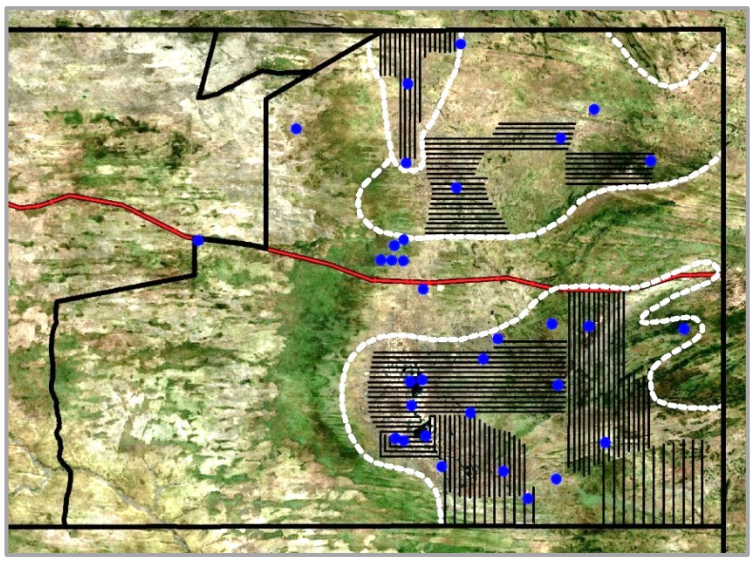
GAME COUNTS – NYAE NYAE CONSERVANCY

LINE TRANSECTS July 2024

A collaboration between NACSO, MEFT and environmental NGOs



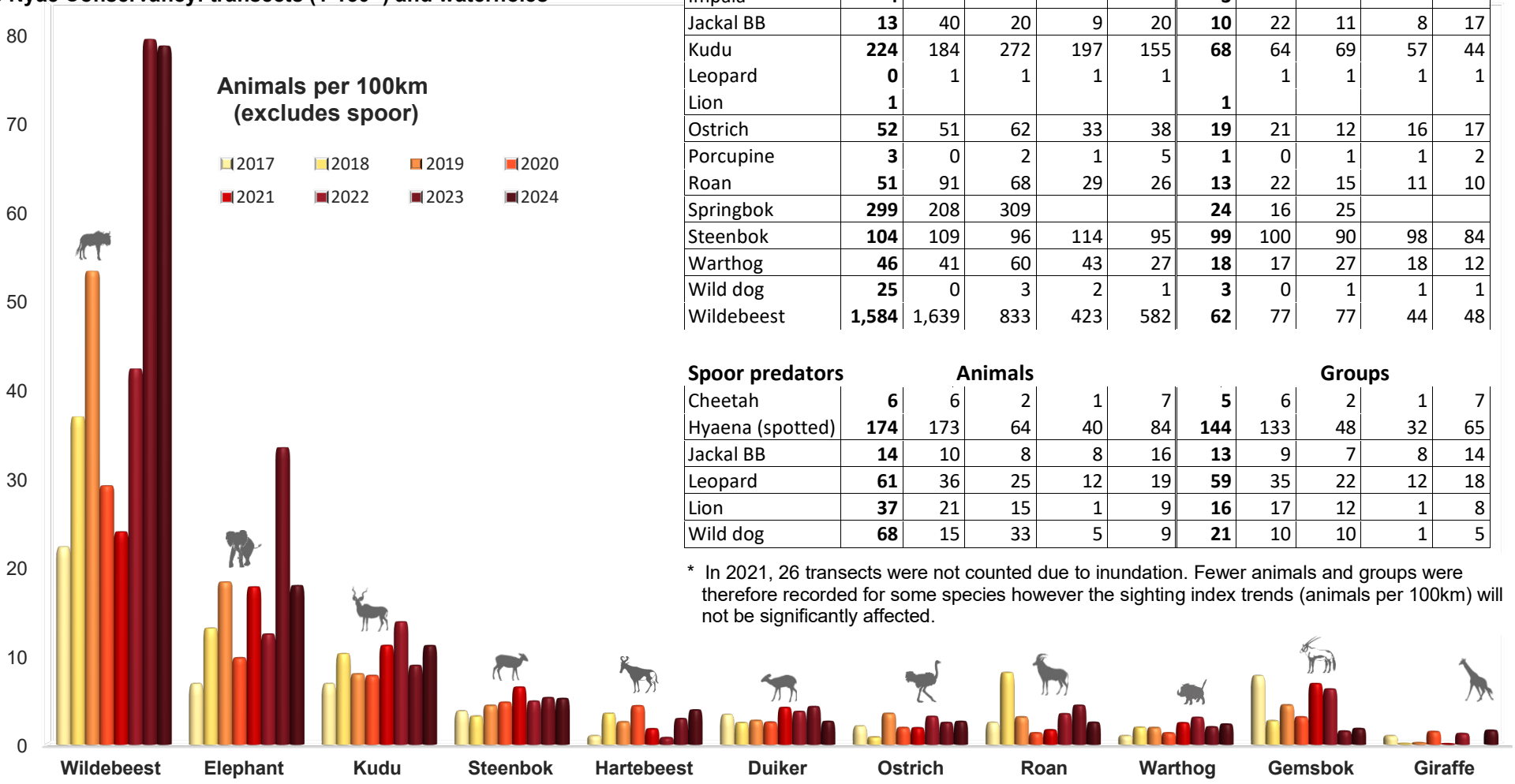
Nyae Nyae Conservancy: transects (1-150+) and waterholes

