

# Nature Conservation Institute Newsletter July 2024



## NATURE CONSERVATION INSTITUTE

CHANGE THE FUTURE



**Welcome** to the inaugural edition of the Nature Conservation Institute's monthly newsletter! We are delighted to embark on this journey with you, dedicated to the preservation and celebration of our natural world. In these newsletters, you can expect exciting updates on upcoming events, insights into our ongoing projects, and valuable tips on wildlife filming and photography. Join us as we explore and protect the wonders of nature together.

### Current projects

#### Riverside Revealed

As many of our fellow nature enthusiasts already know, our Riverside Revealed Project is currently making waves in the community. In this newsletter, we'll delve deeper into this exciting initiative, sharing updates on its progress and how it's impacting local biodiversity. Stay tuned for more insights, upcoming events, and expert tips on wildlife filming and photography. Let's continue to celebrate and protect the natural world around us.



**We are reaching the final stages of our second episode on the crocodiles found in Riverside Revealed.** This August and September, our team will be immersed in filming on the water, capturing these magnificent creatures in their natural habitat. We're excited to test out new equipment, including improved IR beams and state-of-the-art underwater cameras, to bring you even closer to the action.

With our new boat expected to be ready by the end of July, we'll have enhanced mobility and stability, ensuring we can navigate the waters effectively and safely. Stay tuned as we bring you breathtaking footage and fascinating insights into the world of crocodiles in this thrilling upcoming episode.



**In one of our upcoming episodes of Riverside Revealed, we will delve into the fascinating world of scorpions.** We are thrilled to announce our collaboration with renowned scorpion expert, Armin Dupreez. With his unparalleled knowledge and passion for these enigmatic creatures, Armin will guide us through their complex behavior, diversity, and the vital role they play in the ecosystem.

