



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)

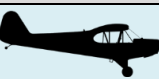















Tsavo Trust film clip: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qGgM6-ggZOE&t=270s>

## **SEPTEMBER 2023 MONTHLY REPORT**



*The photo above shows a pod of Hippopotamuses in the clear waters of Mzima Springs in Tsavo West National Park taken during an aerial survey. Tsavo Trust supports the Kenya Wildlife Service to conserve the different wildlife species in the Tsavo Conservation Area and their habitats as well. Photo Credit: Tsavo Trust – Nick Haller.*



WILDLIFE CONSERVATION PROGRAM: <i>Big Tusker Project – Aerial &amp; Ground Activities</i>					
Activity		Hours Flown		Kilometers Covered	
	<b>Aerial Unit</b>	<b>36</b> (472 for year) Average 133km p/h of low-level flight		<b>4,556</b> (62,545km for year) Flights carried out jointly with KWS staff	
	<b>Rhino Aerial Patrols</b>	<b>Aerial Patrols: 17</b> (5 TWNP; 1 TENP) (203hrs for year to date)		<b>Aerial: 1,939</b> (23,029km 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: 180 days</b> (1,638 to date) <b>Monitoring teams: 60 days</b> (499 to date)		<b>Vehicle patrols: 16,548km</b> (157,668km to date) <b>Foot patrols: 1,256km</b> (9,823km to date) <b>Monitoring teams: 6,427km</b> (60,507km to date)	
	<b>Big Tusker Project</b>	<b>10</b> Tuskers - 3 Super Tusker bulls (4 sights), 7 emerging bulls (14 sights), Nil cow Tusker (Nil sights): <b>18 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>4</b> elephant tusks ( <b>91</b> for the year to date)			
<b>Elephant mortality</b>		<b>Fresh: 3</b> (Less than 3 weeks old) (c of d: All rail kills)		<b>Recent: 1</b> (Less than 3 months old) (c of d: Natural)	
				<b>Old: Nil</b> (More than 3 months old)	
<b>High Value Species Monitoring</b>		Ongoing partner with WRTI / KWS TCA Research: Monitoring Rhino, 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> 1 Red Spitting Cobras and 1 Black Mamba <b>Others:</b> KWS/TT IPZ Tembo 4 team, recovered abandoned 5-day old rhino calf, handed to SWT			
<b>Poacher camps/hides</b>		<b>Fresh – Nil</b> (10 to date)		<b>Recent – Nil</b> (3 to date)	
<b>Arrests – joint KWS/TT</b>		<b>40</b> – 4 bushmeat poachers, 16 illegal herders, 16 loggers/charcoalers & illegal entry ( <b>330</b> for the year to date)			
<b>Snares/traps recovered</b>		<b>176</b> by Tembo Teams: <b>1,252</b> snares for the year to date (133 small; 31 medium; 12 large)			
<b>Bushmeat recoveries (wet &amp; dried)</b>		<b>86kg</b> (1,526kg for the year to date) Dik-diks, L. Kudu, Eland & Civet			
<b>Poachers Equip. Recvd.</b>		2 machetes; 1 knife; 1 spear; 3 torches; 3 axes; 1 bow and 8 arrows			
<b>Night Ambushes</b>		Joint KWS / TT: <b>11</b> (Kulalu; Maungu; Ziواني; Voi River; Alpha 3; Muhoho farm; Mbuyuni; KMC ranch)			
<b>Firefighting</b>		<b>Nil</b> - (No Fire outbreaks reported within TW or TE as of recent)			
<b>Human Elephant Conflict</b>		Joint TT-KWS team: <b>1</b> elephant driven from farmlands east of Mtito Andei <b>Nil</b> elephants driven from farmlands in Shirango			
<b>Illegal Livestock (only in PA)</b>		<b>6</b> active cattle bomas (6,490 cattle; 660 shoats; 16 people)			
<b>Written reports to KWS</b>		<b>81</b> (daily Situation reports, various communications & 1 monthly report)			
<b>TT Staff Training activities</b>		<b>2</b> TT Officers Masters training; <b>2</b> KWS Officer Masters training; <b>1</b> TT Officer Bachelors training; <b>6</b> Kamungi youth certificate training in Hotel Management.			
<b>TT HQ Rainfall figures</b>		<b>5mm.</b> Total rainfall to date for 2023: <b>132mm</b>			
<b>Significant notes</b>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>5/9/2023: Joint KWS/TT Tembo 4 team (TW IPZ) recovered an abandoned 5-day old rhino calf, handed to SWT</li><li>8/9/2023: TT Chief Community officer attended the Africa Climate Summit / Africa Climate Week held in Nairobi by</li><li>24/9/2023: TT CEO, Chief Conservation Officer, and Conservancy Manager attended Maliasili's African Community Conservation Forum held in Naivasha between Sept. 24<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup></li><li>26/9/2023: TT Chief Conservation Officer and Research Officer attended the 1<sup>st</sup> WRTI Wildlife Science Conference held in Naivasha</li></ul>			
COMMUNITY CONSERVANCY PROGRAM:					
		<b>Kamungi Conservancy</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>➤ Located: Northern boundary TWNP Triangle</li><li>➤ TT has played a stewardship role and partnered with KC since 2014</li></ul>			
				<b>Shirango Community Conservancy</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>➤ Located: Southeast boundary TENP</li><li>➤ TT has played a stewardship role and partnered with SCC since 2016</li></ul>	
FORMAL FIELD CONSERVATION PARTNERS PROGRAM: (Full list of supporters/partners shown on last page)					
					
