

MONTHLY REPORT:

MARCH 2018

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

Activity	Hours Flown	Kilometers Covered
Aerial Reconnaissance	68 (231 for year) Average 123km p/h of low level flight	8,353 (27,682km for year) Flights carried out jointly with KWS staff
	Field Patrol Days	Kilometers Covered
Ground Activities (Joint KWS / TT)	Protection teams: 62 days (180 for year) Monitoring teams: 35 days (129 for year)	Protection teams: 6,253 km (20,264 for year) Monitoring teams: 4,197 km (17,981 for year)
	No. Observed	
Big “Tuskers”	9 Tuskers - 7 bulls (4 Super Tuskers & 3 emerging Tuskers) & 2 cow	
	No. Recovered	
Ivory recovered	13 elephant tusks (58 for year to date)	
Elephant carcasses	Fresh (less than 3 weeks old)	Recent (less than 3 months old)
	2 (c of d: 2 unconfirmed)	7 (4 natural, 3 unconfirmed - old)
Ele. Carcasses/hrs flown	1 every 7.5 hours of flight	
Poacher camps/hides	Fresh - Nil	Recent - Nil
Arrests	4 – by KWS / TT – (1 bushmeat poacher, 3 illegal livestock)	
Snares/traps recovered	Nil (by Tembo Teams – 283 for year to date)	
Response/support to KWS - armed incidents	Nil	
Other Illegal activities	23 cattle bomas (9,150 + cows, 11,600 shoats, 20 people)	
Written reports to KWS	52 (daily email reports, various communications & 1 monthly report)	
General & significant notes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • March 2018 Tsavo enjoyed more rain (282mm) than the whole of 2017 collectively • Aerial & ground support to Rhino Program in TWNP & TENP, ongoing through partnership with KWS / ZSL. 10 rhino specific recce flights carried out with KWS 	

Photo shows the Galana River, TENP, in full flood on 19th March 2018. Tsavo received more rain in March 2018 than it did for the whole of 2017. Tsavo is looking truly wonderful and so full of life now. A stark contrast to 2017.



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 9 different individual Tusker’s were observed from ground and air coverage.
- 4 bull Super Tuskers – 10 different sightings.
- 3 Emerging bull Tuskers – 4 sightings.
- 2 iconic cow Tuskers – 2 sightings.
- **Total sightings – 16** (this low number is attributed to the widespread rains where elephants have dispersed far and wide, making it difficult to locate the Tuskers).
- **Weather conditions:** TT HQ rainfall: **282 mm**. The out of season rainfall enjoyed in March18 alone exceeded the entire rainfall for the year 2017.
- **Elephant mortality: 9 carcasses located (2 fresh, 7 recent):** 5 carcasses unconfirmed c of d and 4 natural deaths.
- **Rhino security:** Regular aerial reces in support of KWS over TWNP rhino areas in partnership with ZSL. 10 rhino specific air reces resulted in 3,610km flown over 26 hrs (8 TW & 2 TE).
- **Elephant collaring exercise:** 1 of the collars fitted to a crop raiding bull elephant called “Makueni_1091” in the Triangle area was sending “immobility signals” in mid March18. TT aircraft tried to locate the elephant but found nothing. On 20th March18 a joint KWS / STE / TT ground team was dispatched to the exact location and found the discarded collar, having fallen off the elephant.

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

Tusker Code	No. Times Seen / Month	Brief Remarks
BULLS		
LU1	1	In good health and in difficult area to locate him
WS1	4	Physically seen, but located daily by Sat. collar
IL1	2	In same general area, looking old
MU1	3	Normal location. In Musth
EM1	1	Moved big distance into unsafe area with the rains
TA1	2	Normal location, in Musth
KI1	1	Back to normal location
COWS		
F_DI1	1	Normal location
F_XT1	1	Moved big distances with the rains
TOTAL	9 bulls, 2 cows: 16 different sightings	
<i>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.</i>		

