

MONTHLY REPORT:

JULY 2018

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

Activity	Hours Flown	Kilometers Covered
Aerial Reconnaissance	65 (500 for year) Average 118km p/h of low level flight	7,515 (59,002km for year) Flights carried out jointly with KWS staff
	Field Patrol Days	Kilometers Covered
Ground Activities (Joint KWS / TT)	Protection teams: 93 days (455 for year) Monitoring teams: 49 days (275 for year)	Protection teams: 9,763 km (46,634 for year) Monitoring teams: 7,126 km (38,996 for year)
	No. Observed	
Big “Tuskiers”	13 Tuskiers - 13 bulls (4 Super Tuskiers & 9 emerging Tuskiers)	
	No. Recovered	
Ivory recovered	2 elephant tusks (73 for year to date) – (largest tusk 38kg / 84lbs)	
Elephant carcasses	Fresh (less than 3 weeks old)	Recent (less than 3 months old)
	3 (2 poached, 1 unconfirmed)	Nil (Nil)
Ele. Carcasses/hrs flown	1 every 21.6 hours of flight	
Poacher camps/hides	Fresh - 4	Recent - Nil
Arrests	6 – by KWS / TT – (2 bushmeat, 1 ivory, 1 charcoal, 2 marijuana - 17 to date)	
Snares/traps recovered	69 (by Tembo Teams – 624 for year to date)	
Response/support to KWS - armed incidents	Nil	
Other Illegal activities	9 cattle bomas (9,750 + cows, 4,500 shoats, 8 people)	
Written reports to KWS	58 (daily email reports, various communications & 1 monthly report)	
General & significant notes	1/7/18: Deployment of Tembo 5 de-snaring team to TENP Triangle & TWNP 4/7/18: New Emerging Tusker CH1 added to Big Tusker database 14/7/18: 63 individual rhinos sighted during 1 aerial recce - Aerial & ground support to Rhino Program in TWNP & TENP, ongoing through partnership with KWS / ZSL. 9 rhino specific recce flights (29hrs) carried out with KWS	

Photo shows a rogue elephant attacking a Tsavo Trust outpost tent on the edge of TENP, 18th July 2018.



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.
- 4 bull Super Tuskers – 22 different sightings.
- 9 Emerging bull Tuskers – 24 sightings.
- **Total sightings – 46.**
- **Weather conditions:** TT HQ rainfall: **Nil**. Total rainfall at Tsavo Trust HQ to date: 427mm.
- **Elephant mortality: 3 carcasses located (3 fresh):** C of D – 2 poached, 1 unconfirmed.
- **Rhino security:** Regular aerial recces in support of KWS over TWNP rhino areas in partnership with ZSL. 9 rhino specific air recces resulted in 3,376km flown over 29 hrs (6 TW & 3 TE).
- **Collared Elephant:** 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	1	In good health, normal location
WS1	3	Physically seen but located daily by Sat. collar. In Musth
MU1	6	Normal location
HA1	12	Back to original area found. In Musth
KI1	7	Back to normal location
GO1	1	Normal location
KM2	2	Normal location
DR1	3	Moved some distance
KU1	1	Normal location
LA1	1	Original location
TA1	1	Normal location
WS2	4	Moved some distance
CH1	4	New TW emerging bull added to data base on 4/7/18
COWS		
Nil	Nil	
TOTAL	13 bulls: 46 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.		

