

# MONTHLY REPORT:

## NOVEMBER 2017

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

Activity	Hours Flown	Miles Covered
<b><i>Aerial Reconnaissance</i></b>	<b>86</b> (797 for year) Average 74 mph of low level flight	<b>6,421</b> (59,256 for year) Flights carried out jointly with KWS staff
<b>No. Observed</b>		
<b><i>Big “Tuskers”</i></b>	<b>14</b> Tuskers - 13 bulls (5 Super Tuskers & 8 emerging Tuskers) & 1 cow	
<b>No. Recovered</b>		
<b><i>Ivory recovered</i></b>	<b>42</b> elephant tusks (211 for year to date - largest 53.5 & 52.5kg)	
<b><i>Elephant carcasses</i></b>	<b><i>Fresh</i></b> (less than 3 weeks old)	<b><i>Recent</i></b> (less than 3 months old)
	<b>14</b> (c of d: 14 natural)	<b>6</b> (3 old carcasses, c of d: 6 natural)
<b><i>Ele. Carcasses/hrs flown</i></b>	1 every 4.3 hours of flight	
<b><i>Poacher camps/hides</i></b>	<b><i>Fresh - 1</i></b>	<b><i>Recent - Nil</i></b>
<b><i>Arrests</i></b>	<b>3</b> - by KWS / TT – details CONFIDENTIAL	
<b><i>Snares/traps recovered</i></b>	<b>20</b> (by Tembo Teams – <b>863</b> for year to date)	
<b><i>Written reports to KWS</i></b>	<b>53</b> (daily email reports, various communications & 1 monthly report)	
<b><i>General &amp; significant notes</i></b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Good rains have finally fallen over most parts of Tsavo E &amp; W</li> <li>• 4/11/17: Official opening of Kamungi Conservancy Water Project</li> <li>• Aerial &amp; ground support for rhino security ongoing through partnership with KWS / ZSL rhino program. Rhino capture between 20<sup>th</sup> to 27<sup>th</sup> Nov17.</li> </ul>	

*Photo shows the Kamungi Conservancy Chairman speaking to community members and the opening ceremony of the Kamungi Water Project on 4<sup>th</sup> November 2017. This project consisting of a bore hole, solar pumping station, 2.5-kilometer pipeline to Ngiluni Village, 100,000 litre water tank and dispensing kiosk was put in place by Tsavo Trust to support the community members of Kamungi Conservancy that borders onto TENP.*



## **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 14 different individual Tusker’s were observed from ground and air coverage.
- 5 bull Super Tuskers – 16 different sightings.
- 8 Emerging bull Tuskers – 19 sightings.
- 1 iconic cow Tuskers – 1 sightings.
- **Total sightings – 36**
- **Weather conditions:** Good rain in most parts and Tsavo has finally greened up significantly.
- **Elephant mortality: 20 carcasses located (14 fresh, 3 recent & 3 old with ivory intact):** All confirmed as natural deaths related to drought and starvation.
- **Rhino security:** Between 20<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup> November17, TW rhino capture took place by KWS / ZSL with Tsavo Trust providing aerial surveillance and mobile ground team in support. A total of 21 air reces were carried out covering 4,399 miles over 59 hours of flight. 24 rhinos were immobilized with 9 fitted with VHF transmitters and 15 ear notched for monitoring purposes.

