



Tsavo Trust is an action orientated, field-based, Kenyan not-for-profit conservation organization that recognizes the importance of a holistic approach to biodiversity conservation. [www.tsavotrust.org](http://www.tsavotrust.org)




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

## **JANUARY 2023 MONTHLY REPORT**



*The photo above shows two of the Tsavo East National Park Black Rhinos - 'UK2 and Njogu'. The photo was taken by Tsavo Trust's Pilot Nick Haller during a rhino monitoring aerial reconnaissance conducted on 10/01/2023.*

**WILDLIFE CONSERVATION PROGRAM: *Big Tusker Project – Aerial & Ground Activities***

| Activity   | Hours Flown   | Kilometers Covered  |
|--|---|---|
|  <b>Aerial Unit</b>          | <b>53</b> (53 for year)<br>Average 114km p/h of low-level flight  | <b>6,042</b> (6,042km for year)<br>Flights carried out jointly with KWS staff   |
|  <b>Rhino Aerial Patrols</b> | <b>Aerial Patrols: 21.5</b> (6 TWNP; 2 TENP)<br>(21.5hrs for year to date)  | <b>Aerial: 2,451</b> (2,451km for year)   |
|  | <b>Field Patrol Days</b>  | <b>Kilometers Covered</b>   |
| <b>Ground Protection Activities</b> (Joint with KWS / TT & Community Scouts)                                 | <b>Protection teams: 186 days</b> (186 to date)<br><b>Monitoring teams: 50 days</b> (50 to date)  | <b>Vehicle patrols: 21,008km</b> (21,008km to date)<br><b>Foot patrols: 832km</b> (832km to date)<br><b>Monitoring teams: 6,343km</b> (6,343km to date) |
|  <b>Big Tusker Project</b>   | <b>9</b> Tuskers - 3 Super Tusker bulls (8 sights), 5 emerging bulls (8 sights), 1 cow Tusker (1 sight): <b>17 individual observations</b>                        |   |
| <b>Collared Elephant Sightings: Joint KWS/STE/TT program</b>   | <b>6 sightings:</b> record forms submitted to STE (aerial and ground observations)  |   |
| <b>Ivory recovered</b>   | <b>19</b> elephant tusks ( <b>19</b> for the year to date)  |   |
| <b>Elephant mortality</b>  | <b>Fresh: 4</b><br>(c of d: 3 natural; 1 unknown)<br>(Less than 3 weeks old)  | <b>Recent: 5</b><br>(c of d: 3 Natural, 2 unknown)<br>(Less than 3 months old)  |
|  |   | <b>Old: 2</b><br>(c of d: Both unknown)<br>(More than 3 months old)   |
| <b>High Value Species Monitoring</b>   | Ongoing partner with KWS TCA Research / WRTI: Monitoring Hirola, Grevy's zebra, large carnivores, Roadkill Surveys, Southern Ground Hornbill etc                  |   |
| <b>Wildlife - Treatment &amp; Translocation</b>  | <b>Venomous snakes re-located from communities:</b> 2 Red spitting cobras ( <i>Naja Pallida</i> )<br><b>Others:</b> Nil   |   |
| <b>Poacher camps/hides</b>   | <b>Fresh – 1</b> (1 to date)  | <b>Recent – 1</b> (1 to date)   |
| <b>Arrests – joint KWS/TT</b>  | <b>110</b> – 14 illegal herders; 6 bushmeat poachers and 90 for illegal entry ( <b>110 for the year to date</b> )   |   |
| <b>Snares/traps recovered</b>  | <b>94</b> by Tembo Teams: <b>94</b> snares for the year to date (74 small; 18 medium; 2 bird traps)   |   |
| <b>Bushmeat recoveries (wet &amp; dried)</b>   | <b>365kg</b> (365kg for the year to date)<br>37 Dik-dik; 2 Buffalo; 2 Lesser Kudu; 1 Impala; 1 Grant's gazelle  |   |
| <b>Poachers Equip. Recvd.</b>  | 6 pangas; 1 motorbike; 14 knives; 5 lamping horns; 17 torches; 1 bicycle; 2 phones  |   |
| <b>Night Ambushes</b>  | Joint KWS / TT: <b>25</b> (KMC; Wangala; Egu; Tsavo River; LMD; Kishushe; Dika; Kulalu; Murondo)  |   |
| <b>Firefighting</b>  | <b>Nil</b> - (Fire outbreaks greatly reduced by rainfall experienced in Nov 2022)   |   |
| <b>Human Elephant Conflict</b>   | Joint TT-KWS team: <b>43</b> elephants driven from farmlands east of Mtito Andei/Kamungi<br><b>1</b> elephant driven from a farmland in Shirango                  |   |
| <b>Illegal Livestock (only in PA)</b>  | <b>12</b> active cattle boma (5,160 cows; 1,000 shoats; Nil donkeys; 14 people)   |   |
| <b>Written reports to KWS</b>  | <b>78</b> (daily Situation reports, various communications & 1 monthly report)  |   |
| <b>TT Staff Training activities</b>  | <b>2</b> TT Officers Masters training; <b>1</b> KWS Officer Masters training; HWC community training; Community livelihood training on Climate Smart Agriculture. |   |
| <b>TT HQ Rainfall figures</b>  | <b>13mm.</b> Total rainfall to date for 2023: <b>13mm</b>   |   |

