



**LIVESTOCK GUARDING DOG
PROJECT AND CONSERVATION PROJECTS
PROGRESS REPORT JANUARY 2023**



(COMPILED BY DEON CILLIERS AND CYRIL STANNARD)

January 2023

INTRODUCTION:

In order to assist farmers in the reduction of livestock losses on farms within cheetah range and in a proactive effort to conserve the free ranging cheetah in South Africa, Cheetah Outreach Trust initiated the Livestock Guarding Dog Project in partnership with the De Wildt Wild Cheetah Project in 2005. This initiative later moved to the Endangered Wildlife Trust where the Cheetah Outreach Trust continued the partnership for placement and monitoring of Livestock Guarding Dogs in the Eastern Territory of the Cheetah Distribution Range while placements in the Western Territory were done solely by the Cheetah Outreach Trust.

In 2013 the Cheetah Outreach Trust took over the sole placements of Livestock Guarding Dogs in Cheetah Range and continues placing Livestock Guarding Dogs as a means of a non-lethal predation management measure and to secure habitat for cheetah and other carnivores by reducing predator conflict with farmers. The Cheetah Outreach Trust believes that the use of Livestock Guarding Dogs to manage predation is a very effective method if applied correctly and endeavours to establish the culture of using Livestock Guarding Dogs within South Africa as well as in adjacent areas within Botswana. The Cheetah Outreach Trust established a partnership with Green Dog Conservation in 2013 to manage the Irwin's Guardian Livestock Guarding Dog Stud from which Livestock Guarding Dog puppies are bred for placement on farms by the Cheetah Outreach Trust.

The Cheetah Outreach Trust has expanded its conservation footprint by including other critical conservation projects focused on free roaming cheetah conservation into its vision. The Cheetah Outreach Trust is conducting camera-trapping on farmland areas on an ongoing basis to monitor cheetah presence and absence together with other predator species such as brown hyena, leopard, spotted hyena and African Wild Dog. In a further effort to assist the farming community in human/predator conflict mitigation, the Cheetah Outreach Trust will in some exceptional cases assist with the relocation of predators such as cheetah, leopard and brown hyena in areas where tolerance levels are not yet conducive to the presence of these predators. Such relocations allow the Cheetah Outreach Trust to initiate the conversation with the respective farmer/s regarding a long term approach of predator and livestock management which includes the use of livestock guarding dogs. The Cheetah Outreach Trust has also started collaring free roaming cheetahs in areas where they occur as well as in areas where livestock guarding dogs have been placed to investigate the natural movement of these free roaming cheetahs on farmland areas and across international borders as well as the interaction of these cheetahs with the livestock guarding dogs and livestock herds. The information gathered is shared with the farming community as well as other cheetah conservation organisations and Conservation Authorities to develop a greater understanding of free roaming cheetahs that occur on farmland areas. All these projects focussing on cheetah ecology and monitoring have now been responsible for developing and initiating a range wide free roaming cheetah census in South Africa. This Free Roaming Cheetah Census is done in partnership with the Ashia Cheetah Conservation Project and The University of Stellenbosch. The Census has various supporting organisations including SA Hunters who have identified the project as a key initiative to support and assist with the collection of data. This will make it easier to develop and implement long term conservation strategies and farmer/cheetah conflict mitigation measures based on relevant and real time data as well as provide very important up to date distribution and population data to be used by local and international conservation groups to align international conservation strategies.

All this work with the farmers to create tolerance towards predators including cheetahs has the long term effect of securing cheetah and predator tolerant habitat for these various predators that live outside of protected areas on farmland while also introducing farmers to non-lethal predation management options. Recent studies have shown that 77 percent of the current cheetah distribution range occurs outside of protected areas and that cheetahs only occur in 10 percent of their historical distribution range. More in-depth studies regarding predators on farmland areas are critical to give current and up to date relevant information to the farming communities that live with these predators in order to create a better understanding.

LIVESTOCK GUARDIAN DOG PROJECT

PLACEMENT AND MONITORING OF LIVESTOCK GUARDING DOGS:

To assess the progress and working abilities of livestock guarding dogs, continuous monitoring has been done since 2005 and this continues up to date by means of visitations, telephonic discussions and questionnaires. This has been the key to the overall success of the Cheetah Outreach Trust Livestock Guarding Dog Project. For the purpose of this report we will only include the livestock guarding dogs placed during the last two years in the detailed report, while the previous placements and the status of those livestock guarding dogs are summarised in Annexure 1. These Covid 19 pandemic and lockdowns had negatively impacted the available funding from many of our donors due to economic breakdowns brought on by the Covid-19 lockdowns.

