

Q1

### FOUNDER'S MESSAGE

Dear MWCT supporter,

Unfortunately, the drought has still affected us in Q1, with a rainfall almost 3 times less than usual.

It might well be that in Q3, we will be reporting on opposite and equally challenging conditions, given we have transitioned from a La Nina to an El Nino.

Very worrying climate change events...

The drought causes farmers to struggle having crops, and pressure to feed their families increase, with higher poaching events. We are doing more patrols to deal with this challenge.

What is an incredible success to celebrate and report is the amazing tolerance the Maasai community has built on lions. It goes beyond my comprehension, as I doubt I could be as wise, patient and tolerant as the Kuku community: a herder was attacked and injured within his boma, by a lioness, at night.

Yet he, or others, did not retaliate.

Similarly, when one of our rangers was injured by a lioness while monitoring her, nobody saw that as a reason to retaliate.

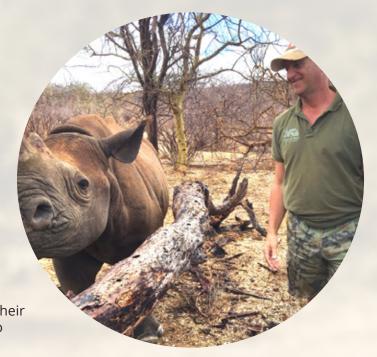
Wildlife Pays has proven to be an amazing success in demonstrating to the community that co-existing with wildlife and predators is not just possible, but desirable, for the services which Wildlife and Wilderness provide to the community.

If you can donate, please support us, as the challenges of poaching from community impoverished by the drought has been difficult.

The Chyulu Hills REDD+ Carbon Project is helping to deal with the drought, by supporting nearly 30,000 students within the entire whole Project Zone with school meals.

Best regards,

Luca Belpietro MWCT Director





### CONSERVATION

Wildlife Security & Habitat Protection Ranger Patrol Incidents & Conflicts

Wildlife Monitoring
Species Sighting
Lion research & Monitoring
Simba Scouts
Camera Trap Results

Predator Protection Wildlife Pays

Land Restoration Bee-Keeping REDD+ Carbon Project

### LIVELIHOODS

JustDiggit Restoration Projects

### HEALTH

Outreaches Family Planning

### **EDUCATION**

Achievements Challenges

**PARTNERS & SUPPORT** 

## WILDLIFE & HABITAT PROTECTION

Olpakaai sector covered the greatest distance (1,219 km). The team faced some technological challenges with SMART (connect), which had contributed to some data delays.

Total	7.298	7.860	
Me Land	T	676 1	
Olorika	413	750	
Olpusare D	778	900	
Olpusare B	559	900	
Inkisanjani	854	900	
Motikanju	499	762	
Kuku	684	840	
Olpakaai	1,219	762	
Iltilal	555	774	
Chyulu	641	438	
Samai	1,094	834	
	(Kilometers)	(Kilometers)	
	DISTANCE	DISTANCE	
SECTOR	ACTUAL	TARGET	



SMART & Cybertracker

Data Collection Trained

14

ctors

6 to 8

Rangers per sectors

172

Dedicated Rangers for Kuku & Rombo Group Ranch daily patrols

7,29

Total kilometers on foot

112%

vs. Q1 2022



### **INCIDENTS** & CONFLICTS

### **JANUARY**

#### **JAN 14 - POACHING & ARREST**

Reported by: Kipais Roimen

Report received by: Ranger Operations Commander

Area covered: Olpusare D

**Summary**: Our rangers saw three spotlights moving towards their base area, and immediately laid an ambush that evening. At nearly midnight, our rangers managed to arrest one suspect, carrying a spotlight, and several empty sacks. The other two suspects managed to escape. During the interrogation, the arrested individual confessed to poaching small wildlife (dik-dik & gazelle) for consumption. Our team took the suspect to Loitokitok Police Station for statements

### JAN 24 - ELEPHANT MORTALITY (NATURAL)

Reported by: Lenkai Lejesu Report received by: Ranger Operations Commander Area covered: Langata

Summary: Our Rapid Unit Sergeant was informed of a dead elephant found by herders In Langata from MWCT Ranger, Koruta Parmetui. Under the directions of the ROC, the Rapid Unit team immediately responded on site and confirmed the elephant carcass was intact. Our team assessed the carcass for any possible injuries, or spear wounds and did not locate any. It was later deduced that that elephant had died from natural causes. Through the support of KWS, our team managed to remove the tusks (2 kgs each) and took them to KWS Komboyo Headquarters the following day.

### JAN 26 - BUFFALO MORTALITY (SPEARED)

Reported by: Newuata Pasha Report received by: Radio Room

Area covered: Ilchalai

**Summary**: Our ranger reported seeing an injured buffalo with a wound on its stomach, and suspected the injury was caused by a spear. The Ranger Operations Commander instructed our Admin Sergeant to report to the scene immediately. Once our team arrived, they found the buffalo was just a few kilometres away from the nearby farms. Our team attributed the injury to human-wildlife conflict, to which the buffalo had succumbed to and died that day. The details of the incident were shared with the KWS Loitokitok Community Warden.

