

# Programme

## Day One | 18 March



AFRICAN CANINES  
IN CONSERVATION  
Conference | 2025

Time	Speaker	Preliminary topic
8:30	Welcome	Opening by the Endangered Wildlife Trust CEO
8:45	<b>Kayla Fratt</b> K9 Conservationists and Oregon State University	Sniffing Out Solutions: Proven Frameworks for Training and Behavioral Challenges with Conservation Detection Dogs.
9:30	<b>Dr Samantha Gaines</b> RSPCA England & Wales	Understanding and meeting the welfare needs of dogs used in conservation.
9:50	<b>Dr. Tanya Grantham</b>	5 Ways to Ensure your Dog is Physically Fit for Function Fun.
10:10	<b>Shadi Henrico</b> Endangered Wildlife Trust	Puppy development for working dogs.
10:30	<b>Calum O'Flaherty, Tim Hofmann, Ryan Tate</b> Cheetah Conservation Fund / Tate Animals	Snake Aversion Training: A Case Report from Namibia's Livestock Guarding Dogs.
10:50	<b>Tracy Lyten</b> Skylos Ecology Pty Ltd	Beyond the Dog: Building Holistic Conservation Detection Dog Programs for Environmental Success.
11:20	<b>TEA BREAK</b>	
11:40	<b>Michelle Schroeder</b> University of Cape Town, Black-footed Cat Working Group, Canines for African Nature	On the Tail of Tiny Predators: Combining Canine Abilities and Non-invasive DNA for Monitoring Africa's Smallest Felid.
12:00	<b>Ashadee Kay Miller</b> University of the Witwatersrand and Resolve Wildlife	Village Dog Viability as Anti-Poaching Canines; Initial Findings of a Zambian Pilot Study
12:20	<b>N. Lekitasharan Karimba</b> Action for Cheetahs in Kenya, Paris Lodron University of Salzburg	From Scat to Science: Searching for Cheetah Scats in the African Savannah.
12:40	<b>Tim Hofmann</b> Cheetah Conservation Fund	Scat Detection Dogs as monitoring tool for elusive carnivores: Insights from surveys of cheetahs and African wild dogs in Namibia.
13:00	<b>LUNCH</b>	
14:30	<b>Joseph M Hlako</b> Endangered Wildlife Trust	Livestock predation solution with Guarding dogs.
14:50	<b>Derek van der Merwe</b> Endangered Wildlife Trust	Empowering farmers to protect carnivores using Livestock Guardian Dogs.
15:10	<b>DOG DEMONSTRATION</b>	Vehicle searches/ Tea break
15:45	<b>Discussion panel</b>	Discussion around hot topics with relevant keynotes
16:15	<b>James Smart</b> SMART TAC Search and Rescue	K9 Search Rescue and Recovery
17:00	<b>DOG DEMONSTRATION</b>	Possible extra demonstration
18:00	<b>Supper evening event (optional)</b>	



# Programme

## Day Two | 19 March



AFRICAN CANINES  
IN CONSERVATION  
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Time	Speaker	Preliminary topic
8:30	<b>Louise Wilson</b> Conservation K9 Consultancy	Ethics in Action: Optimizing Detection Dogs for Conservation and Wildlife Protection.
9:15	<b>Ryan Tate</b> NSW	The Evolution of Biosecurity and Conservation Detection Dogs in Australia: Lessons for African Ecosystems
9:35	<b>Michelle Liebenberg</b> Scent Conserve	Utilizing Scent Detection Dogs for the Early Detection of Wildlife Diseases.
9:55	<b>Boaz Washika Lukandu</b> Akagera National Park	How dogs at Akagera National Park in Rwanda are used in protecting the park from illegals poaching
10:15	<b>DOG DEMONSTRATION</b>	Open area search
11:00	<b>TEA BREAK</b>	
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11:30	<b>Esther Matthew</b> Endangered Wildlife Trust	Piloting succulent detection dogs to combat plant poaching in South Africa.
12:15	<b>Jennifer Hartman</b> Rogue Detection Teams	Adaptability of Conservation Detection Dog Teams (CDDTs) in Multi-Species Research and Anti-Poaching Efforts - VIRTUAL PRESENTATION.
12:30	<b>LUNCH</b>	
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14:00	<b>William Powell</b> KURU-The conservation dog	Success through failure!' lessons learnt.
14:45	<b>Clinton Cilliers</b> Tactical K9 Africa	The evolution of Tracking: Using detection principles to improve the scenting ability, intensity and scent discrimination on tracks.
15:30	<b>TEA BREAK</b>	
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16:00	<b>Carly Roche MS, CVT</b> SFW Conservation	Conservation K9 Casualty Care (Field Medicine) + demonstration.
16:30	<b>Kayla Fratt</b> K9 Conservationists and Oregon State University	Conservation Dog Alliance presentation.
17:00	<b>Conference closer</b>	
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20 Mar	<b>9:00 - 11:00</b>	[Possible workshop] Wind-Farm Working group - International working group for standards / best practice for using detection dogs for surveys.

