

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: <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qGgM6-gqZ0E&t=270s">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qGgM6-gqZ0E&t=270s</a>

### **MAY 2024 MONTHLY REPORT**



The image above features Tsavo West IPZ rhino 'Terry' and her calf. Historically home to well over 1,000 black rhinos, the Tsavos, especially the TW IPZ, provide an ideal habitat for this critically endangered species. Tsavo Trust is supporting the Kenya Wildlife Service and Wildlife Research & Training Institute in upgrading the TW IPZ to be rhino-ready, making it a potential destination for rhinos from overcrowded sanctuaries across the country. Photo Credit: Tsavo Trust – Nick Haller.

### **SUMMARY of ACTIVITIES:**



WILDLIFE CONSERVATION P	ROGRAM: Big Tusker Project	– Aeriai	l & Ground Activiti	ies	
Activity	Hours Flown		Kilomet	ers Covered	
Aerial Unit	<b>58</b> (291 for year)		<b>8,157</b> (40,	708km for year)	
	Average 139km p/h of low-level flight		Flights carried out jointly with KWS staff		
Rhino Aerial Patrols	<b>Aerial Patrols: 23</b> (6 TWNP; 2 T (102hrs for year to date)	ENP)	<b>Aerial: 2,522</b> (11,591km for year)		
	Field Patrol Days		Kilomete	ers Covered	
Ground Protection Activities (Joint with KWS / TT & Community Scouts)	Protection teams: 186 days (912 to d Monitoring teams: 150 days (732 to		Vehicle patrols: 15,466km (73,289km to date) Foot patrols: 1,203km (6,283km to date) Monitoring teams: 15,557km (82,621km to date)		
Big Tusker Project	8 Tuskers – 2 Super Tusker bull (8 sight): 1		, 5 emerging bulls (8 s dual observations	sights), 1 cow Tusker (1	
Collared Elephant Sightings: Joint KWS/STE/TT program	7 sightings: record forms sub	omitted t	o STE (aerial and gro	ound observations)	
Ivory recovered	5 elephant	tusks (3	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: 1 (More than 3 months old) (c of d: unknown)	
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 &	<b>Venomous snakes re-located from communities:</b> 5 Puff adders; 1 Red–spitting cobra; 1 Ashe's spitting cobra and 2 small-scaled burrowing asps.				
Translocation Translocation	Others: Jointly with KWS and SWT, translocated 3 elephants from Kyusiani to the Tsavo Triangle. This initiative aimed to reduce the HEC incidents occurring in the area.				
Poacher camps/hides	Fresh – Nil			ent – Nil	
Arrests – joint KWS/TT			ing inside a National Pa	ark	
Snares/traps recovered	38 by Tembo Teams: 163 sna	res for tl	he year to date (88 sma	ıll; 74 medium; 1 large)	
Bushmeat recoveries (wet & dried)	Nil (29	92kg for	the year to date)		
Poachers Equip. Recvd.		1	Nil		
Night Ambushes	Joint KWS / TT: 6 (Maungu; Wangala; Egu; LMD and Shirango Conservancy)				
Firefighting	Nil - (No Fire outbreaks reported within TW or TE.)				
Human Elephant Conflict	Joint TT-KWS team: 4 HEC responses. 14 elephants were driven from farms in Mtito Andei, and 11 elephants were driven from farms in Shirango.				
Illegal Livestock (only in PA)	27 active cattle bomas (6,607 cattle; 1,840 shoats; 25 camels & 18 people)				
Written reports to KWS	82 (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				
TT HQ Rainfall figures	Nil mm. Total rainfall to date for 2024: 207mm				
• 14/05/2024: Annual Tsavo Triangle Aerial Census. Good wildlife numbers were noted with no illegal activities observed.					

Significant notes

- 14/05/2024 to 24/05/2024: Four Tsavo Trust rangers completed junior commanders at LEWA Wildlife Conservancy. The training was conducted by 51 Degrees and included 24 other rangers from Lewa, Ol Jogi, Ol Pejeta, Borana, and Loisaba.
- 27/05/2024: The third TW IPZ Upgrade Needs Assessment meeting between KWS and Tsavo Trust was held in TWNP -Kilaguni Lodge.