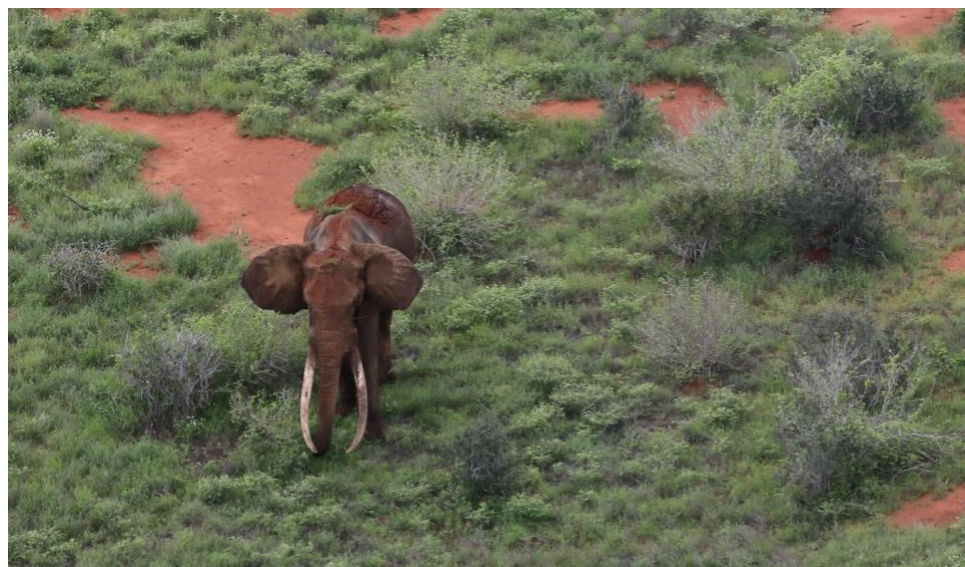
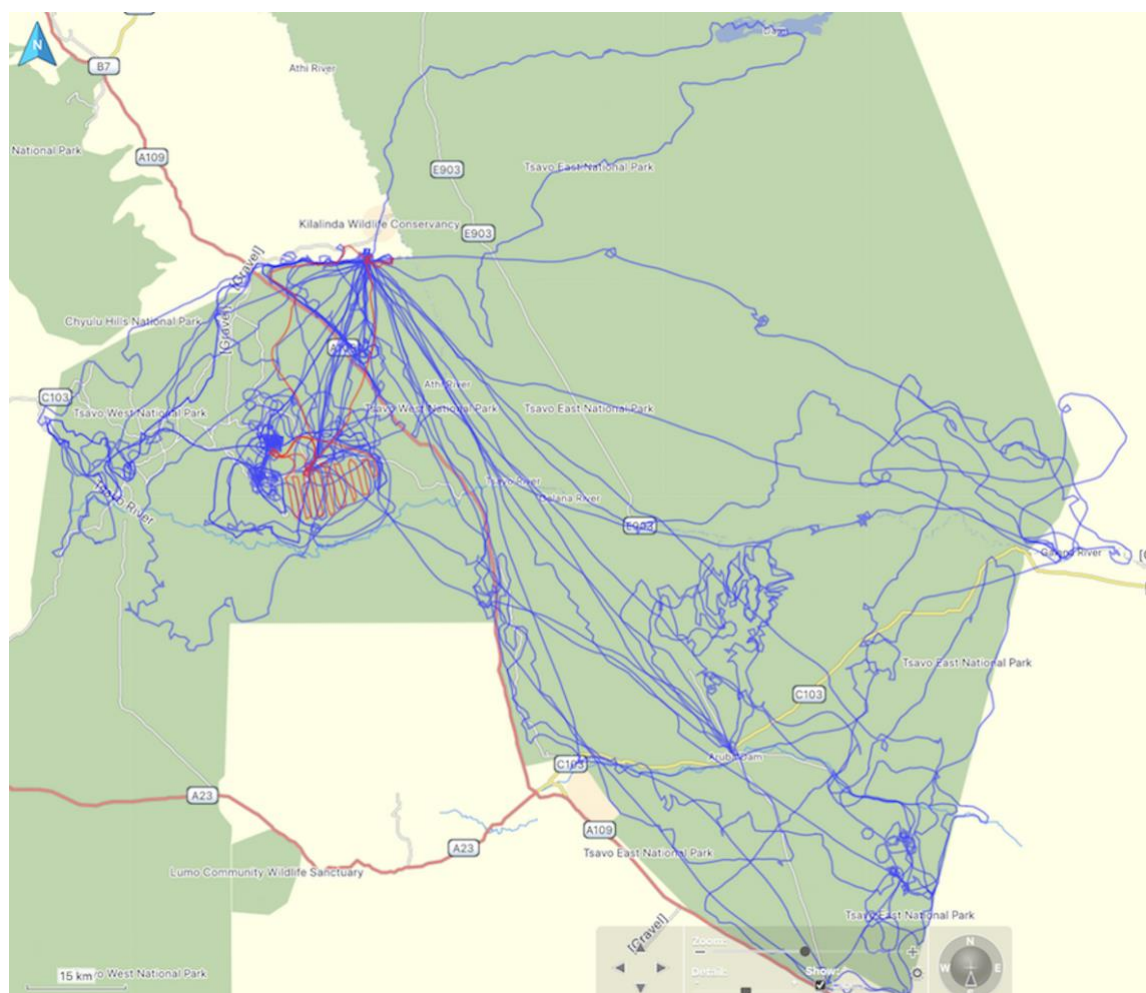