**Significant notes**

- 16/01/2023. Tsavo Trust Community Ranger Stephen Sila had an encounter with a buffalo while conducting a foot patrol. First aid on site was done by KWS and Tsavo Trust rangers before being airlifted to the hospital by a Sheldrick Wildlife Trust helicopter. Stephen is now out of danger and recovering well. This shows how challenging it is for the rangers working in the field.
- 23/01/2023. Selection of 4 needy and deserving students for the Tsavo Trust-supported Kamungi Conservancy Secondary Education bursary scheme. This brings the total number of beneficiaries of the Secondary School education scholarship to 9.
- 27/01/2023. Donation of 20 new laptop computers, 1 projector, speakers, and 500 GB of Digital learning content to Kyusiani Secondary School by ARES NGO through Tsavo Trust. The school was also oriented on the Digital Learning Program.

**COMMUNITY CONSERVANCY PROGRAM:**

|   |  |
|---|--|
|  <p><b>Kamungi Conservancy</b><br/>         &gt; Located: Northern boundary TWNP Triangle<br/>         &gt; TT has played a stewardship role and partnered with KC since 2014</p> |  <p><b>Shirango Community Conservancy</b><br/>         &gt; Located: Southeast boundary TENP<br/>         &gt; TT has played a stewardship role and partnered with SCC since 2016</p> |
|---|--|

