



Ewaso Lions Quarterly Report

April - June 2018

Key Highlights

- We are excited to announce that this quarter we completed both our **2017 Annual Report** and our **Strategic Plan 2018-2020** (See: page 2).
- With increasing pressure on land in Kenya from people and livestock, prolonged droughts and grand plans for mega infrastructure to cut across the landscape, the country needs a new strategy for lions. In late June, our **Deputy Director, Resson, and Research Manager, Toby, joined over 40 scientists, conservation practitioners and managers to chart the path for lions and spotted hyaenas as part of Kenya Wildlife Service's National Lion and Hyaena Strategy**. Chief among our contributions was the need to focus on coexistence with people, and to create and maintain core areas across key lion habitats.
- Our **Field Team has been closely monitoring Koitogor pride female Nadala and her cubs**. With data from her collar revealing she had not moved from the same area in a few days, Field & Community Manager, Jeneria, sent his team to investigate. After many hours of tracking they found the little family. Unfortunately, one of the cubs had sustained an injury and was limping, but able to move. The team continued to monitor the lions closely for over two weeks and we are pleased to report all are now doing well.
- Recently, **first-time mother Namunyak and her young cubs were sighted within Westgate's Core Conservation Area**. The team were initially concerned by how Lguret, the 12 year old male also in the area, might respond to their presence – with the father of the cubs unknown, there was a chance he might kill them in an attempt to father new offspring himself. Thankfully, however, all remain safe.
- In June, we held our **10th Lion Kids Camp (LKC)**. The Camp brought together 25 young livestock herders from across Westgate Community Conservancy. The children learnt about the value and importance of lions, large carnivores and other wildlife species, the threats to their survival and techniques local communities can adopt to promote peaceful coexistence. They went on wildlife safaris, participated in conservation-themed games and activities and put on a special wildlife drama to share what they had learnt with their community. Special thanks to Westgate Community Conservancy, Samburu County, Samburu National Reserve, Kelly Wilson from Wildlife Conservation Network, Cheyenne Mountain Zoo and Prince Bernhard Nature Fund. See [photos](#).
- During this quarter, we were grateful to participate in **Annual General Meetings for all of the conservancies we currently operate in** - Westgate, Kalama, Nasuulu, Nakuprat-Gotu, Meibae and Naapu and Nanapisho Units within Ol donyiro Conservancy.
- **Jeneria has recently begun engaging with three new Conservancies** to the south of our current area of operation: Il Ngwesi, Lekurruki, Leparua. This region represents an important area of lions, and our collar data has also confirmed movement of individuals between Samburu and Buffalo Springs National Reserves and these southern Conservancies. We are currently in the process of developing MOUs with these Conservancies and getting to know the areas (and the communities who live there) better.
- In May, our Mama Simba Coordinators enlisted the support of Jeneria to educate more women in Westgate Community Conservancy about lions and conservation. **Jeneria held workshops with close to 50 women in Kiltamany and Westgate villages, before the Mama Simba ladies took them on wildlife safaris in Samburu National Reserve**. Jeneria also held a similar workshop with community warriors in Naisunyai in June.
- Shivani, our Executive Director, was thrilled to be able to attend the **National Geographic Explorers Festival** in Washington DC between 11th and 17th June. The event brought together scientists, conservationists explorers and story-tellers from across the world to share their discoveries, insights and solutions for creating a more sustainable future. Shivani was also excited to moderate a panel on "Living with Wildlife".
- On the 30th June, we were delighted to **support our partners Save the Elephants by taking children from Lderkesi Primary School on a game drive in Samburu National Reserve in our**

'**Bush Bus**'. By joining forces, the children learnt lots about elephants, lions and other wildlife within the Reserve.

- This quarter has also involved **invaluable training and capacity building opportunities** for the team:
 - Jeneria travelled to White Oak, Florida to embark on the residential part of his **Emerging Wildlife Conservation Leaders course**, where he participated in a full week of conservation skills training and networking.
 - Shivani and Resson joined the second cohort of the **African Conservation Leadership Network**. In the first of a 3-week training programme, they joined other African conservationists in a journey of self-discovery at the foot of Mt Kenya. Exploring personalities and strengths helped flesh out leadership styles and how to lead one's team to achieve big things for wildlife on the continent together.
 - Several of the team undertook **advanced first aid training** led by Anthony Allport. Working in a remote part of the country where medical treatment is not always easily accessible, it is critical that our field team know how to respond in the event of an emergency. The group being trained included members of our core Lion Kids Camp team who are also responsible for ensuring the health and safety of the children who attend our educational camps.
 - All team members with driving licenses participated in a **refresher driving school**. Special thanks to John Ngige for putting the team through their paces.
- After a period of prolonged drought, the rains finally arrived - a total of **260mm of rain fell between April and June**, with a further 52mm in March. It was a spectacular time to be in Samburu – the river flowing fast, grass and flowers everywhere. The team also had some incredible wildlife sightings, including a rare sighting of an Aardwolf. See our [blog](#) for photos.

Release of our 2017 Annual Report & Strategic Plan 2018-2020



Annual Report

Celebrate with us! 2017 marks 10 years of lion conservation in Northern Kenya. Our [annual report](#) features some of the decade's biggest highlights and stories, while recognizing why 2017 was our most challenging year yet.



Strategic Plan

We are very excited to present to you our [Strategic Plan \(2018-2020\)](#). We see a future where Kenya's lions and other large carnivores are secure within their range where people live. This Plan articulates our vision, mission, values, principles and core objectives, as we work to achieve coexistence between people and wildlife. Please do let us know what you think.

We are grateful to work closely with our partners Kenya Wildlife Service to secure a future for lions and other large carnivores in Kenya.

Ewaso Lions
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