



Ithumba Team

De-Snaring Report for June, 2011

Participants

Lemanten Labarakwe
Noah Lesimirdana
James Lodungokiyok
Stephen Musau
Patrick Mutuku

Areas Patrolled

Kalovoto
Kyae Rock
Macho Kombo
Mathae
Power Line
Tiva
Tundani
Umma Umma
Wamata

Arrests

3 Arrest(s) this month

Illegal Activities

Illegal Activity	No. Incidents	Location	Percentage	Scale	Arrests
Poachers' Hideout(s) , Fresh Hideout	1	Power Line	11.11%	Commercial	No
Footprints , Fresh Tracks	1	Ithumba	7.14%		No
Footprints , Fresh Tracks	1	Kalovoto	7.14%	Commercial	No
Footprints , Fresh Tracks	1	Macho Kombo	7.14%		No



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Illegal Activities

Illegal Activity	No. Incidents	Location	Percentage	Scale	Arrests
Footprints , Fresh Tracks	1	Tundani	7.14%		No
Footprints , Fresh Tracks	1	Umauma	7.14%		No
Elephant Poaching , Arrowing	1	Tundani	25.00%	Commercial	No
Poachers' Hideout(s) , Fresh Hideout	1	Kyae Rock	11.11%	Commercial	No
Rescue , Snaring - Small Game	1	Kyae Rock	100.00%	Commercial	No
Poaching , Snaring - Large Game	1	Tundani	20.00%	Commercial	Yes
Poaching , Snaring - Medium Game	1	Tundani	16.67%	Commercial	No
Poaching , Snaring - Small Game	1	Kalovoto	4.55%	Commercial	No
Poaching , Snaring - Small Game	1	Kyae Rock	4.55%	Commercial	No
Poaching , Snaring - Small Game	1	Macho Kombo	4.55%	Commercial	No
Poaching , Snaring - Small Game	1	Muathe	4.55%	Commercial	No
Footprints , Fresh Tracks	1	Wamata	7.14%		No

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

Snares Collected



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Snare Type	Snare Size	Snare Description	No. Confiscated
Thin Wire	Small	Line	26
Thin Wire	Small	Cluster	30
Rope	Small	Line	20
Medium Wire	Medium	Cluster	72
Cable	Large		55

Total Snares Collected: 203

Community Work

Target Group	Target Group Name	Activity	Location
Community		Meeting	Kasaala
School	Kone Primary School	Meeting	Kone
School	Kone Primary School	School Trip	Kone
School	Kone Primary School	School Trip	Kone

Monthly Summary



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Monthly Summary

The Ithumba team was on off-duty for the first two weeks of the Month, reporting back on 14/6/2011 and immediately commenced with the months ground work. Most of the waterholes had dried up apart from a few which had very little water. The Team patrolled Macho-kobo where 24 snares of small game were lifted. Most of the poacher activities were mainly at Tundani area along the river Tiva. The Team had to apply a lot of pressure because it seemed there were a lot of poacher groups in this area.

At Tundani area the Team saw 6 poachers who were also carrying out illegal logging. This is was notably unusual because in most cases illegal logging occurs along the boundary of the National Park. They were wearing sacks on their feet so that their footprints resemble those of elephants. We managed to arrest 3 poachers while 3 more managed to escape. They were in possession of 5 beams of timber, 5 poisoned arrows, 2 bows, 55 snares, 20 bird traps and 3 kgs of bush meat. Among those who escaped was a poacher whom we had arrested last month and had been fined ksh 10,000 before being released. The following day the Team took part in an aerial recce and found a three day old elephant carcass only a few kilometers from where the Team had arrested the poachers. The tusks were still intact and The Team alerted KWS who recovered them.

The following day the Team patrolled Kyae rock and managed to lift 28 snares which had been left behind by a poacher after he was scared by the aircraft. He left his belongings at his hideout.

On patrolling power line waterholes the Team found 3 poachers in their hideout but they managed to escape. Among them was the poacher who stole the solar panels earlier in the year. They left behind 72 snares, an axe, 2 bows, 5 poisoned arrows, 20 kgs of unga.

The Team organized two educational school trips, both for Kone School. The pupils were picked up from the school grounds early in the morning and were first taken to visit the orphaned elephants at the mudbath. They also visited the Banda's, the ithumba dog unit, and the stockade. They were able to see giraffes, ostrich, warthogs, elephants, guinnuene fowls among other species.

They also visited kasaala gate and saw the fence line. They visited Tsavo primary school near the gate for the pupils to interact and get exposure from the other pupils.

