

MONTHLY REPORT:

JANUARY 2019

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

Activity	Hours Flown	Kilometers Covered
<i>Aerial Reconnaissance</i>	78 (78 for year) Average 115km p/h of low-level flight	9,006 (9,006km for year) Flights carried out jointly with KWS staff
	Field Patrol Days	Kilometers Covered
<i>Ground Activities</i> (Joint KWS / TT)	Protection teams: 93 days (93 to date) Monitoring teams: 46 days (46 to date)	Protection teams: 8,935 km (8,935 to date) Monitoring teams: 5,203 km (5,203 to date)
	No. Observed	
<i>Big "Tuskers"</i>	7 Tuskers - 2 Super Tusker bulls, 4 emerging bulls, 1 iconic cow Tusker	
	No. Recovered	
<i>Ivory recovered</i>	3 elephant tusks (3 for year to date)	
<i>Elephant carcasses</i>	<i>Fresh</i> (less than 3 weeks old)	<i>Recent</i> (less than 3 months old)
	2 – (c of d: 1 HEC, 1 natural)	1 old (c of d: natural)
<i>Ele. Carcasses/hrs flown</i>	1 every 26 hours of flight	
<i>Poacher camps/hides</i>	<i>Fresh</i> - 1	<i>Recent</i> - Nil
<i>Arrests</i>	3 – by KWS / TT – (3 illegal livestock - 3 to date 2019)	
<i>Snares/traps recovered</i>	46 (by Tembo Teams – 46 for year to date)	
<i>Response/support to KWS - armed incidents</i>	Nil	
	19 cattle bomas (16,850 + cows, 2,000 shoats, 48 people)	
<i>Written reports to KWS</i>	68 (daily email reports, various communications & 1 monthly report)	
<i>General & significant notes</i>	• 23/1/19: Tsavo Trust aircraft 5Y NRF involved in an accident, thankfully all crew are fine but aircraft a little bent • 20 & 21/1/19: Firefighting on south boundary of TENP, Dakota to Bachuma • Aerial & ground support to Rhino Program in TWNP & TENP, via ongoing partnership with KWS / ZSL. 10 rhino specific recce flights (28hrs) carried out with KWS • Tembo 2 & 4 involved with TCA Carnivore Census in support of KWS (3 months) • Additional monitoring, with KWS, of endangered raptors in Tsavo	

Photo shows 2 TWNP rhino mating on 8th January 2019. Hopefully this means another rhino in TWNP in about 18 months' time?



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 7 different individual Tusker’s were observed from ground and air coverage.
- 2 bull Super Tuskers – 12 different sightings.
- 4 Emerging bull Tuskers – 5 sightings.
- 1 Iconic cow Tusker – 1 sighting.
- **Total sightings – 18** (low number due to T2 & T4 on TCA Carnivore census for most on month).
- **Weather conditions:** TT HQ rainfall: **4.5mm**. Total rainfall at Tsavo Trust HQ to date: **4.5mm**.
- **Elephant mortality: 3 carcasses located (2 fresh, 1 old):** C of D – 1 HEC, 2 natural.
- **Rhino security:** Regular aerial recces in support of KWS over TWNP rhino areas in partnership with ZSL. 10 rhino specific air recces resulted in 3,235km flown over 28 hrs (9 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:** This is a new monitoring aspect of Tsavo Trust field activities with KWS – 29 Egyptian Vultures, 1 Taita Falcon, 1 Eastern Imperial Eagle, 1 Verreaux Eagle (see photo later in this report).

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

Tusker Code	No. Times Seen / Month	Brief Remarks
BULLS		
LU1	9	In good health, often with breeding herd
WS1	3	Back to normal location as Tsavo is drying out
VO1	1	New emerging Tusker added 30/1/19
BL1	2	Normal location
LA1	1	Back to original location
KI1	1	Normal location
COWS		
F-XT1	1	Normal location
TOTAL	6 bulls & 1 cows: 18 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.		

