

# **MONTHLY REPORT:**

## **MARCH 2019**

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

Activity		Hours Flown	Kilometers Covered			
Aerial Reconnaissance		<b>54</b> (199.5 for year)	<b>6,698</b> (23,656km for year)			
		Average 118km p/h of low-level flight	Flights carried out jointly with KWS staff			
		Field Patrol Days	Kilometers Covered			
Ground Activit	ies	Protection teams: 93 days (270 to date)	Protection teams: 8,037 km (25,192 to date)			
(Joint KWS / TT)		Monitoring teams: 44 days (139 to date)	Monitoring teams: 5,647 km (17,501 to date)			
		No. Observed				
Big "Tuskers"		13 Tuskers - 3 Super Tusker bulls, 10 emerging bulls, Nil iconic cow Tuskers				
		No. Recovered				
Ivory recovered		5 elephant tusks (16 for year to date)				
Elephant carcasses		Fresh (less than 3 weeks old)	<b>Recent</b> (less than 3 months old)			
		3 – (c of d: 2 natural; 1 unconfirmed)	2 old (c of d: natural)			
Ele. Carcasses/hrs flown		1 every 11 hours of flight				
Poacher camps/hides		Fresh - Nil	Recent - 1			
Arrests		<b>3</b> – by KWS / TT – (2 bushmeat, 1 illegal livestock - <b>6</b> to date 2019)				
Snares/traps re	covered	<b>30</b> (by Tembo Teams – <b>97</b> for year to date)				
Response/support to KWS - armed incidents		Nil				
		4 cattle bomas (3,900 + cows, 13 people)				
Written reports	to KWS	<b>60</b> (daily email reports, various communications & 1 monthly report)				
	• 8/3/19: ne	new emerging Tusker coded SI1, TENP				
	• 24/3/19: I	Earthquake in Tsavo measuring 5.6 magnitude				
General &	• 29/3/19: A	Assist high end tourism operators to locate new campsites, TENP				
significant	• Partner to	o KWS to assist in implementation of the TCA Management Plan 2019 – 2029				
notes	• Partner to	o KWS & ZSL in the Tsavo's in line with KWS Rhino Strategy				
	Key stake	teholder in the KWS - Hirola Recovery Strategy				
	• Tembo 2	& 4 involved with TCA Carnivore Census in support of KWS (3 months)				

Photo shows a magnificent TENP rhino on 11<sup>th</sup> March 2019. In partnership with KWS & ZSL, Tsavo Trust carried out 22.5 hours of rhino specific flight covering 2,736 kilometers over Tsavo East & West.



#### **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 13 different individual Tusker's were observed from ground and air coverage.
- 3 bull Super Tuskers 10 different sightings.
- 10 Emerging bull Tuskers 19 sightings.
- Nil Iconic cow Tusker –Nil.
- 1 new emerging Tusker added to the data base on 8/3/19 coded as SI1 in TENP.
- $\triangleright$  Total sightings 29
- **Weather conditions:** TT HQ rainfall: Nil. Total rainfall at Tsavo Trust HQ to date: 4.5mm.
- $\triangleright$  *Elephant mortality:* **5 carcasses located (3 fresh, 2 old):** C of D 4 natural, 1 unconfirmed (believed to have died as a result of HEC).
- ➤ *Rhino security:* Regular aerial recces with KWS over TWNP & TENP rhino areas in partnership with ZSL. 9 rhino specific air recces resulted in 2,736km flown over 22.5 hrs (8 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	No. Times Seen	Brief Remarks					
Code	/ Month						
BULLS							
LU1	4	In good health, back to his dry season range					
WS1	5	Normal dry season location					
IL1	1	Normal dry season location					
MM1	1	Normal dry season location					
BL1	1	Normal dry season location					
SI1	1	Newly identified emerging Tusker on 8/3/19					
KM2	1	Normal dry season location					
TS1	1	Normal dry season location					
VO1	1	Same location					
TA1	2	Normal dry season location					
CH1	4	Normal dry season location					
KI1	6	Normal dry season location					
SG1	1	Moves big distances					
COWS							
Nil							
TOTAL	13 bulls & Nil cows: 29 different sightings						
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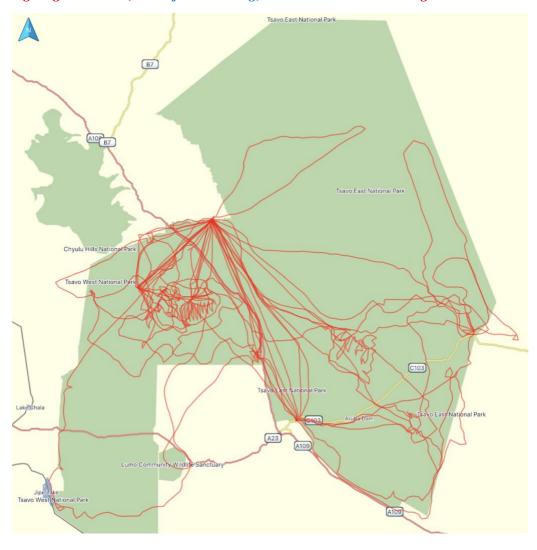
Close working relationship between KWS and Tsavo Trust (aerial and ground units) is without doubt adding to elephant security / safety of the big Tuskers and other elephants in Tsavo through meaningful and joint teamwork.

