

MODULE 6: WILDLIFE PHOTOGRAPHY IN ETOSHA
Your Photographic Routine & Photo Gear Settings for best wildlife shots

TAKE BETTER PHOTOS IN NAMIBIA

Claudia & Wynand du Plessis

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MODULE 6: WILDLIFE PHOTOGRAPHY IN ETOSHA

Your Photographic Routine & Photo Gear Settings for best wildlife shots



MODULE 6: WILDLIFE PHOTOGRAPHY IN ETOSHA

Your Photographic Routine & Photo Gear Settings for best wildlife shots

Here's What You'll Learn In This Module:

- Conditions & regulations that will influence your photography

MODULE 6: WILDLIFE PHOTOGRAPHY IN ETOSHA

Your Photographic Routine & Photo Gear Settings for best wildlife shots

Here's What You'll Learn In This Module:

- Conditions & regulations that will influence your photography
- Your daily photographic routine and game drives

MODULE 6: WILDLIFE PHOTOGRAPHY IN ETOSHA

Your Photographic Routine & Photo Gear Settings for best wildlife shots

Here's What You'll Learn In This Module:

- Conditions & regulations that will influence your photography
- Your daily photographic routine and game drives
- **Photo Gear Settings for best wildlife shots**

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1. Conditions & regulations that will influence your photography



- In the Etosha National Park:
>> animals are free to roam

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1. Conditions & regulations that will influence your photography



- In the Etosha National Park:
 - >> animals are free to roam
 - >> humans are restricted to camps, park roads & parking spots at waterholes (see Etosha map PDF)

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1. Conditions & regulations that will influence your photography



- In the Etosha National Park:
 - >> animals are free to roam
 - >> humans are restricted to camps, park roads & parking spots at waterholes (see Etosha map PDF)
- Park is only open to visitors between sunrise and sunset

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1. Conditions & regulations that will influence your photography



- In the Etosha National Park:
 - >> animals are free to roam
 - >> humans are restricted to camps, park roads & parking spots at waterholes (see Etosha map PDF)
- Park is only open to visitors between sunrise and sunset
- you'll explore the Park in your car & you are NOT allowed to walk in the Park outside camps (except at a few picnic sites & toilet points)

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1. Conditions & regulations that will influence your photography



- In the Etosha National Park:
 - >> animals are free to roam
 - >> humans are restricted to camps, park roads & parking spots at waterholes (see Etosha map PDF)
- Park is only open to visitors between sunrise and sunset
- you'll explore the Park in your car & you are NOT allowed to walk in the Park outside camps (except at a few picnic sites & toilet points)
- animals are used to people in cars & fairly relaxed; BUT quickly alarmed if you step outside, so DON'T

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1. Conditions & regulations that will influence your photography



- Your WILDLIFE PHOTOGRAPHY:

>> takes place on game drives mainly along Park roads & at parking spots at waterholes: from inside car

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- Your WILDLIFE PHOTOGRAPHY:

>> takes place on game drives mainly along Park roads & at parking spots at waterholes: from inside car

>> **inside camps: on foot**

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1. Conditions & regulations that will influence your photography



- Your WILDLIFE PHOTOGRAPHY:

- >> takes place on game drives mainly along Park roads & at parking spots at waterholes: from inside car

- >> inside camps: on foot

- >> is limited to time between the opening & closing times of the camps and Park gates: displayed at gates; approximate times see in sunset/sunrise table (PDF)

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1. Conditions & regulations that will influence your photography



- **Your WILDLIFE PHOTOGRAPHY:**

- >> takes place on game drives mainly along Park roads & at parking spots at waterholes: from inside car

- >> inside camps: on foot

- >> is limited to time between the opening & closing times of the camps and Park gates: displayed at gates; approximate times see in sunset/sunrise table (PDF)

- **Exception:**

- >> **organized night drives by Namibia Wildlife Resorts (NWR); book in camps**

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1. Conditions & regulations that will influence your photography



- **Your WILDLIFE PHOTOGRAPHY:**

- >> takes place on game drives mainly along Park roads & at parking spots at waterholes: from inside car

- >> inside camps: on foot

- >> is limited to time between the opening & closing times of the camps and Park gates: displayed at gates; approximate times see in sunset/sunrise table (PDF)

- **Exception:**

- >> organized night drives by Namibia Wildlife Resorts (NWR); book in camps

- >> if you stay at the Etosha camps you may photograph at night inside the camp & at the flood-lit waterhole

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2. Your Daily Photographic Routine & Game Drives



- Your Daily Photographic Schedule:
- Early morning game drive: sunrise until mid or late morning

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2. Your Daily Photographic Routine & Game Drives



- Your Daily Photographic Schedule:
- Early morning game drive: sunrise until mid or late morning
- **Break for lunch**

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2. Your Daily Photographic Routine & Game Drives



- Your Daily Photographic Schedule:
- Early morning game drive: sunrise until mid or late morning
- Break for lunch
- Afternoon game drive: mid afternoon until sunset

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2. Your Daily Photographic Routine & Game Drives



- Your Daily Photographic Schedule:
- Early morning game drive: sunrise until mid or late morning
- Break for lunch
- Afternoon game drive: mid afternoon until sunset
- **Break OR Sunset & night photography at the camp's waterhole or inside camp if you stay inside Etosha OR organized nightly game drives**

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2. Your Daily Photographic Routine & Game Drives



- Your Daily Photographic Schedule:
- Early morning game drive: sunrise until mid or late morning
- Break for lunch
- Afternoon game drive: mid afternoon until sunset
- Break OR Sunset & night photography at the camp's waterhole or inside camp if you stay inside Etosha OR organized nightly game drives
- **Image download & review: before bedtime**

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2. Your Daily Photographic Routine & Game Drives



- Your Daily Photographic Schedule:
- Exceptions:
>> stay longer if the weather is overcast: less hard contrast AND animals are active longer

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2. Your Daily Photographic Routine & Game Drives



- Your Daily Photographic Schedule:
- Exceptions:
 - >> stay longer if the weather is overcast: less hard contrast AND animals are active longer
 - >> stay longer if the temperature is cool: animals are active longer

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2. Your Daily Photographic Routine & Game Drives



- Do research BEFORE each GAME DRIVE:
>> find out the “daily news of the bush”: see our “7 Tips” eBook (PDF)

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- Do research BEFORE each GAME DRIVE:
 - >> find out the “daily news of the bush”: see our “7 Tips” eBook (PDF)
- Best ways are to:
 - >> check in the sightings book (in tourist office / reception of Etosha camps)

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- Do research **BEFORE** each **GAME DRIVE**:
 - >> find out the “daily news of the bush”: see our “7 Tips” eBook (PDF)
- Best ways are to:
 - >> check in the sightings book (in tourist office / reception of Etosha camps)
 - >> **talk to people**

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- Do research BEFORE each GAME DRIVE:
 - >> find out the “daily news of the bush”: see our “7 Tips” eBook (PDF)
- Best ways are to:
 - >> check in the sightings book (in tourist office / reception of Etosha camps)
 - >> talk to people
- The sighting has to be either:
 - >> a fresh sighting of something that is relatively short-lived, e.g. cheetah on patrol, OR

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- Do research BEFORE each GAME DRIVE:
 - >> find out the “daily news of the bush”: see our “7 Tips” eBook (PDF)
- Best ways are to:
 - >> check in the sightings book (in tourist office / reception of Etosha camps)
 - >> talk to people
- The sighting has to be either:
 - >> a fresh sighting of something that is relatively short-lived, e.g. cheetah on patrol, OR
 - >> if it's a sighting that's hours or a day old, it should be a sighting of something that usually lasts longer e.g. a lion on a zebra kill

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- Plan your GAME DRIVE as follows:
- PLAN A:
>> if you know about an interesting sighting, go straight there

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- Plan your GAME DRIVE as follows:
- PLAN A:
 - >> if you know about an interesting sighting, go straight there
- PLAN B: if there are no special sightings you know of:
 - >> in the dry season: head for the waterholes, where you'll find your favorite animal species

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- Plan your GAME DRIVE as follows:
- PLAN A:
 - >> if you know about an interesting sighting, go straight there
- PLAN B: if there are no special sightings you know of:
 - >> in the dry season: head for the waterholes, where you'll find your favorite animal species
 - >> in the rainy season: head for the animals' favorite feeding areas

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- Plan your GAME DRIVE as follows:
- PLAN A:
 - >> if you know about an interesting sighting, go straight there
- PLAN B: if there are no special sightings you know of:
 - >> in the dry season: head for the waterholes, where you'll find your favorite animal species
 - >> in the rainy season: head for the animals' favorite feeding areas
- Refer to our Etosha Road Map and our "Best Etosha Waterhole Sightings Map" (PDF)

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- TIPS for your GAME DRIVE:

>> drive slowly (less than 30 km/hour)

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- TIPS for your GAME DRIVE:

- >> drive slowly (less than 30 km/hour)

- >> **plan your route realistically – considering speed & stops**

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- TIPS for your GAME DRIVE:

- >> drive slowly (less than 30 km/hour)

- >> plan your route realistically – considering speed & stops

- >> bring enough water & snacks/food so you can stay on if you encounter something special

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- TIPS for your GAME DRIVE:

- >> drive slowly (less than 30 km/hour)

- >> plan your route realistically – considering speed & stops

- >> bring enough water & snacks/food so you can stay on if you encounter something special

- >> take time to observe the animals

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- TIPS for your GAME DRIVE:

- >> drive slowly (less than 30 km/hour)

