



Quarterly Report

JULY – SEPTEMBER 2024

The Grevy's Zebra Trust (GZT) is the only organization in the world dedicated exclusively to the conservation of the endangered Grevy's zebra. Understanding that the species' survival is deeply tied to its coexistence with the people of northern Kenya, we place these communities at the heart of our conservation efforts, partnering with them to safeguard the Grevy's zebra. In every initiative, GZT prioritizes using data and information (from both indigenous knowledge and science) to guide our decisions and achieve positive conservation outcomes. Our strategic goals are:

- **Understanding Grevy's:** Action is informed by accurate information on Grevy's zebra populations.
- **Supporting Grevy's survival:** Immediate threats to Grevy's zebra are mitigated.
- **Valuing Grevy's:** Ownership of Grevy's zebra conservation is embedded within indigenous and local communities.
- **Regenerating rangelands:** Healthy rangelands support people, livestock and wildlife.
- **Connecting landscapes:** Community and Grevy's zebra needs are integrated into land use planning.

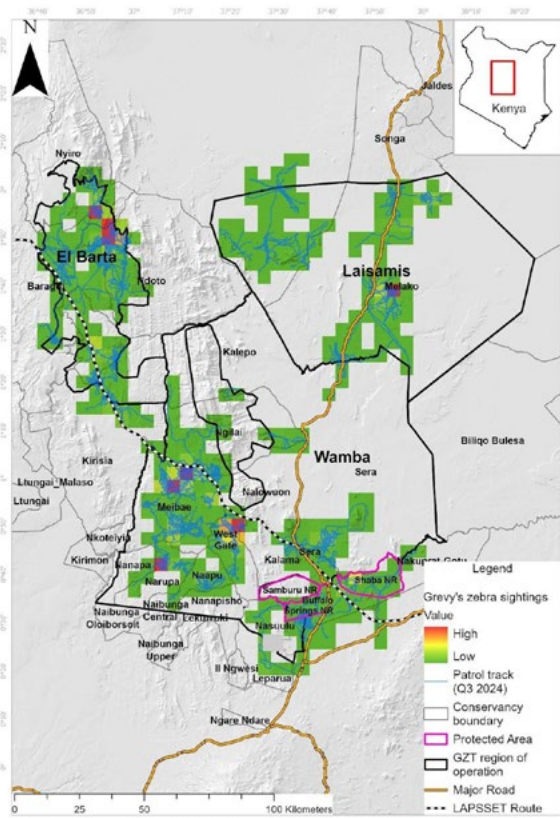
At a Glance

- 13,837 km walked during foot patrols by Grevy's Zebra Ambassadors, Scouts and Warriors.
- >30% proportion of Grevy's zebra foals and juveniles in the populations monitored, indicating growth.
- 1,680 semi-circular bunds constructed in Wamba and 77 in Laisamis.
- 482 participants engaged by Grasslands Champions.
- 1,230 kgs grass seeds harvested across restoration sites.
- 572 cows introduced to Grassland Champions restored sites in Wamba and 150 calves in Laisamis to utilize pasture.
- 4,908 cattle from seven villages managed under regenerative grazing.
- Rations worth KES 683,380/USD 5,255 distributed for grass harvesting, planting and restoration work.
- 2,090 dignity packs (reusable sanitary pads) produced and 505 distributed to schoolgirls and community women.

Understanding Grevy's

Patrols: Grevy's Zebra Ambassadors, Warriors, and Scouts continue to conduct regular patrols to observe and collect data on Grevy's zebra. **The average percentage of juveniles among all Grevy's zebra sightings was at 30.3%**, which is in line with the ideal ratio for population growth. The Warriors and Scouts observed an equal number of male and female Grevy's zebras during their patrols, while the Ambassadors reported a much higher number of females compared to males. This is explained by the corresponding high number of lactating females that were seen with foals and juveniles in the El Barta sightings, which is a general marker for a healthy and growing population.

