



Holistic approach to managing predators

XXX (Group name and date)

ADD NAME

Add title

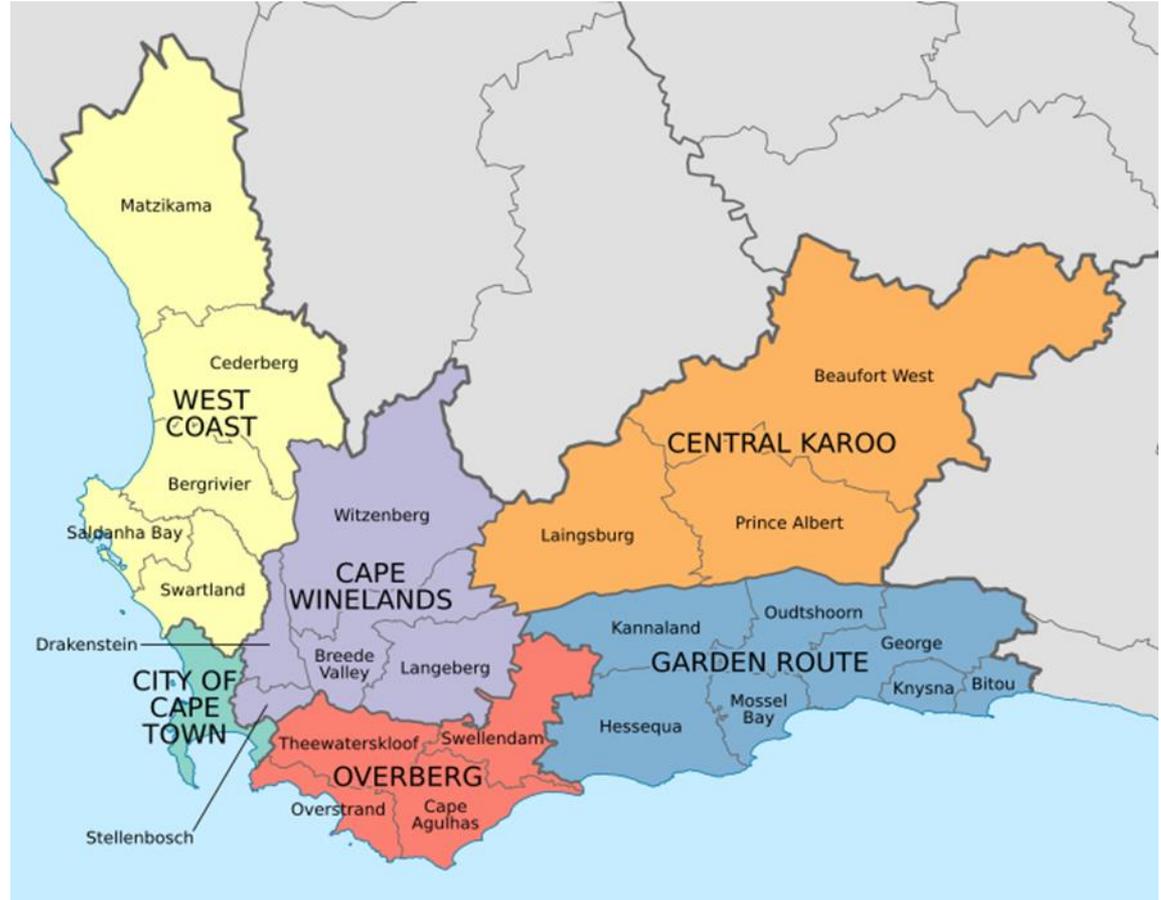
The predation problem



Who are we?



CapeNature is the part of government that protects natural occurring plant and animal life (biodiversity) in the Western Cape.



NOW - Introducing our incredible staff...

What are we going to do today?

- Look at natural predation
- Look at the problem with current predation management
- Look at a holistic solution to the predation of livestock
- Discuss options for managing predators

What is your current understanding of the predation problem?

Have a quick discussion around the problem with predation and livestock and what methods are being used to manage this problem.

The predation problem



Predator numbers on the rise

For the past 350+ years we've tried to eradicate predators from farms and rural areas, but stock losses are escalating, and predator numbers are increasing.