- >> plan your route realistically – considering speed & stops

- >> bring enough water & snacks/food so you can stay on if you encounter something special

- >> take time to observe the animals

- >> be patient & wait at waterholes for things to happen

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- TIPS for your GAME DRIVE:
- You'll greatly improve your chances of predator sightings if you:
 - >> look out for patrolling predators especially on your morning drives

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- TIPS for your GAME DRIVE:
- You'll greatly improve your chances of predator sightings if you:
 - >> look out for patrolling predators especially on your morning drives
 - >> check with binoculars along the edges of shrubs & under trees for predators that are on the prowl or just taking a nap

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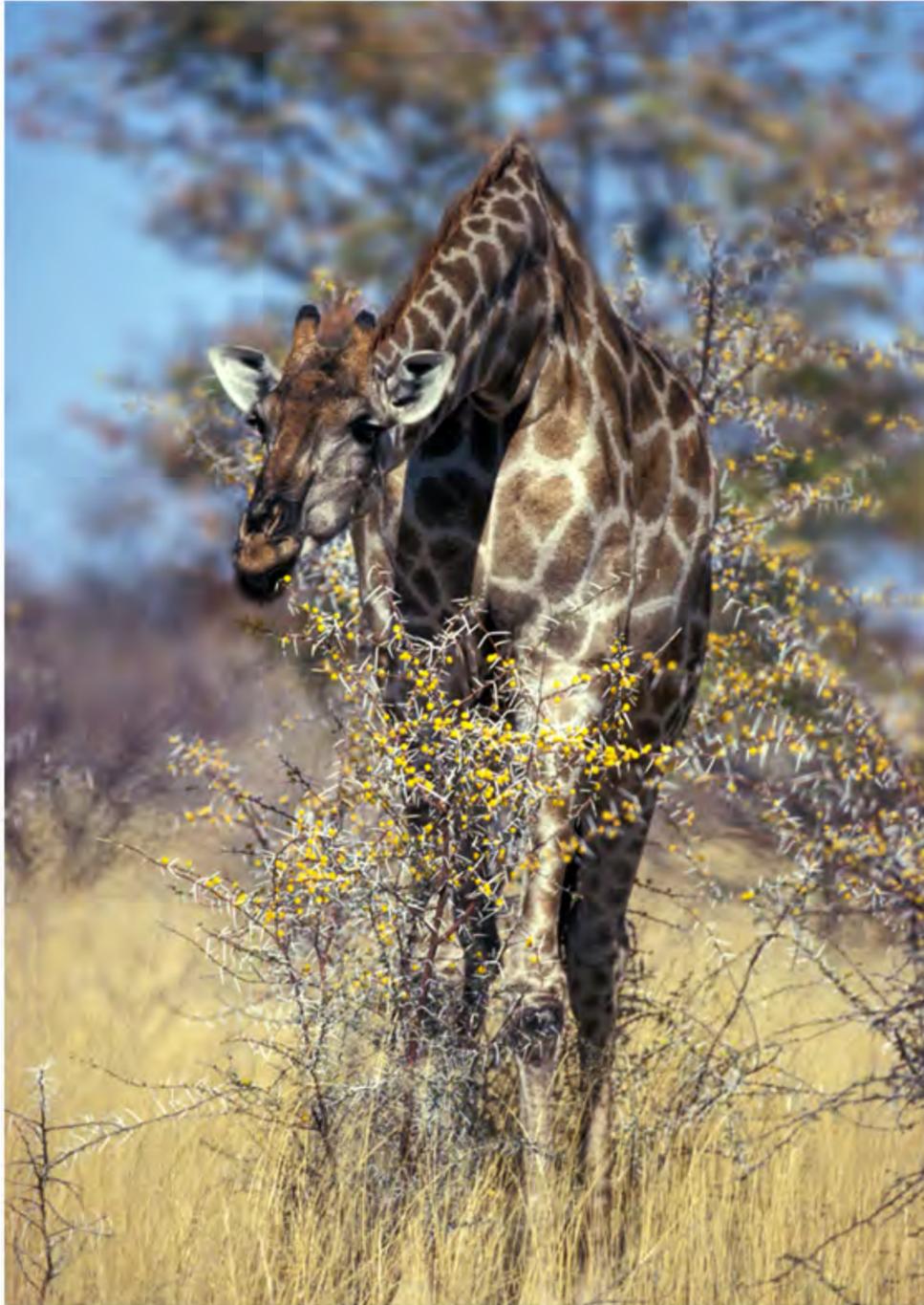


- TIPS for your GAME DRIVE:
- You'll greatly improve your chances of predator sightings if you:
 - >> look out for patrolling predators especially on your morning drives
 - >> check with binoculars along the edges of shrubs & under trees for predators that are on the prowl or just taking a nap
 - >> watch the animals for 'suspicious' behavior, like we mentioned in our '7 Tips' eBook, for example when animals stand stiff & stare in one direction and in addition may emit alarm calls; this is usually an indication that they've spotted a predator

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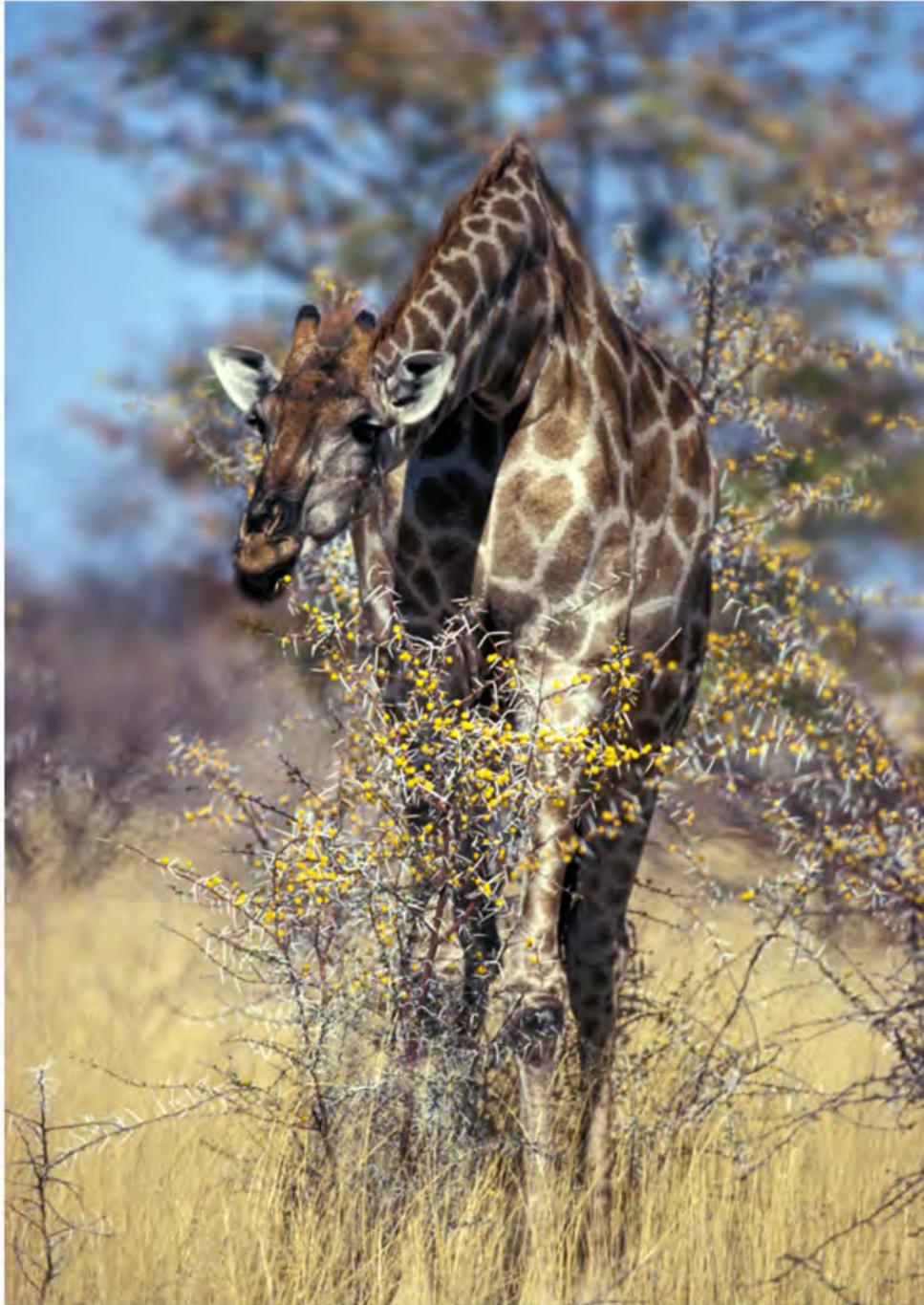
- Download images:

>> download your images to your laptop and back it up to the external drive you brought

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- Download images:

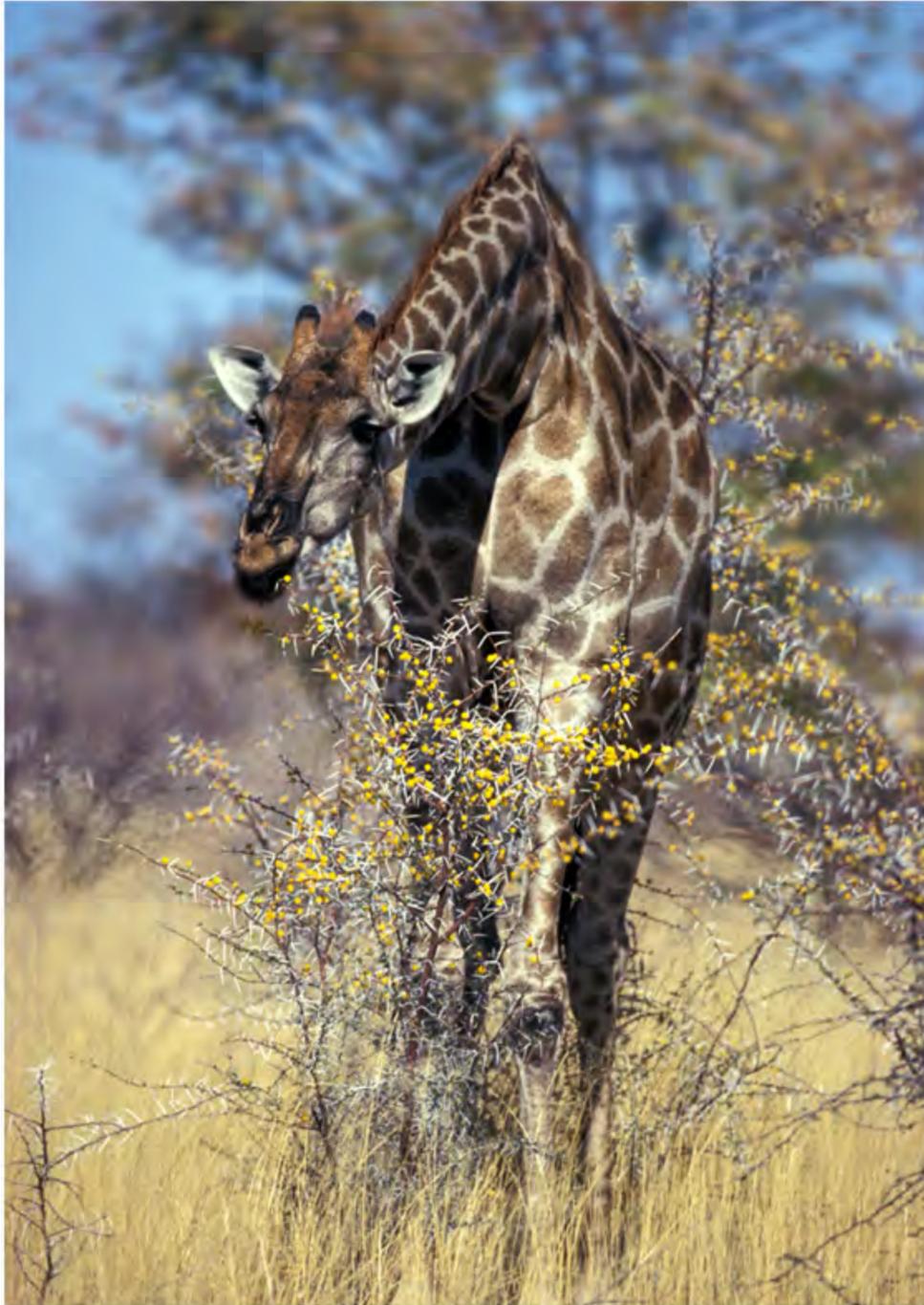
>> download your images to your laptop and back it up to the external drive you brought

>> OR – if you didn't bring a laptop, download the images directly to each of the external hard drives with built-in card readers

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- Download images:

>> download your images to your laptop and back it up to the external drive you brought

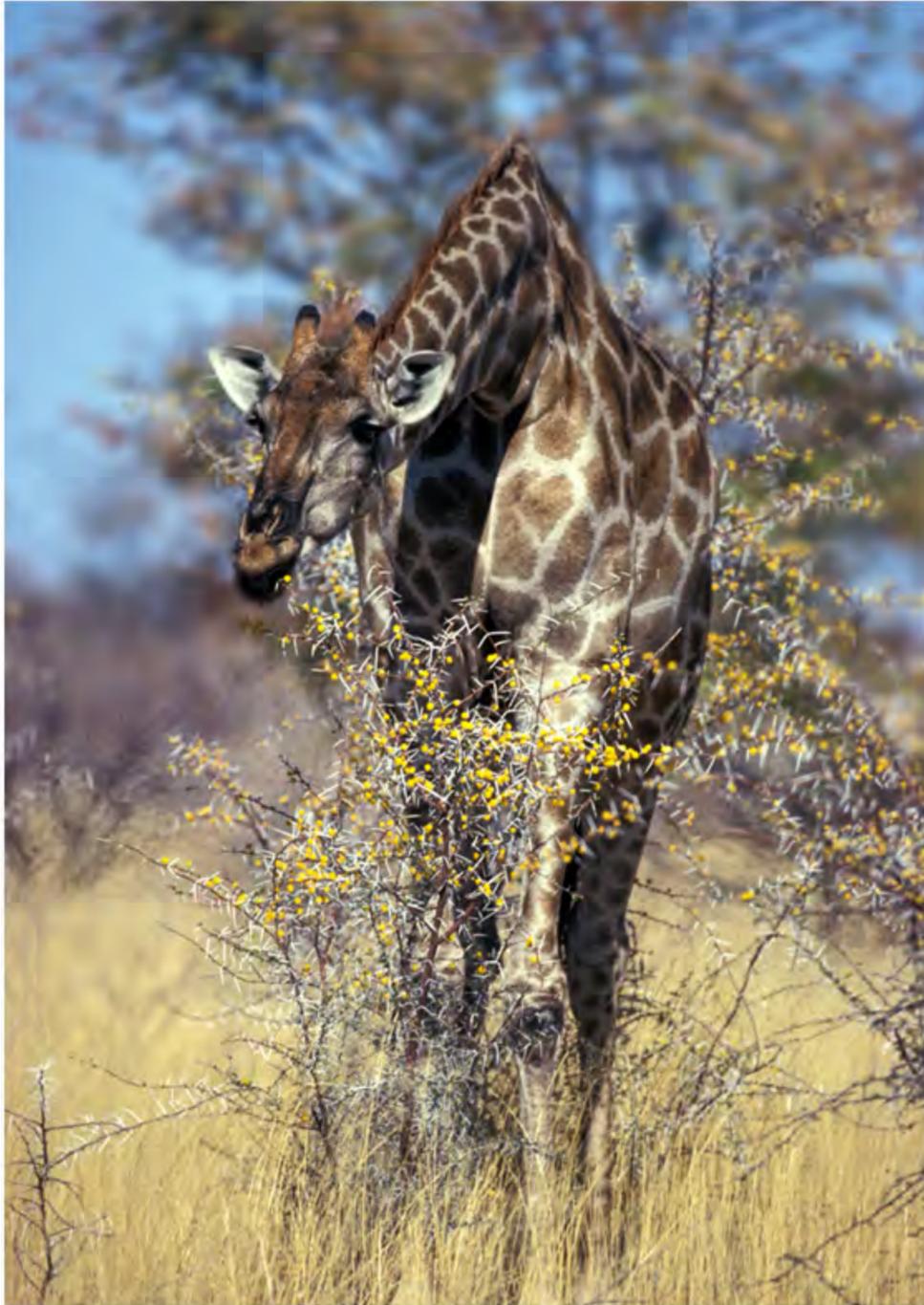
>> OR – if you didn't bring a laptop, download the images directly to each of the external hard drives with built-in card readers

>> if you brought a laptop review & evaluate your images and consider ways to improve them on your next game drive

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- Download images:

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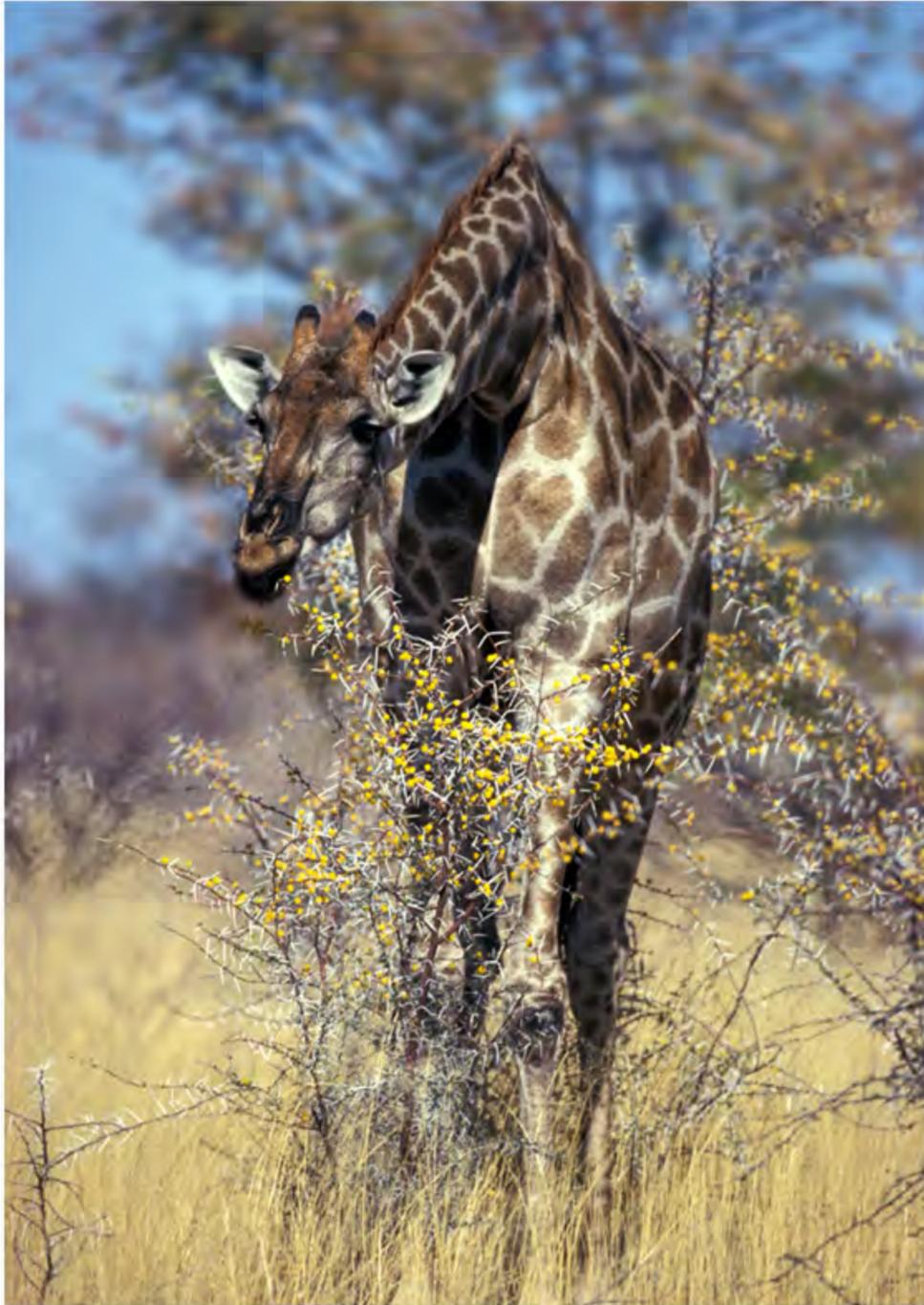
>> if you brought a laptop review & evaluate your images and consider ways to improve them on your next game drive