**FORMAL FIELD CONSERVATION PARTNERS PROGRAM: (Full list of supporters/partners shown on last page)**

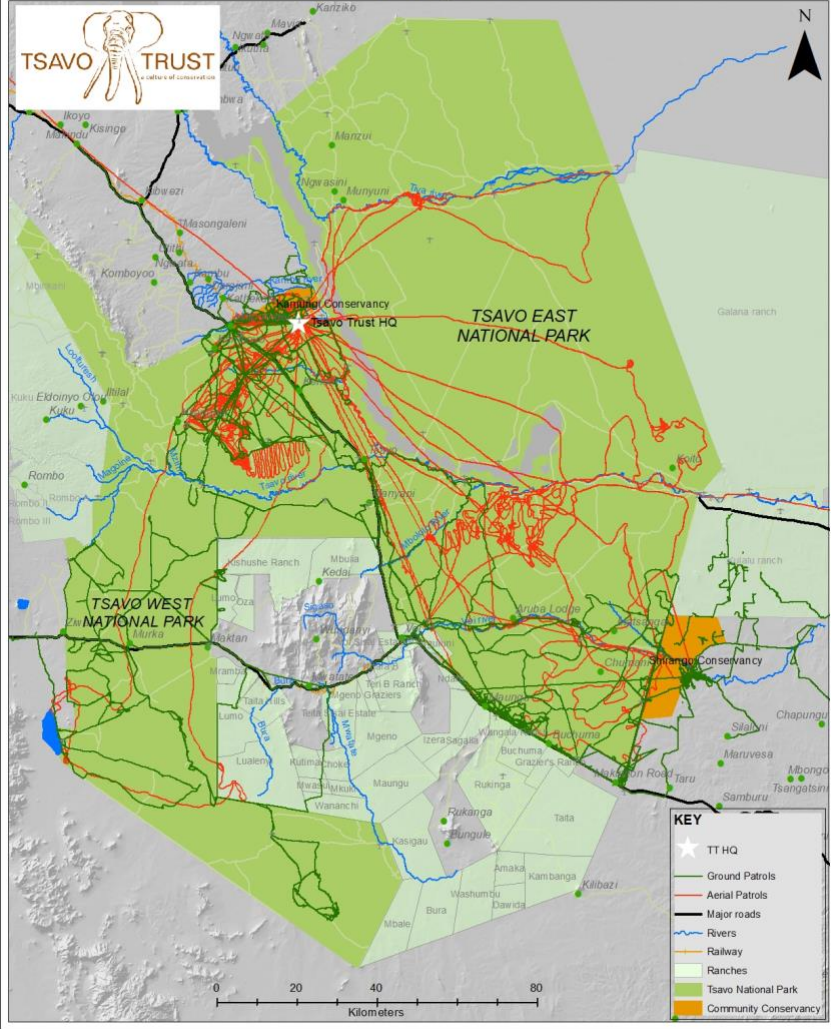




## Aerial Reconnaissance and Ground Patrols - Areas Covered:

- 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 aerial patrols 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.

### TSAVO TRUST'S AERIAL AND GROUND PATROLS COVERAGE JANUARY, 2023



*The map shows Tsavo Trust's flight paths in **RED** and ground patrol paths in **GREEN** over the TCA this month.*

*Note: Tsavo Parks are huge:*

- 22,000km<sup>2</sup> of National Parks
- 20,000km<sup>2</sup> of dispersal areas
- Totaling 42,000km<sup>2</sup> to form the TCA

#### **Aerial Patrols:**

- 53 hours flown covering
- 6,042 kilometers covered

#### **Ground Patrols:**

- 832 kilometers of foot patrols
- 27,351 kilometers of vehicle patrol

*Activities covered: Air & ground security patrols; Big Tusker monitoring; Rhino related activities; Locating illegal activities; Wildlife monitoring; Aerial census & telemetry tracking & Community Conservancy aerial and ground activities.*

*Below: 19/01/2023: Photo shows bushmeat recovered by a Joint KWS/TT antipoaching team. The bushmeat weighed 140kg and was from 35 poached Dik-diks and a sub-adult impala. Trophy poaching has largely been contained in the Tsavo Ecosystem but bushmeat poaching remains a real challenge. Anti-poaching efforts are not only focused on protecting charismatic species like elephants, black rhinos, and lions but on all forms of illegal wildlife trade.*