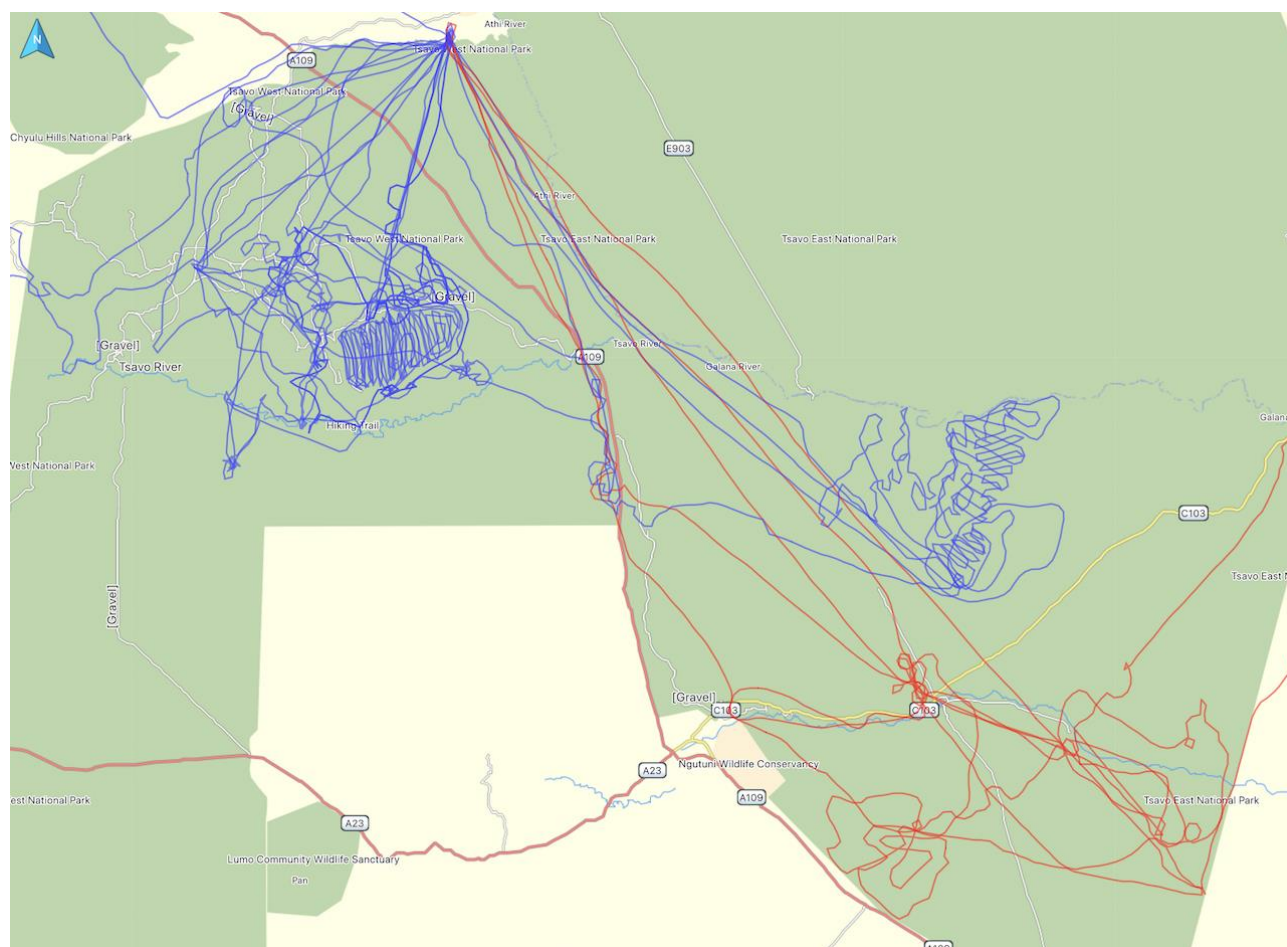
Photo shows one of Tsavo’s iconic Tuskers coded HA1 on 23rd July 2018.



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

TSAVO EAST NP	TSAVO WEST NP	RANCHES & DISPERSAL AREAS
Northern Area – Yatta Plateau, Durusikale, Garasamuke, Emusaya, Golf Charlie, Koitu, Sobo, Sangayaya, Dabaduke, Mufupa ya Ndovu, Tiva River, Ndiandaza, Ya Kalicha, Roka 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, 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, Dere, Murondo, Magram/Dakota Ranch, KMC, Ngutuni, Kilifi & Galana Ranch TWNP border – Rombo, Ziواني, Salaita Chyulu Hills NP - Nil Taita Ranches - Nil
- 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 July 2018. The red path is for aircraft 5Y TTZ and the blue for 5Y NRF. 65 hours flown covering 7,515 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:

All Tsavo Trust's mobile field teams work alongside KWS on a daily basis. **Tembo 1, 3 & 5 (incl. Kamungi Scouts) teams** are habitat protection and de-snaring focused whilst **Tembo 2 & 4 teams** are monitoring and research dedicated. All teams provide further "eyes and ears on the ground".

Tembo 5 team was deployed on 1st July 2018, working in support of KWS in the TENP Triangle area as well as various mobile deployments in TWNP. Kamungi Scouts operate under the directive of Tembo 5 team leader who is also Head of Security / Tsavo Trust.