Metric	Grevy's Zebra Ambassadors	Grevy's Zebra Scouts	Grevy's Zebra Warriors
No. of team members	16	26	10
No. of patrols	511	476	141
No. kms walked	5,607	6,142	2,088
No. Grevy's zebra sightings	1,579	2,470	588
No. Grevy's zebra encounters	172	327	72
Average group size	9	8	8
Foal/juvenile adult ratio	36.8%	28%	26.2%
Sex ratio (M:F)	1:4.5	1:1	1:1



Along with foot patrols, the teams also conducted a total of 18 joint patrols by vehicle with the Kenya Wildlife Service (KWS). The Ambassadors covered a total of 284 kilometers, the Warriors covered 537 kilometers, and the Scouts covered 1,223 kilometers in the areas of Legarde, Seyia, Resim, Nkaroni, Swaari and Lbaa-Loltepes.

During the joint patrols, 47 Grevy's zebra were seen by the Ambassadors team in the El Barta region. They also encountered 145 plains zebra, two gerenuks, 95 ostriches and 12 Grant's gazelles. The Warriors joint patrol team saw 30 Grevy's zebra in Laisamis region while the Scouts joint patrol team saw 46 Grevy's zebra in Wamba region. The area had plentiful forage and water sources available.

Scouts, Ambassadors and Warriors Grevy's zebra sightings and patrol tracks (Q3, 2024).

In partnership with community conservancies and national reserves, Pascal Esekon, our Isiolo Region Coordinator, conducted joint patrols in Nasuulu, Leparua, and Nakuprat Gotu conservancies in July as well as Shaba National Reserve and Buffalo Springs National Reserve in August.

The results showed a higher number of foals seen in the reserves. The surveys also indicated improved pasture availability. Community outreach was also done to address the issue of charcoal making and poaching, which is a problem in this area.



Josephine Lekulal, one of our Grevy's Zebra Scouts, sharing about her love for Grevy's zebra as she prepares and enjoys some tea.

During a joint patrol with KWS in early August, John Lekishe, our Regional Coordinator for Wamba, shared a memorable moment where one of our Scouts, Josephine Lekulal, sipping tea, nostalgically recalled the early days of GZT. She compared the sweetness of the tea to the love for the stripes of Grevy's zebra.

One of the highlights of this quarter was that our Programs Director, Peter Leshakwet, who joined the GZT team earlier this year, came along on several of the teams' patrols in order to more fully understand their work and the setting in which they conduct their patrols. This not only benefited him in his role but was also a morale booster for the teams.



Leshakwet and several of the Warriors on a patrol in Laisamis.

“A day well spent with Warriors up the plateau. It was a thrilling experience joining them in their normal patrols and having a better understanding of the place and their work. We encountered about 50 Grevy’s within a smaller area on the plateau. They were very habituated and undisturbed. It was a wonderful day challenging the Warriors who first thought I could not make it, but I was very excited to join them!”

– Peter Leshakwet, GZT Programs Director



Leshakwet on patrol with Ambassadors in El Barta.

Supporting Grevy’s Zebra Survival

Water Management

In the El Barta region, water levels at Noosidan Dam are declining, potentially affecting how long Grevy’s zebras will stay in the area. However, Ngilai Dam still holds a significant amount of water, and along with the nearby Naisicho River, provides alternative sources for the Grevy’s zebra. In Laisamis, sand dams have transformed dry wells into flowing streams, making it easier for people and livestock to access water. Despite heavy livestock use, the Laisamis River continues to flow, with evidence of Grevy’s zebra utilizing the area. However, pollution from people washing clothes with detergents is a concern, and our team will address this with the community. Engagement with stakeholders around boreholes and other water sources remains positive, and there is strong support for ensuring wildlife has access to these resources.

“What the sand dams have done is taken [the landscape] from dry wells to flowing streams, where an elderly herding woman who cannot pull out water using a rope and a bucket can now quench her stock from flowing streams.”

- Joshua Labarakwe, GZT Laisamis Regional Coordinator



A photo of the area around the Laisamis dam, taken by Joshua Labarakwe.

Poaching Prevention

We have been addressing the issue of poaching, especially bushmeat hunting, through key stakeholder meetings. A recent discussion with the Warden of Nakuprat-Gotu Conservancy focused on holding poaching suspects accountable. This problem is worsened by the area's proximity to towns, leading to more poaching and charcoal burning, as well as conflicts over cattle theft between communities.

In response, GZT is collaborating with local authorities, including the Assistant Chief, Warden, and elders, to strengthen community-led conservation. During a follow-up meeting, 136 community members, including women and elders, committed to ending poaching and charcoal burning and agreed to report illegal activities.

