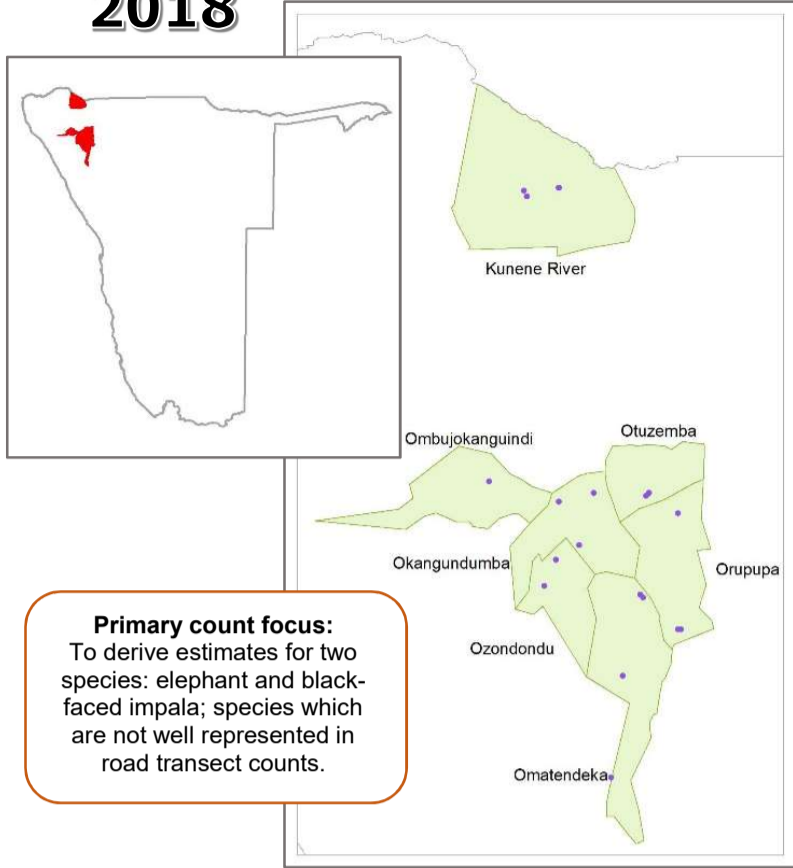


# FULL MOON WATERHOLE COUNTS IN NORTHERN KUNENE

2018

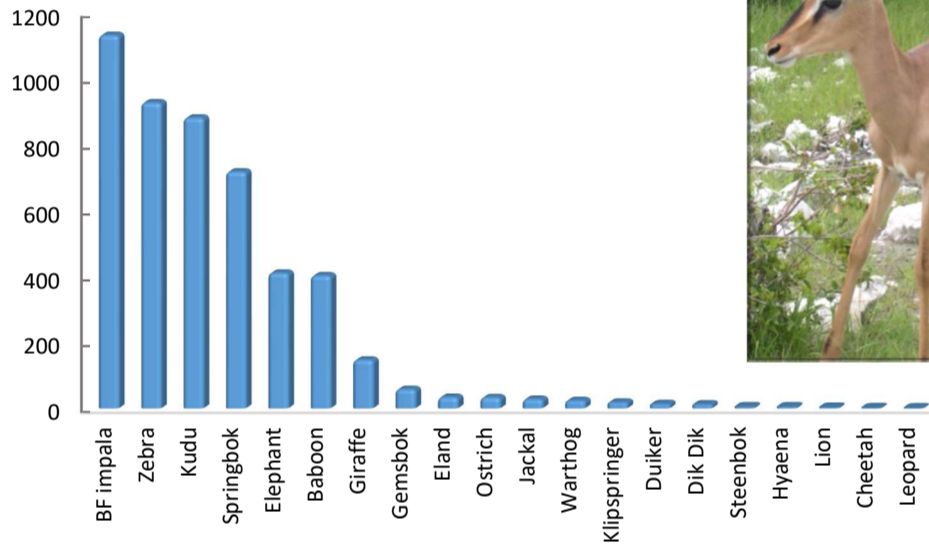


**Primary count focus:**  
To derive estimates for two species: elephant and black-faced impala; species which are not well represented in road transect counts.

