



MONTHLY REPORT:

FEBRUARY 2022

SUMMARY of ACTIVITIES:

Tsavo Trust film clip: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qGgM6-gqZOE&t=270s>

WILDLIFE CONSERVATION PROGRAM: Big Tusker Project – Aerial & Ground Activities		
Activity	Hours Flown	Kilometers Covered
Aerial Reconnaissance	36 (86 for year) Average 114km p/h of low-level flight	4,121 (9,998km for year) Flights carried out jointly with KWS staff
Rhino specific flights	17.5 (34.5 for year)	1,992 (3,943km for year)
	Field Patrol Days	Kilometers Covered
Ground Activities (Joint KWS / TT)	Protection teams: 125 days (249 to date) Monitoring teams: 56 days (114 to date)	Vehicle patrols: 8,607km (18,204km to date) Foot patrols: 765km (1,530km to date) Monitoring teams: 8,047km (14,754km to date)
Big “Tuskers” observed	9 Tuskers - 2 Super Tusker bulls, 6 emerging bulls, 1 cow Tusker = 24 individual observations	
Ivory recovered	2 elephant tusks (6 for year to date)	
Elephant mortality	Fresh (less than 3 weeks old)	Recent (less than 3 months old)
	Nil – (c of d: 1 natural)	2 - (c of d: 1 natural, 1 unknown)
Poacher camps/hides	Fresh - 2	Recent – 1
Arrests	11 – by KWS / TT – 4 bushmeat poachers; 7 illegal cattle herders (13 for year to date); Bushmeat recv'd (wet & dried): 384kg (399kg for year to date)	
Snares/traps recovered	51 by Tembo Teams: 57 snares to date 2022 (48 small; 9 medium, 0 large)	
Human Elephant Conflict	Joint TT-KWS team: 9 elephants driven from farmlands east of Mtito Andei (25 elephants pushed from farms - Feb2022 compared to 344 for Feb21 = 93% reduction following TT fence)	
Illegal Livestock (only in PA)	Nil live cattle bomas (250 cows; Nil shoats; 11 men)	
Written reports to KWS	78 (daily Situation reports, various communications & 1 monthly report)	
Significant notes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8/2/22: T2 team recovered 360kg bushmeat (2 Hirola, 1 zebra, 2 Grants gazelle. Joint KWS/TT T7 team later arrested 2 suspects. 93% reduction in HEC between Mtito Andei and Kamunyu Village following completion of Tsavo Trust/Makueni Govt/KWS/Kamungi 3 strand 32km fence with only 25 elephants pushed from farmlands in Feb22 as opposed to 344 in Feb21! These elephants are accessing community land via an unfenced section near Athi River that Makueni C Govt. is planning to fence soon. 	
COMMUNITY CONSERVANCY PROGRAM:		
Kamungi Conservancy North boundary TWNP	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Employment (through T/Trust): 40 permanent, 9 temporaries Membership: 1,400 people Community Mobilization meetings: 12 Ongoing Projects: Water project; 10% fence plan; VSLA's; HEC-Mtito fence; Dispensary support; Permaculture Project. Human Wildlife Conflict (HWC): 26 reports; crop raiding elephants, lion & leopard Security Ops (KWS, T3 & KS): 	
Shirango Conservancy Southeast boundary TENP	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Employment (through T/Trust): 15 permanents Membership: 2,300 people Community Mobilization meetings: 2 Ongoing Projects: Water project; anti-poaching; land tenure Human Wildlife Conflict (HWC): 11 reports mainly livestock predations – lion & hyena Security Ops (KWS T1, T7 & SS): 	
FORMAL FIELD CONSERVATION PARTNERS: (Full list of supporters/partners shown on last page)		
KENYA WILDLIFE SERVICE	ZSL LET'S WORK FOR WILDLIFE	SAVE THE ELEPHANTS 拯救大象
Excellent Pioneers of Sand Dams	Africa Sand Dam Foundation	MAASAI WILDERNESS CONSERVATION TRUST
		Maliasili INVESTING IN PEOPLE FOR NATURE
		Kamungi Conservancy
		SHIRANGO COMMUNITY CONSERVANCY

