



Ithumba Team

De-Snaring Report for August, 2010

Participants

Lemanten Labarakwe
Noah Lesimirdana
James Lodungokiyok
Stephen Musau
Patrick Mutuku

Areas Patrolled

Buffalo Bent
Gazi
Ithumba Hill
Kilalinda
Macho Kombo
Mwakila
Ndiandasa
Sheldrick Blind

Arrests

3 Arrest(s) this month

Illegal Activities

Illegal Activity	No. Incidents	Location	Percentage	Scale	Arrests
Poaching , Snaring - Medium/Large Game	1	Buffalo Bent	12.50%	Commercial	No
Charcoal Burning , Charcoal Kiln	1	Gazi	5.26%	Commercial	No
Footprints , Fresh Tracks	1	Buffalo Bent	3.70%		No
Footprints , Fresh Tracks	1	Buffalo Bent	3.70%	Commercial	No



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Illegal Activities

Illegal Activity	No. Incidents	Location	Percentage	Scale	Arrests
Footprints , Fresh Tracks	3	Gazi	11.11%	Commercial	No
Footprints , Old Tracks	1	Gazi	50.00%		No
Footprints , Old Tracks	1	Gazi	50.00%	Commercial	No
Honey Harvesting , Fresh Tracks	1	Sheldrick Blind	100.00%	Commercial	No
Charcoal Burning , Charcoal Kiln	1	Gazi	5.26%	Commercial	Yes
Poaching , Snaring - Large Game	1	Buffalo Bent	9.09%	Commercial	No
Shooting Platform , Arrowing	1	Macho Kombo	100.00%	Commercial	No
Poaching , Snaring - Medium/Large Game	1	Kilalinda	12.50%	Commercial	No
Poaching , Snaring - Small Game	2	Buffalo Bent	9.52%	Commercial	No
Poaching , Snaring - Small Game	3	Gazi	14.29%	Commercial	No
Poaching , Snaring - Small Game	1	Kilalinda	4.76%	Commercial	No
Poaching , Snaring - Small Game	1	Macho Kombo	4.76%	Commercial	No
Poaching , Snaring - Small/Medium Game	1	Buffalo Bent	25.00%	Commercial	Yes
Poaching , Snaring - Small/Medium Game	1	Gazi	25.00%	Commercial	Yes



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Illegal Activities

Illegal Activity	No. Incidents	Location	Percentage	Scale	Arrests
Poachers' Hideout(s) , Fresh Hideout	1	Gazi	33.33%	Commercial	No

* 'Percentage' indicates the overall percentage occurrence (encountered by all de-snaring teams) of that particular illegal activity during the selected month.

Snares Collected

Snare Type	Snare Size	Snare Description	No. Confiscated
Thin Wire	Small	Line	115
Thin Wire	Small	Cluster	274
Medium Wire	Medium	Line	9
Medium Wire	Medium		1
Medium Wire	Large		1
Cable	Large	Line	3

Total Snares Collected:	403
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Community Work

Target Group	Target Group Name	Activity	Location
Youth Group	Kasaala Youth Club	Sport	Kasaala
Community	Kasaala Women Group	Meeting	Kasaala
School	Tsavo Primary School	Conservation Talk	Tsavo East

Monthly Summary



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Monthly Summary

The team started its August patrols by revisiting some of the areas covered in the month of June this year. Most of this month's general area and along Athi River which is part of the Park boundary. The Team had intended to base patrols in these areas as patrols for quite sometime. The Team saw many signs of poachers entering the Park putting pressure on the Park's resources.

In the first week of the month the Team concentrated around Ithumba general. During the dry spell a lot of wildlife tend to congregate at the Ithumba Stockade. Many wild elephants have been seen in the area as other water points have dried up. The Team near water sources in the Park and hence following the wildlife's movements is logical as this is where the poachers will tend to on a broken down windmill at Ndiandasa.

During the second week of the month the team moved to Gazi. This area has endured large amounts of logging and charcoal seemed to have been timely as it appeared that the charcoal burners were regrouping to prepare to start cutting huge trees for charcoal burners. Light fires at the bottom of the trees to fell down the trees. The Team lay ambushes and arrested one charcoal burner at Kibwezi police station.

On patrolling the fence-line and talking to informers it seems most of the poacher entry points/routes were being used on a daily basis and managed to arrest a notorious poacher. He was caught with 18 snares made from wire which had been vandalized from the Mutomo police station. At Mkua-nima area there are reports that cattle grazers are vandalizing the fence by placing a stone on the strand with a stick to let livestock go in and out. This has forced the fence attendants to be switching the energizer machine on and off the fence.

When patrolling the Kona ya nyati area, fresh footprints moving in and out of the park were seen. The Team attempted laying traps and lifted 176 small snares in that area. The Team also found dried bush-meat at a poacher's hideout nearby. The hideout looked like it had been used for many days. The next day the Team managed to arrest a poacher who was busy checking some large cable snares along the road.

On patrolling near Tsavo safari camp, a poacher who was walking on the road saw the vehicle and dropped a sack of bush meat. The Team could not apprehend the man but searched the nearby bushes and lifted a total of 98 small snares. The Team came across another hideout, it is suspected to have been the hideout of the runaway poacher. Along the top of the Yatta towards Nthalakana air recently. There were many footprints crossing the Yatta plateau. The Team revisited Macho-kobo area where a big elephant snared 16 snares targeting small game were lifted.

On 28/8/2010 the Team held a security meeting at Voi park headquarters. All the 5 team leaders who manage the sheldricks de-snaring were tasked with a defined area of operation to ensure that poaching comes down and elephant poaching is tackled efficiently. The use of poisoned arrows and snaring is on the rise.

In the first week of the month the Team attended the grand opening of a classroom at Tsavo Primary School. There was also a presentation at Kasaala and Tsavo primary schools. The occasion was attended by local leaders from the area. The Team organized a sports weekend with the youth. This was a great success as a football competition at Kasaala playing () showed a good relationship between the Team members and the youth.



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Youth Club members playing football



Youth football match at Kasaala



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Snares lifted at Corner Nyati



Snares lifted in a single day of patrol



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A team member lifting snares



Charcoal kilns at Gazi



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Charcoal burning in Gazi area



Dried bush meat recovered at a poachers hideout



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Fresh bush meat recovered from a poachers hideout



Recovered bush meat



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A recently used poachers hideout



Arrested poacher



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A snared Dikdik



A tree cut down using fire

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