					
					
					
					

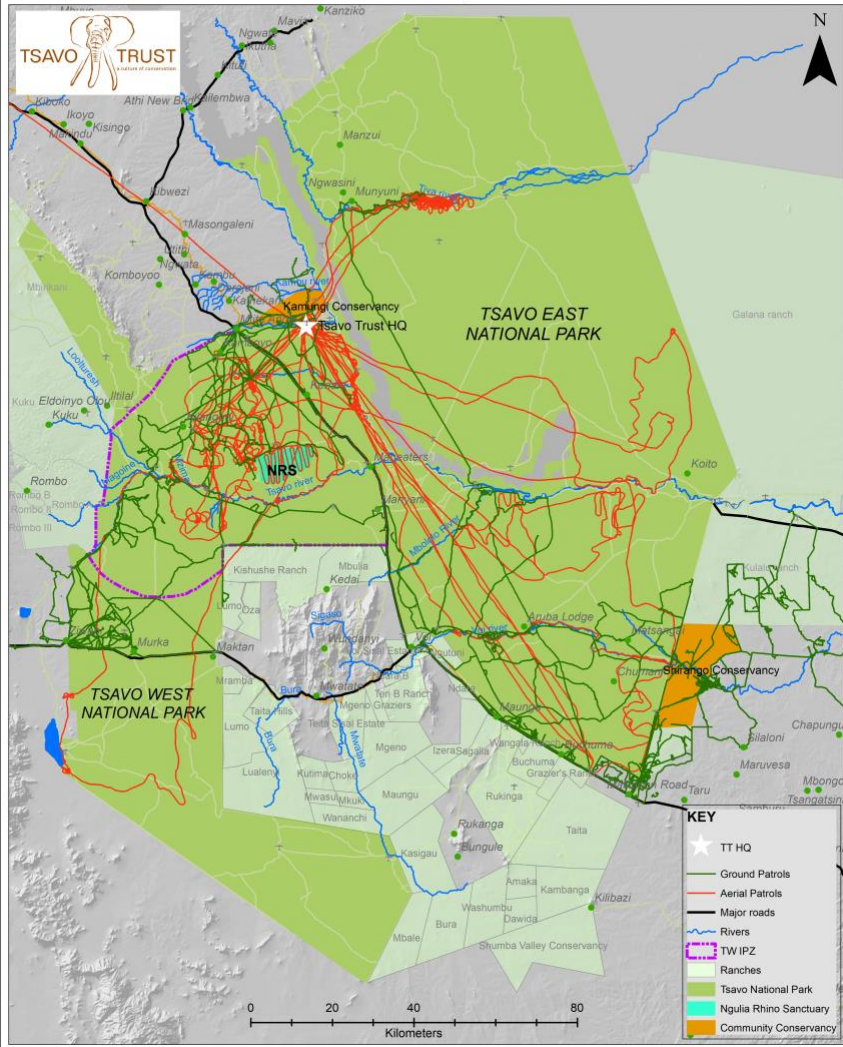




## **Aerial Reconnaissance and Ground Patrols - Areas Covered:**

- 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 SEPTEMBER, 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 22,000km<sup>2</sup> (TENP, TWNP & CHNP) and then a further 20,000km<sup>2</sup> totaling 42,000km<sup>2</sup> to form the Tsavo Conservation Area (TCA).*

