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DE-SNARING REPORT NOVEMBER 2013 TIVA/NYATI TEAM



De-Snaring Report for November, 2013

Participants

Ezekiel Chengo Paul Chalo Paul Kyalo Leandas Lewagat James Simiti Vincent Mutua Wambua David Peter Wambua

Areas Patrolled

Umbi Hill

Tundani

Tiva

Power Line

Kyamanyenze

Kimweli

Kasaala fencline

Kanziku Freeline

Kai Rock

Ithumba

Imenti

Gazi

Bisadi

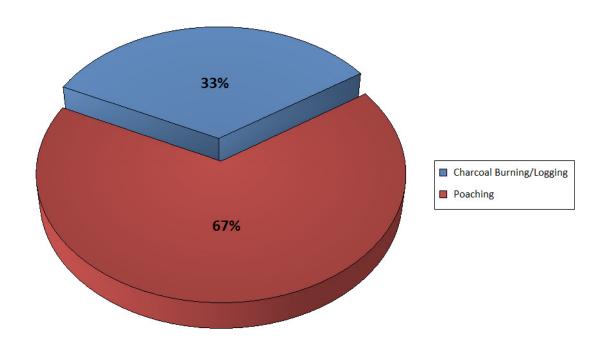
Arrests

4 Arrest(s) this month



De-Snaring Report for November, 2013

Main Illegal Activities experienced during the Month





De-Snaring Report for November, 2013

Snares Collected

Snare Type	Snare Size	Snare Description	No. Confiscated
Thin Wire	Small	Scattered	92
Thin Wire	Small	Cluster	15
Medium Wire	Medium	Scattered	10

Total Snares Collected: 117



De-Snaring Report for November, 2013

Monthly Summary

This month Nyati team was on duty for the entire month. Operations focused on several key areas. In Ithumba, the team patrolled the Tundani area and along the Tiva river. Standard patrols were also carried out in Kalovoto, Umbi, Gazi, and along the Kasala fence line, but on two occasions the team was called away on special missions, once in aid of a lion that was caught in a well and another time to help with the search of two recently relocated orphans, which had gone missing from the Ithumba stockades.

Areas of Operation:

Ithumba - Tiva/Tundani

While patrolling the Tiva/Tundani area on the 12th of November, signs of potential elephant poaching were discovered while following footprints within the Park. There appeared to have been a scuffle in one location and the poachers had drawn arrows in the sand to indicate a direction. Aerial support was brought in and the footprints were followed on the ground as far as possible, but unfortunately the trail was lost and nothing materialized during the aerial search.

Ithumba

Mid-month, Ithumba stockade keepers called for assistance to locate two orphans that had been recently relocated to Tsavo. They had settled in well on the first day, but on the second day they left the stockade with a group of exorphans and did not return that night. Their tracks were followed several kilometres from the camp but could not be followed beyond sunset. Unfortunately it rained during the night and the tracks were washed away completely. The following day a search was mounted, as both orphans were still milk-dependent and unable to survive for long on their own. With support from a stand-in pilot, a group of young elephants were spotted that were suspected to be ex-orphans. Similar to the previous day, the tracks were picked up and followed until dark after which another rainstorm washed them away.

The next morning another group of young elephants, suspected to be ex-orphans were spotted and photographed by the pilot. Ithumba keepers approached them on foot and confirmed that they were ex-orphans but they were not accompanied by either of the youngsters so the search resumed. Three sets of footprints were found relatively close to the stockades that looked as though they might belong to our missing orphans but were only followed for a short distance before being lost.