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 men + 3 KWS men)	31	2 1 bushmeat 1 ivory dealer	Nil	59 All for small game	3kg dried bushmeat	1 bicycle, 1 panga, 1 knife, 1 torch & lamping horn	1	4,474
Tembo 3 (6 TT men + 3 KWS men)	31	1 1 charcoal burner	Nil	5 1 large, 4 for small game	Nil	Cooking equip.	1	2,672
Tembo 5 / Kamungi 14 TT men + 3 KWS men	31	3 1 bushmeat / marijuana 2 marijuana (45kg)	2 From collared ele	5 All for small game	4kg dried bushmeat	Cooking equip.	2	2,617
TOTALS	93	6	2	69	As above	As above	4	9,763
Total 2018	455	8	14	624	-	-	5	46,634

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)	24	- Tusker monitoring - Hirola monitoring - Grevy's zebra monitoring - Carnivore monitoring - Mombasa/Nairobi - Road & SGR kill surveys - Camera trap surveys - Fixed point photos - Collared elephant reporting	- Tuskers – 15 sightings - Hirola – 16 sightings - Grevy's Zebra – 0 sightings - Large Carnivores – 13 - Road & Rail kills – Nil - Elephant carcasses – 1 - Rain gauge readings - Elephant collaring – 4	TENP, Voi River, Satao, Buchuma, Dakota, Ndara, Aruba, Manyani, KMC, Lugards, Koitu, Emusaya, Galana River, Msa Rd., Dida Harea TWNP elephant collaring	3,922
Tembo 4 (2 TT staff + 2 KWS)	25	- 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 – 10 sightings - Rhino monitoring IPZ - 3 - Large Carnivores – 10 - Road & Rail kills – 4 - Elephant mortality - 1 - Rain gauge readings - Elephant collaring – 3	TWNP, Kamboyo, Mangalet, Kilaguni, Mzima, Shetani, Finch H, Ziwani, Kitani, Tsavo River, Rhino Valley, IPZ, NRS TENP – elephant collaring exercise	3,204
TOTALS	49	As above	As above	As above	7,126
Total 2018	275	-	-	-	38,996

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:** 85,415 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. Honey harvest in July 18 yielded some first-class honey – 18kg so far.
- ✓ **HWC** – 72 cases were recorded around Kamungi Conservancy, mainly elephants crop raiding and 1 male lion livestock killing (later trapped and euthanized). HWC cases: elephant 45, lion 10, snake bite 7, wild dog 6, leopard 3, crocodile 1.
- ✓ **Kamungi Forestry Project** – Unfortunately an elephant managed to break into the forestry fence and destroy most of the seedling trees. An electric fence has been set up around this 1-acre plot to mitigate this problem going forward.
- ✓ **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.



20th July 2018 – following 4 cows & 6 shoats having been killed by this very old rogue lion, he was trapped.

He was found to have the lower part of his rear right leg missing (thought to have been severed in a snare) and all but one of his canine teeth were missing due to old age.

Sadly, there is no way he could survive as a wild lion due to his physical poor condition and it is nearly certain, that this lion showed all the traits of becoming a “man eating lion”, something Tsavo is famous for historically.

“DAKOTA / SHIRANGO COMMUNITY PROJECT”:

- ✓ **Dakota / Shirango community engagement** – in its infancy, a partnership between Tsavo Trust and the Watha communities of 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.
- ✓ **Shirango Community meeting:** This was held on 20th July 2018 in Shirango. Various discussions were held. It was clearly highlighted that Tsavo Trust involvement with this community was based around benefits to community members “on the back of wildlife protection”. This was embraced. Only time will tell now, as this locality has been a “hot spot” poaching location for many years.

20th July 2018, Shirango village – here local Watha women perform a dance prior to the community meeting that was well attended.



Here discussions taking place at Shirango with community elders and representation by all genders and ages too.



Unusual Photo of the Month:

Photo shows a leopard having just caught a huge terrapin in the Athi River, TENP, and now carrying it across the sandy beach to the nearby riverine forest on 24th July 2018 (courtesy of Nick Trent).



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, Cheyenne Mountain Zoo, Leopardess Foundation (Nicole Honegger), JM Foundation Africa, 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, The Kratt Family, 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, Conservation Alpha, 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
All photographs ©Richard Moller / Tsavo Trust 2018