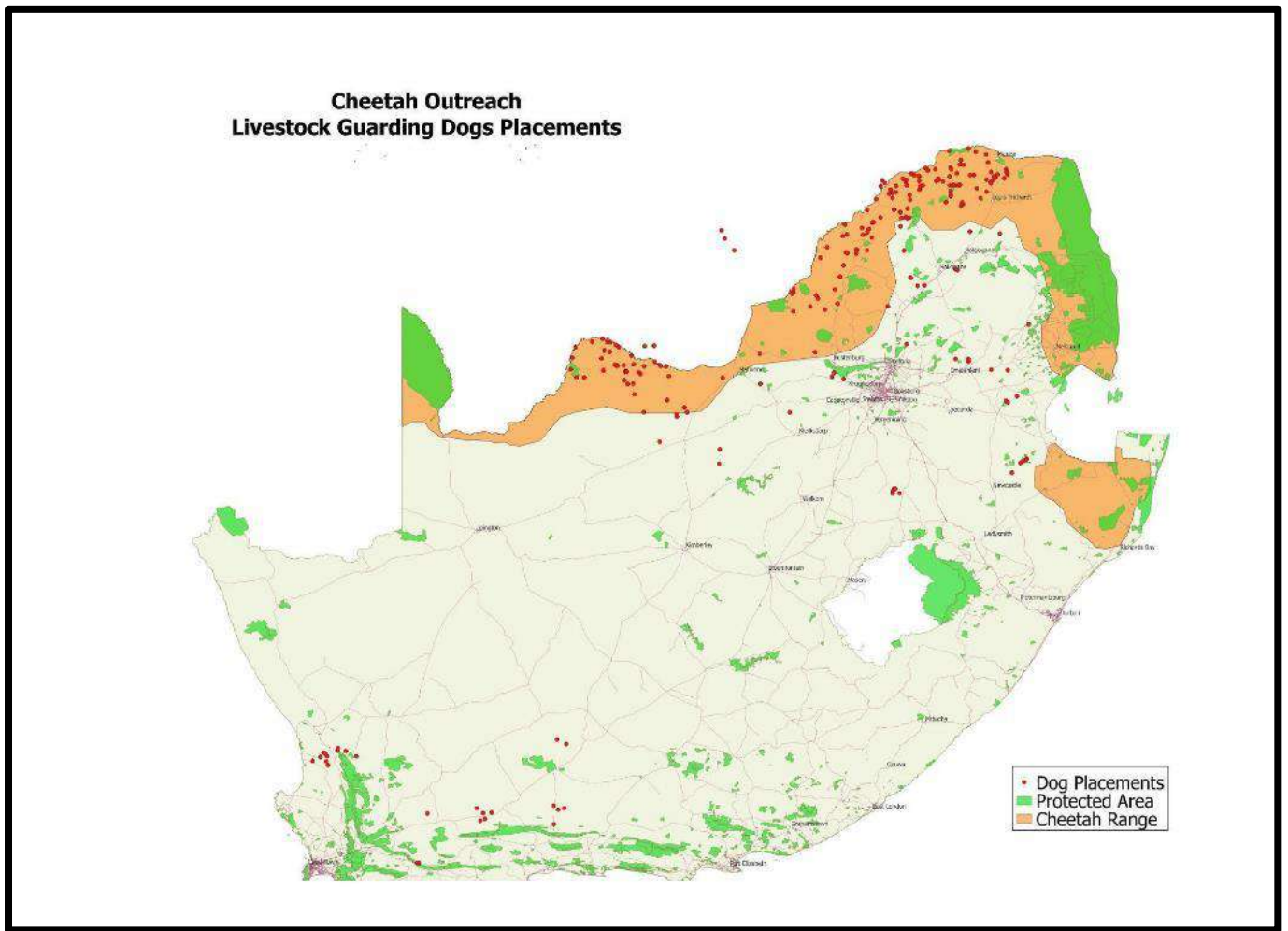


Figure 1: Placement of all LGD's from 2005 to JANUARY 2023

SUMMARY OF ALL LIVESTOCK GUARDING DOGS PLACED BETWEEN MARCH 2021 AND JANUARY 2023

Seventy Seventh Placement (March 2021)

This litter of puppies was born at Irwin's Guardian Stud from dam Kestrel of Green Dogs Conservation and sire Irwin's Guardian Torres.

This litter was placed in the western territory of the cheetah range.

- *Saluda* is being escorted by a herder as the herd goes out to graze. This is to ensure that she does not return to the kraal while the herd is out grazing. Her owner is happy to put in this extra effort and monitor her movements. Her owner is positive we can change her behaviour of returning back to the kraal.
- *River* killed by neighbour.
- *Cara* is doing very well and her owner is happy with her quick adaptation to the new farm, herd and management style.

Seventy Eight Placement (July 2021)

Only one placement was made. This was due to a breeding loan with Green Dogs Conservation using one of the Irwin's Guardian Stud male breedings dogs. This pup was placed in the Eastern Territory of the cheetah range

- *Minzi* was placed as a replacement dog on a farm close to Vivo in Limpopo. The farmer has an eight year old male Anatolian Livestock Guardian Dog named Titan that he received through the project in 2013. Titan defended his flock of goats against a predation event earlier in 2021 and unfortunately died during this heroic event. Minzi has bonded well with her goats and has joined them when they graze in the bush. She is proving to be a very dedicated livestock guardian. Minzi was fully vaccinated and was also sterilised in December 2021. The farmer continues to be very satisfied with Minzi.

