Protect, Conserve, Inspire

REPORT
December and January 2016

Firearms recovery and arrest of 4 suspects in the Transmara 5th January 2016

Weather and Rainfall:

The rains have continued throughout this period but are suspected to stop in February.

General

In December and January we lost 9 elephants and made 3 ivory arrests. This is an increase in elephant killings compared to the last reporting period. The traditional poaching hotspots have changed and we are seeing more killings in the community conservancies. This includes a spate of killings in the Ollaro Conservancy area in Siana. 4 elephants were poached for their ivory in this at the end of January and 1 elephant was killed in the Ol Choro Conservancy mid January.

MEP is going through the process of professionalizing the organization and special consultant Brian Kearney-Grieve has been driving this process. We would like to thank the ESCAPE Foundation for supporting this hugely beneficial exercise in addition to the core budget.

WWF Kenya and KWS have collared 10 elephants in the Mara. They deployed the collars in areas where our current data has gaps. We hope to develop our relationship with WWF so that we can access their collars on the same system.

Partnership Development

We have requested an additional 8 KWS rangers to deploy with MEP. So far we have received 4 additional rangers which has been a huge help to improve the law enforcement in the aitong hills-Rekero, Oldonyo Erinka and a portion Olkinyei. We hope to increase the operational area to the northern border of Naboisho Conservancy and Olkinyei Conservancy with the 4 additional rangers.

On the 27th to the 30th we conducted a 3rd drone training with partner RESOLVE in the Grumeti National Reserve in the Serengeti Tanzania. We trained 27 rangers from TANAPA, WD and the WMAs. The training was attended by KWS officials who have reported to the service on the same. We hope to have a drone demo in Kenya in the next few months where we invite officials to inspect from the KCAA, Ministry of Defense, and the KWS.

Photo of the rangers at the recent drone training in Tanzania.

The CEO attended the Pathways conference at the Mt Kenya Safari Club with funding partner PREPARED from USAID. At the conference we were able to present with Big Life Foundation and Honey Guide Foundation about HWC toolkits and mitigating HWC. We were also exposed to a variety of projects working in conservation projects in Kenya, in different part of Africa and across the globe. The event was successful to both bringing conservationists and projects together but also to share a ideas and learn from others.

Fundraising:
Board member Trey Fehsenfeld has raised 50,000USD for MEP in 2016.

We hosted the CEO of Tusk Trust on January 17th and we hope that their funds will be made available to purchase the digital radio network. We will need to leverage funds for this and plan to raise the balance though STE from the Wildlife Conservation Network.

Security:
On the 5th of January we arrest 4 suspects with the KWS near Lolgorian with 2 AK 47 assault rifles. This gang had been terrorizing community members and killed 5 over the course of last year including attacking the police station in Lolgorian. The community came out in numbers at the police station in

Lolgorian town when the arrest was made to support MEP, KWS and the Police. 2 of the gang members were released on 500,000KSh (5,000USD) bond each.

MEP has been given access to a supercub aircraft (previously reported) by the ESCAPE Foundation for aerial support-up to 20hrs per month. We have been deploying the supercub with either a MEP warden or KWS warden several times a week. The flights have been to establish where elephant herd are when ground rangers loose them. This has enabled us to deploy our ground forces more effectively.

HEC

In December we erected 3 more chili fences in the Transmara at the request of farmers in the area.

DATES	SECTOR NAME	GPS LOCATION	CROPS	ACTION
17/1/15	Olmotonyi	01°11.114"	maize	chasing the elephant out of the
		34°50.002"		farm
22/12/2015	Olmotonyi	01°09'57.9	Maize	chasing elephants from
		34°49'07.3		the farm and providing fire works
25/12/15	Partakila	01°11.351"	maize	chasing elephants from
		34°49.330"		the farm by using a car
				together with KWS and use of fire
				crackers.
16/1/2016	partakila	01°15.901"	maize	chasing elephant from the shamba
		34°55.923"		using fire crackers
17/1/2016	partakila	01°17.619"	maize	chasing elephants from
		34°56.728"		the farm by use of fire cracckers
20/1/2016	kawai	01°17.952"	maize	chasing elephants from the farm
		34°56.617"		using fireworks

Staff:

The second ranger of the quarter was awarded to Jackson Maitai. The CEO went on annual leave from the 13th to the 27th of December. The last staff meeting was held on the 4th of January at the MEP HQ. The next staff meeting is planned for the 15th of February at the MEP HQ. This year we will need to get updated certificates of good conduct. We have purchased deworming medicine for all the rangers in January.

Incidents sitrep:

Dead elephant on 5/12/15	1-2 day old carcass of adult male found during routine ground patrol, between olemoncho and saruni hills close to KWS saruni station. Illegally killed by spear wound to ribs on left hand side. Cause of the death: was speared on the left side, both tusk were chopped out by poachers. Mike file 31/15
Ivory recovery and arrest: 1/12/15	1 suspect was arrested by MEP and KWS in Chemonir Mulot with total of 3 kgs ivory, 2 pcs. He was taken to Narok police station and booked.
Dead elephant: 14/12/15	2 day old carcass of sub-adult male found by local community on banks close to the Ilopilukuny village of Trans-Mara. Carcass had been swept down the River Mogor. The cause of death was gunshots wounds. Both tusks had been removed by poachers (See arrest bellow) mike file 32/15. And then were recovered later the same day and 4 arrested. See below.
Ivory recovery and arrest: 14/12/15	Above elephant carcass found by local community in Lolgorian (Ilopilukuny) and reported to KWS. Response team went to the site and followed tracks made by the poachers, leading to their farm. 4 suspects were caught with total 8kg ivory, 2pcs. Suspects were taken to Lolgorian police station and booked.

