

**GEORGE ADAMSON WILDLIFE PRESERVATION TRUST  
BRIEF UPDATE FROM THE FIELD  
JULY 2016**

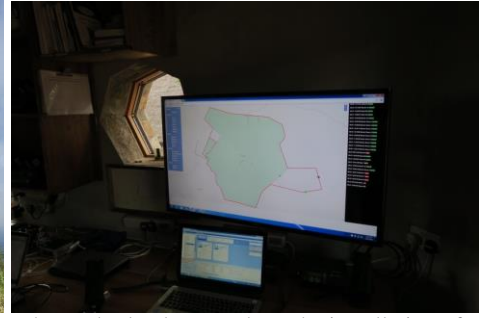
**Mkomazi Rhino Sanctuary**

We have had a very busy few months here in Mkomazi and we are delighted to let you all know that during that time, the population of rhino in the Mkomazi Rhino Sanctuary has gone up to 27. Three new calves were born (2 females and 1 male) and DHL translocated a female rhino, Eliska, from the Dvur Kralove Zoo, Czech Republic to Mkomazi at the end of June.

We will be preparing our annual newsletter before Christmas and in this we will give you a detailed account on everything that has been going on here, as well as a big Thank You to all of you who have been involved, and to all of who have supported this field work. This update below is more of a photographic record of just a few of the events in the field that have taken place over the past few weeks.



Two females (Zawadi and Grumeti) translocated from Port Lympne Wild Animal Park in the UK to Mkomazi with their calves – both female – Georgina and Mobo!



With thanks to Suzuki Rhino Club, a team of volunteer engineers came from The Netherlands to work on the installation of a new system to help enhance security and management operations. This is being done through the gathering of sensor data across the Rhino Sanctuary and the presentation of this data on a screen in the main digital radio operations room



New fencing configuration to upgrade security and with thanks to Save the Rhino and US Fish & Wildlife Services, the first stage of this project is underway

### **Translocation of Eliska from Dvur Kralove Zoo, Czech Republic to the Mkomazi Rhino Sanctuary**

In June 2016, we undertook the translocation of the female rhino, Eliska, from the Dvur Kralove Zoo, Czech Republic to Mkomazi. This must have been one of the most professionally carried out rhino translocations of all time! Dvur Kralove Zoo donated Eliska to the Mkomazi Rhino Sanctuary and DHL very kindly donated the transport from Czech Republic to Germany and the flight from Germany to Kilimanjaro Airport.







To the right: Phil Couchman, CEO DHL Express UK, whose incredible efforts along with his DHL colleagues made this translocation a reality. They assigned over 40 people to work on this translocation to ensure that nothing went wrong



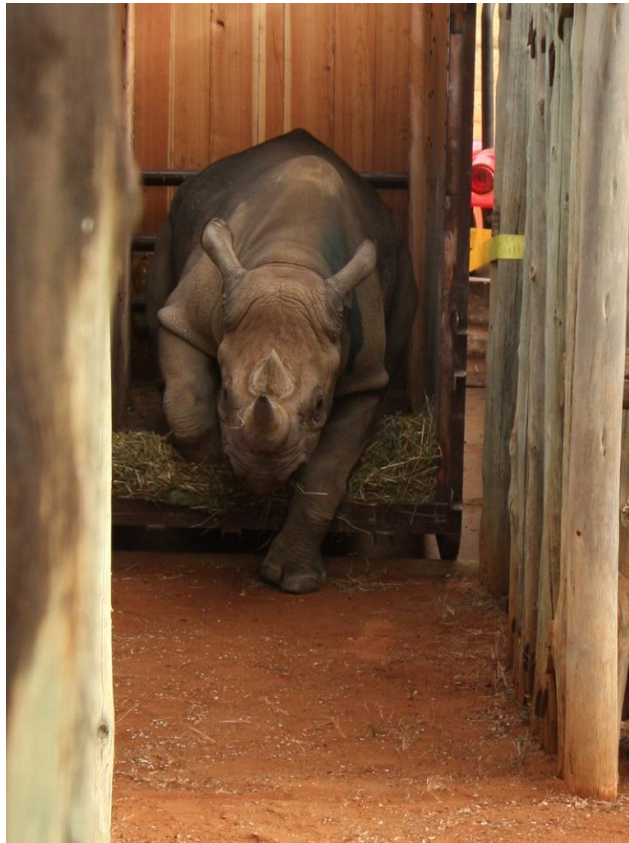
Dr Peter Morkel and Jiri Hrubry open the crate at Kilimanjaro International Airport