Key actions moving forward include ongoing monitoring by Grevy's Zebra Scouts and increasing community awareness. The community's positive response highlights a shift toward sustainable rangeland management and wildlife protection.

Transforming Conflict

The El Barta Conservation Council (ECC), along with representatives from several organizations including GZT, went through a Conservation Conflict Transformation (CCT) training facilitated by Lynn Kimmel, a trainer in human-wildlife conflict resolution. Although this was a refresher for many members (we were thrilled to see that they had been utilizing these skills from the previous training), it proved to be a crucial tool for the group. The primary objective was to leverage the expertise of the facilitator to enhance the conflict transformation skills of the members. The new members were very excited to join the team and highlighted the importance of representing their villages. One new member, in particular, was very inspired by the gathering.

“What I knew about the Samburu community was that they were just enemies. These past two days have felt like a new dawn for me. I couldn’t speak on the first day; I was keenly following the conversation. The first time I heard about the conservation of wildlife was just recently in April 2024 during the GZT community workshop at Kilepoi. The first Samburu person I interacted with was Joel [Loongo’nyo, GZT’s El Barta Regional Coordinator]. I was selected by the moran [warriors] during the meeting in April to represent them because I am their leader. The wildlife killed around Kawuap was significant; I knew nothing about wildlife beyond seeing it as food in front of me. I was born and grew up during ongoing conflicts. Today, I have started to love and connect with these people. I wish these meetings could be taken around our location to build better relationships.”

– *Nanyiapar Echuchuka, a new member from the Kilepoi villages and the youngest on the team at 26 years old.*

Beyond the training, there have been encouraging interactions with the community, including a visit to the Kilepoi and Kawuap Centers, where there was a productive meeting with ECC members, rangers, National Police Reservists (NPR), and several morans. The Kilepoi community has committed to maintaining peace with wildlife and their neighboring communities. A group of NPR rangers and young morans stationed at the Kawuap Center are voluntarily surveying the area to ensure peace prevails. Their presence has already had a positive impact.

“I was pleased to see the elders opening up, sharing stories, and expressing regret for their past involvement in killing wildlife in their area.”

– *Joel Loongo’nyo, El Barta Regional Coordinator, following a meeting in Kilepoi.*



A meeting with ECC members, rangers, NPR and morans to discuss maintaining peace with wildlife.

According to Peter Leshakwet, the young man standing in the photo above shared with the group that, “We have made peace with wildlife; unfortunately, they are still running away whenever they see us or even smell us. I wish we could communicate with them to assure them that we are now friends, but I know with time they will know and stop running.”

Veterinary Interventions

In July, a snared territorial male was treated but unfortunately died two days later because its injuries were too severe.



Vet and KWS team treating a Grevy's zebra at Oldonyiro.



A Grevy's zebra injured by lion, not treated as the wound was naturally healing.

The KWS Oldonyiro team, alongside Parkuruk community herders, successfully located and treated an injured bachelor male Grevy's zebra in August. Their dedication to patrolling and protecting these animals without direct involvement from our team is commendable. The veterinary team ensured the Grevy's zebra received the necessary treatment and ongoing monitoring will continue.

In early September, a territorial male was found with an injured leg from a snare at Laresoro in Wamba region. The leg injury was so severe that it almost cut off its hoof. As a result of the intervention, the Grevy's zebra survived and our Grevy's Zebra Scouts will continue to monitor its wellbeing.

Toward the end of the quarter, a male Grevy's zebra with a suspected serious injury was reported by a Nakuprat-Gotu Community Conservancy ranger at Shaba National Reserve. After monitoring and veterinary assessment at Lopiri Ngare Springs, it was determined that the injury was less severe than initially thought, though ongoing observation was necessary to prevent complications.

Mortality and Injuries

We recorded four Grevy's zebra deaths during this quarter, two of which died of natural causes (predation) and one from a snare and one from a vehicle collision.

