

MONTHLY REPORT:

APRIL 2020

SUMMARY of ACTIVITIES:

WILDLIFE CONSERVATION PROGRAM: <i>Big Tusker Project – Aerial & Ground Activities</i>		
Activity	Hours Flown	Kilometers Covered
Aerial Reconnaissance	52.5 (251.5 for year) Average 119km p/h of low-level flight	6,280 (28,724km for year) Flights carried out jointly with KWS staff
Rhino specific flights-TE & TW	19.5 (96.5 for year)	2,224 (10,800km for year)
	Field Patrol Days	Kilometers Covered
Ground Activities (Joint KWS / TT)	Protection teams: 90 days (348 to date) Monitoring teams: 22 days (77 to date)	Vehicle patrols: 3,988km (26,449km to date) Foot patrols: 625km (2854km to date) Monitoring teams: 4,607km (13,474km to date)
Big “Tuskers” observed	12 Tuskers - 3 Super Tusker bulls, 8 emerging bulls, 1 cow Tusker = 25 individual observations	
Ivory recovered	Nil elephant tusks (6 for year)	
Elephant mortality	Fresh (less than 3 weeks old)	Recent (less than 3 months old)
	Nil – (c of d: nil)	Nil (c of d: nil)
Poacher camps/hides	Fresh - Nil	Recent – Nil
Arrests	2 – by KWS / TT – 2 bushmeat 8 for year to date Bushmeat recvd: 450kg (629kg for year to date)	
Snares/traps recovered	19 by Tembo Teams: 147 snares to date 2020 (114 small; 33 medium)	
Support to KWS-armed incidents	Nil	
Illegal Livestock (only in PA)	7 cattle bomas (2,950 + cows, 200 shoats, 5 men)	
Written reports to KWS	51 (daily Situation reports, various communications & 1 monthly report)	
General & significant notes	• Effects of COVID-19 has reduced TT operational activities by 40% (ground & areal) • Bushmeat poaching seen to be on the increase! • 2/4/20: KWS Ranger attached to TT/KWS Tembo 3 team attacked by lioness in TWNP • 9/4/20: Deployed TT Tembo 4 vehicle to TWNP IPZ to assist KWS rhino monitoring • 21/4/20: Assisted in recovery of 1 rhino horn (natural drop off) in TWNP-IPZ • 30/4/20: Sand Dam construction of Mbololo B, TENP, nearly completed	
COMMUNITY CONSERVANCY PROGRAM:		
Kamungi Conservancy North boundary TWNP 	• Employment (through T/Trust): 25 permanent, 20 temporaries • Membership: 1,100 people • Community Mobilization meetings: 4 • Ongoing Projects: Water project; Dispensary support; Kamungi HQ construction; VSLA’s • Human Wildlife Conflict (HWC): 18 reports, mainly stock killing leopard • Wildlife Counts: Nil sample transect counts • Security Ops: 15 snares recvd.; 3 ambushes for reported poachers	
Shirango Conservancy South East boundary TENP 	• Employment (through T/Trust): 10 permanents • Membership: 2,300 people • Community Mobilization meetings: Nil • Ongoing Projects: Water project; security outpost development; Social Economic Survey • Human Wildlife Conflict (HWC): 9 reports, mainly leopard & hyena • Wildlife Counts: Nil • Security Ops: T1 team – 2 arrests (bushmeat); 11 snares recvd; 450kg L/kudu meat recvd.	
FIELD CONSERVATION FORMAL PARTNERS:		
KWS-Kenya Wildlife Service	• Partner to KWS: through MoU. Incl. Rhino Strategy & Hirola Recovery Plan	
ZSL-Zoological Society London	• Partner with ZSL: Rhino Impact Bond (RIB) in TWNP & Community development	
STE-Save The Elephants	• Partner in aerial & ground monitoring - collared elephants; Elephants & Bees project	
ASDF-African Sand Dam Fdn	• Construction of sand dams to assist in habitat recovery – partnership with KWS / ASDF & Excellent Development UK	
JAAT-Anti-venom Trust	• Partner to JAAT (professional supplier of top-quality snake bite antivenom) – Tsavo outlet	

WILDLIFE CONSERVATION PROGRAM:

“Big Tusker Project”- aerial and ground mobile teams:

Table 1: Summary of Big Tusker Project (BTP)

