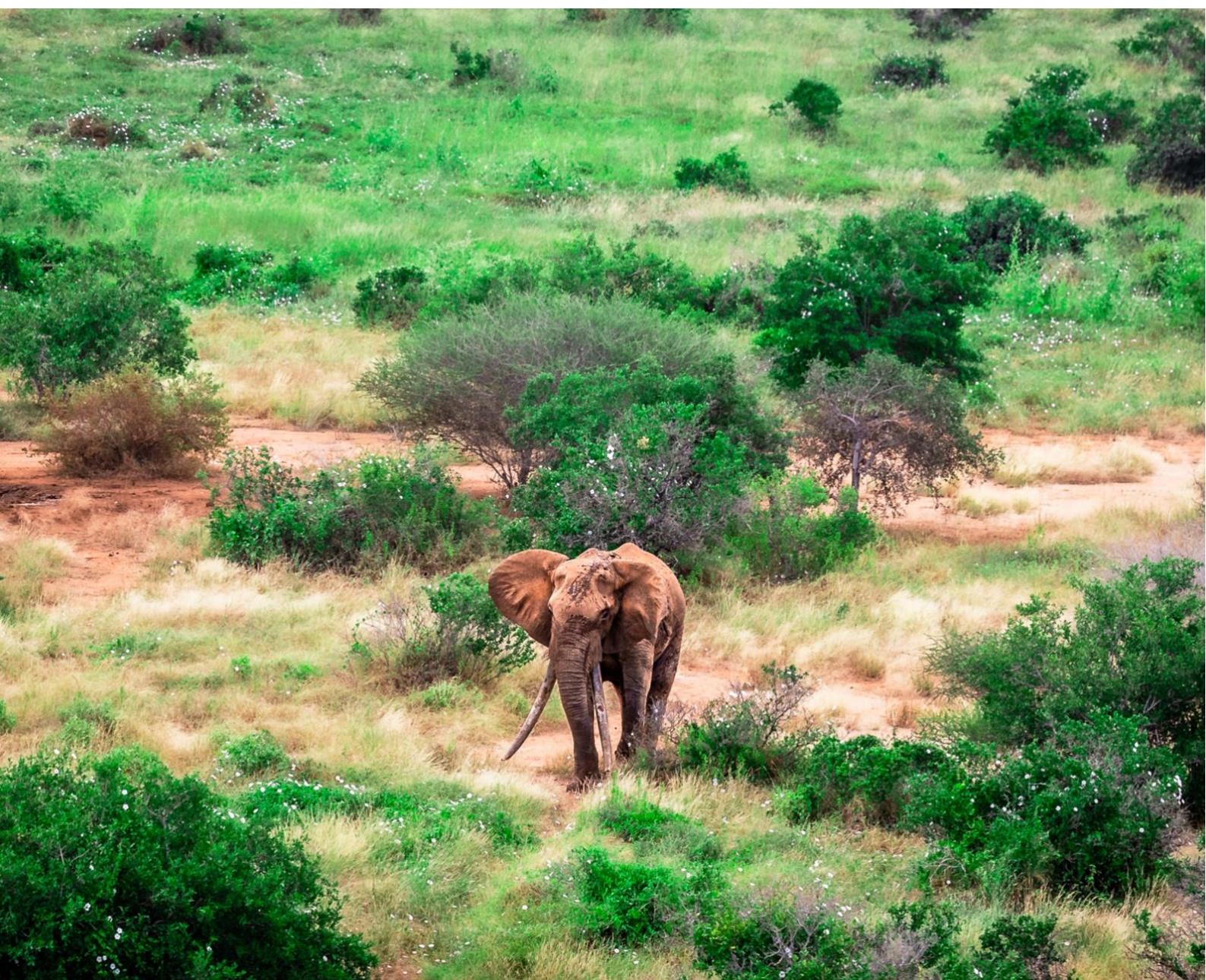




Tsavo Trust is an action orientated, field-based, Kenyan not-for-profit conservation organization that recognizes the importance of a holistic approach to biodiversity conservation. www.tsavotrust.org

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

JANUARY 2024 MONTHLY REPORT



The above image features one of Tsavo's iconic Super Tuskers – BU1. Apart from carrying their distinctive Tusker genes, these bulls possess extensive knowledge about their habitat, including the locations of water sources, feeding areas, migration/dispersal routes, and potential threats. They play a crucial role in passing down this valuable information to younger elephants, which is vital for the survival of the entire population. Photo credit: Tsavo Trust – Nick Haller.

