

MONTHLY REPORT:

AUGUST 2020

SUMMARY of ACTIVITIES:

Tsavo Trust film clip: <https://f.io/UVjnNZvw>






WILDLIFE CONSERVATION PROGRAM: Big Tusker Project – Aerial & Ground Activities		
Activity	Hours Flown	Kilometers Covered
 Aerial Reconnaissance	51 (475 for year) Average 111km p/h of low-level flight	5560 (52,428km for year) Flights carried out jointly with KWS staff
 Rhino specific flights	18.5 (172.5 for year)	2,114 (19,595km for year)
	Field Patrol Days	Kilometers Covered
Ground Activities (Joint KWS / TT)	Protection teams: 93 days (792 to date) Monitoring teams: 59 days (348 to date)	Vehicle patrols: 6,280km (45,752km to date) Foot patrols: 637km (5,399km to date) Monitoring teams: 7,960km (39,363km to date)
 Big “Tuskers” observed	12 Tuskers - 3 Super Tusker bulls, 7 emerging bulls, 2 cow Tusker = 36 individual observations	
Ivory recovered	2 elephant tusks (26 for year)	
Elephant mortality	Fresh (less than 3 weeks old)	Recent (less than 3 months old)
	1 – (c of d: 1 unconfirmed)	Nil (c of d:)
Poacher camps/hides	Fresh - Nil	Recent – Nil
Arrests	2 – by KWS / TT – 2 bushmeat poachers 18 for year to date Bushmeat recvd: 2kg (1,360kg for year to date)	
Snares/traps recovered	59 by Tembo Teams: 396 snares to date 2020 (294 small; 82 medium, 20 large)	
Support to KWS-armed incidents	Nil	
Illegal Livestock (only in PA)	1 cattle bomas (1,620 + cows)	
Written reports to KWS	37 (daily Situation reports, various communications & 1 monthly report)	
General & significant notes	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Wildlife Ranger Challenge training continues leading up to 3rd Oct20 – see below2nd 2020 TWNP NRS full moon rhino night census jointly funded by ZSL & TT2nd TT Radio Repeater station set up to boost communicationsSerious bush fires engulf many parts of Tsavo, TT firefighting continues - ground & aerialCompleted Phase 1 of 3 plots under the 10% fence plan in Kamungi Conservancy	
COMMUNITY CONSERVANCY PROGRAM:		
Kamungi Conservancy North boundary TWNP 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><u>Employment</u> (through T/Trust): 25 permanent, 20 temporaries<u>Membership</u>: 1,400 peopleCommunity Mobilization meetings: 6; HWC fence; local administration; VSLA’s (3)Ongoing Projects: Water project; Dispensary support; Kamungi HQ construction completed; 10% fence plan; VSLA’s; feeding program; HEC-Mtito fence planningHuman Wildlife Conflict (HWC): 45 reports, mainly crop raiding elephants, leopard issuesWildlife Counts: 2 sample transect countsSecurity Ops: 1 arrest (bushmeat poacher); 17 snares recvd., other equip. recvd.	
Shirango Conservancy South East boundary TENP 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><u>Employment</u> (through T/Trust): 11 permanents<u>Membership</u>: 2,300 peopleCommunity Mobilization meetings: 3; HWC; land tenure, local administrationOngoing Projects: Water project; security HQ/outpost completed; anti-poachingHuman Wildlife Conflict (HWC): 9 reports all livestock predationsWildlife Counts: NilSecurity Ops: T1 team – 1 arrest (bushmeat poacher); 42 snares recvd; various poachers equip. 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 – partnership with ASDF & Excellent Development UK	
JAAT-Anti-venom Trust	Partner to JAAT (supplier of top-quality snake bite antivenom) – Tsavo outlet	
MWCT-Maasai Wilderness	Partner – general conservation initiatives/activities	



Photo shows the only collared Super Tusker bull elephant coded as WSI, TENP on 10th August 2020.

The added ability to be able to track WSI through his collar has served to save his life at least 2 times for rapid removals of poisoned arrows.

