

# MONTHLY REPORT:

## AUGUST 2018

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

Activity	Hours Flown	Kilometers Covered
<b>Aerial Reconnaissance</b>	<b>72</b> (572 for year) Average 118km p/h of low level flight	<b>8,491</b> (67,493km for year) Flights carried out jointly with KWS staff
	<b>Field Patrol Days</b>	<b>Kilometers Covered</b>
<b>Ground Activities</b> (Joint KWS / TT)	<b>Protection teams: 93 days</b> (548 for year) <b>Monitoring teams: 49 days</b> (324 for year)	<b>Protection teams: 9,963 km</b> (56,597 for year) <b>Monitoring teams: 6,942 km</b> (45,938 for year)
	<b>No. Observed</b>	
<b>Big “Tuskers”</b>	<b>12</b> Tuskers - 12 bulls (6 Super Tuskers & 6 emerging Tuskers)	
	<b>No. Recovered</b>	
<b>Ivory recovered</b>	<b>6</b> elephant tusks (79 for year to date) – (largest tusk 38kg / 84lbs)	
<b>Elephant carcasses</b>	<b>Fresh</b> (less than 3 weeks old)	<b>Recent</b> (less than 3 months old)
	<b>3</b> (1 poached, 2 unconfirmed)	<b>Nil</b> (Nil)
<b>Ele. Carcasses/hrs flown</b>	1 every 24 hours of flight	
<b>Poacher camps/hides</b>	<b>Fresh - Nil</b>	<b>Recent - Nil</b>
<b>Arrests</b>	<b>5</b> – by KWS / TT – (2 ivory dealers, 2 bushmeat, 1 logging - 22 to date)	
<b>Snares/traps recovered</b>	<b>49</b> (by Tembo Teams – 673 for year to date)	
<b>Response/support to KWS - armed incidents</b>	<b>Nil</b>	
	<b>22</b> cattle bomas (19,550 + cows, 5,500 shoats, 700 camels, 28 people)	
<b>Written reports to KWS</b>	<b>77</b> (daily email reports, various communications & 1 monthly report)	
<b>General &amp; significant notes</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 8/8/18: New Emerging Tusker FH1 added to Big Tusker database</li> <li>• 21/8/18: New Emerging Tusker added to Big Tusker database</li> <li>• 24/8/18: 62 rhinos sighted in 1 aerial recce</li> <li>• 26/8/18: Super Tusker BA1 located after 13 months missing</li> <li>• Ongoing support to KWS / STE in locating collared elephants in TCA</li> <li>• Aerial &amp; ground support to Rhino Program in TWNP &amp; TENP, ongoing through partnership with KWS / ZSL. 7 rhino specific recce flights (17hrs) carried out with KWS</li> </ul>	

**Photo shows Super Tusker coded as BA1 on 26<sup>th</sup> August 2018. BA1 has been lost for 13 months and was last seen in July 2017, 110 kilometers from this sighting! A big relief he is still alive.**



**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 12 different individual Tusker’s were observed from ground and air coverage.
- 6 bull Super Tuskers – 30 different sightings.
- 6 Emerging bull Tuskers – 21 sightings.
- **Total sightings – 51.**
- **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 – 1 poached, 2 unconfirmed.
- **Rhino security:** Regular aerial recces in support of KWS over TWNP rhino areas in partnership with ZSL. 7 rhino specific air recces resulted in 2,006km flown over 17 hrs (6 TW & 1 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
<b>BULLS</b>		
LU1	3	In good health, normal location
WS1	13	In Musth and moving big distances in search of lady elephants
MU1	6	Normal location
HA1	3	Back to original area found. In Musth
IL1	3	Back to normal location, but looking old and slow
BA1	3	Fantastic news he is back after 13-month absence! 110km from where last seen
KI1	9	Back to normal location
EM1	1	Back to original location, not seen for 5 months
BL1	2	New TE emerging bull added to database 21/8/18. He was collared in Feb18
FH1	2	New TW emerging bull added to database 8/8/18
SO1	1	Back to original location
CH1	6	Normal location
<b>COWS</b>		
Nil	Nil	
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>12 bulls: 51 different sightings</b>	
<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 &amp; Monitoring Departments.</i>		

