



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>

OCTOBER 2023 MONTHLY REPORT



The photo above shows Tsavo's Super Tusker coded as BU1 taken during an aerial patrol flight. Most areas had started greening up with waterholes beginning to fill with the onset of the much-needed rainfall. Elephant distribution will shift with the rains and the aerial unit will provide data on their movement. This will enable informed patrol planning to ensure a security blanket wherever the elephant's roam. Photo Credit: Tsavo Trust – Nick Haller.

SUMMARY of ACTIVITIES:

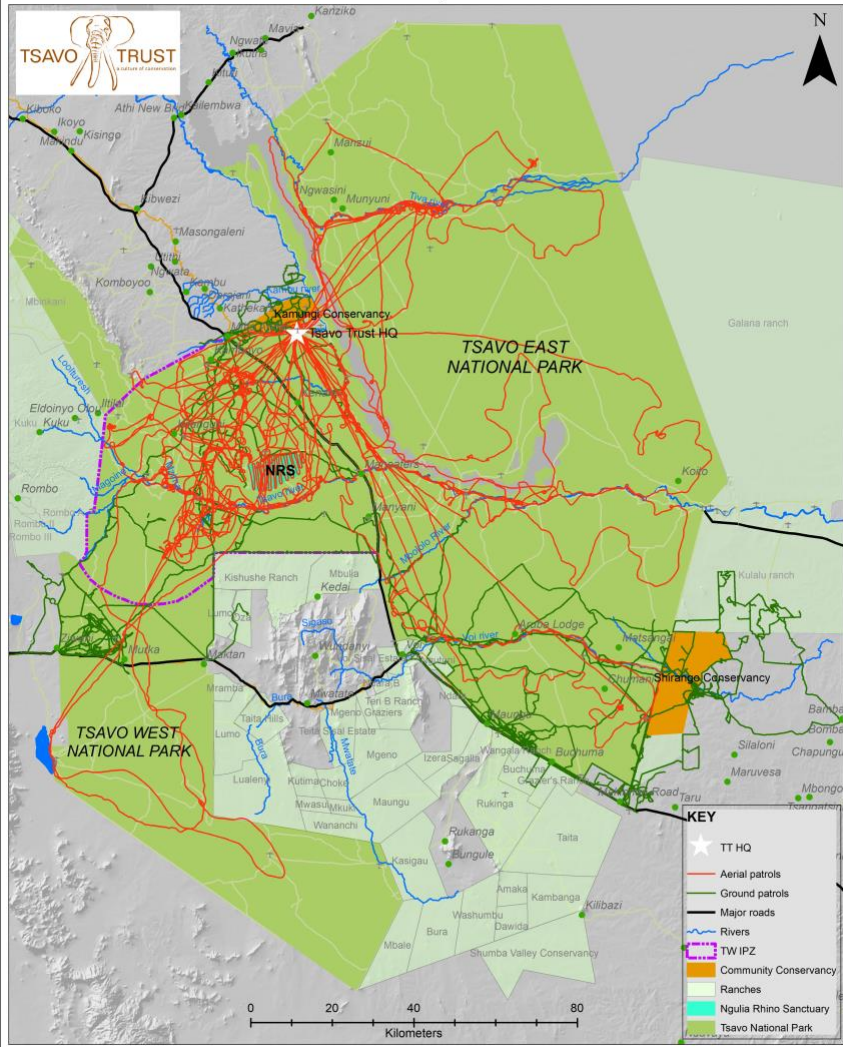
WILDLIFE CONSERVATION PROGRAM: <i>Big Tusker Project – Aerial & Ground Activities</i>					
Activity		Hours Flown		Kilometers Covered	
	Aerial Unit	56 (528 for year) Average 130km p/h of low-level flight		6,384 (68,929km for year) Flights carried out jointly with KWS staff	
	Rhino Aerial Patrols	Aerial Patrols: 27 (10 TWNP; Nil TENP) (235hrs for year to date)		Aerial: 2,962 (26,937km for year)	
		Field Patrol Days		Kilometers Covered	
Ground Protection Activities (Joint with KWS / TT & Community Scouts)		Protection teams: 186 days (1,824 to date) Monitoring teams: 62 days (561 to date)		Vehicle patrols: 14,617km (172,285km to date) Foot patrols: 1,194km (11,017km to date) Monitoring teams: 7,311km (67,818km to date)	
	Big Tusker Project	9 Tuskers - 2 Super Tusker bulls (3 sights), 6 emerging bulls (11 sights), 1 cow Tusker (1 sight): 15 individual observations			
Collared Elephant Sightings: Joint KWS/STE/TT program		2 sightings: record forms submitted to STE (aerial and ground observations)			
Ivory recovered		18 elephant tusks (109 for the year to date)			
Elephant mortality		Fresh: 9 (Less than 3 weeks old) (c of d: 5 natural; 1 Roadkill; 3 unknown)		Recent: Nil (Less than 3 months old) Old: Nil (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: 1 Black Mamba Others: Nil			
Poacher camps/hides		Fresh – Nil (10 to date)		Recent – Nil (3 to date)	
Arrests – joint KWS/TT		27 – 1 bushmeat poacher, 6 illegal herders, 2 loggers, 1 illegal mining & 17 illegal entry (357 for the year to date)			
Snares/traps recovered		156 by Tembo Teams: 1,408 snares for the year to date (1,029 small; 327 medium; 52 large)			
Bushmeat recoveries (wet & dried)		675kg (2,201kg for the year to date) Buffalo, L. Kudu & Waterbuck			
Poachers Equip. Recvd.		1 knife; 1 slasher; 1 spade; 1 mallet; 2 chisel and 8 cooking equipment			
Night Ambushes		Joint KWS / TT: 8 (Dika plains; Maungu; Ndolwa; Murondo; Ndara; Mbuyuni)			
Firefighting		Nil - (No Fire outbreaks reported within TW or TE as of recent)			
Human Elephant Conflict		Joint TT-KWS team: 14 elephants driven from farmlands east of Mtito Andei 3 elephants driven from farmlands in Shirango			
Illegal Livestock (only in PA)		9 active cattle bomas (6,820 cattle; Nil shoats; 6 people)			
Written reports to KWS		84 (daily Situation reports, various communications & 1 monthly report)			
TT Staff Training activities		2 TT Officers Masters training; 2 KWS Officer Masters training; 1 TT Officer Bachelors training; 78 Kamungi and Shirango farmers trained on Climate SMART agriculture.			
TT HQ Rainfall figures		7mm. Total rainfall to date for 2023: 139mm			
Significant notes		•02 to 07/09/2023. Climate Smart Agriculture training of 78 farmers from Kamungi and Shirango Conservancies by Kenya Agriculture and Livestock Research Organization. The training was facilitated by Tsavo Trust supported by Tofauti Foundation and USAID’s Sustainable Management of Amboseli and Tsavo Ecosystems. •12 to 13/10/2023. Tsavo Trust’s Monitoring and Evaluation Officer Participated in the Kenya Landscape Restoration Forum held in Trademark Hotel, Nairobi. •30 to 31/10/2023. Tsavo Trust's Team Optimization workshop facilitated by Maliasili.			
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)					
 KENYA WILDLIFE SERVICE		 ZSL LET'S WORK FOR WILDLIFE	 SAVE THE ELEPHANTS	 MAASAI WILDERNESS CONSERVATION TRUST	 Maliyasi INVESTING IN PEOPLE FOR NATURE
 SAND DAMS WORLDWIDE	 Restore Rebuild Regreen	 Africa Sand Dam Foundation	 WILDLIFE RESEARCH & TRAINING INSTITUTE Discover Beyond	 Kamungi Conservancy	 SHIRANGO COMMUNITY CONSERVANCY