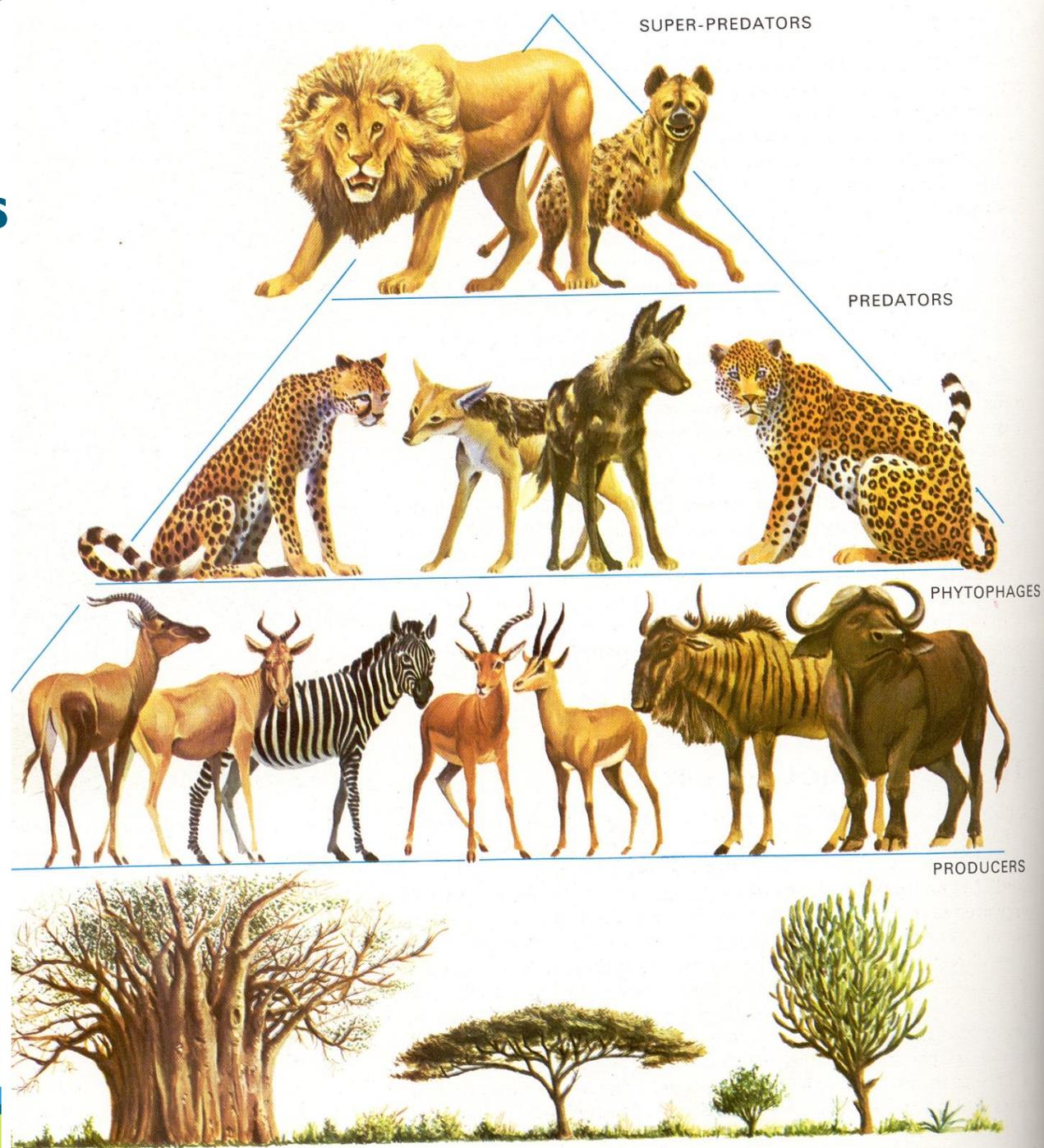
- Certain indigenous wild animals do cause damage to property and losses to agricultural commodities;
- Conservation agencies have a mayor role to play in addressing the issue of managing “damage-causing animals” and a duty to advise landowners who practice agricultural activities that are not always compatible with the ecological requirements of natural ecosystems in any given geographic area;
- The managing of wildlife or wild animals that are causing economical damage in the agricultural sector and all actions taken to reduce or eliminate losses caused by wild animals is part of the producer's production process, the primary responsibility for which rests with the landowner or land user as it forms an integral part of any production process.



