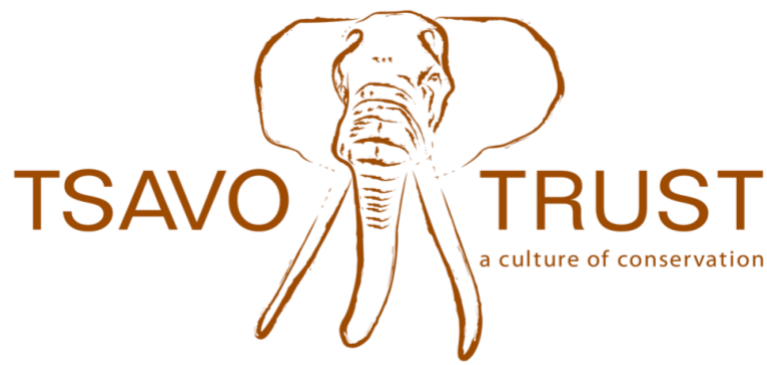




Tsavo Trust is an action orientated, field-based, Kenyan not-for-profit conservation organization that recognizes the importance of a holistic approach to biodiversity conservation. www.tsavotrust.org

Tsavo Trust film clip: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GzYIQBSm5Dw>

AUGUST 2025 MONTHLY REPORT



*The image above shows a herd of plains zebra at a watering hole in Tsavo East National Park. Although not one of Tsavo's focal species, plains zebra (*Equus quagga*) are vital ecosystem engineers whose grazing maintains grassland health and promotes biodiversity. Through its support for park management, wildlife security, research and monitoring, and rangeland interventions, Tsavo Trust indirectly benefits zebra populations and many other species. These efforts help sustain balanced ecosystems, ensuring prey species like zebra continue to support predators and maintain healthy trophic interactions across the Tsavo landscape.*

Photo Credit: Tsavo Trust – Joseph Kimaile.

SUMMARY of ACTIVITIES:

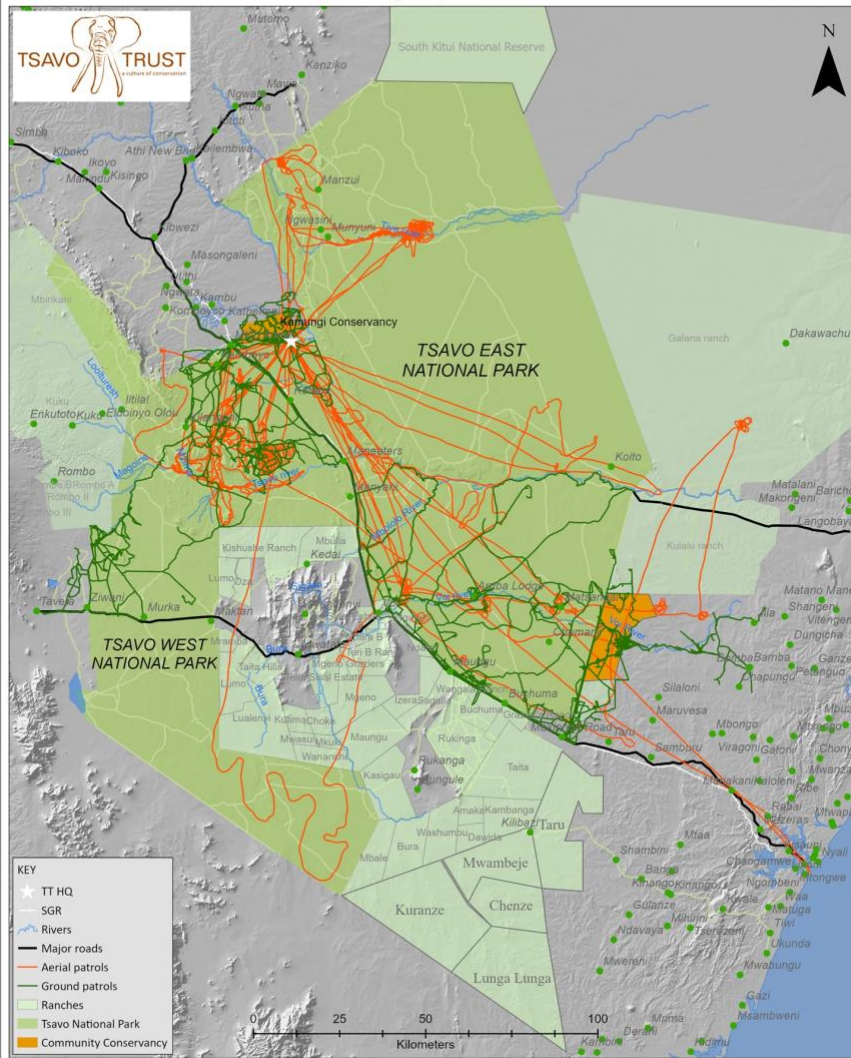
WILDLIFE CONSERVATION PROGRAM: <i>Big Tusker Project – Aerial & Ground Activities</i>					
Activity		Hours Flown		Kilometers Covered	
	Aerial Unit	53 (521 for year) Average 125km p/h of low-level flight		5,729 (64,835km for the year) Flights carried out jointly with KWS staff	
	Rhino Aerial Patrols	Aerial Patrols: 23 (11 TWNP; Nil TENP) (124hrs for the year)		Aerial: 2,497 (15,393km for the year)	
		Field Patrol Days		Kilometers Covered	
Ground Protection Activities (Joint with KWS / TT & Community Scouts)		Protection teams: 186 days (1,304 for year) Monitoring teams: 154 days (1,195 for year)		Vehicle patrols: 11,822km (87,487km for year) Foot patrols: 1,173km (9,124km for year) Monitoring teams: 14,457km (115,822km for year)	
	Big Tusker Project	13 Tuskers – 5 Super Tusker bulls (11 sights), 7 emerging bulls (16 sights), 1 cow Tusker (1 sight): 28 individual observations			
Collared Elephant Sightings: Joint KWS/STE/TT program		5 sightings: record forms submitted to STE (aerial and ground observations)			
Ivory recovered		2 elephant tusks (27 for the year)			
Elephant mortality		Fresh: 2 (Less than 3 weeks old) (c of d: both 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 black rhino, Hirola, Grevy’s zebra, large carnivores, Roadkill Surveys, Southern Ground Hornbill, etc			
Wildlife - Treatment & Translocation		Venomous snakes relocated from communities: 1 Ashe's Spitting Cobra (<i>Naja ashei</i>) Others: Nil			
Poacher camps/hides		Fresh – Nil		Recent – Nil	
Arrests – joint KWS/TT		3 – 1 for bushmeat poaching; 1 for charcoaling, and 1 for illegal entry. (45 for the year)			
Snares/traps recovered		259 by Tembo Teams: 964 snares for the year (686 small; 188 medium; 23 large; 35 bird traps)			
Bushmeat recoveries (wet & dried)		22kg: 7 Dik-diks. (1,367kg for the year)			
Poachers Equip. Recvd.		1 lamping horn, and 1 slasher used for hamstringing wildlife			
Night Ambushes		Joint KWS / TT: 23 (Ndara, Murondo Ranch, Mangelete, Shirango, Muhoho farm, Mbuyuni, and Kulalu)			
Firefighting		3 fire responses - (At Kenani, and Kyulu)			
Human Elephant Conflict		Joint TT-KWS teams: 13. 144 elephants were chased from farms in Shirango, Mangelete & Ngiluni.			
Illegal Livestock (only in PA)		4 active cattle bomas (2,330 cattle, 300 shoats & 1 herder)			
Written reports to KWS		83 (daily Situation reports, various communications & 1 monthly report)			
TT Staff Training activities		2 TT Officers Masters training; 3 KWS Officer Masters training; 1 TT Officer Bachelors			
TT HQ Rainfall figures		Nil mm. Total rainfall to date for 2025: 343mm			
Significant notes	19th to 22nd 08/2025: Tsavo Trust participated in the Makueni County Government and KWS-led Resource-Based Inventory (RBI) exercise for Ngai Ndethya Nat. Reserve. The multi-disciplinary RBI team included representatives from Community, Zoning, Ecology, Geospatial, Tourism, and Security & Operations teams. 29/08/2025: Tsavo Trust attended a Tax and Governance Strategies Workshop for Not-for-Profit Organizations in Nairobi, co-hosted by OGO-Law, The Green Brief, and Waithira M & Co Advocates. The workshop covered critical issues, including tax exemption processes, governance structures, and compliance with Kenya Revenue Authority requirements.				
COMMUNITY CONSERVANCY PROGRAM:					
	Kamungi Conservancy: TT has played a stewardship role and partnered with KC since 2014 ➤ Located: Northern boundary TENP Triangle ➤ Membership of 505 families representing over 5,000 people ➤ Covering 100km² with many and varying community livelihood upliftment projects				
FORMAL FIELD CONSERVATION PARTNERS PROGRAM: (Full list of supporters/partners shown on last page)					
					
