



DR. LAURIE MARKER

Founded in 1990, CCF is a Namibian non-profit incorporated association dedicated to the long-term survival of the cheetah and its ecosystems.

CCF Vision

To see a world in which cheetah live and flourish in co-existence with people and the environment.

CCF Mission

To be an internationally recognised Center of Excellence in research and education on cheetahs and their eco-systems Working with all stakeholders to achieve best practice in the conservation and management of the world's cheetahs.

CCF's activities include conducting international research, conservation and education programmes to ensure the survival of the cheetah for future generations.



As Founder and Executive Director for the Cheetah Conservation Fund (CCF) since 1990, Dr. Laurie Marker pioneered new ideas in cheetah conservation, and has formed cooperative alliances on behalf of the cheetah that had never before been possible. She is recognized around the world as one of the leading experts on cheetahs, both in the wild and in captivity, and began her *in-situ* research in Namibia, Africa, in 1977, where she conducted ground-breaking research on re-introduction of captive born cheetahs back into the wild. It was at this time that she learned about the conflict between livestock farmers and cheetahs.

Early collaboration in 1982 with Smithsonian Institution researchers resulted in identifying the limited genetic makeup of the cheetah. In 1990, Laurie founded her international non-profit organization, Cheetah Conservation Fund, and set up its headquarters in Namibia in 1991. Laurie has led her conservation organization from humble beginnings in a tiny farmhouse in rural Namibia to an unparalleled conservation model for predator conservation. In the early days, with no one to learn from or lean on, Laurie broke new ground with every new program and effort. Dr. Marker has contributed vital information on cheetah health, reproduction, mortality, evolution, and genetics from her biomedical work on every cheetah that passes through CCF's hands (~ 800). This huge volume of data gathered for nearly two decades on wild cheetahs has proven invaluable to *in situ* and well as captive management. Laurie's efforts to unite a nation, a continent, and the world, in the effort to save the cheetah, is impressive. Through education and collaboration with local farmers and landowners, conservancies have been formed to provide thousands of contiguous acres of land where cheetahs can roam safely, Laurie chairs the Conservancy Association of Namibia (CANAM). She learned that with improved livestock and wildlife management techniques, cheetah, people and livestock can peacefully co-exist. In addition to many international awards for her work in Cheetah Conservation, in 2000 she was recognized as one of the Time Magazine Heros' for the Planet and in 2008 was given the Gold Medal Award from the Society of Women Geographers, and the Conservation Medal of Lifetime Achievement Award from the Zoological Society of San Diego, and was an Intel Environmental Laureate of the 2008 Tech Award, as well as a nominee for the 2008 Indianapolis Prize.

In 2002, Laurie completed her PhD in Zoology at the University of Oxford in the United Kingdom, has published over 45 scientific publications, and has been written up in several hundred popular press articles. She has also been a member of the World Conservation Union's (IUCN) Species Survival Commission's Cat Specialist Group since 1988, as the vice-chair from 1992 to 2001, and currently serves as one of their core members.



**The cheetah is fast becoming extinct.
Join us in the fight for its survival**

DR. LAURIE MARKER, CCF EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



Laurie works actively to carry out CCF's mission, and directs CCF's activities including: bio-medical research to learn more about over-all health, diseases reproduction and genetic make-up of the population; spatial, habitat and ecosystem research; wildlife and livestock management to reduce predator conflicts; and non-lethal predator control methods such as its Livestock Guarding Dog Program, and supports extensive environmental education programs throughout the country as well as at CCF's Center.

Laurie's work internationally with scientists, government officials, businesses, and communities to raise awareness, develop policies and initiate business practices linking the economies of cheetah range country landowners to international consumers and businesses has allowed this successful model to spread to other areas. Today, Laurie has assisted in developing cheetah conservation programs in South Africa, Botswana, Zimbabwe, Algeria, Iran, as well as supporting a field research base in Kenya. This understanding is the only way that cheetahs will survive.

