



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

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

MAY 2023 MONTHLY REPORT



The photo above shows Black Rhino cow “Christmas” with her calf “Wilson” taken in Tsavo East National Park taken during a rhino monitoring aerial patrol on the 8th of May 2023. Tsavo Trust continues to support the Kenya Wildlife Service in the monitoring and protection of this Key 1 rhino population in the Tsavo Conservation Area. Photo Credit: Tsavo Trust – Nick Haller.

SUMMARY of ACTIVITIES:

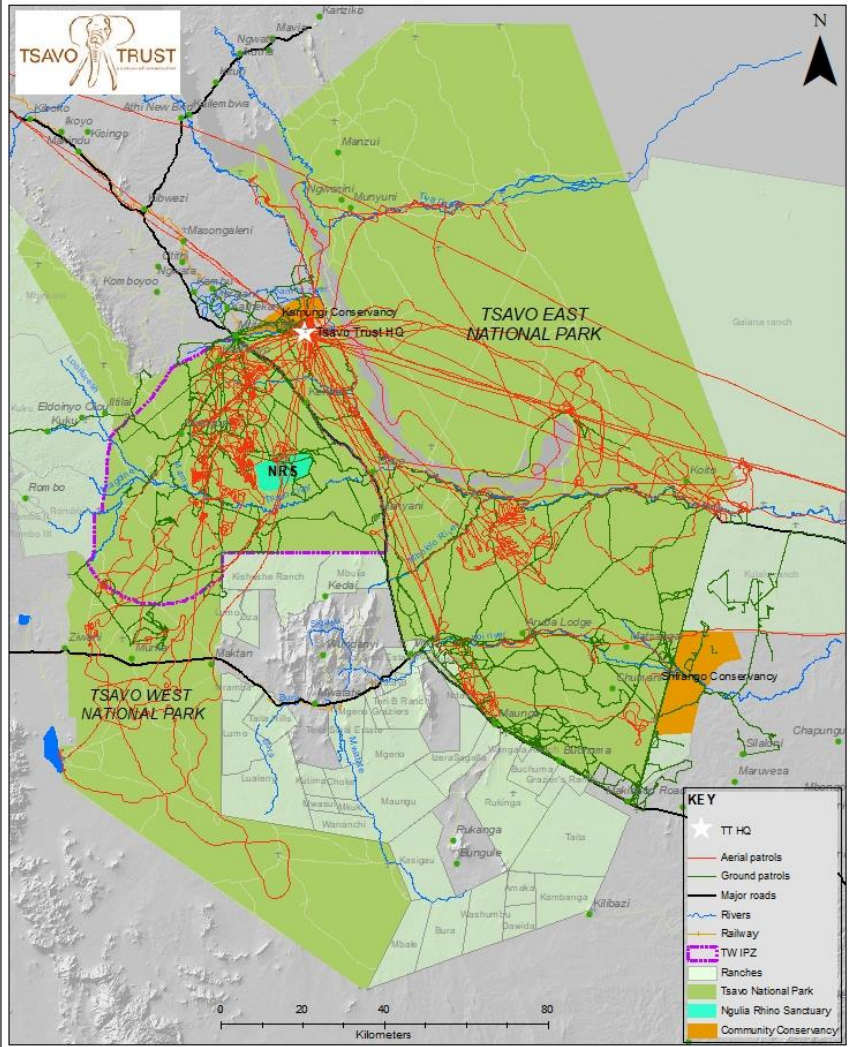
WILDLIFE CONSERVATION PROGRAM: <i>Big Tusker Project – Aerial & Ground Activities</i>					
Activity		Hours Flown		Kilometers Covered	
	Aerial Unit	61 (254 for year) Average 125km p/h of low-level flight		8,073 (31,783km for year) Flights carried out jointly with KWS staff	
	Rhino Aerial Patrols	Aerial Patrols: 31 (8 TWNP; 2 TENP) (115hrs for year to date)		Aerial: 3,487 (13,184km for year)	
		Field Patrol Days		Kilometers Covered	
Ground Protection Activities (Joint with KWS / TT & Community Scouts)		Protection teams: 186 days (906 to date) Monitoring teams: 56 days (275 to date)		Vehicle patrols: 16,554km (88,242km to date) Foot patrols: 1,151km (4,915km to date) Monitoring teams: 6,322km (36,369km to date)	
	Big Tusker Project	4 Tuskers - 1 Super Tusker bulls (1 sight), 3 emerging bulls (5 sights), Nil cow Tusker (Nil sight): 6 individual observations			
Collared Elephant Sightings: Joint KWS/STE/TT program		9 sightings: record forms submitted to STE (aerial and ground observations)			
Ivory recovered		6 elephant tusks (52 for the year to date)			
Elephant mortality		Fresh: Nil (Less than 3 weeks old)	Recent: Nil (Less than 3 months old)	Old: 2 (c of d: 1 natural; 1 unknown) (More than 3 months old)	
High Value Species Monitoring		Ongoing partner with WRTI / KWS TCA Research: Monitoring Hirola, Grevy’s zebra, large carnivores, Roadkill Surveys, Southern Ground Hornbill etc			
Wildlife - Treatment & Translocation		Venomous snakes re-located from communities: Nil Others: Nil			
Poacher camps/hides		Fresh – 3 (6 to date)		Recent – 1 (3 to date)	