					
					



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 August, 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 22,000km² (TENP, TWNP & CHNP) and then a further 20,000km² totaling 42,000km² to form the Tsavo Conservation Area (TCA).

***Aerial:** 53 hours flown covering 5,729 kilometers over Tsavo in support of KWS.*

***Ground:** 1,173 kilometers of foot patrol and a further 26,279 kilometers of vehicle patrol in Tsavo to support KWS.*

Activities covered: Air & ground security patrols; Big Tusker monitoring; rhino related activities; large carnivore monitoring; locating illegal activities; wildlife monitoring; aerial census & telemetry tracking & Community Conservancy aerial and ground activities.

Photo below: TT and Kamungi Conservancy hosted 12 community members from Kajire and 2 STE representatives for a benchmarking visit on the community conservancy model. The exchange provided the Kajire community with practical insights from Kamungi Conservancy's experience as

Field Mobile Units:

Tembo 1, 3, 5, 7, 9, 11 teams, Kamungi & Shirango Scouts are habitat protection / de-snaring focused.

Tembo 2 (TENP) & 4 (TWNP) teams are wildlife monitoring dedicated.

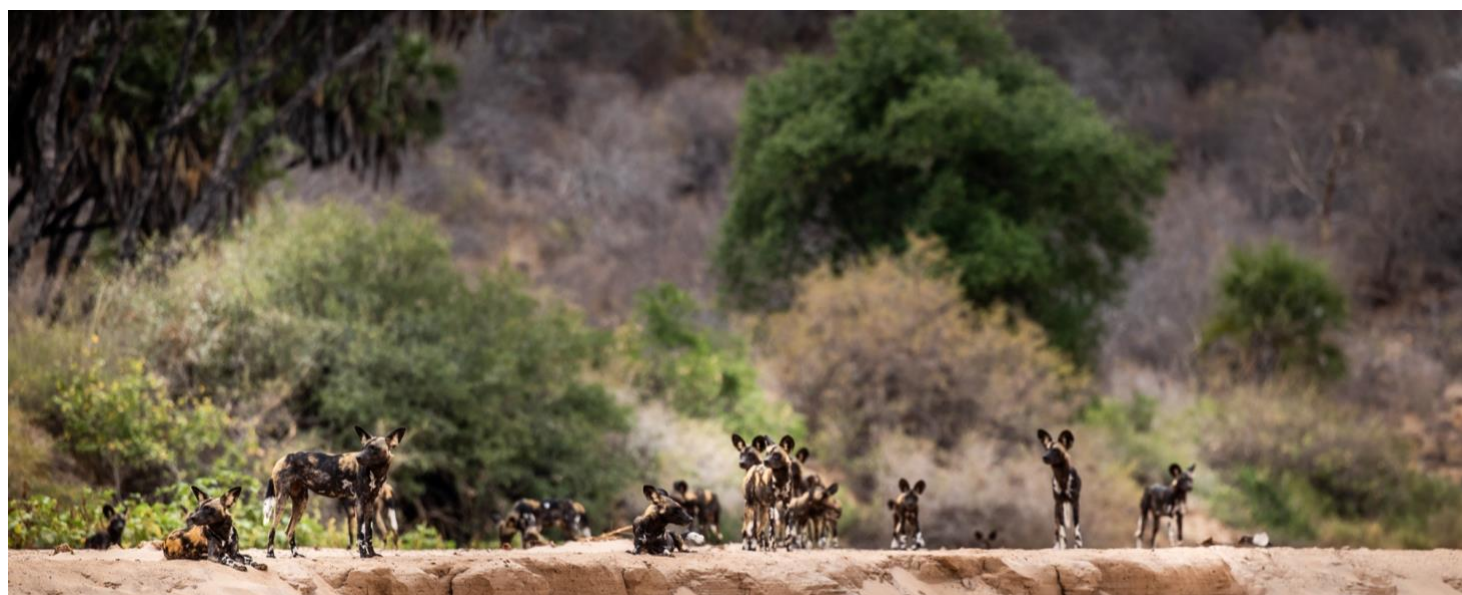
Tembo 6, 8 & 10 (TWNP) teams are rhino specific with confidential info.