>> delete the really 'bad' shots to make space

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- Download images:

- >> download your images to your laptop and back it up to the external drive you brought

- >> OR – if you didn't bring a laptop, download the images directly to each of the external hard drives with built-in card readers

- >> if you brought a laptop review & evaluate your images and consider ways to improve them on your next game drive

- >> delete the really 'bad' shots to make space

- >> **format the memory card or cards of your camera to clear & empty all images**

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- Wildlife isn't very patient: only few seconds for your shot:
>> preset your camera & lens settings

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- Wildlife isn't very patient: only few seconds for your shot:
 - >> preset your camera & lens settings
 - >> keep camera with lens next to you (covered)

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- Wildlife isn't very patient: only few seconds for your shot:
 - >> preset your camera & lens settings
 - >> keep camera with lens next to you (covered)
 - >> **keep car windows down**

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- Wildlife isn't very patient: only few seconds for your shot:
 - >> preset your camera & lens settings
 - >> keep camera with lens next to you (covered)
 - >> keep car windows down
 - >> **stop car & switch off engine before taking image**

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>> **PRESET camera & lens settings at the START of your GAME DRIVE:**

- Camera settings:

>> preset camera mode to Aperture Priority Mode (more later) and set it to smallest f-stop (widest aperture) of your lens



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>> **PRESET camera & lens settings at the START of your GAME DRIVE:**

- Camera settings:

>> preset camera mode to Aperture Priority Mode (more later) and set it to smallest f-stop (widest aperture) of your lens

>> preset ISO so that you'll have a shutter speed of 1/800 sec at your smallest f-stop (ISO setting chosen is dependent on available light)

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>> **PRESET camera & lens settings at the START of your GAME DRIVE:**

- Camera settings:

>> preset camera mode to Aperture Priority Mode (more later) and set it to smallest f-stop (widest aperture) of your lens

>> preset ISO so that you'll have a shutter speed of 1/800 sec at your smallest f-stop (ISO setting chosen is dependent on available light)

>> **select continuous shooting mode and set to highest frame rate per second (capture speed)**

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>> **PRESET camera & lens settings at the START of your GAME DRIVE:**

- Camera settings:

>> preset camera mode to Aperture Priority Mode (more later) and set it to smallest f-stop (widest aperture) of your lens

>> preset ISO so that you'll have a shutter speed of 1/800 sec at your smallest f-stop (ISO setting chosen is dependent on available light)

>> select continuous shooting mode and set to highest frame rate per second (capture speed)

>> **select autofocus: use "non-tracking focus mode" with a small focus area size**

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- Camera settings:
- Shutter speed for hand-held photography to avoid un-sharp photos:
>> shutter speed AT LEAST equal to focal length of your lens, e.g. with a 500 mm lens have at least 1/500 sec at smallest f-stop (widest aperture)

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- Camera settings:
- Shutter speed for hand-held photography to avoid un-sharp photos:
 - >> shutter speed AT LEAST equal to focal length of your lens, e.g. with a 500 mm lens have at least 1/500 sec at smallest f-stop (widest aperture)
 - >> if you use modern image stabilization you can work with 2 to 5 stops slower shutter speed

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- Camera settings:
- Shutter speed for hand-held photography to avoid un-sharp photos:
 - >> shutter speed AT LEAST equal to focal length of your lens, e.g. with a 500 mm lens have at least 1/500 sec at smallest f-stop (widest aperture)
 - >> if you use modern image stabilization you can work with 2 to 5 stops slower shutter speed
 - >> **BUT for action shots you'll need a much higher shutter speed to freeze the action in a sharp image, e.g. 1/1600 sec. or higher**

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- Camera settings:
- Basics on lens aperture (f-stop):
>> with newer cameras/lenses you select the f-stop in camera

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- Camera settings:
- Basics on lens aperture (f-stop):
 - >> with newer cameras/lenses you select the f-stop in camera
 - >> the smallest f-stop number of e.g. f/2.8 opens the lens aperture the widest, letting in the most light

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- Camera settings:
- Basics on lens aperture (f-stop):
 - >> with newer cameras/lenses you select the f-stop in camera
 - >> the smallest f-stop number of e.g. f/2.8 opens the lens aperture the widest, letting in the most light
 - >> **small depth of field; faster shutter speed possible**

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- Camera settings:
- Basics on lens aperture (f-stop):
 - >> with newer cameras/lenses you select the f-stop in camera
 - >> the smallest f-stop number of e.g. f/2.8 opens the lens aperture the widest, letting in the most light
 - >> small depth of field; faster shutter speed possible
 - >> the largest f-stop number of e.g. f/22 closes the lens aperture the most, letting in the least light

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- Camera settings:
- Basics on lens aperture (f-stop):
 - >> with newer cameras/lenses you select the f-stop in camera
 - >> the smallest f-stop number of e.g. f/2.8 opens the lens aperture the widest, letting in the most light
 - >> small depth of field; faster shutter speed possible
 - >> the largest f-stop number of e.g. f/22 closes the lens aperture the most, letting in the least light
 - >> large depth of field; greater detail in image; slower shutter speed

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- Lens settings:

>> image stabilization: ON - if handheld



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- Lens settings:

- >> image stabilization: ON - if handheld

- >> image stabilization: OFF - if used on a bean-bag, e.g. too heavy to be handheld

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- Lens settings:

- >> image stabilization: ON - if handheld

- >> image stabilization: OFF - if used on a bean-bag, e.g. too heavy to be handheld

- >> use longest lens: telephoto lens; 300 mm or longer

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- Lens settings:

- >> image stabilization: ON - if handheld

- >> image stabilization: OFF - if used on a bean-bag, e.g. too heavy to be handheld

- >> use longest lens: telephoto lens; 300 mm or longer

- >> if you have 2 camera bodies: one with longest lens, other with shorter lens

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- Lens settings:

- >> image stabilization: ON - if handheld

- >> image stabilization: OFF - if used on a bean-bag, e.g. too heavy to be handheld

- >> use longest lens: telephoto lens; 300 mm or longer

- >> if you have 2 camera bodies: one with longest lens, other with shorter lens

- >> set on widest aperture: to allow for fastest shutter speed for unexpected action

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- Lens settings:

- >> image stabilization: ON - if handheld

- >> image stabilization: OFF - if used on a bean-bag, e.g. too heavy to be handheld

- >> use longest lens: telephoto lens; 300 mm or longer

- >> if you have 2 camera bodies: one with longest lens, other with shorter lens

- >> set on widest aperture: to allow for fastest shutter speed for unexpected action

- >> **BUT: you'll want to adjust your settings to specific situations as they occur**

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- Exposure triangle:
- exposure is made up of a combination of:
 - >> ISO setting (determines sensor light sensitivity)

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- Exposure triangle:
- exposure is made up of a combination of:
 - >> ISO setting (determines sensor light sensitivity)
 - >> f-stop (determines aperture width & therefore how much light gets to sensor & depth of field)

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- Exposure triangle:
- exposure is made up of a combination of:
 - >> ISO setting (determines sensor light sensitivity)
 - >> f-stop (determines aperture width & therefore how much light gets to sensor & depth of field)
 - >> shutter speed (determines how long shutter is open and therefore the chance of camera shake & motive blur in that time)

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- Exposure triangle:
 - exposure is made up of a combination of:
 - >> ISO setting (determines sensor light sensitivity)
 - >> f-stop (determines aperture width & therefore how much light gets to sensor & depth of field)
 - >> shutter speed (determines how long shutter is open and therefore the chance of camera shake & motive blur in that time)
- Ideal image requirements:
 - >> you want low ISO for least image noise

