

# MONTHLY REPORT:

## SEPTEMBER 2018

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

Activity	Hours Flown	Kilometers Covered
<b>Aerial Reconnaissance</b>	<b>91</b> (663 for year) Average 118km p/h of low level flight	<b>10,448</b> (77,941km 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: 90 days</b> (638 for year) <b>Monitoring teams: 35 days</b> (359 for year)	<b>Protection teams: 10,908 km</b> (67,505 for year) <b>Monitoring teams: 4276 km</b> (50,218 for year)
	<b>No. Observed</b>	
<b>Big “Tuskers”</b>	<b>16</b> Tuskers - 15 bulls (6 Super Tuskers, 9 emerging Tuskers & 1 cow Tusker)	
	<b>No. Recovered</b>	
<b>Ivory recovered</b>	<b>12</b> elephant tusks ( <b>91</b> 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>Nil</b>	<b>4</b> (All natural)
<b>Ele. Carcasses/hrs flown</b>	1 every 22.5 hours of flight	
<b>Poacher camps/hides</b>	<b>Fresh - 5</b>	<b>Recent - Nil</b>
<b>Arrests</b>	<b>8</b> – by KWS / TT – (3 ivory dealers, 5 bushmeat - <b>30</b> to date 2018)	
<b>Snares/traps recovered</b>	<b>39</b> (by Tembo Teams – <b>712</b> for year to date)	
<b>Response/support to KWS - armed incidents</b>	<b>Nil</b>	
	<b>3</b> cattle bomas (12,550 + cows, 2,700 shoats, 22 people)	
<b>Written reports to KWS</b>	<b>69</b> (daily email reports, various communications & 1 monthly report)	
<b>General &amp; significant notes</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Drying out fast as the dry season sets in over TCA</li> <li>• 19/9/18: Iconic cow Tusker F-DII sighted after 6 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, via ongoing partnership with KWS / ZSL. 9 rhino specific recce flights (24.5hrs) carried out with KWS</li> </ul>	



*Photo shows iconic cow Tusker coded as F-DII in TENP on 22<sup>nd</sup> September 2018.*

*She had not been observed since 12<sup>th</sup> March 2018.*

*She is undoubtedly Tsavo’s most majestic cow elephant.*

## **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 16 different individual Tusker’s were observed from ground and air coverage.
- 6 bull Super Tuskers – 22 different sightings.
- 9 Emerging bull Tuskers – 23 sightings.
- 1 Iconic cow Tusker – 1 sighting
- **Total sightings – 46.**
- **Weather conditions:** TT HQ rainfall: **Nil**. Total rainfall at Tsavo Trust HQ to date: 427mm.
- **Elephant mortality: 4 carcasses located (4 recent):** C of D – all natural.
- **Rhino security:** Regular aerial recces in support of KWS over TWNP rhino areas in partnership with ZSL. 9 rhino specific air recces resulted in 2,764km flown over 24.5 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.**

<b>Tusker Code</b>	<b>No. Times Seen / Month</b>	<b>Brief Remarks</b>
<b>BULLS</b>		
LU1	3	In good health, normal location
WS1	3	Back to original location
MU1	5	Normal location
HA1	6	Back to original area found
IL1	2	Back to normal location, but looking old and slow
BA1	3	Moving to unsafe location
KI1	4	Back to normal location
EM1	1	Back to original location
BL1	2	Normal location
FH1	2	Same location
SO1	1	Back to original location
CH1	6	Normal location
SH1	5	Normal location (Ex WS2)
DR1	1	Normal location
GO1	1	Moves big distances
<b>COWS</b>		
F-DII	2	Back normal location, not seen for last 6 months since 12/3/18
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>15 bulls &amp; 1 cow: 46 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 emerging Tuskers coded as SH1 on 1<sup>st</sup> September 2018, TENP.**

