



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>

JUNE 2026 MONTHLY REPORT



Photo above shows a black rhino female with her calf in Tsavo, a powerful reminder of the importance of conserving this Critically Endangered species. Tsavo is home to one of Kenya's most significant black rhino populations, making it vital to the species' recovery in Kenya, East Africa, and globally. Every surviving calf represents the next generation, contributing to the long-term resilience and genetic diversity of the population. By helping to protect Tsavo's black rhinos, we safeguard biodiversity, strengthen healthy ecosystems, and preserve one of Africa's most iconic wildlife species for generations to come. Photo Credit: Tsavo Trust – Nick Haller.

SUMMARY of ACTIVITIES:

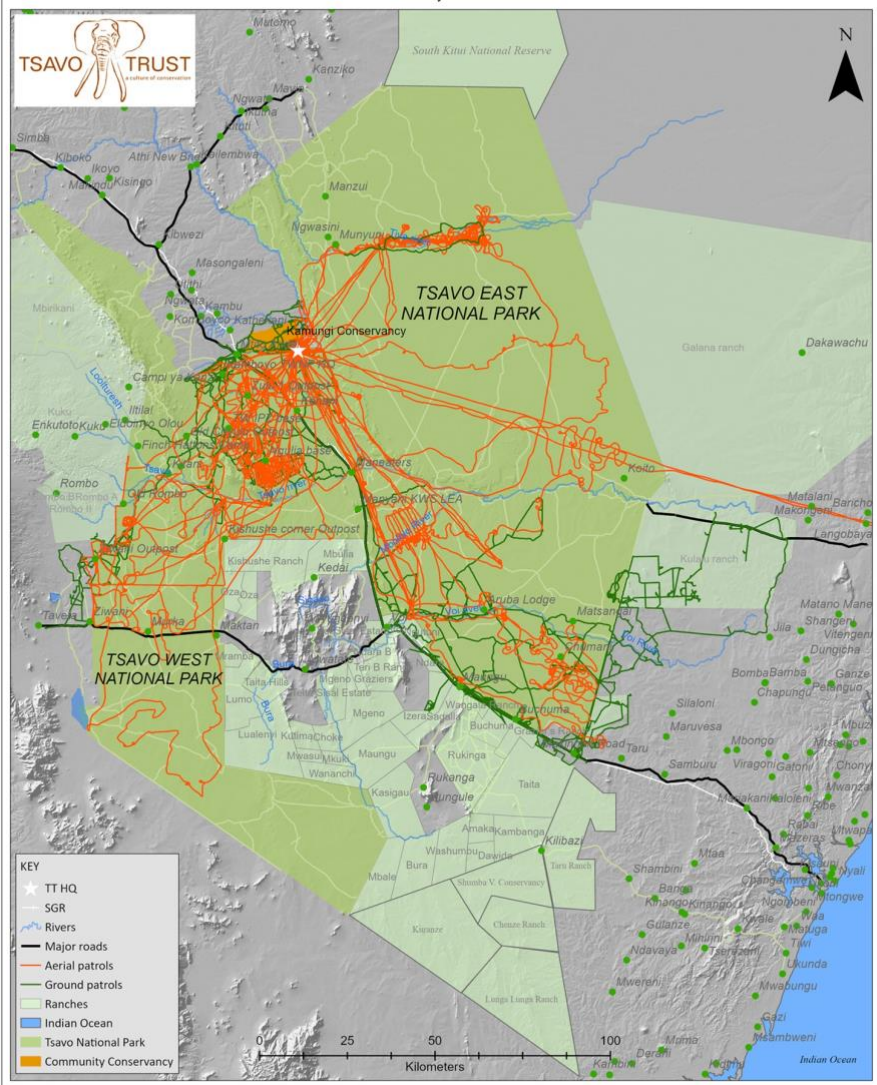
WILDLIFE CONSERVATION PROGRAM: <i>Big Tusker Project – Aerial & Ground Activities</i>			
Activity		Hours Flown	Kilometers Covered
	Aerial Unit	67 (323 for year) Average 128km p/h of low-level flight	8,124 (41,460km for the year) Flights carried out jointly with KWS staff
	Rhino Aerial Patrols	Aerial Patrols: 36 (10 TWNP; 2 TENP) (145hrs for the year)	Aerial: 4,018 (16,444km for the year)
		Field Patrol Days	Kilometers Covered
	Ground Protection Activities (Joint with KWS / WRTI / TT Scouts)	Protection teams: 180 days (1086 for year) Monitoring teams: 176 days (877 for year)	Vehicle patrols: 12,255km (80,436km for year) Foot patrols: 832km (5,695km for year) Monitoring teams: 14,900km (88,841km for year)
	Big Tusker Project	17 Tuskers – 7 Super Tusker bull (16 sights), 9 emerging bulls (18 sights), 1 cow Tusker (1 sight): 35 individual observations	
Collared Elephant Sightings: Joint KWS/STE/TT program		16 sightings: record forms submitted to STE (aerial and ground observations)	
Ivory recovered		4 elephant tusks (10 for the year)	