Reproductive Class	Cause of death	Means of death	Area
6-12 months foal	Natural	Predation	Nkaroni, Wamba
Territorial male	Natural	Predation	Lojil, Mlango
Territorial male	Human	Snare	South Horr, El Barta
Territorial male	Human	Vehicle	Koote, Laisamis

Valuing Grevy's Zebra

Nkirreten

Our Nkirreten program, employing 10 women in five locations (Sasaab, Kiltamany, Nkutuk, Naisunyai, and Lkalkaloi), continues to produce dignity packs (sanitary pads) for girls and women in their communities. One event that stood out this quarter, organized in collaboration with Akili Dada, a community-based organization that supports local women and girls through education and well-being initiatives, took place in Natiiti village. During the meeting, we raised awareness about the importance of conserving Grevy's zebra and its benefits to the community. Additionally, we distributed dignity packs to 125 women and girls, addressing a crucial menstrual hygiene need and fostering a sense of support and empowerment. The collaboration with Akili Dada provided a valuable opportunity to contribute positively to the community and enhance the well-being of local women and girls.



A group of young women in the Natiiti community displaying their dignity packs.

"I want to say thanks a lot for receiving these pads. We are all very happy to receive these... This is something we have never had before, and we are very happy!" – one of the Natiiti beneficiaries.

Number of Dignity Packs	July	August	September	Total
Produced	658	766	666	2,090
Distributed	245	60	200	505



Some of the Nkirreten women getting ready to distribute dignity packs.

Grevy's Zebra Scholarship Students

At the beginning of July, our bursary students returned to school safely. The girls at St. Theresa's were doing well and staying focused on their studies. During a recent visit, Damaris Lekiluai, our Gender & Youth Coordinator, held a mentorship session and discussed their academic progress; they are well-prepared for their upcoming exams. She also accompanied the boys back to school and met with their principal, who shared positive feedback on their determination and discipline. In September, Damaris reconnected with the form four students for a mentorship session while they prepared for their final exams.



Several of our scholarship recipients during time spent with our Gender & Youth Coordinator, Damaris Lekiluai.

Number of Secondary Students Supported	Boys	Girls	Total
2012-2016	2	5	7
2017-2020	5	2	7
2021-2024	3	10	13



Isaac Lenanyie at the Wildlife Research & Training Institute.

Isaac Lenanyie, from Ngutuk village, is one of the recipients of a college scholarship from GZT, with funding from the San Diego Zoo Wildlife Alliance. He has successfully enrolled at the Kenya Wildlife Research and Training Institute (WRTI) to pursue a diploma in Wildlife Management. Coming from a very humble background, Isaac's dream is to give back to his community by conserving wildlife.

Additionally, Mercy Neepe, one of the former secondary school scholarship beneficiaries is continuing with her training to become a commercial airline pilot.

Regenerating Rangelands

During the July to September period, which marks most of the long dry season in northern Kenya, the Rangelands team continued to implement critical rangeland management initiatives. These efforts focused on sustaining grazing resources for both wildlife and community livestock, which supports the resilience of the northern Kenya rangelands ecosystem. Comprehensive grazing plans, which connect wet and dry season strategies, have played a pivotal role in restoring critical habitat for Grevy's zebra while enhancing community well-being.

Wamba

Key activities during this quarter included a moran council refresher training in Kalama and Meibae conservancies, where council members were trained on best practices in rangeland management and their roles in implementing grazing calendars. Additionally, GZT supported regenerative grazing inception meetings and herder training in three conservancies. Grevy's zebra collar data and monitoring revealed that the species continues to thrive in areas under regenerative grazing management, with notable evidence of Grevy's zebra spoor in restored grazing blocks. This indicates that GZT's land management strategies are successfully benefiting both livestock and wildlife.

As Mzee Letapo shared with our team, "I appreciate the work of Grevy's Zebra Trust within the community; their training has opened our eyes to protect our land."

A total of 4,908 cattle are participating in regenerative grazing plans supported by GZT. This effort spans seven villages and six fora under GZT's direct support. Additionally, **13 villages with four fora, supported by partner community conservancies, are hosting 2,396 cows.** As part of the ongoing rehabilitation of rangelands, **572 cows have been introduced to graze on areas restored by the Grassland Champions**, further promoting regenerative land management practices across the region.



Cattle in one of bomas within the regenerative grazing plan.



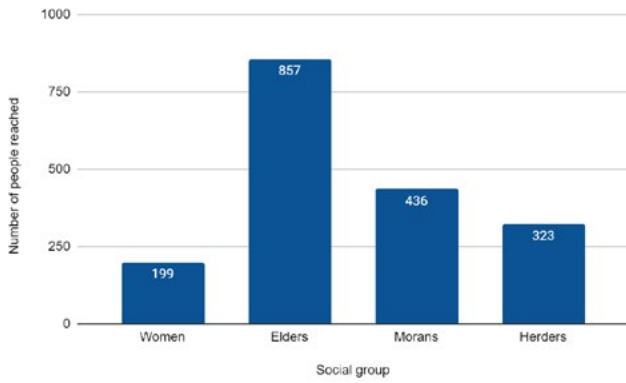
A group of Grevy's zebra spotted during a patrol.

