

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	Kayla Fratt K9 Conservationists and Oregon State University	Sniffing Out Solutions: Proven Frameworks for Training and Behavioral Challenges with Conservation Detection Dogs.
9:30	Dr Samantha Gaines RSPCA England & Wales	Understanding and meeting the welfare needs of dogs used in conservation.
9:50	Dr. Tanya Grantham	5 Ways to Ensure your Dog is Physically Fit for Function Fun.
10:10	Shadi Henrico Endangered Wildlife Trust	Puppy development for working dogs.
10:30	Calum O'Flaherty Cheetah Conservation Fund / Tate Animals	Snake Aversion Training: A Case Report from Namibia's Livestock Guarding Dogs.
10:50	Tracy Lyten Skylos Ecology Pty Ltd	Beyond the Dog: Building Holistic Conservation Detection Dog Programs for Environmental Success.
11:20	TEA BREAK	
11:40	William Powell KURU-The conservation dog	How to have bigger impact with canine units in Africa
12:00	Michelle Schroeder University of Cape Town, Black-footed Cat Working Group.	On the Tail of Tiny Predators: Combining Canine Abilities and Non-invasive DNA for Monitoring Africa's Smallest Felid.
12:20	Nicholas Karimba Action for Cheetahs in Kenya, Paris Lodron University of Salzburg	From Scat to Science: Searching for Cheetah Scats in the African Savannah.
12:40	Tim Hofmann 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	LUNCH	
14:30	Joseph M Hlako Endangered Wildlife Trust	Livestock predation solution with Guarding dogs.
14:50	Derek van der Merwe Endangered Wildlife Trust	Empowering farmers to protect carnivores using Livestock Guardian Dogs.
15:10	DOG DEMONSTRATION	Vehicle searches/ Tea break
15:45	James Smart SMART TAC Search and Rescue	K9 Search Rescue and Recovery
16:30	Discussion panel	Discussion around hot topics with relevant speakers.
17:00	End of conference day	
18:00	Cocktail evening (optional)	



Programme

Day Two | 19 March



**AFRICAN CANINES
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Time	Speaker	Preliminary topic
8:30	Louise Wilson Conservation K9 Consultancy	Ethics in Action: Optimizing Detection Dogs for Conservation and Wildlife Protection.
9:15	Ryan Tate NSW	The Evolution of Biosecurity and Conservation Detection Dogs in Australia: Lessons for African Ecosystems
9:35	Michelle Liebenberg Scent Conserve	Utilizing Scent Detection Dogs for the Early Detection of Wildlife Diseases.
9:55	Ashadee Kay Miller University of the Witwatersrand and Resolve Wildlife	Village Dog Viability as Anti-Poaching Canines; Initial Findings of a Zambian Pilot Study
10:15	DOG DEMONSTRATION	Open area search
11:00	TEA BREAK	
11:30	Esther Matthew Endangered Wildlife Trust	Piloting succulent detection dogs to combat plant poaching in South Africa.
12:15	Jennifer Hartman Rogue Detection Teams	Adaptability of Conservation Detection Dog Teams (CDDTs) in Multi-Species Research and Anti-Poaching Efforts - VIRTUAL PRESENTATION.
12:30	LUNCH	
14:00	William Powell KURU-The conservation dog	Success through failure!' lessons learnt.
14:45	Clinton Cilliers Tactical K9 Africa	The evolution of Tracking: Using detection principles to improve the scenting ability, intensity and scent discrimination on tracks.
15:05	TEA BREAK	
15:30	Carly Roche MS, CVT SFW Conservation	Conservation K9 Casualty Care (Field Medicine) + demonstration.
16:30	Kayla Fratt K9 Conservationists and Oregon State University	Conservation Dog Alliance presentation.
17:00	Conference closer	
20 Mar	8:00 - 11:00	Wind-Farm Working group Workshop (optional)- International working group for standards and best practice for using detection dogs for surveys, as facilitated by Skylos Ecology Pty Ltd

