



Ewaso Lions Quarterly Report

October-December 2018

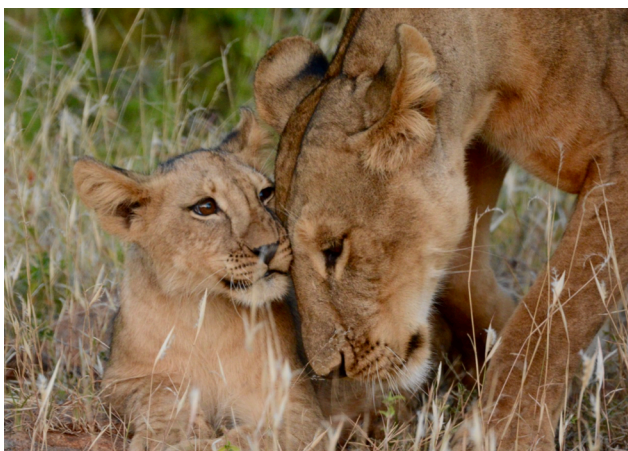
Key Highlights

- In latest lion news - with the rains that fell in November and December, **most of the lions dispersed to the boundaries of the Reserves. It has been a challenging time for the lions with wild prey dispersal and livestock encroachment in to the protected areas.** Namunyak and Nanai's cubs are growing and remain with their mothers. *See page 2* for more details.
- **Korti, in Buffalo Springs, remains strong at 12 years of age and is frequently seen near Ngare Mara swamps.** A female and cubs were seen at the first swamp in Shaba on a giraffe kill. We suspected the lioness was recovering from a giraffe related injury, however KWS vet assessments indicated she recovered.
- **Naramat remains in Il Ngwesi** as the habitat appears the most suitable for her. She has given birth again in this area and we have our coordinators working in this region keeping a close eye on her.
- In December we **held a Lion Kids Camp with livestock herders** from Kalama Conservancy. *See page 2* for more details on this special 5-day camp.
- Our team attended and **presented at the annual KWS Carnivore Conference** in October. Toby, Jeneria and Ben gave an update on our work this year in Samburu and included research data on how suitable habitat is being identified for lions within the changing Samburu-Isiolo landscape.
- In December, we held our **second annual Jeremy Lucas Education Fund (JLEF) Awards Day**. 11 of our 12 students were present, and we were excited to see how much they have grown and how far they have come. Angeline, Junior, Solomon and Eunice received prizes for exceeding our expectations in their academic work this year and for improving the most out of all our students.
- **Three of our sponsored students (under JLEF) have successfully completed their examinations** at the end of this quarter. Junior Lekirmui completed his primary school exams, France (from Loruko) and Melarny (from Ngare Mara) completed their secondary education. We look forward to the future of these young scholars.
- We are proud to have **collaborated with the Grevy's Zebra Trust to conduct our first ever infrastructure tour**. Community members from conservancies, county and Reserves officials all eagerly learnt about the impact of mega construction in Nairobi and have now begun to prepare themselves to actively participate in the infrastructure development process up North that will affect their livelihoods, land and wildlife.
- We are delighted that **northern Kenya has a dedicated vet based in Samburu**. This is a collaboration between Save the Elephants, Grevy's Zebra Trust, Ewaso Lions and the Kenya Wildlife Service. Emergency veterinary care is crucial to conservation work in Isiolo, Samburu and Marsabit regions. Dr Michael Njoroge and his team have hit the ground running and are already treating sick and injured elephants, giraffe, lions and Grevy's zebra.
- **The Ewaso Lions team took teachers from Lpus Leluai Primary School on a trip to Reteti Elephant Sanctuary**. The teachers made this request to Ewaso Lions asking for support in adding to their conservation knowledge.
- **Shivani and Resson attended the annual Wildlife Conservation Expo** in San Francisco in October. Their talk can be watched [here](#).
- In October, **Jeneria's life's work was the subject and feature of Geo Magazine** in Germany. Thanks to friend and incredible photographer David Chancellor, not only is there a stunning image of him on the cover page, but the magazine also includes a 6-page main feature article on what he has done to secure the future of lions by promoting coexistence between them and the people that live alongside them.

- **Shivani was featured in Sir David Attenborough's BBC Dynasties programme** in November. She spoke about the threats that lions are facing and how solutions can be found by engaging the local communities. The lion programme aired in the U.K. in November and will be shown in the U.S. in January.
- **Jeneria visited National Geographic Headquarters in early December** and met with the Kenyan Ambassador to the U.S., together with National Geographic Society dignitaries. National Geographic produced a short video on Warrior Watch, which was aired during this special event.
- Shivani attended the **Whitley Fund for Nature's (WFN) Hope Gala** in London in November. This was an inspiring week of conversations and discussions, as Whitley winners celebrated WFN's 25th anniversary together with Sir David Attenborough, WFN staff and supporters.
- **Jeneria successfully completed his Emerging Wildlife Conservation Leaders course** and graduated in Washington DC in December. This two-year long programme was created to build capacity within the wildlife conservation field and focuses on elevating the next generation of conservation leaders, ensuring they have the skills, motivation and network to address current and developing conservation challenges. EWCL provides training in leadership and campaigning skills, offers professional networking and mentoring, and facilitates tangible on-the-ground conservation projects to identified and selected up-and-coming leaders in the wildlife conservation field. Jeneria benefitted tremendously from this course.

Special Features of the Quarter

In December, we held a Lion Kids Camp with young herders from Kalama Conservancy. The herders took part in wildlife safaris and lessons, played conservation games and competed in wildlife drama competitions. We are very grateful to the managements of Kalama and Westgate Conservancies, and for the support of Samburu National Reserve. One young herder from Lorubae said he now understands why he should not chase wildlife away from a waterhole if he comes across them. Instead he will wait until they finish drinking before taking his goats to the waterhole. We look forward to holding more Lion Kids Camps in 2019.



Samburu and Isiolo's lion population remains stable despite the growing challenges on carnivore populations in the region. Lack of sufficient wild prey continues to be a growing threat for lions and other large carnivores. In Samburu alone, Nanai and Namunyak continue to raise their cubs together and are the most commonly sighted lions within the area. Warthogs remain their most frequent prey.

Wishing everyone a very happy 2019!

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