

MONTHLY REPORT:

SEPTEMBER 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	59 (534 for year) Average 117km p/h of low-level flight	6,942 (59,370km for year) Flights carried out jointly with KWS staff
 Rhino specific flights	15.5 (188 for year)	1,718 (21,313km for year)
	Field Patrol Days	Kilometers Covered
Ground Activities (Joint KWS / TT)	Protection teams: 90 days (882 to date) Monitoring teams: 52 days (400 to date)	Vehicle patrols: 5,107km (50,859km to date) Foot patrols: 684km (6,083km to date) Monitoring teams: 6,995km (46,358km to date)
 Big “Tuskers” observed	11 Tuskers - 3 Super Tusker bulls, 7 emerging bulls, 1 cow Tusker = 19 individual observations	
Ivory recovered	5 elephant tusks (31 for year)	
Elephant mortality	Fresh (less than 3 weeks old)	Recent (less than 3 months old)
	1 – (c of d: 1 Natural)	1 (c of d: Poached)
Poacher camps/hides	Fresh - Nil	Recent – Nil
Arrests	2 – by KWS / TT – 2 bushmeat poachers 20 for year to date Bushmeat recvd: 50kg (1,410kg for year to date)	
Snares/traps recovered	41 by Tembo Teams: 437 snares to date 2020 (312 small; 101 medium, 24 large)	
Support to KWS-armed incidents	Nil	
Illegal Livestock (only in PA)	9 cattle bomas (1,550 + cows, 4,350 shoats, 25 men)	
Written reports to KWS	43 (daily Situation reports, various communications & 1 monthly report)	
General & significant notes	- Wildlife Ranger Challenge training continues leading up to 3rd Oct20 2nd 2020 TWNP NRS full moon rhino night census jointly funded by ZSL & TT - Serious bush fires engulf many parts of Tsavo, TT firefighting continues - ground & aerial - Completed Phase 1 of 3 plots under the 10% fence plan in Kamungi Conservancy - Started TWNP Sand Dam x 2 (Kangechwa A & B) construction	
COMMUNITY CONSERVANCY PROGRAM:		
Kamungi Conservancy North boundary TWNP 	<u>Employment</u> (through T/Trust): 25 permanent, 20 temporaries <u>Membership</u>: 1,400 people - Community Mobilization meetings: 10; 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 planning - Human Wildlife Conflict (HWC): 20 reports, mainly crop raiding elephants, leopard issues - Wildlife Counts: 2 sample transect counts - Security Ops: 2 snares recvd., other equip. recvd.	
Shirango Conservancy South East boundary TENP 	<u>Employment</u> (through T/Trust): 11 permanents <u>Membership</u>: 2,300 people - Community Mobilization meetings: 5; HWC; land tenure, local administration - Ongoing Projects: Water project; security HQ/outpost completed; anti-poaching - Human Wildlife Conflict (HWC): 3 reports all livestock predations - Wildlife Counts: Nil - Security Ops: T1 team – 2 arrest (bushmeat poachers); 39 snares recvd; 50kg bushmeat 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 magnificent Super Tusker bull elephant coded as BA1, TENP on 6th September 2020. There are believed to be less than 25 such elephants left on the planet with 10 of those in the Tsavo's.

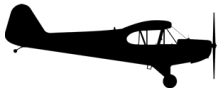
WILDLIFE CONSERVATION PROGRAM:



"Big Tusker Project"- aerial and ground mobile teams:

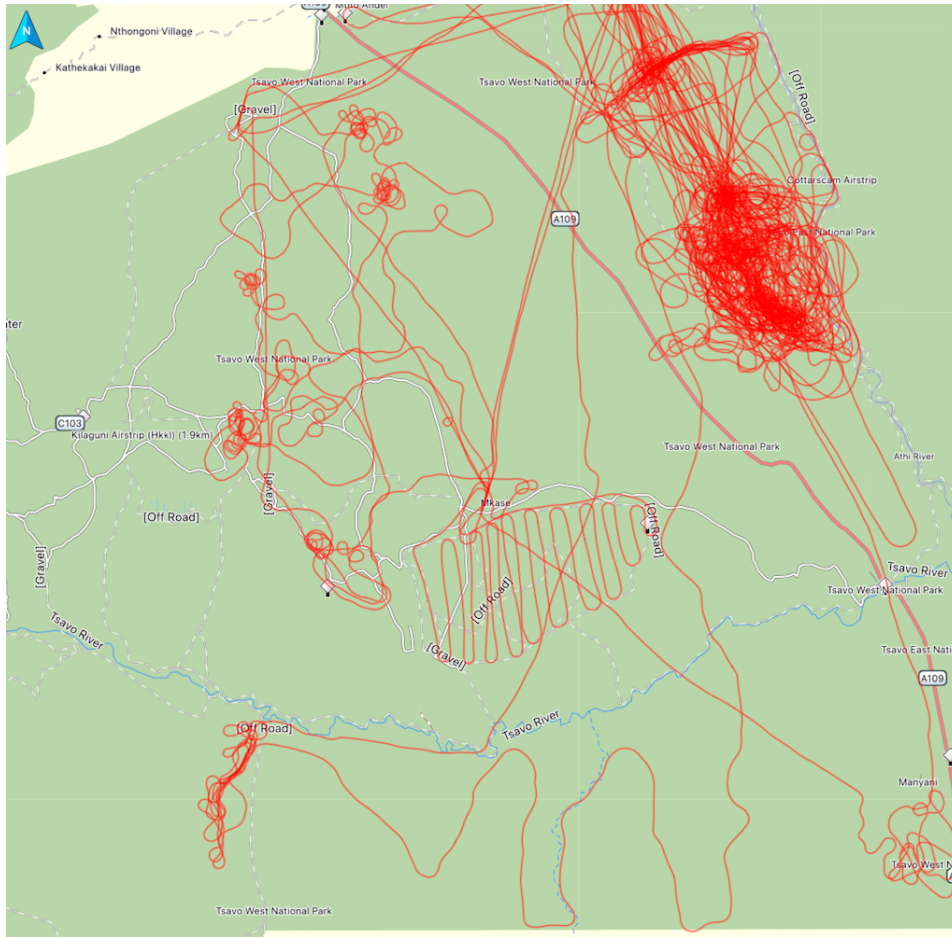
Table 1: Summary of Big Tusker Project (BTP)

Activity / Detail	Number & Brief Remarks
BTP individual Tusker sightings	Total = 19 sightings
Super Tusker Bulls	3 individuals (8 sightings)
Emerging Tuskers (bulls)	7 individuals (10 sightings)
Iconic Cow Tuskers	1 individual (1 sighting)
Elephant Mortality	2: 1 fresh (natural c of d); 1 recent/old (p/arrowhead recvd. from carcass)
Ivory Recovered	5 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. 6 rhino specific recces = 1,718km flown over 15.5hrs (5 TW & 1 TE). 2 nd full moon rhino night census early Sept20 jointly sponsored by ZSL and Tsavo Trust
HWC cases attended to	Nil
Arrests	2 (2 bushmeat poachers)
Wire Snares Recovered	41 (4 cable snare, 19 medium, 18 small)
Bush Meat Recovered (Kg)	50kg (5 Dikdiks, 20 guinea fowls , 1 warthog)
Poachers Equip. Recovered	2 lamping light, 2 horn, 1 bicycle, 1 panga, 1 knife, 1 club, cooking equip
Poachers camps/Blinds	Nil
Night Ambushes set	2 (2 Shirango)
Response to Armed Situations	Nil
Foot patrols (km) Tembo Teams	684km foot patrols – 3 teams
Collared Elephant Observations	11 forms submitted to STE (joint KWS/TT teams)
High Value Wildlife Monitoring	Ongoing partner to KWS TCA Research (carnivores, endangered species)
Firefighting cases	16 days Aerial & ground: Triangle; Chyulu Hills; Rukinga WWk's
Illegal Cattle Drive KWS Support	Nil
Charcoal & Logging	Nil
Training	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.

59 hours flown covering 6,942 kilometers over Tsavo in support of KWS.

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

The heavily covered red patch (top right) shows the severe TWNP Triangle fire in mid Sept20 where the TT aircraft 5Y TTZ flew for 25 hours in support of joint firefighting teams from KWS, Tsavo Trust, Kamungi Conservancy, Wildlife Works, Taita Estates, DSWT and Team Tsavo.



Photo taken on 16th September 2020 showing the severe fire that raged for 5 days in TWNP Triangle. Kamungi Scouts and TT Tembo 3 team covered 104km on foot whilst firefighting this fire.