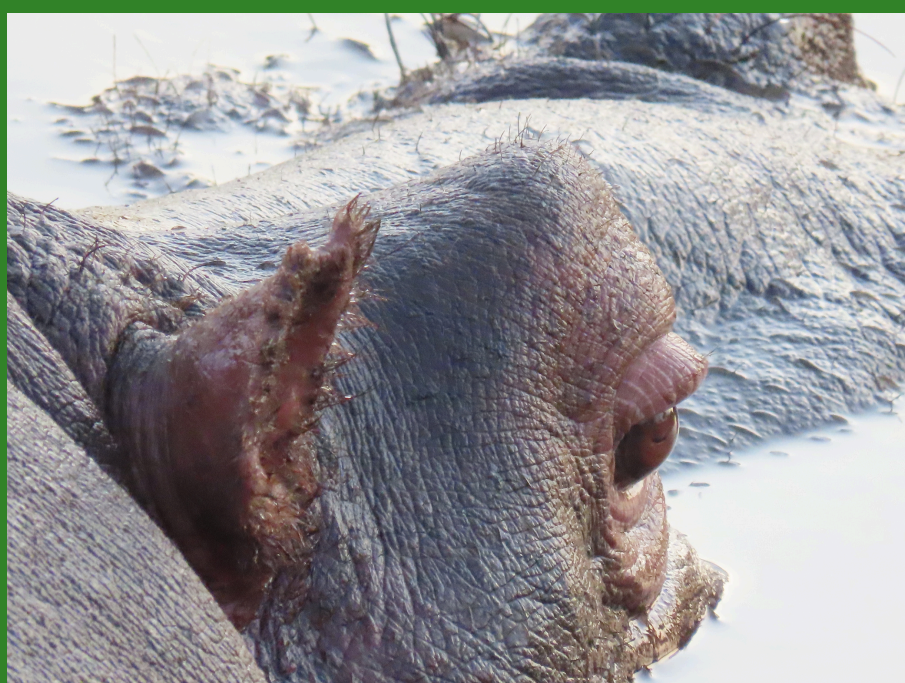
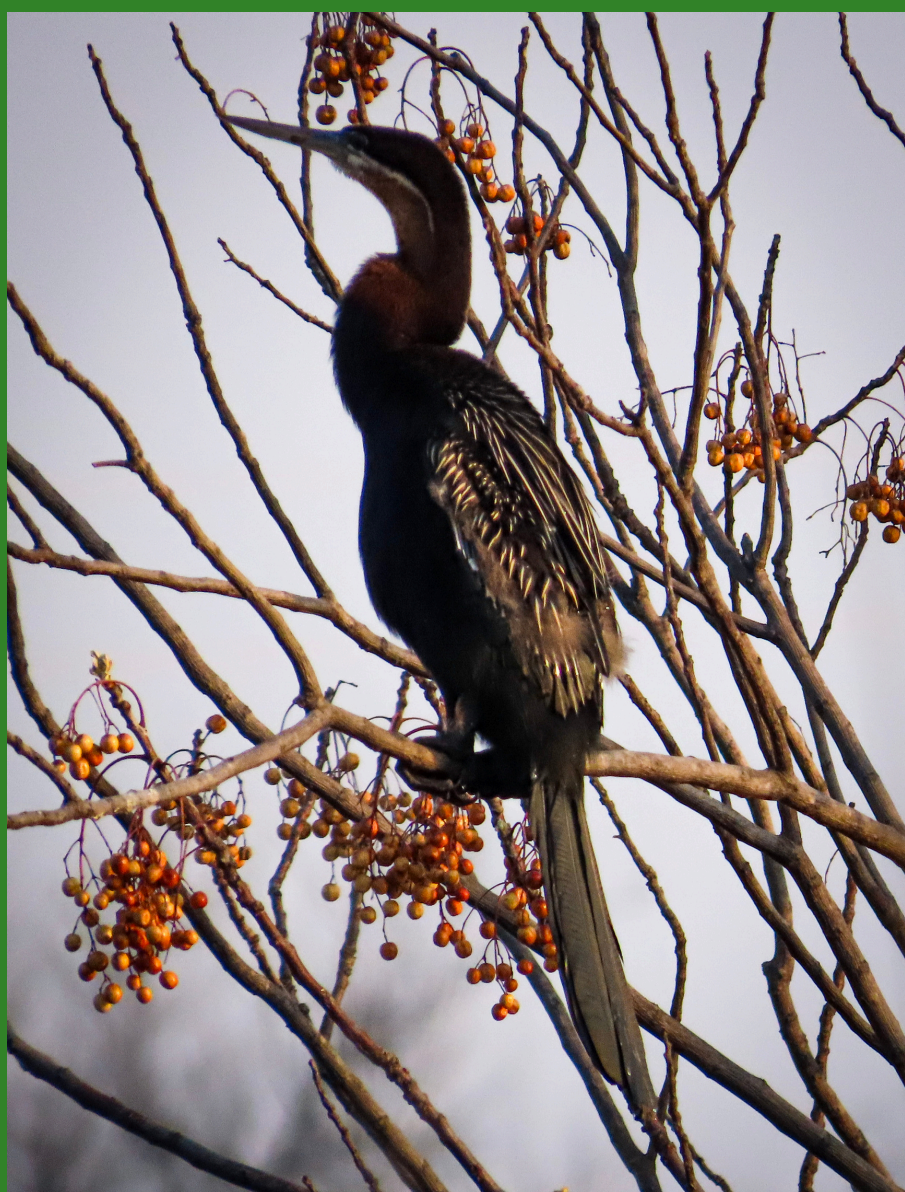
Join us as we venture into the field, capturing stunning footage of scorpions in their natural habitat. Equipped with advanced filming technology, including macro lenses and night-vision cameras, we'll bring you up close and personal with these remarkable arachnids. Prepare to be captivated by the hidden lives of scorpions, as Armin shares his insights and uncovers the secrets of these extraordinary survivors.