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- Exposure triangle:
 - exposure is made up of a combination of:
 - >> ISO setting (determines sensor light sensitivity)
 - >> f-stop (determines aperture width & therefore how much light gets to sensor & depth of field)
 - >> shutter speed (determines how long shutter is open and therefore the chance of camera shake & motive blur in that time)
- Ideal image requirements:
 - >> you want low ISO for least image noise
 - >> you may want great depth of field for more detail

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- Exposure triangle:
 - exposure is made up of a combination of:
 - >> ISO setting (determines sensor light sensitivity)
 - >> f-stop (determines aperture width & therefore how much light gets to sensor & depth of field)
 - >> shutter speed (determines how long shutter is open and therefore the chance of camera shake & motive blur in that time)
- Ideal image requirements:
 - >> you want low ISO for least image noise
 - >> you may want great depth of field for more detail
 - >> you want fast shutter speed for sharp images

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- Under LOW LIGHT it is a compromise:
>> need to choose higher ISO: will have more digital noise

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- Under LOW LIGHT it is a compromise:
 - >> need to choose higher ISO: will have more digital noise
 - >> must choose widest aperture to get fast enough shutter speed: will have a narrow depth of field & precise focusing is needed

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- Under LOW LIGHT it is a compromise:
 - >> need to choose higher ISO: will have more digital noise
 - >> must choose widest aperture to get fast enough shutter speed: will have a narrow depth of field & precise focusing is needed
 - >> if shutter speed is too slow: will have motion blur & camera shake

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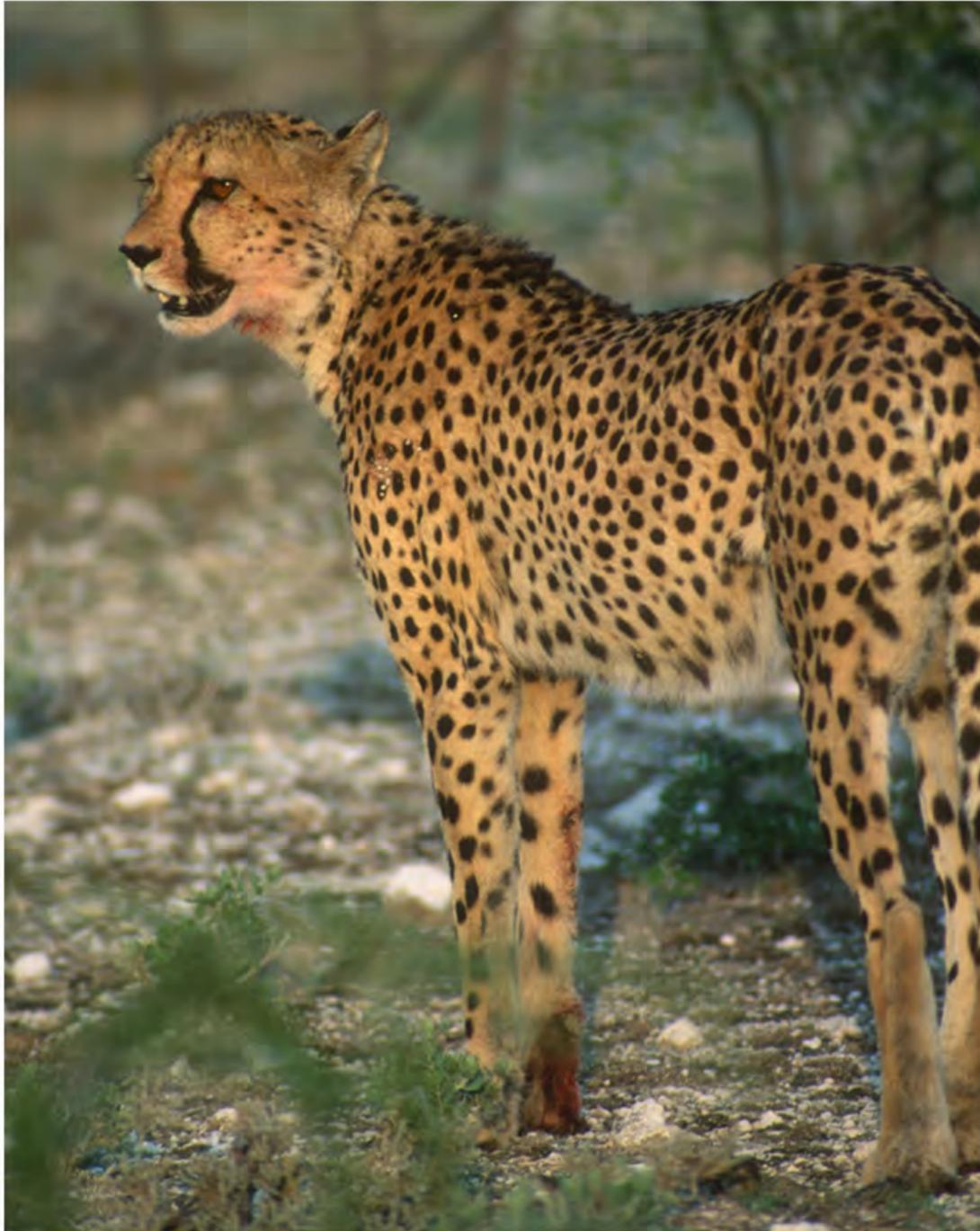


- Under LOW LIGHT it is a compromise:
 - >> need to choose higher ISO: will have more digital noise
 - >> must choose widest aperture to get fast enough shutter speed: will have a narrow depth of field & precise focusing is needed
 - >> if shutter speed is too slow: will have motion blur & camera shake
- wildlife photographers require foremost a sharp image, therefore wider aperture & higher ISO are selected to get a fast shutter speed

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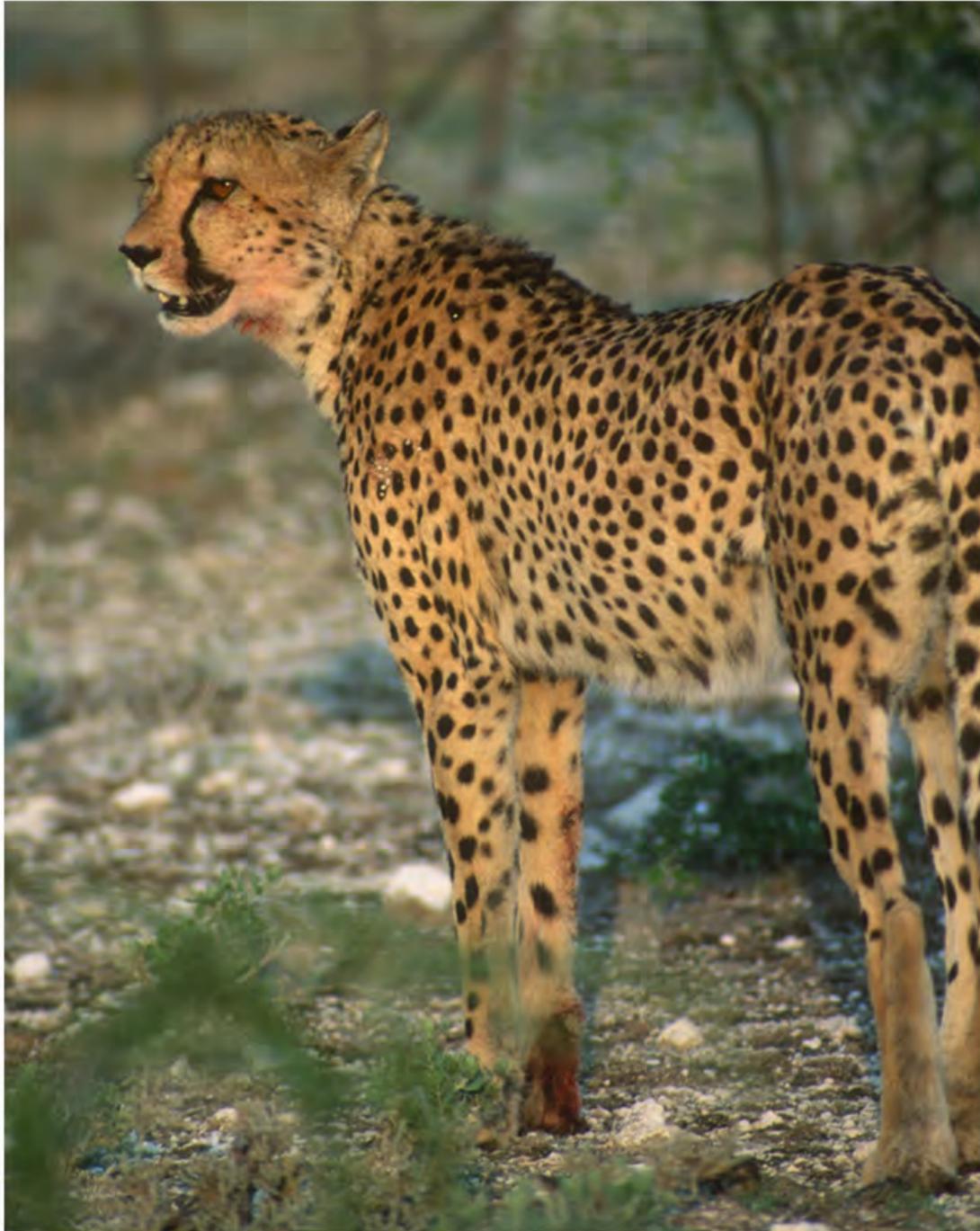


- Aperture Priority:
- with Aperture Priority Mode, you need to select 2 of the 3 settings in the exposure triangle:

