



## Partners Report January to April 2023

### Resilience and Courage: Nanai's Journey of Recovery



For a number of months, we have closely monitored Samburu's well-known lioness Nanai after noticing a growth below her mouth. In December 2022, we became concerned that it was growing and was affecting her hunting and feeding ability. With 3 cubs depending on her, we worked quickly with KWS and Reserve management to save her and in January she was operated on.

#### [Read more on Nanai's Journey of Recovery](#)



As we write this report, Nanai's condition is deteriorating. We will continue to keep you updated.

The lion monitoring team continued to keep an eye on the lions in various locations throughout the landscape during the quarter. With 3 regional lion teams operational across the landscape, **here are some of the lion team's key moments:**

- 21 livestock were saved from lion attacks in this quarter.
- Regular communication continued with herders to create awareness on lion presence in specific areas.
- Established working synergies with the Meibae community on lion conservation.
- Held community meetings in Nakuprat-Gotu, Naapu and Nanapisho Conservancies.
- Responded to Lolgeeti's immobility alert and worked closely with the KWS team to locate him.
- Monitored collared lions' movements and used this information to prevent conflict.
- Engaged with youth in Lion Kids Camps on how to identify different lions, lion ecology, and threats to lions.
- The carcass of a young sub-adult lioness was found in Samburu National Reserve and the cause of death was unknown.



# Mama Simba New Vision and Strategy

Helped by the arrival of a new vehicle sponsored by World Women Work, our Mama Simba ladies have worked in recovering lion habitat (working with Westgate Conservancy and Grevy's Zebra Trust) by controlling the spread of invasive species (Mathenge), managing the Sasaab Lokere (grass enclosure) by digging bunds, planting seeds and watering them, and managing a pilot tree project in Westgate's Conservation Area. The Mama Simba ladies have also provided much-needed support for wildlife during the drought season through digging of waterholes.

## Here are our Mama Simba highlights for this past quarter:

- Dug 20 waterholes for wildlife.
- Uprooted 70 invasive plant species (Mathenge).
- Held a meeting with women on culture, conservation, and coexisting with wildlife.
- Supported Kura's Pride during their vaccination work.
- Held a trip to Reteti Elephant Sanctuary.
- Helped monitor Nanai pre and post her surgery.

## [Read More on Bringing Wildlife Back to Women](#)



## Lion Kids Camps

Between January and April, the team held 5 camps back-to-back, hosting 121 children from 4 conservancies. Out of the 5 camps, 3 were held for herding children and 2 with school-going children. With the landscape having had its first rains in a long time, the children were treated to beautifully lush landscapes and managed to get some of their first-ever lion sightings from the Lion Kids Camp bus. We thank Meibae, Nakupurat-Gotu, Nanapisho and Westgate Conservancies for their support in these recent camps and the management of Samburu National Reserve.

*Susan Ekiru said, "We woke up early on the third day and went to the Reserve. We were overjoyed to see Lions, Elephants, Baboons, warthogs, Elephants, Giraffes, and Zebras among other animals. I was saddened to learn that the Grevy's Zebra is facing extinction if nothing is done."*



5 Lion Kids Camps held with 121 school-going and livestock herding children between January and April 2023.

## Kura's Pride

Domestic Animal Mobile Veterinary Unit: The Community Animal Health Initiative which is a partnership programme between Ewaso Lions, Vet In Wild, Animal Care Centre and the Samburu County Department of Veterinary Services, accomplished some important results so far this year. A total of 643 dogs and cats were vaccinated in 4 days and from 8 locations within Westgate Community Conservancy. Animals were vaccinated against Rabies and Canine Distemper. An additional 2 days were allocated to population control services with a total of 54 dogs receiving spays/castrations.

**Other Kura's Pride highlights for the past quarter include:**

- Attended to 21 emergency responses between January and March.
- Conducted 39 medical interventions aimed at dogs and cats.
- Treated 82 dogs from Canine Distemper after an outbreak.
- Supported vaccination campaigns in Meibae and Wamba.
- Conducted awareness talks reaching to up to 120 youth and 92 children attending Lion Kids Camps.



## Bio-infrastructure Programme

Our Bio-Infrastructure Programme has been active through the quarter as we worked towards restoring the interconnected nature of conservation and infrastructure development. This is a partnership programme with the Grevy's Zebra Trust.

**Our highlights include:**

- The third African Conference for Linear Infrastructure and Ecology (ACLIE), co-hosted by the Endangered Wildlife Trust, Grevy's Zebra Trust and Ewaso Lions will take place between the 18th and 22nd of September. Plans are underway and a **website was launched**. We are currently accepting **submissions for papers**.
- The A2 Wildlife Watch project was renamed to Northern Kenya Road Watch. Data collection for the Northern Kenya Road Watch was transferred to the Survey123 tool. Since 2019 over 300 animal-vehicle collisions have been recorded by all stakeholders within the landscape.



## Other News

- We are thrilled to announce that Ewaso Lions received the prestigious **Whitley Fund for Nature's** Gold Award, presented by HRH Princess Anne at a spectacular ceremony at the Royal Geographical Society in London. This award will enable us to develop a community-led conservation toolkit together with global conservation leaders. **Watch our short video narrated by Sir David Attenborough.**



- You helped make 2022 a very special year as we celebrated our 15th anniversary. We are so excited to present you with our **2022 Annual Report** and to share our achievements that your support made possible. We also launched our new **2023-2025 Strategic Plan** which can be viewed **here.**
- The Snow Leopard Trust in collaboration with Ewaso Lions held a training workshop on February 5th and 6th at our camp. The training utilised the PARTNERS Principles – Presence, Aptness, Respect, Transparency, Negotiation, Empathy, Responsiveness, and Strategic Support- as the framework to explore how to effectively and ethically conduct conservation. **Read more on the PARTNERS Principles Training.**
- We were delighted to speak with Rick Schwartz at the San Diego Zoo for their Amazing Wildlife Podcast. We spoke about the maneless and prideless lions of northern Kenya. The podcast can be heard **here.**
- Toby Otieno, our Director of Impact and Operations, attended the Wildlife Conservation Spring Expo. This was our first time attending a **Spring Expo.**

***Special Appreciation:*** Thank you so much to all our partners who enable us to make a conservation impact in Kenya including; Kenya Wildlife Service; Samburu, and Isiolo County Governments; Samburu, Buffalo Springs and Shaba National Reserves Management; Community Conservancies (Westgate, Kalama, Nasuulu, Nakuprat-Gotu, Naapo, Nanapisho, Meibae, Leparua, Il Ngwesi, Lekurukki, and Namunyak).

**Ewaso Lions**

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