

“AFRICAN PREDATOR ETHICAL CONTROL”



Part 2

Gary Laubscher

In the first of the series we discussed the differences, keeping notes and killing patterns, this edition covers identification, how sounds are made, what we try achieve in the veld and calling factors and the moon.



Identification is ALWAYS an issue; too many animals get killed because of mistaken identity. I have an issue that haunts me, I am over careful before pulling the trigger, and it has cost me jackal, but I rather be 100% sure, I have called in all things in my time, including a farm worker who ran from his house into the veld as he thought the jackal barking was between his sheep! So to be 100% careful before dropping the poundage on that trigger is critical! **Once you send that bullet on its way it is out of your control.**

Cats tend to come in slow and low, will often vanish from sight and resurface 20m away again, or turn around and look another way altogether, or blink now and again and open and close eyes slowly, if they blink fast, it means your light is too bright so dim it or raise it above his head! Cats run typically in a straight line and wiggle as they move. Jackal trot show horse style and run in at angles don't stop long and are highly stressed. Bat eared foxes are 99% of the time in a large pack of 4 and more, very seldom alone, as the animal approaches, run the book through your head, **if in doubt DON'T shoot.** Eyes that look catty under bushes are 99% of the time Steenbuck.

Sounds we use is another important topic, you can buy sounds from all over the world, some mixed, some have extra sounds added in by using computers, many sounds recorded over and over and given to friends, and most of the Karoo Jackal know full well its you and not the real deal, after a while they are so scratched it will not lure in adult jackal past 2 years old, so you only kill young stupid ones, careful with this. **You will also find out over time that some areas respond better to hand calls rather than electronics, so make sure to always keep note of your hunts and stands to reflect back on.**

NO PART OF THIS SERIES MAY BE COPIED or USED UNLESS IN WRITING BY www.africanpredator.com



Many sounds that are sold are mass produced to sell; they are not used by professional callers, and most times not even used by the owner selling that sound, professionally recorded sounds, are recorded at the same pitch as what the jackal produces, but to a human our ears won't pick the difference, but in the bush the mass produced cd's will have a different effect on a jackal as to what the professionally recorded ones will have with the correct wavelength and sound pitch. I am not saying all recorded sounds are recorded badly and not saying that all are made to just make money, but many are and will cause more damage than good, sounds need to be 100% crystal clear also – **sounds used must be recorded and used correctly!**

I have heard the same sound on cd's called all different things, and all mixed together, be aware of the sounds you use and make sure they are clear without static background noises. I personally stay away from mass produced sounds as the Karoo jackals are aware of them. This is why so many hunters have success with hand calls because it's different and not reproduced. **Also don't believe the story of "play this it works every time" trust me, no sound exists, if it did we would have no jackal left.**

It really makes me laugh when I read about how some people say this sound you must use when this happens, then you mix with this sound then use number### on that cd when jackal barks like this or that.....and those work well, and this sound at this time of the year with that works all the time etc etc, all a load of total bullshit, all sounds WILL NOT work everytime, no matter what you mix them with..... WRITE down what works for you and make your own assumptions, conclusions on what works for you most times...

The secret in recording is to reproduce the sounds at the same pitch and waves that an actual predator produces, this will bring far better results and appear far more realistic to the animal you are trying to call, the human ear cannot detect these pitches and they all sound the same.

Don't use sounds that your friends use on or near your farm and don't play yours to much either, it educates the jackals. Many professional callers who wish to sweep your lands will try his hardest to convince you he wants to go on his own and won't tell others what sounds he has in his arsenal. **You can be assured he won't use sounds a typical farmer will have in his bakkie on his mass produced cd's.....**

NO PART OF THIS SERIES CAN BE COPIED AND USED FOR FINANCIAL GAIN OR PERSONAL GAIN – COPYRIGHT 2015



After a few stands, if you see a sound is working make use of that again that night, the following night taper off and use it once again at the same time it worked the previous night, if no luck don't play it again. My one hunt I used DYING JACK from Foxpro all night as it was working so well, the next night after the 3rd stand I used it and nothing... so I did not use it again for 2 weeks.

You will learn over time that some sounds work very well, here are a few from Foxpro that really DO work, Dying Jack (rabbit) then Jackrabbit distress, Chicken Distress #1, Antelope Fawn, Adult Cottontail and Luscious Lips, these sounds work and kill, but remember the sounds will only work if you know how to call, Jackrabbit distress from Foxpro is a Caracal killer. I called and shot 4 cats in a row with that sound.