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 & GROUND PATROLS COVERAGE OVER TCA
October, 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:** 56 hours flown covering 6,384 kilometers over Tsavo in support of KWS.*

***Ground:** 1,194 kilometers of foot patrol and a further 21,928 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 aerial photo below shows Shirango's earth dam filled with water from the October rains. The earth dam was constructed with support from the Kenya Pipeline Company and the Tsavo Trust. The earth dam has a capacity of 15,000 m³ and supports the local community's needs during the dry season. Photo credit: Tsavo Trust – Nick Haller.*



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	1 Bushmeat poacher	-	17 All medium	-	1 slasher & 1 knife	-	2 2 HEC 3 elephant driven from farms by KWS/TT team.	2,088	296
Tembo 3 (TWNP) (6 TT Scouts + 3 KWS Rangers)	31	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	2,316	110
Tembo 5 (TWNP) 6 TT Scouts + 3 KWS Rangers	31	1 Illegal mining	-	-	-	1 spade, 1 mallet, 2 chisels & 1 cooking pot	-	-	2,776	164
Tembo 7 (Kulalu/TENP) 5 TT Scouts + 3 KWS Rangers	31	-	2	32 15 small 17 medium	-	-	-	-	2,829	162
Tembo 9 (Kulalu/TENP) 5 TT Scouts + 3 KWS Rangers	31	23 6 illegal herders & 17 illegal entry.	-	-	-	-	-	-	3,053	257
Kamungi Scouts 4 Scouts	31	2 Collecting firewood in Protected Area.	2	107 93 small 14 medium	675 kg Buffalo, waterbuck & L. Kudu	-	-	4 4 HEC 14 elephants driven from farms by KWS/TT team	1,555	205
TOTALS	186	27	6	156	675kg	As above	-	6	14,617	1,194
Total 2023	1,824	357	62	1,408	2,201 kg	-	13	97	172,285	11,017