Elephant mortality		Fresh: 3 (Less than 3 weeks old) (c of d: 1 natural, 1 snaring, 1 unknown)	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: 2 Puff Adders (<i>Bitis arietans</i>) Others: Nil	
Poacher camps/hides		Fresh – Nil	Recent – Nil
Arrests – joint KWS/TT		2 – 1 for bushmeat poaching, and 1 for illegal grazing. (54 for the year)	
Snares/traps recovered		190 by Tembo Teams: 662 snares for the year (336 small; 237 medium; 34 large; 55 bird traps)	
Bushmeat recoveries (wet & dried)		80 kg – 1 Lesser Kudu (277kg for the year)	
Poachers Equip. Recovered.		1 panga, and 1 mobile phone	
Night Ambushes		Joint KWS / TT: 5 (Maungu, Mang'etele, Muhoho, LMD, and Murondo)	
Firefighting		Nil - (No fire incidents reported)	
Human Elephant Conflict		Joint TT-KWS teams: 1 incident. 1 elephant injured a camel calf near Dakota Ranch	
Illegal Livestock (only in PA)		7 active cattle bomas (3,870 cattle, 5 donkeys, 550 shoats & 1 herder)	
Written reports to KWS		82 (daily Situation reports, various communications & 1 monthly report)	
TT Staff Training activities		1 TT Officers Masters training; 3 KWS Officer Masters training; 1 TT Officer Bachelors	
TT HQ Rainfall figures		Nil mm. Total rainfall to date for 2026: 283 mm	
Significant notes	15th to 19th/06/ 2026: ArcGIS training at Tsavo Trust HQ, equipping staff with practical skills in field data collection, spatial analysis, dashboards, data management, and reporting to strengthen MEL systems. 17/06/2026: Participated in the 3rd Dryland Agriculture Conference at Lukenya University, focusing on climate-smart agriculture, water harvesting, drought resilience, sustainable land management, and food security in ASALs. 25th to 26th/06/2026: An anti-rabies vaccination campaign was conducted in Kamungi Conservancy, during which 960 animals (856 dogs, 64 donkeys, and 40 cats) were vaccinated, benefiting 577 households.		
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 42km² 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 AND GROUND PATROLS COVERAGE IN TCA **June, 2026**