SPECIAL AWARDS

2008 Tech Awards' Intel Environment Laureate
 2008 Society of Women Geographers - Gold Medal
 2008 Zoological Society of San Diego – Lifetime Achievement Award
 2008 Indianapolis Prize - Finalist
 2005 Living Desert – Track's in the Sand, Conservationist of the Year
 2003 Chevron-Texaco Conservationist of the Year
 2002 Audi Terra Nova Awards Finalist, Southern Africa
 2001 Humanitarian of the Year, Marin County Humane Society
 2001 Paul Harris Fellowship, Rotary Club International, Windhoek, Namibia
 2000 Barrows Conservation Award, Cincinnati Zoo
 2000 Hero for the Planet, Time Magazine
 1997 Distinguished Leadership Award, American Biographical Institute
 1992 Conservationist of the Year, African Safari Club, Washington, DC
 1988 White Rose Award, Oregon's Top Ten Women
 1985 Outstanding Young Women of America
 1981 Oregon's Young Careerist, Business and Professional Women, for Roseburg

NATIONAL & INTERNATIONAL ACTIVITIES

2008 to present: Oregon Cougar Action Team (ORCAT) Board Member
 2008 to present: Panthera Cat Advisory Council Member
 2001 to present: IUCN/SSC Cat Specialist Core Group Member
 1997 to present: Namibian Large Carnivore Management Forum
 1997 to present: Conservancy Assoc. of Namibia, Exec. Committee, Vice Chair, current Chair
 1996 to present: Waterberg Conservancy, Executive Committee
 1996 to present: Namibian Veterinary Association
 1993 to present: Namibian Professional Hunters Association, Rare Species Committee
 1991 to present: IUCN/SSC, Captive Breeding Specialist Group Member
 1988 to present: IUCN/SSC Conservation Specialist Group Member
 1995 to present: Species Coordinator, Cheetah African Preservation Program
 1988 to present: Cheetah Species Survival Plan, Propagation Committee Advisor (AZA/SSP)
 1987 to present: International Cheetah Studbook Keeper
 1995 to 2001: IUCN/SSC Cat Specialist Group Co-Chairman
 1987-1988: Cheetah SSP, Species Coordinator
 1984-1988: Cheetah SSP, Propagation Committee
 1982-1987: North American Regional Cheetah Studbook Keeper

RECENT SELECTED PUBLICATIONS



Marker, L.; Cheetah Conservation Strategies in Namibia – A Model for the Future. African Wildlife Conference Proceeding. Zoo Dvur Kralove (Czech Republic) May 6-11, 2008.
Marker, L.; Dickman, A.J., Mills, M.G.L., Joo, R.M., Macdonald, D.W. Spatial Ecology of Cheetahs (*Acinonyx jubatus*) on North-central Namibian Farmlands. *Journal of Zoology*, London. 226-274 (2008) 226-238, 2008.
Marker, L.; Pearks-Wilkerson, A.J.; Sarno, R.J.; Martenson, J.; Breitenmoser-Würsten C., O'Brien, S.J.; Johnson, W.E. Molecular Genetic Insights on Cheetah (*Acinonyx jubatus*) Ecology and Conservation in Namibia. *Journal of Heredity*, 99(1) 2-13, 2008.
Marker, L.; Croiser, A., Howard, J., Pukazhenth, B., Henghali, J., Wildt, D. Ejaculate trails in the Namibian cheetah (*Acinonyx jubatus*): influence of age, season and captivity. *Reproduction, Fertility and Development*, 2007.
Marker, L.; Muntifering, J.R., Dickman, A.J., Perlow, L.M., Hruska, T., Ryan, P.G., Joo, R.M. Managing the matrix for large carnivores: a novel approach and perspective from cheetah (*Acinonyx jubatus*) habitat suitability modelling. *American Conservation* 9, 103-112, 2006.
Marker, L.; Dickman, A.J., Macdonald, D.W. Evaluating the effectiveness of livestock guarding dogs as a method of conflict resolution. *Journal of Rangeland Management*. 58 (4) 329-336, 2005.
Marker, L.L.; Dickman, A.J., Macdonald, D.W. Evaluating the effectiveness of livestock guarding dogs as a method of conflict resolution. *Journal of Rangeland Management*. 58(4) 329- 336, 2005.
Marker, L.L.; Dickman, A.J., Factors affecting leopard (*Panthera pardus*) spatial ecology, with particular reference to Namibian farmlands. *South African Journal of Wildlife Research*. 35 (2): 105-115. 2005.
Marker, L. & Dickman, A.J. The incidence of dental abnormalities in wild-caught Namibian cheetahs. *Journal of Mammology*, 85:13-18, 2004.
Marker, L.; Munson, L., Basson, P.A., and Quackenbush, S. Multicentric T-cell Lymphoma Associated with Feline Leukemia Virus infection in a Captive Namibian Cheetah (*Acinonyx jubatus*). *Journal of Wildlife Diseases*, 39(3), 690-695, 2003.
Marker, L.; Aspects of Namibian Cheetah (*Acinonyx jubatus*) Biology, Ecology and Conservation Strategies. PhD. Thesis, Department of Zoology, University of Oxford (2002).



CHEETAH CONSERVATION FUND

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