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 = 24 sightings
Super Tusker Bulls	2 individuals (13 sightings)
Emerging Tuskers (bulls)	6 individuals (10 sightings)
Iconic Cow Tuskers	1 individual (1 sighting)
Elephant Mortality	2: - Nil fresh (c of d: 1 natural; 2 recent – 1 natural, 1 unknown)
Ivory Recovered	2 tusks (from carcass recovery)
Elephant Treatment/Translocation	Nil
Wildlife Rescues (mainly venomous reptiles)	5: All snakes: 5 Red spitting cobra
Rhino Aerial Patrol Support (KWS / ZSL / TT partnership)	9 rhino specific recce: 1,992km flown = 17.5hrs (4 TW & 5 TE)
HWC cases attended to	9 (25 elephants - community farms east of Mtito Andei)
Arrests	11 (4 bushmeat poacher; 7 illegal cattle herder)
Wire Snares Recovered	51 (42 small, 9 medium)
Bush Meat Recovered (Kg)	384kg (2 Hirola, 1 zebra, 2 Grants gazelle, 2 Dik-dik, 2 Duiker)
Poachers Equip. Recovered	2 pangas; 2 bicycles; 2 camping torches; 2 sirens; 2 slashers; 2 knives; cooking equip
Poachers' camps/Blinds	2 active 1 recent
Night Ambushes set	6 (6 Kulalu/Shirango/Dakota-Voi River/Morondo)
Response to Armed Situations	Nil
Foot patrols (km) Tembo Teams	765km foot patrols – 6 teams
Collared Elephant Observations	6 sighting record forms submitted to STE (joint KWS/TT teams)
High Value Wildlife Monitoring	Ongoing partner to KWS TCA Research (Hirola, Grevy's zebra, carnivores)
Firefighting cases	Nil
Illegal Cattle Drive KWS Support	2 days TENP -Voi River; 1-day Chyulu Hills
Charcoal & Logging	Nil
Training	2 TT Officers Masters training; aircraft training; HWC community training; Maliasili – African Conservation Leadership Course; IT / computer training
TT HQ Rainfall	Nil mm. Total rainfall to date for 2022: Nil mm

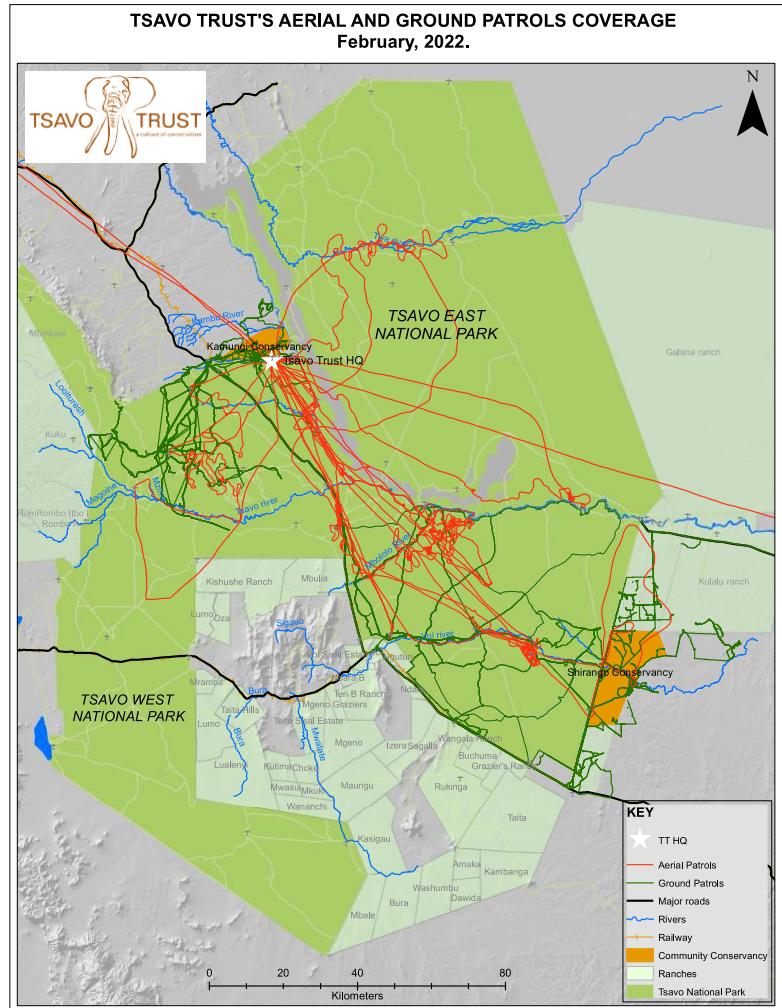


21st February 2022: Shows a small family herd of elephants using Mbololo A sand dam. The sand dam project, in both TENP and TWNP, is a partnership between KWS, Tsavo Trust, Excellent Development and Africa Sand Dam Foundation and it is providing sustainable long term water sources for wildlife.