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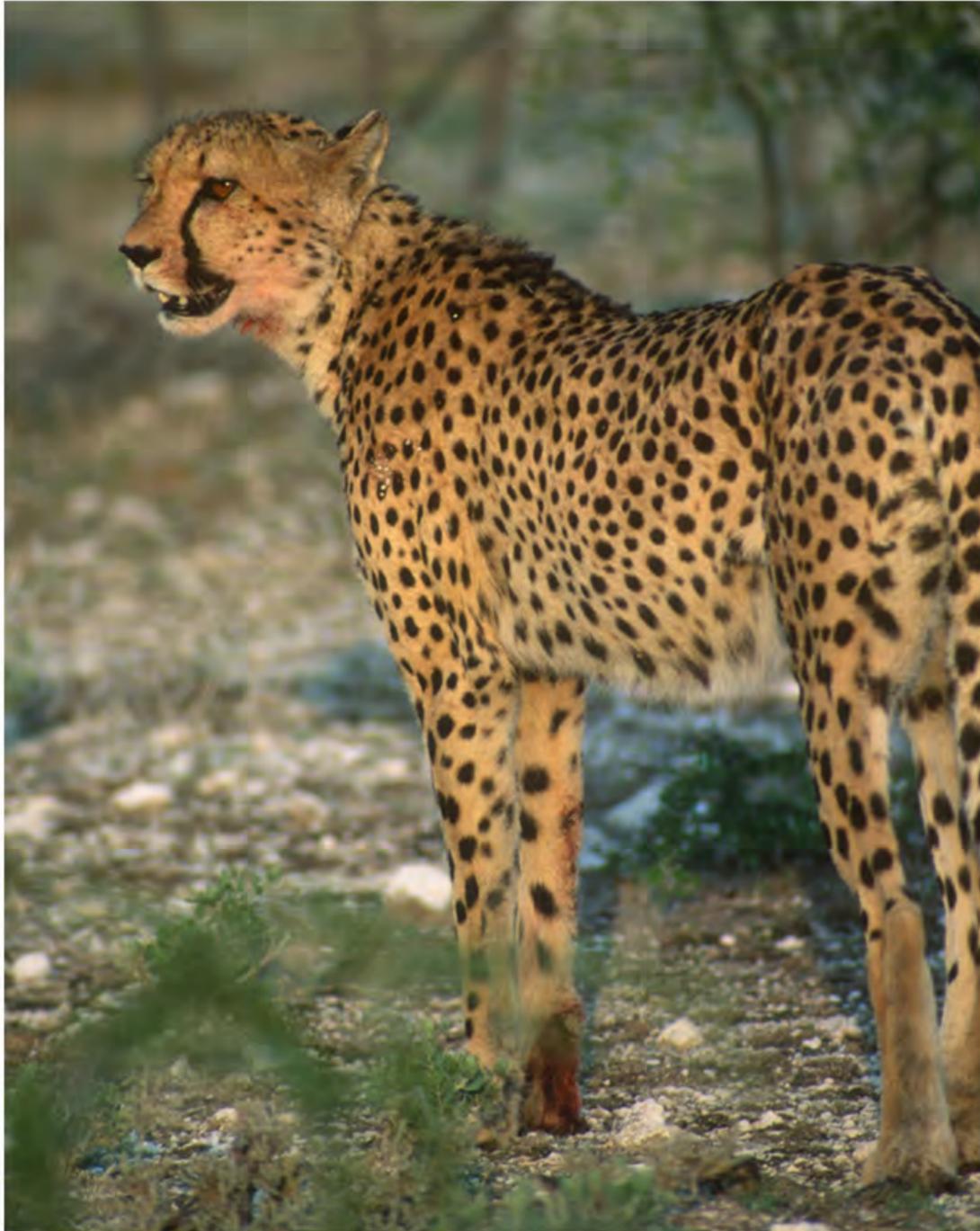


- Aperture Priority:
- with Aperture Priority Mode, you need to select 2 of the 3 settings in the exposure triangle:
>> you select f-stop (determines the depth of field)

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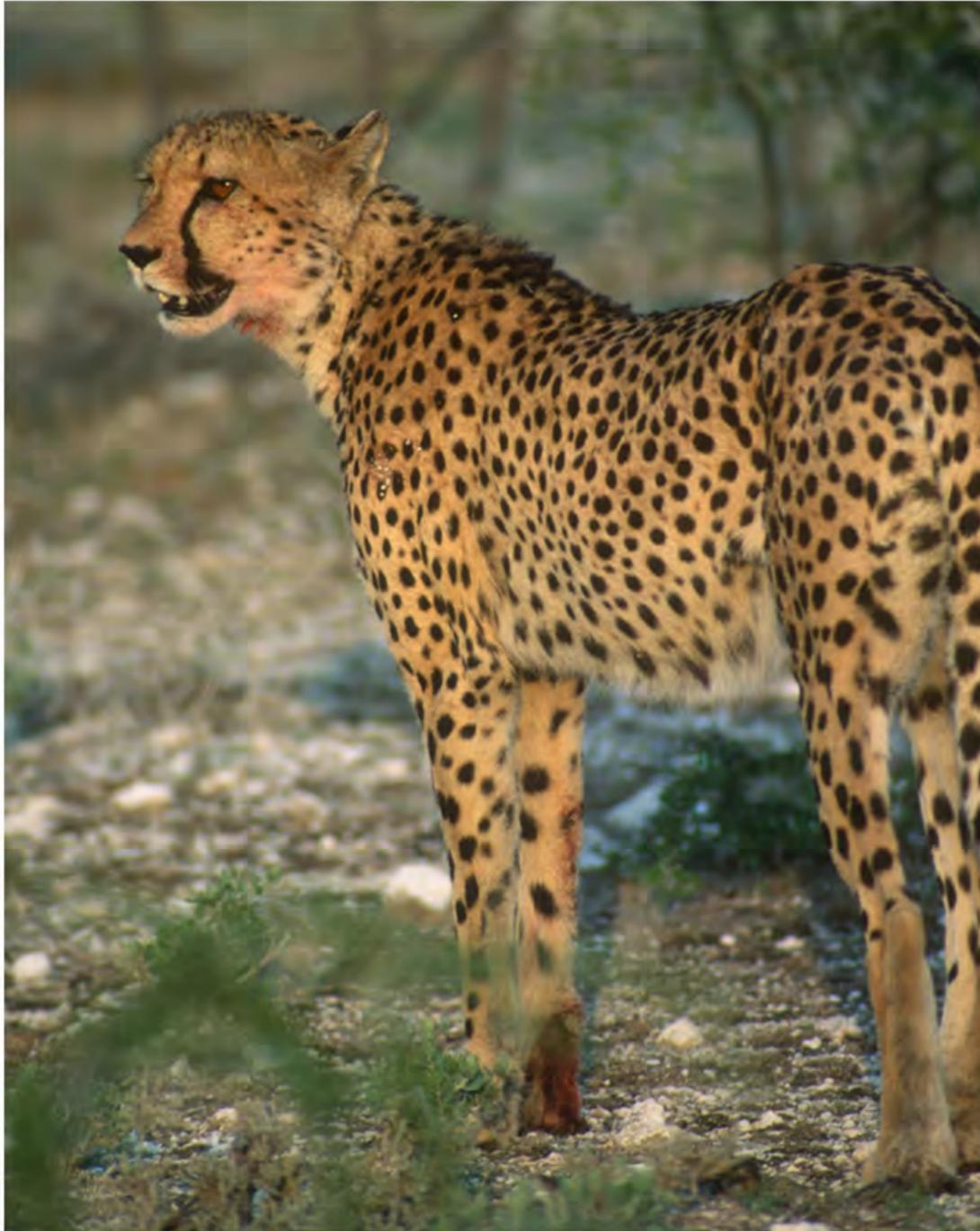


- Aperture Priority:
- with Aperture Priority Mode, you need to select 2 of the 3 settings in the exposure triangle:
 - >> you select f-stop (determines the depth of field)
 - >> you select ISO (determines the light sensitivity)