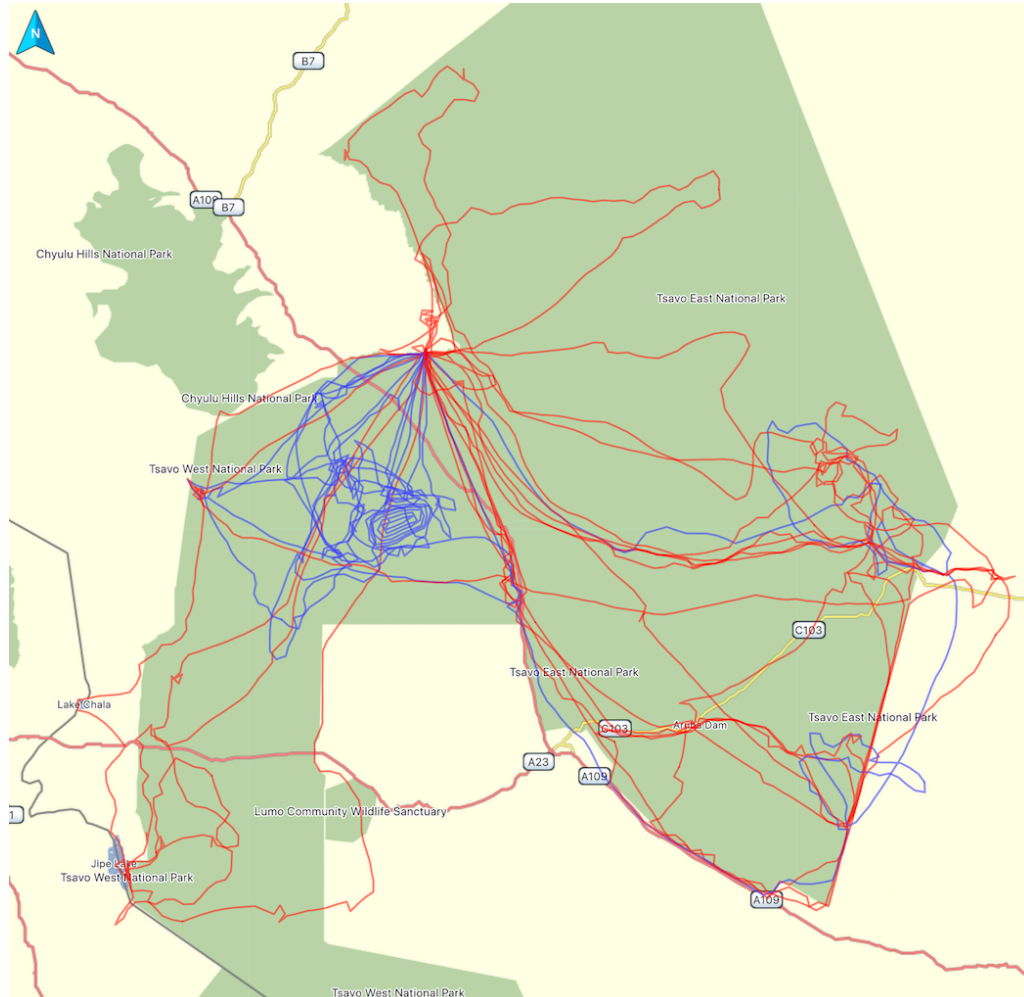
**Photo shows one of Tsavo’s better emerging Tuskers coded SO1 on 26<sup>th</sup> August 2018.**



