

Illegal Wildlife Trade: Half Year Report

(due 31 October)

Project Ref No	IWT010
Project Title	Securing rhino populations with effective law enforcement and impact bonds
Country(ies)	Kenya
Lead Organisation	Zoological Society of London
Collaborator(s)	Kenya Wildlife Service; Equilibrium Research; Biglife Foundation
Project Leader	<i>Chris Gordon</i>
Report date and number (eg HYR1)	<i>HYR1</i>
Project website	<i>n/a – see www.zsl.org; www.kws.go.ke</i>

1. Outline progress over the last 6 months (April – Sept) against the agreed baseline timetable for the project (if your project has started less than 6 months ago, please report on the period since start up to end September).

The IWT Challenge funding has helped to leverage \$1.7M from the UNDP-GEF towards the Rhino Impact Bond (RIB). These funds have now been approved and this project will likely commence in approximately April 2016. This will bring significant additional funding to Tsavo West National Park.

Objective 1: Management Effectiveness Tracking Toolkit (METT) self-assessment analyses have been completed for Tsavo West, Tsavo East and Chyulu Hills National Parks. These METT assessments allow KWS and ZSL to identify strengths and weaknesses, to score PA management, and to identify priority gaps to address. This activity was key to helping secure RIB funding.

Objective 2: An evaluation of the National Rhino Programme was conducted by independent and internal KWS personnel. This has allowed a full site-by-site evaluation of current rhino monitoring tools, an understanding of rhino monitoring capacity at each site, and an assessment of the quality of rhino monitoring trainers at each site. KWS and ZSL are planning an assessment of the upgrades required to the national rhino monitoring programme in the next quarter.

Objective 3: Discussions with KWS Law Enforcement Academy - Manyani are still at a basic level. The progress on this objective has been set back by uncertainty within the KWS hierarchy with the change in Board and consequently Director-General, which has resulted in hesitation from the Security division of KWS to engage. Discussions are planned to identify instructor training needs to allow ZSL to engage suitable instructors for this purpose – ZSL and KWS are also in discussions over using the KWS Training Institute in Naivasha as an alternative training venue. This objective is currently running behind schedule.

Objective 4: Objective 4 is not slated to begin until Y1 Q3/4.

Objective 5: Ngulia and IPZ platoons have received training in rhino identification and monitoring. The annual night census of rhinos has been conducted over the full moon periods of the dry season, confirming 84 rhinos in Ngulia. Equipment have been purchased to allow development of systems within all four rhino platoons of the Tsavo Conservation Area (TCA) to

improve day-to-day law enforcement and monitoring effectiveness. The first set of equipment has been issued to ten ranger sectors. SMART training has been delivered to individuals from all stakeholders and parks within the TCA – this will allow easy monitoring and evaluation of law enforcement effectiveness. The project is also supporting the renovation of the rhino platoon ranger headquarters within Tsavo West National Park. Progress in Tsavo East National Park has been delayed by the funding delays in completion of the new Tsavo East rhino sanctuary. KWS, WWF and ZSL are working together to drive the completion of this infrastructure as soon as possible.

Objective 6: The ID systems are currently under manufacture as per the proposed timeline. Delivery of these systems will have to be pushed to Y2 due to delays in the completion of the new Tsavo East rhino sanctuary. The operations costs for these systems in Y1 will be used to continue operations of the existing ID systems in Ngulia.

Objective 7: Social scientists have been engaged to design the surveys to understand community attitudes to security, trust and corruption with the National Parks. These surveys have not been conducted yet.

2a. Give details of any notable problems or unexpected developments that the project has encountered over the last 6 months. Explain what impact these could have on the project and whether the changes will affect the budget and timetable of project activities.

1. The Tsavo East rhino sanctuary was scheduled for completion in Q4 2015 – this is a critical development for Kenya to ease pressure on overstocked rhino sanctuaries. This has been delayed due to lack of funds from KWS, due to the failure of a funding bid to complete vital water and scout infrastructure. This has meant that it's not safe for rhinos to be translocated as yet. However, the fence for the sanctuary (funded by ZSL/WWF) has now been completed. An activity budget has now been devised to complete this project, with the participating organisations set to raise the required funding as soon as possible. This delay will have a knock-on effect on the delivery of the ID systems for Tsavo East (Objective 6) and the relevant sections to support Tsavo East under Objective 5.
2. KWS have been reticent to engage on discussions to support the KWS Law Enforcement Academy - Manyani. KWS has recently undergone a transformation of its board, who have removed the current Director-General, and are in the process of appointing a replacement. The security division have consequently been hesitant about signing off on decisions regarding support for Manyani. These obstacles should be lifted once the new DG has been appointed – the announcement of his/her appointment is due in November 2015.
3. Social scientists have been engaged to design social surveys to understand Tsavo community attitudes to security, trust and corruption with the National Parks. These survey designs have not been completed as yet, and so the surveys have not been conducted so far.

2b. Have any of these issues been discussed with LTS International and if so, have changes been made to the original agreement?

Discussed with LTS:	Yes
Formal change request submitted:	No I will submit one now.

Received confirmation of change acceptance **No**

3a. Do you currently expect to have any significant (eg more than £5,000) underspend in your budget for this year?

Yes No Estimated underspend:

3b. If yes, then you need to consider your project budget needs carefully as it is unlikely that any requests to carry forward funds will be approved this year. Please remember that any funds agreed for this financial year are only available to the project in this financial year.

If you anticipate a significant underspend because of justifiable changes within the project and would like to talk to someone about the options available this year, please indicate below when you think you might be in a position to do this and what the reasons might be:

Training by 7Tech Group on the ID systems can only realistically happen once the rhino sanctuary in Tsavo east is completed, and once rhinos and rangers are in place. This will not realistically happen in Y1 due to unforeseen delays due to funding issues. To solve this issue, 7Tech Group can be contracted to do this during Y1, with the training taking place in Y2.

4. Are there any other issues you wish to raise relating to the project or to IWT challenge Fund management, monitoring, or financial procedures?

None at this point

Please note: Any planned modifications to your project schedule/workplan can be discussed in this report but **should also be raised with LTS International through a Change Request.**

Please send your **completed report by email** to Joanne Gordon at IWT-Fund@ltsi.co.uk. The report should be between 2-3 pages maximum. **Please state your project reference number in the header of your email message eg Subject: 001 IWT Half Year Report**