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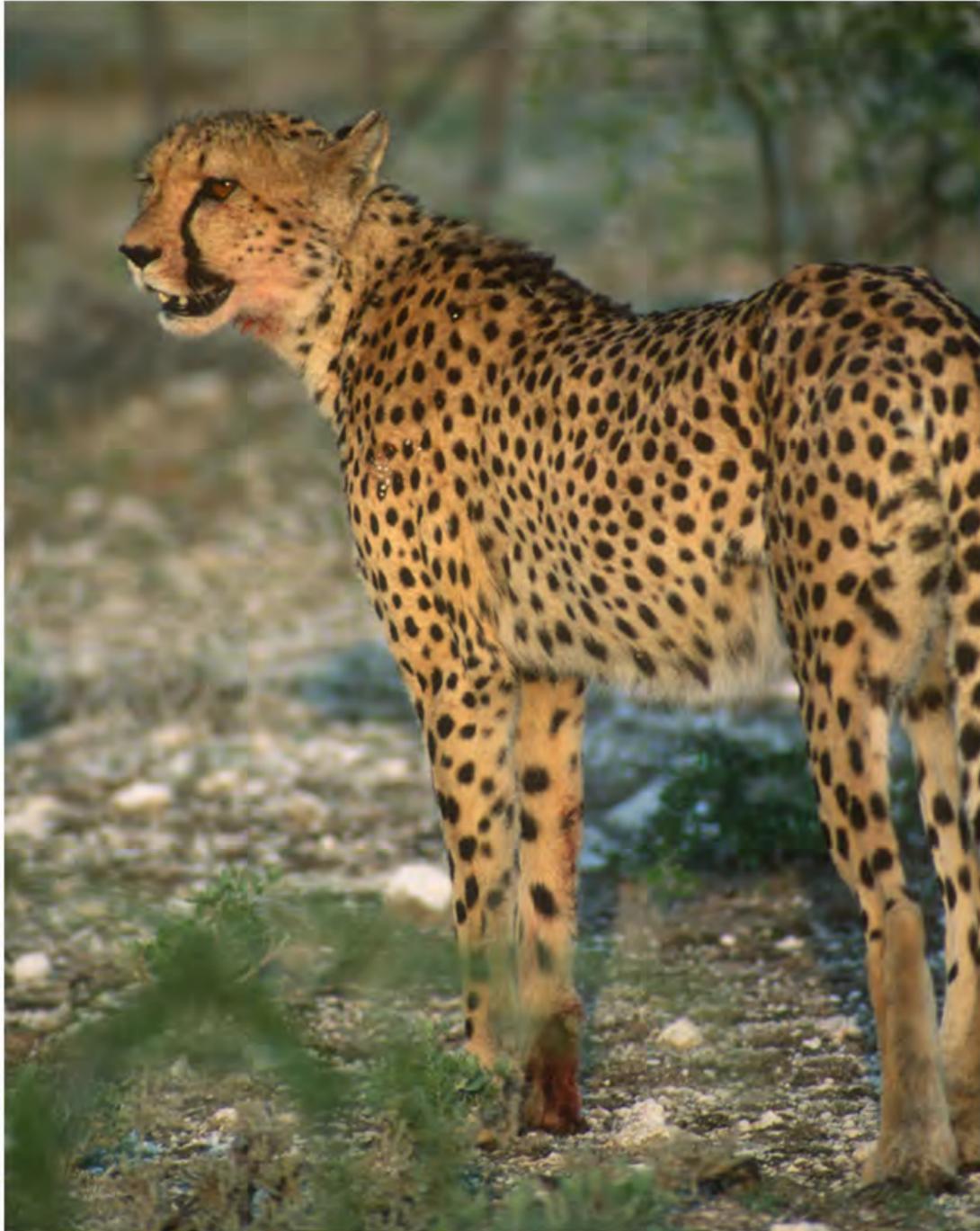


- Aperture Priority:
- with Aperture Priority Mode, you need to select 2 of the 3 settings in the exposure triangle:
 - >> you select f-stop (determines the depth of field)
 - >> you select ISO (determines the light sensitivity)
 - >> the camera selects the appropriate shutter speed for a correctly exposed image

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- Aperture Priority:
 - with Aperture Priority Mode, you need to select 2 of the 3 settings in the exposure triangle:
 - >> you select f-stop (determines the depth of field)
 - >> you select ISO (determines the light sensitivity)
 - >> the camera selects the appropriate shutter speed for a correctly exposed image
 - Aperture Priority Mode gives you more options to get correctly exposed images than Shutter Priority Mode, especially in very low light or very bright light conditions

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- Order of priority for choosing camera & lens settings:
1. Select widest aperture under low light conditions or your desired setting when enough light is available

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- Order of priority for choosing camera & lens settings:
 1. Select widest aperture under low light conditions or your desired setting when enough light is available
 2. Select a higher ISO under low light, and as low as possible a setting when enough light is available

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- Order of priority for choosing camera & lens settings:
 1. Select widest aperture under low light conditions or your desired setting when enough light is available
 2. Select a higher ISO under low light, and as low as possible a setting when enough light is available
 3. Check the shutter speed and if it is not fast enough, increase the ISO or widen the aperture if still possible

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- Order of priority for choosing camera & lens settings:
 1. Select widest aperture under low light conditions or your desired setting when enough light is available
 2. Select a higher ISO under low light, and as low as possible a setting when enough light is available
 3. Check the shutter speed and if it is not fast enough, increase the ISO or widen the aperture if still possible

- small f-stop (small depth of field) is often desirable in wildlife photography as it puts focus on animal with the background being out of focus and less distracting

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- Order of priority for choosing camera & lens settings:
 1. Select widest aperture under low light conditions or your desired setting when enough light is available
 2. Select a higher ISO under low light, and as low as possible a setting when enough light is available
 3. Check the shutter speed and if it is not fast enough, increase the ISO or widen the aperture if still possible
- small f-stop (small depth of field) is often desirable in wildlife photography as it puts focus on animal with the background being out of focus and less distracting
 - >> BUT precise focusing on eye required, especially when using very long lenses for portraits

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- Adjust your settings to account for the “ACTION LEVEL” of animals - LOW LIGHT situation:
>> just before sunset & just after sunrise

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- Adjust your settings to account for the “ACTION LEVEL” of animals - LOW LIGHT situation:
 - >> just before sunset & just after sunrise
 - 1. Passive animals: slow action & low risk of motion blur e.g. resting lions
 - >> **select the smallest f-stop (widest aperture)**

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- Adjust your settings to account for the “ACTION LEVEL” of animals - LOW LIGHT situation:
 - >> just before sunset & just after sunrise
 - 1. Passive animals: slow action & low risk of motion blur e.g. resting lions
 - >> select the smallest f-stop (widest aperture)
 - >> set ISO as required to get fast enough shutter speed to counter camera shake

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- Adjust your settings to account for the “ACTION LEVEL” of animals - LOW LIGHT situation:
 - >> just before sunset & just after sunrise
 - 1. Passive animals: slow action & low risk of motion blur e.g. resting lions
 - >> select the smallest f-stop (widest aperture)
 - >> set ISO as required to get fast enough shutter speed to counter camera shake
 - >> when you've got time, go higher with ISO and choose different f-stops to experiment with depth of field

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- Adjust your settings to account for the “ACTION LEVEL” of animals - LOW LIGHT situation:
 - >> just before sunset & just after sunrise
 - 1. Passive animals: slow action & low risk of motion blur e.g. resting lions
 - >> select the smallest f-stop (widest aperture)
 - >> set ISO as required to get fast enough shutter speed to counter camera shake
 - >> when you’ve got time, go higher with ISO and choose different f-stops to experiment with depth of field
 - >> **select single shot frame rate**

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- Adjust your settings to account for the “ACTION LEVEL” of animals - LOW LIGHT situation:
 - >> just before sunset & just after sunrise
 - 1. Passive animals: slow action & low risk of motion blur e.g. resting lions
 - >> select the smallest f-stop (widest aperture)
 - >> set ISO as required to get fast enough shutter speed to counter camera shake
 - >> when you’ve got time, go higher with ISO and choose different f-stops to experiment with depth of field
 - >> select single shot frame rate
 - >> select “non-tracking focus mode” & select small focus area size positioned where face will be in composition

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- Adjust your settings to account for the “ACTION LEVEL” of animals - LOW LIGHT situation:
 2. Slowly moving to medium action: medium risk of motion blur e.g. walking or yawning lion>> you need a faster shutter speed and at least a 1/800 sec exposure to get a sharp image

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- Adjust your settings to account for the “ACTION LEVEL” of animals - LOW LIGHT situation:
 2. Slowly moving to medium action: medium risk of motion blur e.g. walking or yawning lion
 - >> you need a faster shutter speed and at least a 1/800 sec exposure to get a sharp image
 - >> set smaller f-stop and higher ISO according to the most appropriate shutter speed

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- Adjust your settings to account for the “ACTION LEVEL” of animals - LOW LIGHT situation:
 2. Slowly moving to medium action: medium risk of motion blur e.g. walking or yawning lion
 - >> you need a faster shutter speed and at least a 1/800 sec exposure to get a sharp image
 - >> set smaller f-stop and higher ISO according to the most appropriate shutter speed
 - >> for moving animals, pan with the movement & focus on eye/head

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- Adjust your settings to account for the “ACTION LEVEL” of animals - LOW LIGHT situation:
 2. Slowly moving to medium action: medium risk of motion blur e.g. walking or yawning lion
 - >> you need a faster shutter speed and at least a 1/800 sec exposure to get a sharp image
 - >> set smaller f-stop and higher ISO according to the most appropriate shutter speed
 - >> for moving animals, pan with the movement & focus on eye/head
 - >> **select continuous shooting: high frame capture rate**

