Protect, Conserve, Inspire

REPORT

February and March 2016

Chasing elephants out of Kirokor Farm in Oloosokon near Aitong with Helicopter 5Y REE

Weather and Rainfall:

The rains stopped for most of March but February was wet. Crops in the surrounding farming areas have started to mature and we are experiencing increased HEC.

General

At the beginning of February we saw an outbreak in dead elephants in the area between the Olare Orok River and the western portion of Naibosho Conservancy. Over the period of 5 days (3rd to 7th Feb) we lost 6 elephants one of which was one of our collared elephants "Lina". KWS Veterinarian Dr. Limo conducted postmortems and the cause of death was unclear. After sending samples to the government toxicology laboratories the cause of death was poisoning. The poison used was a derivative of carbofuran- a toxic carbamate pesticide. It is still unclear if the

elephants ingested the poison or were shot with poison arrows. We have not been able to locate any pumpkin patches by backtracking on Lina's tracks.

MEP's aerial support suffered a large blow when a microburst at the MNC airstrip destroyed the supercub aircraft; despite tying it down.

Lina with her collar intact

Partnership Development

8 KWS rangers have been attached to our 4 units including 2 corporals. This has made a huge difference in response time to law enforcement operations. Historically we would pick up KWS rangers from the nearest outpost but now we can go to the ambush/sting site directly. We will continue to provide stipends for the attached rangers. The MEP chairman has been in contact with the NCG and suggested that we get 4 of the new recruits who will be graduating in June 2016 from Manyani.

Fundraising:

We have started working on a grant from United States Fish and Wildlife department of international affairs for combatting wildlife trafficking. We will ask them for approximately 100,000USD. The pre application deadline is the 22nd of April.

Security:

We have been following a gang of poachers who seem to have been responsible for the killing of the 4 elephants in Siana and the 2 near Aitong and Morijoi. At the end of March we arrested 1 person with 2 tusks in the Morjoi area and suspect that the tusks were from the elephant killed near the Ngoswani Center on the 4th of March. Although we have been reporting a downturn in poaching some poachers in the Aitong area are still at large.

HEC

HEC increased in February and March and we reacted to incidents on nearly a daily basis. The helicopter has been invaluable to move elephants out of farms. Unfortunately it is also an expensive mitigation method.

DATES	SECTOR NAME	GPS LOCATION	CROPS	ACTION
17/2/16	Oloosokon	01°12.354''	maize	Chased 3 elephants out of Kirokor farms with helicopter
		35°12.061''		
20/2/16	Ol donyo Erinka	1° 16.134'S	maize	Chased lions out of a farm in Ol Donyo Erinka and 2 buffalo in the olomoncho area with helicopter
		35° 21.910'E		
22/2/2015	Ololturoto Aitong	01°11.564''	maize	chasing elephants from the farm with car and firecrackers
		35°11.845''		
23/2/2016	Olmotonyi	01°17.619''	maize	chasing elephants from the farm with firecrackers
		34°56.728''		
24/2/2016	kawai	01°17.952''	maize	chasing elephants from the farm with firecrackers
		34°56.617''		
12/3/16	Mararianda	01°12.225''	settlement	chasing the elephant out of the farms with the heli
		35°03.298''		
14/3/16	Ol Choro Oiroua	1° 6.286'S	Maize	Chased elephants into olchoro from farms with Heli across Mara River
		35° 10.488'E		
15/3/16	Ol Kinyei	1° 21.796'S	Settlements	Chased a large herd of elephants from center into olkinyei conservancy with heli
		35° 28.905'E		
16/3/16	Mararienta	1° 12.012'S	Settlements	Chased elephants out of mararienta center to mara river with heli
		35° 3.312'E		
17/3/2016	Oloosokon	01°12.354''	Maize	chasing the elephant out of the farm with the heli
		35°12.061''		
17/3/16	Mararienta	1° 12.333'S	Settlements	Chased elephants out of mararienta center to mara river with heli
		35° 3.404'E		
18/3/16	Mararienta	1° 11.914'S	Settlements	Chased elephants out of mararienta center to mara river with heli
		35° 3.541'E		
20/3/16	Mararienta	1° 12.349'S	Settlements	Chased elephants out of mararienta center to mara river with heli
		35° 3.023'E		
25/3/2016	Lemek	01°06.378''	Maize	chasing elephants from the farm with firecrackers
		35°22.760''		
26/3/16	Mararienta	1° 12.102'S	Settlements	Chased elephants out of mararienta center to mara river with heli
		35° 3.446'E		

Staff:

Wilson Sairoua will be taking his annual leave in April. This means that the CEO will need to pick up some of the administrative duties.