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, 11, 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
Tembo 1 (TENP) & Shirango Scouts (6 TT Scouts + 3 KWS Rangers)	31	-	-	4 All small	-	-	-	11 HEC 142 elephants driven out of farms	1,891	273
Tembo 3 (TWNP) (6 TT Scouts + 3 KWS Rangers)	31	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,515	139
Tembo 5 (TWNP) 6 TT Scouts + 3 KWS Rangers	31	1 for bushmeat poaching	-	16 10 small 6 bird traps	22 kg (7 Dik-diks)	1 slasher & 1 lamping horn	-	1 HEC 1 elephant driven out of farms	2,135	163
Tembo 7 (Kulalu/TENP) 5 TT Scouts + 3 KWS Rangers	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Tembo 9 (Kulalu/TENP) 5 TT Scouts + 3 KWS Rangers	31	-	-	104 12 small 48 medium 16 large & 28 bird traps	-	-	-	-	2,950	237
Tembo 11 (Kulalu/TENP) 5 TT Scouts + 3 KWS Rangers	31	-	-	16 8 small 3 medium 5 large	-	-	-	-	2,145	161
Kamungi Scouts 4 Scouts	31	2 1 for illegal entry & 1 for charcoaling	-	119 106 small 10 medium 2 large & 1 bird trap	-	-	-	1 HEC 1 elephant driven out of farms	1,186	200
TOTALS	186	3	-	259	22	As above	Nil	13	11,822	1,173
Total 2025	1,304	45	7	964	1,367	-	Nil	81	87,487	9,124



The photo above shows a pack of 30 African wild dogs (*Lycaon pictus*), including pups, sighted along the Tiva River. As one of Africa's most endangered carnivores, wild dogs face multiple threats, including habitat fragmentation, snaring, human wildlife conflict, and disease outbreaks such as rabies and canine distemper. Tsavo Trust continues to monitor the wild dogs to inform conservation strategies, mitigate threats, and support the species' recovery across the Tsavo landscape.

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) 	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 – 21 sightings -Hirola – 3 sightings -Grevy's Zebra – Nil -Large Carnivores – 24 sightings -Ground Hornbill – 2 sightings -Road & Rail kills – 1 -Elephant carcasses – Nil - Ivory recovered. – Nil - Collared elephants – Nil - Carnivore scats collected - Nil	Tsavo East Nat. Park – mainly southern, central, and eastern sections including, Voi River & Shirango Conservancy	3,488
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 – 37 -Tuskers - Nil -Large Carnivores – Nil -Elephant carcasses – Nil - Ivory recovered – Nil	Tsavo West Nat. Park – IPZ and Triangle	4,083
Tembo 6 (TWNP) (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 – 37 -Tuskers - Nil -Large Carnivores – 2 sightings -Elephant carcasses – Nil - Ivory recovered. – Nil	Tsavo West Nat. Park – IPZ and Triangle	2,492
Tembo 8 (TWNP) (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 – 32 -Tuskers - Nil -Large Carnivores – 1 sighting -Elephant carcasses – 1 fresh - Ivory recovered. – 2	Tsavo West Nat. Park – NRS	1,938
Tembo 10 (TWNP) (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 – 21 -Tuskers - Nil -Large Carnivores – 2 sightings -Elephant carcasses – Nil - Ivory recovered. – Nil	Tsavo West Nat. Park – NRS	2,456
TOTALS	154	As above	As above	As above	14,457
Total 2025	1,195	-	-	-	115,822



The photo above shows a pride of lions (Panthera leo), consisting of a male, a female, and two cubs, observed resting under a shrub near Aruba in Tsavo East. The cubs were seen rubbing against the adults, an important bonding behavior that strengthens pride cohesion and reinforces social hierarchies. Tsavo is home to one of Kenya's largest lion populations, playing a key role in regulating herbivore numbers and maintaining ecological balance. Documenting such interactions helps track pride dynamics and monitor the overall health of Tsavo's apex predator populations. Photo Credit – Tsavo Trust.