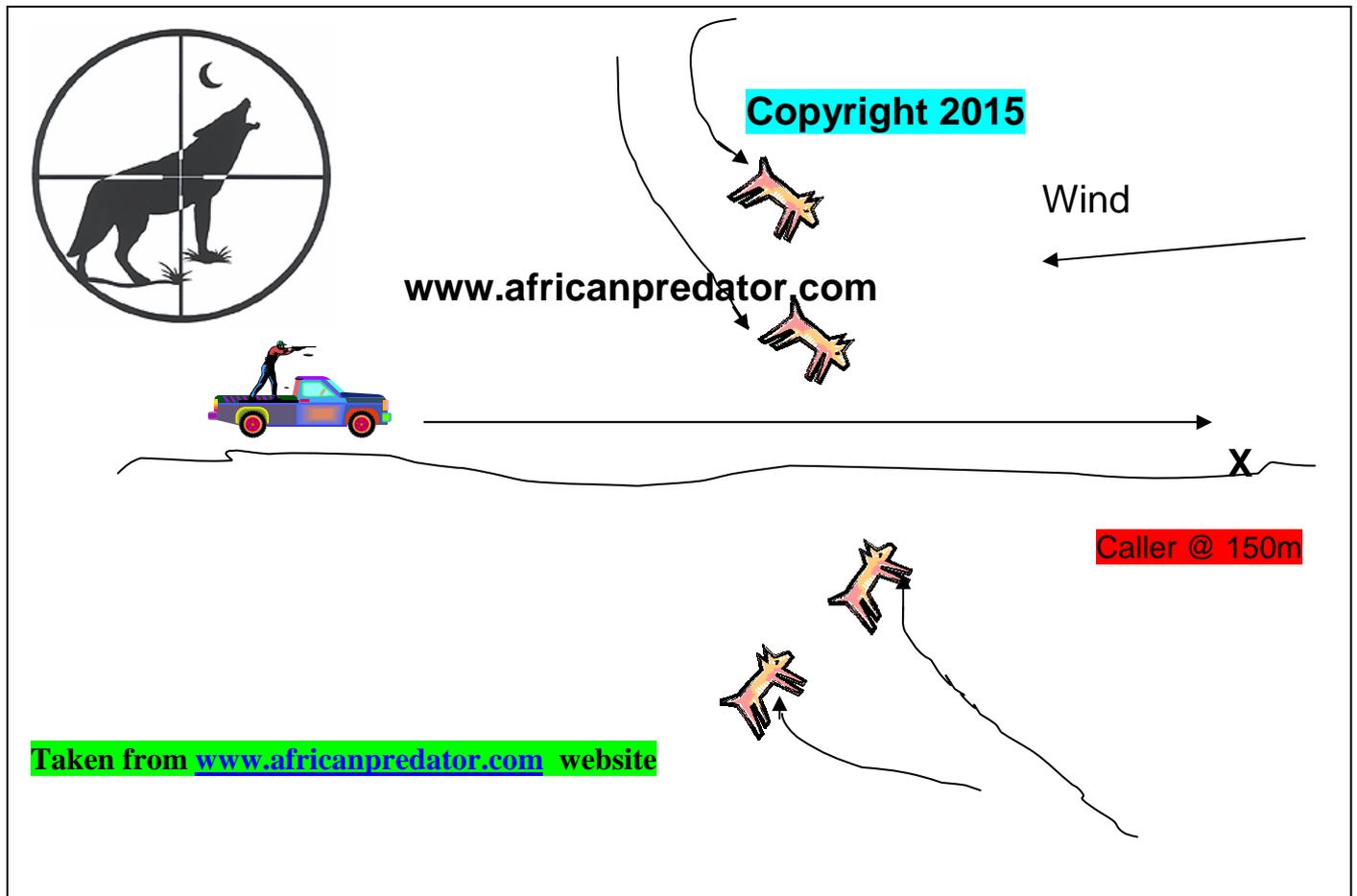


TYPICAL HUNTING

Mark 6 spots with the wind, then turn and face the wind, that 6th spot becomes the first spot, cover the truck well, no noise, eating and talking. Prepare the equipment, and get ready, load rifle, open the bolt, test lights and wait, count the stars to pass time, sit below the netting and scan with normal binoculars for passing predators, after dusk place callers, and when settled start to call, food 5 seconds on and then off, wait 1 minute and again, after 5 minutes use a jackal vocal sound to add realism into the mix, bark 3-4 times and OFF, don't use again for at least 15 minutes. This is a typical layout. After an hour move on. Remember it is vital to arrive at your first spot early and to set up, the first spot is the most important one. And lastly remember to place open bottles of jackal gland lure behind the truck downwind, (this will be discussed later). The more you put into a set up the more you will get from it. Try to never have more than 2 people on the truck to avoid unnecessary smells, and as weird as it is the more rubber that is on your bakkie the more it will benefit you, rubber has a neutral smell and unlike diesel it does not spook predators. **Hang a dead FRESH jackal on your bakkie – it helps a lot when calling. – DISCUSSED LATER!**

The plan above is what I use and have used it for years, it is a proven style and methods, if something works well then stick to it, and don't try fixing something that isn't broke!

