

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

Activity	Hours Flown	Kilometers Covered
Aerial Reconnaissance	75 (274.5 for year) Average 116km p/h of low-level flight	8,716 (32,373km for year) Flights carried out jointly with KWS staff
	Field Patrol Days	Kilometers Covered
Ground Activities (Joint KWS / TT)	Protection teams: 60 days (330 to date) Monitoring teams: 60 days (199 to date)	Protection teams: 6,322 km (31,514 to date) Monitoring teams: 7,476 km (24,977 to date)
	No. Observed	
Big “Tuskers”	17 Tuskers - 5 Super Tusker bulls, 9 emerging bulls, 3 iconic cow Tuskers = 30 individual observations	
	No. Recovered	
Ivory recovered	10 elephant tusks (26 for year to date)	
Elephant carcasses	Fresh (less than 3 weeks old)	Recent (less than 3 months old)
	6 – (c of d: 2 poached, 1 natural; 3 unconfirmed)	2 old (c of d: 2 natural)
Ele. Carcasses/hrs flown	1 every 9.3 hours of flight	
Poacher camps/hides	Fresh - 2	Recent - 3
Arrests	1 – by KWS / TT – (1 bushmeat - 7 to date 2019)	
Snares/traps recovered	38 (by Tembo Teams – 136 for year to date)	
Support to KWS-armed incidents	Nil	
Illegal Livestock (only in PA)	10 cattle bomas (19,100 + cows, 2,000 shoats, 47 people)	
Written reports to KWS	71 (daily email reports, various communications & 1 monthly report)	
General & significant notes	• Partner to KWS to assist in implementation of the TCA Management Plan 2019 – 2029 • Partner to KWS & ZSL in the Tsavo’s in line with KWS Rhino Strategy – RII Project • Key stakeholder in the KWS - Hirola Recovery Strategy • Tembo 2 & 4 involved with TCA Carnivore Census in support of KWS (4 months)	

Photo shows an example of Illegal Wildlife Trade (bushmeat in this case) with 7 freshly poached Dik-diks close to the north western boundary of TENP on 2nd April 2019. 1 poacher arrested.



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 17 different individual Tusker’s were observed from ground and air coverage.
- 5 bull Super Tuskers – 11 different sightings.
- 9 Emerging bull Tuskers – 15 sightings.
- 3 Iconic cow Tusker – 4 sightings.
- **Total sightings – 30**
- **Weather conditions:** TT HQ rainfall: **8mm**. Total rainfall at Tsavo Trust HQ to date: **12.5mm**.
- **Elephant mortality: 8 carcasses located (6 fresh, 2 old):** C of D – 2 poached, 3 natural, 3 unconfirmed.
- **Rhino security:** Regular aerial recces with KWS over TWNP & TENP rhino areas in partnership with ZSL. 11 rhino specific air recces resulted in 3,855km flown over 31.1 hrs (9 TW & 2 TE).
- **Collared Elephant:** Ongoing – 25 observations (ground and air) by joint KWS / TT teams.
- **TCA Carnivore Census:** Tsavo Trust Tembo 2 & 4 monitoring teams supporting the KWS led TCA Carnivore Census, completed end April.
- **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	2	In good health, back to his regular range
BA1	1	Moves big distances
WS1	6	Normal location
IL1	1	Normal location
KO1	1	Located after 6 months, back to original location
MM1	1	Normal location
SO1	3	Normal location
BL1	2	Normal location
SI1	1	Same area
SH1	2	Normal location
TS1	1	Normal location
VO1	3	Same location
TA1	1	Normal dry season location
SG1	1	Moves big distances
COWS		
F-XT1	1	Moves big distances
F-AR1	2	
F-SG1	1	
TOTAL	14 bulls & 3 cows: 30 different sightings	
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.		



