



**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=GzYIQBSm5Dw>

## **JUNE 2025 MONTHLY REPORT**



*The image above features one of Tsavo's iconic tuskers, KM2, seen back in his usual range and no longer in musth. In the three months before this sighting, KM2 had been ranging widely in search of females while in musth, a period of heightened reproductive hormones during which male elephants become highly aggressive, dominant, and focused on finding and competing for mates. Photo Credit: Tsavo Trust – Joseph Kimaile.*

## SUMMARY of ACTIVITIES:

### WILDLIFE CONSERVATION PROGRAM: *Big Tusker Project – Aerial & Ground Activities*

Activity	Hours Flown	Kilometers Covered	
 <b>Aerial Unit</b>	<b>50</b> (417 for year) Average 127km p/h of low-level flight	<b>5,948</b> (53,003km for the year) Flights carried out jointly with KWS staff	
 <b>Rhino Aerial Patrols</b>	<b>Aerial Patrols: 14</b> (4 TWNP; 1 TENP) (101hrs for the year)	<b>Aerial: 1,610</b> (11,580km for the year)	
	<b>Field Patrol Days</b>		<b>Kilometers Covered</b>
<b>Ground Protection Activities</b> (Joint with KWS / TT & Community Scouts)	<b>Protection teams: 150 days</b> (1,121 for year) <b>Monitoring teams: 149 days</b> (886 for year)	<b>Vehicle patrols: 10,169km</b> (62,643km for year) <b>Foot patrols: 1,102km</b> (6,871km for year) <b>Monitoring teams: 13,195km</b> (85,664km for year)	
 <b>Big Tusker Project</b>	<b>11</b> Tuskers – 3 Super Tusker bull (6 sights), 6 emerging bull (9 sights), 2 cow Tuskers (2 sights): <b>17 individual observations</b>		
<b>Collared Elephant Sightings: Joint KWS/STE/TT program</b>	<b>7 sightings:</b> record forms submitted to STE (aerial and ground observations)		
<b>Ivory recovered</b>	<b>3</b> elephant tusks ( <b>25</b> for the year)		
<b>Elephant mortality</b>	<b>Fresh: 2</b> (Less than 3 weeks old) (c of d: 1 natural, 1 poaching)	<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> 1 Black Mamba ( <i>Dendroaspis Polylepis</i> ) and 3 puff adders ( <i>Bitis arietans</i> ). <b>Others:</b> 5 Fringe-eared oryx (From Galana irrigation to Galana Ranch)		
<b>Poacher camps/hides</b>	<b>Fresh – Nil</b>		<b>Recent – Nil</b>
<b>Arrests – joint KWS/TT</b>	<b>5</b> – 2 for bushmeat poaching; 1 for illegal fishing; 1 for illegal entry, and 1 for collecting firewood inside a Protected Area <b>(35 for the year)</b>		
<b>Snares/traps recovered</b>	<b>128</b> by Tembo Teams: <b>433</b> snares for the year (334 small; 74 medium; 5 large; 20 bird traps)		
<b>Bushmeat recoveries (wet &amp; dried)</b>	<b>1,070kg:</b> 2 Buffaloes, 2 waterbucks, 1 L. Kudu, 5 Dik-diks, and 2 Caracals. (1,225kg for the year)		
<b>Poachers Equip. Recvd.</b>	1 bicycle, 1 panga		
<b>Night Ambushes</b>	Joint KWS / TT: <b>12</b> (Maungu, Njukini, Murondo, Mangelete, Shirango, Muoho farm, and Kamboyo)		
<b>Firefighting</b>	<b>4</b> fire responses - (At Kanga, Kyulu station and Finch Hattons )		
<b>Human Elephant Conflict</b>	Joint TT-KWS teams: <b>45</b> . 444 elephants chased from farms in Shirango and adjacent areas.		
<b>Illegal Livestock (only in PA)</b>	<b>2</b> active cattle bomas (2,960 cattle & 1 herder)		
<b>Written reports to KWS</b>	<b>78</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>Nil mm.</b> Total rainfall to date for 2025: <b>343mm</b>		
<b>Significant notes</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>04/06/2025: Tsavo Trust hosted an educational visit for students affiliated with the Kenya Institute of Primate Research and the University of Florida. The visit focused on the Trust's wildlife conservation efforts and community engagement initiatives.</li> <li>11/06/2025: Participated in a stakeholder meeting on the introduction of the Kenya Rhino Range Expansion Program in Tsavo.</li> <li>20/06/2025: Tsavo Trust facilitated the quarterly Human Wildlife Conflict (HWC) mitigation stakeholders workshop at Tsavo West National Park Education Centre.</li> </ul>		