Arrests – joint KWS/TT		39 – 2 ivory poachers; 3 bushmeat poachers; 7 illegal herders; 19 illegal entry and 8 for retaliatory killings of lions. (221 for the year to date)			
Snares/traps recovered		102 by Tembo Teams: 640 snares for the year to date (459 small; 161 medium; 20 large)			
Bushmeat recoveries (wet & dried)		61kg (1,138kg for the year to date) 2 Gerenuks; 1 L.Kudu; 3 Dik-dik			
Poachers Equip. Recvd.		1 motorbike; 2 machete; 5 knives; 3 arrows; 1 bow; 3 axes; 2 lamping horns; 2 torches; 1 handsaw; 1 weighing scale.			
Night Ambushes		Joint KWS / TT: 10 (Bachuma; Haruresa; Shirango; Ndolwa; KMC; Ngutuni; Kilifi dam; Murondo)			
Firefighting		Nil - (No Fire outbreaks reported as of recent)			
Human Elephant Conflict		Joint TT-KWS team: 132 elephants driven from farmlands east of Mtito Andei 24 elephant driven from farmlands in Shirango			
Illegal Livestock (only in PA)		27 active cattle boma (12,853 cows; 800 shoats; Nil donkeys; 14 people)			
Written reports to KWS		76 (daily Situation reports, various communications & 1 monthly report)			
TT Staff Training activities		2 TT Officers Masters training; 1 KWS Officer Masters training; 1 TT Officer Bachelors training; 6 Kamungi youth certificate training in Hotel Management.			
TT HQ Rainfall figures		Nil. Total rainfall to date for 2023: 127mm			
Significant notes	25/05/2023. Tsavo Trust hosted the 9th Quarterly Mtito Andei stakeholders meeting on the coordination of various conservation efforts by different stakeholders with emphasis on Human Wildlife Conflict mitigation. 27/05/2023. Jointly with KWS investigations team, Tsavo Trust arrested 2 trophy poachers in possession of 2 ivory weighing 12kg and assorted poaching equipment.				
COMMUNITY CONSERVANCY PROGRAM:					
	Kamungi Conservancy ➤ Located: Northern boundary TWNP Triangle ➤ TT has played a stewardship role and partnered with KC since 2014			Shirango Community Conservancy ➤ Located: Southeast boundary TENP ➤ TT has played a stewardship role and partnered with SCC since 2016	
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
MAY, 2023**



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

***Note:** The Tsavo Parks are huge comprising 22,000km² (TENP, TWNP & CHNP) and then a further 20,000km² totaling 42,000km² to form the Tsavo Conservation Area (TCA).*

