



KENYA WILDLIFE TRUST



2018

ANNUAL REPORT

PREDATORS

PEOPLE

PARTNERSHIPS

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Cover photos: Sean Dundas (Front), Allan Earnshaw (Back)

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www.kenyawildlifetrust.org

Message from the Board Chair and Executive Director

2018 was a year of change for KWT, as we worked on the mid-term review of our 2016 - 2020 Strategic Plan to come up with three main themes: "Predators, People and Partnerships" which will embody the new-look KWT, and position us as thought-leaders in the country's wildlife conservation sector, highlight our work with communities through the Conservancy movement, and showcase our links with, and participation in, Kenya's tourism, wildlife and conservation sectors. We believe it is important for KWT to not only keep pace with the rapidly increasing rate of change, but also to be part of that change, and effect it as directly as we can, be it through influencing wildlife management decisions on the ground, policy changes in the boardroom, or producing the scientific data needed to drive intelligent decision-making.

2018 introduced the new-look Mara Predator Conservation Programme which has replaced the former Mara Lion and Mara Cheetah Projects. Through MPCP, we retain our data-driven and science-led approach in the Mara, but move more into the realm of translating our findings and analyses into constructive and pragmatic conservation and management recommendations, whilst also working more with communities across the Mara. At the national level, and in partnership with the Kenya Wildlife Service, KWT is proud to be recognised, together with WWF, as the main sponsors of the first-ever National Lion Survey which is led by our scientific associates, Drs Nic Elliot and Femke Broekhuis.

Through the Justice Ole Keiwua Scholarship programme, KWT has continued to provide scholarships to individuals from Samburu, Mara and Amboseli, and it is often from these humble areas that the new leaders of tomorrow are often found. We hope one of these will be Agnes Parmeres, a young woman from Amboseli, whose story you will read in the report.

We are happy to introduce two new Kenya board members, Moses Kamau, a lawyer who is already active on the boards of several other conservation organisations, and Andreas Fox, a new partner-guide in Ker & Downey Safaris. Andreas replaces James Robertson, one of KWT's founder members, who retires after 10 years on the board. There is no doubt that both Moses and Andreas are going to be excellent additions to the board.

We have much to look forward to in 2019, and have recently returned from hosting a visit by a delegation from the International Conservation Caucus Foundation in the Mara where we spent time with our Mara programme, our conservation partners and other stakeholders. We are excited to work with our current partners and welcome new ones to set new paradigms for what we can achieve in Kenya's conservation space.