### **FEBRUARY**

#### **FEB 15 - LION CONFLICT**

Reported by: Kanzi Conservancy Rangers

Report received by: Radio Room

Area covered: Chyulu

**Summary**: A lioness broke into a temporary boma and killed one sheep. The herders woke up and one had started to run towards the lioness' cubs. This prompted the lioness to attack the herder, who sustained injuries on his shoulders. The herder was taken to Loitokitok hospital and was reported to be discharged with minor injuries. Fortunately, a lion hunt was not conducted, and the lion was not injured. The incident was verified by the Wildlife Pays program.

### **FEB 15 - ELEPHANT TREATMENT**

Reported by: Samai Rangers Report received by: Radio Room

Area covered: Samai

**Summary**: Samai rangers reported seeing an elephant limping while on patrol. They suspected that the elephant sustained a leg injury. Upon receiving the information, our Rangers Operations Commander contacted KWS, and sent the KWS-Amboseli Veterinary unit. The KWS Vet team treated and released the elephant and concluded the elephant was in good health.

### FEB 18 - GIRAFFE MORTALITY (POACHING)

Reported by: Inkisanjani JDI plot Report received by: Radio Room Area covered: Inkisanjani

**Summary**: A giraffe carcass was discovered in Inkisanjani by our rangers. Only minimal remains were found since poachers took the bulk of the flesh. Our Ranger Operations Commander instructed the Rapid Response Unit to investigate the incident. Investigation is ongoing.

### FEB 27 - GIRAFFE MORTALITY (NATURAL)

Reported by: Motikanju Conservancy Rangers

Report received by: Radio Room

Area covered: Langata

**Summary**: One of our rangers reported a dead giraffe in Langata. After some careful assessments, our rangers deduced that the giraffe died of natural causes.

### FEB 28 - ELEPHANT MORTALITY (NATURAL)

Reported by: Motikanju Conservancy Rangers Report received by: Radio Room

Area covered: Motikanju

**Summary**: Our rangers discovered a sick elephant laying on the ground in Motikanju. Upon receiving the information,

our Ranger Operations Commander informed KWS. KWS quickly sent their veterinary unit to attend to the elephant. Unfortunately, they were unable to save the elephant as it succumbed to its ailments. KWS removed the tusks and their veterinary unit deduced that the elephant died from natural causes.

### **MARCH**

### MAR 6 - GIRAFFE MORTALITY (POACHING)

Reported by: Rapid A Unit Report received by: Radio Room Area covered: Kiwanja ya Ndege

**Summary**: Our rangers patrolled along the boundaries of the western side of KGR to reduce poaching. During these patrols, our Rapid A Unit discovered a poached giraffe carcass. The information was shared with our Ranger Operations Commander, who organized for the rangers to conduct several ambushes, but no arrests were made.

### **MAR 9 - GIRAFFE MORTALITY (SPEARED)**

Reported by: Olpusare B rangers Report received by: Radio Room

Area covered: Oyarata

**Summary**: During a routine patrol, our rangers discovered a giraffe with a deep spear wound. The incident was communicated to Kenya Wildlife Service, however the giraffe succumbed to its injuries before treatment. The cause of the spearing is unknown, and investigation is ongoing.

### **MAR 9 - ELEPHANT TREATMENT**

Reported by: Motikanju Conservancy Rangers

Report received by: Radio Room

Area covered: Enkii

### **INCIDENTS** & CONFLICTS









**Summary**: An injured elephant was spotted with a spear wound in Enkii. Our team reported the incident to KWS, who responded swiftly by sending their veterinary team to treat the elephant. A few days later, the elephant was spotted in Inkisanjani. Currently, the elephant is being closely monitored in the area by our Rapid A Unit based at Inkisanjani.

### MAR 12 - ELEPHANT MORTALITY (SPEARED)

Reported by: Rombo Conservancy rangers Report received by: Radio Room

Area covered: Rombo

Summary: Our rangers discovered an elephant carcass during their daily routine patrol. Upon closer inspection, our team deduced that the cause of death was from a spear wound found on its body. The incident was reported to KWS and both teams retrieved the tusks.

### **MAR 16 - GIRAFFE MORTALITY (NATURAL)**

Reported by: Rapid A unit Rangers Report received by: Radio Room

Area covered: Enkii

Summary: The Rapid A Unit spotted a young, sick giraffe in Enkii. The giraffe succumbed to its ailments and later died after our rangers had found it. Upon closer inspection, our rangers found no physical wounds or injuries on its body, and deduced it died of natural causes.

### MAR 18 - ELEPHANT MORTALITY (NATURAL)

Reported by: Data unit ranger at Samai Report received by: Radio Room

Area covered: Samai

Summary: An elephant in Samai that was treated for a spear wound in February had died after it had taken some water. Our team quickly retrieved the tusks that same evening.

