

MONTHLY REPORT:

FEBRUARY 2019

SUMMARY - AERIAL & GROUND ACTIVITIES (“Big Tusker Project”):

Activity	Hours Flown	Kilometers Covered
Aerial Reconnaissance	67.5 (145.5 for year) Average 117km p/h of low-level flight	7,952 (16,958km for year) Flights carried out jointly with KWS staff
	Field Patrol Days	Kilometers Covered
Ground Activities (Joint KWS / TT)	Protection teams: 84 days (177 to date) Monitoring teams: 49 days (95 to date)	Protection teams: 8,220 km (17,155 to date) Monitoring teams: 6,651 km (11,854 to date)
	No. Observed	
Big “Tuskers”	12 Tuskers - 3 Super Tusker bulls, 8 emerging bulls, 1 iconic cow Tusker	
	No. Recovered	
Ivory recovered	8 elephant tusks (11 for year to date)	
Elephant carcasses	Fresh (less than 3 weeks old)	Recent (less than 3 months old)
	Nil – (c of d:)	5 old (c of d: natural)
Ele. Carcasses/hrs flown	1 every 13.5 hours of flight	
Poacher camps/hides	Fresh - 4	Recent - 4
Arrests	Nil – by KWS / TT – (3 to date 2019)	
Snares/traps recovered	21 (by Tembo Teams – 67 for year to date)	
Response/support to KWS - armed incidents	Nil	
	6 cattle bomas (1,900 + cows, 500 shoats, 8 people)	
Written reports to KWS	66 (daily email reports, various communications & 1 monthly report)	
General & significant notes	22nd to 24thFeb19: Wildlife Forensics – Crime Scene Investigations & Prosecution Training course of all TT protection teams by Wildlife TRAXX / KWS 26/2/19: Rhino “Benja” who was treated in Dec18 was located and is recovering well - Aerial & ground support to Rhino Program in TWNP & TENP, via ongoing partnership with KWS / ZSL. 8 rhino specific recce flights (23.5hrs) carried out with KWS - Tembo 2 & 4 involved with TCA Carnivore Census in support of KWS (3 months)	

Photo shows the ever-increasing challenges that Tsavo’s wildlife faces, with major infrastructure development, increased HWC and of course rapid human population growth. Here an elephant bull took one hour to cross the Mombasa Highway near Mtito Andei. Lorry after lorry hindered his path and eventually a brief lull in traffic allowed him across. A 6 lane Super Highway, that is currently being planned, will without doubt constrict wildlife movement even more between TENP and TWNP and if we don’t get the planning right now, movement between the 2 Parks may be severed forever!



WILDLIFE CONSERVATION PROGRAM:

“Big Tusker Project”- aerial and ground mobile teams:

Tsavo Trust’s Big Tusker Project (BTP) recorded the following details in the BTP database:

- Total of 12 different individual Tusker’s were observed from ground and air coverage.
- 3 bull Super Tuskers – 12 different sightings.
- 8 Emerging bull Tuskers – 20 sightings.
- 1 Iconic cow Tusker – 1 sighting.
- **Total sightings – 33**
- **Weather conditions:** TT HQ rainfall: **Nil**. Total rainfall at Tsavo Trust HQ to date: **4.5mm**.
- **Elephant mortality: 5 carcasses located (5 old):** C of D – all natural, ivory recovered.
- **Rhino security:** Regular aerial recces in support of KWS over TWNP rhino areas in partnership with ZSL. 8 rhino specific air recces resulted in 2,823km flown over 23.5 hrs (7 TW & 1 TE).
- **Collared Elephant:** Ongoing monitoring from ground and air taking place by KWS / TT teams.
- **TCA Carnivore Census:** Tsavo Trust Tembo 2 & 4 monitoring teams supporting the KWS led TCA Carnivore Census over the next 3 months.
- **Critically Endangered Raptor monitoring:** Ongoing

Table 1: Shows “Tusker” code, number of times observed during month and brief remarks.