Activity / Detail	Number & Brief Remarks
BTP individual Tusker sightings	Total = 25 sightings – with recent rains, elephants are spread far and wide
Super Tusker Bulls	3 individuals (HA1 re-sighted, last confirmed sighting Sept18)
Emerging Tuskers (bulls)	8 individuals
Iconic Cow Tuskers	1 individual
Elephant Mortality	Nil
Ivory Recovered	Nil
Elephant Treatment	Nil
Wildlife Rescues	Nil
Rhino Support (KWS / ZSL / TT partnership)	Regular aerial patrols with KWS over TWNP & TENP rhino areas in partnership with KWS / ZSL . 9 rhino specific reces resulting in 2,224km flown over 19.5hrs (9 TW & Nil TE).
HWC cases attended to	Nil
Arrests	2 (bushmeat poachers)
Wire Snares Recovered	19 (4 medium, 15 small)
Bush Meat Recovered (Kg)	450kg (Lesser kudu meat & 1 Dikdik)
Poachers Equip. Recovered	3 m/bikes, 3 pangas, 2 lamps, 2 horns, 2 m/phones & other equip.
Poachers camps/Blinds	2 (2 fresh)
Night Ambushes set	3
Response to Armed Situations	Nil
Foot patrols (km) Tembo Teams	625km foot patrols – 3 teams
Collared Elephant Observations	20 forms submitted to STE (joint KWS/TT teams)
Carnivore Monitoring	Ongoing partner to KWS TCA Research for carnivore monitoring
Invasive Plants	Ongoing mapping and monitoring of Opuntia cactus – TENP
Critically Endangered Raptors	Ongoing monitoring
Illegal Cattle Drive KWS Support	Nil
Charcoal & Logging	Nil inside TWNP. (Certain areas outside the Parks are out of control)
Training	1 TT Scout – snake handling at Bio-Ken Snake Farm, Watamu 1 KWS Research Officer-Masters training with funding support from TT
TT HQ Rainfall	140mm . Total rainfall to date: 443mm