***Aerial:** 36 hours flown covering 4,556 kilometers over Tsavo in support of KWS.*

***Ground:** 1,256 kilometers of foot patrol and a further 22,975 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 below shows Tsavo Trust Rangers that participated in the 2023 Wildlife Ranger Challenge after running the 21km race on 16<sup>th</sup> September 2023. The team members from left are Joshua Kitavi, John Khani, George Afwamba, Morris Mutinda, and Daniel Lekoitip. The team came position 42 out of 72 teams in Africa. Photo Credit: Big Life Foundation.*



## 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
<b>Tembo 1 (TENP) &amp; Shirango Scouts</b> (6 TT Scouts + 3 KWS Rangers)	30	<b>1</b> Bushmeat poacher	-	<b>23</b> 19 small 4 medium	<b>3 kg</b> 1 Dik-dik	1 panga & 3 spotlight	-	-	2,034	390
<b>Tembo 3 (TWNP)</b> (6 TT Scouts + 3 KWS Rangers)	30	<b>16</b> All illegal loggers	-	-	-	3 axes & 1 panga	-	-	2,930	117
<b>Tembo 5 (TWNP)</b> 6 TT Scouts + 3 KWS Rangers	30	<b>7</b> 4 illegal entry & 3 illegal herders	-	-	-	-	-	-	3,370	143
<b>Tembo 7 (Kulalu/TENP)</b> 5 TT Scouts + 3 KWS Rangers	30	-	-	<b>28</b> 11 small 5 medium 12 large	-	-	-	-	3,541	194
<b>Tembo 9 (Kulalu/TENP)</b> 5 TT Scouts + 3 KWS Rangers	30	<b>13</b> All illegal herders	1 broken piece	-	-	-	-	-	3,080	232
<b>Kamungi Scouts</b> 4 Scouts	30	<b>3</b> All bushmeat poacher	<b>2</b>	<b>125</b> 103 small 22 medium	<b>83 kg</b> Eland, L. Kudu and Civet	1 spear, 1 bow, 8 arrows & 1 knife	-	<b>1</b> 1 HEC 1 elephant driven from farms by KWS/TT team	1,593	180
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>180</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>176</b>	<b>86kg</b>	<b>As above</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>16,548</b>	<b>1,256</b>
<b>Total 2023</b>	<b>1,638</b>	<b>330</b>	<b>56</b>	<b>1,252</b>	<b>1,526 kg</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>91</b>	<b>157,668</b>	<b>9,823</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> (3 TT staff + 2 KWS) 	15	-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 – 19 sightings -Hirola – 7 sightings -Grevy's Zebra – 2 sightings -Large Carnivores – 23 sightings -Ground Hornbill – 9 sightings -Road & Rail kills – Nil -Elephant carcasses – 1 - Ivory recovered. – 2 - Collared elephants – 4 - Carnivore scats collected - Nil	Tsavo East Nat. Park – mainly southern, central, and eastern sections including, Voi River & Shirango Conservancy	3,347
<b>Tembo 4 (TWNP)</b> (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 – 25 -Tuskers - Nil -Large Carnivores –1 sighting -Collared elephants – Nil -Elephant carcasses – Nil - Ivory recovered. – Nil -NRS Rhino night census – 124	Tsavo West Nat. Park – IPZ and Triangle	3,080
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>46</b>	<b>As above</b>	<b>As above</b>	<b>As above</b>	<b>6,427</b>
<b>Total 2023</b>	<b>439</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>60,507</b>