Tusker Code	No. Times Seen / Month	Brief Remarks
BULLS		
LU1	3	In good health, back to his dry season range
WS1	8	Back to normal location
IL1	1	Thankfully back into the Park and normal location
SO1	1	Normal location
BU1	1	Normal location
KM2	2	Normal location
TS1	2	Normal location
VO1	1	Same location
BL1	1	Normal location
MG1	4	Back to original location
KI1	8	Normal location
COWS		
F-DI1	1	Continues to move big distances
TOTAL	11 bulls & 1 cows: 33 different sightings	
Close working relationship between KWS and Tsavo Trust (aerial and ground units combined) is without doubt adding to elephant security and safety of the big Tuskers and other elephants within the TCA through meaningful collaboration alongside KWS Security and Research & Monitoring Departments.		



Photo shows the iconic cow Tusker coded as F-DI1 taken on 7th February 2019 in TENP.

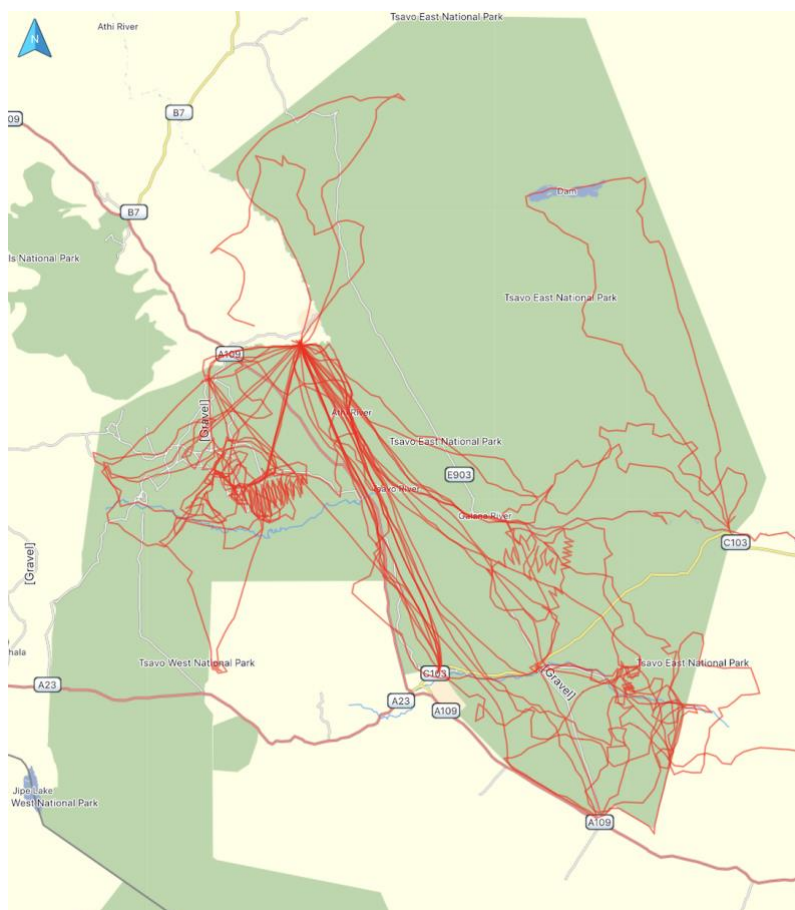
She is without doubt the queen of Tsavo’s cow elephants.

Tsavo Trust has observation records of F-DI1 covering the last 8 years.

