



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>


















## **NOVEMBER 2023 MONTHLY REPORT**



*The image depicted above captures a segment of a gathering of elephants spotted during an aerial reconnaissance flight. Typically, sizable groups like these are seen in Tsavo when there is an abundance of resources in the wet season that follows the rains. This November Tsavo is enjoying a bumper rainy season. These herds can consist of over 300 individuals. Photo Credit: Tsavo Trust – Nick Haller.*



## SUMMARY of ACTIVITIES:

| WILDLIFE CONSERVATION PROGRAM: <i>Big Tusker Project – Aerial &amp; Ground Activities</i>         |  |   |   |   |   |
|---|--|---|---|---|---|
| Activity  |  | Hours Flown   |   | Kilometers Covered  |   |
|                   | <b>Aerial Unit</b>   | <b>47</b> (575 for year)<br>Average 130km p/h of low-level flight   |   | <b>5,785</b> (74,714km for year)<br>Flights carried out jointly with KWS staff  |   |
|                   | <b>Rhino Aerial Patrols</b>  | <b>Aerial Patrols: 25</b> (8 TWNP; 1 TENP)<br>(260hrs for year to date)   |   | <b>Aerial: 2,888</b> (29,825km 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> (2,004 to date)<br><b>Monitoring teams: 60 days</b> (615 to date)   |   | <b>Vehicle patrols: 14,851km</b> (187,136km to date)<br><b>Foot patrols: 1, 109km</b> (12,126km to date)<br><b>Monitoring teams: 7,543km</b> (74,958km to date) |   |
|                   | <b>Big Tusker Project</b>  | 7 Tuskers - Nil Super Tusker bulls (Nil sights), 7 emerging bulls (15 sights), Nil cow Tusker (Nil sights): <b>15 individual observations</b>   |   |   |   |
| <b>Collared Elephant Sightings: Joint KWS/STE/TT program</b>                                      |  | <b>4 sightings:</b> record forms submitted to STE (aerial and ground observations)  |   |   |   |
| <b>Ivory recovered</b>  |  | <b>11 elephant tusks (120 for the year to date)</b>   |   |   |   |
| <b>Elephant mortality</b>   |  | <b>Fresh: 3</b><br>(Less than 3 weeks old)<br>(c of d: all natural)   | <b>Recent: 1</b><br>(Less than 3 months old)<br>(c of d: unknown)   | <b>Old: 2</b><br>(More than 3 months old)<br>(c of d: both unknown)   |   |
| <b>High Value Species Monitoring</b>  |  | Ongoing partner with WRTI / KWS TCA Research: 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> 3 red spitters, 1 puff adder & 1 ashes spitting cobra<br><b>Others:</b> Nil   |   |   |   |
| <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>44</b> – 4 bushmeat poachers, 2 illegal herders, 3 illegal entry & 35 illegal immigrants<br><b>(401 for the year to date)</b>  |   |   |   |
| <b>Snares/traps recovered</b>   |  | <b>41</b> by Tembo Teams: <b>1,449</b> snares for the year to date (1,044 small; 353 medium; 52 large)  |   |   |   |
| <b>Bushmeat recoveries (wet &amp; dried)</b>  |  | <b>477kg</b> (2,678kg for the year to date)<br>Giraffe, Zebra & Spotted Hyena (snared)  |   |   |   |
| <b>Poachers Equip. Recvd.</b>   |  | 3 motorcycles   |   |   |   |
| <b>Night Ambushes</b>   |  | Joint KWS / TT: <b>5</b> (Dakota; Maungu; Ngutuni and Voi River outside Park)   |   |   |   |
| <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>2</b> elephants driven from farmlands east of Mtito Andei<br><b>Nil</b> elephants driven from farmlands in Shirango   |   |   |   |
| <b>Illegal Livestock (only in PA)</b>   |  | <b>Nil</b> active cattle bomas (3,270 cattle; 300 shoats; 2 people)   |   |   |   |
| <b>Written reports to KWS</b>   |  | <b>74</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; 78 Kamungi and Shirango farmers trained on Climate SMART agriculture. |   |   |   |
| <b>TT HQ Rainfall figures</b>   |  | <b>433mm.</b> Total rainfall to date for 2023: <b>572mm</b>   |   |   |   |
| <b>Significant notes</b>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>•06/11/2023: Represented at conservancies managers' conference organized by the KWCA in Nairobi. This served as a platform for over 150 conservancy managers to come together, exchange ideas, and gain insights into the efficient management of conservancies.</li><li>•27/11/2023: TT engaged in a workshop with USAID Implementing Partners and Makueni County Government for the 2023/2024 work plan review in Wote. The collaborative review of the draft work plan facilitated valuable insights and adjustments, aiming to improve the effectiveness of joint efforts.</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) |  |   |   |   |   |
|                 |   |    |    |   |  |
|                 |   |    |    |   |  |