Photo shows emerging mono Tusker coded MM1 on left on 11th March 2019.



TSAVO EAST NP	TSAVO WEST NP	RANCHES & DISPERSAL AREAS	
Northern Area – Yatta Plateau, Durusikale,	Northern Sector – IPZ,	TENP border –	
Garasamuke, Emusaya, Golf Charlie, Koitu, Sobo, Sangayaya, Dabaduke, Mufupa ya	Mangalete, Kamboyo, Kisimeka, Chyulu south, Mtito lugga, Mungai	Kulalu, Derea, Murondo,	
Ndovu, Tiva River, Roka, Gazi, Ithumba,	Hill, Finch Hattons, Mzima	Magram/Dakota	
Ndiandaza, YaKalicha	Springs, Shetani volcano, Severin,	Ranch, KMC,	
Southern Area – Voi, Ndololo, Kanderi, Wagalla, Ndara Plains, Buchuma, Maungu,	Kilaguni, Ndawe, Tsavo River <b>Southern Sector</b> – Murka,	Ngutuni, Shirango Conservancy, Kilifi	
Murondo, Dakota, Voi River, Dika Plains,	Maktau, Ziwani,	& Galana Ranch	
Satao, power lines, Aruba, Mukuaju, Dika,	Central Sector – IPZ, Rhino	TWNP border –	
Konu Moja, Dida Harea, Balguda, Sala, Lali,	Valley, NRS, Tsavo River, Kinyek,	Kamungi	
Sobo, TENP boundary, Koitu, Galana River	Maji ya Chumvi (north & south),	Conservancy,	
Central Area – TE R/S, IPZ, Manyani east,	Ziwani, Lesoito, Kyulu, Manda,	Rombo	
Punda Milia, Hatulo Bisani, Lugards,	Kishushe, Murka, Mombasa	Chyulu Hills NP -	
Mbololo lugga, Balguda, Irima, Mudanda,	Highway, Man Easters, Kenani,	Nil	
Maka Hill, Man-eaters, Triangle, Mtito	Kanga, Manyani north and west,	Taita Ranches -	
Lugga, Zero Delta, Voi north & east, Galana	SGR line	Nil	
River, Tsavo River and Yatta Central, SGR			

- 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 over the TCA in March 2019. 54 hours flown covering 6,698 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 8: 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	No. HWC Cases	Vehicle mileage km
Tembo 1 (TENP) (6 TT Scouts + 3 KWS Rangers)	31	Nil	2 tusks	24 13 for medium game, 11 for small game	Nil	Nil	1 recent	2	3,021
Tembo 3 (TWNP) (6 TT Scouts + 3 KWS Rangers)	31	2 Bushmeat poachers	2 tusks	6 6 for small game	5kg warthog meat	1 bicycle	Nil	2	2,508
Tembo 5 / Kamungi (TWNP) 14 TT Scouts + 3 KWS Rangers	31	Nil	1 tusk	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	2,508
TOTALS	93	2	5	21	As above	As above	1	4	8,037
<b>Total 2019</b>	270	5	6	67	40kg	-	10	5	25,192