On the final day, now desperate to find them before they died, Nyati and Ndovu teams as well as a group of keepers with a vehicle split up and started searching along roads and around every water point in the area trying to find any sign of the orphans. Finally, in the afternoon, the footprints of a group of young elephants were found having crossed a road near the fence line to the park nearly 10 kilometres from the stockades. The pilot began searching the area and almost immediately spotted the group around 3 kilometres from the point where they crossed the road. GPS coordinates were received over the radio and Nyati team, along with Ndovu team and the keepers fanned out and started running towards the elephants. Night was fast approaching, as was a heavy rainstorm. Unfortunately, the coordinates brought the men to a location about 100 metres away from the elephants at which time the storm had reached them and the pilot was no longer able to offer aerial support. Circling at the edge of the storm, the pilot gave directions over the radio as best as possible, no longer able to see the men or the elephants and after about ten minutes the elephants were found and escorted another seven kilometres back to the stockades where they arrived



Tiva/Nyati Team De-Snaring Report for November, 2013

KWS Ranger Participation

Patrol Team	KWS Ranger Name	No. Patrol Days
Tiva/Nyati	John, Mwangi	1
Tiva/Nyati	John, Kariuki	3
Tiva/Nyati	Boniface, Mwangi	26
Tiva/Nyati	Abdikadir, Mohammed	1
Tiva/Nyati	Abdikadir, Mohamed	22

Total Man Days of KWS Participation: 53



Monthly Synopsis Nyati (Tiva)

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Kalavoto

No illegal activity found.

Bisadi

A lion was discovered from the air in the Bisadi area, trapped in a well in the dry Tiva riverbed. These wells are dug by Orma pastoralists who move into the Park for months at a time to graze their cattle illegally.

The pilot asked Nyati team to check on the lion to determine if it could be rescued. Having seen the lion and shared pictures with the KWS vet it was determined that the lion had a slim chance of survival, as it had not eaten in many days. However, it was felt that something should be done to try and revive the emaciated lion. The team came back the following day with a goat, which the lion ate, but unfortunately, despite the team's efforts, the lion died the next morning.

Umbi

The team successfully apprehended a man harvesting wood in the Park near Umbi Hill and booked him with the Police.

Kasala Fence line

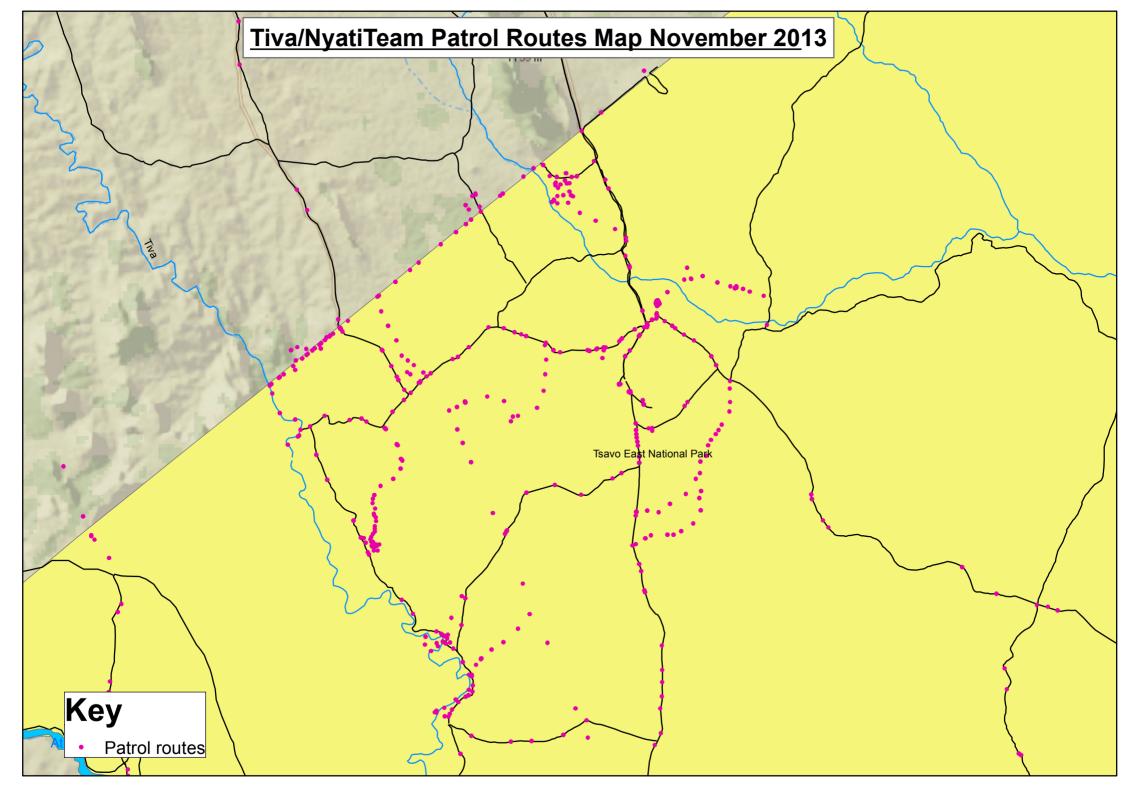
No illegal activity found.