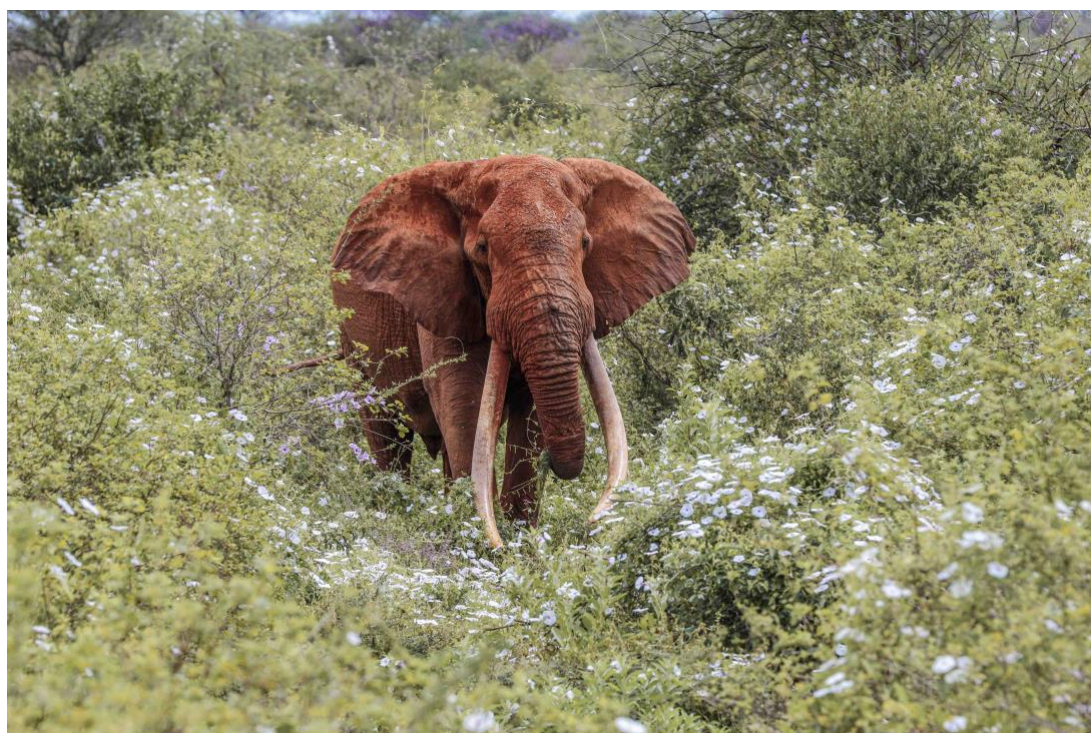


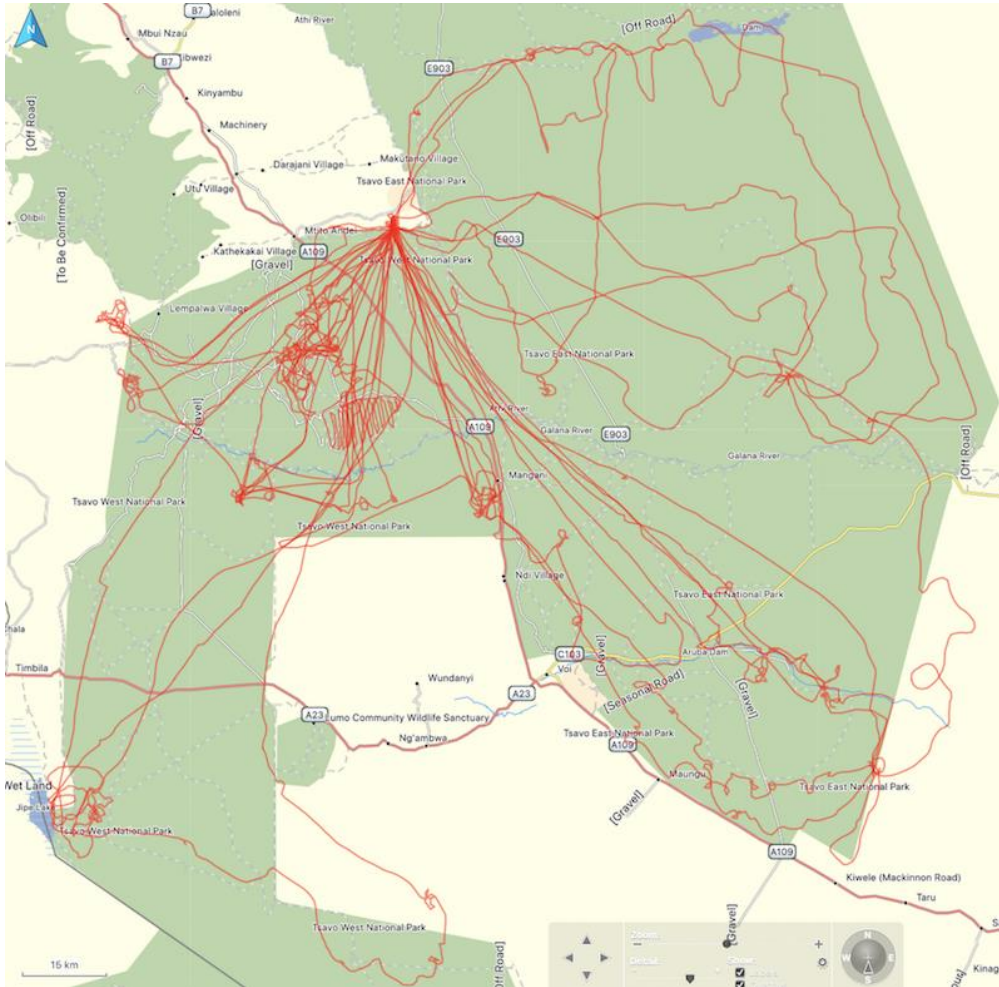
Photo of Tusker coded as LU1 on 25th April 2020, TWNP.

LU1 is one of the 10 Super Tuskers that live in Tsavo today.

LU1 has been physically observed by Tsavo Trust / KWS 273 times since 1st January 2014, the date he was first recorded into the BTP database. This averages 1 sighting every 8 days since then.

Aerial Reconnaissance - Areas Covered:

- This vital conservation tool provides “*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 actions.



Map shows Tsavo Trust's flight paths over the TCA in April 2020.

**52.5 hours flown
covering 6,280
kilometers over Tsavo
in support of KWS.**

Covering: Air & ground activities; Big Tusker monitoring; Locating illegal activities; Wildlife monitoring; Aerial census and telemetry tracking.



Photo shows inside view from the Tsavo Trust Super Cub 5Y TTZ with pilot Nick Haller carrying out aerial patrol on 2nd April 2020 over the flowing seasonal Tiva River in TENP.

Field Mobile Units:

Tsavo Trust's mobile field teams work alongside KWS, who take the lead role, on a daily basis. **Tembo 1, 3, 5 teams & Kamungi Scouts** are habitat protection / de-snaring focused whilst **Tembo 2 & 4 teams** are wildlife monitoring based. All teams provide further “eyes and ears on the ground”.