### 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)

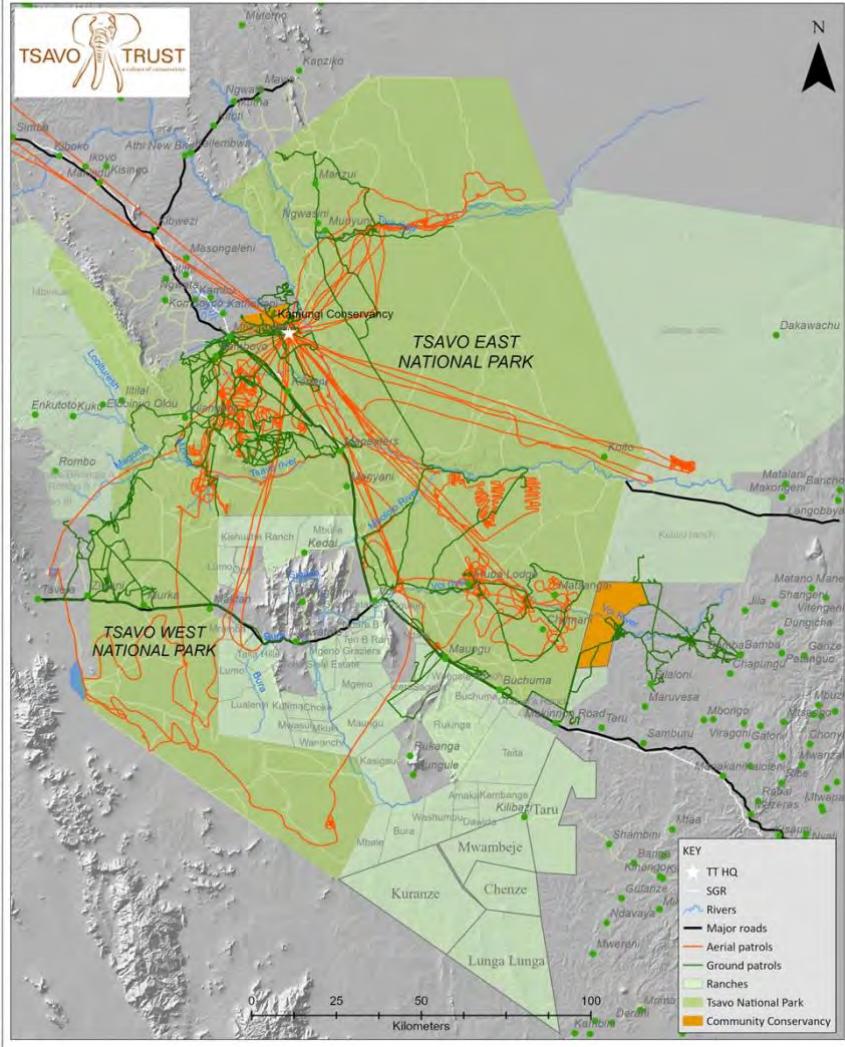
 <b>KENYA WILDLIFE SERVICE</b>	 <b>WILDLIFE RESEARCH &amp; TRAINING INSTITUTE</b> Discover Beyond	 <b>IUCN</b> Member	 <b>SAVE THE ELEPHANTS</b>	 <b>Maliasili</b> INVESTING IN PEOPLE FOR NATURE	 <b>TTWCA</b> TAITA TAVETA WILDLIFE CONSERVANCIES ASSOCIATION	 <b>Kamungi Conservancy</b>	 <b>SHIRANGO COMMUNITY CONSERVANCY</b>	 <b>WILD LANDSCAPES INTERNATIONAL</b>	 <b>Africa Sand Dam Foundation</b>	 <b>SAND DAMS WORLDWIDE</b>	 <b>MAASAI WILDERNESS CONSERVATION TRUST</b>	 <b>ZSL</b> LET'S WORK FOR WILDLIFE
--	--	--	---	--	---	---	---	--	---	--	--	---



## 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  
June, 2025



**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:** 50 hours flown covering 5,948 kilometers over Tsavo in support of KWS.

**Ground:** 1,102 kilometers of foot patrol and a further 23,364 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.

**Photo below:** In June 2025, Tsavo Trust convened a USAID-funded SMAT Project decommissioning meeting at Ngiluni Water Tank, attended by 236 participants, including KWS, government representatives, and local community members. The meeting marked the formal close-out of the project, which had supported Kamungi Conservancy through various livelihood initiatives.



