



Giraffe



RELEASE TIMELINE

March 2006

In March and July 2006, three female servals released after calls from farmers.

July 2006

10 giraffes were released in two groups in July 2006; one made up of two males and two females that came from Zululand and another made up of two males and four females that came from a nearby farm.

August 2006

On 26th August 2006, 23 red hartebeest were released.

September 2006

In September 2006, 10 male and 31 female blesbok were released from a nearby farm.

Six male and 18 female zebra were also released. They were released in two groups, the first from a tomato farm in Kimberley and the second from the same farm 10km away, where the giraffes came from.

May 2007

On 30th May 2007, we released another 14 zebra from a farm in Weenan; 10 females, including 4 young females, plus 4 males.

At the end of May 2007, we released 10 female waterbuck, which came from the same farm as the zebra in Weenan. These female waterbuck were released in two groups of five individuals.

July 2007

On 19th July 2007, 3 male and one female common reedbuck were released. These came from a farm near Nottingham Road.

October 2007

On 25th October 2007, a male serval cat was released. The male came from a farm on the other side of Dundee.



Serval cat

January 2008

On 23rd January 2008, a python was released onto UmPhafa. This python was donated to us from KwaZulu Natal Wildlife and measured around 2.5 metres in length.

February 2008

On 5th of February 2008, a second African rock python was released onto UmPhafa. It was a bit longer than the first python, measuring 3 metres in length. It was donated to us from a local farmer who caught the snake in his chicken pen.

October 2008

On 21st October 2008, we released a rock monitor lizard caught at a nearby school.

November 2008

On 20th November 2008, we released two rehabilitated leopard tortoises, a male and female. An additional group were then released in 2017.



African rock python



Nyala

October 2009

On Saturday 17th October 2009, thirty nyala were released onto UmPhafa. The group was made up of 28 females and two males. These nyala joined the single male already living on the Reserve.

June 2010

On 15th June 2010, 21 zebra from Spioenkop Game Reserve were translocated onto UmPhafa. The group contained two adult males, six sub-adults of undetermined gender and the remaining number consisted of adult females.

July 2010

On the 2nd of July 2010, another batch of 17 zebra arrived on UmPhafa. The new group consisted of five males and 12 mares.

March 2011

On 28th March 2011, 21 red hartebeest were released onto UmPhafa. These new additions came from a local reserve.

April 2011

On 4th April 2011, seven impala antelope were released onto UmPhafa to join our existing herd.

On 20th April 2011, 21 wildebeest were released onto UmPhafa from a nearby reserve. This is the first release of this species onto UmPhafa although there were existing populations on other portions of UmPhafa.

September 2011

On Saturday 10th September 2011, 30 impala were released onto the UmPhafa Nature Reserve. The group was made up of one adult ram, seven sub-adult rams and 22 ewes.

March 2012

On 13th March 2012, we released 10 ostrich onto UmPhafa.



Red hartebeest

March 2014

On the 22nd March 2014, 13 zebra were released on the Geluk/Vetrek side. Over the next few weeks, another 23 and then another 24 zebra were also released.

April 2015

On 17th April 2015, 14 eland antelope were released onto UmPhafa Reserve. The released group consisted of 4 males and 10 females.

February 2016

In February 2016 a young African Rock Python was released, found on a neighbour's farm.

July 2016

On the 6th July 2016, a group of 45 impala were released.

July 2017

In July 2017, 46 blesbok were released.

August 2017

In August 2017, groups of 20 and 41 impala were released.

May 2018

8 eland were released.

August 2018

On Friday 31st August we saw the introduction of 41 new impala. This was made up of two adult males, one sub-adult male, 31 adult females, two juvenile males and five juvenile females.

March 2019

In March 2019, 23 red hartebeest and 26 eland were released.



May 2022

80 blesbok arrived on the Reserve this month.

June 2022

13 bushbuck – 2 male / 11 female – were released.

Nov 2023

A group of 16 male and female buffalo arrived
(4 males / 12 females).

March 2024

Two species came to the Reserve in March –
2 large spotted genets and 3 spotted eagle owls.

April 2024

April 2024 saw a large quantity of blesbok (101)
and 10 ostrich released.

June 2024

2 male giraffe arrived at UmPhafa in June 2024.

July 2025

July was a busy month for releases with 9 female
buffalo, 3 red hartebeest males, 2 male giraffe
and 1 African wild cat.

August 2025

A small herd of 10 common reedbuck came
to the Reserve.

January 2025

At the start of the year, a female cheetah
was released onto the Reserve.

May 2025

Following the success of the female cheetah
release in January, 2 male cheetahs
joined the Reserve.

Oct 2025

The Reserve welcomed 32 blesbok this month.



Blesbok



Cheetah