds and 25 large herds. The latter applies to herds of animals which are comprised of between 200 and 500 animals.

Similarly to buffalo, elephant sightings during July were a daily occurrence. In fact there were on average about seven a day, giving us a total of 215 recorded elephant sightings for the month. This breath taking figure was made up of 46 individual bulls, 156 herds and 30 large herds. On the 13th of the month, one herd was seen in the Sand River, which stretched from West Street bridge to Confluence crossing and was comprised of over 100 members.

OTHER INTERESTING SIGHTINGS

July was jam packed with interesting sightings, which were kicked off by a sighting of a very regal looking sable antelope bull who was seen on two occasions between Paddy's pools and Buffalo Bush dam. On the eighth of the month, a single honey badger was seen, as well as a serval. This was not the only encounter with either of these animals in July as one more of each was seen within ten days. Two pairs of Ostrich were encountered on the same day at Clarendon open area. Sticking to the bird theme, there were numerous sightings of ground hornbills and one of a secretary bird. Always a special treat.

A female giraffe was seen in the beginning phases of giving birth, she was clearly trying to keep out of sight, and was given her space. The following day a number of hyena were found around a fully in tact juvenile giraffe carcass, who appeared to have been still born. The mother was still in the area, and upon examination of photographs - it appears to be the same mother from the day previously.

Hyena activity doesn't often make it's way into the month game report, but a clan of hyena between 25 and 30 in number were seen feeding on a kudu carcass in the Sand River in Charleston. What a spectacular sighting.

TOTAL SIGHTINGS FOR JULY 2015

Lion	76
Leopard	121
Elephant	215
Buffalo	81
Cheetah	6

Cape Hunting Dog	31
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MalaMala Kill Analysis**July 2015**

	Lions	Leopards	Cape hunting dog	Cheetah	Total
Impala		7	1		8
Duiker		2			2
Klipspringer					
Buffalo	6				6
Bushbuck	1	2	3		6
Warthog		2			2
Nyala		1			1
Waterbuck					
Wildebeest					
Kudu	1				1
Giraffe					
Other		4		1	5
Total	8	18	4	1	31

July 2015

	LION		LEOPARD		ELEPHANT		BUFFALO	
	Animals	Sightings	Animals	Sightings	Animals	Sightings	Animals	Sightings
1	6	2	3	3	H	1	2	1
2	12	3	10	9	LH+4H	5	27	4
3	4	3	4	4	3H	3	LH+5	3
4	0	0	7	3	LH+5H+2	8	LH+13	2
5	4	2	6	5	5H+3	6	LH+13	4
6	9	2	6	5	LH+6H+1	8	10	2
7	10	2	4	3	7H+1	8	LH+3	2
8	2	1	3	2	5H	5	LH+4	3
9	17	4	6	5	2LH+8H	10	LH+2	2
10	17	2	8	5	4H+2	5	LH+3	2
11	15	5	4	4	9H+3	11	LH+13	2
12	5	2	5	4	2H+1	3	LH+5	3
13	8	2	6	4	6H+2	5	LH+4	2
14	11	2	2	2	3H+2	5	LH	1
15	6	1	5	3	8H+2	10	6	2
16	3	1	5	4	4H+3	6	14	2
17	5	2	4	4	2LH+3H+1	6	LH+17	4
18	6	3	3	2	3LH+5H	8	LH+4	2
19	12	4	8	6	3LH+4H	7	LH+8	3
20	3	1	5	4	LH+11H+3	13	LH+6	4
21	10	3	4	4	2LH+3H+3	7	LH+10	2
22	3	2	3	3	LH+3H+2	6	LH+H+9	4
23	16	4	4	4	4LH+2H+4	9	LH+2	2
24	16	3	2	2	2LH+3H	5	LH	1
25	10	2	4	3	LH+4H	5	LH+6	2
26	13	3	5	2	2LH+3H+4	7	LH+2	2
27	5	3	7	5	2LH+8H+1	11	LH+1	2
28	8	3	5	5	7H+4	9	LH+16	4
29	7	1	3	3	6H	6	LH+16	4
30	8	3	6	6	LH+8H	9	LH+8	5
31	10	5	3	3	LH+6H+2	8	H+12	3
	261	76	150	121	30LH+156H+46	215	25LH+2H+241	81

* 13th 100 Elephants 1 Sighting

LH: Large Herd

H: Herd