WILDLIFE CONSERVATION PROGRAM:



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

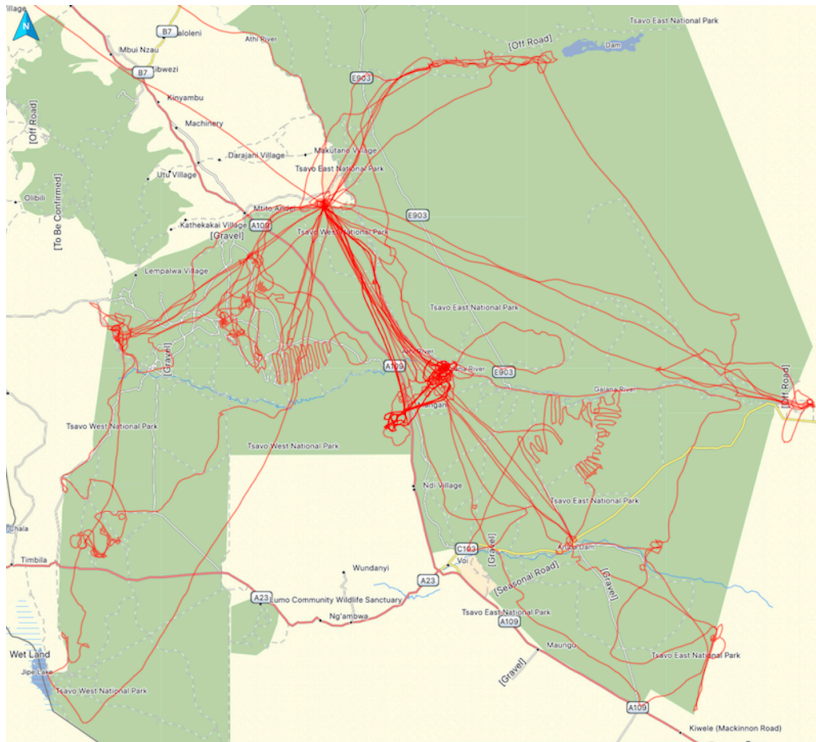
Table 1: Summary of Big Tusker Project (BTP)

Activity / Detail	Number & Brief Remarks
BTP individual Tusker sightings	Total = 36 sightings
Super Tusker Bulls	3 individuals (9 sightings)
Emerging Tuskers (bulls)	7 individuals (17 sightings)
Iconic Cow Tuskers	2 individual (10 sighting)
Elephant Mortality	1: 1 fresh (1 unconfirmed c of d). Nil recent/old
Ivory Recovered	2 tusks (from found elephant carcasses)
Elephant Treatment	Nil
Wildlife Rescues	Nil
Rhino Support (KWS / ZSL / TT partnership)	Regular rhino aerial patrols with KWS; TWNP & TENP - partnership with KWS / ZSL. 6 rhino specific recces = 2,419km flown over 21hrs (5 TW & 2 TE). 2 nd full moon rhino night census early Aug20 jointly sponsored by ZSL and Tsavo Trust
HWC cases attended to	Nil
Arrests	2 (2 bushmeat poachers)
Wire Snares Recovered	59 (1 cable snare, 30 medium, 28 small)
Bush Meat Recovered (Kg)	2kg (2 Dikdiks)
Poachers Equip. Recovered	1 lamping light, 1 horn, 1 bicycle, 1 panga, 1 knife, 1 catapult, cooking equip
Poachers camps/Blinds	Nil
Night Ambushes set	6 (3 TWNP, 3 Shirango)
Response to Armed Situations	Nil
Foot patrols (km) Tembo Teams	637km foot patrols – 3 teams
Collared Elephant Observations	8 forms submitted to STE (joint KWS/TT teams)
High Value Wildlife Monitoring	Ongoing partner to KWS TCA Research (carnivores, endangered species)
Firefighting cases	8 Aerial & ground: TW – Maktau; Rukinga & Lualenyi Ranch
Illegal Cattle Drive KWS Support	Nil
Charcoal & Logging	KWS led operations on the Ranches: 14 lives kilns destroyed (T3)
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	Nil. Total rainfall to date: 447mm



Aerial Reconnaissance - Areas Covered:

- This vital conservation tool provides “*eyes in the skies*” 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 this month.

51 hours flown covering 5560 kilometers over Tsavo in support of KWS.