Areas Covered: Table 2: Shows the main areas covered within the TCA for this month:

TSAVO EAST NP	TSAVO WEST NP	RANCHES & DISPERSAL AREAS
Northern Area – Yatta Plateau, Durusikale, Garasamuke, Emusaya, Golf Charlie, Koitu, Sobo, Sangayaya, Dabaduke, Mufupa ya Ndovu, Tiva River, Roka, Gazi, Ithumba, Ndiandaza, YaKalicha Southern Area – Voi, Ndololo, Kanderi, Wagalla, Ndara Plains, Buchuma, Maungu, Murondo, Dakota, Voi River, Dika Plains, Satao, power lines, Aruba, Mukuaju, Dika, Konu Moja, Dida Harea, Balguda, Sala, Lali, Sobo, TENP boundary, Koitu, Galana River Central Area – TE R/S, IPZ, Manyani east, Punda Milia, Hatulo Bisani, Lugards, Mbololo lugga, Balguda, Irima, Mudanda, Maka Hill, Man-eaters, Triangle, Mtito Lugga, Zero Delta, Voi north & east, Galana River, Tsavo River and Yatta Central, SGR	Northern Sector – IPZ, Mangalet, Kamboyo, Kisimeka, Chyulu south, Mtito lugga, Mungai Hill, Finch Hattons, Mzima Springs, Shetani volcano, Severin, Kilaguni, Ndawe, Tsavo River Southern Sector – Murka, Maktau, Ziwani, Central Sector – IPZ, Rhino Valley, NRS, Tsavo River, Kinyek, Maji ya Chumvi (north & south), Ziwani, Lesoito, Kyulu, Manda, Kishushe, Murka, Mombasa Highway, Man Easters, Kenani, Kanga, Manyani north and west, SGR line	TENP border – Ngiluni/Kamunyu, Kulalu, Dere, Murondo, Magram/Dakota Ranch, KMC, Ngutuni, Shirango, Kilifi & Galana Ranch TWNP border – Rombo Chyulu Hills NP - Nil Taita Ranches - Nil
- The locations mentioned above is only an indicator of flight paths taken, many other areas in between are also covered and in so doing providing “eyes in the skies” over Tsavo and directional guidance to ground units. - All flight paths are logged and recorded with all relevant real-time observations relayed to KWS on a daily basis for their records as well as necessary rapid reaction.		

- Map below shows Tsavo Trust’s flight paths (2 aircraft) over the TCA in February 2019. The red path is for aircraft 5Y TTZ and the blue for 5Y NRF. 67.5 hours flown covering 7,952 kilometers over Tsavo in support of KWS: **Air & ground activities; Big Tusker monitoring; Locating illegal activities; Wildlife monitoring; Aerial census and tracking.**



Field Mobile Units:

Tsavo Trust's mobile field teams work alongside KWS, who take the lead role, on a daily basis.

Tembo 1, 3, 5 teams & Kamungi Scouts are habitat protection / de-snaring focused whilst **Tembo 2 & 4 teams** are wildlife monitoring based. All teams provide further "eyes and ears on the ground".

Habitat Protection / De-snaring teams:

Table 7: Shows outcomes from field activities from Tembo 1, 3, 5 & Kamungi Scouts teams:

De-snaring teams	No. Field days	No. Arrest	No. Ivory recvd.	No. Snare recvd.	Bushmeat recvd.	Poachers equip. recvd.	No. Poacher camps	Vehicle mileage km
Tembo 1 (TENP) (6 TT Scouts + 3 KWS Rangers)	28	Nil	Nil	17 17 for small game	Nil	Nil	4 recent	3,018
Tembo 3 (TWNP) (6 TT Scouts + 3 KWS Rangers)	28	Nil	Nil	4 2 large cable snares for ele/rhino 2 medium	Nil	Nil	4 fresh	3,238
Tembo 5 / Kamungi (TWNP) 14 TT Scouts + 3 KWS Rangers	28	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	1,964
TOTALS	84	-	-	21	As above	As above	8	8,220
Total 2019	177	3	1	67	35kg	-	9	17,155

Monitoring & Evaluation teams:

Table 8: Shows activities carried out by Tembo 2 & 4 teams – monitoring & evaluation:

Monitoring team	No. Field days	Activities	Endangered species records / sightings	Operating locations	Vehicle mileage km
Tembo 2 (TENP) (3 TT staff + 2 KWS)	25	- Tusker monitoring - Hirola monitoring - Grevy's zebra monitoring - Carnivore monitoring - Carnivore scat collection for analysis – hair content - Mombasa/Nairobi - Road & SGR kill surveys - Camera trap surveys - Fixed point photos - Collared elephant reporting	- Tuskers – 4 sighting - Hirola – 1 - Grevy's Zebra – 1 sightings - Large Carnivores – 17 - Road & Rail kills – 2 - Elephant carcasses – Nil - Rain gauge readings - Collared elephants – 1 - Carnivore scat collect - 1	TENP, Ndololo, Kandechea, Kanderi, Aruba, Satao, Mukuaju, Voi, Kono Moju, Dida Harea, Ndara, Ngutuni, Dika plains, Bachuma, Dakota, Msa – Nbi road between Voi & Bachuma, KMC Ranch, Kupile Nek, Manyani, Iririma, Mudanda, Ndii	3,537
Tembo 4 (TWNP) (2 TT staff + 2 KWS)	24	- Tusker monitoring - Rhino monitoring in IPZ - Carnivore monitoring - Mombasa/Nairobi - Road & SGR kill surveys - Rainfall data collection - Camera trap surveys - Fixed point photos - Collared elephant reporting	- Tuskers – 14 - Rhino monitoring IPZ - NRS night census – Nil - Large Carnivores – 31 - Road & Rail kills – 2 - Elephant mortality - Nil - Rain gauge readings - Collared elephants – 5 - Kamungi Cons. Game census transects – 19 species	TWNP, Kamboyo, Mangalete, Kilaguni, Mungai, Poachers lookout, Kitani, old Chyulu gate, Mzima, Shetani, Finch H, Ziwani, Tsavo River, Rhodesia Hill, pipe line, Rhino Valley, Ndawe, Ngulia, Kenani, Kyulu, Manyani, IPZ, NRS	3,114
TOTALS	49	As above	As above	As above	6,651
Total 2019	95	-	-	-	11,854

FIELD TEAM TRAINING:

Between 22nd and 24th February 2019: **Wildlife Forensics – Crime Scene Investigations & Prosecution** Training course of all Tsavo Trust protection teams carried out by Wildlife TRAXX and KWS at Tsavo Trust HQ. This was very worthwhile and successful.

Photo shows some of the 30 Tsavo Trust field Scouts undergoing wildlife forensic / scene of crime training. This was made possible through Wildlife Traxx / IFAW. On behalf of Tsavo Trust a huge Thank you.



Each Scout received a certificate, here being handed out by Dr. Moses Otiende from KWS and Sienna Dennis of Wildlife Traxx.



COMMUNITY CONSERVANCY PROGRAM:



- ✓ **Ongoing partnership between Tsavo Trust and Kamungi Conservancy (KC)** (bordering northern boundary of TENP – Triangle).
- ✓ **Employment:** Between Tsavo Trust and its partners 38 permanent staff and 23 casual staff were employed generating over \$ 10,000 (Ksh. 1,000,000) of income into Kamungi every month.
- ✓ **Community Meetings:**
 - 4th Feb19 – Meeting at Chiefs Office, Mtito Andei with village elders
 - 15th Feb19 – KWS TCA Management Plan discussions at Kilaguni Lodge, TWNP – Kamungi Conservancy CLO and TT present
 - 21st Feb19 – Kamungi Conservancy members meeting – KC water project. 60 plus people attended including TT CEO
- ✓ **Kamungi Membership:** Through a registered CBO KC membership represents 67 families & 700 individuals. This is likely to rise as more people apply.
- ✓ **Kamungi Water Project:** 22,220 litres of water was issued from the water dispensing kiosk at Ngiluni Village. Each family is rationed to 60 litres per day. Several days of no water were witnessed – it is believed the bore hole supply is low with the dry season.
- ✓ **Ngiluni Dispensary upgrade:** Completed upgrade with power and plumbing. Water remains an issue to deliver going forward.
- ✓ **Education:** Tsavo Trust has paid for 2 teachers (1 at Ngiluni & 1 at Kamunyu School within KC) for the last 6 years. This is ongoing.
- ✓ **HWC – Elephant Bee Fences** – 7 x 1-acre bee fences, total 105 bee hives with 12 currently occupied. Due to the poor rains in this area, the bees have not made the honey we had anticipated, and so selective harvesting will wait until early 2019.
- ✓ **HWC** – 40 cases were recorded around Kamungi Conservancy this month. HWC cases: 28 elephant cases, 3 hyenas, 8 Leopard, 1 monkey.
- ✓ **Kamungi Forestry Project** – Seedlings have been re planted and ongoing.
- ✓ **Snake anti-venom** – Supply for venomous snakes – Tsavo Trust partners with the James Ashe Anti-venom Trust (JAAT)/ Bio-Ken Snake Farm, Watamu who are the top-quality anti-venom suppliers. This month there were no cases attended to in our area of operations. (Tsavo Trust currently holds 4 vials for emergency use).
- ✓ **Wildlife Census Transects:** Ongoing – taking place 2 times per month along set transects within KC to give base line data on wildlife trends. 19 different species were identified this month (143 observations).



**Photo shows
Kamungi
Conservancy
Board
Members,
28th January
2019, Tsavo
Trust HO**

“SHIRANGO COMMUNITY CONSERVANCY”:

- ✓ **Ongoing partnership between Tsavo Trust and Shirango Conservancy (SCC)** (bordering onto southern boundary of TENP – Voi River area). Total area 270km². SCC is located within Kilifi County; Ganze Sub-location; Bamba Ward; Mitangani location; Gede Sub-location.
- ✓ **Employment** – Tsavo Trust employs 8 staff from this community including a Community Liaison Officer (CLO) to spear head activities. This equates to over \$ 1,600 (Ksh. 160,000) of income generation every month to this community as a result.
- ✓ **Community Meetings:**
 - 26th Feb19 – 11 Watha elders met with Magram (the apparent lease of Dakota Ranch). This land is in question and the Watha are intending to take legal action to re possess their ancestral land. This will take time, but this is a start.
 - **Shirango Membership:** CBO name change to **Shirango Community Conservancy** is in process and approved by the Board (was *Shirango Community Development Project*). Members come from 5 villages on the fringes of Shirango Community Conservancy: Shirango; Gede Jira/Garbiti; Ngambo/Baisa; Dabaso; Chamamba. Members registration is ongoing – at least 2,000 to date, mainly come from the Watha and Giriama ethnic groups. Ongoing.
- ✓ **Shirango Water Project:** Ongoing – awaiting Kilifi Water Resource Management approvals and NEMA license following applications. This has still not come through despite several calls and visits to Kilifi Water Resource Management Authority Office, calls with Mombasa and Machakos (where the application is lodged).
- ✓ **Shirango Conservancy land tenure:** Ongoing - CLO is regularly following this up in the Kilifi County Govt. offices.
- ✓ **HWC:** There is very significant conflict in Shirango that needs recording: 29 cases recorded: elephant 4; hyena 20, lion 5 (2 attacks on humans).

Unusual Photo of the Month:

