

Cheetah cubs at last

By *Gus Mills* (30 September 2007)

At last we have had some cheetah cubs born. On Friday afternoon we picked up a signal from one of our females from one of the high dunes in an area known as the irregular dunes because of a series of very high and steep dunes. She disappeared into the dunes and we were unable to follow her. However, by monitoring the radio signal we determined that she had settled down in the irregular dunes. She was still there the next morning and we were becoming more excited in the possibility that she might have cubs there. We waited all day Saturday until about 1600 when the radio signal told us that she had left the area. This was our chance. We walked into the area and soon found her tracks that led to a den with two tiny cubs of about one month old. We took a few hurried photographs and then left as the radio signal told us that the mother was coming back. So at last we have had some cubs born. I attach a photo of the cubs in the den as well as one showing the location. The den is at the bottom of the dune on the left in amongst the dark vegetation.



Den site



Cubs in the den