Photo shows 1 of the Tuskers coded as MU1 on 26th March18.

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

TSAVO EAST NP	TSAVO WEST NP	RANCHES & DISPERSAL AREAS
<p>Northern Area – Yatta Plateau, Durusikale, Garasamuke, Emusaya, Golf Charlie, Koitu, Sobo, Sangayaya, Dabaduke, Mufupa ya Ndovu, Tiva River, Ndiandaza, Ya Kalicha, Roka</p> <p>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</p> <p>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</p>	<p>Northern Sector – IPZ, Mangaleta, Kamboyo, Kisimeka, Chyulu south, Mtito lugga, Mungai Hill, Finch Hattons, Mzima Springs, Shetani volcano, Severin, Kilaguni, Ndawe, Tsavo River</p> <p>Southern Sector – Murka, Maktau, Ziwani, Serengeti plains</p> <p>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</p>	<p>TENP border – Ngiluni/Kamunyu, Kulalu, Derea, Murondo, Magram/Dakota Ranch, KMC, Ngutuni, Kilifi & Galana Ranch</p> <p>TWNP border – Chyulu Hills NP - Nil</p> <p>Taita Ranches -</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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 for this month. The red path is for Super Cub aircraft 5Y TTZ and the blue path for 5Y NRF. 68 hours flown covering 8,353 kilometers over Tsavo in support of KWS: **Air & ground activities; Big Tusker monitoring; Locating illegal activities; Wildlife monitoring; Aerial census and tracking; Elephant collaring exercise.**



Field Mobile Units:

All four of Tsavo Trust's mobile field teams work alongside KWS on a daily basis. **Tembo 1 & 3 (incl. Kamungi Scouts) teams** are de-snaring focused whilst **Tembo 2 & 4 teams** are monitoring and research dedicated. These teams provide further "eyes and ears on the ground".