WILDLIFE CONSERVATION PROGRAM: <i>Big Tusker Project – Aerial & Ground Activities</i>			
Activity	Hours Flown	Kilometers Covered	
 Aerial Unit	67 (67 for year) Average 130km p/h of low-level flight	8,715 (8,715km for year) Flights carried out jointly with KWS staff	
 Rhino Aerial Patrols	Aerial Patrols: 17 (7 TWNP; Nil TENP) (17hrs for year to date)	Aerial: 1,913 (1,913km for year)	
Field Patrol Days		Kilometers Covered	
Ground Protection Activities (Joint with KWS / TT & Community Scouts)		Vehicle patrols: 14,916km (14,916km to date) Foot patrols: 1,411km (1,411km to date) Monitoring teams: 19,318km (19,318km to date)	
 Big Tusker Project	7 Tuskers – 3 Super Tusker bulls (3 sights), 4 emerging bulls (5 sights), Nil cow Tusker (Nil sights): 8 individual observations		
Collared Elephant Sightings: Joint KWS/STE/TT program	2 sightings: record forms submitted to STE (aerial and ground observations)		
Ivory recovered	4 elephant tusks (4 for the year to date)		
Elephant mortality	Fresh: 1 (Less than 3 weeks old) (c of d: natural)	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 Red-spitting cobra; 3 Kenya sand boa		
	Others: 1 lioness from Taita Village back into TENP. The lion had killed 4 goats in a boma.		
Poacher camps/hides	Fresh – Nil		
Arrests – joint KWS/TT	5 – 2 bushmeat poachers, 2 illegal herders and 1 logger (5 for the year to date)		
Snares/traps recovered	41 by Tembo Teams: 41 snares for the year to date (10 small; 31 medium; Nil large)		
Bushmeat recoveries (wet & dried)	122kg (122kg for the year to date) 3 Impala & 1 Grant's gazelle		
Poachers Equip. Recvd.	5 spotlights; 2 swords & 2 machete		
Night Ambushes	Joint KWS / TT: 13 (Mbuyuni, Ngutuni, Rombo, KMC Ranch, Tank 3, Kishushe, Muoho Park Boundary)		
Firefighting	Nil - (No Fire outbreaks reported within TW or TE as of recent)		
Human Elephant Conflict	Joint TT-KWS team: 4 HWC responses. 1 buffalo incident in Lukenya University; 1 spotted hyena incident in Kyusiani; 1 lion incident in Taita village and 1 lion incident in Maungu.		
Illegal Livestock (only in PA)	Nil active cattle bomas (250 cattle; Nil shoats; 2 people)		
Written reports to KWS	72 (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	34mm. Total rainfall to date for 2024: 34mm		
Significant notes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 22/01/2024: Commencement of the TENP Southern Sector Lion Survey following a refresher training done on 19/01/2024. The survey is being conducted by a joint WRTI/TT team with support from the Lion Recovery Fund. 23/01/2024: Hosted IUCN/BIOPAMA representative at Kamungi Conservancy. The BIOPAMA representative gained firsthand experience of the project activities being implemented by Tsavo Trust in Kamungi Conservancy. 25/01/2024: Meeting with ARES NGO and Dr. Dinah Mwinzi, the KAG East University Vice Chancellor to discuss a potential MOU with the government for endorsing ARES content for KICD curriculum inclusion. 		

COMMUNITY CONSERVANCY PROGRAM:

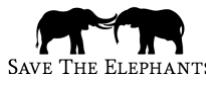
Kamungi Conservancy

- 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)