Seventy Ninth Placement (November 2021)

This litter was born at the Irwin's Guardian Stud from Irwin's Guardian Garland (Dam) and Irwin's Guardian Delarey (Sire). They were placed in the Eastern Territory of the cheetah range.

- *Irwin's Guardian Gidjee* was placed as a replacement for Irwin's Guardian Wessex (9 years old) who is nearing his retirement age. Gidjee is a shy individual who prefers the company of her goats to that of humans. Gidjee has developed into a very loyal and protective livestock guardian dog who prefers the company of her goats to that of humans. Gidjee was sterilised in November 2022
- *Irwin's Guardian Angel* was placed as a replacement for Wardance (10 years old) who is nearing retirement age. Angel is a shy livestock guardian. She has completed her bonding phase and has started following her goats to the bush on a daily basis. Angel has developed into a promising livestock guardian dog. The farmer is very satisfied with her. Angel was sterilised in November 2022. She was found dead close to her kraal in November 2022 and it is thought that a scorpion stung her and she died as a result of this.

Eightieth Placement (November 2021)

This litter was born at Irwin's Guardian Stud from Irwin's Guardian Ester (Dam) and Irwin's Guardian Torres (Sire). They were placed in the Western Territory of the cheetah range.

- *Irwin's Guardian Clyde* is doing very well on the farm. His owner is happy with his progress and the area that he is working in has turned out to be a very active cheetah movement area. A collared cheetah female and her cubs were residents in his working area for a few weeks.
- *Irwin's Guardian FIAA2's* area has turned out to be a very active cheetah area; we only found this out after we collared two females in the area. Her owner is happy that he has had no losses to predation while she is there.
- *Irwin's Guardian Roxy* regularly teams up with one of the other guardians on the farm to chase off any predators that crosses the property. Her owner is happy with that as she is vigilant around her herd.
- *Irwin's Guardian Yeti* is a wonderful guardian and his owner is very proud of him and what he has achieved on the farm. Since his arrival there has been no losses at the herd due to predation but the movement of especially cheetahs has increased in the area.
- *Irwin's Guardian Joshua* is doing well and his owner is happy with him. He guards his herd on the Botswana border and has had no losses.
- *Irwin's Guardian Goldie* is doing very well, she recently lost Khan, her mentor due to old age so now she has to show what she learned from him. She has adapted well to the change and is now more vigilant than ever. The farm has a few cheetah play trees on it, so a hot spot for cheetah movement making her job even more important.

Eighty First Placement (December 2021)

This litter of five puppies were bought from a reputable breeder and placed as livestock guardian dogs as part of the Bushmans Kloof Wilderness Reserve and Wellness Resort project in the Western Cape of South Africa. The puppies were placed on farms in the Clanwilliam district to do their part in the protection of the Cape Leopard.

- *Titan* has turned into a great young guardian. He is working on a very remote part of the farm and doing a great job guarding his herd. He has had run-ins with baboons and there is also a leopard passing through the farm from time to time and he has had no losses.
- *Keno* has had some problems with bad behaviours he developed, but he received corrective training and responded well to it. His owner is monitoring him closely to ensure he does not revert to the bad behaviours.
- *Zack did* go through a tough spot with some bad behaviour he developed, but with corrective training and patience he has made a good turn around. His owner is very happy with this and he is once again doing a wonderful job of guarding his herd.
- *Venus* is doing a wonderful job of guarding her herd and her owner is very happy with her. She is an attentive young guardian.
- *Quin* was killed by a leopard while out guarding her herd.

Eighty Second Placement (December 2021)

This litter of 8 puppies were born at the Irwin's Guardian Stud from dam Irwin's Guardian Tiaki and sire Irwin's Guardian Torres. These puppies were placed with eagerly waiting farmers within the cheetah distribution range in the Eastern Territory in Limpopo Province.

- *Irwin's Guardian Tux* was with a flock of goats on a farm close to Platjan. He took a while to complete his bonding phase with his goats but has subsequently shown all the traits of a promising and loyal livestock guardian dog. Tux has recently decided to stay back and leave the goats to go their own way during midday when they pass the homestead where there is fresh water and cool green grass to sleep on. Measures have been put in place to rectify this behaviour and return Tux to his routine. Tux was sterilised during the end of 2022.
- *Irwin's Guardian Dez* was placed with a flock of goats on a farm close to Alldays where cheetahs are seen often. She adapted very well and accepted her goats in a very short time. She accompanies her goats to the field every day and the farmer is extremely happy with her progress. The farmer decided to sell all his goats and convert to sheep farming. Unfortunately Dez did not accept the sheep and it was decided to move her to a new farmer close to the Waterpoort area where cheetahs are also seen often. She accepted her new flock of goats immediately and the farmer is very satisfied with her.