“Seeing a Grevy’s zebra symbolizes a sign of relief from challenges experienced when trying to safeguard livestock and people during drought. Regenerative grazing has led to a healthy community because of livestock presence within homes; otherwise, we would be in a far land fighting other communities over pasture and water.”

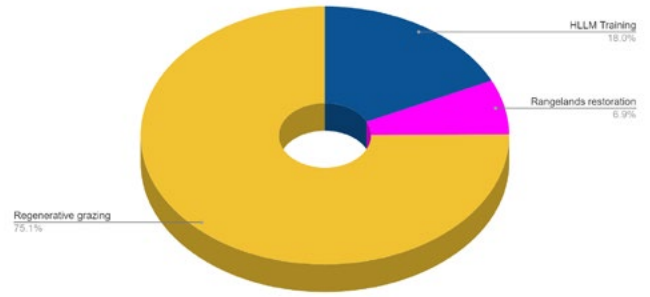
– an Elder from Sasaab appreciating GZT’s efforts on carrying out the regenerative grazing exercise.

In order to effectively carry out these regenerative grazing plans, consistent collaboration with the community is essential.

Of all the people reached through meetings this quarter, around three-quarters participated in regenerative grazing meetings, while close to 20% were part of training in Holistic Land and Livestock Management (HLLM). The remainder were reached through meetings on rangelands restoration.



Number of people reached by Rangelands team in Wamba region.

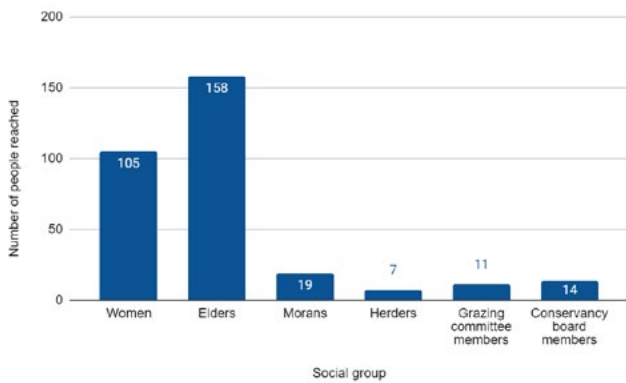


Percentage of people reached by meeting type.

Laisamis

The Laisamis Rangeland Program made significant strides during this quarter, with a focus on improving grazing management and restoration efforts. Key activities included multiple core group meetings in Korr, Logologo, and Merille, where environmental management and grazing strategies were reviewed. In particular, the clearing of invasive *Prosopis juliflora* in the Kuya grazing block and management of water boreholes were highlighted as essential tasks. Community engagement was strengthened through village-to-village awareness campaigns, resulting in more coordinated grazing plans and effective resource management across the region. The program also collaborated with Melako Conservancy, enhancing the overall impact on rangeland conservation.

Grassland Champions actively contributed to restoration efforts by harvesting grass seeds, constructing new bunds, and organizing community outreach. A total of 45 community meetings



Number of people reached by Rangelands team in Laisamis region.

were held, alongside successful clearing of invasive species and restoration work at key sites. The program's collaboration with Melako Conservancy extended to carbon awareness and herders' training, where 110 participants learned rangeland management techniques. These efforts contributed to improved livestock grazing conditions and enhanced wildlife activity, including the increased presence of Grevy's zebra in grazing blocks.



Melako Grazing Committee site visit to Westgate Conservancy to observe their restoration techniques and apply them in Melako Conservancy.



Cattle grazing in a regenerated site that was once degraded land.

Ngeeti Lempate (aka Mama Grevy), one of our Grasslands Champions, recently shared her experience after introducing a herd of 78 cattle into her 22-hectare regenerated site.