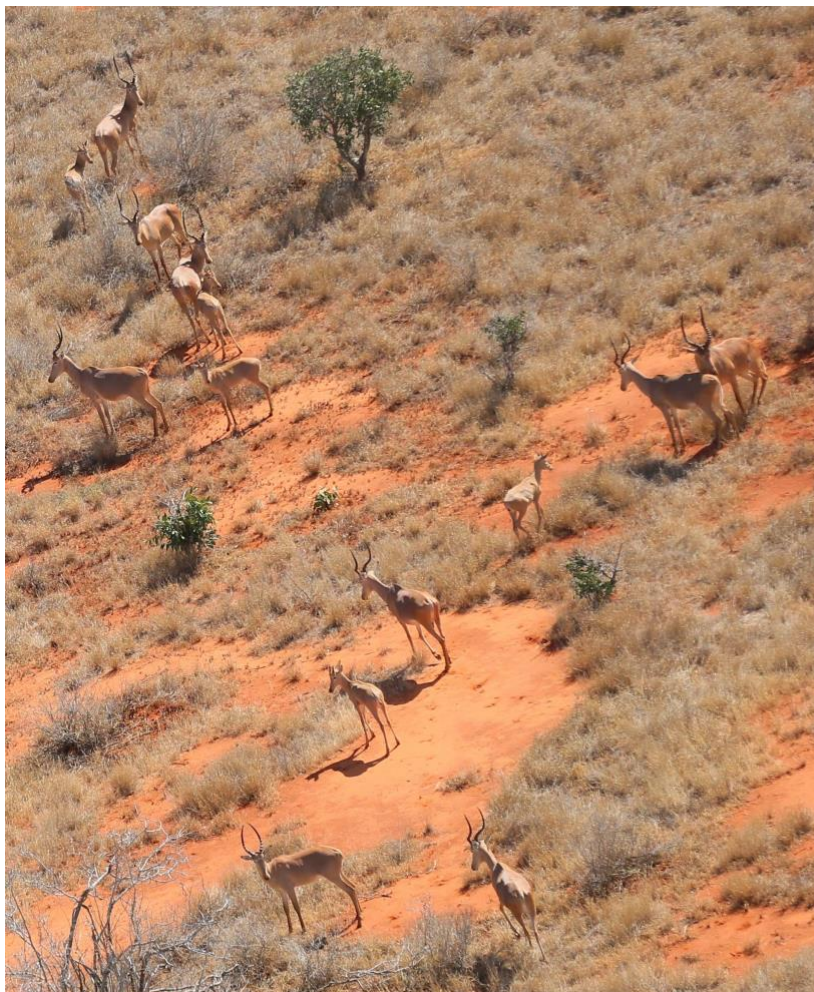


Photo shows 14 critically endangered Hirola in TENP on 28th February 2019.

With less than 400 remaining on the planet, the 70 plus Hirola in TENP are a critical population, second to the last stronghold of Hirola on the north bank of the Tana River in north eastern Kenya, where serious and successful efforts to increase their population has been achieved at Ishaqbin Conservancy, a member and partner with Northern Ranaelands Trust.

With sincere thanks and appreciation to the Kenya Wildlife Service, US Fish & Wildlife Service, The Oak Foundation, USAid / DOI, Tusk Trust, Cheyenne Mountain Zoo, Leopardess Foundation (Nicole Honegger), JM Foundation Africa, Zoological Society of London (ZSL), Save The Elephants, Stuart Herd, Sir Colin Southgate, Nick Southgate, Alex Graham, Nick Powell, James Robertson, Markus Jebsen, Paul Block, The Kratt Family, International Fund for Animal Welfare (IFAW), The Davies Family, International Elephant Foundation (IEF), Disney/Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS), Ndovu Trust (UK), Mike Kirkland - Satao Camp & Southern Cross Safaris (Msa), Anita Mishra & Paolo Mapelli, Tropical Ice Ltd, Askari Project – Australia, Skip & Joanie Mooney, Salama Fikira, Origins Safaris, Ker & Downey Safaris, Conservation Alpha, JW Seagon Insurance, The Art of BAS & Oak Furniture Land, Howard Saunders, Sandor Carter, Sean Dundas, Karen Laurence-Rowe, James Lewin, OnSafari-Kenya-Anthony Cheffings, Kathy Snowden, Saving the Survivors – Johan Marais, Chris Acreman, Paul & James Wilson, Alex Hunter – Insiders Africa, Spidertracks, Michael Cheffings, Pembroke House School and numerous other individual supporters.

Report compiled by Richard Moller – Chief Executive Officer, Tsavo Trust
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