## 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 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
<b>Tembo 1 (TENP) &amp; Shirango Scouts</b> (6 TT Scouts + 3 KWS Rangers)	30	-	-	4 All medium	-	-	-	<b>45 HEC</b> 444 elephants driven out of farms	2,116	341
<b>Tembo 3 (TWNP)</b> (6 TT Scouts + 3 KWS Rangers)	30	-	-	<b>28</b> 4 small 15 medium 9 bird traps	<b>20 kg</b> (1 sub adult lesser kudu)	-	-	-	1,913	151
<b>Tembo 5 (TWNP)</b> (6 TT Scouts + 3 KWS Rangers)	30	<b>2</b> 1 for illegal entry & 1 for logging	-	<b>2</b> 1 medium 1 bird trap	-	-	-	-	2,037	166
<b>Tembo 7 (Kulalu/TENP)</b> (5 TT Scouts + 3 KWS Rangers)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Tembo 9 (Kulalu/TENP)</b> (5 TT Scouts + 3 KWS Rangers)	30		-	-	-	-	-	-	2,789	233
<b>Kamungi Scouts</b> (4 Scouts)	30	<b>3</b> 2 for bushmeat poaching & 1 for illegal fishing	-	<b>94</b> 80 small 12 medium 2 bird traps	<b>1,050 kg</b> (2 buffaloes, 2 waterbucks, 5 dik-diks & 2 caracals)	1 panga and 1 bicycle	-	-	1,314	211
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>150</b>	<b>5</b>	-	<b>128</b>	<b>1,070</b>	<b>As above</b>	<b>Nil</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>10,169</b>	<b>1,102</b>
<b>Total 2025</b>	<b>941</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>433</b>	<b>1,225</b>	-	<b>Nil</b>	<b>57</b>	<b>62,643</b>	<b>6,871</b>



The photo above shows bushmeat seized by a joint KWS/TT anti-poaching team during a patrol operation. The poacher was arrested. This recovery highlights the persistent threat of bushmeat poaching and despite ongoing efforts, our teams continue to encounter and uplift snares set to trap wildlife, underscoring the need for sustained vigilance and community engagement in conservation.

## 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) 	29	-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 – 8 sightings -Hirola – 3 sightings -Grevy's Zebra – 1 sighting -Large Carnivores – 12 sightings -Ground Hornbill – 2 sightings -Road & Rail kills – Nil -Elephant carcasses – Nil -Ivory recovered. – 1 - Collared elephants – 1 - Carnivore scats collected - Nil	Tsavo East Nat. Park – mainly southern, central, and eastern sections including, Voi River & Shirango Conservancy	2,703
<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 – 37 -Tuskers - Nil -Large Carnivores – 1 sighting -Elephant carcasses – Nil - Ivory recovered – Nil	Tsavo West Nat. Park – IPZ and Triangle	3,199
<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 – 37 -Tuskers - Nil -Large Carnivores – 1 sighting -Elephant carcasses – 1 - Ivory recovered. – 2	Tsavo West Nat. Park – IPZ and Triangle	3,037
<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 – 18 sightings -Tuskers - Nil -Large Carnivores – Nil -Elephant carcasses – Nil - Ivory recovered. – Nil	Tsavo West Nat. Park – NRS	1,958
<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 – 20 -Tuskers - Nil -Large Carnivores – Nil -Elephant carcasses – Nil - Ivory recovered. – Nil	Tsavo West Nat. Park – NRS	2,298
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>149</b>	<b>As above</b>	<b>As above</b>	<b>As above</b>	<b>13,195</b>
<b>Total 2025</b>	<b>886</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>85,664</b>



The photo above shows Kangechwa Sand Dam A, one of the fully matured sand dams currently providing a reliable water source for wildlife. Camera trap images from the site have recorded a variety of species benefiting from the dam, including black rhino, African wild dog, elephants, buffalo, spotted hyena, giraffe, and others. The sand retained by the dam acts like a sponge, storing water during the rainy season and slowly releasing it downstream during the dry season. Photo Credit: Tsavo Trust – Joseph Kimaile.

