

## Large carnivore track identification sheet

Front paw:

Lion  
Total length : 110-130 mm  
Total width: 90-125 mm



Leopard  
70-90 mm  
70-90 mm



Spotted hyena  
90-105 mm  
90-105 mm



Cheetah  
70-85 mm  
65-75 mm

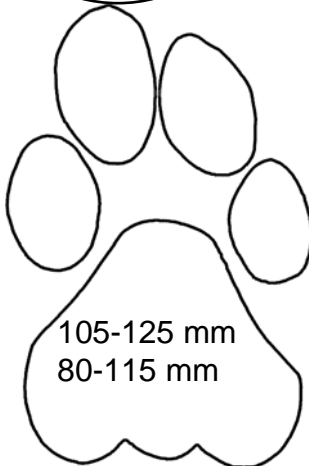


African wild dog  
76-80 mm  
56-65 mm



Hind paw:

T. length:  
T. width: 105-125 mm  
80-115 mm



80-100 mm  
60-80 mm



80-95 mm  
75-85 mm



75-90 mm  
60-70 mm



68-82 mm  
48-55 mm



### Note:

On soft substrate (sand or mud), the paw prints can sometimes appear larger, as the animal spreads the toes. Note also the different shapes of the front paw prints between lion and leopard. Leopard prints describe a circle, whereas for the lion they are longer than they are wide, and resemble a long oval. For the other three species, the claws leave visible marks, especially in deep soil substrate. Note that on certain substrates (e.g. fine sand on hard soil) the claws do not always leave easily visible marks. In these cases please try to follow the tracks of the animal until the substrate becomes deeper or softer, to see if claw marks are present. This will aid the identification of the species.

### Protocol for the documentation of tracks:

For all tracks that resemble those left by the five species above, note the GPS position and the approximate age of the tracks. To document the tracks, please take photographs with a scale placed next to the track (see photo to the right). Thank you for your collaboration and good luck in the bush!



*C. crocuta*