Figure 2: *Irwin's Guardian Dez* with her new flock of goats

- *Irwin's Guardian Olive* was placed on a farm close to the small town of Tolwe with a flock of sheep. The farmer waited three years to receive a livestock guardian dog puppy from the project. Olive has bonded well with her flock of sheep and works in a team with an older sheep dog that was also raised with the flock of sheep. She accompanies the flock of sheep everyday under the supervision of a herdsman. Olive was sterilised mid-2022.
- *Irwin's Guardian Titan* was placed with a flock of sheep on a farm close to Alldays. Cheetahs, leopards and even African Wild Dogs are seen very often on this farm. Titan is expected to grow into a large and intimidating livestock guardian dog and he should thus be capable of defending his flock of sheep against threats posed by these predators. The farmer is very satisfied with Titan. Titan was sterilised mid-2022.
- *Irwin's Guardian Betty* has been placed on a farm with sheep close to the Groblersbrug border post. Although cheetah sightings are not common here, they have been seen on neighbouring farms. Other predators such as leopards and hyenas occur frequently. Betty was named after the very well-known Hollywood actress Betty White who passed away at the end of 2021. Betty is a shy livestock guardian dog and prefers the presence of her sheep to that of her farmer and herdsman. Betty was sterilised November 2022. She was recently found dead in her kraal and it is thought that she might have ingested some rat poison that the farm workers have put out at their homesteads not far from the kraal. The farmer is devastated by his loss.
- *Irwin's Guardian Kiki* was placed on a farm with a flock of goats close to the town of Swartwater in Limpopo. Cheetahs are seen often in the area and other predators such as leopards are common. Kiki has bonded very well with her flock of goats.
- *Irwin's Guardian Tule* was placed with a flock of goats on a farm close to Maasstroom. She has adapted well and has bonded with her flock of goats. The farmer is satisfied with her progress. She is a friendly livestock guardian that does not hesitate to come over and greet, but then returns back to her flock of goats. Tule was sterilised at the end of 2022.
- *Irwin's Guardian Cali* was placed close to Swartwater with a flock of goats. Cheetahs are not seen often on this farm but are known to move through the area. Cali took a bit of time to settle in and formed a very close bond with the main goat ram. She has since accepted the rest of the flock and joins them when they go out to the bush to graze, she is a shy individual. The farmer is satisfied with her.

- **Eighty Third Placement (April 2022)**

This litter of three puppies were born at the Irwin's Guardian Stud from dam Garland and sire Torres. It was decided to hold one of the female puppies' back as future breeding female to retain the bloodlines of Garland as she was to be retired after this litter. The remaining two puppies were placed with waiting farmers in the Eastern Cheetah Range.

- *Irwin's Guardian Jade* was placed on a farm close to Lephalale where the farmer has been having losses of his goats. Jade has adapted well and is well bonded to her flock. She had a period of behavioural problems where she would chase and play with the free ranging chickens in the kraal but that was addressed and this behaviour has now stopped. The farmer is very satisfied and his predation losses have stopped. A single male cheetah was seen on the farm a while ago.



Figure 3: irwin;s Guardian Jade with her goats in kraal

- *Irwin's Guardian Aked* was placed with a farmer in the Lephalale area who has recently started goat farming. The farmer did not want to wait until predation took place and preferred to have Aked settled in and working well before the first lambing season. Aked has proven to be a very loyal guarding dog and does not miss a day going out with his flock of goats. The farmer is very satisfied with Aked.

Eighty Fourth Placement (July 2022)

This litter of five puppies were born at the Irwin's Guardian Stud from dam Ester and sire Torres..The puppies were placed with waiting farmers in the Eastern Cheetah Range and the Western Cheetah Range.

- *Irwin's Guardian Elvis* was placed on a goat farm in the Steenbokpan area of the Eastern Cheetah Range. He was removed from this initial placement farm due to the fact that the farmer was not convinced that Elvis was bonding well with his livestock. He was moved to a farm closer to Lephalale where the farmer already had an older Anatolian through the project. Elvis adapted very well and is working without any issues. He had tick bite fever during December but has recovered and is becoming a very loyal livestock guardian.
- *Irwin's Guardian Chili* is doing well, he is a shy young guardian which prefers the company of his sheep to humans. His owner accepts this and works around it, but also sees it as an advantage as stock theft does occur in the area.
- *Irwin's Guardian Isa* is doing very well and she is guarding a herd of sheep on a newly bought property for her owner. She is an attentive young guardian and sticks to her herd like glue.