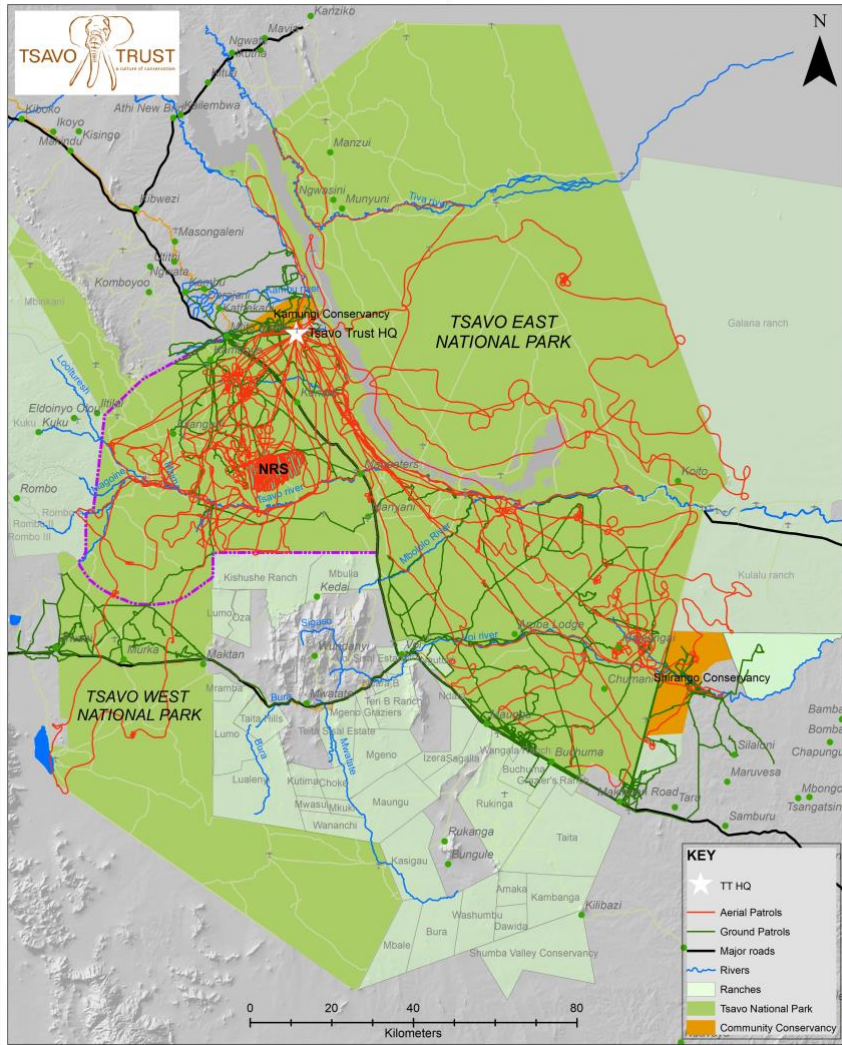




## **Aerial Reconnaissance and Ground Patrols - Areas Covered:**

- 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 & GROUND PATROLS COVERAGE OVER TCA**  
**November, 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:** 47 hours flown covering 5,785 kilometers over Tsavo in support of KWS.*