Incidents sitrep:

Dead elephant on 3/2/16	1- day old carcass of adult male found by tourist in Naibosho conservancy beside a small hill next to olseki camp. Cause of the death: was disease as blood was seen coming out of the mouth**,** there was no other wound on the carcass. Both tusk were recovered and handed over to KWS Siana station. Mike file 3/16.
Dead elephant on: 4/2/16	A dead elephant was found on Mara North Conservancy near the Olumara camp by tourists. The cause of death was unknown due to the degree of scavenging. The tusks were recovered and handed to the KWS. Mike file number: 4/16
Dead elephant on: 5/2/16	A dead elephant was found in Mara North Conservancy near Cheli base by local community. The elephant was found alive but unable to wake up to evening hours when Doctor give order to be killed The cause of death was unknown, there was no wound on the carcass but suspected to be poison. The tusks were recovered and handed to the KWS Saruni station. Mike file number: 5/16
Dead elephant on: 6/2/16	A dead elephant was found by routine ground patrols in the Naibosho Area near the Esilae area in a thick croton bush. The cause of death was unknown. Both tusks were retrieved and handed over to the KWS. Mike file number 6/16.
Dead elephant: 7/2/16	A dead elephant (Lina) was found by routine ground patrols in the Olare – Emotorogi conservancy, Lina collar stop updating four 48hrs but the following day it was reported dead. The cause of death was unknown. Both tusks were recovered and handed over to the KWS Saruni station. Mike file number 7/16.
Dead Elephant: 7/2/16	A dead elephant was found by routine ground patrols in the Naibosho Area in a thick croton bush. The cause of death was unknown. Both tusks were naturally absent. Mike file number 8/16.
Dead elephant on: 19/2/16	A dead elephant was found by routine ground patrols in the in the Maasai Mara game reserve. The cause of death was unknown. Both tusks were removed by the Narok county game rangers. Mike file number 9/16.
Skin recovered and arrest: 25/2/16	1 suspect arrested in Transmara nkararu village with 1 leopard and taken to Lolgorian police station and booked.
Dead elephant on: 25/2/2016	1- day old carcass was found by local community in Transmara olmotonyi village, the local community reports the dead elephant to MEP. The cause of death was unknown. Both tusks were recovered and handed over to the KWS Lolgorian station. Mike file number 10/16.

Ivory recovered and arrest: 27/2/2016	1 suspect arrested at Kisii Keroka village with 6 kgs ivory and taken to kisii police station and booked.
Dead elephant on: 28/2/2016	A dead elephant was found by routine ground patrols inside a croton bush in Olare-motorogi conservancy next to mahali Mzuri camp. The cause of death was unknown. The Tusks were recovered and handed to the KWS. Mike file number 11/16.
Skin recovered and arrest: 3/3/16	3 suspects arrested in Aitong with a python skin, the three suspect were taken to Narok police station and booked.
Dead elephant on: 3/3/2016	A dead elephant was found by routine ground patrols inside a croton bush in Mara north conservancy next to Kicheche camp. The cause of death was unknown due to the degree of scavenging. The right Tusks was collected the following day 1km from the carcass and handed over to the KWS, the left tusk get lost to hyenas. Mike file number 12/16.
Dead elephant on: 4/3/2016	A dead elephant was found by local community up of the Lemek hills. The cause of death was spear wound on the left side. Both Tusks hacked out by the poachers. Mike file number 13/16.
Rhino horn recovered and arrest: 12/3/2016	1 suspect arrested in Nanyuki town with 1 Rhino horn weight 800gm by police on MEP intel, he was taken to Nanyuki police station and booked.
Dead elephant on: 14/3/2016	A dead elephant was found by routine ground patrols inside a croton bush in Olare-motorogi conservancy. The cause of death was disease. The elephant was treated on 13th by Dr Limo but reported dead on 14th. Both Tusks were recovered and handed over to the KWS. Mike file number 14/16.
Ivory recovered and arrest: 16/3/2016	1 suspect arrested at Emorijoi Centre with 8 kgs ivory (see mike file 13/16) and taken to Narok police station and booked.

Elephant Tracking:

Hugo	Hugo spent the duration of the reporting period inside the MMNR near the Musiara area. Then on the 24th of March he moved into MNC.
Fred	Fred spent the duration of the reporting period in the Mara Triangle and Mara North. Currently he is in the Triangle
Mytene	Mytene spent the duration of the reporting period in the Serengeti near Klein's Camp
Lina	Lina was killed by poisioning and we found her near the road between Aitong and Talek. We suspect that she died on the 8th of February.
Bobo	Bobo has continued to live in the borderlands of Ol Choro Conservancy and settlement areas in the Morijoi area. He has been using this area as a stage to crop raid at night. We have

	deployed rangers to this area several times. WE will also erect chili fences in this area in April.
Ivy	Ivy has spend the last two months between MNC, Lemek and Ol Choro. She has visited the MEP property several times.
Caroline	Caroline has spend the last two months in the pardamat area dodging fences. Her movement data will be very interesting to analyze.
Kegol	Kegol has been a resident of MNC for the last two months and occasionally broke into the geofence around Mararienta.
Lucy	Lucy is one of our very elusive elephants. On the 26th of February she came out of the Nyekweri forest and we managed to photograph her and her large herd opposite the Royal Mara Camp in Mara North Conservancy. Lucy also broke through the eastern geofence and went into a densely settled area in the middle of the night on the 21st of February. She then streaked back into the forest.
Naibosho	Naibosho has spent the duration of the period in the MMNR and has ventured several times to Talek center.
Chelsea	Chelsea continues to stick to watercourses in the Olkinyei area.
Limo	Limo has also spent the reporting period in the Olkinyei area.
Shorty	Shorty is still in the Mugumo area of the Serengeti Tanzania.