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Game Drive no 205 by Neil and Morag Hulett unit 45

Hi, Everyone,

Monday 17 am, A cold overcast morning, then slowly clears up, but the cool wind remains, by mid morning, it has broken up into big white puffy clouds, pop down to the causeway and then along the river, a couple of bushbuck, impressive ram and cow, and of course the usual troops of baboon, and huge flocks of guineafowl on the road and some still in the trees, then up glacier valley, 4 kudu cows and then a lioness is called in along the palm, but by the time we get there, gone, bump into Sean & Carol, who just saw her tail, well we search around but no luck, we eventually move over to hide, then up to sunset, a few impala about, on jackal plains, zebra, and some giraffe, and as it warms up, more and more impala come out onto the open areas, thats the drive.
this evening, spot some elephants, on the single pylons, behind Geoff's table and also a couple of rhino, then we meet the Ryans & Makare's at warthog for drinks, home.

Tuesday 18 am, Once more a cold unpleasant morning, find 2 male lions on the palm, near where the buff kill was, while watching them, lions call from the direction of hide, when these two move into the bush, we go in search of them, zip, find a lone elephant bull though, on the RWLR, nothing much around hide and sunset plains, move down to double, find a large herd of impala and 20 wildebeest, all drinking at the smaller of the 2 dams, nothing at big, impala around sand and then a lone giraffe and more impala near hide, thats about the drive.
No drive.

Wednesday 19 am, We are picked up by the Sean & Carol and go across onto ON to explore the whole area, find a bull elephant near the office, 2 more along the river drive, opposite the units 23, 24. also giraffe, and a couple of herds of kudu, we stop off at kudu pan for a cuppa, pleasant spot, then finally stop on the river at the hide across from pels drive, for a delicious breakfast, then as we join the main road, at the bridge, we find ON staff standing around a waterbuck kill, just off the road, apparently killed by a single lioness, no sign of her, so we decide to return in the evening. We park across the road from the kill and as it gets dark, out comes a lioness, feeds for awhile, then drags the waterbuck out of sight, apparently much later she is joined by a second lioness, just before unit 50, we bump into the buff herd, just crossing the road.

Thursday 20 am, No drive this morning, off into Hoedspruit. This evening take a short drive, impala here and there, but one interesting spot, along the zozo hut road, a very unhealthy looking civet is being harassed by a couple of jackal, they all disappear into the palm, and out of sight. Meet Sean & Carol up at sunset, stunning evening, zillion stars above us, home.

Friday 21 am, A very very cold morning, could be the coldest this winter, but otherwise crystal clear and still, mountains, right on top of us, Morag stays home, not a great deal to report, herds of impala about, along the zozo hut roads, sable plains, around rhino, and through to sand dam and on sunset and near hide, but the best spot is a group of 11 giraffe, feeding on phone clearing and then just before sand, a large bull elephant, walks across the road ahead of me, and soon disappears, thats the drive.

This evening watch the herd of 150 +_ Buffalo, moving slowly up red duiker drive towards the e/e, now we saw this herd on Wednesday evening, up near 50, they then went down to the river and moved along up stream, crossing onto ON around unit 27/28, they then continued along up stream, on the ON side, before crossing the Olifants at where the white rocks, on pels are, and finally we saw them almost at warthog, really great viewing.

Saturday 22 am, We find the buff herd just leaving warthog and moving onto the bottom of the airstrip. they move into thick bush towards lan's pan, while watching, we hear a lion calling, palm loop, lan's pan???? we go along the RWLR, along to lan's but no luck, the rest of the drive pretty quiet, impala of course, a giraffe near hide and some one calls in a male lion walking towards sand dam, but when asked exactly where, dead silence, after searching for awhile, zip, we have our breakfast at hide, office and home.

sundowner up at Geoff's table, absolutely beautiful evening, while sitting there, the lion pride are found, under the 4 pylons and much later come into warthog to drink, plenty of cars hot on their heels.

Sunday 23, We are away for the next week, so till the next time, you all take care now,

Roars & Trumpets, N&M...

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