



**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)**

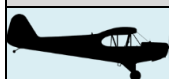


**Tsavo Trust film clip: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qGgM6-ggZOE&t=270s>**

## **NOVEMBER 2024 MONTHLY REPORT**



*The image above captures a black rhino after revival from immobilization. In November 2024, US Fish & Wildlife Service – Rhinoceros & Tiger Conservation Fund assisted Tsavo Trust to fund and partner with the Kenya Wildlife Service, the Wildlife Research and Training Institute with support from Sheldrick Wildlife Trust to ear-notch and fit transmitters on rhinos in the Tsavo West NP Intensive Protection Zone and the Ngulia Rhino Sanctuary. The operation was successful by immobilizing 28 rhinos resulting in enhanced monitoring and protection of this critically endangered species. Photo Credit: Tsavo Trust – Joseph Kimaile.*

## 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>142</b> (838 for year) Average 131km p/h of low-level flight	<b>16,188</b> (109,821km for year) Flights carried out jointly with KWS staff	
 <b>Rhino Aerial Patrols</b>	<b>Aerial Patrols: 131</b> (20 TWNP; 1 TENP) (347hrs for year to date)	<b>Aerial: 14,934</b> (40,442km 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> (2,010 to date) <b>Monitoring teams: 150 days</b> (1,626 to date)	<b>Vehicle patrols: 14,413km</b> (165,128km to date) <b>Foot patrols: 1,307km</b> (14,299km to date) <b>Monitoring teams: 15,842km</b> (171,411km to date)	
 <b>Big Tusker Project</b>	<b>6</b> Tuskers – 3 Super Tusker bulls (7 sights), 3 emerging bulls (6 sights), Nil cow Tusker (Nil sight): <b>13 individual observations</b>		
<b>Collared Elephant Sightings: Joint KWS/STE/TT program</b>	<b>Nil sightings:</b> record forms submitted to STE (aerial and ground observations)		
<b>Ivory recovered</b>	<b>4</b> elephant tusks ( <b>72</b> for the year to date)		
<b>Elephant mortality</b>	<b>Fresh: 2</b> (Less than 3 weeks old) (c of d: unknown)	<b>Recent: Nil</b> (Less than 3 months old)	<b>Old: Nil</b> (More than 3 months old)
<b>High Value Species Monitoring</b>	Ongoing partner with WRTI / KWS TCA Research: Monitoring black 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> 3 Black Mambas ( <i>Dendroaspis Polylepis</i> ), 4 Red Spitting Cobras ( <i>Naja pallida</i> ) and 1 Small Scaled Burrowing Asp ( <i>Atractaspis fallax</i> ). <b>Others: Nil</b>		
<b>Poacher camps/hides</b>	<b>Fresh – Nil</b>	<b>Recent – Nil</b>	
<b>Arrests – joint KWS/TT</b>	<b>7</b> – 1 bushmeat poacher and 5 for illegal grazing & 1 for illegal entry inside PA. <b>(106 for the year to date)</b>		
<b>Snares/traps recovered</b>	<b>54</b> by Tembo Teams: <b>985</b> snares for the year to date (693 small; 345 medium; 1 large)		
<b>Bushmeat recoveries (wet &amp; dried)</b>	<b>22kg</b> (697kg for the year to date) 1 Warthog, 1 Guinea fowl & 3 Dik-diks		
<b>Poachers Equip. Recvd.</b>	1 panga, 2 knives, and 1 catapult.		
<b>Night Ambushes</b>	Joint KWS / TT: <b>4</b> (Kibaoni, KMC Ranch and Shirango Conservancy)		
<b>Firefighting</b>	<b>3</b> fire responses - (All at Kanga along the Nairobi-Mombasa highway)		
<b>Human Elephant Conflict</b>	Joint TT-KWS team: <b>Nil</b> . There are no reported incidents.		
<b>Illegal Livestock (only in PA)</b>	<b>4</b> active cattle bomas (2,880 cattle; 100 shoats & 9 people)		
<b>Written reports to KWS</b>	<b>88</b> (daily Situation reports, various communications & 1 monthly report)		
<b>TT Staff Training activities</b>	<b>2</b> TT Officers Masters training; <b>3</b> KWS Officer Masters training; <b>1</b> TT Officer Bachelors		
<b>TT HQ Rainfall figures</b>	<b>104mm</b> . Total rainfall to date for 2024: <b>316mm</b>		