#### **MAR 19 - LION CONFLICT**

Reported by: Chyulu (Loonkisugin area)

Report received by: Radio Room

Area covered: Chyulu

Summary: A team of our rangers were returning to their outpost from an observation point when they came across a lioness. The lioness attempted to attack one of the rangers, but he managed to climb up a nearby tree. The ranger was injured on his buttocks area and was rushed to Loitokitok District Hospital for treatment. He was discharged and managed to fully recover.

### MAR 29 - GIRAFFE MORTALITY (NATURAL)

Reported by: A local community member

Report received by: Radio Room

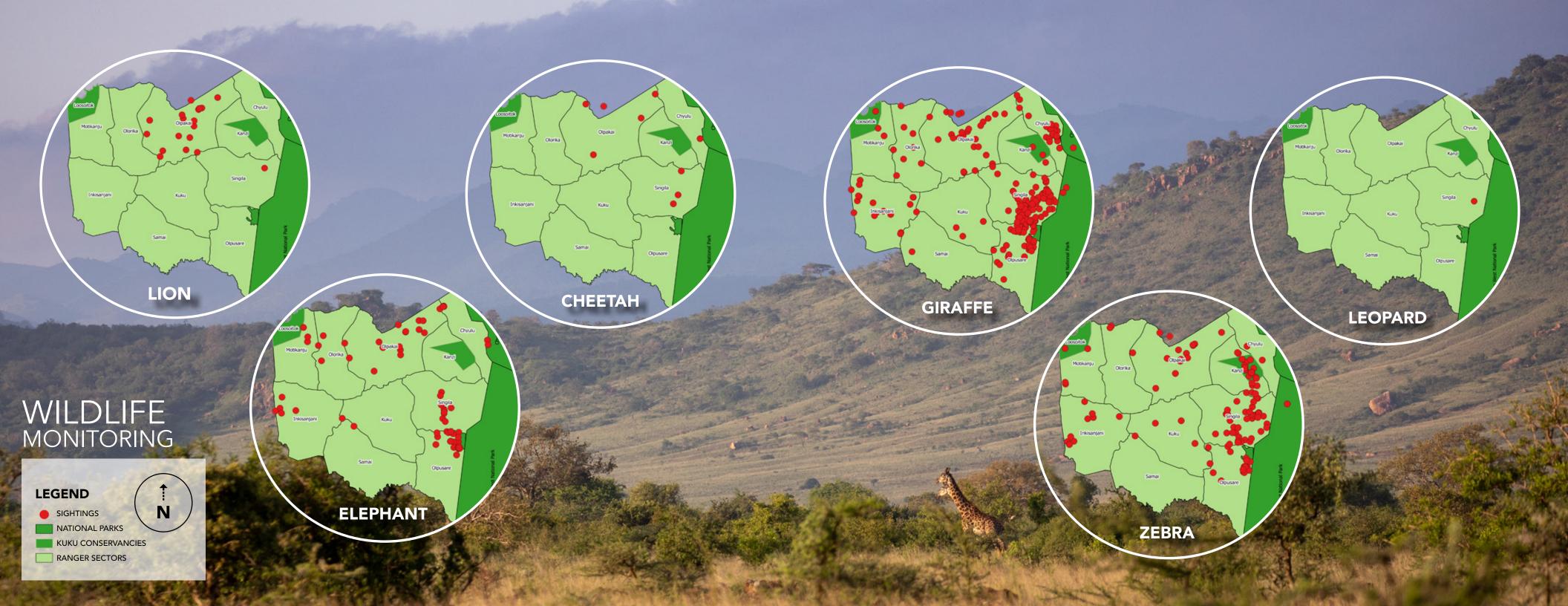
Area covered: Iltilal

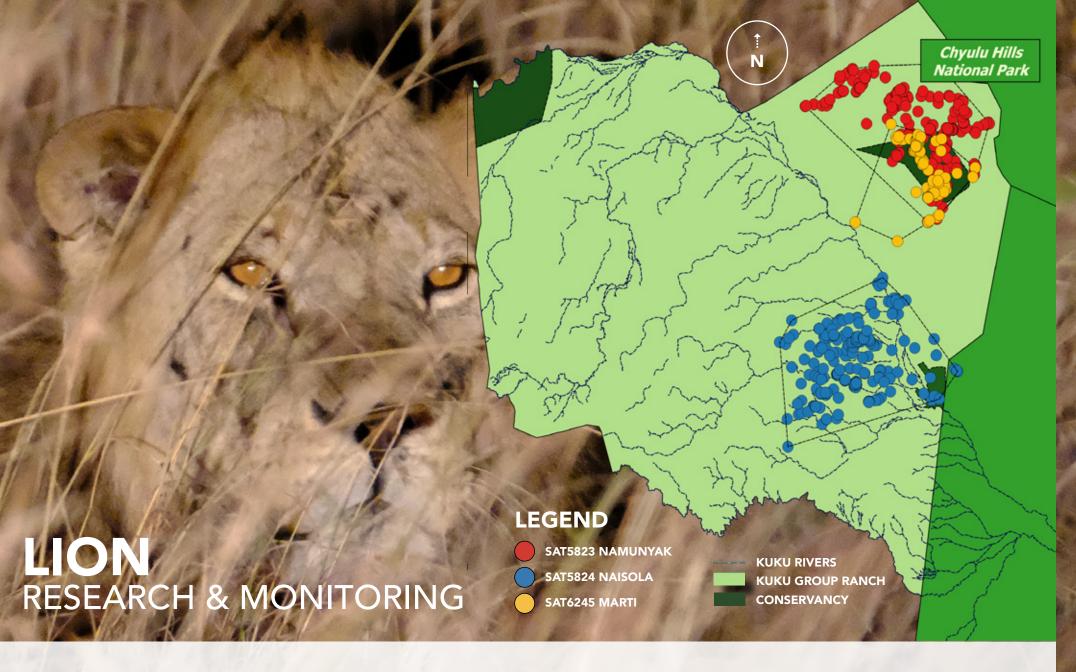
**Summary**: A community member found a giraffe carcass and reported it to our rangers at the Singila outpost. We sent our team to interrogate the matter and confirmed that the death was most likely due to natural causes.

### MAR 31 - ELEPHANT MORTALITY (NATURAL)

Reported by: Simba Scout Report received by: Radio Room Area covered: Olpusare D

Summary: A Simba Scout, during his routine lion patrols, came across a carcass of a juvenile elephant. He reported the incident to our conservation team. Upon closer inspection, our team deduced that the elephant died of natural causes. The tusks were removed and delivered to MWCT headquarters.