COMMUNITY CONSERVANCY PROGRAM:

ACTIVITY	KAMUNGI Conservancy
Ongoing partnership between Tsavo Trust & KC	North boundary of TENP – Triangle are, since 2014. Total area approx. 100km ² Makueni County; Kibwezi Sub County; Mtito Andei Division; Mtito Andei Sub-location; Ngiluni Village.
Employment (Through Tsavo Trust)	Between Tsavo Trust & partners 33 permanent staff & 25 casual staff employed generating over \$13,100 (Ksh. 1,689,900) of income into Kamungi monthly.
Community Mobilization and Sensitization Meetings	13 community meetings were held. ➤ 04/08/2025: Local administration meeting with the Mtito Andei Senior Chief. ➤ 14/08/2025: Hosted Kajire community members for a benchmarking visit on the community conservancy model. ➤ 19/08/2025: Participated in the Makueni County Resource-Based Inventory for the Ngai Ndethya National Reserve. ➤ 23/08/2025: Conducted an appraisal and mentorship session for the 12 students supported by the Tsavo Trust's secondary education scholarship program. ➤ 29/08/2025: Kamungi Conservancy board meeting held at the Kamungi HQ meeting area.
Membership	Through a registered CBO and Not for Profit Company Limited by Guarantee, governed by an elected Board, KC membership represents 505 families & over 5,050 individuals from 13 villages, mainly from the WaKamba community.
Water Project	148,300 litres issued at Ngiluni Water Tanks. Additionally, TT provided 110 dam liners and 28 water tanks. (615,940 litres for the year to date) Ngiluni Primary School connected to piped water.
Basic Health care	702 patients attended to in June. 14,723 patients attended for the year to date.
Constructions	KC additional scouts & office units completed. Construction of tourism facility – the Kamungi Bandas completed.
Education	Paid for 2 teachers (1-Ngiluni & 1-Kamunyu School in KC) for the last 10 years. Ongoing. 6 youth trained in hotel management (certificate).
Bursary Scheme	Started: April 2022 13 needy students selected being supported.
Village Saving & Loan Associations – VSLA's	5 women-run VSLA's are in progress: In partnership between ZSL / KC & TT
Poultry Project	3 poultry projects: partnership between ZSL / KC & TT
Training	VSLA livelihoods, HWC Mitigation, Climate Smart Agriculture, permaculture
HWC Mitigation	8 x 1-acre bee fences, totaling 120 beehives, with 10 currently occupied.
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	10 predator-proof bomas set up: by TT/ZSL
Predator Proof bomas	Completed 30/11/2021 with 95% HEC reduction in conflict
Mtito 33km elephant fence line	
Human Wildlife Conflict (HWC)	28 cases recorded: 15 Lion; 5 Buffalo; 2 Leopard; 2 Elephant; 1 Hyena; 1 Mongoose & 2 Snake-related.
Land Tenure	Ongoing
Wildlife Census Transects	1
Operations and Security	➤ See the Field Units table above

Unusual Photo of the Month:



*The photo above captures a female gerenuk (*Litocranius walleri*) displaying her distinctive small head, large ears, and elongated neck. Unlike males, females lack horns, making it easy to distinguish their sexes in the field. Gerenuks are specialized browsers that can stand on their hind legs to reach leaves up to 2 meters high, an adaptation that earned them their Swahili name, swara twiga (giraffe antelope). This unique feeding strategy gives them a crucial advantage in Tsavo's arid landscapes, where food can be scarce.*

Photo Credit: Tsavo Trust – Joseph Kimaile.

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); BAND Foundation; Maliasili; Re:wild; WildLandscapes International; Tusk Trust; Save The Elephants (STE); The Glassybaby Foundation; Tofauti Foundation; Chesbro Foundation; Haller Foundation; Addax and Oryx Foundation; African Ruggedized Education Solution; Milkywire; Suzuki Rhino Club; Zoological Society of London (ZSL); 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.

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