CapeNature's role

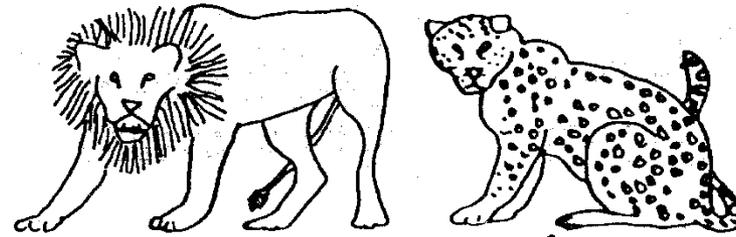
- The initiation and continuation of **research programmes** on wildlife known to cause damage and losses. In the case of the provincial nature conservation authorities, all research projects will be directed primarily at the conservation of species or ecological systems and processes
- Participation in **extension programmes** aimed at reducing or eliminating losses by means of efficient, effective, ecologically and ethically acceptable methods.
- Participation in the **training** of hunters and farmers wherever the private sector is unable to provide these services comprehensively.
- The supply of control **equipment** such as trap cages to individual farmers where this is not undertaken by the private sector or where it is desirable for them to be supplied by government authorities for other reasons.
- The drafting, implementation and enforcement of **legislation** to regulate control practices and the protection of species and ecosystems