### **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

#### PARTNERS PROGRAM: (Full list of supporters/partners shown on last page) FORMAL FIELD

























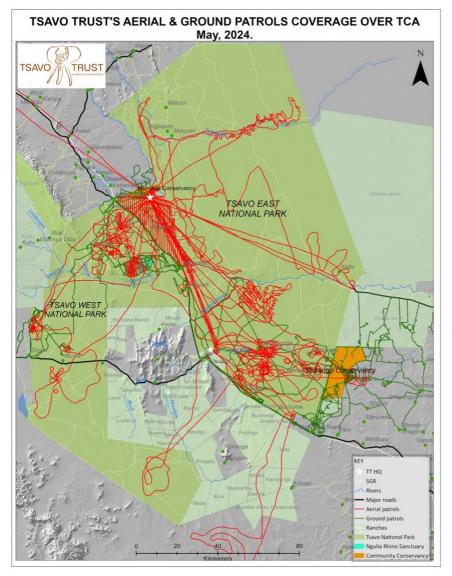






### Aerial Reconnaissance and Ground Patrols - Areas Covered:

- 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.



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: 58 hours flown covering 8,157 kilometers over Tsavo in support of KWS.

Ground: 1,203 kilometers of foot patrol and a further 31,023 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 the Tsavo Trust Chief Community Officer and the Kamungi Chairperson at the launch of the Lower Eastern Tourism and Hospitality Association Workshop on May 30, 2024, in Wote, Makueni County. Thanks to the support of Tsavo Trust, Kamungi Conservancy has successfully constructed an eco-lodge and will soon start hosting guests.



### Field Key Notes & Observations:

• Table 2: Elephant Carcasses Observed: Shows fresh, recent and old elephant carcasses observed:

Date	No.	Fresh	Recent	Old	Cause of Death	Location
13/05/2024	1	-	-	1	Unknown, KWS/TT retrieved 2 tusks	TWNP - Manyani
22/05/2024	1	1	-	-	Natural, KWS/TT retrieved 2 tusks	Outside TENP – Giriama Ranch
<b>Month Total</b>	2	1	-	1		
Total 2024	15	9	2	4		

### • Table 3: Poachers Activities Observed: Shows fresh and recent poachers' blinds/hides/platforms observed:

Date	No		Recent Poachers hide, blind, camp	Location				
Nil	-	-	-	-				
<b>Month Total</b>	-	-	-	-				
Total 2024	-	-	-					
Not included	Not included Charcoalers camps close to TENP boundary – Kulalu Ranch, and cattle bomas outside the Parks							

## • Table 4: Illegal livestock grazing: Shows aerial & ground observations - active livestock bomas & estimated number livestock inside the Parks only:

TCA Park	Active	Cows	Shoats	Camels	Herders/People	Others / Notes
	Bomas					
TENP	25	4,577	1,840	25	2	Observed along the Northeastern boundary of TENP.
TWNP	2	2,030	-	-	16	Encountered mostly in Murka and Losoito.
TOTALS	27	6,607	1,840	25	18	

Table 5: Shows some examples of joint KWS/TT activities and outcomes from aerial patrols:

Date	Incident	Location
Routine &	Regular aerial patrols carried out to complement KWS Park field operations &	TENP, TWNP, and
Monthly	management	dispersal areas
01/05/2024	Collared elephant monitoring flight. Collared elephant Dakota & Ndara located.	TENP – Southern sec.
14/05/2024	Tsavo Triangle annual aerial census. Good number of wildlife observed.	TWNP - Triangle
15/05/2024	Rhino monitoring flight. 6 of the free-ranging black rhinos located	TWNP – TW IPZ
18/05/2024	Big Tuskers Monitoring flight. 2 Super Tuskers & 2 Emerging Tuskers located.	TENP – Southern sec.
21/05/2024	Illegal livestock monitoring flight. 4,700 cattle, 1,840 shoats & 25 bomas seen.	TENP – Northern sec.
23/05/2024	Rhino monitoring flight. 19 rhinos sighted within the Ngulia Rhino Sanctuary	TWNP – NRS

