



The David Sheldrick Wildlife Trust

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12th July, 2010

Bhagavan Antie,
Rare Species Fund
P.O. Box 31210,
Myrtle Beach, SC 29588... U.S.A.

Dear Supporter,

I want to write personally to thank you for your very generous donation in support of our conservation initiatives. We are most deeply indebted to all who support our work especially at a time when wildlife, and particularly the elephants, are facing so many challenges and need all the help they can muster.

Currently we have 16 infant elephants remaining in our Nairobi Nursery, having moved some of the older orphans to our two Rehabilitation Facilities in Tsavo East National Park, which is large enough (the size of Michigan State) to offer an elephant the space needed for a quality of life. Sadly there has been a marked surge in poaching for ivory driven by the demand in the Far East, particularly China. With Chinese workers engaged in aid related projects in Africa nowadays, middlemen buyers of ivory, rhino horn, and hardwoods are at hand, and have driven up the price paid to the poachers of these commodities.


However, thanks to caring folk all over the world, the Trust has been able to save and rear over 130 orphaned baby elephants over the years we have been operating, none of whom would otherwise be alive today. Some of our hand-reared elephants are now young mothers of wild born calves, and keeping in touch with the Keepers that steered them into adulthood, who are still based at our Relocation Centres in Tsavo overseeing the rehabilitation of a new batch of youngsters that have graduated from the Nairobi Nursery. Ex orphans Emily and Edie brought their babies back during the drought, because their milk was failing, and we were able to help boost their lactation by sending down Dairy cubes and other supplements, and in this way save their newborn calves. "Elephants never forget", which happens to be true, so the many years of nurturing is richly rewarded by the enduring love that the orphans have of the particular individuals that replaced their lost elephant mother and family in infancy and throughout their growing years. We are, however, very aware that the success we have enjoyed insofar as

The Orphans' Project is concerned is thanks to the amazing support we have enjoyed from people such as yourself and we thank you again for your compassion, generosity and caring.

Besides the Orphans' Project, the Trust also manages and funds 6 anti-poaching De-Snaring teams which patrol the boundaries and adjacent areas to Tsavo National Park retrieving wire snares and saving what animals they find trapped but still alive. We have an energetic community outreach Programme, supporting 28 village schools around Tsavo, and reaching many outlying communities through regular radio programmes delivered in local dialects by members of our staff. There are over 40 different tribes in Kenya, all speaking their own particular language, so this is another important means of spreading the conservation message. We have two fully equipped Mobile Veterinary Units in the field full time, who have been able to save hundreds of wounded and sick wild animals that otherwise would have perished, so your generous assistance will definitely enhance all such efforts.

The Trust writes just one comprehensive Newsletter every year which is on our website, and which I hope you will find time to read. This will update you on all our conservation initiatives. Once again, we thank you most sincerely for your support and wish you and yours all the very best for 2010.

Most Sincerely,



Dr. Dame Daphne Sheldrick DB E MBE MBS DVMS

BY AIR MAIL
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