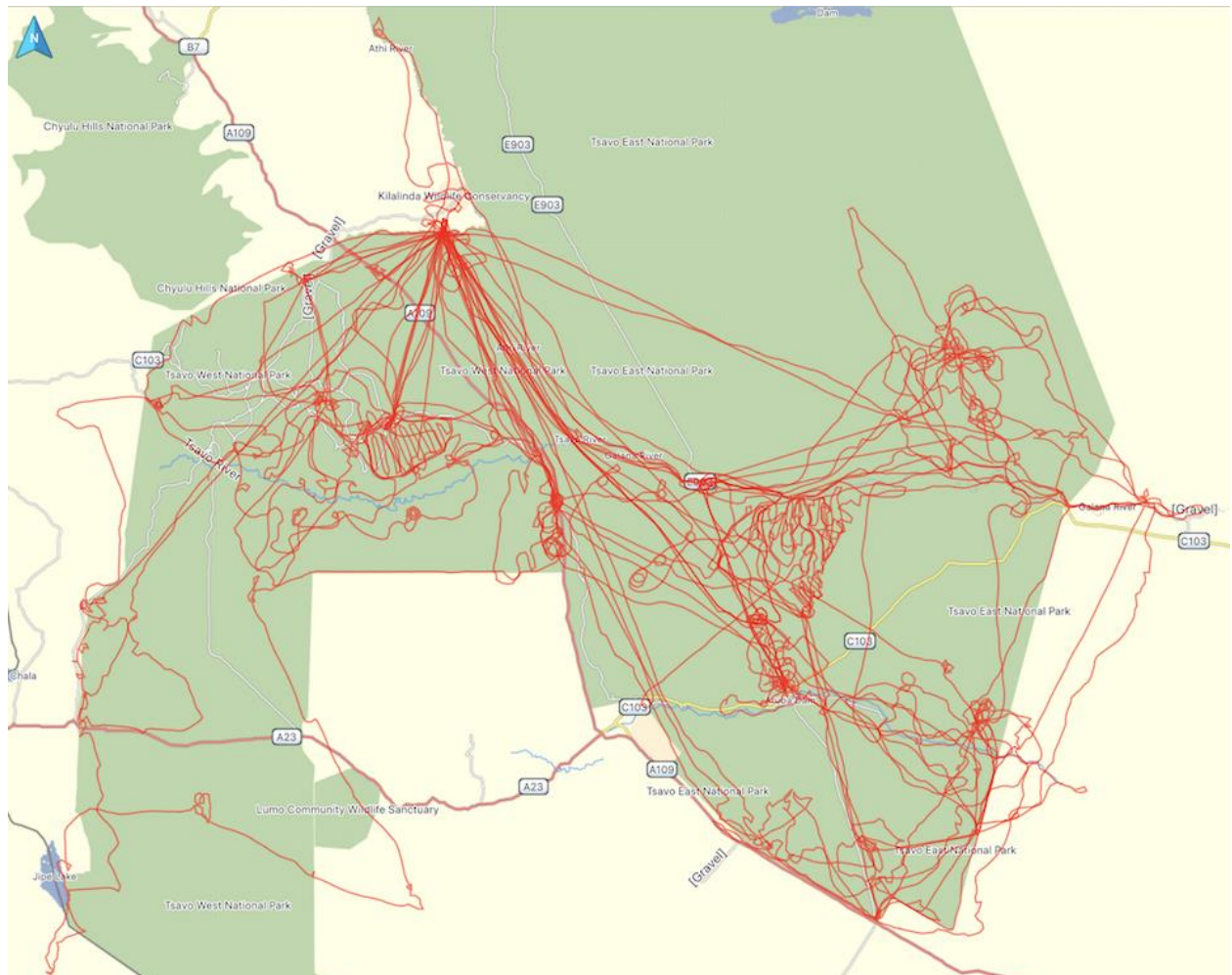
**SH1 is very close to being elevated into the Super Tusker category given the size and length of his ivory.**

**Tsavo Trust has known SH1 well for 5 years now. He has mated with cow Tusker F-DII (shown on page 1) in August 2015 and in so doing must have passed on those very rare genes.**

**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, Shirango, 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 September 2018. The red path is for aircraft 5Y TTZ and the blue for 5Y NRF. 91 hours flown covering 10,448 kilometers over Tsavo in support of KWS: **Air & ground activities; Big Tusker monitoring; Locating illegal activities; Wildlife monitoring; Aerial census and tracking.**