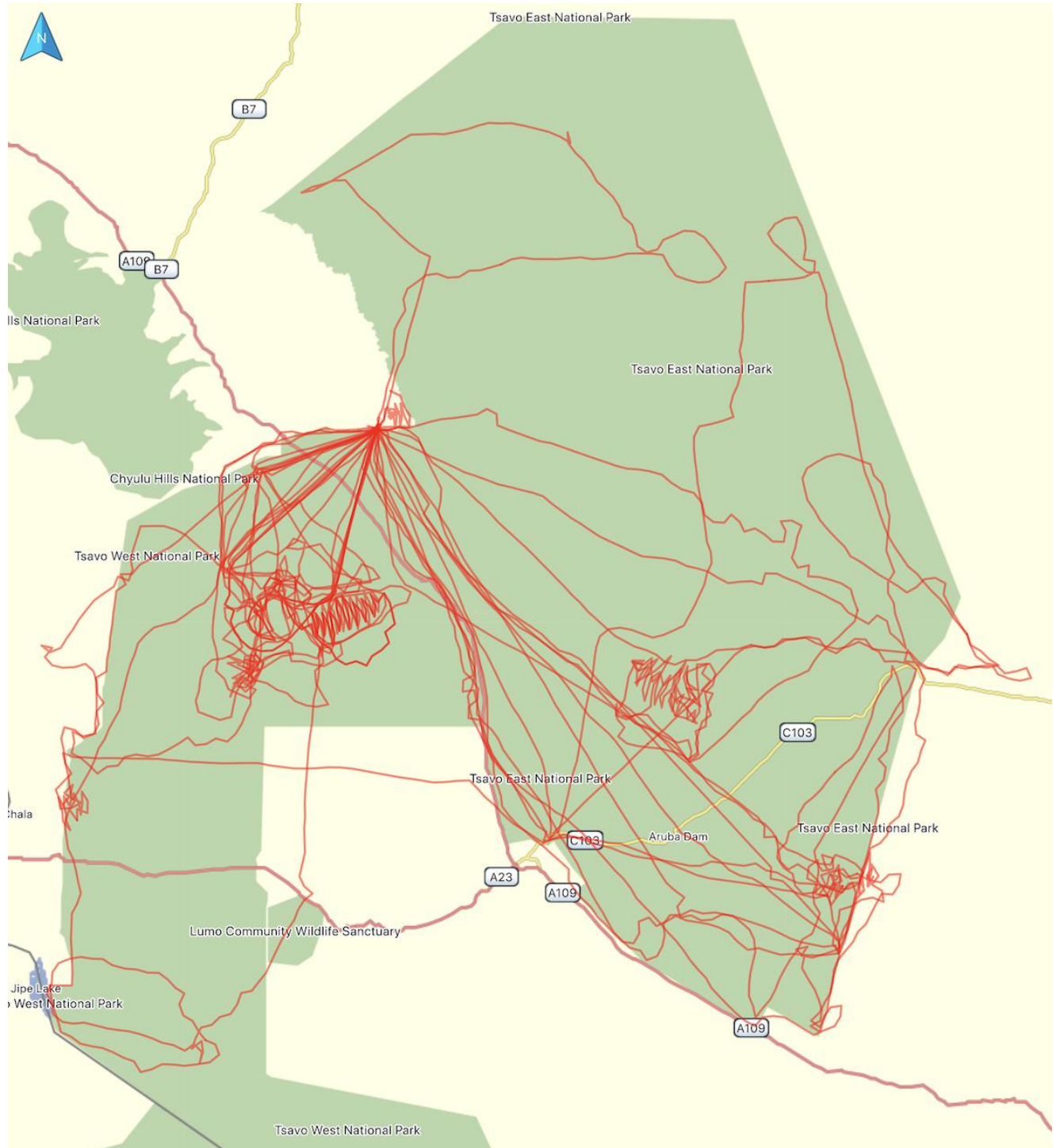
Photo of Super Tusker coded as LU1 in April 2019.

He is without doubt one of Tsavo’s elephant ambassadors.

Aerial Reconnaissance - Areas Covered:

- This vital conservation tool provides “*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 April 2019. 75 hours flown covering 8,716 kilometers over Tsavo in support of KWS: Air & ground activities; Big Tusker monitoring; Locating illegal activities; Wildlife monitoring; Aerial census and tracking.



Aerial photo of a poachers shooting platform in the top of a high bush overlooking a water hole in the remote northern area of TENP sighted on 9th April 2014.

Poachers using poisoned arrows perch on these platforms so as to get a safe and tactical high point overview of wildlife (particularly elephants) coming into drink so that they can arrow them from close range.



Photo below shows a newly born baby rhino calf in TWNP – IPZ on 28th April 2019.



Photo taken on south boundary of TENP on 28th April 2019 showing illegal cattle blatantly grazing near several herds of elephants that remained clumped together – a clear sign of their stress.



