



Ithumba Team

De-Snaring Report for January, 2011

Participants

Lemanten Labarakwe
Noah Lesimirdana
James Lodungokiyok
Stephen Musau
Patrick Mutuku

Areas Patrolled

Athi River
Buffalo Bent
Gazi
Kanziku Gate
Kona Ya Nyati
Kyae Rock
Power Line
Sheldrick Blind
Tundani

Arrests

2 Arrest(s) this month

Illegal Activities

Illegal Activity	No. Incidents	Location	Percentage	Scale	Arrests
Poaching , Snaring - Small Game	1	Kanziko	5.26%	Commercial	No
Poaching , Snaring - Small Game	4	Gazi	21.05%	Commercial	No
Footprints , Fresh Tracks	1	Sheldrick Blind	5.56%		No
Footprints , Fresh Tracks	1	Power Line	5.56%		No



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Illegal Activities

Illegal Activity	No. Incidents	Location	Percentage	Scale	Arrests
Footprints , Fresh Tracks	1	Gazi	5.56%		No
Charcoal Burning , Charcoal Kiln	5	Gazi	25.00%	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	43

Total Snares Collected:	43
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Monthly Summary



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Monthly Summary

The team began its operations on 16/1/2011 after two weeks on off-duty. The Team came across two fresh footprints walking along the road on top of the Yatta Plateau. Several shooting platforms were destroyed, all found close to waterholes. Most of the shooting platforms revealed fresh poacher activities, which means the poachers are visiting them during the night. During patrols at Kanziko area the Team came across a young elephant carcass along the road. It had been sighted by KWS rangers who had removed the tusks. The cause of the death was unknown. During patrols at Kyae-rock there were also signs of poachers frequenting at night. The Team noticed the elephants were very edgy compared to their usual behaviour which could indicate they are wary of poachers.

Along the fence-line towards Tiva river there is mining of gemstones taking place inside the park. The Team laid ambush but sadly did not manage to capture any of the miners.

An aerial patrol was carried out on the 21/1/2011 over the Gazi area. A lot of illegal activities were seen including charcoal burning, cattle grazing, bushfires, logging among others. An elephant carcass was also spotted; the carcass was about 3 months old and covered with branches. Following these revelations the Team relocated their camp to the Gazi area where on the first few patrols two loggers were arrested. They were booked at Kibwezi police station. The Team lifted 43 snares in the area. A fresh poacher's camp was discovered with some of the poachers' belongings left behind as he had left for the market to sell bush-meat. The Team destroyed many illegal charcoal kilns. Near the Athi River, the Team discovered heavy logging inside the park along the river which had been done 4 days prior using power-saws. The Team joined forces with Mtito Team and together the investigation succeeded in arresting the suspect who was taken to Kibwezi Police Station with a lorry full of timber.



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Arrested logger at Gazi area



Burned area in Gazi



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Charcoal kiln along Athi River



Consificated timber Yikita area



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Destroying charcoal kilns along Athi River



Elephant carcass along Kanziko road



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Heavy logging at Gazi area



Illegal cattle grazing Gazi area



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Illegal cattle grazing Gazi area

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