## ***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:**

<b>TT Activity</b>	<b>Cost (\$) Justification</b>	<b>Total \$</b>
<b><i>Aerial support – ongoing TENP &amp; TWNP</i></b>	91hrs in Super Cub aircraft @ \$240 incl. pilot	21,840
<b><i>Vehicle running costs - Field Mobile Teams (Tembo 1, 2, 3, 4 &amp; 5) – ongoing TENP &amp; TWNP</i></b>	4 vehicles covered 16,905km @ \$1 p/km incl. fuel, maintenance & f/c insurance	15,184
<b><i>TT Field Staff x 20 (Tembo teams)</i></b>	Not Included	-
<b><i>KWS Field Staff allowances (Tembo 1, 3 &amp; 5) – ongoing TENP &amp; TWNP</i></b>	3 KWS Rangers attached to each de-snaring team, total 9 men x 30 days @ \$3 p/p/p/day	810
<b><i>TENP - Dakota Platoon Vehicle Diesel - ongoing</i></b>	100ltrs p/month	100
<b><i>TENP – Dakota Base Vehicle repairs KAT 361X</i></b>	New fuel tank, bearing & oil seal replace on gear box, new steering shaft & joint	2,370
<b><i>TENP - DSTV Dakota Base - ongoing</i></b>	Monthly subscription	40
<b><i>TENP - KWS Dakota Base, upgrade</i></b>	Complete re build of KWS Dakota Base outpost in TENP southern boundary to include new kitchen / mess area, 2 blocks of 3 rooms each for KWS ranger accommodation – budgeted \$35,000	Just started work on this project
<b>TOTAL MONTH</b>		<b>\$ 40,344</b>
<b>TOTAL 2018 to DATE:</b>		<b>\$ 371,426</b>

## **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 38 permanent staff and 23 casual staff were employed generating over \$ 9,300 (Ksh. 930,000) of income into Kamungi every month.
- ✓ ***Kamungi Water Project:*** 38,610 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 9<sup>th</sup> September 2018, with new green corrugated iron roof and verandah being added. 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** – 45 cases were recorded around Kamungi Conservancy; mainly elephants crop raiding HWC cases: 37 elephant cases, 4 hyenas, 2 Leopard, 2 snakes.
- ✓ **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 September 18 all vials were used, and lives of 2 people were saved having been bitten by spitting cobras. This is all made possible through the partnership with JAAT.



*Photos taken on 7<sup>th</sup> September 2018, shows a young 7-year-old girl having recently been bitten by a red spitting cobra and arrived at Voi Hospital in a critical condition.*

*With liaison between the Senior Nurse at Voi District Hospital, James Ashe Anti-venom Trust and Tsavo Trust, vials of top-grade anti-venom were rapidly delivered to the Hospital and within 24 hours this little girl was out of danger and will recover fully.*

### **“SHIRANGO CONSERVANCY”:**

- ✓ **Shirango community engagement** – This Conservancy, in its infancy, where a growing 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).
- ✓ **Exposure Tour to Northern Rangelands Trust (NRT) and Lewa Wildlife Conservancy (LWC)** - this tour of 11 elected committee members (8 men and 3 women) to NRT and LWC in northern Kenya took place in late September 18. Various Conservancies and Community projects were shown to us and it is hoped that this exposure can be replicated in the Shirango area as a benefit to both communities and the potential for wildlife growth and expansion into Shirango. The habitat is intact, and the community aspiration is also there to build on over time.
- ✓ **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.
- ✓ **Shirango Water Project:** Following various meetings, initial phases of a water project (bore hole and solar pump) have taken place. Hydrological surveys took place on 24<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> September 2018. 2 potential sites were located, as we await the final report. Once this is in hand applications for EIA and NEMA approvals will follow. 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.

- ✓ **Meetings:** 19<sup>th</sup> September meeting took place at Shirango with communities, Tsavo Trust and USAid. Also, the preliminary team to travel to NRT and LWC was elected at this meeting and amended at a subsequent meeting held on 20<sup>th</sup> September 18. The CLO has been active with meetings in Kilifi with the County Government Offices there as well as local community elders.

*Photo shows the Shirango community team of 11 members viewing orphaned elephants at Northern Rangelands Trust – Namunyak Conservancy / Reteti Elephant Sanctuary. The Shirango team learnt a huge amount from NRT and LWC during their exposure tour, that was funded by USAid. A big thank you to NRT and LWC for sharing their knowledge with this team.*



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

*Photo, courtesy of Nick Trent / Tsavo Trust, shows one of Tsavo's true icons – Tusker coded as LUI, on 8<sup>th</sup> September 2018. This magnificent elephant is well known by Tsavo Trust over the last 4 years. He has been recorded in the KWS / TT Tusker data base 207 times, which equates to once every 7 days.*



**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, 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, 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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