De-snaring teams:

Table 7: Shows outcomes from field activities from Tembo 1 & 3 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 (7 TT men + 3 KWS men)	31	Nil	2	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	3,392
Tembo 3 / Kamungi (12 TT men + 3 KWS men)	31	1 19/3/18 B/meat 36/19/03/18	-	Nil	Nil	1 slasher, 1 horn, 1 torch 8 bird traps	Nil	2,861
Others Chui team	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTALS	62	1	2	Nil	As above	As above	-	6,253
Total 2018	180	2	12	283	-	-	1	20,264

Monitoring 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)	13	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tusker monitoring • Hirola monitoring • Grevy's zebra monitoring • Carnivore monitoring • Mombasa/Nairobi - Road & SGR kill surveys • Camera trap surveys • Fixed point photos • Elephant collaring 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tuskers – 8 sightings • Hirola – 5 sightings • Grevy's Zebra – 0 sightings • Large Carnivores – 5 • Road & Rail kills – Nil • Elephant carcasses – Nil • Rain gauge readings • Elephant collaring – continued monitoring 	TENP, Voi River, Satao, Buchuma, Dakota, Ndara, Aruba, Manyani, KMC, Lugards, Koitu, Emusaya, Galana River, Msa Rd., Dida Harea TWNP elephant collaring	1,417
Tembo 4 (2 TT staff + 2 KWS)	22	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tusker monitoring • Rhino monitoring in IPZ • Carnivore monitoring • Mombasa/Nairobi - Road & SGR kill surveys • Rainfall data collection • Camera trap surveys • Fixed point photos • Elephant collaring 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tuskers – 5 sightings • Rhino monitoring IPZ • Large Carnivores – 16 • Road & Rail kills – 10 • Elephant carcasses - 2 • Rain gauge readings • Elephant collaring – ongoing monitoring • Endangered species - 1 	TWNP, Kamboyo, Mangalete, Kilaguni, Mzima, Shetani, Finch H, Ziwani, Kitani, Tsavo River, Rhino Valley, IPZ, NRS TENP – elephant collaring exercise	2,780
TOTALS	46	As above	As above	As above	4,197
Total 2018	94	-	-	-	17,981

Financial Support to KWS Activities Inside TWNP & TENP:

Table 9: Shows brief costs of activities carried out by Tsavo Trust to compliment KWS in Tsavo:

TT Activity	Cost (\$) Justification	Total \$
<i>Aerial support – ongoing TENP & TWNP</i>	68hrs in Super Cub aircraft @ \$240 incl. pilot	16,320
<i>Vehicle running costs - Field Mobile Teams (Tembo 1, 2, 3, 4) – ongoing TENP & TWNP</i>	4 vehicles covered 12,551km @ \$1 p/km incl. fuel, maintenance & f/c insurance	12,551
<i>TT Field Staff x 20 (Tembo teams)</i>	Not Included	-
<i>KWS Field Staff allowances (Tembo 1 & 3) – ongoing TENP & TWNP</i>	3 KWS Rangers attached to each de-snaring team, total 6 men x 31 days @ \$3 p/p/day	504
<i>TENP - Dakota Platoon Vehicle Diesel - ongoing</i>	100ltrs p/month	91
<i>TENP - DSTV Dakota Base - ongoing</i>	Monthly subscription	40
<i>Animal Welfare – boma constructions</i>	Not included	-
<i>TENP - KWS Dakota Base old Toyota Land Cruiser total rebuild carried out by Ndovu Holdings, Nairobi</i>	Total rebuild of KWS Toyota L/Cruiser – Dakota Base TENP. Engine overhaul, new front and rear diffs, new radiator, new fuel injection pump, new rear tray, body work, new bull bar, new rear cage etc Deposit paid of Ksh. 990,000 (Est. total cost \$25,000)	Ongoing Due for completion end April18
<i>Support to KWS marijuana destruction operation in CHNP in March18</i>	Fresh rations, goats etc	194
<i>TWNP – partnering TT & ZSL - complete construction of new IPZ Base at NRS HQ plus 2 x 100,000ltr water storage tanks</i>	New IPZ rhino offices (3 offices, 1 meeting area) plus 1 x 100,000ltr water tank at IPZ offices and Ndawe water tank refurbished, started in July17 & completed in March18.	50,000 (TT support)
TOTAL MONTH		\$ 79,700
TOTAL to DATE:		\$ 166,854

Photo below shows the completed TWNP NRS & IPZ amalgamated HQ with the TT supported IPZ office block and water tank on the left below the baobab tree. This has been a joint KWS / ZSL / TT construction.