Collaring lions is a critically important step towards mitigating human-wildlife conflict. **Six** individual Lions on the Kuku Group Ranch (KGR) have been collared with GPS/VHF tracking collars and **3** of the pride's movement (*via satellite*) during **JAN - MAR 2023** are illustrated in the map. The other **3** prides have been monitored by our Simba Scouts via telemetry. Monitoring is important for assessing population growth rates and habitat utilisation on KGR.

Orkirikoi's (male) collar stopped transmitting a signal due to depleted battery life.

Nesambu's (female) collar stopped working early April 2019.

Nasha (female) stopped working late December 2021.

Naisola (female) was re-collared February 2023. Marti (male) was re-collared February 2023.

Namunyak (female) was re-collared February 2023.

### NAMUNYAK (female)

is part of a pride of 7 lions. She was seen mostly at Kanzi Conservancy, Sanda, Olpakaai, Loonkisugin, and Kerai areas.

Her pride was not involved in livestock predations this quarter.

- LION POINT EVERY 3 HRS
- 10% CORE TERRITORY
- 50% TERRITORY
- 95% TERRITORY
- KUKU GROUP RANCH SECTORS
- NATIONAL PARKS

### NAISOLA (female)

has been seen with a pride of 5 lions, covering a large area. She and her pride spent most of their time at Olmanie, Kuku Plains, and Olpusare areas.

Her pride was not involved in livestock predations this quarter.

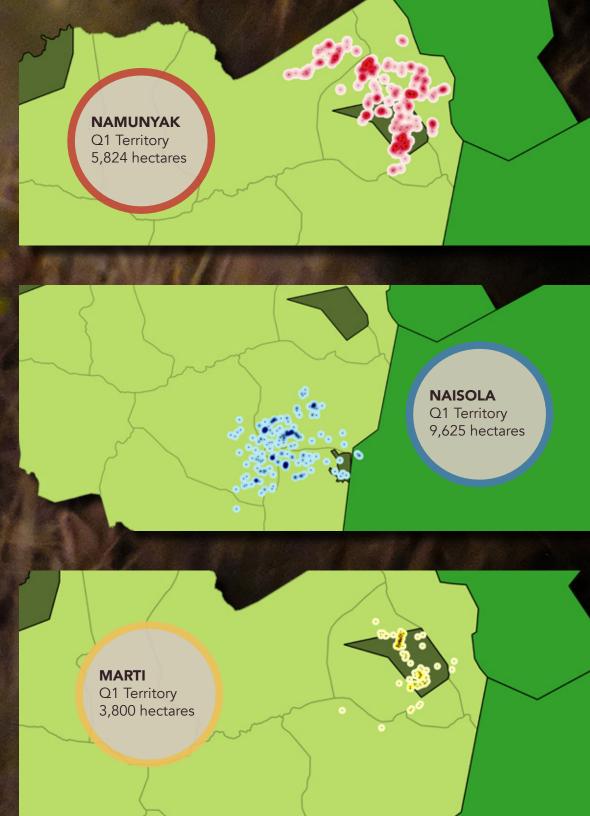
- LION POINT EVERY 3 HRS
- 10% CORE TERRITORY
- 50% TERRITORY
- 95% TERRITORY
- KUKU GROUP RANCH SECTORS
  NATIONAL PARKS

### MARTI (male)

is part of a pride of 8 members and has been seen moving within Kanzi Conservancy. Her pride was not involved in livestock predations this quarter.

