



Having squeezed the life out of its Impala fawn prey, this African Rock Python goes about swallowing the antelope head first.

Alex van den Heever

Interesting Mammal

Observations at Londolozi

A **Chacma Baboon** was seen in hot pursuit of a **Leopard** which had been stalking a group of **Impala**; the cat was clearly scared but managed to outrun the large primate (SL:07/00). A troop of **Chacma Baboons** killed and ate a tiny **Bushbuck** fawn close to Londolozi camp on the Sand River (JH:07/00).

A pack of five **Wild Dogs** crossed through the Londolozi property but did not linger (MS:12/00).

A shy male **Leopard** was seen feeding on the remains of a **Burchell's Zebra** foal which it had killed (NdW:11/00). A young, female **Leopard** pounced upon and killed a **Greater Canerat** (MS:09/00). An **African Wild Cat** was seen stalking a **Lesser Bushbaby** (Galago) but was unsuccessful in the hunt (GS:11/00).

A pack of ten **Banded Mongoose** were seen chasing a **Greater Canerat** after dark; it is thought that the rodent had stumbled into the burrow of the mongooses (NdW:12/00). A rare **Meller's Mongoose** was identified as it ran across a track

one evening (NdW:11/00). A **Large Spotted Genet** was seen swimming across the Sand River causeway (JB:03/00). Two **Honey Badgers** were seen feeding on a 2.5m **African Rock Python** which they are presumed to have killed (GS).

Reptile Observations

Two **Marsh Terrapins** were seen feeding on a tilapia which was struggling close to the surface of the water at a small dam (NdW:11/00). **Marsh Terrapins** were observed to be feeding on ectoparasites (presumably ticks) on a **White Rhino** which had submerged itself in a waterhole (NdW:12/00). An **African Rock Python** of about 3m in length was seen to constrict and swallow an newborn **Impala** (NdW:11/00).

Observers: Maxine Scott (MS), John Huxter (JH), Natasha de Woronin (NdW), Sean Lindsay (SL), Greg Seymour (GS) and Jonathan Braack (JB).