Understanding predation and natural systems

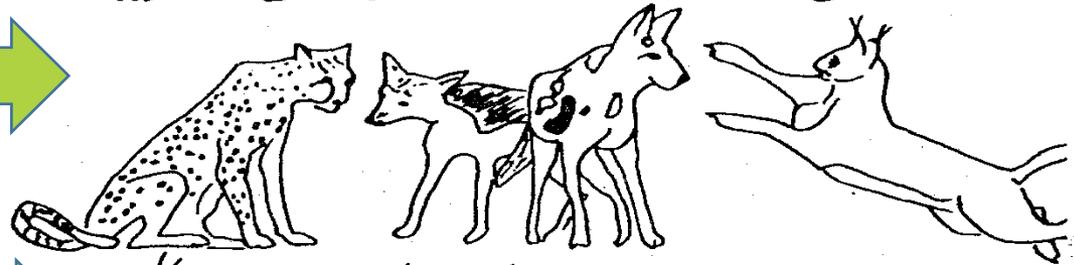


A simple, undisturbed system

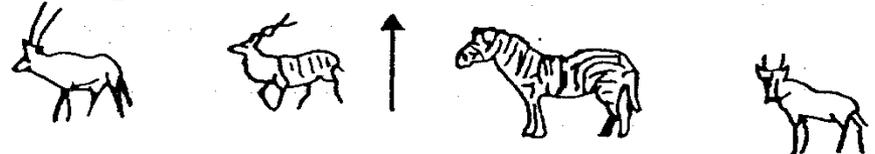
Super predators



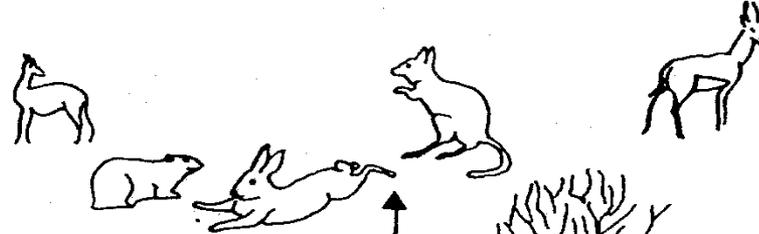
Predators & scavengers



Large herbivores



Small herbivores & rodents



Producers

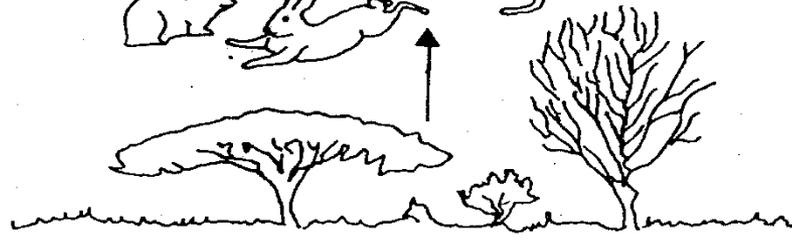


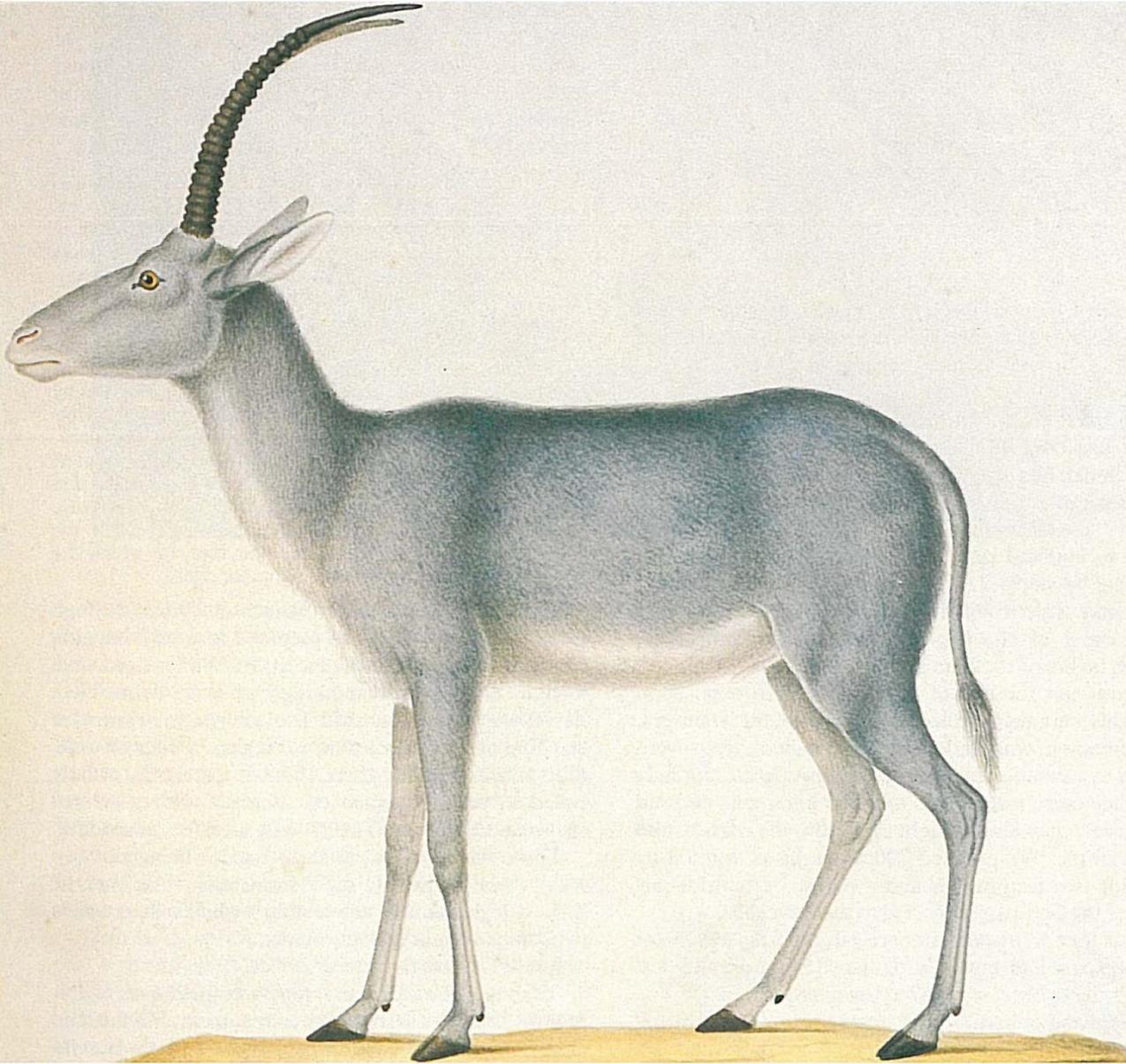
FIG. 1 'N VEREENVOUDIGDE EKOSTELSEL



Africa – a hunting paradise for people from all over the world



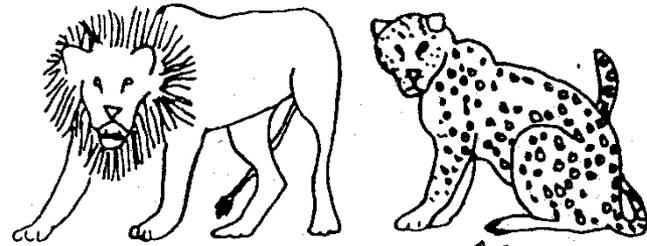
350 springbok in one day



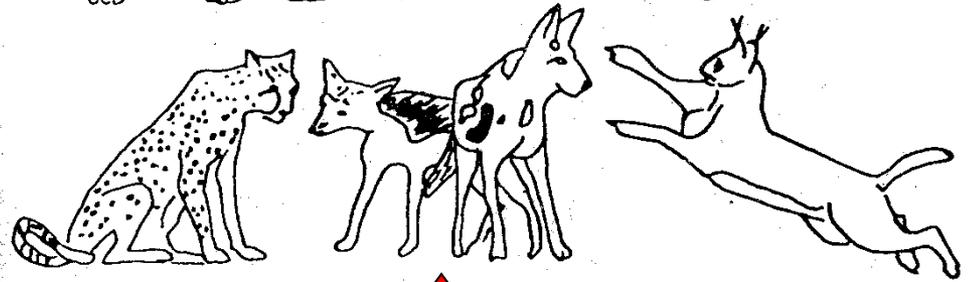
**“Blaaubok”
the first to
become
extinct**

