



**LION
RANGERS**

**2023
HIGHLIGHTS**



**We completed, with the Ministry of Environment,
the first desert-adapted lion population survey.
We found...**

57-60

**estimated adult lions in the Kunene, along with
14 cubs. This represents 0.11-0.12 lions/100 km²
– the lowest estimated density for a stable free-
ranging lion population in Africa. It is a 46-60%
inferred decrease in the past decade, which
tracks with declining prey estimates.**



Collared

33

lions and translocated another

6

away from human-lion conflict areas.



Expanded to

49

Lion Rangers across

11

conservancies, encompassing

33,468 km²

of communal lands.



Lion Rangers performed

6,135

wildlife monitoring patrols covering

109,904 km

In October, top-performing Rangers ESAU MATUNDU, RINOVENI TJAUIRA, and KAIDUE UAROUA, were recognized by Namibia Minister of Environment, Forestry and Tourism, the Hon. Pohamba Shifeta at a special ceremony.



Constructed

55

predator-proof kraals and

5

**early-warning towers to keep livestock safe and
inform farmers of lions' movements.**

Began

5

exciting new cornerstone partnerships for research and limiting human-lion conflict, including with the Max Planck Institute of Animal Behavior, the Lion Recovery Fund, the University of Georgia, Journeys Namibia and Natural Selection.





All Rangers continue to receive annual workshop and field-based training on important skills. This year's trainings focused on using the Spatial Monitoring and Reporting Tool (SMART) for recording environmental data, use of VHF receivers for tracking collared lions, and drug and alcohol awareness.

In 2024 we are looking forward to expanding operations to more efficiently limit human-lion conflict and publishing ongoing research on the desert-adapted lions. We thank our supporters and the communal conservancies making community-based lion conservation possible!

