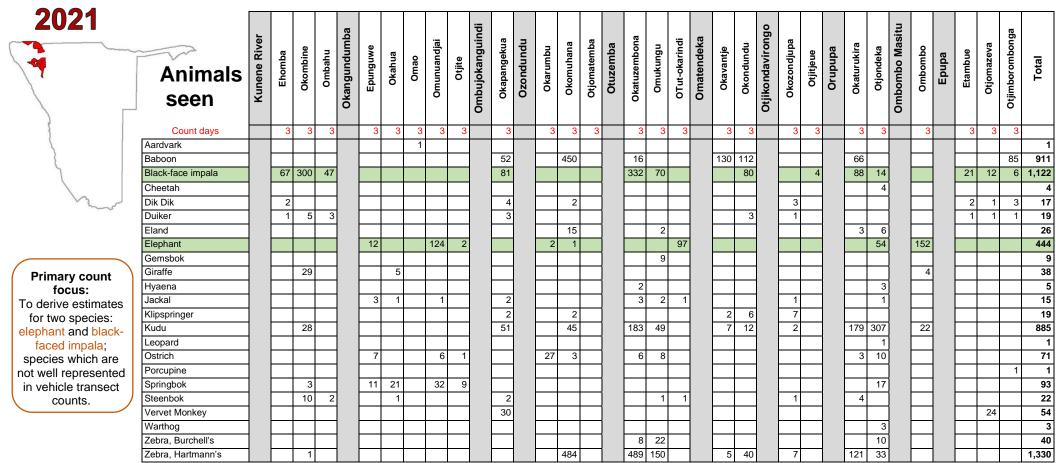
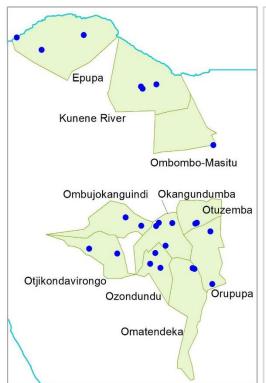
## **FULL MOON WATERHOLE COUNTS IN NORTHERN KUNENE**





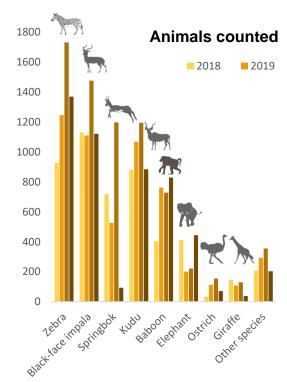
## **North West Waterhole Counts**

Counts were undertaken at waterholes in the escarpment zone of north west Namibia. In 2018,18 waterholes in 7 conservancies were counted while in 2019, 2020 and 2021, the number of waterholes was increased to around 26 covering 10 conservancies. Counts were undertaken over a period of 2, 3 or 4 days during which time all animals seen were counted.

Game species differ in the frequency with which they need to visit water resources with some able to acquire much of their hydration needs through foraging. Waterhole counts are therefore best suited to species (like elephants) which make infrequent discrete trips to specific water points.

Estimates of animals are calculated by correcting the numbers seen over the entire count period using the number of count days, and the drinking frequency of the species. They are therefore crude estimates and should be considered a guide to the relative abundance of animals in the area. Values are influenced by several assumptions including drinking frequencies and independence of sightings. Using assumed drinking frequencies of 2 days for black-faced impala and 1.8 days for elephants, the following average estimates (over the four years 2018-2021) were calculated: Black-face impala 805; Elephant 187

Of interest in 2021 is the marked drop in numbers of many of the other plains game species.



Waterhole Estimates  DF = drinking frequency (days)		Kunene River				Ombujokanguindi				Okangundumba				npunpuozO				Otuzemba				Orupupa				Omatendeka					Otjikondavirongo		Ombombo-Masitu			Epupa			Total			
		2021	2020	2019	2018	2021	2020	2019	2018	2021	2020	2019	2018	2021	2020	2019	2021	2020	2010	2018	2010	2021	2020	2019	2018	2021	2020	2019	2018	2021	2020	2019	2020	2019	2021	2020	2019	2021	2020	2019	2018	
Focal Species	DF																1																-									
Black-face impala		276	273	392	311	54	48	26	38								268	3 10	3 14	7 21	2	68	90	103	140	53	32	63	52	3		9			26	431	1	748	977	740	754	
Elephant	1.8							27		83	45		97	2	58 4	47 7	4 58	3		3 3	34	32	34	30					7			9	1 9	14				266	147	121	212	
Other species																																										
Eland	4									T				20	8	Т		3	1	1		12	19	4			19	25	45									35	46	40	45	
Gemsbok	4															13	1:	2	7	7			1				84	27	77									12		47	77	
Giraffe	4	39	9	9				3		7														19	5		143	113	173				5					51	153	144	178	
Kudu	2	19	66	64	22	34	89	9	33			42	1	30	84 2	24	15	13	3 18	3 15	8 3	24 2	267	196	240	13			122		17	27 1	5 4	68		47		591	788	712	576	
Ostrich	4						105	95		19	18			40		5 1	6 19	1	7 1	2	4	17	16	20	4		18		12									95	219	149	40	
Springbok	4	4					252			97 1	112		101		15							23	51	21	87		887	640	722		13	22						124	1331	701	920	