#### Monitoring & Evaluation teams:

Table 9: Shows activities carried out by Tembo 2 & 4 teams – monitoring & evaluation:

Monitoring teams	No. Field days	Activities	Endangered species records / sightings	Operating locations	Vehicle mileage km
Tembo 2 (TENP) (3 TT staff + 2 KWS)	21	<ul> <li>Grevy's zebra monitoring</li> <li>Carnivore monitoring</li> <li>Carnivore scat collection for analysis – hair content</li> <li>Mombasa/Nairobi - Road</li> <li>&amp; SGR kill surveys</li> <li>Camera trap surveys</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Tuskers – 10 sighting</li> <li>Hirola – 1</li> <li>Grevy's Zebra – 5 sightings</li> <li>Large Carnivores – 42</li> <li>Road &amp; Rail kills – Nil</li> <li>Elephant carcasses – Nil</li> <li>Rain gauge readings</li> <li>Collared elephants – 1</li> <li>Carnivore scat collect - Nil</li> </ul>	TENP, Ndololo, Kandecha, Kanderi, Aruba, Satao, Mukuaju, Voi, Kono Moju, Dida Harea, Ndara, Ngutuni, Dika plains, Bachuma, Dakota, Msa – Nbi road between Voi & Bachuma, KMC Ranch, Kuple Nek, Manyani, Irima, Mudanda, Ndii	2,845
Tembo 4 (TWNP) (2 TT staff + 2 KWS)	23	Mombasa/Nairobi - Road     & SGR kill surveys     Rainfall data collection	<ul> <li>Tuskers – 17</li> <li>Rhino monitoring IPZ</li> <li>NRS night census – Nil</li> <li>Large Carnivores – 9</li> <li>Road &amp; Rail kills – 0</li> <li>Elephant mortality - Nil</li> <li>Rain gauge readings</li> <li>Collared elephants – 1</li> <li>Kamungi Cons. Game census transects – 9</li> <li>species</li> </ul>	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	2,802
TOTALS	44	As above	As above	As above	5,647
<b>Total 2019</b>	139	-	-	-	17,501

#### **COMMUNITY CONSERVANCY PROGRAM:**



- ✓ Ongoing partnership between Tsavo Trust and Kamungi Conservancy (KC) (bordering northern boundary of TWNP Triangle). KC is located in Makueni County; Kibwezi Sub county; Mtito Andei Division; Mtito Andei Sub-location; Ngiluni Village.
- ✓ *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:
  - ➤ 14<sup>th</sup> Mar19 Meeting at Ngiluni with Makueni County Govt. MCA, Tsavo Trust CLO & community elders re land Title Deeds.
  - > 15<sup>th</sup> Mar19 Meeting at Ngiluni with KC CLO & members re membership registrations
  - ➤ 25<sup>th</sup> Mar19 Meeting at Kyusyani with MCA, KWS, KC CLO, KC members and community members re HWC / HEC and the need for electric fence as mitigation. Tsavo Trust has offered assistance.
- ✓ *Kamungi Membership:* Through a registered CBO KC membership represents 73 families & 730 individuals. This is likely to rise as more people apply.
- ✓ *Kamungi Water Project:* 12,200 litres of water was issued from the water dispensing kiosk at Ngiluni Village. Several days of no water were witnessed it is believed the bore hole supply is low with the severe dry season. Tsavo Trust is looking to other alternatives.
- ✓ *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.
- ✓ *Training:* Tsavo Trust sent KC member Patrick Mutua to Bio-Ken Snake Farm, Watamu, to carry out a 4-month *Snake handling and identification* training. Patrick has passed his trainee phase and has even caught his first spiting cobra. He will now spread the word and educate local KC members on conservation of snakes in general and catch the highly venomous ones to relocate elsewhere before they are killed.
- ✓ *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* 38 cases were recorded around Kamungi Conservancy this month. HWC cases: 32 elephant cases, 2 hyenas, wild dog 2, 1 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. No cases this month. (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. 9 different species were identified this month (75 observations).