Figure 4: Irwin's Guardian Isa with her sheep

- *Irwin's Guardian Suzi* has had some problems in the past. She is a very shy but strong willed young guardian and does not want any human near her. This has made training and helping her very difficult. Her owner is doing his best to help her accept him and has made some progress. She does however have a strong bond with the herd and to protect them is her duty.
- *Irwin's Guardian Balazi* is doing very well. His owner has had previous experience with livestock guardian dogs so raising him was easy with the newly established herd. He also does prefer his herd over humans.

Eighty Fifth Placement (July 2022)

This litter of five puppies were bought from a reputable breeder and placed as livestock guardian dogs as part of the Bushmans Kloof Wilderness Reserve and Wellness Resort project in the Western Cape of South Africa. The puppies were placed on farms in the Clanwilliam district to do their part in the protection of the Cape Leopard and to secure valuable safe habitat.

- *Baxter* is doing well, as with all his siblings he has now been moved into a grazing camp with his herd and the herd number has been increased. His owner is happy with the move and change in his situation and Baxter accepted the change in his stride.
- *Sierra* has been with his herd in a larger grazing area for a while now. He had to start his working life earlier as the lack of grazing forced his owner to move the herd and Sierra to better grazing. He is doing well and his owner is happy with his progress. They are also keeping an eye on him to ensure his safety and that he does not develop any bad behaviours.
- *Cali* has been moved into a camp close to the house where she can be monitored. Her herd size has been increased and she is now being monitored to ensure she accepts them without any problems like chasing. The owner is looking forward to moving her into areas on the farm, where they have not been able to graze their sheep for a while due to predation. However this will only happen when she is fully grown and able to accept this challenge.
- *Bailey* has been moved out into the veldt with her herd. She spent her training phase in the kraal with a tame donkey, which will be joining her in the veldt. The owner is very eager for her to start working as there is a very active leopard on the farm. Bailey will for now be working in a camp close to the house so that they can keep an eye on her and ensure her safety and wellbeing.
- *Shelby* is doing very well on her farm, she has completed her training phase in the kraal and has now been moved out into the working farm. Her owner is very excited to have her working, for now they will keep an eye on her to make sure that she does not develop any bad behaviours and to ensure her safety and wellbeing.

SNAKE AVERSION TRAINING:

The first group of dogs received their training during October 2011. This was the first time such training has been given to working dogs in the veld in South Africa by any organisation using livestock guarding dogs.

Snake aversion training is given to all new placements when they reach the age of 7 to 8 months. The snake aversion training has proven very successful with a dramatic decline in losses due to snake bite over the past few years. We have secured snake scent from the National Zoo in Pretoria to conduct snake aversion training on our latest placements.

CURRENT STATUS OF ALL LIVESTOCK GUARDING DOGS PLACED.

The Cheetah Outreach Trust monitors all placements on an ongoing basis. All new placements are visited and monitored monthly for the first 12 months in order to ensure that any problems that might occur are identified and addressed immediately by using effective corrective methods. After 12 months, the livestock guarding dogs are signed over to the farmer and all dogs under 2 years of age are then visited and monitored twice a year while older dogs are visited once a year. By doing this the Cheetah Outreach Trust retains constant contact with the farmer and the livestock guarding dog. Due to an increase in fuel prices, monthly monitoring has become expensive and it has been decided to change the visits to a bi-monthly schedule to stay within the project budget restrictions. Contact is retained on a monthly basis via telephonic conversations and social media with the farmers.

The Cheetah Outreach Trust has placed 373 Livestock Guarding Dogs up to the end of January 2023. Of these placements, 312 have been successful placements with dogs working and guarding their livestock and with 61 dogs removed in total due to behavioural problems. See figure 5 for graph of total placements vs dogs that had to be removed due to behavioural problems. This is an 84% successful placement rate and the success has increased since the previous report. See figure 2 for an illustration of this status breakdown. Of these 312 successful placements, 42% are currently still working and guarding livestock, 9% have been retired, 47% died in service or from old age and 2% have been moved out of cheetah range. Figure 6 illustrates this status breakdown of the successful placements since 2005.

Annexure 1 is a total list of all livestock guarding dogs placed since 2005 and the current status of each individual.