## Animals counted at waterholes

Species	Kunene River			Ombujokanguindi	Okapangekua	Okangundumba			Ozondundu	Otuzemba		Orupupa	Omatendeka		Total					
	Okombine	Okozondjende (Ehomba)	Ombahu			Epunguwe	Okahua	Omunuandjai		Okarumbu	Ojomatamba		Okatuzembona	Omukungu		Okaturukira	Ojondeka	Okavantiye	Okavare	
Baboon				12						60		108	1		85	112	25	403		
Black-face impala	223	38	188	75						275	43	116	95	5	38	19	16	1,131		
Cheetah													2					2		
Dik Dik		2		11														13		
Duiker	4		4	2						1		2		1				14		
Eland																		34		
Elephant							6	210		121	1		57		14		2	411		
Gemsbok																		58		
Giraffe												4		54				147		
Hyaena								1					2					6		
Jackal				2			5	1			1	2	1	6	4		6	28		
Klipspringer				3								4		4	8			19		
Kudu	23	10		66				2				187	50	150	210	10	69	86	18	881
Leopard																	1	1		
Lion																		4		
Ostrich								4		12		3		3	8		3	33		
Springbok													65		11		541	718		
Steenbok			2	3													1	6		
Warthog													23					24		
Zebra (2 species)									2		285	44	92	46	3		455	927		

## Total Animals counted (most to least)



## North West Waterhole Counts

Counts were undertaken at 18 waterholes in 7 conservancies in the escarpment zone of north west Namibia. Counts were undertaken over a period of 2, 3 or 4 days during which time all animals seen were counted.

Game species differ in the frequency with which they need to visit water resources with some able to acquire much of their hydration needs through foraging. Skittish animals (like kudu) may spend much of their time near the waterhole waiting for a safe moment to drink. With these species regular disturbance from other animals can result in the same animals being counted many times in a day, inflating their perceived abundance. Waterhole counts are therefore best suited to species (like elephants) which make infrequent discrete trips to the waterhole to quench their thirst.

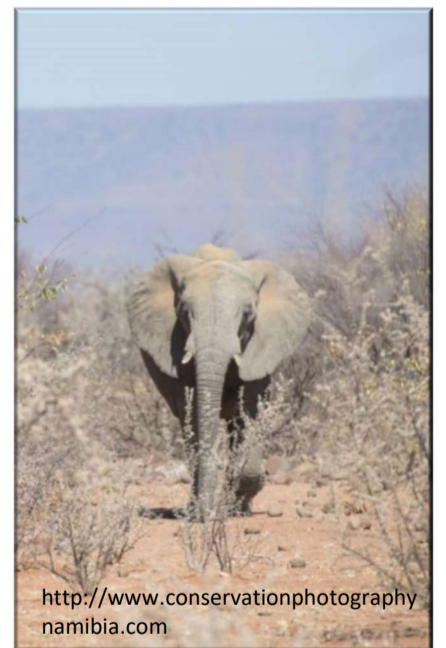
Estimates of animals are calculated by correcting the numbers seen over the entire count period using the number of count days, and the drinking frequency of the species. They are therefore crude estimates and should be considered a guide to the relative abundance of animals in the area.

Based on drinking frequencies of 2 days for black-faced impala and 1.8 days for elephants, the estimated number of animals is 754 and 212 respectively.

## Waterhole estimates

DF = drinking frequency

Focal Species	DF	Kunene River			Ombujokanguindi	Okapangekua	Okangundumba			Ozondundu	Otuzemba		Orupupa	Omatendeka		Total		
		Count days	Count days	Count days			Count days	Count days	Count days		Count days	Count days		Count days	Count days			
Black-face impala	2	149	38	125	38							77	63	3	25	13	11	754
Elephant	1.8							3	94	73	1			6			1	212
<b>Other species</b>																		
Eland	4																	45
Gemsbok	4																	77
Giraffe	4											5		54				119
*Kudu	2	15		7	33			1				100	140	7	46	57	12	576
Ostrich	4							4						8			4	40
Springbok	4													11			721	920



<http://www.conservationphotography-namibia.com>

Caution should be applied when considering estimates as values are influenced by several assumptions including drinking frequencies and independence of sightings. \* High numbers of kudu were recorded at waterholes in Otuzemba and Orupupa conservancies. Given the general decline of this species in recent years in the north west the possibility that some animals were double counted should be considered.

## Distribution