“I am so glad our efforts are finally paying off. We have introduced 78 cattle into what was once a degraded piece of land. Through our community’s collective voluntary efforts, GZT’s training and Westgate Conservancy support, we have been able to reverse this unhealthy land condition and successfully reclaimed 22 hectares... Two things have struck the entire community: it brings satisfaction to see our herders spending the whole day with us in harmony...

...Furthermore, we’ve noticed that the milk we collect in the evening is thicker and more nutritious. In the morning, the cows remain full compared to when they grazed on normal grass, suggesting that the perennial grass we introduced is indeed very nutritious. These positive signs energize us to continue rehabilitating degraded lands.”



Girgir field in Samburu National Reserve today, once the location of one of our main supplementary feeding sites.

“I can’t imagine this is Girgir field, where we used to do supplementary feeding. It’s vivid in my mind how it looked on those days as we fed the Grevy’s zebra in that dusty and hot sun.” - *John Lekishe*

We are happy to share that the landscape of northern Kenya has significantly transformed since the end of the multi-year drought due to adequate rain and most areas having much-needed recovery time. Although this specific location is in the national reserve, which is livestock free and not managed by GZT, it is a good representation of what has been taking place across the landscape. It is nice for our team to see that the same place we were once providing supplementary feeding is now covered in tall grass.

Connecting Landscapes

Northern Kenya Road Watch

This initiative, in partnership with several organizations working in northern Kenya, monitors animal and vehicle activity along the A2 highway. The group continues to document roadkill incidents, and these findings highlight the need for ongoing vigilance and potential solutions to reduce vehicle collisions with wildlife and domestic animals and to improve road safety along the A2.

Date	Animal killed	Area name	Reporting organization
7th July	Cape hare	Lorubye's	Action for Cheetahs Kenya
16th July	Tawny eagle	Sereolipi	San Diego Vet- Wild
16th July	White tailed mongoose	Sereolipi	Ewaso Lions
24th July	Domestic dog	Ngaremara	Action for Cheetahs Kenya
28th July	Snake	Lolingerded area	Action for Cheetahs Kenya
1st August	Domestic dog	Isiolo	Action for Cheetahs Kenya
7th August	Grevy's zebra	Logologo	Grevy's Zebra Trust
13th August	Spotted Hyena	Kalama	Ewaso Lions
15th August	Common genet	Kalama	Action for Cheetahs in Kenya
15th August	Aardvark	Sereolipi	Grevy's Zebra Trust



The GZT, Ewaso Lions, KWS, SNR and KeNHA teams participating in taking GPS locations on the A2 highway to designate ideal signage locations.

In September, following a series of meetings with the Kenya National Highways Authority (KenHA), we successfully completed a day of taking GPS locations and planning for signage along the A2 highway. Redempta Njeri and Andrew Letura joined from the GZT team, along with several representatives from Ewaso Lions, Samburu National Reserve (SNR), and KWS. We are grateful for the support from KenHA,

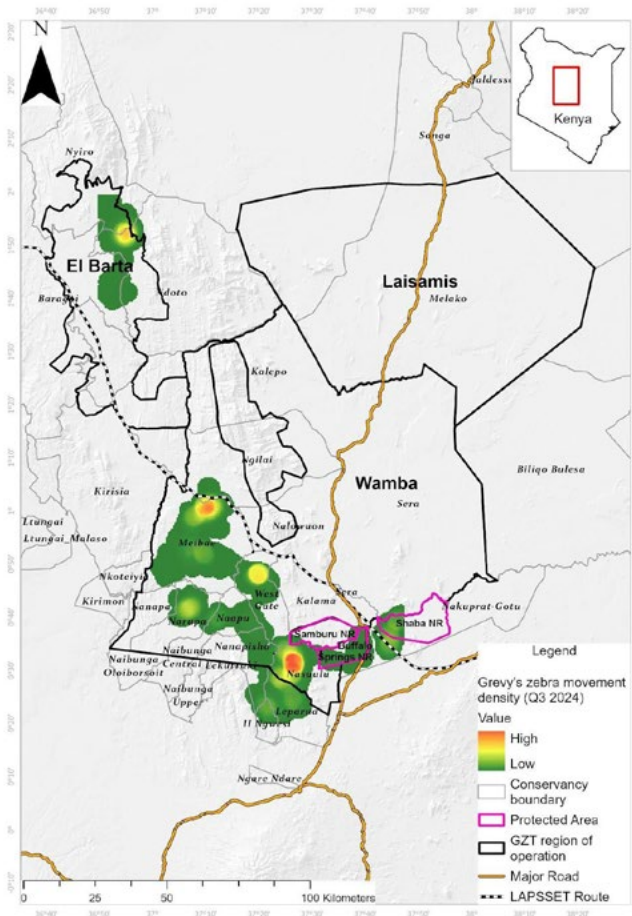
who had their inspector, engineer, and safety officer join us for the exercise. It was an interactive experience, and we were very glad to be a part of the design process.