<b>Significant notes</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 08/11/2024: Tsavo Trust's Q4 board meeting was held at the Tsavo Trust Headquarters in Ngiluni, Mtito Andei.</li> <li>• 13<sup>th</sup> to 20<sup>th</sup> November 2024: Tsavo Trust collaborated with the Kenya Wildlife Service (KWS) and the Wildlife Research and Training Institute (WRTI) in a rhino ear-notching and transmitter-fitting operation. During the exercise, 28 rhinos were immobilized, their ears notched, and transmitters fitted to enhance monitoring and protection efforts for this critically endangered species.</li> <li>• 19<sup>th</sup> to 22<sup>nd</sup> November 2024: Tsavo Trust was represented at the IUCN <i>Save Our Species African Wildlife Initiative: Reflecting on the Past, Shaping the Future</i> workshop in Nairobi.</li> </ul>
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COMMUNITY CONSERVANCY PROGRAM:	
 <p><b>Kamungi Conservancy</b>                  &gt; Located: Northern boundary TWNP Triangle                  &gt; TT has played a stewardship role and partnered with KC since 2014</p>	 <p><b>Shirango Community Conservancy</b>                  &gt; Located: Southeast boundary TENP                  &gt; TT has played a stewardship role and partnered with SCC since 2016</p>

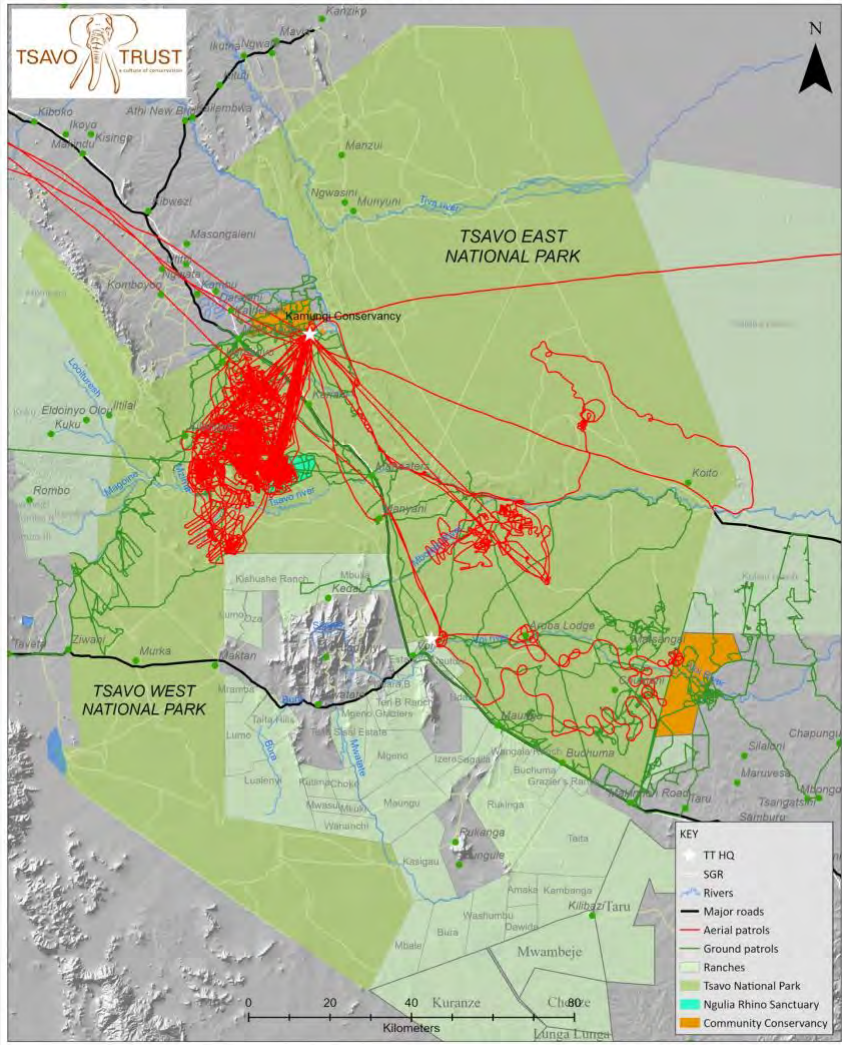




## **Aerial Reconnaissance and Ground Patrols - Areas Covered:**

- Aerial patrols are 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, 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 22,000km<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:** 142 hours flown covering 16,188 kilometers over Tsavo in support of KWS.*

***Ground:** 1,307 kilometers of foot patrol and a further 30,255 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.*