Allan Earnshaw
Board Chairman

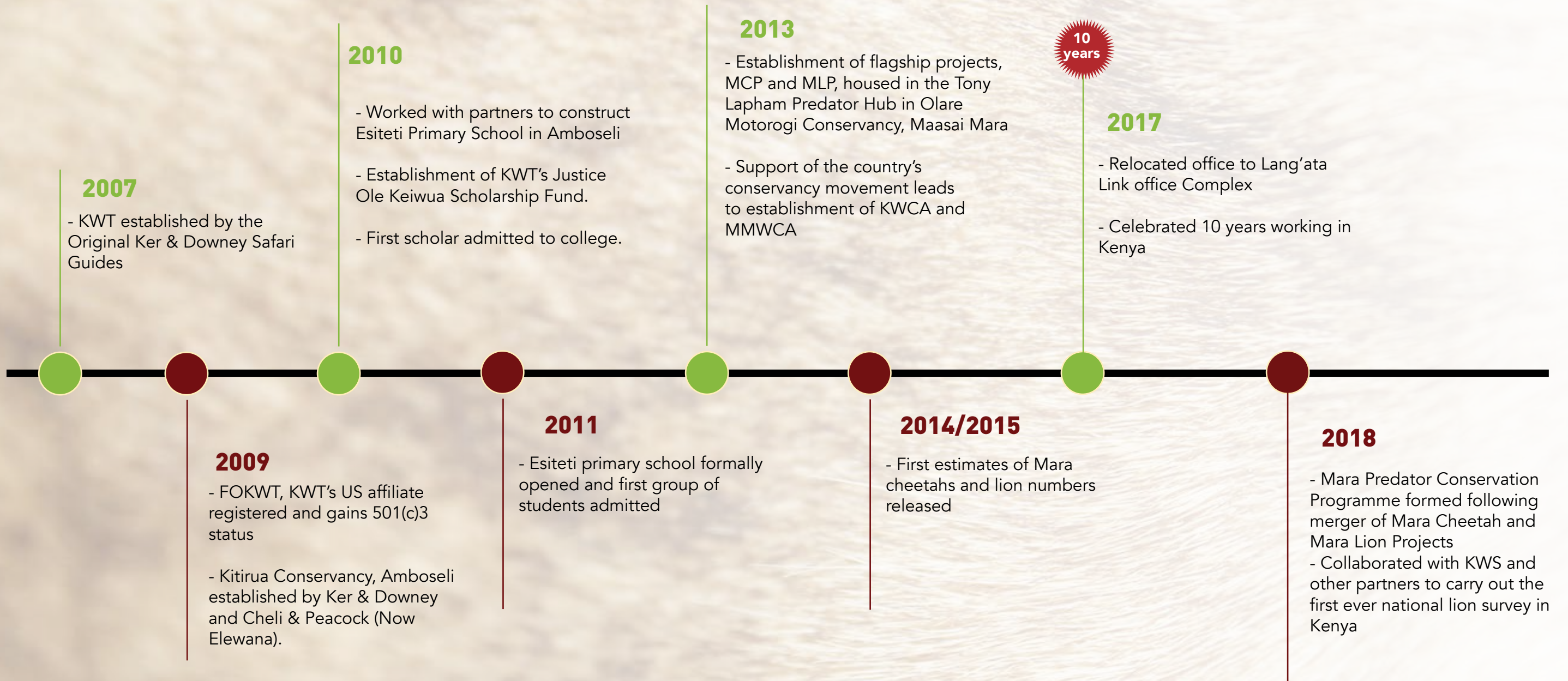
Dr Irene Amoke
Executive Director

WHERE WE WORK



MILESTONES

10+ YEARS OF CONSERVATION IMPACT



OUR PILLARS



PREDATORS

We believe that predators play an important role in balancing the ecosystem. A thriving predator population is an indication of a healthy ecosystem. We invest our time and resources in running and supporting science driven initiatives geared towards predator conservation across Kenya's key ecosystems.



PEOPLE

We believe that people living alongside predators bear the greatest responsibility when it comes to their conservation. Our predator conservation work is strongly anchored in involving the local people. By supporting community centered projects, we are contributing to the wider efforts needed to ensure healthy ecosystems where predators not only survive, but thrive.



PARTNERSHIPS

We believe that through partnerships, greater impacts can be achieved in conservation. We continue to establish strong partnerships with like-minded conservation organizations both locally and internationally.



PREDATORS

KWT's vision is a Kenya where predator populations are a cornerstone to thriving ecosystems.

In 2013, we launched our flagship Mara Cheetah and Mara Lion Projects - now Mara Predator Conservation Programme with an aim to advance science-driven predator conservation in Maasai Mara.

MARA PREDATOR CONSERVATION PROGRAMME (MPCP)

The Mara Predator Conservation Programme, Kenya Wildlife Trust's flagship programme (MPCP) was formed when the Mara Lion and Mara Cheetah projects, both established in 2013, were merged in 2018.

Research

The two fundamental goals of the programme are to determine the current status of lions and cheetahs in the Greater Mara ecosystem, and to identify and mitigate the major threats seen as causing declines in the current populations. The outputs from this programme have important implications for lion and cheetah conservation both in Kenya and in the rest of Africa.

In 2018, MPCP carried out 2 intensive monitoring sessions. The sessions involved monitoring 6 conservancies and the national reserve and recording sightings of predators, prey and livestock. While focus has been on lions and cheetahs, in 2018 MPCP initiated a wild dog study to investigate the status of resident wild dogs in the Mara and to gain insight into dispersing dogs from the Serengeti.

Community

MPCP runs regular outreach activities aimed at ensuring that community members and land owners understand and appreciate the role of predators in the ecosystem.

Some of the activities by the community team in 2018 included; antipoison campaigns, construction of predator proof bomas and poison response training for rangers. and game drives for school children.

It also supports wildlife clubs in nine schools across the Mara, working to expose children to wildlife in an engaging and compelling way that will create positive long-term perceptions of wildlife through game drives and holiday camps



2 Intensive monitoring sessions

carried out in 6 conservancies and the national reserve



launched a wild dog study

to investigate the status of resident wild dogs in the Mara



250 children taken on game drives

inside Maasai Mara National Reserve and the surrounding conservancies



2 predator proof bomas built

using recycled plastic poles to deter predators



3 quarterly reports produced

every 3 months



126 people trained on poison response

to equip them with skills to respond to wildlife poisoning incidences



PHOTO: REUTERS



PREDATORS

KWT's vision is a Kenya where predator populations are a cornerstone to thriving ecosystems.

With this in mind, we are keen on supporting predator conservation initiatives of organizations that operate in key predator strongholds in Kenya.

