Protect, Conserve, Inspire

Helicopter Report August 2017

Hangzhou leading her herd of 16 elephant back down the Oloolulo Escarpment on the 3rd of August. The collar data indicated she was going close to farms and we were able to react before they started crop raiding.

Narrative:

In August the HEC requirements have significantly decreased due to crops having been harvested giving a much-needed break to the helicopter operations. This has been fortuitous, as we have had to curtail flying due to a current lack of funding for the helicopter. Due to this lack of funding we have unfortunately had to implement other costs saving measures, the first of which is to suspend the aerial monitoring of all collared elephants each month. We have already seen the negative impact of stopping these flights when elephant Nkoidila's collar dropped of in Naikara area. There is a good chance that if we had continued to monitor her we would have noticed the fraying collar and replaced it before it broke off and we lost her and her herd. It is now extremely difficult to identify her in the Loita area for recollaring. During this low demand time for the helicopter we hope to bolster the helicopter account from donations so we are in a position to respond to the next conflict season which begins in October 2017 and resume monthly monitoring flights as soon as possible.

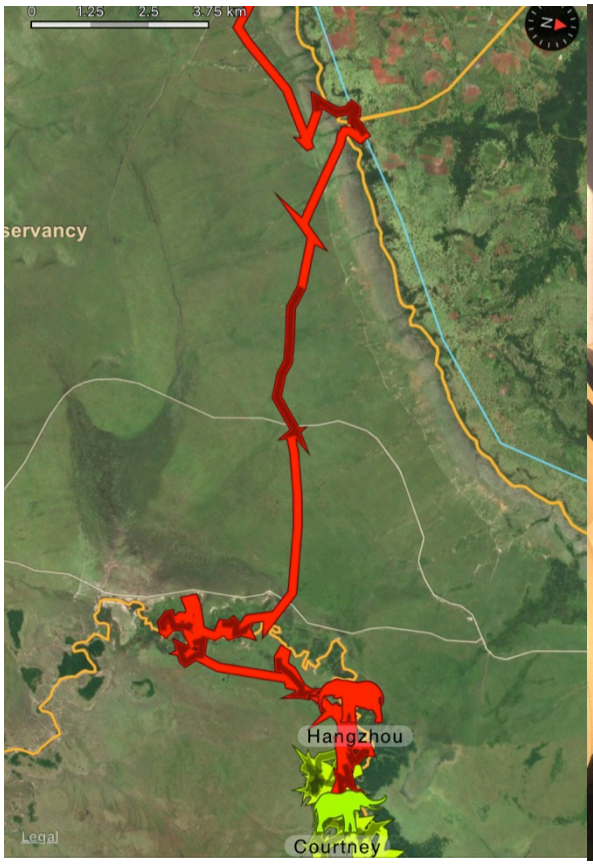
June Flight report

Date	Time	Cost	Mission	Cost center
8/3/17	1.7	680	Move Hangzhou down the escarpment with her herd	MEP

8/3/17	0.4	160	Shawn Roberts birthday flight to Kileleoni Picnic	Personal
8/4/17	1	400	Meeting with Paradise Foundation and MEP Chairman	MEP
8/6/17	1.5	600	HEC in Oldonyo Narasha moved big herd back to Olkinyei	MEP
8/7/17	1.3	520	Recover WWF collar from Naikara which broke-off Nkoidila	WWF
8/9/17	1.1	440	Move HEC elephants out of Oldonyo Erinka fences	MEP
8/9/17	0.7	280	Move HEC elephants out of Munyas area back to Laila Forest	MEP
8/10/17	0.8	320	HEC at Isokon move elephants down the escarpment	MEP
8/11/17	2.1	840	HEC Nyamanga: 3 elephants caught in farms	MEP
8/13/17	1.1	440	EMS flight to Nairobi for Richard Roberts/Liz Fusco	Richard
8/18/17	1	400	Return Mara From Nairobi	Richard
8/20/17	1.2	480	Collect sniffer dogs at Serena and deploy to robbery	MEP
	13.9	$5,560		

Focus for August:
Fundraise for flying: No new funding has come in

Focus for September:
Fundraise for flying



Left: Collar data from Hangzhou illustrating when she went up the escarpment. After being herded down she went across the Mara Conservancy to the Mara River.
Right: Deploying a tracker dog from the Mara Conservancy on the 20th of August.