

MONTHLY REPORT:

MAY 2018

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

Activity	Hours Flown	Kilometers Covered
Aerial Reconnaissance	67 (374 for year) Average 118km p/h of low level flight	7,735 (44,223km for year) Flights carried out jointly with KWS staff
	Field Patrol Days	Kilometers Covered
Ground Activities (Joint KWS / TT)	Protection teams: 62 days (302 for year) Monitoring teams: 40 days (192 for year)	Protection teams: 6,267 km (31,843 for year) Monitoring teams: 5,582 km (26,976 for year)
	No. Observed	
Big “Tuskers”	11 Tuskers - 10 bulls (4 Super Tuskers & 6 emerging Tuskers) & 1 cow	
	No. Recovered	
Ivory recovered	Nil elephant tusks (63 for year to date) – (largest tusk 38kg / 84lbs)	
Elephant carcasses	Fresh (less than 3 weeks old)	Recent (less than 3 months old)
	1 (1 natural)	Nil
Ele. Carcasses/hrs flown	1 every 67 hours of flight	
Poacher camps/hides	Fresh - Nil	Recent - Nil
Arrests	Nil – by KWS / TT – (11 to date)	
Snares/traps recovered	22 (by Tembo Teams – 339 for year to date)	
Response/support to KWS - armed incidents	Nil	
Other Illegal activities	11 cattle bomas (6,600 + cows, 1,500 shoats, 20 people)	
Written reports to KWS	53 (daily email reports, various communications & 1 monthly report)	
General & significant notes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 6/5/18: New cow Tusker F-SG1 added to the BTP data base • 16/5/18: Herd of 800 elephants observed TENP • 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 a newly identified Cow Tusker coded as F-SG1 in the foreground on 6th May 2018. Tsavo continues to surprise everyday with yet another unknown iconic Tusker.



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 10 different individual Tusker’s were observed from ground and air coverage.
- 4 bull Super Tuskers – 15 different sightings.
- 6 Emerging bull Tuskers – 17 sightings.
- 1 newly named iconic cow Tuskers F-SG1 – 2 sightings.
- **Total sightings – 34.**
- **Weather conditions:** TT HQ rainfall: **14.5mm**. Total rainfall at Tsavo Trust HQ to date: 424mm – double for the whole of 2017!
- **Elephant mortality: 1 carcass located (1 fresh):** 1 carcass c of d - 1 natural death.
- **Rhino security:** Regular aerial recces in support of KWS over TWNP rhino areas in partnership with ZSL. 10 rhino specific air recces resulted in 3,405km flown over 30 hrs (8 TW & 2 TE).
- **Elephant collaring exercise:** Ongoing monitoring from ground and air taking place by KWS / TT teams.

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

Tusker Code	No. Times Seen / Month	Brief Remarks
BULLS		
LU1	4	In good health and in difficult area to locate him
WS1	7	Physically seen, but located daily by Sat. collar
IL1	2	Moved out of Park into unsafe location, looking old
MU1	2	Normal location. In Musth
HA1	5	Back to original area found
TA1	1	Normal location
KI1	3	Back to normal location
GO1	2	Normal location
KM2	4	Normal location. In Musth
WS2	2	Moved close to Park boundary!
COWS		
F-SG1	2	New cow Tusker ID’d on 6/5/18
TOTAL	10 bulls, 1 cow: 34 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>		