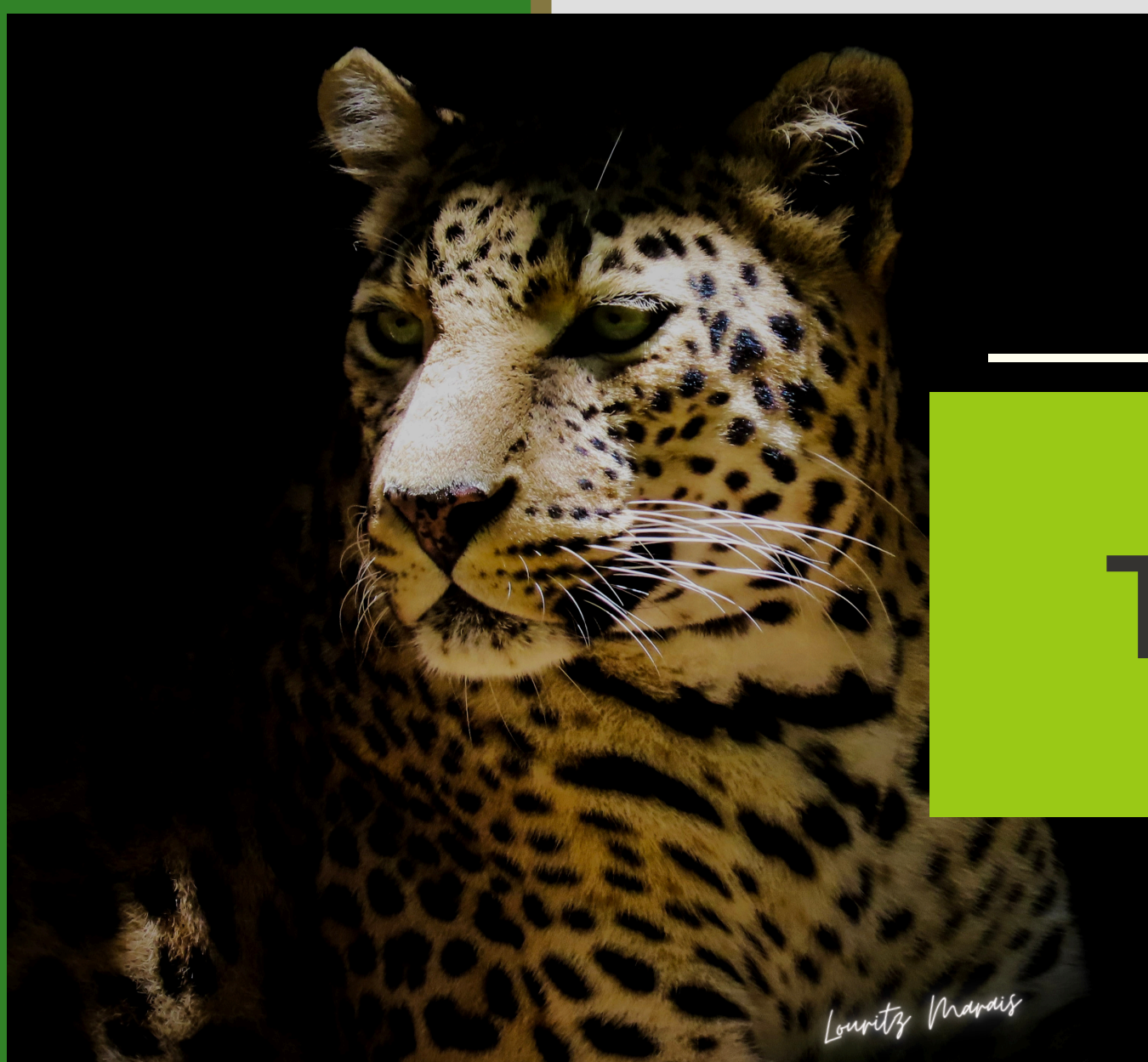
## Ethical filming of wildlife

Ethical considerations are paramount when filming wildlife and nature. Here are some key points to keep in mind.



1. **Disturbance:** Keep a safe distance from wildlife to avoid causing stress or altering their behavior. Use long lenses to capture close-up shots without intruding on their space. Be mindful of signs of distress, and if an animal shows signs of being disturbed, back off immediately.
2. **Observe Regulations and Guidelines:** Familiarize yourself with local regulations, guidelines, and codes of conduct for filming wildlife and nature in specific areas.
3. **Respect Wildlife and Their Habitat:** Always prioritize the well-being of the animals and the ecosystems they inhabit. Avoid disturbing their natural behavior, and never intentionally interfere with their activities or habitats for the sake of a shot.
4. **Avoid Baiting or Luring Wildlife:** Using bait or other means to attract wildlife for filming purposes can disrupt natural behaviors and create dependencies on human-provided food sources. It can also alter the dynamics of predator-prey relationships. Instead, allow wildlife to behave naturally and capture authentic moments.
5. **Leave No Trace:** Practice leave-no-trace principles by minimizing your impact on the environment. Pack out all your trash and belongings, avoid trampling vegetation, and stay on designated trails or paths.
6. **Do Not Harass or Stress Wildlife:** Avoid actions that could startle, chase, or stress wildlife. This includes making loud noises, using flash photography too close to animals, or approaching nesting sites or dens.
7. **Educate and Raise Awareness:** Use your footage or photographs to educate others about the importance of conservation and respecting wildlife. Share information about the behavior and habitats of the animals you film and highlight conservation efforts and challenges they face.
8. **Ethical Editing:** Maintain the integrity of your footage or photographs by refraining from digital manipulation that misrepresents reality. Avoid staging scenes or altering the natural environment to create a more dramatic shot.
9. **Consider the Welfare of Domesticated Animals:** If filming domesticated animals in nature settings, ensure their welfare is prioritized. Provide adequate care, attention, and safety measures to prevent stress or harm.
10. **Accuracy and Authenticity:** Ethical practices uphold the truthfulness of wildlife content. Misleading or staged footage can misinform the public and undermine conservation efforts. Authenticity is key in building trust and credibility.

By adhering to these ethical considerations, filmmakers and photographers can create impactful and responsible content while promoting conservation and respect for wildlife and nature.



# THANK YOU!

WE HOPE TO HEAR FROM YOU!