## Field Mobile Units:

Tembo 1, 3, 5, 7, 9 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, 9 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 |
|--|----------------|------------------------------------|-----------------|---|--|---|--------------------|--|--------------------|----------------|
| <b>Tembo 1 (TENP) &amp; Shirango Scouts</b><br>(6 TT Scouts + 3 KWS Rangers) | 31             | <b>4</b><br>All bushmeat poachers  | -               | <b>22</b><br>8 small<br>14 medium                 | <b>40 kg</b><br>Sub-adult L. kudu,<br>Dik-diks | 3 knives, 2 lamping horns, 2 panga, 1 torch and cooking equipment | <b>1</b><br>Active | <b>1</b><br>HEC. 1 elephant driven from farms by KWS/TT team | 3,364              | 183            |
| <b>Tembo 3 (TWNP)</b><br>(6 TT Scouts + 3 KWS Rangers)                       | 31             | <b>14</b><br>All illegal herders   | <b>4</b>        | -   | -  | 3 knives and 14 torches   | -                  | -  | 3,269              | 100            |
| <b>Tembo 5 (TWNP)</b><br>6 TT Scouts + 3 KWS Rangers                         | 31             | <b>1</b><br>Bushmeat poacher       | <b>2</b>        | <b>9</b><br>All small game snares                 | <b>300 kg</b><br>Buffalo, Dik-diks and impala  | 2 lamping horns, 2 torches 2 panga and 1 motorbike                | <b>1</b><br>Old    | -  | 3,258              | 125            |
| <b>Tembo 7 (Kulalu/TENP)</b><br>5 TT Scouts + 3 KWS Rangers                  | 31             | <b>1</b><br>Bushmeat poacher       | -               | <b>10</b><br>All small game snares                | <b>25 kg</b><br>Grant's gazelle                | 2 panga and 1 lamping horn  | -                  | -  | 3,746              | 139            |
| <b>Tembo 9 (Kulalu/TENP)</b><br>5 TT Scouts + 3 KWS Rangers                  | 31             | <b>90</b><br>All for illegal entry | <b>3</b>        | -   | -  | 8 knives and 2 mobile phones                                      | -                  | -  | 5,173              | 111            |
| <b>Kamungi Scouts</b><br>4 Scouts  | 31             | -                                  | <b>2</b>        | <b>53</b><br>47 small<br>4 medium<br>2 bird traps | -  | -   | -                  | <b>18</b><br>14 HEC<br>2 HCC<br>and 2 Buffalo.               | 2,198              | 174            |
| <b>TOTALS</b>  | <b>186</b>     | <b>110</b>                         | <b>11</b>       | <b>94</b>   | <b>365 kg</b>                                  | <b>As above</b>   | <b>2</b>           | <b>19</b>  | <b>21,008</b>      | <b>832</b>     |
| <b>Total 2023</b>  | <b>186</b>     | <b>110</b>                         | <b>11</b>       | <b>94</b>   | <b>365 kg</b>                                  | <b>-</b>  | <b>2</b>           | <b>19</b>  | <b>21,008</b>      | <b>832</b>     |

## 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 |
|--|----------------|--|--|---|--------------------|
| <b>Tembo 2 (TENP)</b><br>(3 TT staff + 2 KWS)<br>  | 19             | -Tusker monitoring<br>-Hirola monitoring<br>-Grevy's zebra monitoring<br>-Carnivore monitoring<br>-Carnivore scat analysis: hair content<br>-Highway & SGR roadkill surveys<br>-Camera trap surveys<br>-Fixed point photos<br>-Collared elephant reporting | -Tuskers – 10 sightings<br>-Hirola – 4 sightings<br>-Grevy's Zebra – Nil<br>-Large Carnivores – 20 sightings<br>Ground Hornbill – 8 sightings<br>-Road & Rail kills – Nil<br>-Elephant carcasses – 1<br>-Ivory recovered. – 4<br>-Rain gauge readings<br>-Collared elephants – 2<br>-Carnivore scat collected - 20 | Tsavo East Nat. Park – mainly southern, central, and eastern sections including, Voi River & Shirango Conservancy | 2,725              |
| <b>Tembo 4 (TWNP)</b><br>(2 TT staff + 4 KWS)<br> | 31             | -RHINO monitoring – TW IPZ<br>-Camera trap surveys - rhino<br>-Big Tusker monitoring<br>-Large Carnivore monitoring<br>-Collared elephant reporting  | -IPZ Rhinos – 17<br>-Tuskers - Nil<br>-Large Carnivores – 1 sighting<br>-Collared elephants – Nil<br>-Elephant carcasses – 1<br>- Ivory recovered. – 2<br>-NRS Rhino night census – N/A  | Tsavo West Nat. Park – IPZ and Triangle   | 3,618              |
| <b>TOTALS</b>  | <b>50</b>      | <b>As above</b>  | <b>As above</b>  | <b>As above</b>   | <b>6,343</b>       |
| <b>Total 2023</b>  | <b>50</b>      | <b>-</b>   | <b>-</b>   | <b>-</b>  | <b>6,343</b>       |