### Financial Support to KWS & WRTI Activities Inside TWNP & TENP:

### Table 6: Shows brief costs of activities carried out by Tsavo Trust to complement KWS in Tsavo:

TT Activity	Cost (\$) Justification	Total \$
Aerial support – ongoing TENP & TWNP	58hrs in Super Cub aircraft @ \$300 all incl.	17,400
Vehicle running costs - Field Mobile Teams (Tembo 1, 2, 3,	11 vehicles covered 30,635km @ \$1 p/km incl.	31,023
4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10 & Kamungi S.) ongoing TENP & TWNP	fuel, tires, maintenance, servicing & f/c insurance	
TT Field Staff x 54 (Tembo teams)	Costs not Included	1
TWNP NRS general support	200ltrs diesel – rhino security	270
TWNP NRS general support	Water Tank repairs	3,817
TWNP – NRS Rhino viewing platform	Income generated via the Rhino viewing platform	1
TWNP IPZ general support	Rations and airtime	160
TWNP - IPZ tractor monthly support	1 4x4 tractor/trailer/water bowser ongoing support	577
TWNP - Southern Sector support	Through the CITES/MIKE Program	1,232
TENP - Dakota Platoon Vehicle Diesel	200ltrs p/month – security vehicle	260
TENP – CC vehicle support	100ltrs p/month – security operations	130
TENP - DSTV Dakota Base - ongoing	Monthly subscription	40
TENP & TWNP – KWS Field Allowances	KWS Rangers attached to TT teams	918
KWS PAMU – vehicle support	Vehicle repairs support PAMU, Kiboko vehicle	1,950
HEC 33km Mtito elephant fence	Ongoing fence maintenance	397
TOTAL MONTH		58,174
TOTAL 2024 to DATE:		\$438,279

### 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	No.	No. Arrest	No.	No.	Bushmeat	Poacher	No.	No.	Vehicle	Foot
teams	Field		Ivory	Snare	recvd.	equip.	Poacher	HWC	mileage	Patrol
	days		recvd	recvd	Kg	recvd.	camps	Cases	km	km
Tembo 1 (TENP) & Shirango Scouts (6 TT Scouts + 3	31	1 Illegal herder	3	27 22 small 5 medium	-	-	-	1 14 elephants driven from	2,732	398
Tembo 3 (TWNP) (6 TT Scouts + 3 KWS Rangers)	31	-	-	-	-	-	-	farms -	2,371	112
Tembo 5 (TWNP) 6 TT Scouts + 3 KWS Rangers	31	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	2,248	173
Tembo 7 (Kulalu/TENP) 5 TT Scouts + 3 KWS Rangers	31	1 Illegal herder	-	8 small 2 medium 1 large	-	-	-	-	2,877	142
Tembo 9 (Kulalu/TENP) 5 TT Scouts + 3 KWS Rangers	31	12 Illegal herders	-	-	-	-	-	-	3,451	170
Kamungi Scouts 4 Scouts	31	-	-	-	-	-	-	3 11 elephants driven from farms	1,787	208
TOTALS	186	14	5	38	-	As above	-	4	15,466	1,203
Total 2024	912	39	18	163	292Kg	-	-	15	73,289	6,283



The photo above features 26 rangers, including 4 from Tsavo Trust, who participated in the Junior Commanders Course conducted by 51 Degrees at Lewa Wildlife Conservancy. These rangers hail from diverse conservation areas, including Tsavo, Lewa, Ol Jogi, Ol Pejeta, Borana and Loisaba, giving our teams great exposure.

### Research & Monitoring teams:

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

Monitoring	No. Field	Activities	Endangered species	Operating	Vehicle
teams	days	120/2/1000	records/sightings	locations	mileage km
Tembo 2 (TENP) (3 TT staff + 2 WRTI)	26	-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 – 11 sightings -Hirola – 4 sightings -Grevy's Zebra – Nil -Large Carnivores – 16 sightings -Ground Hornbill – 1 sighting -Road & Rail kills – Nil -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	3,473
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 – 27 -Tuskers - Nil -Large Carnivores –1 sighting -Collared elephants – Nil -Elephant carcasses – Nil - Ivory recovered. – Nil	Tsavo West Nat. Park  – IPZ and Triangle	2,635
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 – 27 -Tuskers - Nil -Large Carnivores – 1 sighting -Collared elephants – Nil -Elephant carcasses – Nil - Ivory recovered. – Nil	Tsavo West Nat. Park  – IPZ and Triangle	3,830
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 – 45 -Tuskers - Nil -Large Carnivores – 1 sighting -Collared elephants – Nil -Elephant carcasses – Nil - Ivory recovered. – Nil	Tsavo West Nat. Park – NRS	3,076
<b>Tembo 10</b> ( <b>TWNP</b> ) (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 – 62 -Tuskers - Nil -Large Carnivores – 2 -Collared elephants – Nil -Elephant carcasses – Nil - Ivory recovered. – Nil	Tsavo West Nat. Park – NRS	2,543
TOTALS	150	As above	As above	As above	15,557
Total 2024	732	-	-	-	82,621