Aerial Reconnaissance and Ground Patrols - Areas Covered:

- Aerial patrolling is a vital conservation tool providing “*eyes in the skies*” and directional guidance to ground units who provide “*eyes and ears*” on the ground. The combination of both is effective.
- All flight paths and ground patrols are carried out jointly - KWS/TT and recorded with all relevant real-time observations relayed to KWS daily for rapid actions and for their records.



28th February 2022: Photo shows a rhino cow and calf within the TWNP IPZ.

This large area of 3,000km² is ideal rhino habitat and offers huge potential for further rhino population growth in the coming years.

Field Mobile Units:

Tembo 1, 3, 5, 7 teams, Kamungi & Shirango Scouts are habitat protection / de-snaring focused.

Tembo 2 (TENP) & 4 (TWNP) 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, 7, Kamungi & Shirango Scout teams:

De-snaring teams	No. Field days	No. Arrest	No. Ivory recv'd.	No. Snare recv'd.	Bushmeat recv'd. Kg	Poacher equip. recv'd.	No. Poacher camps	No. HWC Cases	Vehicle mileage km	Foot Patrol km
Tembo 1 (TENP) & Shirango Scouts (6 TT Scouts + 3 KWS Rangers)	28	1 Illegal herder	-	11 5 small 6 medium	360kg 2 Hirola 2 Grants Gazelle 1 zebra (T2 team)	-	1 Active	-	2,563	225
Tembo 3 (TWNP) (6 TT Scouts + 3 KWS Rangers)	28	6 Illegal herders	-	31 30 small 1 bird trap	-	-	1 Recent	7 HEC 25 elephants driven from farms at night by TT/KWS	2,473	175
Tembo 5 (TWNP) 6 TT Scouts + 3 KWS Rangers	13	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Used T4 car	69
Tembo 7 (Kulalu/TENP) 5 TT Scouts + 3 KWS Rangers	28	4 4 Bushmeat poachers	2	3 3 medium	24kg 2 Dikdiks 2 Duikers	2 bicycle 2 spotlights 2 siren 2 slashers 2 pangas 2 knives Cooking equip	1 Active	-	2,999	140
Kamungi Scouts 4 Scouts	28	-	-	6 6 small	-	-	-	2 HEC As above with T3 team	572	156
TOTALS	125	11	Nil	51	284kg	As above	3	9	8,607	765
Total 2021	249	13	2	57	399kg		6	12	18,204	1,530

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 analysis: hair content -Highway & SGR roadkill surveys -Camera trap surveys -Fixed point photos -Collared elephant reporting	-Tuskers – 17 sighting -Hirola – 6 -Grevy's Zebra – nil -Large Carnivores – 28 Ground Hornbill - 4 -Road & Rail kills – nil -Elephant carcasses – 1 -Ivory recv'd. – 2 -Rain gauge readings -Collared elephants – 3 Carnivore scat collect – 0	Tsavo East Nat. Park – mainly southern, central and eastern sections including Shirango Conservancy	3,986
Tembo 4 (TWNP) (2 TT staff + 4 KWS)	28	-RHINO monitoring – TW IPZ -Camera trap surveys - rhino -Big Tusker monitoring -Large Carnivore monitoring -Collared elephant reporting	-IPZ Rhinos – 17 -Tuskers - 0 -Large Carnivores – nil -Collared elephants – 1 -Elephant carcasses – nil -NRS Rhino night census – n/a	Tsavo West Nat. Park – IPZ and Triangle	4,061
TOTALS	56	As above	As above	As above	8,047
Total 2022	114	-	-	-	14,754



COMMUNITY CONSERVANCY PROGRAM:



ACTIVITY	KAMUNGI Conservancy	SHIRANGO Community Conservancy
<i>Ongoing partnership between Tsavo Trust & KC & SCC</i>	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.
<i>Employment (Through Tsavo Trust)</i>	Between Tsavo Trust & partners 45 permanent staff & 15 casual staff employed generating over \$12,000 (Ksh.1,320,000) of income into Kamungi monthly.	Tsavo Trust employs 14 staff from SCC including a Community Liaison Officer (CLO) to spear head activities. Salaries generate over \$3,000 (Ksh.330,000) of income monthly.
<i>Community Mobilization and Sensitization Meetings</i>	12 community meetings held <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Mtito Fence meeting: GMC, TT/Kamungi, KWS - HWC ➤ Makueni Dev. Trust ➤ Board Meeting 19/2/22 ➤ School bursary scheme start up ➤ ZSL UK team visit ➤ 10% Fence Planning meeting ➤ Bee keeping workshop ➤ Land issues 	2 community meetings held <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Water issues ➤ Chiefs Office baraza re land registration
<i>Membership</i>	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.
<i>Water Project</i>	57,340 litres of water issued. (83,940 litres for year to date) Piped water to Ngiluni school now	Bore hole, pump and solar panels are in place, but saline water. Plans for construction of an earth dam underway if funded.
<i>Basic Health care</i>	213 patients attended (489 for year to date).	There is need to support this project.
<i>Constructions</i>	Honey processing room-completed and opened by Governor Makueni C on 25/1/22	Scouts HQ completed
<i>Education</i>	Paid for 2 teachers (1-Ngiluni & 1-Kamunyu School in KC) for the last 9 years. Ongoing.	
<i>Bursary Scheme</i>	To start up in April22 No activities yet.	None at present.
<i>Village Saving & Loan Associations – VSLA's</i>	5 women run VSLA's are in progress: partnership between ZSL / KC & TT	None at present.
<i>Poultry Project</i>	3 poultry projects: partnership between ZSL / KC & TT	
<i>Training</i>	VSLA, HWC mitigation	Scouts trained on GPS use & data collection
<i>HWC Mitigation Elephant Bee Fence</i>	7 x 1-acre bee fences, total 105 beehives with 12 currently occupied.	N/A yet
<i>10% Fence Plan</i>	10% fence plan completed Phase 2 completed: Total 12 plots (HWC electric fencing of 10% of individual land).	N/A yet
<i>Mtito 32km fence line</i>	7 predator proof bomas set up: by TT/ZSL Completed 30/11/21	N/A yet
<i>Human Wildlife Conflict (HWC)</i>	26 cases recorded: 18 elephant; 1 leopard; 1 lion; 5 poisonous snake; 1 baboon	11 cases recorded: 3 lion; 9 hyena
<i>Land Tenure</i>	Ongoing	SCC land currently traditional communal mode of ownership, not legally protected. Efforts underway to ensure the local communities legally own their land. Ongoing.
<i>Wildlife Census Transects</i>	1	None
<i>Operations and Security</i>	➤ See Field Units table above	➤ See Field Units table above

Unusual Photo of the Month:



21st February 2022: This great aerial photo shows the majestic but very old and frail Cow Super Tusker coded as F-D11 or more commonly known as Dida. The joint TT/KWS Big Tusker Project first named Dida back in January 2013 (but have known her since May 2011). Since then, we have physically observed her 118 times (average of just over 1 sighting per month). We have witnessed her mated by an emerging Tusker and she has captured the hearts of many visitors to Tsavo with awe. Dida is a truly special elephant.

With sincere thanks and appreciation:

Organizations: Kenya Wildlife Service; Government of Makueni County; USAID / DOI; US Fish & Wildlife Service; CITES / MIKE Programme-funded by the European Union; The Oak Foundation; Leopardess Foundation; JM Foundation Africa; Cheyenne Mountain Zoo; Save The Elephants (STE); Re:wild; Tusk Trust; Rhino Recovery Fund (WCN); International Elephant Foundation (IEF); Disney/Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS); IUCN Save Our Species; Zoological Society of London (ZSL); The Glassybaby Foundation; Georg Waechter Memorial Foundation; Maliasili; EU-Biopama Programme; Tofauti Foundation; Ndovu Trust (UK); Satao Camp & Southern Cross Safaris (Msa); Origins Safaris; Ker & Downey Safaris; Tropical Ice Ltd; OnSafari-Kenya; Askari Project-Australia; Exodus Travel; Maasai Wilderness Conservation Trust (MWCT); Chesbro Foundation; Milkywire; Off Piste Africa; Empowers Africa; Enos Enterprises-Tembo Wine; 51 degrees-Vulcan; Conservation Alpha; JW Seagon Insurance; World Book; Lewa Canada; Prints for Conservation; twio, Remembering Wildlife Books and many more.

Individuals: Stuart Herd; Nick Southgate; Nicole Honegger; Griet Van Malderen; The Kratt Family; Loic Gouzer; Nick Lapham; Alex Graham; Nick Powell; James Robertson; The Davies Family; Mike Kirkland; Paul Block; Anita Mishra & Paolo Mapelli; James Lewin; the late John Fletcher; Paul & James Wilson; James Chiappa; David Calderone; Will Burrard-Lucas; Drew Doggett photography; Goh & Courtney Iromoto; the Kiddingtons; Marie de Brouwer; Kim Makenzi; Paolo Parazzi; Sam Stogdale; Howard Saunders; Sandor Carter; Sean Dundas; Andreas Fox; Karen Laurence-Rowe; John Carr; Max Haller; Anthony Cheffings; 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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