COMMUNITY CONSERVANCY PROGRAM:

“KAMUNGI CONSERVANCY”:

- ✓ *Partnership between Tsavo Trust and Kamungi Conservancy (KC)* (bordering northern boundary of TENP – Triangle) continues to develop.
- ✓ *KC Board meeting* took place on 17th March 2018 at TT HQ.
- ✓ *Kamungi Conservancy 5 Year Management Plan 2018 to 2022:* launched and signed off by KC Board on 17th March 2018.

Photo shows the Kamungi Conservancy Board Members at a meeting held on 17th March 2018 where the Kamungi Conservancy 5 Year Management Plan 2018 to 2022 was launched.



- ✓ *HWC – Elephant Bee Fences* – currently 5 x 1-acre plots have been fenced. Out of the 75 bee hives, 26 are occupied. TT is planning on developing a honey processing plant at KC HQ in the coming months.
- ✓ *Kamungi Forestry Project* – a tree nursery is now being set up at Ngiluni water station to promote the re planting of indigenous trees having been decimated in the area from charcoalers.
- ✓ *Snake anti-venom* - supply for venomous snakes – Tsavo Trust provides and pays for 5 vials of top grade anti-venom (from South Africa). This is held by a Senior Doctor at the Voi District Hospital. In March 18 a further 5 vials were used to treat highly venomous spitting cobra bites – the 2-victims survived as a result. This is a collaborative venture with James Ashe Anti-venom Trust / Bio-Ken Snake Farm, Watamu who are the anti-venom suppliers.

“DAKOTA / SHIRANGO COMMUNITY PROJECT”:

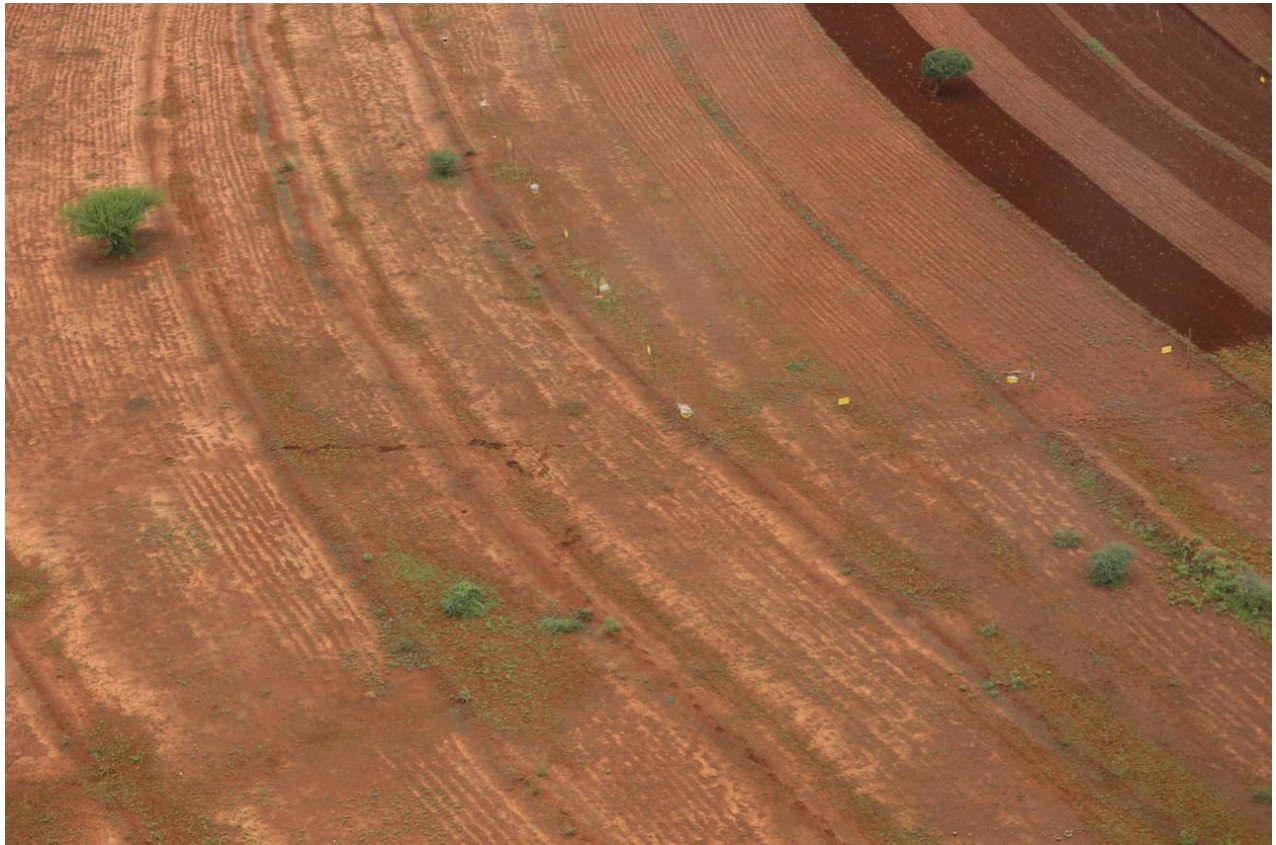
- ✓ *Dakota / Shirango community engagement* – still in its infancy, relations between Tsavo Trust and the Watha communities of Dakota / Shirango have been further built on and formal engagement has now commenced as from beginning 2018. Through the CLO, employed by Tsavo Trust, this once alienated community is now starting to embrace the “Conservancy” concept and plans are underway to roll out further activities here.
- ✓ *Employment* – through Tsavo Trust, already there are 8 members of this community employed.
- ✓ *Training* – Currently there are 6 members of this community undergoing 3 months Community Scout Training at KWS Law Enforcement Academy (LEA) at Manyani, following the relevant vetting process. Following this training, all these men will be active in wildlife related law enforcement in the Dakota / Shirango buffer to TENP.

Unusual Photo of the Month:

Photo taken on 12th March 2018 clearly showing fresh elephant tracks in the mud moving across freshly planted crops and close to a homestead. This homestead does not have a “bee fence” as yet.



Photo below, also taken on 12th March 2018, clearly shows the foot prints of an elephant (lower central section of photo) approaching a “bee fence” within Kamungu Conservancy. The elephant reaches the corner of the bee fence (centre of photo) and immediately diverts away from the fenced crops. This does visibly show that the bee fencing design (by Dr. Lucy King – STE) does in fact work around small-scale farm lands. There is of course the added bonus of harvesting honey from the hives as well as the elephant deterrent.



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, Zoological Society of London (ZSL), US-Aid / DOI, Tusk Trust, Stuart Herd, Sir Colin Southgate, Nick Southgate, Alex Graham, Dr. David K.P. Li, Nick Powell, James Robertson, International Foundation for Animal Welfare (IFAW), Markus Jebsen, Ndovu Trust (UK), Cheyenne Mountain Zoo, The Davies Family, Leopardess Foundation (Nicole Honegger), Paul Block, International Elephant Foundation (IEF), Disney/Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS), Mike Kirkland/Torben Rune - Satao Camp & Southern Cross Safaris (Msa), Tropical Ice Ltd, Askari Project – Australia, Salama Fikira, Origins Safaris, Scott Family Fdn., JW Seagon Insurance, The Art of BAS & Oak Furniture Land, Howard Saunders, Sandor Carter, Geri Bauer, Karen Laurence-Rowe, OnSafari-Kenya-Anthony Cheffings, Kathy Snowden, Saving the Survivors, Anadarko Kenya Co., Chris Acreman, Paul & James Wilson, Dutch Flower Foundation, 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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