Many herbivores removed from the system

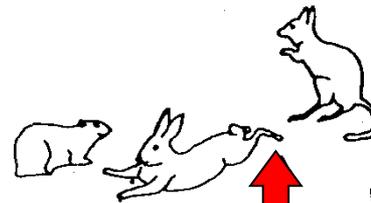
Super predators



Predators & scavengers



Rodents



Producers

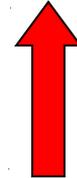
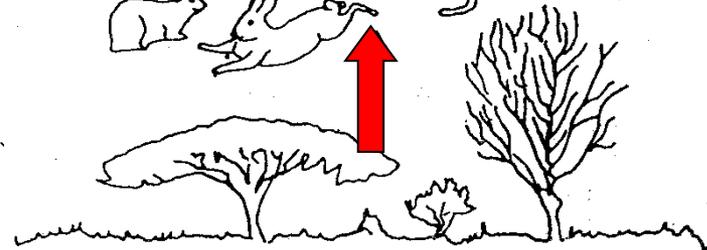
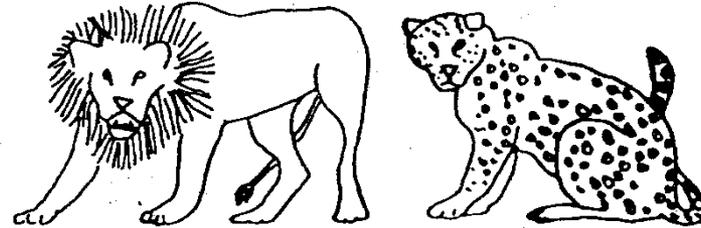


FIG. 2 GROTER PLANTVRETERS VERWYDER UIT EKOSTELSEL

Herbivores and other prey replaced by livestock

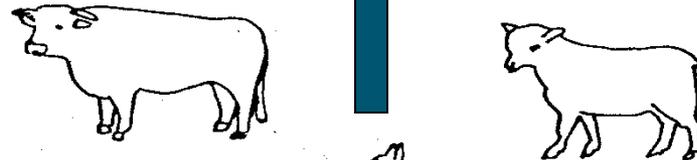
Super predators



Predators & scavengers



Livestock...



Rodents



Producers

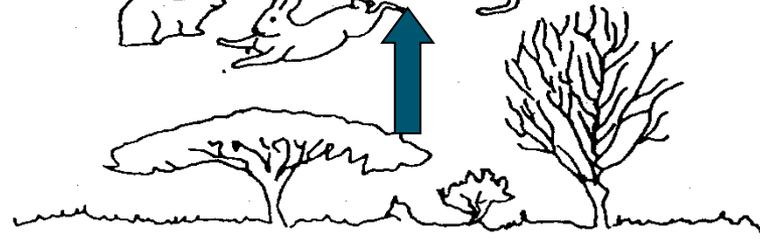


FIG. 3 DIE NATUURLIKE PLANTEVRETERS WORD VERVANG MET VEE IN DIE EKOSTESEL

Man replaced the large predators

Man



Only small predators left



Livestock...