His pride was not involved in livestock predations this quarter.

- LION POINT EVERY 3 HRS
- 10% CORE TERRITORY
- 50% TERRITORY
- 95% TERRITORY
- KUKU GROUP RANCH SECTORS
- NATIONAL PARKS





# SIMBA SCOUTS

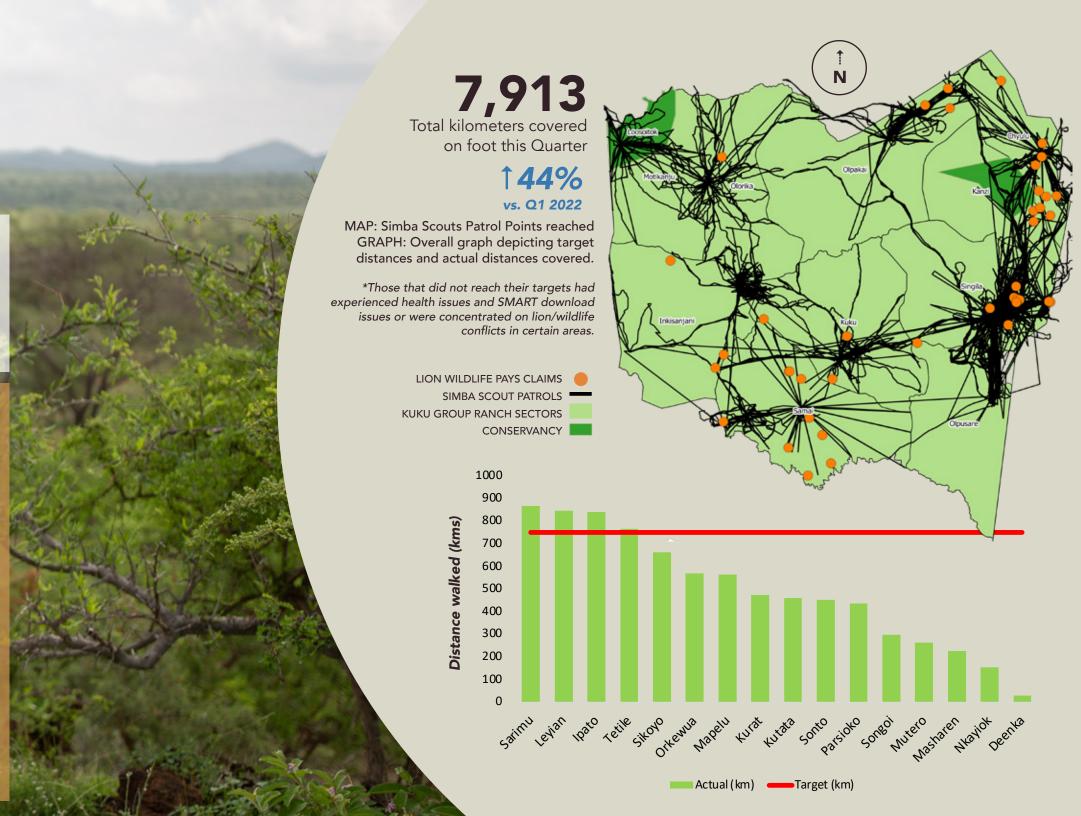
This is a **dedicated team of 18 Maasai warriors** (morani), who day in and day out monitor GPS collared lions & other wildlife species. Data collected is analysed and used to gauge various aspects of different wildlife species such as their eating habits. The monitoring is also a very significant measure to mitigating human-wildlife conflict within the local Maasai communities.

### LION COLLARING

A lion collaring operation was carried out between Feb 15th to 20th. Our team successfully collared 3 lions - 1 male and 2 females.

Collaring team: Dr. Poghon (KWS), Lana Muller, David Kanai. Support: Derik Nieuwoudt, MWCT Community rangers, and Simba scouts.