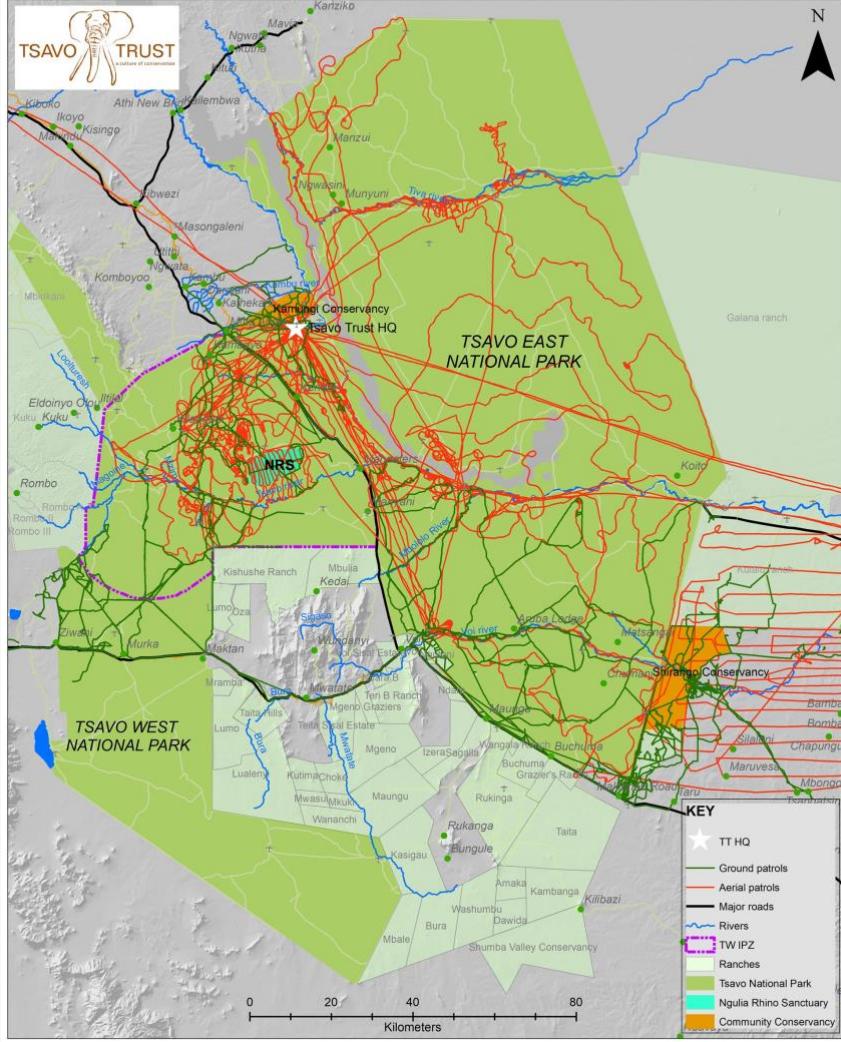
 KENYA WILDLIFE SERVICE	 ZSL LET'S WORK FOR WILDLIFE	 SAVE THE ELEPHANTS	 MAASAI WILDERNESS CONSERVATION TRUST	 Maliasili INVESTING IN PEOPLE FOR NATURE	 GOVERNMENT OF KENYA	 Kamungi Conservancy	 SHIRANGO COMMUNITY CONSERVANCY
 SAND DAMS WORLDWIDE	Restore Rebuild Regreen	 Africa Sand Dam Foundation	 SHIRA ROYA	 WILDLIFE RESEARCH & TRAINING INSTITUTE Discover Beyond			



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
January, 2024



*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: 67 hours flown covering 8,715 kilometers over Tsavo in support of KWS.

Ground: 1,411 kilometers of foot patrol and a further 34,234 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 captures students at Mavindini Secondary School utilizing newly provided laptops courtesy of Tsavo Trust and ARES NGO. Their Computer Lab is now equipped with 20 laptops, a projector, and e-content resources. Additionally, ARES Digital Literacy kits (20 laptops, a projector & e-content) have also been installed at Mbeetwani Secondary School.

Photo credit: Tsavo Trust – Nick Njogu



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.

Tembo 6, 8 & 10 (TWNP) teams are rhino specific with confidential info.

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:

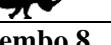
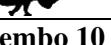
De-snaring teams	No. Field days	No. Arrest	No. Ivory recv'd	No. Snare recv'd	Bushmeat recv'd. Kg	Poacher equip. recv'd.	No. Poacher camps	No. HWC Cases	Vehicle mileage km	Foot Patrol km
Tembo 1 (TENP) & Shirango Scouts (6 TT Scouts + 3 KWS Rangers)	31	-	-	26 2 small 24 medium	-	-	-	-	2,258	352
Tembo 3 (TWNP) (6 TT Scouts + 3 KWS Rangers)	31	-	-	-	-	-	-	2 HCC Both lion incidents	2,344	186
Tembo 5 (TWNP) 6 TT Scouts + 3 KWS Rangers	31	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2,954	237
Tembo 7 (Kulalu/TENP) 5 TT Scouts + 3 KWS Rangers	31	-	-	12 8 small 4 medium	-	-	-	-	2,342	187
Tembo 9 (Kulalu/TENP) 5 TT Scouts + 3 KWS Rangers	31	4 2 bushmeat poachers & 2 illegal herders	-	-	122 kg 3 Impala and a Grant's gazelle	5 spotlights 2 swords & 2 machete	-	-	3,403	212
Kamungi Scouts 4 Scouts	31	1 illegal logger	1	3 All medium	-	-	-	2 1 hyena & 1 buffalo incident	1,615	237
TOTALS	186	5	1	41	122Kg	As above	-	4	14,916	1,411
Total 2024	186	5	1	41	122Kg	-	-	4	14,916	1,411