Dead elephant: 26/12/15	1 day old carcass of adult male found by local community, inside thick bush between 3 manyattas, eastern side of Endoinyo Erinka Hills, Mbitin. Elephant illegally killed by spear wound to left hand side of body. Both tusks had been removed by poachers using a power saw. Mike file 33/15
Dead Elephant: 28/12/15	1-day-old carcass of juvenile age found by Olkupelia guides in an open area close to Olkupelia camp, Olare-orok. Elephant killed by lions. Tusks collected by KWS ranger on 28/12/15.from Olare orok rangers. Mike file 34/15
Firearms recovered and arrest: 5/1/16	4 suspects arrested at Keronga village of Kuria East with two AK47 Riffles and 31 rounds.
Dead elephant on: 16/1/16	2-day-old carcass of adult male found during routine ground patrol by olchorro conservancy rangers on opposite side of Nabaala Boma and was reported to the MEP team. Elephant illegally killed by spear wound on right hand side of body. Both tusks chopped out. Mike file 01/16
Dead elephant on: 23/1/2016	Fresh carcass of adult male found by mep team during air patrol, at Olarro, Siana Spring. Report to MEP team and kws. The cause of death confirmed as due to spear wound from poachers. Tusks chopped out by poachers. Mike file 02/16
Dead Elephant: 23/1/2016	Fresh carcass found of an adult male in the Olaro area in Siana. The elephant was killed by means of spearing and both tusks were chopped out by poachers. Mike file number 3/2016
Dead Elephant: 23/1/16	A dead elephant was found by community in the Ollaro Area Siana the tusks were retrieved by KWS. The means of killing was spearing. Mike file number 4/2016
Dead Elephant/ 24/1/16	A dead elephant was found by elephant aware in the Siana area and both tusks were chopped out by poachers. The means of killing was spearing. Mike file number 5/2016
Ivory recovery and arrest: 24/1/2016	2 suspects arrested in aitong oltorotua village with 2 kgs ivory and taken to narok police station.

Elephant Tracking:

Save the Elephants has developed the Standard Analytical Reporting Framework (SARF) tool for generating reports from the collar data. The advanced software is able to generate the reports automatically. We are showcasing the last quarter report in this period.

Traditional tacking report:

Hugo	Hugo spent most of time on the Mara North (MN) - MMNR border, by Musiara swamp. He moved to Mara Conservancy (MC) in January, before returning to Mara North at the end of January.
Fred	Fred was at Musiara swamp, MMNR at the beginning of December. He moved to Mara conservancy, and then returned to Musiara swamp at the end of December. In January he moved to Mara North where he remained until the end of the month.
Polaris	Polaris' collar dropped off at the beginning of January, therefore tracking data is unavailable.
Mytene	Mytene spent the duration of December and January in the Serengeti National Park, apart from a single day on the Tanzanian side of MMNR in January.
Lina	Lina was in Naibosho Conservancy throughout December and January, apart from a single day spent in Olare Orok Conservancy in January.

Bobo	Bobo was in the Ol Donyo Erinka and Rekero area in Pardamat Conservancy. He broke geofences in the area and has been visited by the Ol Donyo team on a regular basis. He moved to the border of Lemek and Olchorro Conservancy mid-December, then began breaking geofences in Enonkishu Conservancy at the end of December. He spent January in Lemek hills of Mara North Conservancy.
Ivy	Ivy spent most of December and January in Mara North. She travelled through Lemek Conservancy at the end of December and route to Ol Chorro Conservancy. Here she stayed for a few days in early January. She returned to Mara North in mid-January, again passing though Lemek Conservancy.
Caroline	Caroline spent the beginning of December in Naboisho Conservancy. She moved to Ol Donyo Erinka in Pardamat Conservancy and began breaking geofences in mid-December. She travelled via Olare Orok Emotorogi Conservancy on her return to Naboisho Conservancy at the end of December. She stayed in Naboisho Conservancy throughout January.
Kegol	The signal from Kegol's collar was lost throughout December and January.
Lucy	Lucy spent December and January in the Nyekweri forest. She has broken several geofences and we have visited the different sites. Lucy then came right to the Mara River near the Royal Mara Lodge in Mara North Conservancy. She moved to Mara Triangle in January.
Naibosho	Was in MMNR for December and January where she currently is.
Chelsea	Chelsea spent the last period December and January in Olkinyei conservancy moving together with Limo up to mid- January.
Limo	Limo has been spending the last period in Olkinyei Conservancy up to mid-December where he moved to Pardamat conservancy. And is currently in Olkinyei conservancy.
Shorty	Has spent the last period in the Mugumu area in the Serengeti.