

Kraus D. Letter sent to Karl Ammann.

Keywords: reintroduction/endangered species/species/viability/cheetah/ project

Abstract: Kraus writes a view things concerning successful reintroductions of endangered species with the goal of long term viability. Reintroduction of cheetahs to India needs information and details. Big areas and high prey numbers are needed for such kind of project.



Cheetah Conservation Fund

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FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION

This transmission consists of 3 pages (including cover).

TO: KARL Ammann

FROM: DAN + LAURIE Kraus

FAX: 09-254 176 32407

OUR FAX: 264 61 34021

DATE: 11 June 1994

or 264 651 4382

REMARKS:

Dear KARL, Thankyou for your FAXes we have not recieved the second one yet but it was read to us on the phone. We had Elizabeth BRAUER send you a quick FAX that we are around if you want to phone, But AS it is now Sunday Afternoon I will write you a few things concerning successful Reintroductions of Endangered Species with the goal of long term viability.

Concerning India - we have copies of the correspondence that went on in the early + mid 80s between various Indians and the IUCN + George Schaller concerning the possibilities of reestablishing cheetah in India, Again + Again discussions focus on the limited size of the Area AVAILABLE and the Numbers of Huntable game AVAILABLE to a potentially growing Number of cheetah. Also a point discussed was that with so many endangered species in India why put large amounts of funds time and energy into reintroducing a species that may not be able to expand into a truly viable population.

For us to make a present day assessment of the situation we would need information + details.

1. Size of Area AVAILABLE + is it Game fenced + type of fence
2. What is the situation on the lands surrounding the



Hunting Reserve. 3. What is the Actual Numbers of Blackbuck rabbits/Hares, Game Birds Smaller Antelope And larger species in the deer family.

4. Map of where the Reserve is - How is the place managed # of Rangers/Wardens

5. Do they have access to A Veterinarian?

6. Are there other Reserves, private or National, at this time that would consider having/monitoring some cheetah.

We have dealt with the Saudis + Israelis over the last few years, and they soon realized what it would take to support an unviable population of 50 cheetah. Adult male cheetahs from here are used to covering over 1500sq km and tend to make kills every 2 plus days so we are talking Big Areas and high prey numbers.

An example of prey consumption - 50 cheetahs in 18 feeding groups killing every 2 days = 3,285 prey/year obviously if they only kill a bird or a hare they will hunt again. So the prey factor taken would be substantially higher.

To keep, take down to $\pm 10\%$ of Prey base as there may be other predators (other wild cats, Jackal etc.)

So one would need upwards to 40,000 prey of various types to sustain 50 cheetah.

From this it is possible to see what is needed to keep 10 cheetah if it was to be a private operation versus a program trying to really bring back viable pop. of cheetah.

Note: as an endangered species cheetah are only suppose to be imported/exported to approved facilities - one that meets the needs of the cats and becomes part of the over all conservation and management program for the species. This would



HAVE to be looked into. We are very interested to hear more about what the MAHARAJA'S PHANS ARE. Nature as you know is very complex. He could have plenty of Black Buck and if only a few deer, the cheetah could easily wipe out that population instead of just focusing on the Black Bucks.

KARL I WAS really excited to see that you did make it up to the Qatar Depression. IS there ANY one there who can follow up on your trip + interviews Did anyone think there was any chance they could be in any other AREAS of Egypt? I AM trying to develop contacts where ever I can. Such as Libya, Mali, Mauritania. Have you ever thought of going into South West Ethiopia where they were still found in the 70s. Do you know how I could get information on such a region and how UNSAFE ~~is~~ A small expedition would be to go into ~~this~~ ^{this} area to survey the cheetah situation there.

Also - Thank you Again!
for considering an involvement
with the cheetah book.

Most Sincerely
Daniel Kraus

