



EWASO
LIONS



New male lion in Shaba

PARTNERS REPORT

APRIL - JUNE 2024



During the rains, the lions dispersed away from the river in search of prey - locating them this quarter was extremely challenging

LION NEWS

A PERIOD OF ADAPTATION

Here are some of the lion team's key moments:

- The **heavy rains** meant the lions' prey moved away from the Ewaso Nyiro River. With prey dispersed and plant matter flourishing, the lions were initially more difficult to locate.
- Lion sightings dropped from 25 sightings between January and March, to **21 lion sightings between April and June.**
- Despite the increased difficulty in discovering and monitoring the area's lions, there were clear signs that the area's lion populations were doing well after the rains. Early in June, we spotted a **new, as-of-yet unidentified young male lion in Shaba National Reserve.**
- **199 patrols** were covered by our regional lion teams on foot, and by car or motorbike.
- We provided **22 different types of community services.**
- We **successfully saved 8 livestock from predation.**
- There were **25 conflict incidents** that we were made aware of - **9 were lion conflicts.**
- We supported the community **as they filed and submitted 20 predator compensation claims with KWS.**
- Unfortunately, **one lion died** during the April - June reporting period. The cause of death was not confirmed.
- In June, we travelled to Logologo and Laisamis to **learn about better camel husbandry practices** to reduce lion-camel conflict.

KURA'S PRIDE

PROMOTING WELFARE OF DOMESTIC ANIMALS AND MINIMISING DISEASE TRANSMISSION TO FOSTER A HARMONIOUS BALANCE BETWEEN PEOPLE, LIVESTOCK, WILDLIFE AND THE ENVIRONMENT.



Our Community Animal Health Initiative

This past quarter, we have worked with our partners on a number of activities through our **Community Animal Health Initiative**. We have:

- **Vaccinated 32 dogs and cats** against Rabies and Distemper. Most of these were in Archer's Post.
- **Treated 44 animals** for various illnesses
- **Attended to 24 animal emergencies** where domestic animals had been attacked by wild carnivores
- **Reached 52 community members** through our awareness initiatives
- **Performed 32 population control surgeries** on dogs and cats in Archer's Post
- In total, we **attended to 133 animals**

We thank our partners, Samburu County Department of Veterinary Services, Vet in Wild, Animal Care Centre, Foundation for International Aid to Animals and Action for Cheetahs.



One of the dogs that received treatment during one of our community visits



A camel receives treatment following an attack by a hyaena

The number of camels has increased in the landscape and we are often called on to treat injured camels. **9 camels injured by wild carnivores were treated** over the past quarter.



LION KIDS CAMPS

Over the last three months, we've been able to host **3 Lion Kids Camps (LKC)** with **74 children attending**. Children that attended the Camps are from Westgate, Meibae and Nasuulu Conservancies.

It's been especially exciting, and productive, hosting these recent LKCs because of the recent rains. Seldom do local children get the chance to explore and experience the area's National Reserves and even less frequently do they see them in the splendour that we're fortunate enough to witness right now.

Recent LKC attendees have had the chance to see what a lush Northern Kenya looks like and how it's wildlife are impacted.



During a Lion Kids Camp

A Lion Kids Camp success story

Its always a pleasure to see the result of some of the initiatives that we've put in place and poured our energies into. Junior's story is one of those amazing results.

Once an LKC attendee, Junior instantly was inspired with lion conservation and, for a while, he was a mainstay at the Ewaso Lions' Camp. Now, several years on from his first LKC, he's at College studying for a Certificate in Nature Interpretation and Tour Administration with the intent of putting his certificate to work in conservation. We wish him the best of luck!



Previous LKC attendee, Junior (L) meets up with fellow Ewaso Lions alum, Solomon (R), in Nakuru

MAMA SIMBA

A FOCUS ON LION HABITAT RECOVERY

Between April and June, the focus of our Mama Simba ladies has largely been on capitalising on the recent rains and using the fallen water to work on their lion habitat recovery initiative.

Here are some of our Mama Simba highlights for this past quarter:

- **Promoting grass growth** - between April and June, our Mama Simba ladies have spent **60 days attending to 2 Lokeres (grass seedling propagation enclosures)**.
- Attended **one workshop** on conservation and leadership held by the San Diego Zoo Wildlife Alliance - **the Mama Simba programme was praised at the workshop for its example in promoting both.**
- **4 grass seed bags** were collected for planting.
- **20 tree seedlings** have been planted in an experimental indigenous tree plot.



Tree seedlings growing



Mama Simba ladies looking for signs of lions



One of the Lokeres the Mama Simba ladies are working on - Sasaab Village

OTHER NEWS

We held a **Lion Day in April** celebrating lions together with all rangers and guides from the region. Over 130 people attended the Lion Day!

The Ewaso Nyiro River catchment area, like much of the rest of Kenya, **received torrential rainfall** in late April and May. We saw more rainfall than we usually expect in a full year and, though it has definitely caused some complications, we're really fortunate to have escaped with far lighter consequences than many others. To the rest of the country, and to those that lost loved ones and livelihoods, we extend our deepest sympathies and condolences.

Our Mama Simba programme has been running for over 10 years now and it was created by Samburu women as a means of involving them in lion conservation. **Watch this video**, and listen to Munteli tell you all about the important role our Mama Simba ladies have in conservation.

The **CEC for Wildlife and Tourism, the Director of Samburu National Reserve, and our local MCA visited and spoke at one of our Lion Kids Camps**, signalling their support for the initiative. We are extremely grateful for their visit.

Toby, our Director of Impact and Operations, has begun his **PhD at the University of York** in England. He is studying the impact of infrastructure on lions and communities.

Jess, our Kura's Pride veterinarian, **attended a One Health Field Course** at the University of California in June.



Guests from Samburu County visit LKC



Lion Day - April 2024

Special Appreciation:

Thank you so much to all our partners who enable us to make a conservation impact in Kenya including; Kenya Wildlife Service; WRTI; Samburu and Isiolo County Governments; Samburu, Buffalo Springs and Shaba National Reserves Management; all the Community Conservancies we work in.

Ewaso Lions

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