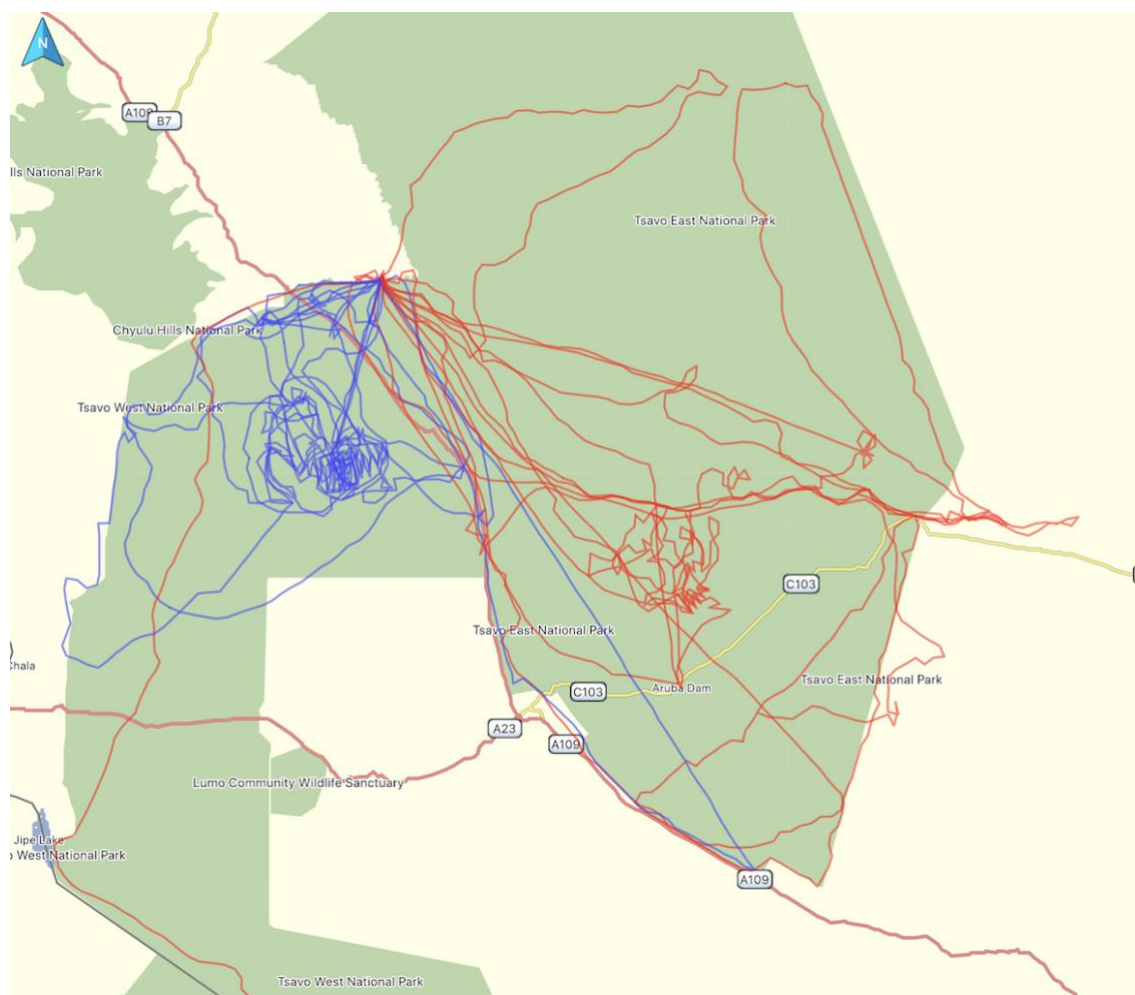


Photo shows emerging Tusker coded as KM2 on 12th May 2018.

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, Kanjaro, TZ / Kenya border</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 – Rombo, Ziwani, Salaita</p> <p>Chyulu Hills NP - Nil</p> <p>Taita Ranches - Nil</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 aircraft 5Y TTZ and the blue for 5Y NRF. 67 hours flown covering 7,735 kilometers over Tsavo in support of KWS: **Air & ground activities; Big Tusker monitoring; Locating illegal activities; Wildlife monitoring; Aerial census and tracking.**



COMMUNITY CONSERVANCY PROGRAM:

“KAMUNGI CONSERVANCY”:

- ✓ **Ongoing partnership between Tsavo Trust and Kamungi Conservancy (KC)** (bordering northern boundary of TENP – Triangle).
- ✓ **Employment:** Between Tsavo Trust and its partners 36 permanent staff and 23 casual staff were employed generating over \$ 9,000 (Ksh. 900,000) of income into Kamungi per month.
- ✓ **Kamungi Water Project:** 43,000 litres of water was issued from the water dispensing kiosk at Ngiluni Village. Each family is rationed to 60 litres per day.
- ✓ **HWC – Elephant Bee Fences** – 5 x 1-acre bee fences, total 75 bee hives with 22 are occupied. The first trial harvest yielded some first-class honey in late May and plans for a full harvest of 11hives is being planned on.
- ✓ **HWC** – 22 cases were recorded around Kamungi Conservancy, mainly elephants crop raiding (10) and leopard (2) conflict with smaller livestock.
- ✓ **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. This is a collaborative venture with James Ashe Anti-venom Trust / Bio-Ken Snake Farm, Watamu who are the anti-venom suppliers.



Photo shows one of 5 Bee Hive Fences within Kamungi Conservancy that have achieved considerable success with Human Elephant Conflict since set up.

“DAKOTA / SHIRANGO COMMUNITY PROJECT”:

- ✓ **Dakota / Shirango community engagement** – in its infancy, a partnership between Tsavo Trust and the Watha communities of Dakota / Shirango is fast evolving (although discussions have been ongoing for over 4 years). 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** – Tsavo Trust employs 8 staff from this community including a Community Liaison Officer (CLO) to spear head activities. This equates to over \$ 1,200 (Ksh. 120,000) of income generation every month to this community as a result.
- ✓ **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. Pass out is due in early June 2018.

Unusual Photo of the Month:

Photo showing a well concealed crocodile looking like a submerged log under the shade of some Doum palms at Mzima Springs in TWNP on 28th May 2018.



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