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	No. HWC Cases	Vehicle mileage km
Tembo 1 (TENP) (6 TT Scouts + 3 KWS Rangers)	14	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	1	1,632
Tembo 3 (TWNP) (6 TT Scouts + 3 KWS Rangers)	16	Nil	Nil	1 1 for medium game	4kg Guineafowl, 1 hare	1 m/bike, 1 panga, 1 knife, 1 j/can	Nil	Nil	2,025
Tembo 5 / Kamungi (TWNP) 14 TT Scouts + 3 KWS Rangers	30	1 Bushmeat poacher	Nil	37 37 for small game	12kg Dik-dik meat	1 lamping horn, 1 spot-light, 1 knife	4	1	2,665
TOTALS	60	1	5	38	As above	As above	4	2	6,322
Total 2019	330	6	6	136	40kg	-	14	7	31,514

Monitoring & Evaluation teams:

Table 8: 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)	30	- 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 – 5 sighting - Hirola – 23 - Grevy's Zebra – Nil - Large Carnivores – Lion 32, Cheetah 6, Leopard 3 - Road & Rail kills – Nil - Elephant carcasses – 1 - Rain gauge readings - Collared elephants – 2 - Carnivore scat collect - Nil	TENP, Ndololo, Kandeche, 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, Irima, Mudanda, Ndi	4,241
Tembo 4 (TWNP) (2 TT staff + 2 KWS)	30	- 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 – 1 sighting - Rhino monitoring IPZ - NRS night census – Nil - Large Carnivores – Lion 59, spotted hyena 40, Leopard 2 - Road & Rail kills – Nil - Elephant mortality - Nil - Rain gauge readings - Collared elephants – 1 - Kamungi Cons. Game census transects – 10 species	TWNP, Kamboyo, Mangalet, 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	3,235
TOTALS	60	As above	As above	As above	7,476
Total 2019	199	-	-	-	24,977

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:**
 - 17th April19 – Meeting at TT HQ re further membership registrations.
 - 22nd April19 – Meeting at Nthunguni village with County Govt. MCA, KC CLO, KC members and community members re agricultural best practice etc and HWC / HEC.
- ✓ **Kamungi Membership:** Through a registered CBO KC membership represents 73 families & 730 individuals. This is likely to rise as more people apply (25 families registered in March19).
- ✓ **Kamungi Water Project:** 12,580 litres of water was issued from dispensing kiosk at Ngiluni Village. Several days of no water due to low water table. *Tsavo Trust is looking to other alternatives and funding.*
- ✓ **Ngiluni Dispensary upgrade:** Completed upgrade with power and plumbing. Water remains an issue to deliver going forward. *Tsavo Trust is looking for funding a 2nd bore hole here.*
- ✓ **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:** Patrick Mutua ongoing training at Bio-Ken Snake Farm, Watamu, for *Snake handling and identification.*
- ✓ **HWC – Elephant Bee Fences** – 7 x 1-acre bee fences, total 105 bee hives with 10 currently occupied. Due to the poor rains in this area, the bees have not made the honey we had anticipated and in fact many have vacated hives.
- ✓ **HWC** – 29 cases were recorded around Kamungi Conservancy this month. HWC cases: 11 elephant cases, 1 lion, 10 Leopard, 7 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. 10 different species were identified this month (88 observations).

Photo below shows the completed Ngiluni Dispensary with elephant paintings (by well-known artist Alexandra Spiratos) on the front wall. It is locally known by community members of Kamungi Cons. as “The Elephant Dispensary”. This upgrade was kindly made possible by the Leopardess Foundation.



“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:**
 - 8th April19 – Chiefs Office to discuss planned water project and Shirango Conservancy
 - 14th April19 – Shirango Village – to discuss community engagement in development projects as well as wildlife conservation as it is this avenue that could uplift livelihoods. Gede sub-location community was engaged. Conservancy membership was also discussed.
 - 18th April19 – Shirango Village – observing bore hole drilling operation that revealed 2 dry bore holes. Tsavo Trust has brought in the hydrologist again to re survey for water as this project MUST go ahead.
- ✓ **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:** Bore hole drilling rig arrived at the site on 16th April until 25th April. 2 holes were drilled at significant expense, but unfortunately both holes were totally dry. It happens in these arid environments. Tsavo Trust has already completed another hydrological survey and plans for a further bore hole drill are in progress.
- ✓ **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: 12 cases recorded: elephant 8; hyena 3, leopard 1.

Photo shows the bore hole drilling rig at Shirango Conservancy on 17th April 2019. Although we have experienced set backs with this water project, Tsavo Trust will continue to achieve the desired results to benefit the Shirango community and through this wildlife protection as well.



Unusual Photo of the Month:

Photo below, taken on 1st April 2019 in TWNP, shows a young elephant calf that clearly has a severed, but well healed, front right leg, essentially, he is a 3-legged elephant. His body condition is fine and when observed further the calf could easily keep up with the herd as they moved through the Tsavo bush. Although this is unusual to see, it does show that even if an elephant loses a leg for one reason or another, there remains a good chance of longer-term survival.



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