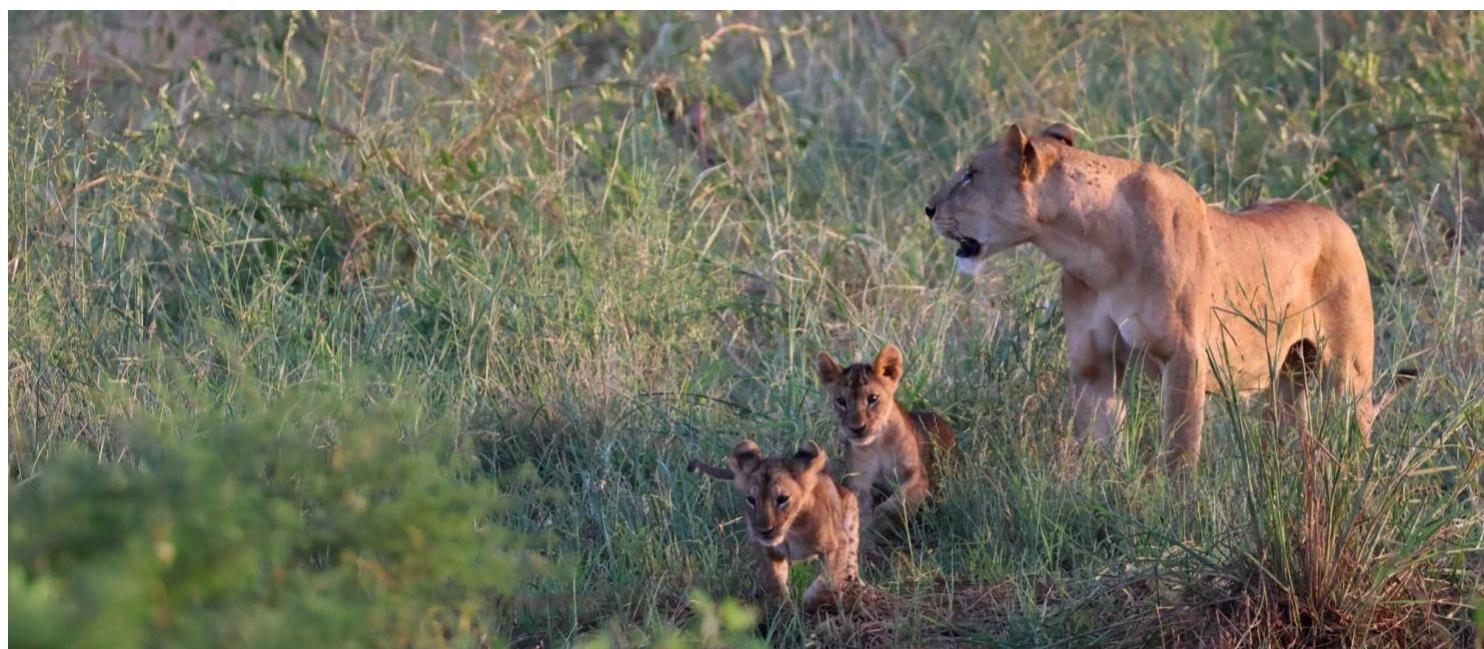


The photograph above shows a lioness near one of the 5 sand dams constructed in Tsavo East. Tsavo Trust, along with partners KWS, ASDF, and Sand Dams Worldwide, has so far, constructed 13 sand dams in the TCA to ensure sustainable water provision for wildlife, particularly crucial during dry seasons. Photo Credit: Tsavo Trust – Nick Haller.