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.	Poacher equip. recvd.	No. Poacher camps	No. HWC Cases	Vehicle mileage km	Foot Patrol km
Tembo 1 (TENP) (6 TT Scouts + 3 KWS Rangers)	30	2 Bushmeat poachers	-	-	450kg Lesser kudu & Dikdik	3 m/bikes, 3 pangas, 2 spotlights, 2 horns, 2 torches, 2 phones	2 active		2,344	195
Tembo 3 (TWNP) (6 TT Scouts + 3 KWS Rangers)	30	-	-	4 4 medium	-	-	-	-	1,644	206
Tembo 5 (TWNP) 14 TT Scouts + 3 KWS Rangers	Temp. halted Due to COVID	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Kamungi Scouts 4 Scouts	30	Nil		15 15 small						224
TOTALS	90	2	Nil	13	450kg	As above	2	Nil	3,988	625
Total 2020	423	8	2	128	629kg	-	4	10	26,449	2,853

Monitoring & Evaluation teams:

Table 8: Shows activities carried out by Tembo 2 & 4 teams – monitoring & evaluation:

Monitoring teams	No. Field days	Activities	Endangered species records / sightings	Operating locations	Vehicle mileage km
Tembo 2 (TENP) (3 TT staff + 2 KWS)	21	-Tusker monitoring -Hirola monitoring -Grevy's zebra monitoring -Carnivore monitoring -Carnivore scat collection for analysis – hair content -Mombasa/Nairobi - Road & SGR kill surveys -Camera trap surveys -Fixed point photos -Collared elephant reporting	-Tuskers – 13 sighting -Hirola – 9 -Grevy's Zebra – 3 -Large Carnivores – 6 -Road & Rail kills – 0 -Elephant carcasses – 0 -Rain gauge readings -Collared elephants – 9 Carnivore scat collect – 0	Tsavo East Nat. Park – mainly southern, central and eastern sections including Shirango Conservancy	1,619
Tembo 4 (TWNP) (2 TT staff + 2 KWS)	18	-RHINO monitoring – TW IPZ -Camera trap surveys - rhino -Big Tusker monitoring -Large Carnivore monitoring -Collared elephant reporting	-IPZ Rhinos – 14 -Tuskers - 0 -Large Carnivores – 0 -Collared elephants – 0	Tsavo West Nat. Park – IPZ & Triangle	Nil
TOTALS	39	As above	As above	As above	1,619
Total 2020	116	-	-	-	8,867



18th April 2020: TENP / Murondo boundary - 3 freshly poached lesser kudu and 1 Dikdik recovered during a night ambush, following informer tip off and aerial sighting of poachers with motorbikes carrying bushmeat. 2 bushmeat poachers arrested, 3 motorbikes recovered and various poachers' equipment also.



28th April 2020, KWS Dakota Base, TENP, Tsavo Trust Board Member Stuart Herd donating field solar equipment to this strategic KWS outpost including radio and mobile phone charging options; lights for base and for field mobile unit.



COMMUNITY CONSERVANCY PROGRAM:



ACTIVITY	KAMUNGI Conservancy	SHIRANGO Community Conservancy
Ongoing partnership between Tsavo Trust & KC & SCC	North boundary of TWNP – Triangle. Makueni County; Kibwezi Sub county; Mtito Andei Division; Mtito Andei Sub-location; Ngiluni Village.	South boundary of TENP – Voi River area. Total area 270km ² . Kilifi County; Ganze Sub-location; Bamba Ward; Mitangani location; Gede Sub-location.
Employment (through Tsavo Trust)	Between Tsavo Trust and its partners 25 permanent staff and 20 casual staff were employed generating over \$ 10,000 (Ksh. 1,000,000) of income into Kamungi monthly.	Tsavo Trust employs 10 staff from SCC including a Community Liaison Officer (CLO) to spear head activities. Salaries generate over \$2,200 (Ksh.220,000) of income monthly as a result.
Community Mobilization and Sensitization Meetings	➤ 4 community meetings held ➤ ZSL/Darwin – VSLA meetings - Nil	➤ Nil ➤ Social Economic Survey completed
Membership	Through a registered CBO KC membership represents 100 families & over 1,100 individuals from 2 villages, mainly from the WaKamba community.	Through a registered CBO SCC membership represents at least 2,300 individuals from 5 villages, mainly from the Watha and Giriama ethnic groups.
Water Project	NIL litres of water was issued – pump has failed and needs repairs. <i>Tsavo Trust is looking to other alternatives and funding to supplement supply.</i>	Solar bore hole pump and solar panels are in place. Water users committee established. 2 community members now employed at water project. Security outpost is being constructed.
Basic Health care	314 patients attended (915 for year to date). <i>Tsavo Trust is looking for funding for a bore hole here to support this healthcare outlet.</i>	This is currently dis-functional. Nearest health centre is 10km away. 50% of residents rely on traditional herbal medicines.
Basic Education	Tsavo Trust has paid for 2 teachers (1 at Ngiluni & 1 at Kamunyu School within KC) for the last 7 years. This is ongoing.	No activities as yet.
VSLA – Savings Groups	Village savings & loan groups are in the progress – partnership between ZSL / KC & Tsavo Trust for next 4 years.	None at present.
Training	Patrick Mutua ongoing training at Bio-Ken Snake Farm, Watamu, for <i>Snake handling and identification.</i>	None at present.
HWC – Elephant Bee Fences	7 x 1-acre bee fences, total 105 beehives with 26 currently occupied.	N/A
Human Wildlife Conflict (HWC)	18 cases recorded: 3 elephant cases; 5 Leopard (8 shoats); 8 zebra; 2 others	9 cases recorded: 4 hyenas (4 shoats); 2 leopards (2 shoats); 2 honey badger (2 chickens); 1 python
Land Tenure	KC was historically Ngai Ndethia NR. Land was surveyed and sold to individuals under Ngiluni Settlement Scheme back in the 1970's. Title deeds have yet to be issued.	SCC land currently traditional communal mode of ownership, not legally protected. Efforts underway to ensure the local communities legally own their land. Ongoing.
Wildlife Census Transects	Nil – due to COVID-19	Annual aerial census due to take place.
Operations and Security <i>Tembo 1 Team = T1</i> <i>Tembo 3 Team = T3</i> <i>Kamungi Scouts = KS</i>	➤ Arrests: Nil ➤ Snares / traps / bushmeat: 15 snares ➤ Equip. recvd.: Nil ➤ Elephant carcass / Ivory: Nil ➤ Night ambushes: 3 ➤ HEC: Nil	➤ Arrests: 2 (bushmeat poachers – L/kudu) ➤ Snares & traps recvd.: 450kg bushmeat ➤ Equip. recvd.: 3 m/bikes, 3 pangas, 2 spotlights, 2 horns, 2 phones ➤ Elephant carcass / Ivory: Nil ➤ Night ambushes: Nil ➤ Poachers camps: 2 active

Unusual Photo of the Month:

30th April 2020 - shows Tsavo Trust Super Cub at Finch Hattons airstrip in TWNP with Mt. Kilimanjaro extensively covered in ice in the background. Recent heavy rains has revealed some spectacular views of Kilimanjaro from Tsavo.



With sincere thanks and appreciation to the Kenya Wildlife Service; USAID / DOI; US Fish & Wildlife Service; The Oak Foundation; Leopardess Foundation (Nicole Honegger); JM Foundation Africa; Zoological Society of London (ZSL); Save The Elephants (STE) / Elephant Crisis Fund (ECF) / Wildlife Conservation Network (WCN); Global Wildlife Conservation; Cheyenne Mountain Zoo; Tusk Trust; International Elephant Foundation (IEF); Disney/Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS); Stuart Herd; Sir Colin Southgate; Nick Southgate; Alex Graham; Nick Powell; James Robertson; Markus Jebesen; The Kratt Family; Loic Gouzer; Georg Waechter Memorial Foundation; Ndovu Trust (UK); Nick Lapham; Mike Kirkland - Satao Camp & Southern Cross Safaris (Msa); Ker & Downey Safaris; Paul Block; Anita Mishra & Paolo Mapelli; Glassybaby White Light Fund; Tropical Ice Ltd; the late John Fletcher; Paul & James Wilson; Askari Project – Australia; James Chiappa; Will Burrard-Lucas; Drew Doggett photography; Tofauti Foundation; Masai Wilderness Conservation Trust (MWCT); Origins Safaris; Catherine Lagrange; Enos Enterprises – Tembo Wine; International Fund for Animal Welfare (IFAW); TUI Care Foundation; Empowers Africa; Salama Fikira; Steve Parkinson; Conservation Alpha; JW Seagon Insurance; Howard Saunders; Sandor Carter; Sean Dundas; Karen Laurence-Rowe; James Lewin; OnSafari-Kenya-Anthony Cheffings; Alan Binks; Andreas Fox; Saving the Survivors – Johan Marais; Chris Acreman; Alex Hunter – Insiders Africa; Lewa Canada; ESRI – E.A.; Spidertracks; Pembroke House School and numerous other individual supporters.

Report compiled by Richard Moller – Chief Executive Officer, Tsavo Trust
All photographs ©Tsavo Trust 2020