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

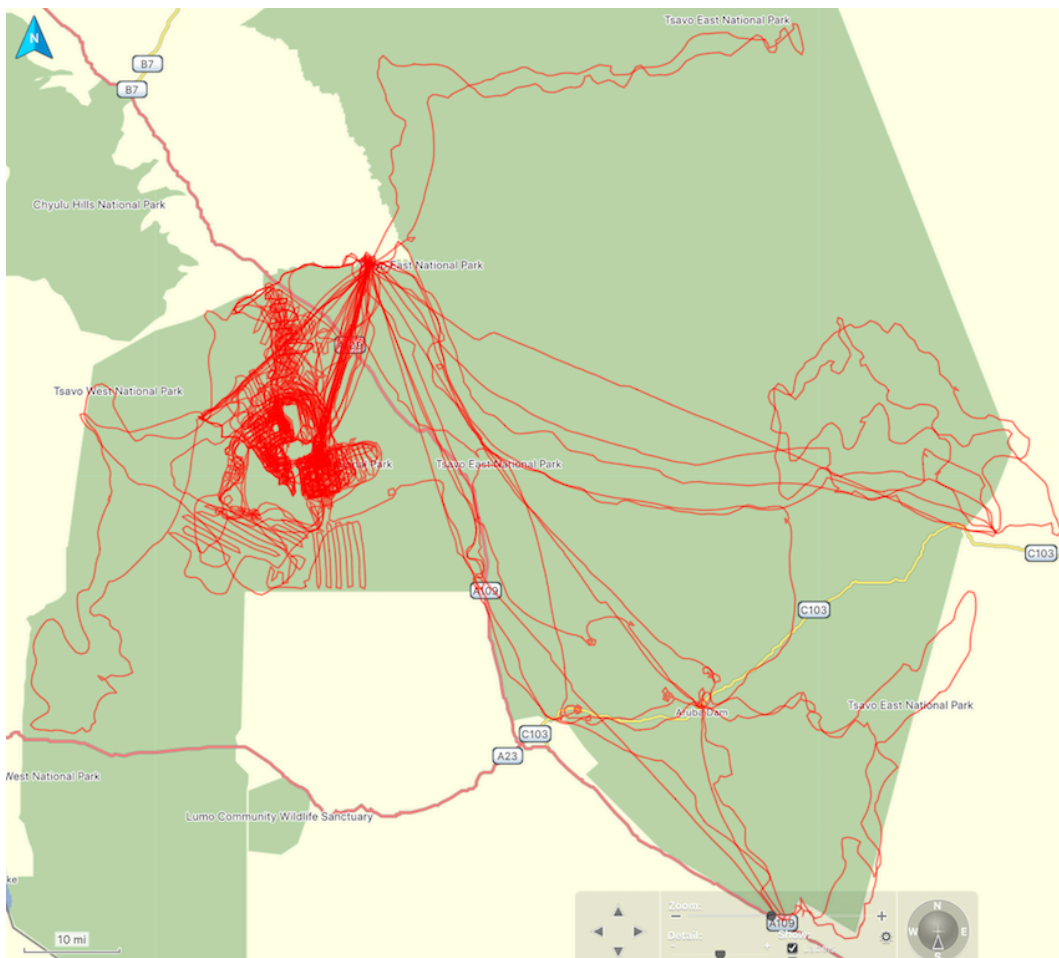
<b>Tusker Code</b>	<b>No. Times Seen / Month</b>	<b>Brief Remarks</b>
<b>BULLS</b>		
LU1	7	In good health and has crossed Msa rd. several times recently!
SL1	1	In a worrying and unsafe location on the Park boundary!
MU1	5	Thankfully back inside the Park and in good health
KO1	1	In a worrying and unsafe remote location, often on border the Park!
IL1	2	Normal location
MA1	3	Normal location
KI1	3	Normal location
DR1	2	Normal location
EM1	1	Back to original location, not seen for last 6 months!
HA1	2	Normal location
GO1	2	New emerging Tusker added to database 21/11/17
TA1	3	New emerging Tusker added to database 24/11/17
WA1	3	New emerging Tusker added to database 25/10/17
<b>COWS</b>		
F_DI1	1	Normal location
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>13 bulls, 1 cows: 36 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 below shows newly identified emerging “Tusker” on 21<sup>st</sup> November 2017 coded as GO1.  
(Photo courtesy of Joseph Kyalo Kimaile – Head of TT Research)**