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 33 permanent staff & 25 casual staff employed generating over \$13,100 (Ksh. 1,689,900) of income into Kamungi monthly.	Tsavo Trust employs 14 Scout from SCC Salaries generate over \$3,950 (Ksh.509,550) of income monthly.
<b>Community Mobilization and Sensitization Meetings</b>	<p><b>13 community meetings were held.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ 04/06/2025: Hosted an educational visit by students affiliated with the KIPR and the University of Florida.</li> <li>➤ 16/06/2025: Participated in a local administrative meeting with the area Chief and Assistant Chiefs.</li> <li>➤ 20/06/2025: Attended the quarterly HWC mitigation stakeholders meeting at the TWNP Education Centre.</li> <li>➤ 21/06/2025: Participated in a USAID-funded project decommissioning meeting held at the Ngiluni water tank.</li> <li>➤ 26/06/2025: The Chairperson attended a virtual KWCA meeting focused on the 2024 audits and updates for the 2025 Annual General Meeting.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Nil community meetings held.</b></p> <p><b>ACTIVITIES ON HOLD apart from anti-poaching patrols.</b></p>
<b>Membership</b>	Through a registered CBO KC membership represents 505 families & over 5,050 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>82,600</b> litres issued at Ngiluni Water Tanks. Additionally, TT provided 110 dam liners and 28 water tanks. ( <b>349,640</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>1,170</b> patients attended to in June. <b>13,069</b> patients attended for the year to date.	There is a need to support this project, currently no funding available.
<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 10 years. Ongoing. 6 youth trained in hotel management (certificate).	None at present
<b>Bursary Scheme</b>	Started: April 2022 12 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> <b>Elephant Bee Fence</b>	7 x 1-acre bee fences, total 105 beehives with 2 currently occupied.	N/A yet
<b>10% Fence Plan</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>Predator Proof bomas</b> <b>Mtito 32km fence line</b>	10 predator-proof bomas set up: by TT/ZSL Completed 30/11/21 with 95% HEC reduction	N/A yet
<b>Human Wildlife Conflict (HWC)</b>	<b>31 cases</b> recorded: 9 Buffalo; 7 Hyena; 6 Lion; 1 Leopard; 1 Baboon; 1 Mongoose & 6 snake-related.	<b>45 cases.</b> All elephant-related. 444 elephants driven from farms in Shirango and adjacent areas.
<b>Land Tenure</b>	Ongoing	SCC land is currently a traditional communal mode of ownership, not legally protected.
<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 above shows Tsavo Trust and Kamungi Conservancy staff with local community members at a farm within Kamungi Conservancy, which lies in an arid and semi-arid region. After repeated crop failures and erratic rainfall, Tsavo Trust stepped in to support the community through climate-smart agriculture and permaculture training, provision of certified seeds and dam liners, and protection of farms using the 10% fence model. The smiles reflect the success of these interventions, with a bumper harvest of fruits and vegetables now evident. Photo Credit: Tsavo Trust – Patrick Mutua.*

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

**Organizations & Partners:** Kenya Wildlife Service; Wildlife Research & Training Institute, Government of Makueni County; Taita Taveta Wildlife Conservancy Association; US Fish & Wildlife Service; Wildlife Conservation Networks: Rhino Recovery Fund, Lion Recovery Fund, Elephant Crisis Fund, Painted Wolf Foundation; 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); The Glassybaby Foundation; EU-Biopama Programme; Tofauti Foundation; Chesbro Foundation; Haller Foundation; Addax and Oryx Foundation; African Ruggedized Education Solution; Milkywire; Zoological Society of London (ZSL); Suzuki Rhino Club; Satao Camp & Southern Cross Safaris (Msa); Origins Safaris; Bush & Beyond; Africa Born; Ker & Downey Safaris; The Drang Gallery; Ndovu Trust (UK); Tropical Ice Ltd; Askari Project–Australia; Exodus Travel; Helping Rhino's; Maasai Wilderness Conservation Trust (MWCT); Empowers Africa; Conservation Alpha; Remembering Wildlife Books; Eagle Foundation; Kampur Enterprises and many more anonymous donors.

**Individuals:** Stuart Herd; Nick Southgate; Nicole Honegger; Griet Van Malderen; The Kratt Family; Loic Gouzer; Nick Lapham; Nick Powell; James Robertson; The Davies Family; Mike Kirkland; James Lewin; Paul & James Wilson; Marie de Brouwer; David Calderone; Kim Makenzi; Paolo Parazzi; Sam Stogdale; Howard Saunders; Sandor Carter; Andreas Fox; Anthony Kaschula; John Carr and numerous other dedicated friends & enthusiasts.

---

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

*All photographs ©Tsavo Trust 2025*