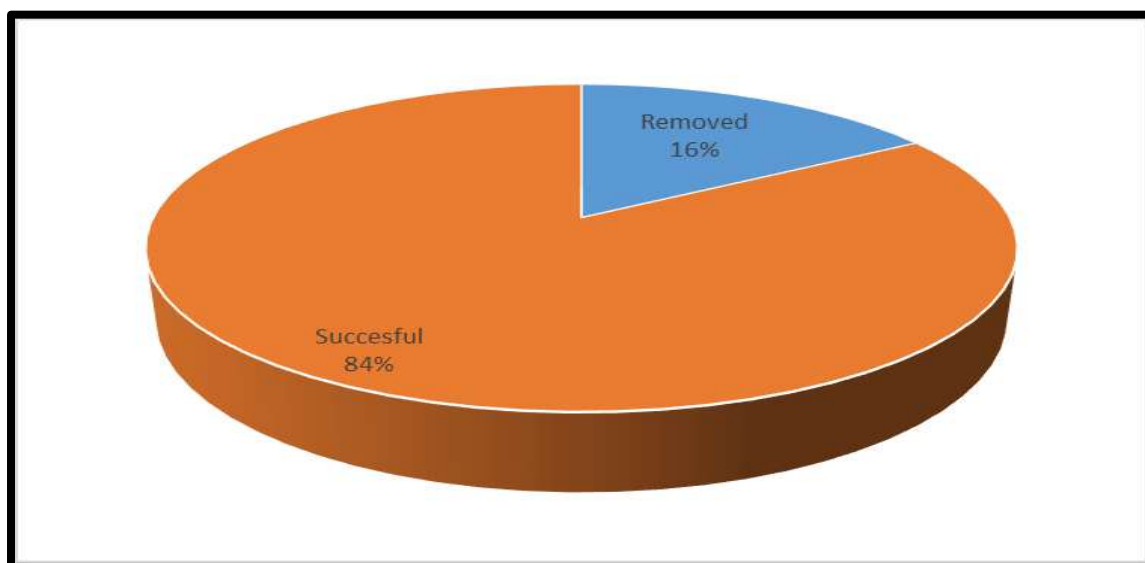


Figure 5: Status Breakdown of LGD's placed from 2005 to January 2023

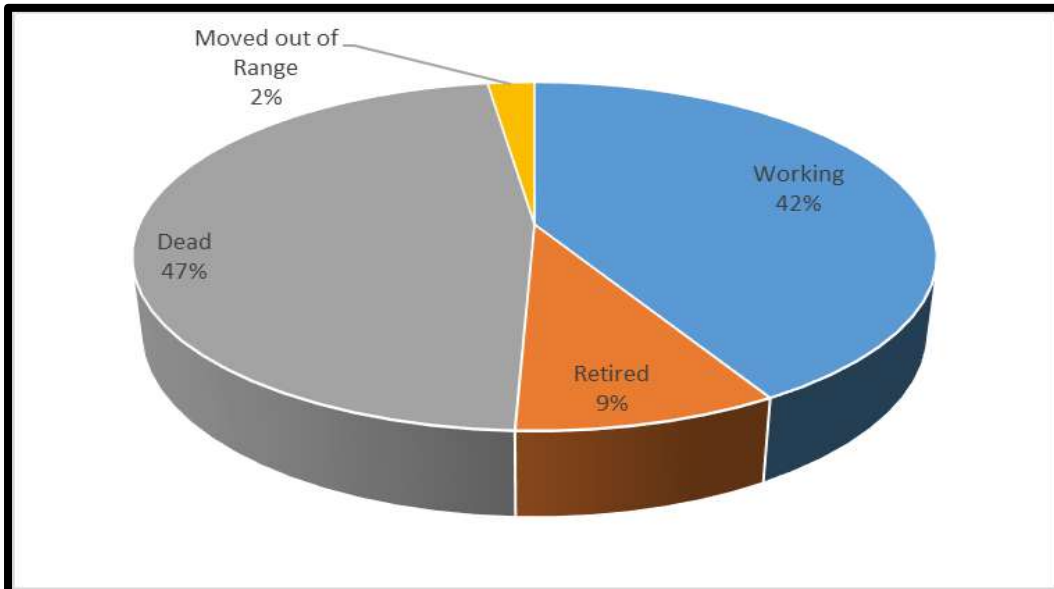


Figure 6: Status breakdown of successful placements from 2005 to January 2023

STOCK LOSS AND STATUS OF LIVESTOCK GUARDING DOGS:

All placements of livestock guarding dogs by the Cheetah Outreach Trust are done in order to mitigate the conflict that exists between the farmers and the cheetah and other carnivores that prey on the livestock on the various farms. The reduction of predator losses by the farmer has to be measured in order to monitor the effectiveness of livestock guarding dogs placed on an ongoing basis. Information is gathered from the farmer relating to annual losses by predation prior to placement of the livestock guarding dog and then any further losses after placement due to predation. This is monitored annually through the normal visits and monitoring done by the Cheetah Outreach Trust field officers. All this data is captured into a centralised database. In all cases predation after placement of the livestock guarding dog has been reduced and in some cases totally eliminated.

During the period December 2020 to January 2023, 37 livestock guarding dogs were placed and were collectively guarding a total of 4980 livestock. Figure 7 represents a breakdown of the type and number of livestock guarded by these dogs placed within the period December 2020 to January 2023.

Due to the Covid-19 pandemic and related Government lockdown regulations which had an effect on the ongoing monitoring and finances required to do the monitoring of the placed livestock guarding dogs no up-to-date data has been recorded for losses during this reporting period. For this reason this data will be excluded from this report.