KWT's grantmaking enables support to partner predator conservation organizations who drive change locally.

EWASO LIONS

Ewaso Lions' major goal is to promote coexistence between people and carnivores by reducing human-wildlife conflict, empowering local people to take charge of conservation efforts, and gathering data on lions living within various land use types.

In 2018, unrestricted funding channeled through KWT supported a range of Ewaso Lions' ongoing community-based conservation work and including: Warrior Watch, Lion Kids Camps, and research work as well as newly started landscape connectivity work.

“ KWT continues to be a strong partner in Kenyan conservation. Their advice and close friendship has been useful to us in partnership building, recruitment, and as we rounded the corner to launching our Strategic Plan. This goes above the call of duty as we work towards the common goal of securing a future for carnivores in Kenya. **”**

Resson Kantai Duff - Ewaso Lions Deputy Director



LION GUARDIANS

Founded in 2007, Lion Guardians is a conservation organization dedicated to finding and enacting long-term solutions for people and lions to coexist. In 2015, Lion Guardians launched the Lion Identification Network of Collaborators (LINC), a collaborative effort with lion researchers across East Africa and software development led by IEF R&D, based in New York. LINC is an open source shared lion database and automated lion recognition system that enables researchers and conservationists to identify, monitor, and track lions across broad landscapes. The system employs new methodologies to share data across research initiatives, as well as innovative search features such as automated recognition software, which uses photographs of lions' distinguishable characteristics to identify various individuals.

In 2018, KWT contributed to Lion Guardian's broad-scale effort to improve the usability and performance of LINC. Currently, the platform's new features are being tested and evaluated. LINC is also being used to host data collected during the ongoing National Lion Census.

8

participating organizations*

596

image sets on the LINC platform

412

lions, marking a steady increase since LINC's inception



PHOTO: LION GUARDIANS

*Organizations participating in LINC: Lion Guardians, Kenya Wildlife Service, Mara Predator Conservation Programme, Lion Landscapes, Rebuilding the Pride, Kope Lion, Soysambu Conservancy, Born Free



PEOPLE

HEALTH

Healthy ecosystems are integral to successful conservation efforts.

We believe that people are central in ensuring the conservation of Kenya's predators and the ecosystems they occupy.

RABIES VACCINATION CAMPAIGN, KITIRUA CONSERVANCY

Rabies is a fatal disease affecting humans and animals (both domestic and wild). Domestic dogs are the primary carriers of the rabies virus.

With this realization, KWT with financial aid from The Original Ker & Downey Safaris and International Fund for Animal Welfare (IFAW) ran a rabies control vaccination campaign in Kitirua Conservancy and its surrounding (s).

The campaign which was implemented by vets from Vétérinaires sans Frontières Germany (VSFG) and ran for 37 days. This intervention was greatly lauded by the beneficiaries who requested for annual vaccinations for their dogs and cats.

Following the success of this campaign, KWT looks forward to working with partners to run similar campaigns.



A dog owner restrains his dog as it gets vaccinated

341



homesteads reached

519



dogs and cats vaccinated

295



dogs dewormed

COMMUNITIES HEALTH AFRICA TRUST (CHAT)

Established in 2000, CHAT empowers communities to make healthy choices that, in turn, help to protect habitats and wildlife. It works in otherwise un-served and often remote communities throughout Laikipia, Samburu and Isiolo and also provides services in parts of Baringo, Marsabit, Nyeri, Meru, Nyandarua, Kitui and Nakuru counties with plans to expand to the Maasai Mara.

CHAT uses a holistic approach of "Population-Health-Environment" (PHE), reflecting the relationships between people, their health and the environment. It offers access to holistic family planning, incorporating a strong component of ecological sensitization within the intervention to promote sustainable land uses to pastoral communities.

In 2018, KWT's grant to CHAT was useful in motivating 28 grassroots partners who are Community Own Resource Persons (CORPs) who work alongside CHAT in implementing an innovative door to door 'Back Pack' strategy, which included using public transport or going by foot. This strategy was supported by a motor mobile integrated clinic and sometimes camel mobile health services. CHAT provided family planning, basic curative treatment integrated with HIV/AIDS services, other Reproductive Health/Maternal Health services such as treatment for Sexually Transmitted Infections & ANC, immunisation and TB defaulter & contact tracing.



28

number of CHAT's grassroots partners motivated in 2018 with the help of KWT's grant



PEOPLE

CONSERVANCIES

Community conservancies play an important role in complementing the role of parks and reserves in Kenya. Since inception, Kenya Wildlife Trust has continued to support community conservancies with a focus on ensuring that communities living near the conservancies get the benefits that come from conservation.