***Aerial:** 61 hours flown covering 8,073 kilometers over Tsavo in support of KWS.*

***Ground:** 1,151 kilometers of foot patrol and a further 22,876 kilometers of vehicle patrol in Tsavo to support KWS.*

***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:** The photo shows representatives from USAID, Aga Khan Foundation, Tsavo Trust, and Makueni Development Trust (MADET) during a Courtesy Call with Makueni County Deputy Governor on 19th May 2023. Tsavo Trust played a pivotal role in the establishment of MADET and continues to forge partnerships with institutions sharing a common vision. Photo Credit: Makueni County Govt.*



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, providing 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	Bushme at recvd. Kg	Poacher equip. recvd.	No. Poacher camps	No. HWC Cases	Vehicle mileage km	Foot Patrol km
Tembo 1 (TENP) & Shirango Scouts (6 TT Scouts + 3 KWS Rangers)	31	2 Both bushmeat poachers	-	17 14 small 3 medium	50 kg 2 Gerenuk & 3 Dik-diks	2 laming horns, 2 torches, 2 machetes, 1 axe & 1 motorbike	2 Active	4 HEC 132 elephants driven from farms	3,256	386
Tembo 3 (TWNP) (6 TT Scouts + 3 KWS Rangers)	31	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2,554	110
Tembo 5 (TWNP) 6 TT Scouts + 3 KWS Rangers	31	8 All for illegal entry into PA.	2	-	-	-	-	-	2,886	188
Tembo 7 (Kulalu/TENP) 5 TT Scouts + 3 KWS Rangers	31	-	-	31 11 small 20 medium	-	-	-	1 HEC 1 camel killed by elephant	2,241	124
Tembo 9 (Kulalu/TENP) 5 TT Scouts + 3 KWS Rangers	31	27 1 bushmeat poacher; 7 illegal herders; 11 for illegal entry & 8 for retaliatory killing of lions	-	-	11 kg Lesser Kudu	5 knives, 1 bow, 2 arrows, 2 axes, handsaw & a weighing scale	1 Active	-	3,597	136
Kamungi Scouts 4 Scouts	31	2 Ivory poachers	-	54 39 small 15 medium	-	2 knives, 1 panga and 2 torches	1 Inactive	14 12 HEC 24 elephants & 1 buffalo driven from farms	2,020	207
TOTALS	186	39	4	102	61 kg	As above	4	19	16,554	1,151
Total 2023	906	221	25	640	1,138 kg	-	10	65	88,242	4,915

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) 	20	-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 – 4 sightings -Hirola – 6 sightings -Grevy's Zebra – 2 sightings -Large Carnivores – 36 sightings -Ground Hornbill – 7 sightings -Road & Rail kills – Nil -Elephant carcasses – 1 -Ivory recovered. – 2 -Collared elephants – Nil -Carnivore scat analyses - 20	Tsavo East Nat. Park – mainly southern, central, and eastern sections including, Voi River & Shirango Conservancy	2,806
Tembo 4 (TWNP) (2 TT staff + 4 KWS) 	31	-RHINO monitoring – TW IPZ -Camera trap surveys - rhino -Big Tusker monitoring -Large Carnivore monitoring -Collared elephant reporting	-IPZ Rhinos – 27 -Tuskers - Nil -Large Carnivores – 1 sighting -Collared elephants – Nil -Elephant carcasses – Nil -Ivory recovered. – Nil -NRS Rhino night census – N/A	Tsavo West Nat. Park – IPZ and Triangle	3,516
TOTALS	51	As above	As above	As above	6,322
Total 2023	275	-	-	-	36,369

COMMUNITY CONSERVANCY PROGRAM:

ACTIVITY	KAMUNGI Conservancy	SHIRANGO Community Conservancy
Ongoing partnership between Tsavo Trust & KC & SCC	North boundary of TWNP – Triangle, since 2014. Total area approx. 100km ² Makeni 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 ² . Kilifi County; Ganze Sub-location; Bamba Ward; Mitangani location; Gede Sub-location.
Employment (Through Tsavo Trust)	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.
Community Mobilization and Sensitization Meetings	21 community meetings held ➤ 05/05/2023. Mentorship and appraisal of the 9 beneficiaries of the Kamungi Conservancy Secondary School bursary scheme. ➤ 20/05/2023. Catch up with 6 youths selected for certificate training on hotel management before joining Coast Institute of Technology. ➤ 22/05/2023. Pre-tender site visit for the construction of Kamungi Ranger houses. ➤ 24/05/2023. Meeting with local administration regarding UKAM projects. ➤ 26/27/05/2023. Kamungi Conservancy monthly meetings held at Ngiluni and Nthunguni respectively. ➤ 30/05/2023. Donation of clothes to needy students in Ngiluni Primary School.	9 community meetings held. ➤ 12/05/2023. Meeting with the Ministry of lands department of Kilifi regarding the adjudication of Gede Mitangani community land of which Shirango Conservancy is part. ➤ 12/05/2023. Meeting with the Ministry of Livestock, Kilifi to understand livestock grazing leases in Shirango. ➤ 19/05/2023. A string of meetings with Assistant Chief, Chief Mitangani, ACC Bamba, DCC Bamba, MCA Bamba and Kilifi County Commissioner to deliver notification letters for the relocation of projects earmarked for Shirango following a long standoff between the area leadership and Shirango Conservancy Management. All the officers requested time to sort out the differences.
Membership	Through a registered CBO KC membership represents 385 families & over 3,850 individuals from 4 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	79,850 litres of water issued. (338,960 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.
Basic Health care	446 patients attended (1,392 for the year to date).	There is a need to support this project
Constructions	KC additional scouts & office units to commence soon	SCC additional scouts & office units to commence soon
Education		
Bursary Scheme	Paid for 2 teachers (1-Ngiluni & 1-Kamunyu School in KC) for the last 9 years. Ongoing. 6 youth certificate training in hotel management Started on April 22 9 needy students selected being supported.	None at present None at present
Village Saving & Loan Associations – VSLA's	5 women-run VSLAs are in progress: In partnership between ZSL / KC & TT	None at present
Poultry Project	3 poultry projects: partnership between ZSL / KC & TT	None at present
Training	VSLA livelihoods, HWC Mitigation, Climate Smart Agriculture, permaculture	Climate Smart agriculture by KALRO.
HWC Mitigation	7 x 1-acre bee fences, total 105 beehives with 9 currently occupied.	N/A yet
Elephant Bee Fence	10% fence plan completed Phase 2 completed: Total 15 plots (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.
10% Fence Plan		
Predator Proof bomas	7 predator-proof bomas set up: by TT/ZSL	N/A yet
Mtito 32km fence line	Completed 30/11/21 with 95% HEC reduction	N/A yet
Human Wildlife Conflict (HWC)	56 cases recorded: 41 elephant; 3 leopard; 7 lion; 1 buffalo and 4 snake-related incidents.	8 cases were recorded: 6 elephant and 2 hyena
Land Tenure	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.
Wildlife Census Transects	1	None
Operations and Security	➤ See the Field Units table above	➤ See the Field Units table above

Unusual Photo of the Month:



Photo above shows a female adult lion in Tsavo West National Park. The whisker spots on lions are unique in each individual and don't change throughout a lion's lifetime, just like human fingerprints. Using the whisker spots and other aids such as scars, ear tears, and broken/missing teeth, it is possible to accurately ID lions. Tsavo Trust in partnership with WRTI / KWS (funded by WWF & LRF) have recently completed a 3-month long lion census exercise to determine lion numbers in the TCA.

Photo Credit: Tsavo Trust – Alfred Kipyegon.

Wildlife Ranger Challenge (WRC) 2023

WRC is the world's largest celebration of solidarity, support, and fundraising, supporting more than 10,000 rangers in 23 countries since its inception. On 16th September this year, Tsavo Trust Rangers will be among more than 100 Ranger Teams completing a coordinated 21 km race in Protected Areas where the rangers work. To find out more and support our team please follow the link below.

<https://wildlife.rangerchallenge.org/campaigns/tsavo-trust-2023>

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); Tropical Ice Ltd; OnSafari-Kenya; 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; Prints for Conservation; Chris Acreman and numerous other dedicated enthusiasts.

Report compiled by Richard Moller (C.E.O) and the Tsavo Trust Team.

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