**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><b>Northern Area</b> – Yatta Plateau, Durusikale, Garasamuke, Emusaya, Golf Charlie, Koitu, Sobo, Sangayaya, Dabaduke, Mufupa ya Ndovu, Tiva River, Ndiandaza, Ya Kalicha, Roka, Gazi</p> <p><b>Southern Area</b> – 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><b>Central Area</b> – 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 &amp; east, Galana River, Tsavo River and Yatta Central, SGR</p>	<p><b>Northern Sector</b> – IPZ, Mangaleta, Kamboyo, Kisimeka, Chyulu south, Mtito lugga, Mungai Hill, Finch Hattons, Mzima Springs, Shetani volcano, Severin, Kilaguni, Ndawe, Tsavo River</p> <p><b>Southern Sector</b> – Murka, Maktau, Ziwani, Serengeti plains, Kanjaro, TZ / Kenya border</p> <p><b>Central Sector</b> – IPZ, Rhino Valley, NRS, Tsavo River, Kinyek, Maji ya Chumvi (north &amp; south), Ziwani, Lesoito, Kyulu, Manda, Kishushe, Murka, Mombasa Highway, Man Easters, Kenani, Kanga, Manyani north and west, SGR line</p>	<p><b>TENP border</b> – Ngiluni/Kamunyu, Kulalu, Derea, Murondo, Magram/Dakota Ranch, KMC, Ngutuni, Kilifi &amp; Galana Ranch</p> <p><b>TWNP border</b> – Rombo, Ziwani, Salaita</p> <p><b>Chyulu Hills NP</b> - Nil</p> <p><b>Taita Ranches</b> - Lualenyi</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 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.</li> <li>• 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.</li> </ul>		

- Map below shows Tsavo Trust’s flight paths (2 aircraft) over the TCA in August 2018. The red path is for aircraft 5Y TTZ and the blue for 5Y NRF. 72 hours flown covering 8,491 kilometers over Tsavo in support of KWS: **Air & ground activities; Big Tusker monitoring; Locating illegal activities; Wildlife monitoring; Aerial census and tracking.**



*Photo shows livestock coming into Voi River Dam, TENP on 21<sup>st</sup> August 2018, displacing a herd of elephants who were drinking there.*



## **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:** 45,520 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:** Funds have been raised to completely upgrade the old dispensary to include: new roof (replacing the old asbestos roof), new verandah, roofing frames replaced as necessary, re painting inside and out, fitting of ceiling boards, new guttering all round, putting in place an electric fence around the 3 acre plot, plumbing, solar electrics, water tank and water pipe delivery. It is planned to be completed by year end.

*Photo shows Ngiluni Dispensary upgrade project on 27<sup>th</sup> August 2018, with old asbestos roof removed ready for new green corrugated iron roof to replace. This will enable catchment of rain water.*



- ✓ **HWC – Elephant Bee Fences** – 5 x 1-acre bee fences, total 75 bee hives with 22 are occupied. Next honey harvest due in December 18.
- ✓ **HWC** – 56 cases were recorded around Kamungi Conservancy, mainly elephants crop raiding HWC cases: elephant 49, hyena 2, snake bite 5.
- ✓ **Kamungi Forestry Project** – Seedlings have been re planted following elephant destruction.
- ✓ **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 anti-venom suppliers. 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 August 18 all vials were used, and lives of 2 people were saved having been bitten by spitting cobras. Tsavo Trust donated \$ 1,200 to JAAT for more 10 more vials of anti-venom in August 18.

**“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 including a water project (see below), employment (see below) and exposure tour of elected committee members to Northern Rangelands Trust (NRT) in northern Kenya in September 18.
- ✓ **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 Water Project:** Following various meetings, initial phases of a water project (bore hole and solar pump) have taken place. Hydrological surveys are being planned for the near future and EIA and NEMA approvals will follow this. It is hoped that a borehole will be drilled, solar pump equipment and 100,000 litre water tank put in place in early 2019, once approvals are in place. This project is being implemented to assist local people who have historically lived off elephants, bushmeat and other natural resources from the TENP, but now have an understanding that this water has come to them “from the elephants” and as a result it is hoped that with engagement with the Watha people here, elephant poaching and bushmeat will significantly reduce.

***Unusual Photo of the Month:***

*Photo, courtesy of Nick Trent / Tsavo Trust, shows an immature Martial eagle shortly before leaving the nest on 11<sup>th</sup> August 2018, TENP. These large raptors are now classed as vulnerable, but in Tsavo they are still frequently seen.*



**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, 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.

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**Report compiled by Richard Moller – Chief Executive Officer, Tsavo Trust**

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