MAASAI MARA WILDLIFE CONSERVANCIES ASSOCIATION

The Maasai Mara Wildlife Conservancies Association (MMWCA) was formed in 2013 to support conservancy development and to lead collaboration amongst different actors to safeguard this critical ecosystem.

With initial support from KWT in 2017 and 2018, MMWCA and its partners have been able to facilitate a single management entity to work in a coordinated manner across two Mara conservancies.

They have also initiated a sustainable livestock enterprise with the main goal of improving grazing practices, improving range management and delivers greater economic returns to livestock owners.



PHOTO: MMWCA (D. SOPA)

KENYA WILDLIFE CONSERVANCIES ASSOCIATION

Kenya Wildlife Conservancies Association (KWCA) is the umbrella body for all conservancies in Kenya. Since its inception in 2013, KWCA has been instrumental in giving conservancies a voice at a National level and ensuring more benefits are bestowed on communities and land owners from conservation.

With seed funding from KWT in 2018, KWCA set to establish a conservation communication forum. This forum seeks to create a platform for communication practitioners in conservation to collaborate and effectively engage in delivering coordinated and self-reinforcing communication messages. The forum will create an avenue for conservation organizations to communicate their impact whilst providing a platform for communities to air their views on how conservation impacts their lives.

TSAVO TRUST

With support from Forix Foundation through KWT, Tsavo Trust in collaboration with the Elephants and Bees Project and members of the Kamungi Conservancy installed a beehive fence around a one acre of farm in the conservancy close to the boundary of Tsavo East National Park. The project aimed to deter elephants from raiding farmers' crops and generate secondary income from the production of "elephant-friendly honey".



PHOTO: TSAVO TRUST

KITIRUA CONSERVANCY - AMBOSELI

To support Kitirua conservancy and Olgulului Olerashi group ranch operations, KWT and Ker & Downey Safaris handed over a Suzuki Maruti patrol vehicle to conservancy and ranch officials in October 2018. With the vehicle in place, conservancy rangers are now able: to respond to poaching and human-wildlife conflict incidents in a timely manner, and where needed, provide emergency transportation for community members. This has resulted in improved relations between the community and conservation partners and led to increased tolerance to wildlife. The vehicle has further improved efficiency of those conservancy rangers working in remote outposts by ensuring that necessary equipment, stationary, water and food rations are delivered to them in a timely manner.



NGARARAMBUNI NURSERY SCHOOL - AMBOSELI

In 2003, the community around Kitirua conservancy set up Ngararambuni nursery school to cater for the needs of the young children residing in the area. Since 2009, through Ker & Downey and KWT, funds are raised to provide the school with funds to cover their teacher salaries, books and learning materials, and basic infrastructure and repairs.



PHOTO: PAOLO PARAZZI



PEOPLE

EDUCATION

The KWT recognises that it is imperative to the protection of Kenya's wildlife that more Kenyans are given the opportunity to attain a good wildlife or conservation based education.

JUSTICE OLE KEIWUA SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

Dedicated to the late Justice Moiyo Ole Keiwua, Trustee, and founding member of the Kenya Wildlife Trust, the Justice Ole Keiwua Scholarship Fund was established to invest in developing conservation leaders (from the key wildlife areas where KWT works; Amboseli/Tsavo, Samburu/Laikipia and the Greater Maasai Mara),

This scholarship recognises, encourages and promotes leadership among future wildlife management professionals through supporting their wildlife and conservation-based education.



\$95,960

Amount of money invested in Justice Ole Keiwua Scholarship programme since inception



over 50

The number of students who have gone through the Justice Ole Keiwua Scholarship program since inception

MEET OUR SCHOLARS

AGNES PARMERES

KWT has supported Agnes Parmeres, who hails from Loitoktok, Amboseli, since 2011 when she joined the Koiyaki Guiding School and gained a guiding certificate. After working in a camp for a few months, she joined the Kenya Wildlife Training Institute to pursue a Diploma in Wildlife Management and is currently studying for her bachelor's degree in Wildlife Management at University of Eldoret.



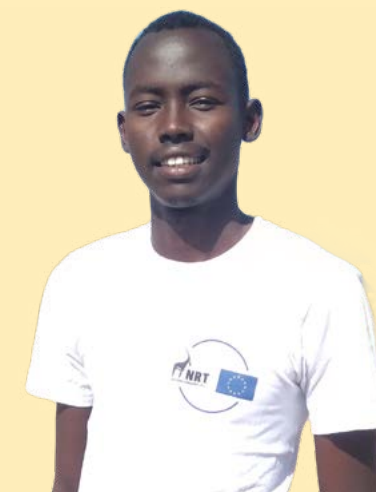
As a recipient of KWT's Justice Ole Keiwua scholarship, I am able to expand my knowledge on wildlife and conflicts arising while finding out the various mitigation measures employed to resolve the problem. Furthermore, as a woman in wildlife I am becoming a source of inspiration to the younger generation as I act as a role model to my community. Wildlife conservation should be practiced as the future of wildlife is in our hands. I hope more men and women from Amboseli will take up the role of being conservationists.