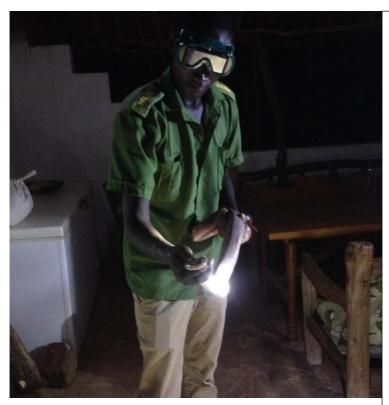


Photo shows Tsavo Trust's Patrick Mutua having just caught his first wild red spitting cobra (Naja pallida) on 28<sup>th</sup> March 2019.

Thanks to Bio-Ken Snake Farm, Royjan Taylor and his team in Watamu, Kenya for giving us the opportunity to send a keen young member of Kamungi Conservancy for 4 months training- and ongoing.

It is hoped that through this training, Patrick can break a historical mindset in Kamungi, where all snakes are thought to be bad – and killed to a situation where snakes are not killed, and those highly venomous ones can be captured for relocation to safer locations elsewhere.

This is a good example of one of Tsavo Trusts objectives – to instill a culture of conservation amongst its community wildlife conservancy partners.

Photo shows Human Elephant Conflict (HEC) example of a destroyed plastic water tank in Iviani Village between Mtito Andei and Kamungi Conservancy on 11<sup>th</sup> March 2019, having been totally destroyed by elephant the previous night.



#### "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:
  - ➤ 30<sup>th</sup> Mar19 Kilifi County Govt. MCA visited Shirango and held a community meeting. Discussion re the Dispensary and the SCC were carried out.
  - ➤ Various community meetings throughout the month were held by village elders and SCC CLO.
- ✓ Shirango Membership: CBO name change to Shirango Community Conservancy (SCC) is in process and approved by the Board (was Shirango Community Development Project). Draft SCC Constitution is being reviewed now. 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:* Finally, Kilifi Water Resource Management approvals have come through and the bore hole drilling rig is due in by mid-April. This is very timely as the Gede area around Shirango is hit by a very severe drought at present.
- ✓ *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: 28 cases recorded: elephant 2; hyena 19, leopard 7.

Photo below shows the desperate lack of water situation in the Shirango area. There simply is no clean water here which has created many health issues. There is a very serious lack of water and local communities drink the same water utilized by livestock and wildlife. The Shirango water project, currently being rolled out by Tsavo Trust, hopes to address some of these needs whereby the water will only be for human domestic use, governed by an elected committee of Shirango Conservancy members. It is already fully understood by local residents that "this was has come from the elephants" as a thank you for looking after them going forward.



### Unusual Photo of the Month:

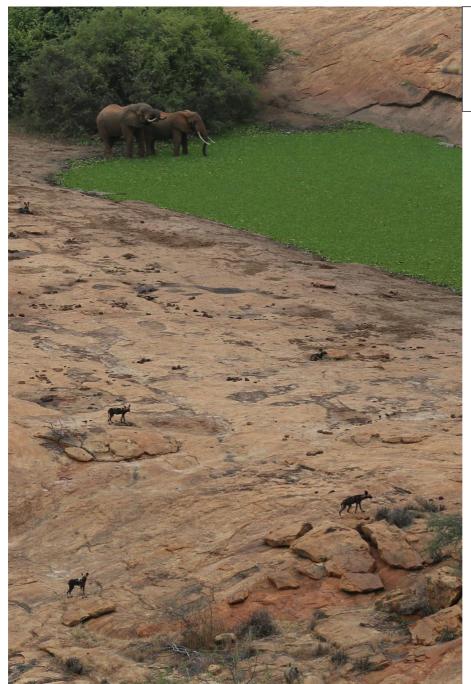


Photo taken on 11th March 2019 at a drying out water hole in TWNP showing 7 wild dogs viewing 2 bull elephants taking a drink.

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, TUI Care Foundation, 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, Will Burrard-Lucas, Spidertracks, Michael Cheffings, Pembroke House School and numerous other individual supporters.

Report compiled by Richard Moller – Chief Executive Officer, Tsavo Trust All photographs ©Tsavo Trust 2019