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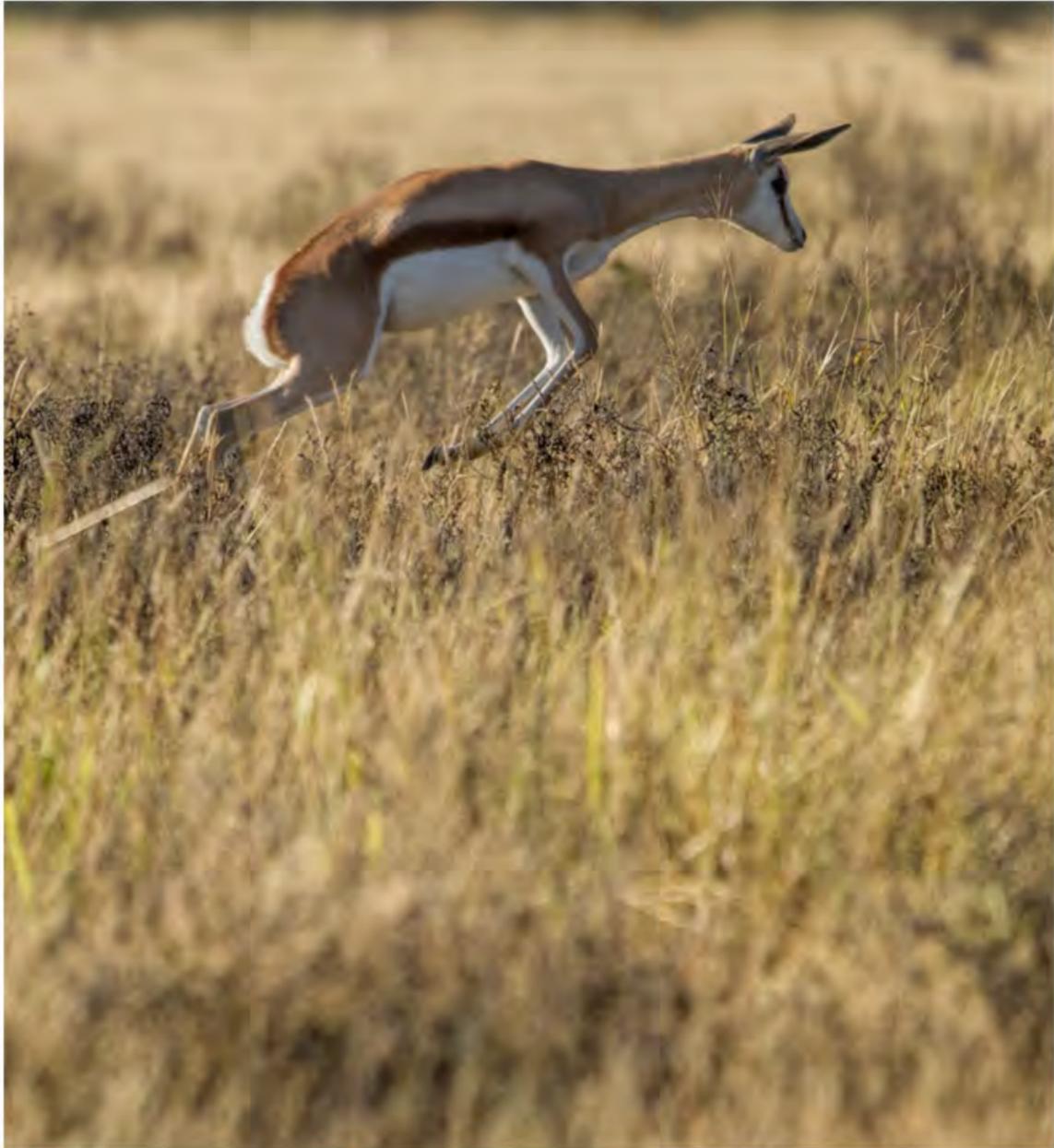


- Adjust your settings to account for the “ACTION LEVEL” of animals - LOW LIGHT situation:
 2. Slowly moving to medium action: medium risk of motion blur e.g. walking or yawning lion
 - >> you need a faster shutter speed and at least a 1/800 sec exposure to get a sharp image
 - >> set smaller f-stop and higher ISO according to the most appropriate shutter speed
 - >> for moving animals, pan with the movement & focus on eye/head
 - >> select continuous shooting: high frame capture rate
 - >> select “non-tracking focus mode” & select small focus area size where face will be in composition

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- Adjust your settings to account for the “ACTION LEVEL” of animals - LOW LIGHT situation:

3. Fast moving animals: fast action results in high risk of motion blur e.g. springbok “pronking”

>>you need a very fast shutter speed e.g. > 1/1600 sec;
set your f-stop to smallest & ISO as high as necessary
for desired shutter speed

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- Adjust your settings to account for the “ACTION LEVEL” of animals - LOW LIGHT situation:

3. Fast moving animals: fast action results in high risk of motion blur e.g. springbok “pronking”

>>you need a very fast shutter speed e.g. $> 1/1600$ sec;
set your f-stop to smallest & ISO as high as necessary
for desired shutter speed

>> **always remember: sharp image most important**

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- Adjust your settings to account for the “ACTION LEVEL” of animals - LOW LIGHT situation:

3. Fast moving animals: fast action results in high risk of motion blur e.g. springbok “pronking”

>> you need a very fast shutter speed e.g. $> 1/1600$ sec; set your f-stop to smallest & ISO as high as necessary for desired shutter speed

>> always remember: sharp image most important

>> that requires a fast enough shutter speed to freeze the expected action

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- Adjust your settings to account for the “ACTION LEVEL” of animals - LOW LIGHT situation:

3. Fast moving animals: fast action results in high risk of motion blur e.g. springbok “pronking”

>> you need a very fast shutter speed e.g. $> 1/1600$ sec; set your f-stop to smallest & ISO as high as necessary for desired shutter speed

>> always remember: sharp image most important

>> that requires a fast enough shutter speed to freeze the expected action

>> **select continuous shooting: highest frame capture rate**

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- Adjust your settings to account for the “ACTION LEVEL” of animals - LOW LIGHT situation:

3. Fast moving animals: fast action results in high risk of motion blur e.g. springbok “pronking”

>> you need a very fast shutter speed e.g. $> 1/1600$ sec; set your f-stop to smallest & ISO as high as necessary for desired shutter speed

>> always remember: sharp image most important

>> that requires a fast enough shutter speed to freeze the expected action

>> select continuous shooting: highest frame capture rate

>> select “continuous tracking focus mode” & select medium focus area size where face will be in composition

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- Adjust your settings to account for the “ACTION LEVEL” of animals - LOW LIGHT situation:
- Exceptions for point 2 and 3: artistic motion blur
- **show action with deliberate blur (more difficult; advanced technique, experimentation needed):**

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- Adjust your settings to account for the “ACTION LEVEL” of animals - LOW LIGHT situation:
- Exceptions for point 2 and 3: artistic motion blur
- show action with deliberate blur (more difficult; advanced technique, experimentation needed):
>> use slow shutter speed for partly unsharp image (less than 1/30 sec)

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- Adjust your settings to account for the “ACTION LEVEL” of animals - LOW LIGHT situation:
- Exceptions for point 2 and 3: artistic motion blur
- show action with deliberate blur (more difficult; advanced technique, experimentation needed):
 - >> use slow shutter speed for partly unsharp image (less than 1/30 sec)
 - >> pan your camera with the moving animal

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- Adjust your settings to account for the “ACTION LEVEL” of animals - LOW LIGHT situation:
- Exceptions for point 2 and 3: artistic motion blur
- show action with deliberate blur (more difficult; advanced technique, experimentation needed):
 - >> use slow shutter speed for partly unsharp image (less than 1/30 sec)
 - >> pan your camera with the moving animal
 - >> **keep focus on eye/head**

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- Adjust your settings to account for the “ACTION LEVEL” of animals - LOW LIGHT situation:
- Exceptions for point 2 and 3: artistic motion blur
- show action with deliberate blur (more difficult; advanced technique, experimentation needed):
 - >> use slow shutter speed for partly unsharp image (less than 1/30 sec)
 - >> pan your camera with the moving animal
 - >> keep focus on eye/head
 - >> **tricky to get a good result; many tries needed, but very creative results possible**

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- Adjust your settings to account for the “ACTION LEVEL” of animals - LOW LIGHT situation:
- Exceptions for point 2 and 3: artistic motion blur
- show action with deliberate blur (more difficult; advanced technique, experimentation needed):
 - >> use slow shutter speed for partly unsharp image (less than 1/30 sec)
 - >> pan your camera with the moving animal
 - >> keep focus on eye/head
 - >> tricky to get a good result; many tries needed, but very creative results possible
 - >> usually only possible with very low light in Etosha

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- Adjust your settings to account for the “ACTION LEVEL” of animals - FAST LIGHT situation:

- later in the morning, during midday and early afternoon:

>> enough light is available: choose setting that results in best image quality but still allows for sharp images

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- Adjust your settings to account for the “ACTION LEVEL” of animals - FAST LIGHT situation:

- later in the morning, during midday and early afternoon:

>> enough light is available: choose setting that results in best image quality but still allows for sharp images

>> choose your f-stop to get your desired depth of field; select the lowest ISO for least noise and that is appropriate for the action speed (shutter speed)

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- Adjust your settings to account for the “ACTION LEVEL” of animals - FAST LIGHT situation:

- later in the morning, during midday and early afternoon:

- >> enough light is available: choose setting that results in best image quality but still allows for sharp images

- >> choose your f-stop to get your desired depth of field; select the lowest ISO for least noise and that is appropriate for the action speed (shutter speed)

- >> **select continuous shooting mode: high frame capture rate during medium to fast action**

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- Adjust your settings to account for the “ACTION LEVEL” of animals - FAST LIGHT situation:

- later in the morning, during midday and early afternoon:

- >> enough light is available: choose setting that results in best image quality but still allows for sharp images

- >> choose your f-stop to get your desired depth of field; select the lowest ISO for least noise and that is appropriate for the action speed (shutter speed)

- >> select continuous shooting mode: high frame capture rate during medium to fast action

- >> **select the most appropriate focus mode**

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Your Photographic Routine & Photo Gear Settings for best wildlife shots

Take action now:

- Download & read the “7 Tips” eBook

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Your Photographic Routine & Photo Gear Settings for best wildlife shots

Take action now:

- Download & read the “7 Tips” eBook
- [Download & read the sunrise/sunset table PDF](#)

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Your Photographic Routine & Photo Gear Settings for best wildlife shots

Take action now:

- Download & read the “7 Tips” eBook
- Download & read the sunrise/sunset table PDF
- Re-read your camera manual to understand all settings

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- Download & read the “Photo Gear Settings Summary Sheet” PDF