**Basic Information: warthog (Phacochoerus africanus)**

**Names: warthog**

**Identification pointers:** pig-like appearance; leathery, grey skin covered with sparse, wiry hair; a long mane of wiry brown hair along the neck and back; upward-curving tusks sticking out of the mouth; prominent warts on face; males larger, with two pairs of warts on the face, one under the eyes and one on the sides of the nose, females only have a pair under the eyes.

**Can be confused with:** bushpig

**Activity period:** diurnal

**Length:** 80-90cm **Height:** 60-70cm **Weight:** 40-70kg

**Gestation period:** ±6 months

**Lifespan:** ±12-18 years

**Diet:** eat short grass in the wet season, and dig out grass roots and rhizomes in the dry winter; also eat fruit, flowers, roots and other vegetable matter, as well as eating carrion or small animals occasionally.

**Predators:** all large carnivores; piglets taken by large eagles, pythons, and smaller carnivores like jackals and caracal

**Preferred habitat:** savannahs, grasslands and other open habitats, requires good water sources and mud wallows.

**Red List status:** Least Concern

**Population:** Stable

**Threats:** No major threats, locally threatened by over-hunting, and are susceptible to drought so climate change and desertification may become a risk.