The photo above shows a lion pair captured in Tsavo East National Park. The male is well-known and easily identifiable by a cataract in his left eye. 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 <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 270km². 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	<ul> <li>17 community meetings were held.</li> <li>&gt; 03/05/2024: Kamungi Conservancy monthly meeting held at the Ngiluni water tank.</li> <li>&gt; 09/05/2024: Second stakeholder workshop on the Kamungi SAPA process held in Mtito.</li> <li>&gt; 17/05/2024: Kamungi Conservancy board meeting held at the Ngiluni water tank.</li> <li>&gt; 23/05/2024: Local administrative meeting with the Assistant chief, village elders and Nyumba Kumi at Nthunguni.</li> <li>&gt; 30/05/2024: Kamungi Conservancy represented in the launch of the Lower Eastern Tourism and Hospitality Association in Makueni County</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>4 community meetings were held.</li> <li>10/05/2024: Shirango Conservancy represented in the TCA Disaster and Risk Management Plan held in Voi.</li> <li>22/05/2024: The Shirango manager attended the TTWCA Male Leader's governance and inclusion workshop at the Voi Wildlife Lodge.</li> <li>24/05/2024: Shirango Conservancy was represented in the TTWCA/KWCA manager's governance and inclusion workshop at Avid Hotel Voi.</li> <li>29/05/2024: Shirango Conservancy represented in the Tsavo Livelihood Initiative Project progress update meeting.</li> </ul>
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	75,330 litres issued at Ngiluni Water Tanks and Ngiluni Primary School. Additionally, TT provided 110 dam liners and 28 water tanks.  (220,086 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	<b>284</b> patients attended for the year to date. Still waiting for the retired nurse replacement.	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  Bursary Scheme	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	None at present  None at present
Village Saving & Loan Associations – VSLA's	12 needy students selected being supported. 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 10% Fence Plan	7 x 1-acre bee fences, total 105 beehives with 3 currently occupied.  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	N/A yet  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.
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)	28 cases recorded: 19 elephant; 5 Buffalo and 4 Snake.	39 cases recorded: All elephant related.
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	1	None
Operations and Security	> See the Field Units table above	> See the Field Units table above

### Unusual Photo of the Month:



The photo above shows a Tsavo Trust aircraft flying over an elephant herd along the seasonal Tiva River. The high-water levels observed in April 2024 have now decreased to a mere trickle, signaling the beginning of the dry season in the Tsavos. As a result, wildlife distribution has shifted to areas that offer a good balance between forage and water proximity. Photo Credit: Tsavo Trust – Nick Haller.

### 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; Wildlife Conservation Networks: Rhino Recovery Fund, Lion Recovery Fund, Elephant Crisis Fund; Cheyenne Mountain Zoo; Leopardess Foundation; JM Foundation Africa; Maliasili; Re:wild; Tusk Trust; International Elephant Foundation (IEF); BAND Foundation; Disney/Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS); Save The Elephants (STE); Zoological Society of London (ZSL); WildLandscapes International; The Glassybaby Foundation; EU-Biopama Programme; Tofauti Foundation; Chesbro Foundation; Milkywire; Satao Camp & Southern Cross Safaris (Msa); Origins Safaris; Ker & Downey Safaris; Ndovu Trust (UK); Haller Foundation; Addax and Oryx Foundation; ARES; Tropical Ice Ltd; Askari Project—Australia; Exodus Travel; Maasai Wilderness Conservation Trust (MWCT); Empowers Africa; 51 degrees-Vulcan; Conservation Alpha; Lewa Canada; 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; 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 enthusiasts.

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

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