Jiri Hrubry, Curator of Ungulates, Dvur Kralove Zoo; Jan Stejskal, Director of Communications and International Projects, Dvur Kralove Zoo; Tony; and Allan Kijazi, Director General TANAPA



Meanwhile at Zange Headquarters, Mkomazi National Park



Eliska, translocated from Dvur Kralove Zoo, Czech Republic on 27<sup>th</sup> June 2016. Her first step on to African soil

### **African Wild Dog Programme**

We have reintroduced two packs of wild dogs to the wild over the past six months. The first was a family pack of 8 wild dogs; the second was a sibling pack of 11 wild dogs. The reintroduction compound was close to the Maore water pan which is a preferable choice as it is hidden in thick bush and close to the water pan on the border of Tsavo West National Park in Kenya.





Left: With Emmanuel Moirana of TANAPA just after the dogs had been released



With Dr Emmanuel Macha, TANAPA veterinary officer, together with Chief Mafuru of TANAPA

Another breeding group has been formed at Kisima base-camp with a beta male and a beta female from other breeding groups. We are continuing with the vaccination programme for rabies and canine distemper, using the specialised vaccine for canine distemper. At the time of writing, the number of wild dogs in the breeding compounds total 52. This includes new born pups in two packs.



## **Bulldozer, Low Loader and Ten Ton Tipping Trailer**



New ten ton tipping trailer

Mkomazi National Park is in need of continuing infrastructural development. It is a new and under-developed national park we are keen to assist TANAPA's management efforts. We have recently purchased a second-hand bulldozer (CAT D4D – 1979 model!), a low loader to move it around on, and a ten ton tipping trailer. All of this equipment will help with the development and maintenance of road networks, the excavation and expansion of water sources in the park for the elephant herds and other wildlife, as well as for water development and fence line clearing in the Rhino Sanctuary.



JCB Fastrac pulling the new low loader carrying the new CAT D4D bulldozer – with thanks to Tusk Trust and Chester Zoo



Bulldozer at work in the Rhino Sanctuary clearing the ground for an internal fence line



## Vocational Training Centre

The VTC now has a new Principal and with thanks to Suzuki Rhino Club we are fortunate to have an experienced volunteer from The Netherlands who will help put management systems in place.



The container of automotive equipment donated by the Suzuki Rhino Club to the VTC finally arrived. The TRA had been through everything and it was absolute chaos inside when it was opened, with a cracked car windscreen (this is the car donated for training students in maintenance), the frame of the canvas rear of the car was bent and tool boxes were spilt everywhere. We offloaded everything and put it all in the stores



Ted van Dam of the Suzuki Rhino Club visits the VTC to meet the Principal and to see how the project is progressing

## Elephant Orphan



This little bull elephant calf was with his herd when they were chased off some farmland by rangers and villagers. He fell into a ditch and got left behind. He was somehow at some point taken to the HQ of the closest national parks and was eventually brought here to Mkomazi. There is a long road

ahead with his recovery and teething and we have been very lucky to have already received tremendous support from John Dixon and friends here in Kenya and Tanzania for his care and well-being.



Charles Dobie flying a Coastal Aviation aircraft 5H-LEO into Mkomazi National Park with the rescued orphan on board



All of this field work can only be carried out because of the incredible support, good will and generosity that we receive from you all. We are, as always, extremely grateful for this support and we will continue to do as much as we possibly can to protect these species and to continue to maintain the established systems which have - so far - proved to be effective.