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

Wildlife Ranger Challenge

Tsavo Trust is sincerely grateful to be part of an initiative set up by Tusk Trust aimed to support wildlife rangers throughout Africa. We need your help to keep rangers in the field.

Meet the Tsavo Trust Team

To tackle the threat to years of conservation progress posed by Covid-19, Wildlife Ranger teams are uniting around the Wildlife Ranger Challenge, a race with one goal: to raise money to support thousands of rangers and threatened species including elephants, pangolins, rhinos and lions.

On October 3rd, 50 plus Ranger teams across Africa will run 21km with 22kg on their backs to raise awareness and funds for their respective organizations.



You can join the challenge too and run for Tsavo Trust rangers from wherever you are in the world!!

Register now at : <https://wildliferangerchallenge.org/>

or by donating to: <https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/Tsavo-Conservation-Area>



Photo taken on 16th July 2020 showing Tembo 3 team assisting in firefighting at Rukinga Ranch (who have been ravished by man lite bush fires recently).



Part of the firefighting equipment of water pumps and relevant pipes, purchased through generous support from Elephant Cooperation, to assist KWS and other partners in combat the serious fires that have swept across many parts of the TCA in recent months.

Field Mobile Units:

Tembo 1, 3, 5 teams & Kamungi Scouts are habitat protection / de-snaring focused.

Tembo 2 & 4 teams are wildlife monitoring dedicated.

All teams work alongside KWS daily and provide further “eyes and ears in the field”.


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. Kg	Poacher equip. recvd.	No. Poacher camps	No. HWC Cases	Vehicle mileage km	Foot Patrol km
Tembo 1 (TENP) (6 TT Scouts + 3 KWS Rangers)	31	1 Bushmeat poacher	-	42 11 small 30 medium 1 large	-	1 bicycle, 1 lamping light, 1 horn, 1 catapult, 1 knife, cooking equip	-	-	2,824	150
Tembo 3 (TWNP) (6 TT Scouts + 3 KWS Rangers)	31	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	3,376	259
Tembo 5 (TWNP) 14 TT Scouts + 3 KWS Rangers	Temp. halted Due to COVID	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Kamungi Scouts 4 Scouts	31	1 Bushmeat poacher	-	17 All small	2kg 2 Dikdik	-	-	-	80	228
TOTALS	93	2	2	59	2	As above	-	-	6,280	637
Total 2020	792	18	8	396	1,360kg	-	7	14	45,752	5,399

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)	28	-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 – 21 sighting -Hirola – 6 -Grevy's Zebra – 4 -Large Carnivores – 11 -Road & Rail kills – 19 -Elephant carcasses – Nil -Rain gauge readings -Collared elephants – 4 Carnivore scat collect – 0	Tsavo East Nat. Park – mainly southern, central and eastern sections including Shirango Conservancy	3,922
Tembo 4 (TWNP) (2 TT staff + 2 KWS) 	31	-RHINO monitoring – TW IPZ -Camera trap surveys - rhino -Big Tusker monitoring -Large Carnivore monitoring -Collared elephant reporting	-IPZ Rhinos – 16 -Tuskers - 0 -Large Carnivores – 6 -Collared elephants – 0 -Elephant carcasses – Nil -NRS Rhino night census - 101	Tsavo West Nat. Park – IPZ	4,038
TOTALS	59	As above	As above	As above	7,960
Total 2020	348	-	-	-	39,363

