



# CARACAL FOSTERING @ HESC



HELP ENSURE THEIR TOMORROW

## CARACALS UNDER THREAT

Although Caracals are not classified as an endangered species, humankind once again poses a big threat to the survival of these species. Caracals are mostly killed for livestock predation, although this only occurs in a few of its ranges. It still adds up to large numbers of deaths (2219 animals in one area alone). In other areas of its range, it fights hunting for its skin and for its meat, which some bush tribes consider being a luxury. Without the necessary education, and efforts by conservation institutions like HESC, the animals might well be on their way to being another endangered species.

## WHY FOSTER A CARACAL?

- Caracal are very vocal animals that can meow, growl, purr and hiss
- Unique tufts on top of their ears working as a “windsock”; ears controlled by about 20 muscles to locate their prey
- The back of the caracal’s ears are black and topped with long black tufts
- It is the largest member of Africa’s small cats
- Caracal can survive 12 years in the wild and up to 17 years in captivity
- Caracal are often killed by farmers who are trying to protect their livestock
- Luckily, population of caracals in the wild is still large and stable
- Possessing tremendous speed and agility, the caracal is a formidable predator capable of tackling prey two to three times its size

## CARACAL AT HESC

HESC’s offers a home to caracals that were orphaned, injured or confiscated, and are in need of rehabilitation. The rehabilitated caracals are sure to be released back into the wild.

## CARACAL FOSTERING

With this fostering you get to foster one of our caracals. This is at a cost of R1 750.00 per year.

An electronic, personalised fostering certificate, quarterly updates with news and images and a subscription to our Cheetah Chat newsletter.

*Please be sure to include the e-mail address of the person who should receive these caracal updates if other than yourself.*

## COSTS CONTRIBUTE TOWARDS

All contributions to the caracal fostering program will be used in the following ways:

- To take care of the individual caracal
- Food and supplements for the cat
- Maintenance of their enclosure
- Any medical attention they may require
- Inoculations and vaccinations against diseases

**If you are interested in fostering a caracal or any of the animals at the centre and require more information, please ask at the office or reception.**