The Kone community is a closed community who live in isolation due to its location. The only nearby school is about 80kms away. The pupils were very excited and really appreciated the golden opportunity of being considered and being remembered. The memory of this trip will place a positive mark in their memory for many year to come.

The Team had a meeting with the local chief for Kasaala location. The discussion was mainly to highlight and explain the disappointment of the trust with regards to the stolen solar panels. He promised to a series of meetings to explain the same to the community members



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Kone Students visit the Ithumba elephant orphans



Kone Students learn about elephants & conservation



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An active poachers camp near kyae rock



Arrested poachers



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Rescuing a Dikdik from a snare



Poached elephant, killed by poison arrows



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Poachers hiedout in Tundani



Poachers hideout near the power line



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Snares siezed from poachers



Shooting platform in the Tiva area



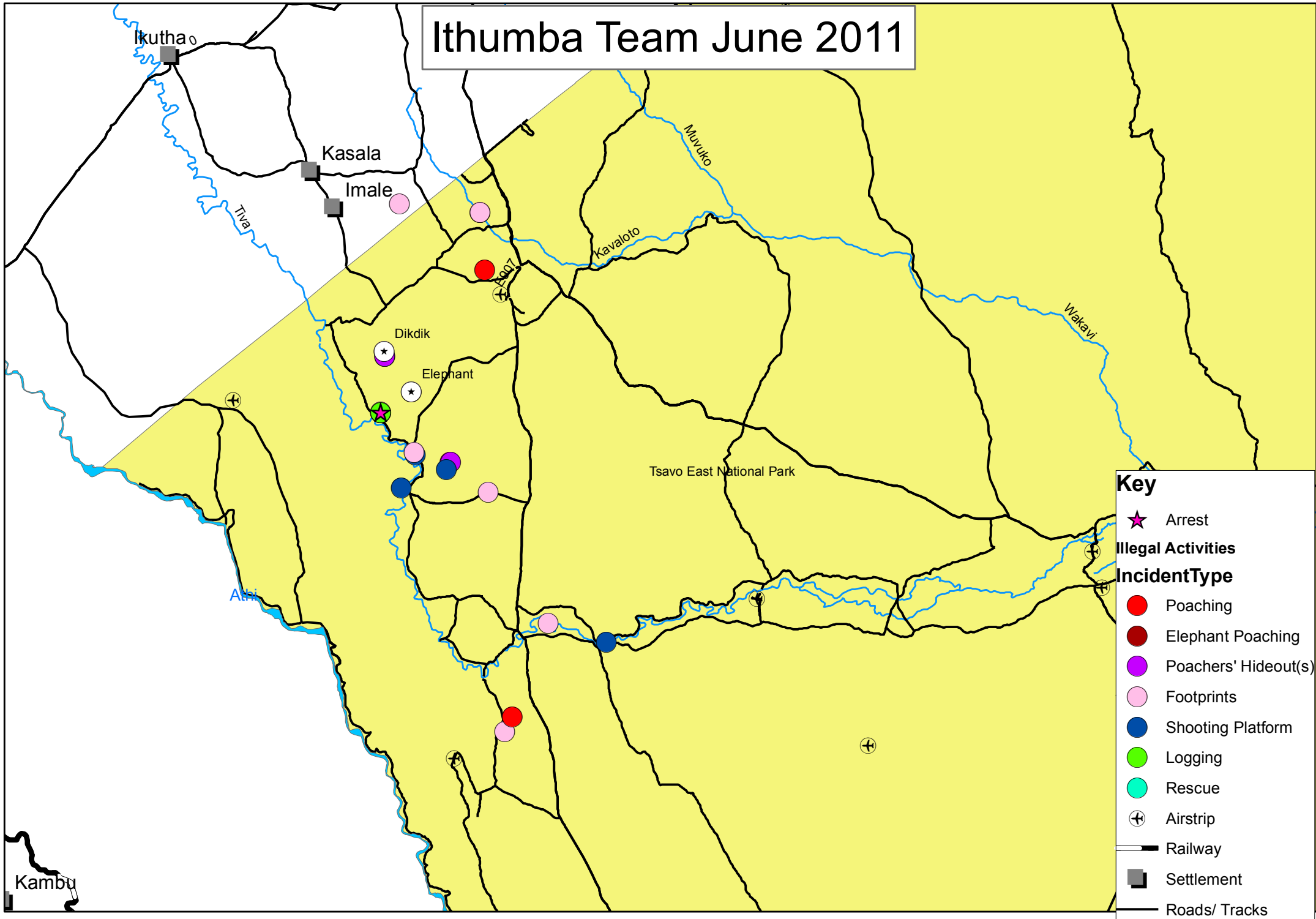
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Lifting snares

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Kambu