Rodents



Producers

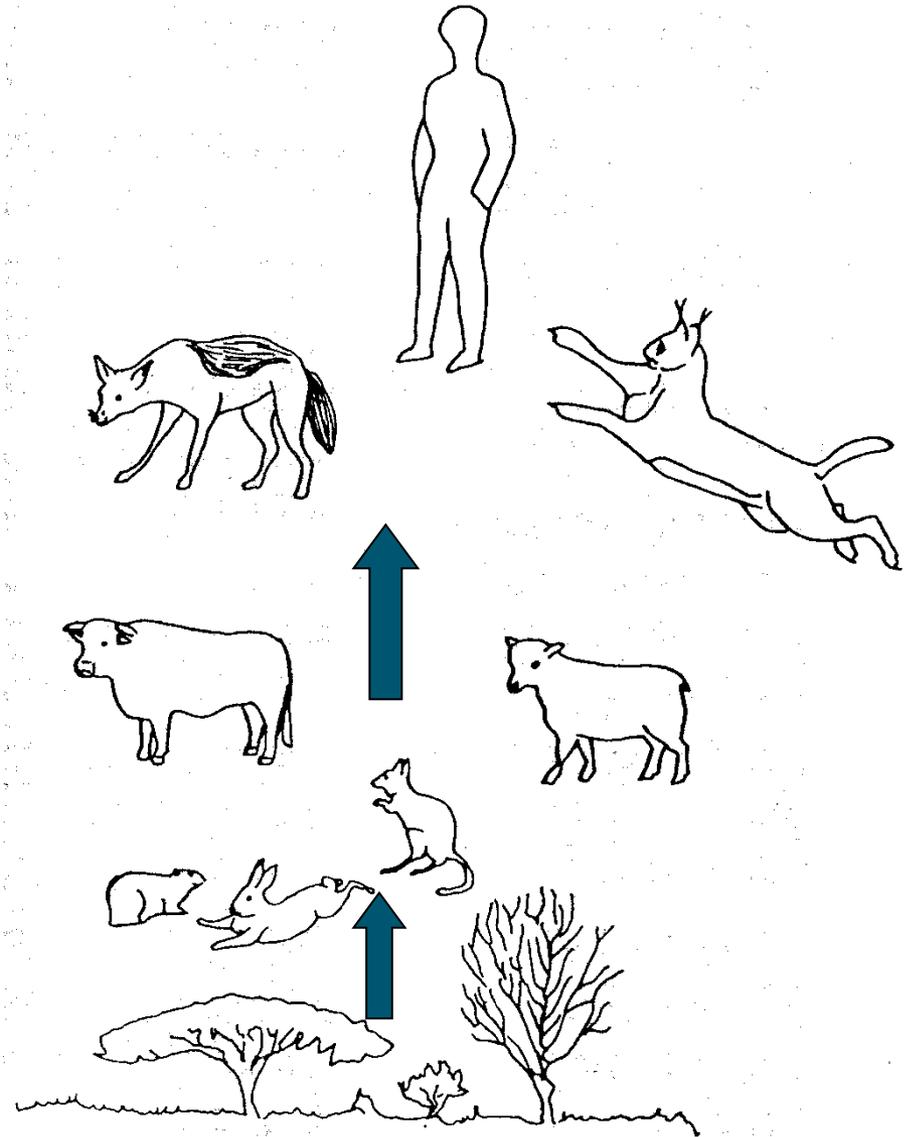


FIG. 4 DIE MENS VERVANG DIE GROTER ROOFDIERE IN DIE EKOSTESEL

Most common predator and prey species left



Predators do cause stock losses, makes farmers “die kwaad” in



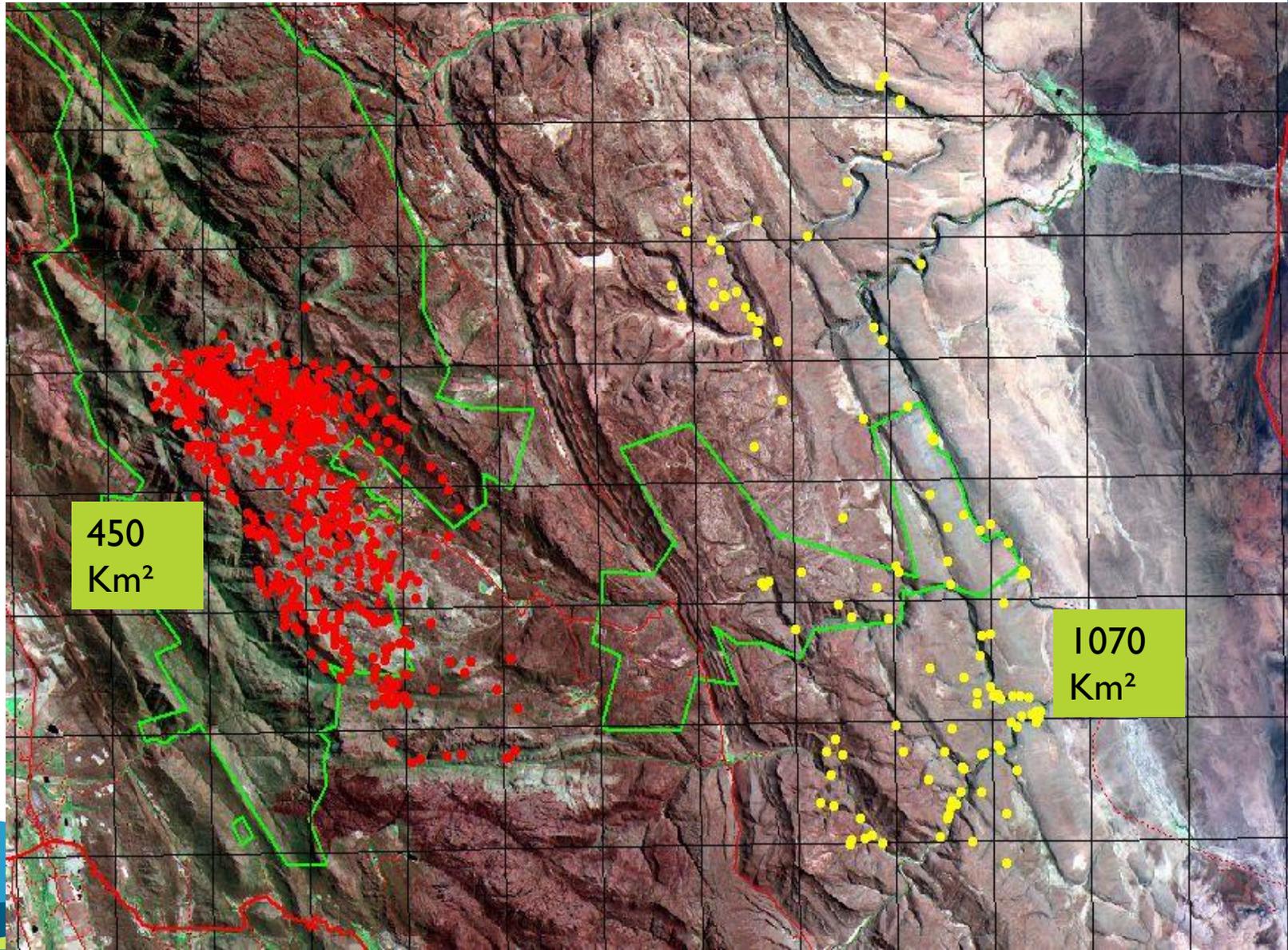
