



THE DAVID SHELDRIK WILDLIFE TRUST

**PO BOX 15555
MBAGATHI 00503
NAIROBI
KENYA
TEL: 020 230 1396**

**DE-SNARING REPORT
DECEMBER 2011**

ITHUMBA TEAM



Ithumba Team

De-Snaring Report for December, 2011

Participants

Paul	Kamau
Lemanten	Labarakwe
Noah	Lesimirdana
Leandas	Lewangati
James	Lodungokiyok
Patrick	Mutuku
Ali	Roba

Areas Patrolled

Chamanyenze
Ithumba
Ithumba Hill
Kalovoto
Kanzi
Kibwezi Forest
Kyaе Rock
Macho Kombo
Mathae
Power Line
Tundani
Uma Uma
Umbi Hill
Wamata

Arrests

0 Arrest(s) this month



Ithumba Team

De-Snaring Report for December, 2011

Illegal Activities - Number, Type and Description

Illegal Activities

Illegal Activity	No. Incidents	Location	Percentage	Scale	Arrests
Poaching , Snaring - Small Game	5	Mathea	19.23%	Commercial	No
Poaching , Snaring - Small Game	1	Kalovoto	3.85%	Commercial	No
Poaching , Snaring - Small Game	1	Ithumba	3.85%	Commercial	No
Poachers' Hideout(s) , Fresh Hideout	1	Macho Kombo	14.29%		No
Poachers' Hideout(s) , Fresh Hideout	1	Kyae Rock	14.29%	Commercial	No
Footprints , Fresh Tracks	1	Kyamanyenze	5.00%	Commercial	No

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



Ithumba Team

De-Snaring Report for December, 2011

Wildlife Carcasses - Number, Species, Cause of Death

No. Carcasses	Species	Cause of Death	Means of Death	Carcass Age
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De-Snaring Report for December, 2011

Snares Collected

Snare Type	Snare Size	Snare Description	No. Confiscated
Thin Wire	Small	Scattered	60
Thin Wire	Small	Line	17
Thin Wire	Small	Cluster	4

Total Snares Collected:	81
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Ithumba Team

De-Snaring Report for December, 2011

Monthly Summary

There were generally very minimal illegal activities in the first half of December. However towards the end of the month, it was noted that an increase of illegal human activities was yet again creeping into the Park. These ranged from snaring, honey hunting, logging, vandalism of the electric fence wire, charcoal burning and hunting for big game. The Team therefore had to increase pressure on the poachers to counteract this trend. The team was on very high alert during the festive season to avert any illegal activities from occurring.

The poachers once again shot at Kora, one of the orphaned elephants raised by DSWT, this time on the hind leg and the front foot. The Vet came to treat him and he is going to make a full recovery. However this is a worrying sign, elephant poaching in Africa is undoubtedly on the rise and this is a threat to their long term survival on this continent. The Team had to intensify patrols around the general area of Ithumba as these rehabilitated ex-orphans do not tend to go beyond 5 miles from Ithumba area. These occurrences have left the Team investigating the situation on the ground to get to grasp with what the poacher's strategy is and how to tackle it.

The opening of the Yatta road continued as planned. This is totally a new road on an existing elephant trail which is being widened to serve as a patrol road. The DSWT has managed to complete 20kms so far. The casuals opening the road accidentally came upon a poacher camp, which the Team went to investigate. Unfortunately the three poachers managed to escape leaving behind an elephant snare.

As this is the last report for the year of 2011 the Team would like to extend their gratitude to all those who support The David Sheldrick Wildlife Trust, because without this support the project would not be possible. The Team would also like to thank KWS (Kenya Wildlife Service) for all the hard work they have carried out in collaboration this year and for their dedication to the Anti-poaching patrols with the DSWT. We look forward to working together in 2012 and hope that together we can continue to make such a valuable difference in protecting Kenya's wildlife & natural resources.



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De-Snaring Report for December, 2011



Man made beehive seen inside park yatta area



Casuals working on opening the road at Yatta

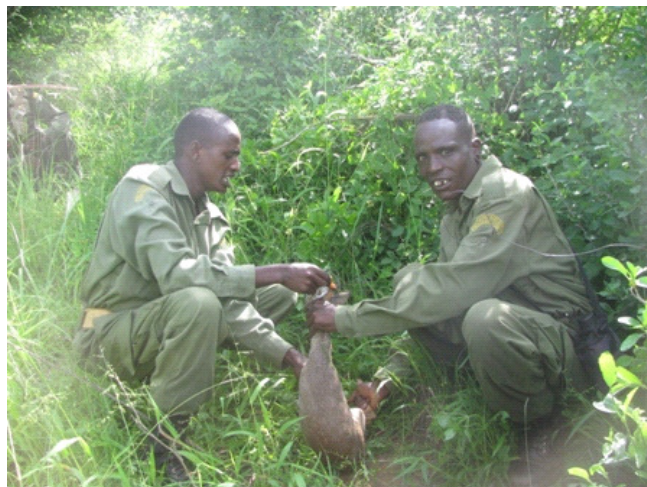


Ithumba Team

De-Snaring Report for December, 2011



De-snaring team during patrols



A dikdik rescued from a snare at mathae area



Ithumba Team

De-Snaring Report for December, 2011



Recently used poacher camp is destroyed at machokobo area



Fresh poacher footprint at Mathae area



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De-Snaring Report for December, 2011



Repair works at the Ithumba repeater



The Team with the KWS Rangers on Ithumba Hill



Ithumba Team

De-Snaring Report for December, 2011



Kora the orphan who was injured by poachers greets the Team



Removing snares

Ithumba Team December 2011

South Kitui NR