Field Mobile Units:

Tembo 1, 3, 5 teams, Kamungi & Shirango 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 & Shirango Scout 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)	30	2 Bushmeat poacher	-	39 16 small 19 medium 4 large	50kg 5 Dikdiks 20 guineafowl 1 warthog	1 lamping light, 1 horn, 1 rungu, cooking equip	-	-	2,681	165
Tembo 3 (TWNP) (6 TT Scouts + 3 KWS Rangers)	30	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	2,426	274
Tembo 5 (TWNP) 14 TT Scouts + 3 KWS Rangers	Temp. halted Due to COVID	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Kamungi Scouts 4 Scouts	30	-	-	2 All small	-	-	-	-	-	245
TOTALS	90	2	Nil	41	50	As above	-	-	5,107	684
Total 2020	882	20	8	437	1,410kg	-	7	14	50,859	6,083

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)	22	-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 – 10 sighting -Hirola – 9 -Grevy's Zebra – 1 -Large Carnivores – 10 -Road & Rail kills – 0 -Elephant carcasses – 2 -Rain gauge readings -Collared elephants – 5 Carnivore scat collect – 0	Tsavo East Nat. Park – mainly southern, central and eastern sections including Shirango Conservancy	2,697
Tembo 4 (TWNP) (2 TT staff + 2 KWS) 	30	-RHINO monitoring – TW IPZ -Camera trap surveys - rhino -Big Tusker monitoring -Large Carnivore monitoring -Collared elephant reporting	-IPZ Rhinos – 24 -Tuskers - 0 -Large Carnivores – 3 -Collared elephants – 0 -Elephant carcasses – Nil -NRS Rhino night census - 111	Tsavo West Nat. Park – IPZ	4,298
TOTALS	52	As above	As above	As above	6,995
Total 2020	400	-	-	-	46,358

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	➤ 10 community meetings held ➤ VSLA meetings – 2 ➤ KWCA meeting - 2 ➤ Makueni LDO meeting – 1 ➤ Fencing meetings - 2	➤ 5 community meetings held ➤ KWCA meeting - 2 ➤ Local Administration - 1 ➤ Land tenure & land rights meeting - 2
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	283 patients attended (2,370 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	28/9/20: 7 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 & TT	None at present.
Training	None at present.	None at present.
HWC Elephant Bee Fence	7 x 1-acre bee fences, total 105 beehives with 17 currently occupied.	N/A
10% Fence Plan	10% fence plan completed Phase 1: 3 plots (electric fencing of 10% of individual land).	N/A
Human Wildlife Conflict (HWC)	20 cases recorded: 14 elephant cases; 3 Leopard; 1 Hyena, 1 lion, 1 crocodile	3 cases recorded: 3 hyenas (3 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 – 72 direct sightings of 12 different species.	Annual aerial census due to take place.
Operations and Security Tembo 1 Team = T1 Tembo 3 Team = T3 Kamungi Scouts = KS	➤ Arrests: Nil ➤ Snares / traps / bushmeat: 2 snares ➤ Equip. recvd.: Nil ➤ Elephant carcass / Ivory: Nil ➤ Night ambushes: Nil ➤ HEC: Nil	➤ Arrests: 2 (bushmeat poachers) ➤ Snares & traps recvd.: 39 ➤ Equip. recvd.: 1 lamping light & horn, other equip ➤ Elephant carcass / Ivory: Nil ➤ Night ambushes: 2 ➤ Poachers camps: Nil



Fire fighting in Tsavo! This seems to be a daily activity these days.



Aerial photo taken on 18th September 2020 shows a charred section of the TWNP Triangle. Combined teams made a huge effort to eventually contain this fire after 5 hard days. Fighting these fires has dug deep into our coffers that had limited fire-fighting budget and we were not prepared for this intensity and regularity of bush fires in Tsavo. All fires have been man made, another never ending example of how us humans continue to destroy our planet so fast!

Unusual Photo of the Month:



6th September 2020: This is a unique photo of a Super Tusker coded BAI and if you look closely in the background there is a cheetah mother and her small cub. Given that there are believed to be less than 25 Super Tuskers and less than 7,000 cheetahs left in the wild today, this is quite an unusual photo.

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; Rhino Recovery Fund (WCN); 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; Remembering Wildlife Books 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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