



## Mtito Team

### De-Snaring Report for October, 2010

#### Participants

John Karani  
Julius Kyalo  
Rais Ledonyo  
John Lelekoiten  
Gerald Mwanzia

#### Areas Patrolled

Triangle

#### Arrests

0 Arrest(s) this month

#### Illegal Activities

| Illegal Activity                | No. Incidents | Location | Percentage | Scale       | Arrests |
|---------------------------------|---------------|----------|------------|-------------|---------|
| Poaching , Snaring - Small Game | 1             | Triangle | 11.11%     | Subsistence | No      |
| Footprints , Fresh Tracks       | 2             | Triangle | 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

| Snare Type | Snare Size | Snare Description | No. Confiscated |
|------------|------------|-------------------|-----------------|
| Thin Wire  | Small      |                   | 1               |



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|                                |          |
|--------------------------------|----------|
| <b>Total Snares Collected:</b> | <b>1</b> |
|--------------------------------|----------|

#### Community Work

| Target Group | Target Group Name       | Activity      | Location |
|--------------|-------------------------|---------------|----------|
| School       | Makokani Primary School | Mobile Cinema |          |

#### Monthly Summary



## **Mtito Team**

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#### **Monthly Summary**

The team was off-duty from the 1st to 18th October. Upon returning from leave, the Team carried out had a joint operation with both Teams patrolled the Chyulu hills and arrested four wood carvers whose activities have become a real threat to the trees in operations continued in the Chyulu National Park. The Team fought a fire that is suspected to have been lit by the poachers. In Kibwezi forest where ongoing illegal logging was seen, though no arrests were made, controlling this will be much easier once Later that evening, the Team carried out a charcoal raid along the highway and managed to recover 46 bags of charcoal. This David Sheldrick Wildlife Trust Teams, KWS and the Administration Police. Seven charcoal dealers were arrested during this operation.

The Team later got information about some sandalwood dealers who were about to pass along the highway with illegal sandalwood at Kibwezi junction and two motorbikes carrying sandalwood were apprehended after a chase with the Trust vehicle. The men were recovered. One of the two men managed to escape. The one that was arrested informed the Team that the wood was on shopping centre in the outskirts of Kibwezi town.

The following morning the Team attended the launching of the Umani-Mtito Andei water project which was headed by the minister. The Sheldrick teams participated in the tree planting activity which was part of the ceremony.

During patrols at Kikunduku area a lot of logging and charcoal burning activities were going on inside the park boundary. Fires were also rampant in the area. Four charcoal burners were arrested in that area. In an effort to have better access to the area the Team and camped at the Kambi Ya Faru. During patrol the Team came across a buffalo carcass that we suspected had been killed in the area.

On the 26th, while coming back at around 7.45pm the Camp staff phoned the Team to inform them that they had seen torches heard. The Team leader immediately informed the Assistant Security Warden for Tsavo West. The Warden met with the Team together the group headed to the camp in search of the men with guns. The following morning the group combed the area through the East side. Fresh human tracks were found about a kilometer away from the Camp but sadly the tracks disappeared.

Towards the end of the month the Team patrolled the Mtito River and noted that some people had taken the advantage of our month and a lot of charcoal burning and illegal logging had taken place. The Team came across an old elephant skull which was a cause of death. The skull showed that the tusks must have been removed which indicates it may be a poaching victim. The Team destroyed the shooting platform which further affirmed the suspicion of elephant poaching in the area. The Team destroyed the shooting platform.

On the 29th of October the team went to Makokani Primary school and showed a wildlife video. The pupils were very excited about the wildlife. The team later had a talk with the STD 8 candidates and gave them a few tips on how to prepare for the national examination.



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Wildlife Film screening at School



Makokani Primary School excited to see the Team arrive with the Mobile Cinema equipment



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Team leader planting a tree during the Minister's visit to Umani



Buffalo carcass found during patrols



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Illegal logging at the Kikunduku area



Patrolling with the KWS Security Warden in the Triangle



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Products of Kibwezi forest being transported to the market



Illegal logging along Mtito River



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Illegal charcoal burning along Mtito River



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