Holistic approach – prevention is the cure!



Holistic approach – prevention is the cure!

SOCIAL BEHAVIOR OF PREDATORS:

- Territories
- Dominance over smaller predators
- Vacuum



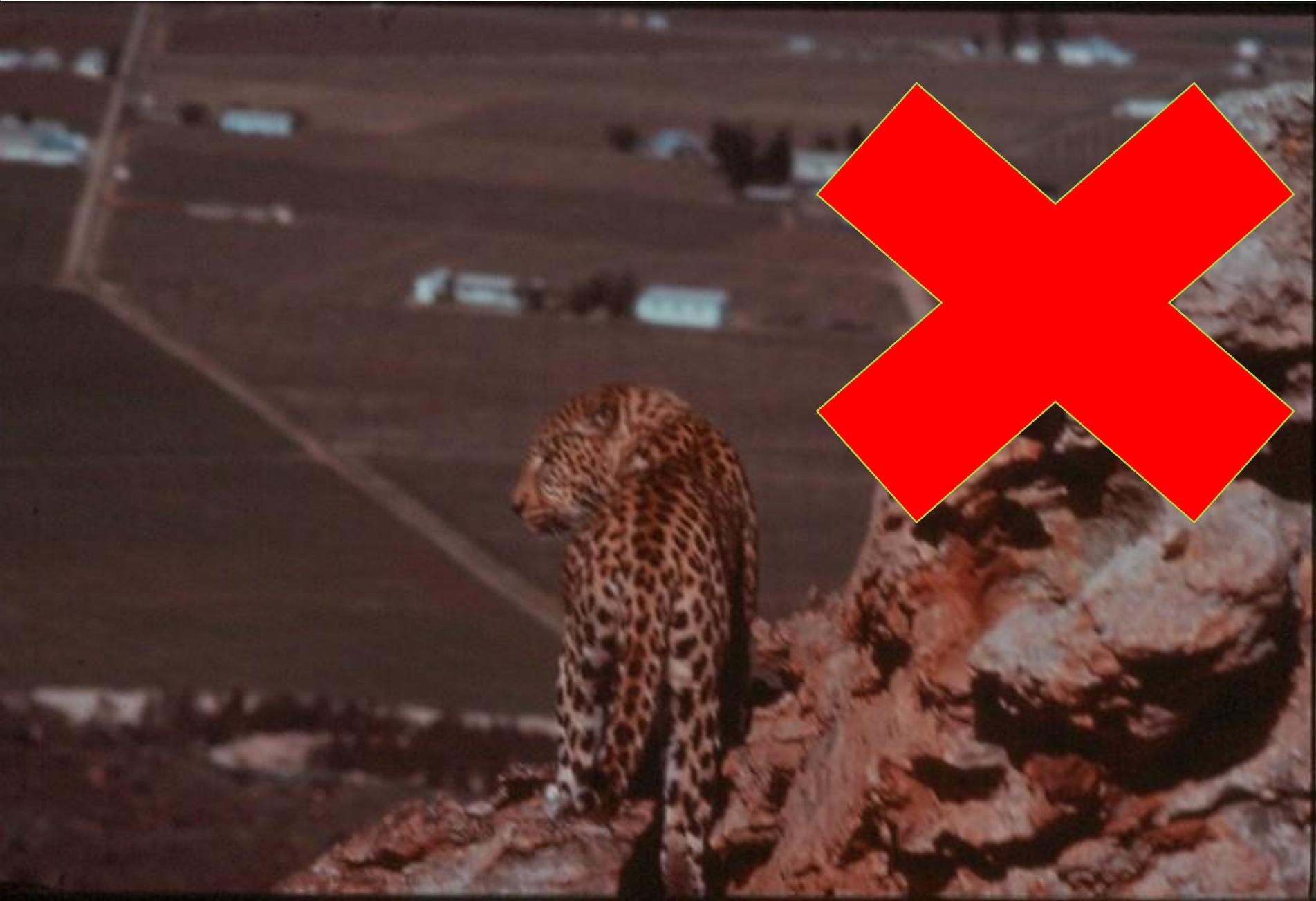
Protect your natural prey and stock more prey