## CAMERATRAP SIGHTINGS

√ GIRAFFE

ELEPHANT

HYENA
Spotted
Striped

WARTHOG

LION
Female
Male
Cubs

CHEETAH

GAZELLE

LEOPARD

Grant's Thomson's

**BABOON** 

IMPALA

HARTEBEEST

WILDEBEEST

ZEBRA

BUFFALO

DIK DIK

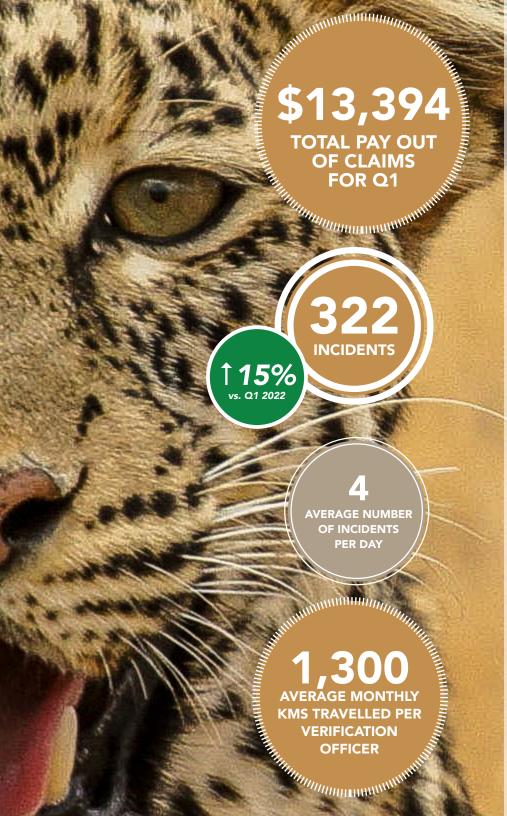
JACKAL

PORCUPINE

**KORI BUSTARD** 

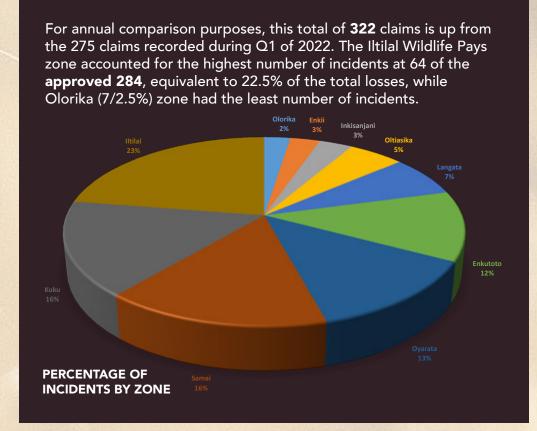
**HONEY BADGER** 





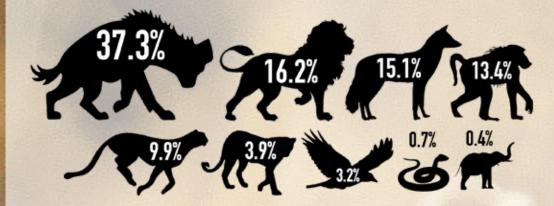
### WILDLIFE PAYS

MWCT, in conjunction with the employment of Rangers and Simba Scouts, protects the major predators of our ecosystem in Kuku Group Ranch, through the Wildlife Pays Compensation Programme. Through a rigorous multi-layer system of verification and dedicated officers, Wildlife Pays is able to detect and prevent possible cases of fraud that might undermine the programme. Payments are made quarterly and compensation is based on four types of livestock losses to ensure the Maasai pastoralists utilize good husbandry practices to prevent greater or further losses. Community outreaches and meetings are also an integral part of our predator protection strategy. Rangers, along with prominent community figures and MWCT staff, conduct meetings with communities that are feeling increased pressure of predation, as well as with the young Maasai warriors (Morani), to prevent the groups from any lion killing in retaliation to livestock losses.



### PREDATORS / WILDLIFE SPECIES

The most livestock taken in relation to predators were due to Hyena (106) followed by Lion (46), Jackal (43), Baboon (38), Cheetah (28), Leopard (11), Bird (9), Snake (2), and Elephant (1). Specific percentages for the amount accounted for from each predator are reflected in the info graphic below.



### **HEADS OF LIVESTOCK**

A total of 362 heads of livestock were killed this quarter. The majority of livestock killed by predators were sheep (175/48.3%), followed by the other livestock species seen in the info graphic



### **CLAIMS & LOSS TYPES**

The total pay-out of claims was 1,773,700 Ksh (USD 13,394), which is lower than the amount paid in Q1 2022 (1,909,900 Ksh / USD 16,453).



2 type

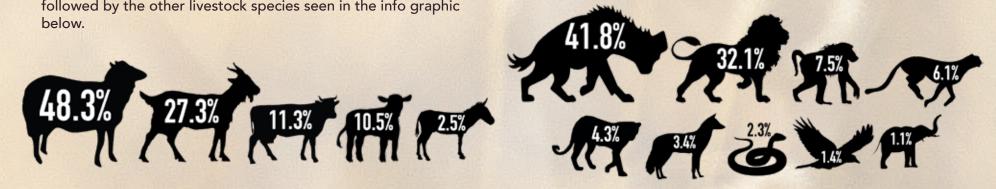
7% 1B type

Loss type 1H - The livestock was killed while a herder was present. **Loss type 1B** - The livestock was in the boma when the predator attacked and the boma is well constructed and maintained. Loss type 2 - Livestock was in the boma when the predator attacked but the boma was not of sufficient quality to protect the livestock within from

Loss type 3 - The livestock was lost when the predator attacked. No herder was present.