What we try to achieve – We typically try to work a game plan to get jackals to approach and be positioned in such a way that they are in front of us, here is the plan. Most of them will try get downwind of the caller's position to get wind of the funny bunny causing the entire ruckus.



We try getting the jackal to approach between us and the caller, with the wind blowing towards us, **the larger the gap the more chance we have of the jackal coming between us and the caller.** Place the food call into the wind, however as we will discuss later we also use other styles to trick a very clever jackal. But this is a pretty standard practise that many use today.

Jackal factors for good results mark out **WITH** the wind 6 places, at the 6th turn around, face the wind and this becomes the 1st spot, when it gets dark start to call, work each spot an hour, and work back into the wind to all 6 places. Don't stand in the road, pull off, don't overcall with food, play 5 seconds on and 1 minute off, when you finish calling don't put white lights on, sit wait 5 minutes and scan till then with red, then pack up, sometimes dogs arrive late. Many people have equipment and many of those don't know how to call and cause more damage, so make sure you know what you are doing.



Travel from spot to spot with red filters over the trucks lights; you get far closer to wild animals by doing this. Cover the entire truck with camo cloth and NEVER use black! Black colours stand out at night and you will be spotted in the Karoo or on the plains.

Here is an example of my Hilux with red filters on the headlights and soft neutral colours over the body, this was for illustration purposes, when you are going to call, pull of sand roads, as predators know areas well, and know full well yesterday a large object was not in the area, so pull of roads, and blend in as best as you can. This colour will vanish at night! You wont see the bakkie.



If your call echoes animals won't find you, your position must enable you clear vision without blind spots, visibility must be good, and know distances to various bushes etc so if animals approach you know distances.

When you are marking out your spots, make a small sketch of the areas you will get to in the dark, so you know what the land looks like at each spot, and make your distances between each standing spot no more than 800m apart, this will be discussed later in detail, as will how to travel in the pitch dark from place to place without lights, or use a RED filter over the trucks headlights and idle along don't rally!



Moon and times This is a two fold topic, depending on the animal, cats are best called on no moon, jackal is a different story, they like to travel on a moon night, and again records kept will tell you this. Moon travel is good for him, BUT not to big as they will spot you, so call jackal up to quarter, dark skies also will bring in results, but on a small moon you will do better on jackal BUT NOT cats. They like dark skies if you call.

The easiest way to understand the moon for hunting is look at the month you want to call, look at the dates, take note of **NEW MOON** times, if it says **NEW MOON** is on the 10th of November then work the moon like this, go backwards a week, this will offer you total darkness for a week prior to **NEW MOON** good cat time and then a week after for jackal calling, so you get two good weeks a month for both predators, remember if a cold front is on the way this is also a good time to call. When I do my courses I try to book them over 4 days on the new moon, this way I get good times to call both critters.

Evert Van Staden with one of the two cats that I called in together -pitch dark night.

This was luck, I don't think I will ever call two together again; I was just lucky – very lucky!

Remember that having a nice team that hunts together will increase your results by a large margin, avoid hunting with people who talk, eat, poep, fart, talk more crap, shuffle and those who cannot sit still, smoke and drink, they will ruin a good night out and make you very frustrated!!!!!!!!!!

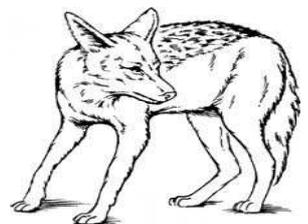


Gary Laubscher
www.africanpredator.com
sellis@telkomsa.net
0824853885



Quote: Hang a dead jackal behind your bakkie - it helps hide your scent at night, it does help! It also lures in jackal when they get the scent.

G Laubscher



Course and general good links below;

<http://www.africanpredator.com/Jakkals-Rooikat-Roep-Kursus-Vrystaat-Sept-2013.pdf>

<http://www.africanpredator.com/Jakkals-Jag-Kursus-Reference-September-2013.pdf>

COPYRIGHT 2015 www.africanpredator.com