ACTIVITY	KAMUNGI Conservancy	SHIRANGO Community Conservancy
Ongoing partnership between Tsavo Trust & KC & SCC	North boundary of TWNP – Triangle. Total area 101km ² 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 11 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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ 6 community meetings held ➤ ZSL/Darwin – VSLA meetings – Nil ➤ HWC Mtito fence meetings – 2 Tech. Team from NEMA, Makueni County Govt. KWS etc for EIA needs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ 3 meetings held ➤ SCC HQ building ➤ Local Administration ➤ Land tenure meeting
Membership	Through a registered CBO KC membership represents 140 families & over 1,400 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	318 patients attended (2,087 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.
Constructions	Scouts HQ & Office/store completed	Scouts HQ ongoing
Feeding Program due to COVID-19	29/8/20: 6 th Kamungi feeding assistance - 140 households	None at present due to distances involved and lack of funds to implement.
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 Fence	7 x 1-acre bee fences, total 105 beehives with 16 currently occupied.	N/A
10% Fence Plan	10% fence plan completed Phase 1: 3 plots (electric fencing of 10% of individual land – remainder left fallow).	N/A
Human Wildlife Conflict (HWC)	45 cases recorded: 29 elephant cases; 6 Leopard; 4 Hyena, 1 lion, wild dog (12 shoats, 3 dogs)	9 cases recorded: 2 hyenas; 3 Cheetah; 4 leopard (9 shoats)
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	1 transect count – 124 direct sightings of 15 different species.	Annual aerial census due to take place.
Operations and Security Tembo 1 Team = T1 Tembo 3 Team = T3 Kamungi Scouts = KS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Arrests: 1 bushmeat poacher ➤ Snares / traps / bushmeat: 17 snares 2kg Dikdik ➤ Equip. recvd.: Nil ➤ Elephant carcass / Ivory: Nil ➤ Night ambushes: Nil ➤ HEC: Nil 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Arrests: 1 (bushmeat poacher ➤ Snares & traps recvd.: 42 ➤ Equip. recvd.: 1 bicycle, 1 lamping light & horn, other equip ➤ Elephant carcass / Ivory: Nil ➤ Night ambushes: 3 ➤ Poachers camps: Nil



Photo shows 1 of the 3 Kamungi Conservancy community plots that has been fenced under the Tsavo Trust's 10% fence plan. This tried and tested configuration of electric wildlife fencing is a concerted effort to mitigate HWC by fencing 10% of the individual parcel of land with the remaining 90% going to fallow and used by their livestock but also open to other smaller species of wildlife within Kamungi such as Dikdiks, duikers, impala and other smaller predators. It means the landowner at least has a fair chance to grow some crops without them being trampled by elephants. We are trialing this 10% fence plan alongside the 7 elephant bee fences already in place in Kamungi Conservancy.



Photo shows a typical Kamungi homestead within the 10% fenced area. This Phase 1 plan has been generously sponsored by the Tofauti Foundation who have partnered with Tsavo Trust and Kamungi.

Unusual Photo of the Month:



18th August 2020: Photo shows a cow/calf herd of 43 elephants in TWNP traversing a patch of recently burnt scrub land as a result of the many recent fires that have engulfed parts of the Tsavo's. These man-made fires will certainly have had a negative impact on many of Tsavo's wildlife, especially the smaller slower moving ones that cannot run as fast as the flames! Very sad and so unnecessary.

With sincere thanks and appreciation:

Organisations: Kenya Wildlife Service; USAID/DOI; US Fish & Wildlife Service; The Oak Foundation; Leopardess Foundation; 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); Georg Waechter Memorial Foundation; Glassybaby White Light Fund; Ndovu Trust (UK); Satao Camp & Southern Cross Safaris (Msa); Origins Safaris; Ker & Downey Safaris; Tropical Ice Ltd; OnSafari-Kenya; Askari Project-Australia; Tofauti Foundation; Maasai Wilderness Conservation Trust (MWCT); Chesbro Foundation; Enos Enterprises-Tembo Wine; Elephant Cooperation; International Fund for Animal Welfare (IFAW); TUI Care Foundation; Empowers Africa; Salama Fikira; Design by Freedom; 51 degrees; Conservation Alpha; JW Seagon Insurance; Saving the Survivors; World Book; Lewa Canada; Pembroke House School and many more.

Individuals: Stuart Herd; Sir Colin Southgate; Nick Southgate; Nicole Honegger; Alex Graham; Nick Powell; James Robertson; Markus Jebesen; The Kratt Family; Loic Gouzer; Nick Lapham; Mike Kirkland; Paul Block; Anita Mishra & Paolo Mapelli; the late John Fletcher; Paul & James Wilson; James Chiappa; Will Burrard-Lucas; Drew Doggett photography; Goh & Courtney Iromoto; the Kiddingtons; Catherine Lagrange; Renzo Bernardi; Steve Parkinson; Howard Saunders; Sandor Carter; Sean Dundas; Karen Laurence-Rowe; James Lewin; Anthony Cheffings; Alan Binks; Andreas Fox; Prints for Conservation; Johan Marais; Chris Acreman; Alex Hunter and numerous other enthusiasts.

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

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