**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</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, Mangalete, 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> – Nil</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> – Ziwani and Rombo</p> <p><b>Chyulu Hills NP</b> - Nil</p> <p><b>Taita Ranches</b> - Nil</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 <b>“eyes in the skies”</b> 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>		



**November 2017**  
**Flight paths:**

- **86 hours flown**
- **6,421 miles covered**

**Supporting KWS activities:**

- **Air & ground operations**
- **Big Tusker monitoring**
- **Illegal activities**
- **Wildlife monitoring**
- **Aerial census**

### **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.

### **De-snaring teams:**

**Table 7: Shows outcomes from field activities from Tembo 1 & 3 teams:**

<b>De-snaring teams</b>	<b>No. Field days</b>	<b>No. Arrest</b>	<b>No. Ivory recvd.</b>	<b>No. Snare recvd.</b>	<b>Bushmeat recvd.</b>	<b>Poachers equip. recvd.</b>	<b>No. Poacher camps</b>	<b>Vehicle mileage km</b>
<b>Tembo 1</b> (7 TT men + 3 KWS men)	30	2 Confidential	18	20	Nil	Confidential	1	3,736
<b>Tembo 3 / Kamungi</b> (12 TT men + 3 KWS men)	30	1 Confidential	-	Nil	14kg - 5 dikdiks	Confidential	Nil	3,178
<b>Others</b> Chui team	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>As above</b>	<b>As above</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>6,914</b>
<b>Total 2017</b>	<b>616</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>106</b>	<b>863</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>73,043</b>

### **Monitoring teams:**

**Table 8: Shows activities carried out by Tembo 2 & 4 teams – research and monitoring:**

<b>Monitoring team</b>	<b>No. Field days</b>	<b>Activities</b>	<b>Endangered species records / sightings</b>	<b>Operating locations</b>	<b>Vehicle mileage km</b>
<b>Tembo 2</b> (3 TT staff + 2 KWS)	24	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Tusker monitoring</li> <li>• Hirola monitoring</li> <li>• Grevy's zebra monitoring</li> <li>• Carnivore monitoring</li> <li>• Mombasa/Nairobi - Road &amp; SGR kill surveys</li> <li>• Camera trap surveys</li> <li>• Fixed point photos</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Tuskers – 15 sightings with 3 emerging Tuskers added to database</li> <li>• Hirola – 9 sightings</li> <li>• Grevy's Zebra – 7 sightings</li> <li>• Large Carnivores – 18</li> <li>• Road &amp; Rail kills - 2</li> </ul>	TENP, Voi River, Satao, Buchuma, Dakota, Ndara, Aruba, Manyani, KMC, Lugards, Koitu, Emusaya, Galana River, Msa Rd., Dida Harea	4,230
<b>Tembo 4</b> (2 TT staff + 2 KWS)	21	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Tusker monitoring</li> <li>• Rhino monitoring &amp; capture exercise</li> <li>• Carnivore monitoring</li> <li>• Mombasa/Nairobi - Road &amp; SGR kill surveys</li> <li>• Camera trap surveys</li> <li>• Fixed point photos</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Tuskers – 7 sightings</li> <li>• Rhino – capture exercise – 24 immobilized</li> <li>• Large Carnivores – 4</li> <li>• Road &amp; Rail kills - 0</li> </ul>	TWNP, Kamboyo, Mangalete, Kilaguni, Mzima, Shetani, Finch H, Ziwani, Kitani, Tsavo River, Rhino Valley, IPZ, NRS	2,146
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>As above</b>	<b>As above</b>	<b>As above</b>	<b>6,376</b>
<b>Total 2017</b>	<b>316</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>51,424</b>

*Photo below taken on 21<sup>st</sup> November 2017 during the KWS / ZSL rhino capture exercise where Tsavo Trust played a support role with fixed wing aircraft for 48 hours flying covering 3,603 miles and also one 4 x 4 vehicle and Tembo 4 team as ground support.*