Animals and groups (Last 5 Years)

Species	Animals Seen					Groups seen				
Live all	**2024**	**2023**	**2022**	***2021**	**2020**	**2024**	**2023**	**2022**	***2021**	**2020**
African Wild Cat	**0**	1		2			1		2	
Bat-eared fox	**2**				2	**1**				1
Burchell's Zebra	**78**	103	63			**12**	13	9		
Duiker	**53**	88	73	74	50	**47**	79	71	71	48
Eland	**6**	15	1		3	**1**	1	1		1
Elephant	**360**	692	245	316	195	**95**	137	56	61	63
Gemsbok	**36**	38	123	122	62	**13**	17	31	32	28
Giraffe	**33**	12	24	1	29	**8**	5	7	1	5
Hartebeest	**79**	60	15	31	87	**9**	9	6	8	9
Honey Badger	**4**	1	2	4	1	**3**	1	1	2	1
Hyaena, spotted	**3**	1			2	**2**	1			2
Impala	**4**					**3**				
Jackal BB	**13**	40	20	9	20	**10**	22	11	8	17
Kudu	**224**	184	272	197	155	**68**	64	69	57	44
Leopard	**0**	1	1	1	1		1	1	1	1
Lion	**1**					**1**				
Ostrich	**52**	51	62	33	38	**19**	21	12	16	17
Porcupine	**3**	0	2	1	5	**1**	0	1	1	2
Roan	**51**	91	68	29	26	**13**	22	15	11	10
Springbok	**299**	208	309			**24**	16	25		
Steenbok	**104**	109	96	114	95	**99**	100	90	98	84
Warthog	**46**	41	60	43	27	**18**	17	27	18	12
Wild dog	**25**	0	3	2	1	**3**	0	1	1	1
Wildebeest	**1,584**	1,639	833	423	582	**62**	77	77	44	48

Spoor predators	Animals					Groups				
Cheetah	**6**	6	2	1	7	**5**	6	2	1	7
Hyaena (spotted)	**174**	173	64	40	84	**144**	133	48	32	65
Jackal BB	**14**	10	8	8	16	**13**	9	7	8	14
Leopard	**61**	36	25	12	19	**59**	35	22	12	18
Lion	**37**	21	15	1	9	**16**	17	12	1	8
Wild dog	**68**	15	33	5	9	**21**	10	10	1	5

* In 2021, 26 transects were not counted due to inundation. Fewer animals and groups were therefore recorded for some species however the sighting index trends (animals per 100km) will not be significantly affected.



The fundamental purpose of game counts in communal areas is to inform conservancies and MEFT of wildlife trends for the purposes of adaptive management of resources. While estimates of species numbers are provided, these should only be considered as an approximate guide to species abundance.

Overview

Line transects were initiated in 2017 and represent almost half of the total area of the conservancy and include most of the waterholes. The area not covered by transects has low animal densities due to reduced habitat suitability and people pressure.

