**Basic Information: Impala (*Aepyceros melampus*)**

**Names: impala**

**Identification pointers:** long legs; reddish-brown fur on the back, and sides white belly; black tuft of fur on ankles; distinctive black and white “M” on backside; Males larger than females; only males have lyrate horns.

**Can be confused with:** springbok, lechwe, several gazelle species

**Activity period:** Mainly diurnal

**Length:** 140cm **Height:** 80-90cm **Weight:**  40-50kg

**Gestation period:** ±6.5 months

**Lifespan:** ±10-12 years

**Diet:** mixed feeders – have the ability to switch between grass and leaves depending on availability.

**Predators:** Lions, hyaenas, leopards, cheetahs, wild dogs, young may be taken by caracals, jackals, baboon, large eagles and large snakes

**Preferred habitat:** Prefer ecotones – the transition zones between grasslands and woodlands. Require cover and good water sources.

**Red List status:** Least concern

**Population:** stable

**Threats:** No major threats, regularly killed for food, popular with sport hunters.