Research & Monitoring teams:

Table 8: Shows activities carried out by Tembo 2, 4, 6, 8 & 10 teams – wildlife monitoring:

Monitoring teams	No. Field days	Activities	Endangered species records/sightings	Operating locations	Vehicle mileage km
Tembo 2 (TENP) (3 TT staff + 2 WRTI) 	13	-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 – 3 sightings -Hirola – Nil -Grevy's Zebra – Nil -Large Carnivores – 21 sightings -Ground Hornbill – 1 sighting -Road & Rail kills – Nil -Elephant carcasses – 1 - Ivory recovered. – 3 - Collared elephants – Nil - Carnivore scats collected - Nil	Tsavo East Nat. Park – mainly southern, central, and eastern sections including, Voi River & Shirango Conservancy	3,860
Tembo 4 (TWP) (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 – 14 -Tuskers - Nil -Large Carnivores – 2 sightings -Collared elephants – Nil -Elephant carcasses – Nil - Ivory recovered. – Nil	Tsavo West Nat. Park – IPZ and Triangle	3,522
Tembo 6 (TWP) (1 TT staff + 4 KWS) 	31	-RHINO monitoring – TW IPZ -Camera trap surveys - rhino -Big Tusker monitoring -Large Carnivore monitoring -Collared elephant reporting	-IPZ Rhinos – 14 -Tuskers - Nil -Large Carnivores – Nil -Collared elephants – Nil -Elephant carcasses – Nil - Ivory recovered. – Nil	Tsavo West Nat. Park – IPZ and Triangle	5,705
Tembo 8 (TWP) (1 TT staff + 4 KWS) 	31	-RHINO monitoring – TW NRS -Camera trap surveys - rhino -Big Tusker monitoring -Large Carnivore monitoring -Collared elephant reporting	-NRS Rhinos – Nil -Tuskers - Nil -Large Carnivores – Nil -Collared elephants – Nil -Elephant carcasses – Nil - Ivory recovered. – Nil	Tsavo West Nat. Park – NRS	2,526
Tembo 10 (TWP) (1 TT staff + 4 KWS) 	31	-RHINO monitoring – TW NRS -Camera trap surveys - rhino -Big Tusker monitoring -Large Carnivore monitoring -Collared elephant reporting	- NRS Rhinos – 38 -Tuskers - Nil -Large Carnivores – Nil -Collared elephants – Nil -Elephant carcasses – Nil - Ivory recovered. – Nil	Tsavo West Nat. Park – NRS	3,705
TOTALS	148	As above	As above	As above	19,318
Total 2024	148	-	-	-	19,318



The photo above shows a lioness and her cubs photographed during the ongoing lion survey in the Southern Sector of Tsavo East National Park. Photo Credit: Tsavo Trust – Christine Mwende.



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 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 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	14 community meetings held. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ 08/01/2024. Kamungi Conservancy board meeting. 2 additional needy students incorporated into the scholarship programme. ➤ 14/01/2024: Site visit with Semocom Engineering team of the ongoing Kamungi base constructions. ➤ 29/01/2024: Senior chief meeting with village elders and Nyumba Kumi leadership on students joining high school and security. ➤ 30/01/2024: Kamungi Conservancy monthly meeting for the Ngiluni Cluster. ➤ 31/01/2024: Kamungi Conservancy monthly meeting for the Nthunguni Cluster. 	Nil community meeting held. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Activities in Shirango Conservancy are currently on hold due to unresolved land issues within the conservancy. ➤ Efforts are underway to resolve the land issues in Shirango Conservancy, aiming to resume activities and community engagements.
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	20,000 litres issued to Ngiluni Primary School. Additionally, TT provided 110 dam liners and 28 water tanks. (20,000 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	Waiting for a replacement for the retired nurse.	There is a need to support this project.
Constructions	KC additional scouts & office units in progress. Works for the Kamungi bandas also 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. 6 youth trained in hotel management (certificate).	None at present
Bursary Scheme	Started on April 22 11 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 Elephant Bee Fence	7 x 1-acre bee fences, total 105 beehives with 2 currently occupied.	N/A yet
10% Fence Plan	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.
Predator Proof bomas Mtito 32km fence line	10 predator-proof bomas set up: by TT/ZSL Completed 30/11/21 with 95% HEC reduction	N/A yet N/A yet
Human Wildlife Conflict (HWC)	47 cases recorded: 14 elephant; 6 Buffalo; 24 Baboon; 1 hyena; 1 Leopard and 1 Snake.	1 case recorded: Hippopotamus posing a human threat.
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	Nil	None
Operations and Security	➤ See the Field Units table above	➤ See the Field Units table above

Unusual Photo of the Month:



The photograph above showcases two Grevy's zebras near a watering hole outside of Tsavo East National Park. Grevy's zebras were not originally native to Tsavo. In 1964, 22 individuals were introduced to Tsavo East, followed by 33 more released in Tsavo West in 1977. Grevy's zebras are distinguished from common zebras by their larger size, large rounded ears and their narrow, closely spaced stripes that extend down to their hooves. Photo Credit: Tsavo Trust – Joseph Kimaile

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.

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

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