| ACTIVITY  | KAMUNGI Conservancy  | SHIRANGO Community Conservancy  |
|---|--|---|
| <i>Ongoing partnership between Tsavo Trust &amp; KC &amp; SCC</i> | North boundary of TWNP – Triangle, since 2014. Total area approx. 100km <sup>2</sup> Makueni County; Kibwezi Sub County; Mtito Andei Division; Mtito Andei Sub-location; Ngiluni Village.  | South boundary of TENP – Voi River area, since 2016. Total area 270km <sup>2</sup> . 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 spearhead activities. Salaries generate over \$3,000 (Ksh.330,000) of income monthly.  |
| <i>Community Mobilization and Sensitization Meetings</i>          | <p><b>18 community meetings held</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ 31/01/2023. Meeting between Safaricom Foundation, Tsavo Trust, OI Pejeta and ARES NGO on the potential expansion of the Digital Literacy Project in Tsavo and OI Pejeta.</li> <li>➤ 27/01/2023. Community meeting on new Kamungi Conservancy membership. Membership registration forms issued with the deadline set on 27<sup>th</sup> March 2023.</li> <li>➤ 26/01/2023. Kamungi monthly meeting held at the Ngiluni water tank. 76 members attended.</li> <li>➤ 23/01/2023. Selection of 2 new beneficiaries of Kamungi Conservancy Bursary Scheme.</li> <li>➤ 18/01/2023. Community meeting on CDF Education bursaries held at the Nthunguni Dispensary.</li> </ul> | <p><b>7 community meetings held</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ 23/01/2023: The Conservancy manager met with CSA farmers to monitor the CSA demo farms.</li> <li>➤ 19/01/2023. The signing of consent forms by the beneficiaries of the 10% fence plan.</li> <li>➤ 18/01/2023. Meeting with the Ganze MP to update him on community livelihoods and welfare projects supported by Tsavo Trust in Shirango Conservancy.</li> <li>➤ 16/01/2023. Public participation meeting held at Gede sub-chief's office. In attendance were 131 community members, Area MP, DCC, ACC, MCA, SCA, KWS wardens, Chiefs, and Assistant Chiefs.</li> <li>➤ 11/01/2023. Meeting with the new Area DCC to update him on community projects in Shirango.</li> <li>➤ 10/01/2023. Meeting with incoming MCA to update him on community projects in Shirango.</li> </ul> |
| <i>Membership</i>   | Through a registered CBO KC membership represents 140 families & over 1,400 individuals from 2 villages, mainly from the WaKamba community. There is considerable interest for membership from villages west towards Mtito   | 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>  | <b>46,540</b> litres of water issued. (46,540 litres for the year to date) Ngiluni Primary School connected to piped water.  | Borehole, pump, and solar panels are in place, but saline water. Construction of an earth dam completed.  |
| <i>Basic Health care</i>  | <b>128</b> patients attended ( <b>128</b> for the year to date).   | There is a need to support this project   |
| <i>Constructions</i>  | Kamungi Banda's under construction. HQ building upgrades soon to commence.   | HQ upgrade soon to commence.  |
| <i>Education</i>  | Paid for 2 teachers (1-Ngiluni & 1-Kamunyu School in KC) for the last 9 years. Ongoing.  | None at present   |
| <i>Bursary Scheme</i>   | Started on April 22<br>9 needy students selected being supported.  | None at present   |
| <i>Village Saving &amp; Loan Associations – VSLA's</i>            | 5 women-run VSLAs are in progress: partnership between ZSL / KC & TT   | None at present   |
| <i>Poultry Project</i>  | 3 poultry projects: partnership between ZSL / KC & TT  | None at present   |
| <i>Training</i>   | VSLA livelihoods, HWC Mitigation, Climate Smart Agriculture, permaculture  | Climate Smart agriculture by KALRO.   |
| <i>HWC Mitigation</i>   | 7 x 1-acre bee fences, total 105 beehives with 9 currently occupied.   | N/A yet   |
| <i>Elephant Bee Fence</i>   | 10% fence plan completed Phase 2 completed: <b>Total 12 plots</b> (HWC electric fencing of 10% of individual land). There are issues with plots/land being purchased by a local NGO in this area that is threatening this innovative project, but mitigating measures are in place   | 8 beneficiaries of the 10% fence plan have already been identified. Soon to commence construction.  |
| <i>10% Fence Plan</i>   |  |   |
| <i>Predator Proof bomas</i>                                       | 7 predator-proof bomas set up: by TT/ZSL   | N/A yet   |
| <i>Mtito 32km fence line</i>                                      | Completed 30/11/21 with 95% HEC reduction  | N/A yet   |
| <i>Human Wildlife Conflict (HWC)</i>                              | <b>34 cases</b> recorded: 12 elephant; 4 lion; 4 leopard; 3 baboon; 5 buffalo; 1 mongoose and 5 snake.   | <b>10 cases</b> were recorded: All Human Elephant Conflict  |
| <i>Land Tenure</i>  | Ongoing  | SCC land is currently a traditional communal mode of ownership, not legally protected. Efforts are underway to ensure the local communities legally own their land.   |
| <i>Wildlife Census Transects</i>                                  | 1  | None  |
| <i>Operations and Security</i>                                    | ➤ See the Field Units table above  | ➤ See the Field Units table above   |