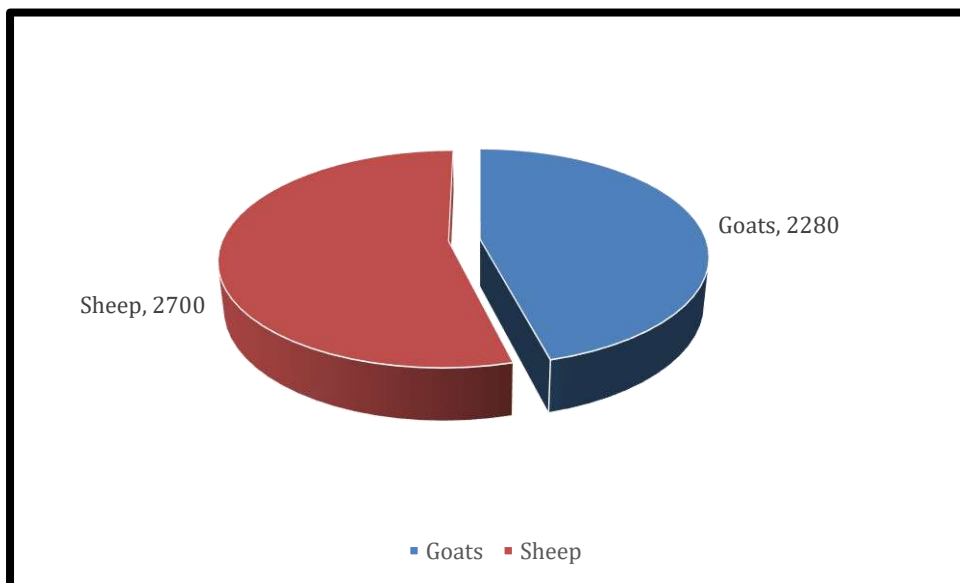


Figure 7: Breakdown of livestock guarded by LGD's placed from December 2020 to January 2023

PLACEMENTS MADE DECEMBER 2020 TO JANUARY 2023

The Cheetah Outreach Trust has committed itself to the placement of twenty new pups each year in the Eastern and Western Territory combined. For the period December 2020 to January 2023, 13 placements were done in the Eastern Territory of which 10 were done in 2022 reaching the yearly placement quota for 2022. In the Western Territory 113 placements were made of which 8 were done in 2021 and 5 in 2022 due to the availability of puppies from the Irwin’s Guardian Stud. The Bushmans Kloof Project saw the placement of 10 puppies during this period.



Figure 8: Puppies that were placed as part of the Bushmanskloof and Cheetah Outreach Trust project in the Cederberg

IRWIN’S GUARDIAN STUD BREEDING FACILITY

Irwin’s Guardian Livestock Guarding Dog Breeding Facility at the Green Dogs Conservation property close to Alldays in Limpopo Province has now been operating successfully for a number of years. All vaccinations for the breeding dogs are up to date and are sponsored by Virbac. The food of all the dogs in the breeding project is proudly sponsored by Ultrapet and the Cheetah Outreach Trust is proud to have Ultrapet as a partner in this project. One female, Irwin’s Guardian Garland was retired and two new breeding dog puppies, Meatloaf and Compston have joined the Irwin’s Guardian Stud to continue the genetic lines of the older breeding dogs going into retirement.



Figure 9: Puppies at the Irwin’s Guardian Stud eating their dogfood provided by Ultrapet

LIVESTOCK GUARDING DOG BREEDING PROJECT BREEDING STOCK

Breeding Dog	Sex	Age	General.
Morrison	Male	10 years	Moved to Irwin's Guardian Stud in June 2015. Sired pups with Garland in December 2015 and with Gem in April 2016. He was mated with Amanda in April 2016 but the mating was not successful. Morrison sired 5 puppies with Pandora in 2017 as well as with Ashkem and Garland. He sired puppies with Pandora and Garland in 2018 and with Green Dogs females Freya and Phudi. Morrison produced a litter of puppies with Pandora in 2019. Morrison mated with Garland at the end of 2019. Morrison mated with Garland May 2020. Morrison also mated with Ester in 2021.
Garland	Female	9 years	Produced one pup at the Cheetah Outreach public facility. Moved to Irwin's Guardian Stud in September 2015. Produced a litter of pups at the beginning of December 2015. Garland produced a litter of 5 pups on 26 October 2017 sired by Morrison. Garland produced a litter of 9 pups in June 2018 again sired by Morrison. Garland mated with Delarey soon after his arrival and had a litter of 8 puppies. Garland produced a litter of four pups in December 2019. Two of these pups passed away within the first weeks of being born. Garland mated with Morrison in May 2020 but no pups were produced. Garland produced three healthy pups in December 2020 after a mating with Delarey. Garland also produced one small litter in 2022 after mating with Torres during 2021. It was decided to retire Garland end of 2022 and she is now spending her days at the Cheetah Outreach Facility as ambassador to the Livestock Guardian Dog Project.
Torres	Male	5 year	Received back as a result of a breeding donation from Hannelie Liebenberg. Torres carries the Kangal gene that was represented by previous male Onyx in the program. Torres produced a litter of pups with Gem in 2019. Torres produced another two litters in 2020. Torres mated with Gem and produced a litter of pups in May 2020. Torres mated with Garland and produced a litter of three pups in December 2020. In 2021 Torres mated with Ester and produced a litter of puppies. He also mated with Greendogs female Kestrel in 2021 and produced a litter of puppies. Torres also mated with Tiaki in 2021.
Tiaki	Female	2 year	Donated to Cheetah Outreach Trust by the Cheetah Conservation Fund Namibia. She mated with Torres in 2021 and had one litter at the end of 2021.
Ester	Female	3 years	Donated by a private breeder. Ester mated with Torres in 2021 and produced one litter of puppies. She was mated with Morrison and produced a litter of puppies in 2022. Ester produced another litter sired by Torres at the end of 2022.
Meatloaf	male	5 months	Meatloaf was delivered by Ester and Morrison in 2022. He was kept back as future breeding male as Morrison will be retired in 2023
Compston	female	8 months	Compston was delivered by Garland in 2022. She was kept back as future breeder as Garland was retired in 2022.