*Other Tsavo Trust Activities in brief:*

**COMMUNITY CONSERVANCY PROGRAM:**  
**“KAMUNGI CONSERVANCY”:**

Partnership between Tsavo Trust and Kamungi Conservancy (bordering northern boundary of TENP – Triangle) continues to thrive in many ways; employment (35 permanent employees and an average of 15 casual employees monthly, all from this community), HWC, water projects and much more. Tsavo Trust employs a Community Liaison Officer (CLO) to help coordinate activities:

- **Kamungi Water Project** – Official opening took place on 4<sup>th</sup> November 2017. Tsavo Trust Chairman – Hon. Nzioki Wa Makau and Mtito Andei Chief Paul Luvai officially opened this community project. Local County Officials (MCA), Kamungi Conservancy Chairman – Raphael Kivuva, KWS Community Dept. staff from TWNP and over 250 local community members were present. The opening was followed by the traditional “Nyama Choma” (roast goat meat) and various drinks at Ngiluni Village.



*Kamungi Conservancy Water Project opening on 4<sup>th</sup> November 2017. Officially opened by Hon. Nzioki wa Makau (TT Chairman - middle) and Paul Luvai (local area Chief - right).*

*Photo below shows ladies collecting water from the Kamungi Conservancy 100,000ltr water tank in back ground. The local inhabitants of Ngiluni village are now saved many kilometers of walking to get water for domestic use as they once had to do. This supply is clean water and not unhygienic as was the case before this joint Kamungi Conservancy / Tsavo Trust project began.*



- **Solar Panel Donation** – With generous support from Tsavo Trust Founding Board Member – Stuart Herd, solar panels were donated to the Ngiluni Dispensary for lighting up the delivery room as well as a solar charging system for mobile phones and other needs, placed at the water dispensing kiosk at Ngiluni for community member use.



*15<sup>th</sup> November 2017, Tsavo Trust Board Member Stuart Herd, here donating solar lighting equipment to the Ngiluni Dispensary nurse – Margaret for use in the delivery room.*

**ANIMAL WELFARE PROGRAM:**  
**LEOPARD RELEASE PROGRAM:**

- **“Dotty”** the female leopard is now 19 months old. She has been fully wild and fending for herself for over 3 months now. Unfortunately, on 21<sup>st</sup> November 2017, *Dotty* managed to drop her satellite collar! This is not unusual for leopards following collaring and release. We soon realized something was not right as a “stagnant collar fix” was observed by the Tsavo Trust team who have monitored her daily via computer since release. A ground team was dispatched immediately to the location just south of the Tsavo River and her intact collar was recovered. *Dotty* has been observed again briefly since dropping the collar, in good health, and north of the Tsavo River in TWNP. Although approval to re-collar has been given, the opportunity to do so has not yet presented itself. We will keep trying.
- **“Sophie”**, is the second leopard under rehabilitation by Tsavo Trust. Her release site boma is under construction now deep in TWNP and she will be moved there in early 2018.

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



***With the recent and long-awaited rains having fallen over Tsavo, many not-so common creatures appear, here a Graceful Chameleon (chameleon gracilis)***

***This particular specimen was observed on 15<sup>th</sup> November 2017 at TT HQ.***

**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 UK & USA, Stuart Herd, Sir Colin Southgate, Nick Southgate, Alex Graham, Dr. David K.P. Li, Nick Powell, James Robertson, International Foundation for Animal Welfare (IFAW), The Woodtiger Fund, Markus Jebsen, Ndovu Trust (UK), Cheyenne Mountain Zoo, The Davies Family, The Leopardess Foundation (Nicole Honegger), Paul Block, International Elephant Foundation (IEF), Disney/Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS), Mike Kirkland/Torben Rune - Satao Camp (Tsavo East) & Southern Cross Safaris (Msa), Tropical Ice Ltd, Askari Project – Australia, Salama Fikira, Origins Safaris, 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 – InsidersAfrica, Simon Herd, Michael Cheffings, Pembroke House School and numerous other individual supporters.