

Observations

A **Wild Dog** was seen to paw at a millipede, crush the invertebrate, and then roll in the body fluid (JG:11/99). A **Brown Hyena** pup was seen suckling from its mother at about 19h00 just north-east of the Amphitheatre, about 10m off the road; the pup was making a high pitched squeaking call (JG:11/99).

Two **Lions** (the Tshaba Females) killed a baby **African Elephant** at Tlou Dam and after feeding for about a day, the lionesses were joined by the 'Batia Brothers'; later that evening a herd of elephant chased the lions off the carcass and spent time sniffing the dead baby (BdB:5/99). An adult **Lioness** (the Ophir Female) was seen to hide behind the Tlou Dam wall in order to ambush a **Greater Kudu** bull; even though zebra and wildebeest on the other side of the dam had observed the predator, and were making their typical alarm calls, the Kudu bull walked straight into the path of the hidden Lion which grasped it by the throat and killed it by strangulation (GH:8/99). A **Caracal** was seen to kill a **Scrub Hare** near the Amphitheatre (GH:8/99). A very shy sub-adult **Serval** was observed briefly on Kukama Road (BdB:6/99). A young **Aardwolf** was seen west of River Lodge (BdB:4/99). A **Striped Polecat** - usually only seen as a roadkill outside of the reserve - was seen crossing a track at about 18h45 (JT:3/99).

An adult **Warthog** was seen to visit the active den of the 'New Madikwe Pack' of **Wild Dog** on several occasions; the warthog came to within 5m of the resting dogs with no apparent interest being shown by either species (JT:6/99). Three **Black Rhino** were seen together at Tholo Dam (SM:6/99). Good views were had of a **Pangolin** feeding on the western cut-line from Tholo Dam (BdB&GH:4/99).

Observations

A **Brown Snake Eagle** was seen to take a break from its usual reptilian diet when it captured and ate a **Bush Squirrel** (SM:11/99). A pair of **African Hawk Eagles** were seen hunting together, in a bid to flush **Helmeted Guineafowl** from a *Ziziphus* bush; the eagles persisted for about ten minutes, with no luck, before we left the scene (JT:4/99). One **Pygmy Falcon** was seen to catch and fly off with a small mouse (SL:3/99) and another was spotted in the south-west of Madikwe (GW:11/99). A group of **White-backed Vultures** chased off a **Warthog** which was approaching the carcass of a **Greater Kudu** at Tlou Dam (GH:11/99).

A pair of **Painted Snipe** were seen at a small waterhole in the south east of the reserve (JT, GH, BdB&JG:29/11/99). Several **Blacksmith Plover** nests (actually just the well camouflaged eggs) were noted in the vicinity of the Tau Camp Dam and one nest was also found in the staff village (JG:10/99). A single male **Namaqua Sandgrouse** was heard calling at Tlou Dam at about 9h00; it circled and eventually came to the ground briefly at the water's edge. (GW, RP & GH:11/99).

A **Spotted Eagle Owl** was seen feeding on a **Long-tailed Shrike** in the middle of a sand track (JG:7/99). A **White-faced Owl** was observed with a recently fledged youngster in an **Umbrella Thorn** (JG:12/99). **Pearl-spotted Owls** were breeding in a hole in the branch of a dead **Leadwood** (*Combretum imberbe*) but the branch fell down during the breeding cycle and the eggs or young must have perished (JG:10/99).

The nest hole (west-facing) of a **Yellow-billed Hornbill** was found about 3m up in a dead **Leadwood** (*Combretum imberbe*) (JG:11/99). A pair of **Purple Roller** were observed at their nest hole in a dead **Leadwood** (*Combretum imberbe*) some 5m above the ground (JG:11/99).

