



1
00:00:08,380 --> 00:00:04,200

Music

2
00:00:08,400 --> 00:00:12,560

Botswana's Okavango Delta and the Makgadikgadi Salt Pans are two ends of

3
00:00:12,580 --> 00:00:16,730

the second longest zebra migration on Earth.

4
00:00:16,750 --> 00:00:20,890

Up to five hundred zebras make the 360-mile round trip annually

5
00:00:20,910 --> 00:00:24,920

in search of greener pastures. In this animation

6
00:00:24,940 --> 00:00:29,000

shades of red show dry areas, green represents vegetation,

7
00:00:29,020 --> 00:00:33,080

and the dots show zebras tracked by GPS.

8
00:00:33,100 --> 00:00:37,210

The zebras begin at the Okavango Delta in late September.

9
00:00:37,230 --> 00:00:41,320

After the long dry Southern hemisphere winter, November rains signal

10
00:00:41,340 --> 00:00:45,400

it is time to move. The wet summer months spark the growth of new vegetation.

11
00:00:45,420 --> 00:00:49,460

After a two week trek, the zebras reach the Salt Pans,

12
00:00:49,480 --> 00:00:53,490

which are dotted with flooded oases and nutrient-rich grasses.

13
00:00:53,510 --> 00:00:57,680

As the rain peters out in April, the zebras return to the Okavango Delta,

14

00:00:57,700 --> 00:01:01,860

where floodwaters will support them through the winter.

15

00:01:01,880 --> 00:01:06,040

Fences to keep cattle away from wildlife blocked this zebra migration from

16

00:01:06,060 --> 00:01:10,220

1968 to 2004. But anecdotes about past

17

00:01:10,240 --> 00:01:14,390

migrations proved true when the fences came down and researchers began tracking

18

00:01:14,410 --> 00:01:18,570

zebras with GPS. They compared the zebras' location

19

00:01:18,590 --> 00:01:22,740

to NASA satellite data of rainfall and vegetation. They found

20

00:01:22,760 --> 00:01:26,770

that migrating zebras have quickly learned when to leave the Delta and the Salt Pans