Claims with loss type 1H or 1B receive the highest level of compensation. Loss type 2 claims have the second highest level of compensation and loss type 3 has the lowest level of compensation.

### PREDATOR PAY-OUT VALUE PERCENTAGES



### LAND RESTORATION / BEE-KEEPING

#### **OLPUSARE CONSERVANCY**

Olpusare Conservancy is a 2,000 acre landscape with a 450 acre wetland which has suffered from unsustainable farming techniques for many years. Our land restoration project aims to restore the wetland, its soil and its spring, with sustainable farming and reforestation activities. This quarter, the following activities were achieved:

#### **ORGANIC FARM PROGRESS**

This quarter, we harvested cauliflower, carrots, spinach, eggplants, sukumawiki, cabbage, and plenty of cooking herbs (lemongrass, mint, oregano, coriander, and rosemary). Seedlings planted included chillies, baby spinach, lettuce, rocket, green pepper, and spring onion. We're maintaining a variety of fruit trees including mango, banana and passionfruit.



### **HIVE CHECKS**

#### **SAVE THE ELEPHANTS HIVES**

Enkii - 5/15 hives colonized

Inkisanjani (Women's Group) - 12/30 hives colonized

Moilo - 22/30 hives colonized

#### **MWCT HIVES**

Campi ya Kanzi - 2/3 hives colonize CCRC - 17/19 hives colonized

Chyulu - 2/3 hives colonized

Naga D & B - 2/2 hives colonized

#### **REDD+ HIVES**

Northern Kibwezi - 49/80 hives colonized Southern Kibwezi - 24/80 hives colonized Rombo - 174/250 new hives delivered Mangalete - 17/80 new hives delivered

#### INDIVIDUALLY OWNED HIVES

**Enkii** - 2/3 hives colonized

**Inkaraatak** - 5/10 hives colonized **Olpusare** - 16/20 hives colonized

### **REDD+ CARBON PROJECT**

The Chyulu Hills REDD+ Project aims to protect the Chyulu Hills landscape, its forests, woodlands, savannahs, wetlands and springs, and its wild populations of Africa's best known animals. It is 100% owned and managed by local institutions that either own the land or manage conservation and community programmes on behalf of the land owners.

The nine owners include **4 indigenous Maasai community groups**, Kenya's national parks authority (**Kenya Wildlife Service - KWS**), its national forest service (**Kenya Forest Service - KFS**) and three NGOs, **Maasai Wilderness Conservation Trust** (*acting Project Office - PO*), **Big Life Foundation**, and **Sheldrick Wildlife Trust**. This quarter, the following activities were achieved:

#### JAN

- The Eastern Bursary program selected students to support for its 4th intake. The partners issued 100 official commitment letters to the newly selected students in Northern and Southern Kibwezi.
- The Rombo Chyulu Hills Conservation Trust (CHCT) Representative, along with Group Ranch Officials, selected an additional 10 schools to benefit from the remaining sustainable menstrual kits left from the first round of distributions in 2022.
- The PO begun its third verification process, with extensive biomass sampling with a team of 5 samplers from the local community. The biomass sampling team engaged in the preliminary Standard Operating Procedures (SOP) through Conservation International (CI) consultant, Leon-Jacques Theron.

#### **FEB**

- This month, the biomass sampling team sampled a total of 23 plots within the project area and replaced old tree tags with new ones.
- The PO team conducted preliminary surveys, menstrual health workshops, and distributed sustainable kits for the Period Project in selected schools in Rombo this month. They surveyed and distributed to 5 schools.

#### MΔR

- The PO concluded the distribution of sustainable menstrual kits to the 10 additional schools selected in Rombo Group Ranch (RGR).
- In 2022, The Chyulu Hills Conservation Trust (CHCT) proposed a school food program alongside fire management outreaches that were aimed at creating awareness and educating students and parents on the importance of conservation, focusing on fire prevention. The program continued its second distribution throughout this month.
- The PO visited several beekeeping groups in the east for general beehive inspections.
- The CHCT joined for a board meeting to discuss the progress of the CHRP activities, its challenges and solutions moving forward.

### LIVELIHOODS PROGRAMME

MWCT supports **13 Maasai Women's Groups** to explore other income generating activities. While widespread illiteracy poses a challenge, MWCT pursues creative ways to build financial understanding and grow the capacity of the Maasai – especially women – to run profitable enterprises.



The bund sites have not received any rains for the last 2 seasons. Consequently, this has led to a decrease of vegetation cover, drying up of sprouting grass, and zero germination of the newly constructed bunds. There was an extension of 9,000 bunds in Rombo, and 11,000 bunds in Olorika.

MWCT and JDI teams visited all women groups and did an assessment of the grass seed banks progress. Despite the harsh weather conditions experienced; the fencing, weeding and bunds on the sites were well maintained by the women. As a result of the field visits, action plans were made to improve the bare patches. A workshop was conducted for training on Pastoral Managed Natural Regeneration (PMNR) as a way to maintain the bushy trees on the sites. The hay harvested will be used to feed their livestock to assist through the prolonged drought.