Figure 10: Joe of Green Dogs Conservation with Irwin's Guardian Ester and her puppies

DOGS REMOVED FROM BREEDING PROGRAM

Breeding Dog	Sex	Reason for removal	General.
Woody	Female	Died	Died during complications when giving birth.
Helen	Female	Died	Due to age, ambassador at the Cheetah Outreach Trust; died of old age
Lucy	Female	Died	Due to age, ambassador at the Cheetah Outreach Trust died of old age.
Nicola	Female	Died	Due to age, ambassador at the Cheetah Outreach Trust died of old age.

Morocco	Male	Rehomed	Poor hip assessments. Rehomed as companion dog.
Thor	Male	Rehomed	Poor hip assessments. Rehomed as a companion dog.
Valkeri	Female	Rehomed	Poor hip assessments. Rehomed as a companion dog.
Chenon	Female	Rehomed	Poor hip assessments. Rehomed as a companion dog.
Melda	Female	Rehomed	Unreliable breeder. Rehomed as a companion dog.
Angel	Female	Rehomed	Unreliable breeder. Rehomed as a companion dog.
Llondiwe	Female	Rehomed	Failed hip and elbow scans; not suitable for breeding. Rehomed as a companion dog.
Wardance	Male	Died	Died in a car accident.
Lotte	Female	Rehomed	Hip issues; not suitable for breeding.
Aslan	Male	Died	Snakebite
Mercedes	Female	Retired	Due to age, rehomed as a companion dog.
Jeanne	Female	Rehomed	Ambassador at the Cheetah Outreach facility.
Onyx	Male	Died	Died of natural causes.
Banu	Female	Died	Killed by a cobra.
Togo	Male	Rehomed	Infertile due to snake bite.
Ashkem	Female	Died	Killed by a cobra.
Minoe	Female	Age	Minoe did not produce pups and has been retired.
Pandora	Female	Age	Retired and rehomed as a companion dog.
Gem	Female	Age	Retired as a companion dog.
Delarey	Male	Died	Snake bite - black mamba
Garland	Female	Age	Retired as Ambassador at Cheetah Outreach facility

VISITORS TO THE PROJECT:

Rob Johnson of the Rare Species Fund visited the project at the end of November and was shown some of the work done in the Eastern Range.

Jackie Navarro of Wild Wonders brought a group of guests to South Africa. Deon Cilliers gave them a presentation and talked on the work of the Cheetah Outreach Trust.

PREDATOR CONFLICT WORK:

Since December 2020 14 leopards have been managed as part of conflict mitigation with farmers in Limpopo. One young leopard sub-adult female that underwent rewilding was released successfully. During the same period 25 cheetahs were received from farmland areas where they were caught by farmers or where we were able to capture them for the purpose of collaring and release.. 17 of these cheetahs have been released back onto farmland areas after they were collared with satellite collars. 7 of the cheetah received were released into the Cheetah meta-population in protected areas in South Africa as they were not suitable to be released back onto farmland areas due to their age or period they had to be kept in holding. One non releasable cheetah remains at the Ann van Dyk Cheetah Centre and will be used to supplement the captive population genetic diversity.



Figure 11: Two orphaned cheetah males released onto Abelana Game Reserve



Figure 12: Three free roaming cheetah females released back onto farmland close to capture site after fitted with satellite collars

Long term camera trapping is taking place on four farms in the Eastern Territory, one in Steenbokpan, two in Lephalale and one in the Maasroom area. as well as at three sites in the Western Territory. These long term monitoring points will be expanded in line with the Range Wide Cheetah Census.



Figure 13: Camera trap photo of free roaming cheetah at a marking tree