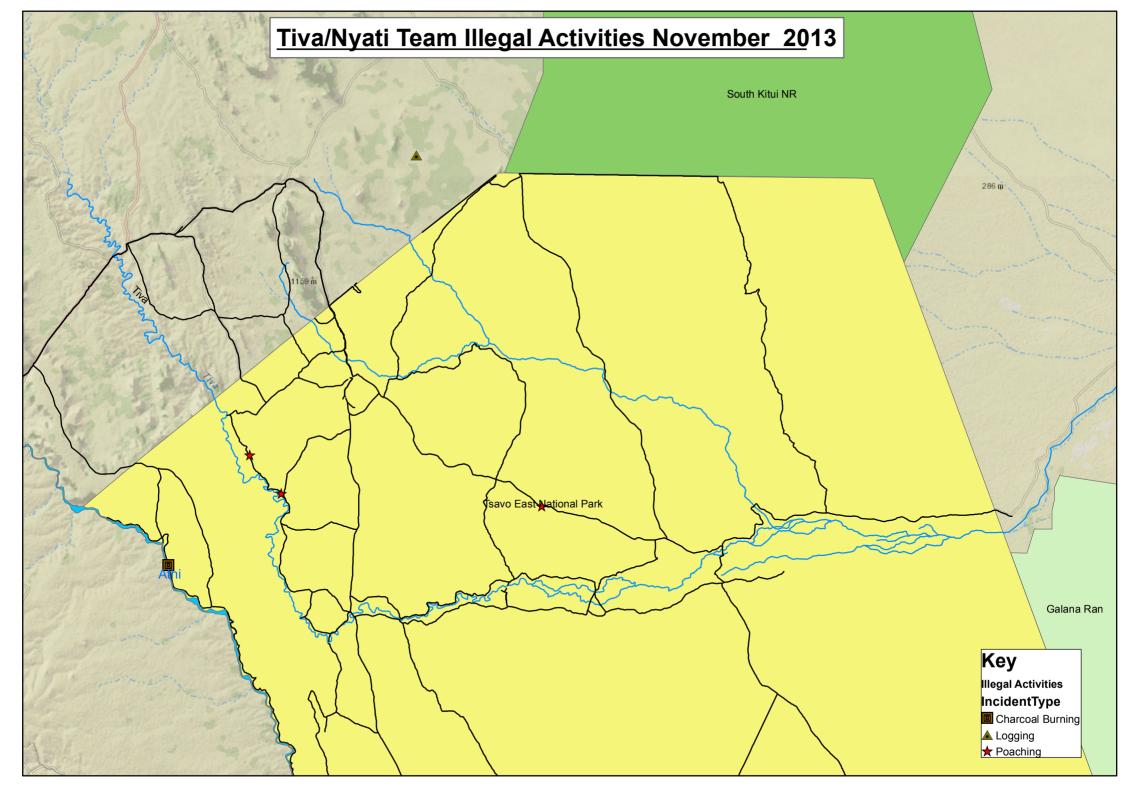
Gazi

A total of two days were spent in Gazi, which led to the arrest of three people. Two of these were carrying charcoal and the third was in the possession of snares.

Generally, illegal activity declined during November due to heavy and persistent rains that prompted many would-be poachers and charcoal burners to plant out crops on their farms instead.

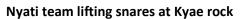
The only drawback was that these heavy rains, especially on the 15th and 16th, made travel more difficult by washing away parts of the roads and bogging down others with thick mud.





<u>Tiva/Nyati Team November 2013 Desnaring Report Photographs</u>







Rescuing a snared dikdik at Kyae rock.



Shooting blind found at Kyamanyenze area.



Logging at Gazi area.