*The photo below captures participants, including Tsavo Trust's representative, at the IUCN Save Our Species African Wildlife Initiative workshop. The event celebrated progress and charted future paths. IUCN and the European Union have been key partners of Tsavo Trust's Anti-Poaching Operations, playing a crucial role in safeguarding wildlife within the TCA. Photo credit – IUCN.*



## 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 / WRTI 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	Bushmeat 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>14</b> All medium game snares	<b>13</b> 1 Warthog & 1 Guinea fowl	1 Catapult	-	-	2,098	467
<b>Tembo 3 (TWNP)</b> (6 TT Scouts + 3 KWS Rangers)	30	-	<b>2</b>	-	-	-	-	-	2,252	123
<b>Tembo 5 (TWNP)</b> 6 TT Scouts + 3 KWS Rangers	30	<b>2</b> 1 illegal herder & 1 illegal entry	-	-	-	-	-	-	2,492	214
<b>Tembo 7 (Kulalu/TENP)</b> 5 TT Scouts + 3 KWS Rangers	30	-	-	<b>1</b> Medium game snares	-	-	-	-	2,632	135
<b>Tembo 9 (Kulalu/TENP)</b> 5 TT Scouts + 3 KWS Rangers	30	<b>4</b> All illegal herders	-	-	-	-	-	-	3,275	121
<b>Kamungi Scouts</b> 4 Scouts	30	<b>1</b> A bushmeat poacher	-	<b>39</b> 35 small 2 medium & 2 bird traps	<b>9</b> 3 Dik-diks	1 panga and 2 knives	-	-	1,664	247
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>180</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>54</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>As above</b>	<b>Nil</b>	<b>Nil</b>	<b>14,413</b>	<b>1,307</b>
<b>Total 2024</b>	<b>2,010</b>	<b>106</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>985</b>	<b>697 Kg</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>165,083</b>	<b>14,300</b>



*An aerial view of a collaborative conservation effort in action. Teams from Kenya Wildlife Service, Wildlife Research and Training Institute, Tsavo Trust and Sheldrick Wildlife Trust carry out rhino ear-notching and transmitter fitting in Tsavo West NP to enhance their protection and ensure the species' survival. 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
<b>Tembo 2 (TENP)</b> (3 TT staff + 2 WRTI) 	30	-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 – 9 sightings -Hirola – 19 sightings -Grevy’s Zebra – 2 sightings -Large Carnivores – 15 sightings -Ground Hornbill – 2 sightings -Road & Rail kills – 3 -Elephant carcasses – 2 Fresh - Ivory recovered. – 4 - Collared elephants – Nil - Carnivore scats collected - Nil	Tsavo East Nat. Park – mainly southern, central, and eastern sections including, Voi River & Shirango Conservancy	4,025
<b>Tembo 4 (TWNP)</b> (2 TT staff + 4 KWS) 	30	-RHINO monitoring – TW IPZ -Camera trap surveys - rhino -Big Tusker monitoring -Large Carnivore monitoring -Collared elephant reporting	-IPZ Rhinos – 36 -Tuskers - Nil -Large Carnivores – 2 sightings -Collared elephants – Nil -Elephant carcasses – Nil - Ivory recovered – 2 broken pieces	Tsavo West Nat. Park – IPZ and Triangle	2,290
<b>Tembo 6 (TWNP)</b> (1 TT staff + 4 KWS) 	30	-RHINO monitoring – TW IPZ -Camera trap surveys - rhino -Big Tusker monitoring -Large Carnivore monitoring -Collared elephant reporting	-IPZ Rhinos – 36 -Tuskers - Nil -Large Carnivores – 1 sighting -Elephant carcasses – Nil - Ivory recovered. – Nil	Tsavo West Nat. Park – IPZ and Triangle	3,444
<b>Tembo 8 (TWNP)</b> (1 TT staff + 4 KWS) 	30	-RHINO monitoring – TW NRS -Camera trap surveys - rhino -Big Tusker monitoring -Large Carnivore monitoring -Collared elephant reporting	-NRS Rhinos – 27 -Tuskers - Nil -Large Carnivores – Nil -Elephant carcasses – Nil - Ivory recovered. – Nil	Tsavo West Nat. Park – NRS	3,198
<b>Tembo 10 (TWNP)</b> (1 TT staff + 4 KWS) 	30	-RHINO monitoring – TW NRS -Camera trap surveys - rhino -Big Tusker monitoring -Large Carnivore monitoring -Collared elephant reporting	- NRS Rhinos – 22 -Tuskers - Nil -Large Carnivores – 2 sightings -Elephant carcasses – Nil - Ivory recovered. – Nil	Tsavo West Nat. Park – NRS	2,885
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>150</b>	<b>As above</b>	<b>As above</b>	<b>As above</b>	<b>15,842</b>
<b>Total 2024</b>	<b>1,626</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>171,411</b>



