

ZSL/WCS conservation challenges for the 21st century

AT THE ZOOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF LONDON



28 October 2008 at 6.00pm

www.zsl.org/science/scientific-meetings

Admission free



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SAVING AFRICA'S ATHLETES: CONSERVING CHEETAHS AND WILD DOGS

Africa has produced some of the world's most outstanding sports men and women, but the athletic achievements of two of its wildlife species deserve just as much acclaim. The cheetah is the fastest animal on land, while the African wild dog excels at endurance running and teamwork.

Despite these achievements, both species are highly threatened, and they present a major challenge for conservationists in the 21st century. Running fast and ranging widely, cheetah and wild dog populations need larger areas than almost any other terrestrial carnivore species. As human populations encroach on Africa's last wild areas, cheetah and wild dogs are among the first species to disappear.

Few of Africa's parks are large enough to conserve them, and the species' survival depends on linking parks with community and private lands, across international borders and on geographic scales rarely seen before in terrestrial conservation.

The evening will explore how cheetah and wild dogs can be conserved in modern Africa:

Rosie Woodroffe will talk about her long term conservation work with wild dogs in Kenya, and will introduce plans for conserving both wild dogs and cheetah across Africa;

Maurus Msuha will draw on many years of experience in carnivore conservation in Tanzania, and will outline problems faced by African countries in meeting conservation objectives and ways to establish a new generation of conservation leaders in Africa; and

Sarah Durant will discuss her long term work on cheetah conservation in Tanzania and show how conservation plans for the two species can be implemented.

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These talks are part of the new *ZSL/WCS Conservation Challenges for the 21st Century* series. Our aim is to highlight how the collaborative work of ZSL and WCS tackles some of the major challenges that we currently face in field conservation. Talks begin at 6.00pm (doors from 5.15pm) and are scheduled to finish at 7.45pm; admission is free and open to everyone. This event will be held in the ZSL Meeting Rooms (access from Outer Circle, Regent's Park) and seats will be on a first-come, first-served basis.

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