*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 8,124 kilometers over Tsavo in support of KWS.*

***Ground:** 832 kilometers of foot patrol and a further 27,155 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: A great turnout for the **anti-rabies vaccination campaign** in Kamungi Conservancy. Funded by the Painted Wolf Foundation, through Tsavo Trust and implemented with the Makueni County Government, the campaign protects communities while reducing the risk of disease transmission from domestic dogs to wild carnivores.*





Field Mobile Units - Habitat Protection / De-snaring teams:

- **Tembo 1, 3, 5, 7, 9, 11 teams, Kamungi Scouts** are habitat protection / de-snaring focused.
- **Tembo 2 (TENP), 4 (TWNP) & Simba 1 teams (TE, TW & Kamungi)** are wildlife monitoring.
- **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”.

Table 7: Shows outcomes from field activities from Tembo 1, 3, 5, 7, 9, 11, Kamungi 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)	30	—	—	27 3 small 24 medium	80 kg 1 Lesser kudu	—	—	—	2,333	149
Tembo 3 (TWNP) (6 TT Scouts + 3 KWS Rangers)	30	—	—	4 All medium	—	—	—	1 HWC 1 elephant injured a camel calf	1,794	127
Tembo 5 (TWNP) 6 TT Scouts + 3 KWS Rangers	30	—	—	48 18 small 3 medium 27 bird traps	—	—	—	—	1,786	116
Tembo 7 (Kulalu/TENP) 5 TT Scouts + 3 KWS Rangers	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tembo 9 (Kulalu/TENP) 5 TT Scouts + 3 KWS Rangers	30	2 1 for bushmeat poaching, 1 for illegal grazing.	—	82 40 small 17 medium 7 large 18 bird traps	—	1 panga, and 1 mobile phone	—	—	2,156	136
Tembo 11 (Kulalu/TENP) 5 TT Scouts + 3 KWS Rangers	30	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2,729	160
Kamungi Scouts 4 Scouts	30	—	—	29 23 small 4 medium 2 bird traps	—	—	—	1 HWC 1 buffalo chased from farms	1,457	144
TOTALS	180	2	-	190	80	As above	-	2	12,255	832
Total 2026	1,086	54	-	662	277	-	4	24	80,436	5,695



The photo above shows an illegal charcoal kiln sighted 600 metres from the Park boundary highlighting the persistent pressure along protected area edges, where most illegal activities occur. Safeguarding these landscapes requires both a strong, consistent ranger presence and sustained engagement with neighbouring communities through improved livelihoods and welfare, reducing dependence on the unsustainable extraction of natural resources from protected areas.



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 – 13 sightings -Hirola – 2 sightings -Grevy's Zebra – Nil -Large Carnivores – 17 sightings -Ground Hornbill – 3 sightings -Road & Rail kills – Nil -Elephant carcasses – 1 fresh - Ivory recovered. – 2 - Collared elephants – 2 sightings - Carnivore scats collected – Nil	Tsavo East Nat. Park – mainly southern, central, and eastern sections including, Voi River & Shirango Conservancy	3,270
Simba 1 (TENP) (1 TT staff) 	26	-Wild dogs monitoring -Large carnivore monitoring	Wild dogs – 4 sightings Lion – Nil Leopard – Nil	Tsavo East & Tsavo West Wild dogs' range	1,679
Tembo 4 (TWNP) (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 sightings -Tuskers - Nil -Large Carnivores – 1 sighting -Elephant carcasses – Nil - Ivory recovered – Nil	Tsavo West Nat. Park – IPZ and Triangle	2,592
Tembo 6 (TWNP) (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 sightings -Tuskers - Nil -Large Carnivores – Nil -Elephant carcasses – 1 - Ivory recovered. – 2	Tsavo West Nat. Park – IPZ and Triangle	2,590
Tembo 8 (TWNP) (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 – 13 sightings -Tuskers - Nil -Large Carnivores – 1 sighting -Elephant carcasses – Nil - Ivory recovered. – Nil	Tsavo West Nat. Park – NRS	2,331
Tembo 10 (TWNP) (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 – 5 sightings -Tuskers - Nil -Large Carnivores – 1 sighting -Elephant carcasses – Nil - Ivory recovered. – Nil	Tsavo West Nat. Park – NRS	2,438
TOTALS	176	As above	As above	As above	14,900
Total 2026	977	-	-	-	88,841



LEFT: Shows an injured elephant located by Tsavo Trust's Tembo 2 - Tusker monitoring team on 24th June 26 in TENP. This was immediately reported to the KWS led Vet Unit for TCA for action.

RIGHT: Shows an arrowhead that was removed from this elephant.

The daily presence of the joint Tsavo Trust's 6 monitoring and 7 de-snaring teams across the Tsavo Conservation Area makes timely, life-saving interventions like this possible. Photo credit: Tsavo Trust – Irene Muhanjji.