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) 	31	-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 – 11 sightings -Hirola – 7 sightings -Grevy's Zebra – 1 sighting -Large Carnivores – 21 sightings -Ground Hornbill – 10 sightings -Road & Rail kills – Nil -Elephant carcasses – 3 - Ivory recovered. – 6 - Collared elephants – Nil - Carnivore scats collected - Nil	Tsavo East Nat. Park – mainly southern, central, and eastern sections including, Voi River & Shirango Conservancy	3,555
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 – 3 sightings -Collared elephants – Nil -Elephant carcasses – Nil - Ivory recovered. – Nil -NRS Rhino night census – 124	Tsavo West Nat. Park – IPZ and Triangle	3,756
TOTALS	62	As above	As above	As above	7,311
Total 2023	561	-	-	-	67,818

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 Makuani 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-County; 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	13 community meetings held. ➤ 02/10/2023. 02/10/2023: 60 farmers from Shirango trained in Climate-Smart agriculture by KALRO organized by Tsavo Trust, Tofauti Foundation, and USAID sustainable management of Amboseli and Tsavo Ecosystems. ➤ 15/10/2023. Visit of Kamungi 10% fence plans by the Tofauti Foundation founder. ➤ 18/10/2023. Kamungi Conservancy Management Plan core planning team (CPT) inaugural meeting at Greenacres Resort, Mtito. ➤ 23/10/2023. HWC meeting held at Kyusiani with the Cabinet Secretary for tourism and wildlife, Makuani Governor and area member of parliament.	1 community meeting held. ➤ 02/10/2023: 18 farmers from Shirango trained in Climate-Smart agriculture by KALRO organized by Tsavo Trust, Tofauti Foundation, and USAID sustainable management of Amboseli and Tsavo Ecosystems. ➤ 12/10/2023: Drought status update and El Nino preparedness meeting Co-chaired by DCC Bahari sub-county and Kilifi County Govt Chief Officer of Special Programmes. ➤ 14/10/2023. On-site inspection of Shirango 10% fence plans supported by the Tofauti Foundation. ➤ 27/10/2023. Tsavo Livelihoods Initiative program (Carbon Credits Project) convened by TTWCA. ➤ 25/10/2023. Peer to Peer learning on conservation issues amongst Shirango youth.
Membership	Through a registered CBO KC membership represents 385 families & over 3,850 individuals from 13 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	191,270 litres of water issued. (909,920 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	264 patients attended (2,822 for the year to date).	There is a need to support this project.
Constructions	KC additional scouts & office units to commence soon. Works for the Kamungi bandas in progress.	SCC additional scouts & office units to commence soon
Education	Paid for 2 teachers (1-Ngiluni & 1-Kamunyu School in KC) for the last 9 years. Ongoing.	None at present
Bursary Scheme	6 youth certificate training in hotel management Started on April 22 9 needy students selected being supported.	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 6 currently occupied.	N/A yet
Elephant Bee Fence	10% fence plan completed Phase 2 completed: Total 16 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	10% fence plan constructions completed: Total 8 plots (HWC electric fencing of 10% of individual land). 100% effective in keeping elephants and other wildlife from fenced farmlands.
10% Fence Plan		
Predator Proof bomas	10 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)	28 cases recorded: 17 elephant; 5 Baboon; 3 leopard; 1 Lion; 1 Buffalo and 1 snake incident.	6 cases recorded: All Elephant related.
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:



The photo above shows the confluence of the Athi River (murky polluted green) and the Tsavo River to form the Galana River – a permanent river and lifeline to Tsavo’s wildlife. The river changes its name again to Sabaki River downstream from where it exits the Tsavo East NP at Sala. Photo credit Tsavo Trust – Richard Moller.

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; Remembering Wildlife Books; Ndovu Trust (UK); Exodus Travel; Petlin Consulting Services Ltd; Maasai Wilderness Conservation Trust (MWCT); Off Piste Africa; Empowers Africa; 51 degrees-Vulcan; Conservation Alpha; Lewa Canada; Tropical Ice Ltd; OnSafari-Kenya; Askari Project–Australia; Prints for Conservation 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.

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

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