Collaring Data

In September 2023, GZT, in collaboration with KWS, WRTI and Marwell Wildlife, collared 20 Grevy's zebra in northern Kenya to better understand their movements across the landscape as well as the impact of infrastructure development on their movement.

This quarter, 96% of all GPS locations from 17 active collars were within community and county government conservancies, while 4% were within protected areas. Nasuulu, Meibae and Westgate Conservancies were key hotspots.

There was no movement across the A2 road but two Grevy's zebra moved across the gazetted LAPSSET Corridor from Meibae Conservancy near the Grevy's zebra breeding zone. The collar data also informs us of key connectivity areas across Samburu, Isiolo and Laikipia counties.



17 Collared Grevy's zebra movement hotspots (July-September) and major roads within the landscape.

Andrew Letura, GZT's Ecological Monitoring Officer, conducted a ground tracking in September where he found the collared Grevy's zebras in groups with their foals, which is encouraging.



Two of the collared Grevy's zebra seen by the GZT team.

Other Highlights

Social Science Training & Surveying

At GZT, we are consistently striving to expand our understanding of the communities we work with and deepen the impact of our conservation efforts. One key to achieving this has been incorporating social science research into our approach, which complements our already strong focus on ecological monitoring. Thanks to hands-on training from the Living Desert Zoo team, GZT's staff conducted community surveys to gain valuable insights into how local communities perceive our programs. The feedback highlighted the positive impact of GZT's initiatives, including emergency drought relief, the Nkirreten project, rangeland restoration and planned grazing.

Community members, particularly the youth, expressed strong support for GZT's conservation efforts, with survey respondents recognizing and valuing the Grevy's zebra. It was interesting to hear from the elderly respondents who had a temporal understanding of Grevy's zebra numbers decreasing over time, whereas the majority of the youths responded that they thought the number of Grevy's zebra have been increasing.



Andy Lekisanyal, our Rangelands Manager, interviewing one of the Grassland Champions during the Wamba Grassland Champions Quarterly meetings.



Unexpectedly meeting one of our scholarship recipients during the community surveying process.

The findings from these surveys have provided us with a clearer understanding of community needs and areas for improvement, such as increasing women's participation in decision-making. This research strengthens our approach to community engagement, highlights the growing conservation ownership among local communities and underscores the broader impact of GZT's work on both people and wildlife.

One of the highlights of our community survey process was an unexpected but heartwarming encounter with one of our scholarship recipients. As Peter Leshakwet recalled, "The scholarship beneficiary... was extremely excited to meet us and participate in the survey." It was a beautiful reminder of the long-term impact we are creating, not just for the Grevy's zebra but also for the people who live alongside them.

World Rhino Day

Our team had the privilege of participating in World Rhino Day at Sera Wildlife Conservancy in Serolipi, an event graced by the Cabinet Secretary (CS) for Tourism and Wildlife, Rebecca Miano, and other key representatives from the Samburu County Government, KWS, and various conservation partners. It

was an excellent opportunity to showcase the impactful work of our programs, including our Nkirreten project, which received praise from the CS. Sintiwan, the Nkirreten project lead seamstress, impressed the audience with a demonstration of our locally made reusable pads, highlighting the connection between our conservation efforts and community development. Our display attracted significant interest from both partners and the local community, making the event a successful platform for sharing our work and its importance.



CS for Tourism and Wildlife, Rebecca Miano, visiting the Grevy's Zebra Trust booth at the World Rhino Day event.


New York Climate Week


Our Executive Director, Peter Lalampaa, had an enriching experience at New York Climate Week, engaging with conservation partners and allies. His key takeaway was that conservation and climate action are inseparable. He emphasized the critical role that local conservation organizations play in addressing climate change and the need for greater support to help them implement impactful solutions.




One of the sessions during New York Climate Week attended by Peter Lalampaa.

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