*The photo features Emerging Tusker coded as ABI in Tsavo East NP, captured just before the November rains. Monitoring Big Tuskers like ABI is vital for their survival and supports the larger mission of conserving African elephants and their habitats. Photo Credit: Tsavo Trust – Christine Mwende.*

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> 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 <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>	<p><b>8 community meetings were held.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ 01/11/2024: Meeting with the area’s Senior chief to discuss security issues.</li> <li>➤ 01/11/2024: Meeting with the area’s Senior chief for updates from various village elders.</li> <li>➤ 13/11/2024: Kamungi Conservancy newly elected board members' first meeting.</li> <li>➤ 25/10/2024: Local administrative meeting with the Mtito Andei Senior Chief.</li> <li>➤ 26/11/2024: Kamungi Conservancy members' monthly meeting for the Ngiluni cluster.</li> <li>➤ 28/11/2024. Kamungi Conservancy members' monthly meeting for the Nthunguni cluster.</li> </ul>	<p><b>2 community meetings were held.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ 07/11/2024: Shirango Conservancy Manager, assistant chief, and the Shirango empowerment youth group learning visit to the Kenya Forest Service Gede station. The team learned how to establish and manage a tree nursery.</li> <li>➤ 21/11/2024. Shirango Conservancy Manager, Assistant Chief Gede, Chairperson SCC Board, and all Board members attended a board meeting at the assistant Chief’s Office to resolve issues around the board, and the projects implemented by TT among other issues.</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>	<b>106,680</b> litres issued at Ngiluni Water Tanks. Additionally, TT provided 110 dam liners and 28 water tanks. ( <b>884,156</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>169</b> patients attended to in August. <b>1,372</b> patients attended for the year to date.	There is a need to support this project.
<b>Constructions</b>	KC additional scouts & office units in progress. Works for the Kamungi bandas completed.	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. 6 youth trained in hotel management (certificate). Started on April 22 12 needy students selected being supported.	None at present
<b>Bursary Scheme</b>		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>	<b>23 cases</b> recorded: 1 Leopard; 1 Hyena; 7 Lion; 5 Baboon; 5 Buffalo and 4 Snake related.	<b>4 cases</b> recorded: 2 Elephant and 2 Snake 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>	1	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 shows an adult hirola female with two calves, part of a group consisting of four adult females and four young ones. Seeing so many young hirola is a promising sign of successful reproduction and potential population growth. There's still need for ongoing monitoring and protection to ensure the calves thrive and support the recovery of this critically endangered species. Photo credit: Tsavo Trust – Christine Mwendu.*

### **With sincere thanks and appreciation:**

**Organizations:** Kenya Wildlife Service; Wildlife Research & Training Institute, Government of Makeni County; US Fish & Wildlife Service; USAID / DOI; Wildlife Conservation Networks: Rhino Recovery Fund, Lion Recovery Fund, Elephant Crisis Fund; Cheyenne Mountain Zoo; Leopardess Foundation; JM Foundation Africa; International Elephant Foundation (IEF); Maliasili; Re:wild; WildLandscapes International; Tusk Trust; BAND Foundation; Save The Elephants (STE); Zoological Society of London (ZSL); The Glassybaby Foundation; EU-Biopama Programme; Tofauti Foundation; Chesbro Foundation; Haller Foundation; Addax and Oryx Foundation; Milkywire; Satao Camp & Southern Cross Safaris (Msa); Origins Safaris; Bush & Beyond; Africa Born; Ker & Downey Safaris; ARES; The Drang Gallery; Ndovu Trust (UK); Tropical Ice Ltd; Askari Project–Australia; Exodus Travel; Maasai Wilderness Conservation Trust (MWCT); Empowers Africa; Conservation Alpha; Lewa Canada; Remembering Wildlife Books; Eagle Foundation 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; Paul & James Wilson; James Chiappa; Marie de Brouwer; Kim Makenzi; Paolo Parazzi; Sam Stogdale; Howard Saunders; Sandor Carter; Andreas Fox; John Carr and numerous other dedicated friends & enthusiasts.

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

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