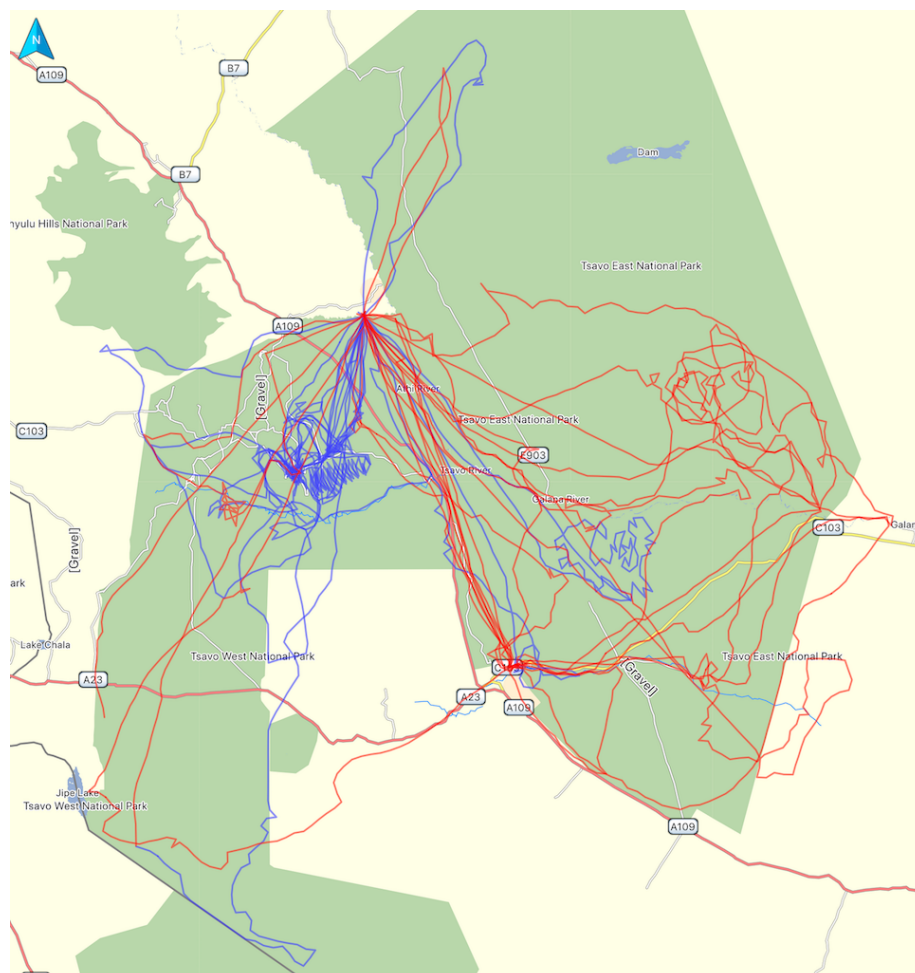
Photo below shows a newly added emerging Tusker to the database coded as VO1 on 30th January 2019.



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 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, Ziواني, Serengeti plains, Lake Jipe, Kanjaro, TZ / Kenya border Central Sector – IPZ, Rhino Valley, NRS, Tsavo River, Kinyek, Maji ya Chumvi (north & south), Ziواني, Lesoito, Kyulu, Manda, Kishushe, Murka, Mombasa Highway, Man Easters, Kenani, Kanga, Manyani north and west, SGR line	TENP border – Ngiluni/Kamunyu, Kulalu, Derea, Murondo, Magram/Dakota Ranch, KMC, Ngutuni, Shirango, Kilifi & Galana Ranch TWNP border – Rombo, Ziواني, Salaita Chyulu Hills NP - Nil Taita Ranches - Lualenyi
- 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 January 2019. The red path is for aircraft 5Y TTZ and the blue for 5Y NRF. 78 hours flown covering 9,006 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 (6 TT Scouts + 3 KWS Rangers)	31	3 All illegal livestock herders	Nil	41 31 for small game 10 medium game	Nil	Nil	Nil	3,246
Tembo 3 (6 TT Scouts + 3 KWS Rangers)	31	Nil	1	Nil	Nil	1 panga	1	2,665
Tembo 5 / Kamungi 14 TT Scouts + 3 KWS Rangers	31	Nil	Nil	5 5 medium game	35kg Lesser Kudu	Nil	Nil	3,024
TOTALS	93	3	1	46	As above	As above	1	8,935
Total 2019	93	3	1	46	35kg	-	1	8,935

Monitoring & Evaluation teams:

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

Monitoring team	No. Field days	Activities	Endangered species records / sightings	Operating locations	Vehicle mileage km
Tembo 2 (3 TT staff + 2 KWS)	23	- 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 – 2 sighting - Hirola – 3 - Grevy's Zebra – 5 sightings - Large Carnivores – 62 - Road & Rail kills – Nil - Elephant carcasses – 1 old - Rain gauge readings - Collared elephants – 3 - Carnivore scat collect - Nil	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, Kupule Nek, Manyani, Irima, Mudanda, Ndii	2,488
Tembo 4 (2 TT staff + 2 KWS)	23	- 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 – 2 - Rhino monitoring IPZ - NRS night census – Nil - Large Carnivores – 2 - Road & Rail kills – Nil - Elephant mortality - Nil - Rain gauge readings - Collared elephants – 1 - Kamungi Cons. Game census transects – 14 species	TWNP, Kamboyo, Mangalet, Kilaguni, Mungai, Poachers lookout, Kitani, old Chyulu gate, Mzima, Shetani, Finch H, Ziواني, Tsavo River, Rhodesia Hill, pipe line, Rhino Valley, Ndawe, Ngulia, Kenani, Kyulu, Manyani, IPZ, NRS	2,715
TOTALS	46	As above	As above	As above	5,203
Total 2019	46	-	-	-	5,203



Photo shows a poached lesser kudu caught in a snare & found by Tembo 5 team on 21st January 2019 on the boundary of TENP.

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:**
 - 16th Jan19 – Members of County Assembly, Tsavo Trust & KC CLO – Tsavo Trust HQ
 - 18th Jan19 – Chief & KC members meeting – Ngiluni Village
 - 28th Jan19 – Kamungi Conservancy Board meeting – Tsavo Trust HQ
- ✓ **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:** 23,220 litres of water was issued from the water dispensing kiosk at Ngiluni Village. Each family is rationed to 60 litres per day.
- ✓ **Ngiluni Dispensary upgrade:** Ongoing support from Tsavo Trust.
- ✓ **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** – 36 cases were recorded around Kamungi Conservancy this month. HWC cases: 17 elephant cases, 2 hyenas, 11 Leopard, 1 crocodile, 1 buffalo, 1 zebra, 1 monkey, 1 gazelle and 2 mongooses.
- ✓ **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. 14 different species were identified this month.

“SHIRANGO COMMUNITY CONSERVANCY”:

- ✓ **Ongoing partnership between Tsavo Trust and Shirango Conservancy (SCC)** (bordering onto southern boundary of TENP – Tsavo 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:**
 - 16th Jan19 – Shirango community meeting at Chief’s Office – Ndaraku Village re unity within community, water etc. 57 members attended including Senior Chief & area Asst. Chiefs.
- ✓ **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.
- ✓ **Shirango Water Project:** Ongoing – awaiting Kilifi Water Resource Management approvals and NEMA license following applications.
- ✓ **Shirango Conservancy land tenure:** Ongoing - CLO is regularly following this up in the Kilifi County Govt. offices.
- ✓ **HWC:** Mechanisms are being put in place to capture accurate HWC incidents in this area. They are very significant, and we know of at least 200 cases in Jan19 alone (mainly hyena).

Photo below shows Shirango nursery school. This clearly shows the desperate situation this community are in with respect to everyday essential basic needs – education, water, healthcare, employment and so on. This is where Shirango Community Conservancy with support and stewardship from Tsavo Trust can change this dire situation for the people of Shirango and at the same time make positive strides to securing a vital wildlife habitat that is under severe threat from charcoaling and livestock invasions.



Unusual Photo of the Month:

Photo shows a diving Verreaux Eagle on 22nd January 2019 in TWNP, photographed from the air by Nick Trent / Tsavo Trust. Endangered raptor monitoring is fast becoming a part of our activities alongside KWS to try to get a better understanding of which endangered raptors can still be found in the Tsavo's. Tsavo Trust is well placed to carry this out given the consistent aerial coverage currently being accomplished. We have not been disappointed in our findings, Tsavo has the vital large space for these raptors to thrive at a time when other landscapes are being eroded away by the ever-growing human expansion that is eating into what was wildlife habitats. Monitoring these raptors is therefore a good indicator of the state of this magnificent, but very challenged, habitat.



With sincere thanks and appreciation to the Kenya Wildlife Service, Save The Elephants/Wildlife Conservation Network/Elephant Crisis Fund (ECF), 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), 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, Scott Family Fdn., 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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