

Cheetah Preservation Fund Now Based in Namibia

The Cheetah Preservation Fund, directed by Laurie Marker-Kraus, the International Studbook Keeper, and Daniel Kraus, has moved from Washington DC to Namibia, home to one of the largest surviving cheetah populations.

Marker-Kraus said in a statement that the reason for establishing the Cheetah Preservation Fund was that survival strategies for the cheetah today were dependent, for the most part, upon education and economics. This meant human help, and the Fund's aim was research and implementation of techniques for cheetah preservation in their natural habitat.

The first phase involves developing a clear picture of the cheetah situation throughout Namibia, covering distribution patterns, availability of prey, attitudes of farmers, current livestock practices and their impact on the cheetah, and wildlife conservation practices.

The Cheetah Preservation Fund is working with Namibia's Ministries of Wildlife, Conservation and Tourism, and of Agriculture, veterinarians and concerned individuals and farmers to help establish long-term conservation strategies for cheetah. It will also help develop farm management practices to eliminate the need for farmers to kill so many cheetah, and develop conservation education programs that focus on the cheetah and its role as a predator in the ecology of a healthy world.

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Stander, Philip. 1990. Notes on foraging habits of cheetah. S. Afr. J. Wildl. Res. 1990, 20(4)