***Ground:** 1,109 kilometers of foot patrol and a further 22,394 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: Photo shows attendees of a two-day workshop addressing Human-Wildlife Conflict Mitigation, conducted in Makindu, Makueni. The 40 participants included representatives from National & County Governments, KWS, WRTI, CAK, TT, ZSL, TTWCA, MWCT, political leaders, and local communities. The workshop, facilitated by TT, ZSL, and CAK, took place on the 29th and 30th of November.*



## **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><br>(6 TT Scouts + 3 KWS Rangers) | 30             | -   | -               | <b>21</b><br>6 small<br>15 medium | -                                    | -                     | -                 | <b>1</b><br>1 HEC<br>1 charcoaler<br>killed by elephant.          | 2,141              | 311            |
| <b>Tembo 3 (TWNP)</b><br>(6 TT Scouts + 3 KWS Rangers)                       | 30             | -   | <b>2</b>        | -                                 | -                                    | -                     | -                 | -   | 2,777              | 157            |
| <b>Tembo 5 (TWNP)</b><br>6 TT Scouts + 3 KWS Rangers                         | 30             | <b>38</b><br>3 illegal entry & 35 illegal entry. immigrants | <b>2</b>        | <b>9</b><br>All small             | -                                    | -                     | -                 | -   | 2,663              | 113            |
| <b>Tembo 7 (Kulalu/TENP)</b><br>5 TT Scouts + 3 KWS Rangers                  | 30             | <b>3</b><br>All bushmeat poachers                           | -               | <b>4</b><br>All medium            | <b>47 kg</b><br>Zebra                | 1 motorcycle          | -                 | -   | 2,412              | 195            |
| <b>Tembo 9 (Kulalu/TENP)</b><br>5 TT Scouts + 3 KWS Rangers                  | 30             | <b>3</b><br>2 illegal herders & 1 bushmeat poacher          | <b>4</b>        | -                                 | <b>400 kg</b><br>Giraffe             | 2 motorcycles         | -                 | -   | 3,181              | 158            |
| <b>Kamungi Scouts</b><br>4 Scouts  | 30             | -   | -               | <b>7</b><br>All medium            | <b>30 kg</b><br>Snared spotted hyena | -                     | -                 | <b>1</b><br>1 HEC<br>2 elephants driven from farms by KWS/TT team | 1,677              | 175            |
| <b>TOTALS</b>  | <b>180</b>     | <b>44</b>   | <b>8</b>        | <b>41</b>                         | <b>477kg</b>                         | <b>As above</b>       | <b>-</b>          | <b>2</b>  | <b>14,851</b>      | <b>1,109</b>   |
| <b>Total 2023</b>  | <b>2,004</b>   | <b>401</b>  | <b>72</b>       | <b>1,449</b>                      | <b>2,678 kg</b>                      | <b>-</b>              | <b>13</b>         | <b>99</b>   | <b>187,136</b>     | <b>12,126</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> | 30             | -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 – 11 sightings<br>-Hirola – 7 sightings<br>-Grevy's Zebra – 1 sighting<br>-Large Carnivores – 21 sightings<br>-Ground Hornbill – 10 sightings<br>-Road & Rail kills – Nil<br>-Elephant carcasses – 3<br>- Ivory recovered. – 6<br>- Collared elephants – Nil<br>- Carnivore scats collected - Nil | Tsavo East Nat. Park – mainly southern, central, and eastern sections including, Voi River & Shirango Conservancy | 4,485              |
| <b>Tembo 4 (TWNP)</b><br>(2 TT staff + 4 KWS)<br>  | 30             | -RHINO monitoring – TW IPZ<br>-Camera trap surveys - rhino<br>-Big Tusker monitoring<br>-Large Carnivore monitoring<br>-Collared elephant reporting  | -IPZ Rhinos – 27<br>-Tuskers - Nil<br>-Large Carnivores –3 sightings<br>-Collared elephants – Nil<br>-Elephant carcasses – Nil<br>- Ivory recovered. – Nil<br>-NRS Rhino night census – 124  | Tsavo West Nat. Park – IPZ and Triangle   | 3,058              |
| <b>TOTALS</b>  | <b>60</b>      | <b>As above</b>  | <b>As above</b>  | <b>As above</b>   | <b>7,543</b>       |