Prevent unselective killing of predators



Don't use marginal veld (mountains) for grazing



Manage stock intensively – especially in the breeding season



Coordinate your lambing season with that of prey



Always use a combination of preventative measures and never just one or two



"Deadstop" collar



"Protect a lamb"



King Collar



Shepherd dogs



Veldwagter



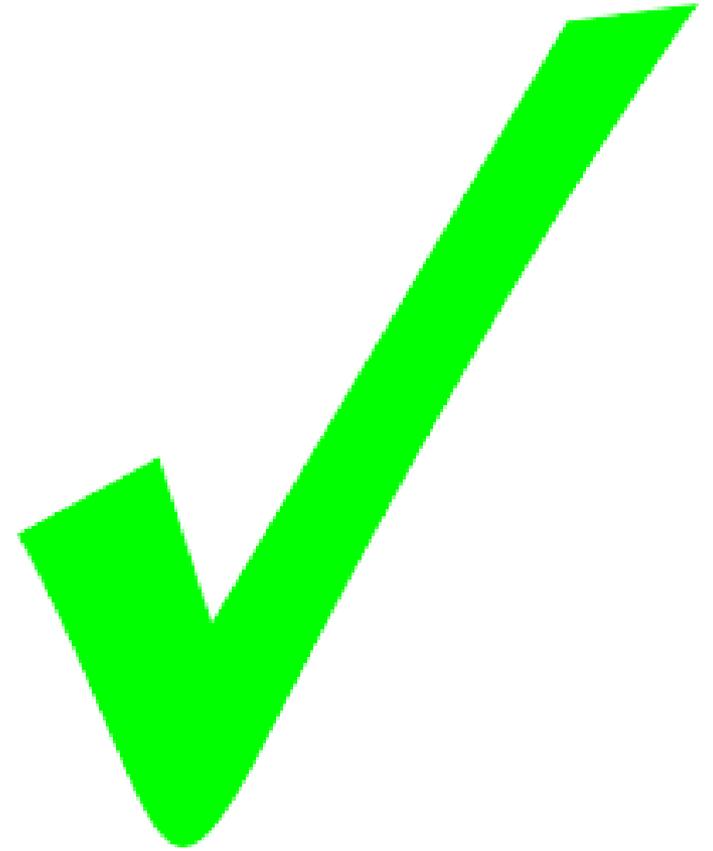
"Kraal"



Donkey

Methods must be:

- Humane
- Ecologically acceptable
- Selective (make sure that if you do have a problem, you remove the right animal selectively)
- Legal / Approved



So, in summary - what can be done?

- **Anatolian Sheppard dogs**
- **Do not kill predators unselectively**
- **Collars with bells**
- **King Collar**
- **Electric Fencing**
- **Veewagter System**
- **Gas cannons and/or flashing lights**
- **Intensive stock management**
- **Donkeys**
- **Use in combination and “think out of the box”**

Question? What
will you do
differently from
today?



THANK YOU.