Agnes Parmeres

PASCAL ESEKON

Pascal Esekun graduated from the University of Nairobi in December 2018 with a Degree in Natural Resources Management. This, he could not have done without the support of the KWT's Justice Ole Keiwua Scholarship

The KWT scholarship brought hope to my life at a time when I had no means of financing my studies. I have acquired lots of useful skills which will enable me to shape my career path. I am currently a community worker leading a project that deals with elimination of an invasive species (*Prosopis juliflora*) locally known as *Mathenge* plant in Archer's area in Samburu that is suppressing the native plant species which act as windbreakers and habitat for wildlife. I am now able to accomplish my dreams while at the same time assist my family financially.



Pascal Esekun



PARTNERSHIPS

KWT believes in having a target driven and collective approach which will lead to more effective work in Kenya's core ecosystems that is better coordinated, and which serves the values and economic interests of a wide array of stakeholders, as well as the nation itself.

In order to achieve this, we strive to develop and strengthen partnerships with grass root organisations who develop and implement conservation initiatives, government agencies who develop policies and other conservation authorities who offer varied support.

NATIONAL LION SURVEY

Despite hosting one of Africa's largest lion populations, little is known about the status and distribution of lions in Kenya. In partnership with Kenya Wildlife Service, Kenya Wildlife Trust is supporting Kenya's first ever systematic lion survey which will provide a baseline figure of the country's lion population and vital information on other potential source populations and connectivity between them. The survey is being conducted in collaboration with conservation NGOs who have offered their time, resources and local knowledge to help survey the areas in which they operate.



PHOTO: FEMKE BROEKHUIS



PHOTO: SC



KWT TEAM

KWT - KENYA BOARD

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Gerard Beaton
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David Mbugua, Communications Officer

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Michael Kaelo, Community & PR Manager
Betty Cherotich, Programme Administrator
Kosiom Keiwua, Research Assistant
Kelvin Koinet, Research Assistant
Julius Makibior, Maintenance Manager
Dominic Sakat, Community & Outreach Officer
Dr Nicholas Elliot, Scientific Associate
Dr Femke Broekhuis, Scientific Associate

*Thanks to Lucy Russell for her work as Chief Executive Officer KWT, to Dr Caroline Ng'weno for her work as MPCP Director, and to Billy Kaitet for his work as caretaker of the Tony Lapham Predator Hub in 2018.

IMPACT BY NUMBERS 2007-2018

With support from our donors and through our partners, we have had great impact on conservation since we were established in 2007.

\$1.27M

Funds spent on predator conservation projects

\$95,960

Funds spent on scholarships

\$1.39M

Funds spent on conservancies

\$115,158

Funds spent on health projects

\$35,180

*Funds spent on schools' development projects

*Esiteti and Ngararambuni schools in Amboseli

HOW TO SUPPORT KWT

IN THE US

Donations can be made by check to our affiliated charity, Friends of Kenya Wildlife Trust, and sent to c/o Rick Weyerhaeuser, 105 Coolidge Hill, Cambridge, MA 02138. Friends of Kenya Wildlife Trust USA is a registered public charity, tax ID No. 01-0909843.

IN THE UK

Donations can be made to our affiliated charity, The Friends of Kenya Wildlife Trust, a registered charity in England & Wales, No. 1162781.

Bank Transfer:

Bank: Barclays Bank Sevenoaks

Account Name: The Friends of Kenya Wildlife Trust UK

Account Number: 03977641

Sort Code: 20-76-55

Please use your surname as the reference and send us an email to info@kenyawildlifetrust.org so we can thank you and send you a Gift Aid form.

Checks can also be made out to The Friends of Kenya Wildlife Trust and sent to c/o Mr Robin Cullen, Inglewood, 6A Reeves Lane, Wing, Rutland LE15 8SD.

OTHER PARTS OF THE WORLD

If you live in any other part of the world and would like to support our work, please get in touch with us directly on info@kenyawildlifetrust.org and we will advise you on the best way to send your donation to us.

OUR PARTNERS AND SUPPORTERS



PHOTO: KASAI NE SANKAN



KWT

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