ACTIVITY	KAMUNGI Conservancy
Ongoing partnership between Tsavo Trust & KC	North boundary of TENP – Triangle are, since 2014. Total area approx. 42km ² Makueni County; Kibwezi Sub County; Mtito Andei Division; Mtito Andei Sub-location; Ngiluni Village.
Employment (Through Tsavo Trust)	Between Tsavo Trust & partners 45 permanent staff & 29 casual staff employed generating over \$12,403 (KES. 1,600,000) of income into Kamungi monthly.
Community Mobilization and Sensitization Meetings	10 community meetings were held. ➤ 30/06/2026: Focus group discussion to gather community perspectives on livestock ownership and predation. A total of 38 participants (27 women and 11 men) attended, providing valuable insights into livestock management practices and human wildlife conflict. ➤ 26/05/2026: An anti-rabies vaccination campaign was conducted in Kamungi Conservancy, during which 960 animals (856 dogs, 64 donkeys, and 40 cats) were vaccinated, benefiting 577 households. ➤ 25/06/2026: An impact assessment of recently distributed household solar systems was conducted, with 50 beneficiary households interviewed to evaluate project utilisation, benefits, and overall impact. ➤ 17/06/2026: Participated in the 3rd Dryland Agriculture Conference held at Lukenya University. Participants explored climate-smart agriculture, water harvesting technologies, drought-resilient crops, sustainable land management, and strategies for strengthening food security in ASAL areas. ➤ 11/06/2026: A stakeholder review meeting was held to assess progress on joint conservation activities. Tsavo Trust presented updates on its community de-snaring programme, highlighting key achievements and conservation impact.
Membership	Through a registered CBO and Not for Profit Company Limited by Guarantee, governed by an elected Board, KC membership represents 505 families & over 3,030 individuals from 12 villages, mainly from the WaKamba community.
Water Project	66,600 litres of water at Ngiluni Water Tank during the reporting period, bringing the year-to-date total to 336,506 litres . Ngiluni Primary School, Kamungi Bandas, and Kamungi Scouts Base are connected to piped water. In addition, Tsavo Trust provided 140 dam liners and 71 water tanks, with a combined storage capacity of 7,800,000 litres and 504,000 litres respectively.
Basic Health care	5,976 patients attended for the year to date.
Constructions	KC Scouts accommodation blocks x 2; radio room, office & store units; 100,000ltr water tank & dispensing kiosk; bore hole for water supply; 2 Dispensaries built – Ngiluni and Nthunguni; Kamungi Bandas - tourism facility; KC HQ office / store unit. Kyusyani Science lab and ablution block in Kyusyani Comprehensive school.
Education	Paid for 2 teachers (1-Ngiluni & 1-Kamunyu School in KC) for the last 11 years, ongoing. 6 youth trained in hotel management (certificate). Distributed 210 laptops to eight schools to enhance digital literacy and support ongoing ICT integration in teaching and learning.
Scholarship programme	Started: April 2022 17 needy students selected being supported. (1 at university & 16 at secondary school)
Village Saving & Loan Associations – VSLA's	5 women-run VSLA's are in progress: In partnership between ZSL / KC & TT. Total savings more than Kenya shillings 1,000,000.
Poultry Project	3 poultry projects: partnership between ZSL / KC & TT
Training	HWC Mitigation, Climate Smart Agriculture, permaculture, and sesame farming.
HWC Mitigation	
Elephant Bee Fence	8 x 1-acre bee fences, totaling 120 beehives, with 5 currently occupied.
10% Fence Plan	A total of 19 plots constructed to date (HWC electric fencing of 10% of individual land). 100% effective.
Predator Proof bomas	10 predator-proof bomas set up: by TT/ZSL
Mtito 33km elephant fence line	Completed 30/11/2021 with over 80% HEC reduction in conflict
Human Wildlife Conflict (HWC)	20 cases recorded: 2 Elephant, 9 Leopard, 5 Buffalo, 2 Hyena & 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 shows a lioness with an adult ostrich kill in Tsavo. While lions are opportunistic predators, successful hunts of healthy adult ostriches are relatively rare. In the Tsavo ecosystem, lions primarily prey on zebra, buffalo, giraffe, warthog, and antelope, making ostriches an occasional rather than a staple part of their diet. This rare encounter offers a fascinating glimpse into the adaptability of one of Africa's top predators. Photo Credit: Tsavo Trust – Irene Muhanji.

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; Tusk Trust; Save The Elephants (STE); The Glassybaby Foundation; Tofauti Foundation; Chesbro Foundation; Liz Claiborne Art Ortenberg Foundation; Haller Foundation; Addax and Oryx Foundation; African Ruggedized Education Solution (ARES); Eagle Foundation; Milkywire; Suzuki Rhino Club; Exodus Travel; Helping Rhino's; 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; Lets Go Travel; Africa Geographic; Askari Project–Australia; Maasai Wilderness Conservation Trust (MWCT); Empowers Africa; Conservation Alpha; Remembering Wildlife Books; Kampur Enterprises and many more anonymous donors.

Individuals: Nicole Honegger; Stuart Herd; Griet Van Malderen; The Kratt Family; Loic Gouzer & family; Nick Lapham; Nick Southgate; Nick Powell; Bjorn Persson; James Robertson; The Davies Family; Mike Kirkland; James Lewin; Paul 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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