| <b>Total 2023</b>  | <b>621</b>     | <b>-</b>   | <b>-</b>   | <b>-</b>  | <b>75,361</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. 100km <sup>2</sup> 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 <sup>2</sup> . 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 \$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.  |
| <b>Community Mobilization and Sensitization Meetings</b>          | <b>6 community meetings held.</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ 13/11/2023: National tree planting day. Trees planted at the Assistant Chief Office in Nthunguni.</li> <li>➤ 15/11/2023: Meeting to issue Sesame seeds to two households at Kamungi Conservancy for trial in the current planting season.</li> <li>➤ 15/11/2023: Meeting with 7 energy-saving cooking stoves builders to plan the construction of 200 energy-saving stoves in Kamungi.</li> <li>➤ 20/11/2023: Local administration meeting at the Chief's office in Mtito Andei.</li> <li>➤ 29/11/2023: Human Wildlife Conflict mitigation workshop held at Makindu. 40 participants attended.</li> </ul> | <b>1 community meeting held.</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ 06/11/2023: Kenya Wildlife Conservancies Association Managers 'conference held in Nairobi bringing together managers from over 150 Conservancies to share and learn effective management of conservancies.</li> <li>➤ 29/11/2023: Meeting with Climate Smart Agriculture farmers with a focus to understand the progress of the project and identify challenges facing the farmers.</li> <li>➤ Meeting with the Shirango Conservancy Board members to discuss the selection criteria for the solar kits and water tanks beneficiaries.</li> </ul> |
| <b>Membership</b>   | 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.   |
| <b>Water Project</b>  | 17,930 litres of water issued. (927,850 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>  | 208 patients attended (3,030 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 2 teachers (1-Ngiluni & 1-Kamunyu School in KC) for the last 9 years. Ongoing.  | None at present   |
| <b>Bursary Scheme</b>   | 6 youth trained in hotel management (certificate). Started on April 22   | None at present   |
|   | 9 needy students selected being supported.   | None at present   |
| <b>Village Saving &amp; Loan Associations – VSLA's</b>            | 5 women-run VSLAs are in progress: In partnership between ZSL / KC & TT  | None at present   |
| <b>Poultry Project</b>  | 3 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>   | 7 x 1-acre bee fences, total 105 beehives with 2 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   | 10% fence plan constructions completed: <b>Total 8 plots</b> (HWC electric fencing of 10% of individual land). 100% effective in keeping elephants and other wildlife from fenced farmlands.  |
| <b>10% Fence Plan</b>   |  |   |
| <b>Predator Proof bomas</b>                                       | 10 predator-proof bomas set up: by TT/ZSL  | N/A yet   |
| <b>Mtito 32km fence line</b>                                      | Completed 30/11/21 with 95% HEC reduction  | N/A yet   |
| <b>Human Wildlife Conflict (HWC)</b>                              | 22 cases recorded: 17 elephant; 1 Baboon; 1 Snake; 2 Leopard and 1 Zebra.  | 2 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>                                  | Nil  | None  |
| <b>Operations and Security</b>                                    | ➤ See the Field Units table above  | ➤ See the Field Units table above   |

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



*The image above captures the flourishing crops in one of the 10% fence plan fields initiated in Shirango Conservancy. The robust growth of the crops is attributed to favorable rainfall in the region, the protective measures of the 10% fence plan guarding against wildlife raids, and the implementation of multiple Climate Smart Agriculture training sessions supported by the Tsavo Trust. Photo credit Tsavo Trust – Simeon Mwadilo.*

### **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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