## COMMUNITY CONSERVANCY PROGRAM:

ACTIVITY	KAMUNGI Conservancy	SHIRANGO Community Conservancy
<b>Ongoing partnership between Tsavo Trust &amp; KC &amp; SCC</b>	North boundary of TWNP – Triangle, since 2014. Total area approx. <b>100km<sup>2</sup></b> 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 <b>270km<sup>2</sup></b> Kilifi County; Ganze Sub-County; Bamba Ward; Mitangani location; Gede Sub-location.
<b>Employment (Through Tsavo Trust)</b>	Between Tsavo Trust & partners 45 permanent staff & 15 casual staff employed generating over <b>\$12,000</b> (Ksh.1,320,000) of monthly income into Kamungi.	Tsavo Trust employs 14 staff from SCC including a Community Liaison Officer (CLO) to spearhead activities. Salaries generate over <b>\$3,000</b> (Ksh.330,000) of monthly income.
<b>Community Mobilization and Sensitization Meetings</b>	<b>13 community meetings held.</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ 08/09/2023. Tsavo Trust's CLO attended the Mtito Andei Local Administration held at Mtito Andei Chief's meeting.</li> <li>➤ 14/09/2023. Training on honey harvesting, processing, and packaging for 3 VSLA groups from Kamungi and 2 VSLA groups from Mangelete.</li> <li>➤ Meeting with the 6 Hotel Operations Graduates to discuss their engagement as they wait completion of the Kamungi Bandas.</li> <li>➤ 19_21/09/2023. Focused Group Discussions for the Tsavo Trust SAPA process held at Kamunyu, Kyusiani and Nthunguni.</li> <li>➤ 26/09/2023. Kamungi Conservancy monthly members' meeting held at the Ngiluni Water tank.</li> </ul>	<b>1 community meeting held.</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ 19/09/2023: Deputy County Commissioner in the County Commissioner's office Kilifi met with Four Waatha Community representatives and raised the following matters: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Case filed by Robert Changawa against Tsavo (as CBO members they have no problem with Tsavo Trust and the projects being implemented),</li> <li>• Need for the Leaders to address the marginalization in the area against the Waatha.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<b>Membership</b>	Through a registered CBO KC membership represents <b>385 families &amp; over 3,850 individuals from 13 villages</b> , mainly from the WaKamba community.	Through a registered CBO SCC membership represents at least <b>2,300 individuals from 5 villages</b> , mainly from the Watha and Giriama ethnic groups.
<b>Water Project</b>	<b>142,420</b> litres of water issued. ( <b>718,650</b> 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.
<b>Basic Health care</b>	<b>320</b> patients attended ( <b>2,558</b> for the year to date).	There is a need to support this project
<b>Constructions</b>	KC additional scouts & office units to commence soon. Works for the Kamungi bandas in progress.	SCC additional scouts & office units to commence soon
<b>Education</b>	Paid for <b>2</b> teachers (1-Ngiluni & 1-Kamunyu School in KC) for the last 10 years. Ongoing.	None at present
<b>Bursary Scheme</b>	<b>6</b> youth certificate training in hotel management Started on April 22 <b>9</b> needy students selected being supported.	None at present
<b>Village Saving &amp; Loan Associations – VSLA's</b>	<b>5</b> women-run VSLAs are in progress: In partnership between ZSL / KC & TT	None at present
<b>Poultry Project</b>	<b>3</b> poultry projects: partnership between ZSL / KC & TT	None at present
<b>Training</b>	VSLA livelihoods, HWC Mitigation, Climate Smart Agriculture, permaculture	Climate Smart agriculture by KALRO.
<b>HWC Mitigation</b>	<b>7</b> x 1-acre bee fences, total 105 beehives with 6 currently occupied.	N/A yet
<b>Elephant Bee Fence</b>	10% fence plan completed Phase 2 completed: <b>Total 16 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	Delivery of materials for the construction of the 10% fence plans. 4 10% fence plans were constructed bringing the total to <b>8 10% fence plans</b> in Shirango.
<b>10% Fence Plan</b>		
<b>Predator Proof bomas</b>	<b>10</b> predator-proof bomas set up: by TT/ZSL	N/A yet
<b>Mtito 32km fence line</b>	Completed 30/11/21 with <b>95% HEC reduction</b>	N/A yet
<b>Human Wildlife Conflict (HWC)</b>	<b>33</b> cases recorded: 22 elephant; 4 Baboon; 5 leopard and 2 snake-related incidents.	<b>4</b> cases recorded: All Elephant related.
<b>Land Tenure</b>	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.
<b>Wildlife Census Transects</b>	<b>1</b>	None
<b>Operations and Security</b>	➤ See the Field Units table above	➤ See the Field Units table above

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



*The photo above shows a Nile Crocodile swimming in Tsavo West National Park's crystal clear waters of the famous Mzima Springs. The Springs are the water source for the coastal city of Mombasa situated 260km away and the towns in between. The springs also form the source of the Tsavo River. Photo credit Tsavo Trust – Nick Haller.*

### **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 16<sup>th</sup> 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); WildLandscapes International; 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; Alex Hunter; John Carr; Anthony Cheffings; Chris Acreman and numerous other dedicated enthusiasts.

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

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