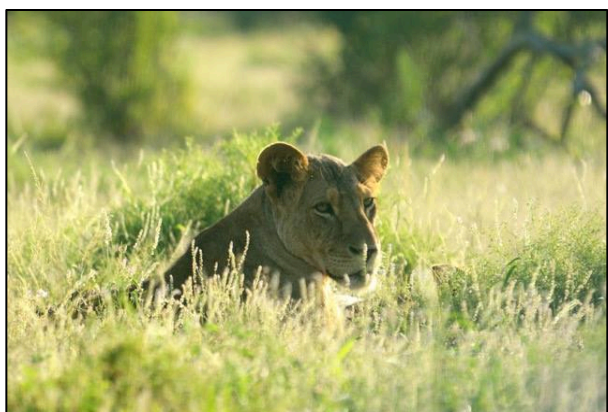


## Ewaso Lions Quarterly Update

### October - December 2015

#### Wildlife Monitoring & Research – Lion Update

Our lion monitoring activities have continued over the last three months; the field team out patrolling on foot and by vehicle each day and attending to many conflict incidents. Here are some of the latest lion stories from the field:



**Lengwe has made a good recovery following his fracture in September 2015.**

#### Lengwe

In September 2015, Lengwe, a two-year-old male from the Koitogor Pride, was diagnosed with a fractured femur by KWS vet Dr Mutinda. Treatment of such an injury is virtually impossible in wild lions, but the veterinary team wanted to give the injury a chance to heal naturally. In the months that have followed, our team - together with Lion Watch Guides and Samburu National Reserve Rangers and Wardens - have kept a very close eye on Lengwe. For weeks he struggled to keep up with his pride, walking on just three legs, but to everyone's relief he finally started to put weight on the fractured leg in November. Despite concerns over his poor condition in early December, when all the lions were struggling to find food, he has recovered well and is now able to walk with his siblings, the limp barely noticeable. In

December, our team followed the tracks of Lengwe and his siblings for over 30 kilometres; the lions having travelled all the way up Mugurnanyori, back down again and then to Westgate, before returning to the Reserves. We are incredibly grateful to all those who have worked with us to ensure the safety of these lions, in particular KWS, Samburu and Buffalo Springs Reserves, Nasuulu Conservancy and our Lion Watch Guides.

#### Nanai's new arrivals

We have been monitoring Nanai, a female from the Koitogor pride, for over four years now. In this time, she has proved she is both a great hunter and a great mother, having already raised three cubs. Nanai recently gave birth to three beautiful cubs (pictured) who, we are pleased to report, are all thriving and have been sighted on numerous occasions between Larsens and Sierra 4 in Samburu.



**Nanai's three new cubs!**

#### Arrival of the rains sees increase in conflict

Our team has had a challenging few months dealing with intense conflict. The arrival and extent of recent rains has meant the lions have been spending more time at the boundaries of the Reserves and in the surrounding Conservancies. In late December, lions were entering villages at the edge of the Reserves almost every night, with Camels killed in multiple locations. Our warriors have been working tirelessly responding to human lion conflict incidents and in the last few weeks of 2015 stopped retaliatory killing on at least 4 occasions.

#### Community Meetings

In December, community meetings sponsored by Ewaso Lions and run in collaboration with Westgate Community Conservancy and the Kenya Wildlife Service, were held in all 8 locations within Westgate. The meetings, attended by elders and warriors, addressed important issues related to security, conflict and encroachment. With the rains over, it is expected that these meetings will help reduce the pressure on the parks and improve security in the region.

## Mama Simba



### Preparations are underway for expansion of the Mama Simba programme in 2016!

Since launching our Mama Simba programme in 2013, we have engaged around 300 Samburu women in conservation. Our core Mama Simba group, however, currently consists of 10 women, who are involved activities including conservation training, an education initiative, beadwork enterprise, livestock protection and litter removal campaigns. In response to strong positive feedback from our Mama Simba ladies, we plan to expand the programme into new locations within Westgate in 2016; offering new opportunities for women to get involved in conservation. Ngila has been busy conducting questionnaire surveys with women in the locations where expansion is planned. These surveys will provide us with a baseline against which we can evaluate the success of the Mama Simba programme over time. We are very excited to launch Mama Simba in three new locations in February!

In November 2015, Munteli Lalparasaroi – one of the leaders of our Mama Simba programme – was lucky enough to visit the Maasai Mara. Munteli learned about conservancies in the Mara, which are very different to the northern ones. She saw many new animals and even saw a wildebeest/zebra crossing at the Mara River! She was lucky to meet a few other community women involved in a beadwork programme. As soon as she returned to Samburu, she gave a presentation to all the ladies about what she saw and learned in the Mara. A huge take home message was how all the grass in the Mara led to high herbivore densities and, therefore, less conflict.

## Jeneria receives two conservation awards



Over the years, Jeneria has taken on a significant leadership role within Ewaso Lions and so we are thrilled to announce that his efforts have now been recognised internationally. In October, he was named as a recipient of both Disney's Conservation Hero Award and Houston Zoo's Wildlife Warrior Award. These awards recognise individuals who have made an outstanding contribution to protecting their local wildlife. Thanks to his Wildlife Warrior Award, Jeneria was also able to attend a conservation management and leadership training course run by the Durrell Conservation Academy in the UK in December. Now back in Samburu, Jeneria is excited to apply all that he has learnt to ensure we are better able to protect lions and promote coexistence between people and wildlife.

### Jeneria receives two awards!

## About Ewaso Lions

Ewaso Lions is an independent non-profit wildlife conservation organisation in northern Kenya. Our mission is to conserve Kenya's lions and other large carnivores by promoting coexistence between people and wildlife. Since 2007, Ewaso Lions has used sound science, education, and capacity building to foster support for and guide the long-term conservation of lions. For more information on our community and research programmes, please visit [www.ewasolions.org](http://www.ewasolions.org).

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