Transect counts have recorded **27** species including **7** predator species. Based on average spoor sightings and Event Book records, hyaena are the most common predator, followed by wild dog, leopard and jackal.

The top 3 species in terms of sightings between 2017 and 2024 included **wildebeest**, **elephant** and **kudu**. Most species showed stable or increasing trends and estimates are very consistent across years.

Count Statistics 2024

- 152 transects and a total length of 2,004 km
- 495 transect hours
- 11 count days
- 25 species recorded
- 93% of all live sightings were within 200m of the transect line
- Estimates represent a conservancy area of 4,200 km^2

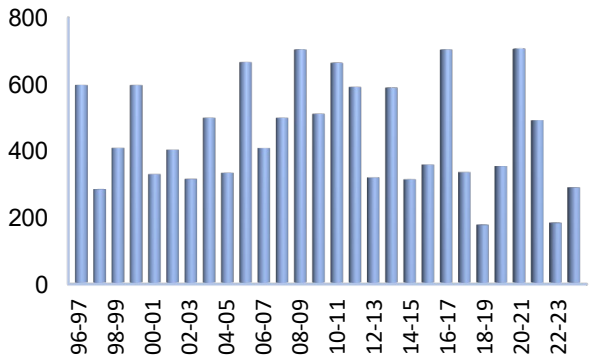
Estimates (rounded) were derived using DISTANCE analysis which takes account of drop-off in animal detectability with distance from the transect line. Ten game species had sufficient sightings to adequately derive species detection curves and therefore produce estimates.
Model: U=uniform; HN=half normal.

Estimates

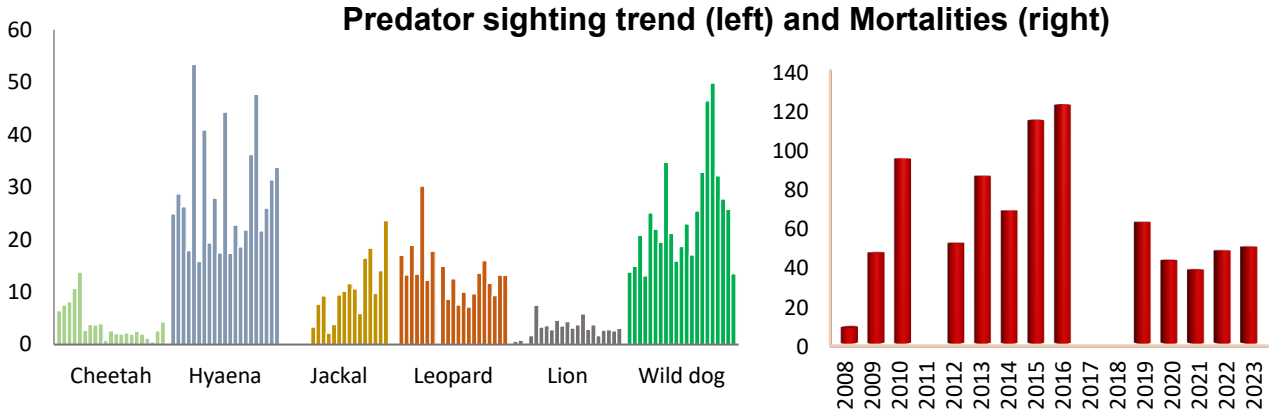
Species	Estimate	95% CL Low	95% CL High	Model	3Yr Average (2022-24)
Duiker	**1,483**	1,012	2,172	HN	**1,890**
Elephant	**2,240**	1,413	3,550	U	**2,251**
Gemsbok	**324**	162	650	HN	**509**
Hartebeest	**251**	107	588	HN	**236**
Kudu	**1,897**	1,204	2,988	HN	**2,472**
Ostrich	**302**	156	582	HN	**286**
Roan	**428**	205	894	U	**405**
Springbok	**973**	498	1,900	HN	**875**
Steenbok	**2,617**	1,888	3,629	HN	**2,143**
Warthog	**659**	322	1,347	HN	**435**
Wildebeest	**7,265**	3,863	13,662	HN	**7,016**

Rainfall mm (by season Jul-Jun)

CHIRPS
(https://earlywarning.usgs.gov/fews/datadownloads/Global/CHIRPS%202.0)



Predator sighting trend (left) and Mortalities (right)



These data come from the Event Book. They do not extend to this count year