**Basic Information**

**Animal: Black-backed Jackal (*Canis mesomelas*) and Side-striped jackal (*Canis adustus*)**

**Identification pointers:** Slender, dog-like appearance; **black-backed:** distinct black saddle on its back; reddish-brown sides and face; fairly large, pointed ears; black, bushy tail; **side-striped:** mostly grey with a light and dark stripe down their sides; white-tipped tail; smaller ears than black-backed jackal.

**Can be confused with:** Each other, cape fox, bat-eared fox, aardwolf

**Activity period:** Mostly nocturnal, but can be active in the mornings and evenings

**Length:** 96-120cm **Height:** 40cm **Weight:** 6-12kg

**Gestation period:** ±2 months

**Lifespan:** ±10 years

**Diet:** generalists, will feed on carrion, invertebrates, small mammals, young antelope and fruit

**Predators:** Lions, leopard, hyaena, pythons, large eagles

**Preferred habitat: Black-backed:** wide habitat tolerance, deserts to woodlands, prefers drier regions; **Side-striped:** prefers well watered, wooded areas but absent from forests.

**Red List status:** Least Concern

**Population:** Stable

**Threats:** Disease, particularly rabies can affect local populations, widely persecuted for killing livestock.