### **RESTORATION GRASS SEED BANKS**

#### Enkusero

25 Women members

10 Acre project area

Project area is under grass cover Weeding and fence maintenance

**135 kg** of grass seeds sold

#### Enkii

20 Women members

10 Acre project area

85% Project area fully restored
Weeding and fence maintenance

### Inkisanjani

16 Women members10 Acre project area

Project area is under grass cover Weeding and fence maintenance

202 kg of grass seeds harvested590 kg of grass seeds sold

#### Langata

23 Women members

10 Acre project area
Weeding and fence maintenance

#### M

19 Women members 10 Women

10 Acre project area 10 A
Project area is under grass cover 80%

Weeding and fence maintenance
412 kg of grass seeds harvested

400 kg of grass seeds sold

Olkaria

### Moilo

10 Women members10 Acre project area

80% Project area fully restored

Weeding and fence maintenance

**145 kg** of grass seeds sold

To ensure that the community benefits from our Health Programme, MWCT employs health staff, runs and supports several dispensaries and supplies medical equipment and essential drugs to the community.

\*there were reductions in numbers due to mobility and access difficulties.





























1,135
Lab tests





12% Vs. al 2022 | 595 Immunizations







269
Family planning

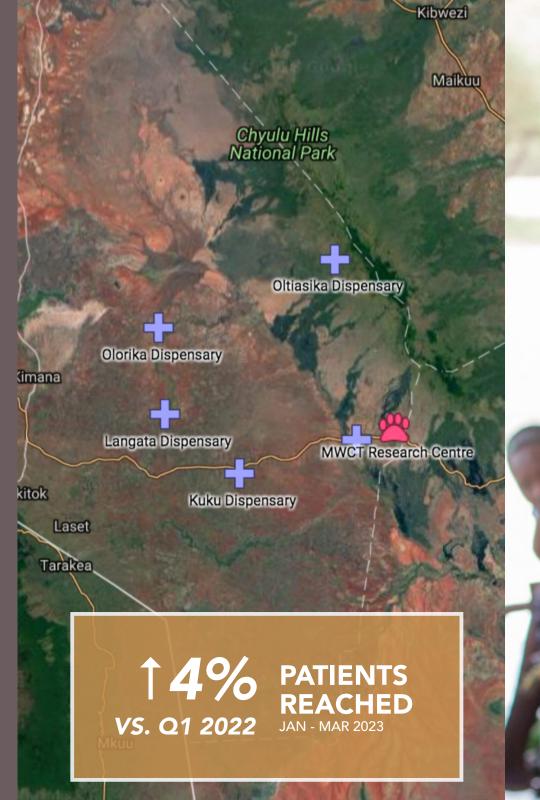


outreaches were conducted with 57 women in attendance.

### 13 community

Sexual Reproductive Health & Rights meetings were conducted with 168 men and 216 women.









Schools supported



Teachers employed



Support staff



10,177 Students enrolled

**52% 48%** Boys Girls



Scholarships

Active



Bursaries

**54** Active



Iltilal primary school has the highest enrolment of pupils, each stands at 1,014 enrolments.

We continue to meet all the operational costs of Iltilal Kanzi Primary School, which includes but not limited to employment of 13 teachers, supply of school stationery, provision of tapped water, provision of solar

### CHALLENGES

Some schools in Kuku Group Ranch such as Inkisanjani, Iltilal and Elangata do not have adequate classrooms to cater for their high enrolments. They are also experiencing shortage of teachers



	School Name	Boys	Girls	Total
1	Iltilal Secondary	129	109	238
2	Enkii Boys Secondary I	457	-	457
3	Oyarata Primary School	129	127	256
4	Nolasiti Primary School	114	156	270
5	Neiti Nursery School	18	29	47
6	Marlal Primary School	233	197	430
7	Enkii Primary School	227	273	500
8	Shokut Primary School	164	125	289
9	Enkolili Primary School	231	205	436
10	Leinkati Primary School	67	71	138
11	Elangata Enkima Primary	476	449	925
12	Olorika Primary School	313	294	607
13	Oltiasika Primary School	206	157	363
14	Inkisanjani Primary School	526	443	969
15	Olkaria Primary School	397	335	732
16	Kuku Primary School	160	203	363
17	Enkusero Primary School	216	182	398
18	Moilo Primary School	117	113	230
19	Iltilal Primary School	492	522	1,014
20	Loosoitok Primary School	104	131	235
21	Kaitoriori Nursery School	108	106	214
22	Samai Primary School	171	173	344
23	Oldonyo Lenkai Nursery	19	21	40
24	Manyata Nursery	12	14	26
25	Esoit Nursery	39	34	73
26	Inkisanjani Secondary	159	172	331
27	Loonkiito Primary	123	129	252

**ENROLLMENT** 

Total 5,307 4,870 10,177



### PARTNERS & SUPPORT