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



*The photo above shows students from Kyusiani secondary school with new laptop computers donated by ARES NGO through Tsavo Trust. With the school located in a remote area bordering the Tsavo National Park, this could be the first time the students are trying their hands on a computer. Other items donated include a new projector, 500 GB of Digital learning content, furniture, and Solar power installation. Photo Credit, Tsavo Trust – Nicholas Njogu.*

### **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; Cheyenne Mountain Zoo; Leopardess Foundation; JM Foundation Africa; Save The Elephants (STE); Elephant Crisis Fund; Re:wild; Tusk Trust; Rhino Recovery Fund (WCN); Lion Recovery Fund (WCN); International Elephant Foundation (IEF); Disney/Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS); IUCN Save Our Species; Zoological Society of London (ZSL); The Glassybaby Foundation; Maliasili; EU-Biopama Programme; Tofauti Foundation; Chesbro Foundation; Milkywire; Satao Camp & Southern Cross Safaris (Msa); Origins Safaris; Ker & Downey Safaris; Ndovu Trust (UK); Askari Project–Australia; Exodus Travel; Maasai Wilderness Conservation Trust (MWCT); Off Piste Africa; Empowers Africa; 51 degrees-Vulcan; Conservation Alpha; Lewa Canada; Prints for Conservation; Remembering Wildlife Books and many more anonymous donors.

**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; Anita Mishra & Paolo Mapelli; James Lewin; the late John Fletcher; Paul & James Wilson; James Chiappa; David Calderone; Will Burrard-Lucas; Drew Doggett photography; the Kiddingtons; Marie de Brouwer; Kim Makenzi; Paolo Parazzi; Sam Stogdale; Howard Saunders; Sandor Carter; Sean Dundas; Andreas Fox; Karen Laurence-Rowe; Alex Hunter; John Carr; Max Haller; Anthony Cheffings; Chris Acreman and numerous other dedicated enthusiasts.

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**Report compiled by Richard Moller (CEO) and the Tsavo Trust Team.**

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