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TANGANYIKA TERRITORY
GAME PRESERVATION DEPARTMENT

Annual Report 1934

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**TANGANYIKA TERRITORY GAME PRESERVATION
DEPARTMENT ANNUAL REPORT, 1934.**

PROTECTION OF LION, LEOPARD AND CHEETAH.

The following regulation was introduced during the year:—

“Notwithstanding anything contained in any regulation, no person shall, unless he holds one of the licences mentioned hereunder, hunt lion, leopard, cheetah or buffalo in the Central, Iringa, Lake, Northern and Tanga provinces, or kill therein any number of such animals exceeding that specified hereunder:—

	Lion	Leopard	Cheetah	Buffalo
Visitor's Full Licence ...	6	4	2	Unlimited
Visitor's Temporary Licence ...	2	2	1	..
Resident's Full Licence ...	6	4	2	..
Resident's Minor Licence ...	2	2	1	..

“Provided, however, that in the Serengeti Closed Reserve not more than one lion or one cheetah may be killed by the holder of a Visitor's Full Licence or a Resident's Full Licence and that no lion or cheetah may be killed in the said reserve by the holder of a Visitor's Temporary Licence or a Resident's Minor Licence.

“Provided further that any person may at any time in defence of any person or for the protection of property kill in the said provinces any of the animals mentioned in this regulation without holding one of the prescribed licences.”

NOTES ON FOUR OF THE MOST VALUABLE COMPLETE RESERVES.

Of our complete game reserves, of which there are twelve, *the Lake Natron* adjoining the Masai Reserve in Kenya is the most valuable. It is approximately 3,000 square miles in extent and harbours a great variety of game such as elephant, rhinoceros, buffalo, giraffe, oryx, lesser kudu and gerenuk besides most of the common species such as wildebeest and zebra. Sable, roan and topi are not met with here.

A volcanic mountain known to the Masai as Oldonyo Lengai and to the Swahili-speaking native as Kilima cha Mungu is situated in the reserve. This mountain has been active at intervals during the past twelve to fifteen years.

The Selous Reserve is famed chiefly for its number of elephant and buffalo, and a few rhinoceroses are also located here. Greater kudu are not plentiful, but two herds have been observed, one containing approximately thirty-five animals another twenty, and scattered about are several smaller herds. Sable antelopes are rare but a few small herds are known, one consisting of about twenty animals. Wildebeest, zebra, palla, hartebeest (*Lichtenstein's*) are numerous, and waterbuck are well distributed along the big rivers and round about the soda lakes.

The Northern Railway Reserve situated in the Pare District, Tanga Province, is small, but it is the only reserve in that province. Besides rhino-

ceros, buffalo and the commoner species, it contains rarer species such as oryx, lesser kudu and gerenuk and is occasionally visited by elephant.

The *Serengeti Complete Reserve* although small is a most valuable piece of country as it is bounded by two rivers and extends right down to Lake Victoria. It is the main breeding ground for lions on account of its cover and permanent waters. In the dry season it harbours a lot of game.

CLOSED RESERVES.

Entry to a closed reserve, of which there are two only, is by permit. The fact that the permit must be obtained in person and for a specified period has enabled an efficient check to be kept. Certain restrictions may be enforced, such as in the *Serengeti Closed Reserve* where one lion and one cheetah only may be killed by the holder of a Full Licence and none on a Temporary or Minor licence.

Serengeti Closed Reserve.—This reserve is becoming more and more popular with visitors as it is probably the only place in the world where one can almost guarantee that numbers of lions will be seen which can be photographed from as near as five yards. Provided one is accompanied by an expert who from constant experience knows when to approach or when to leave them alone, one can drive up to them in comparative safety; but a lion is a lion, therefore unnecessary risks should not be taken. I regret to say that cases have been brought to my knowledge where visitors have been so venturesome as to step out of their cars in order to take something new in the way of photographs. It will be through such foolhardy behaviour that the first accident occurs.

Lake Rukwa Closed Reserve.—In 1928, when I first visited Lake Rukwa, game was plentiful and tame, but when I visited it again in 1932 I was unpleasantly surprised at its scarcity and wildness. Enquiries showed that it had become popular amongst meat hunters who were killing game to feed their native labour. This information was easily verified from the number of car tracks and from the remains of camps with racks for drying meat still standing.

Early in 1933 an area with defined boundaries bordering on the lake on three sides was declared a closed reserve. This closed reserve is chiefly noted for its numbers of puku, which are only found elsewhere in the vicinity of the Kilombero River, although I understand that a few of this species have been seen near to Mwaya on the shores of Lake Nyasa in the Rungwe District.

An honorary game ranger who has known Lake Rukwa for a number of years has written to tell me that game is increasing, which is gratifying.

POACHING.

By Europeans.—The situation remains the same as in the previous two years. Where game is killed solely with the intention of feeding native employees there is bound to be overshooting of certain species. This practice, though illegal, is comparatively harmless and capable of control. Flagrant cases can be dealt with summarily.

By Natives.—This is far more difficult to suppress. A native is allowed to kill sufficient game meat for himself and his family's needs. Although in practice this concession is not easy to control there has been a larger number of convictions during the year (see paragraph on breaches of game laws).

In some cases native offenders against the game laws are tried by local native authorities. These convictions are not shown in the paragraph.

Four hundred and fifty-nine convictions were obtained in the *Serengeti Range* alone. This constitutes a record which I trust will not have to be repeated.

FOUND IVORY AND RHINOCEROS HORN.

Returns show a slight decrease in all provinces, excepting one. In that province a noticeable increase occurs, particularly in found rhinoceros horn. To some extent the drought is responsible for this increase as owing to the shortage of water and grazing rhinoceros in certain areas have been forced to utilize the same short supply of water as stock owners, and conflict between the two was inevitable.

BREACHES OF GAME LAWS.

Details of Offences under the Game Preservation Ordinance during 1934.

OFFENCE	No. charged	No. discharged	No. convicted
Shooting game in Game Reserves (sec. 4) ...	28	11	17
Hunting game without licence (sec. 5(1)) ...	74	14	60
Illegal possession of government trophies: ivory, rhino horns, etc. (sec. 19(1)) ...	109	7	102
Unexplained possession of game meat or trophies (sec. 22(1)) ...	16	1	15
Total ...	227	33	194

Convictions were obtained against one European, one Indian and one hundred and ninety-two natives.

Details of Offences under the Game Preservation Regulations during 1934.

OFFENCE	No. charged	No. discharged	No. convicted
Hunting game by means of poison, traps, pitfalls, snares, poisoned arrows (Reg. 3(3))	59	9	50
Being in possession of equipment for hunting purposes in complete game reserve (Reg. 6)	5	—	5
Selling game meat without licence (Govt. Notice No. 60 of 1930) ...	6	—	6
Selling trophies without a licence (Reg. 32(1))	1	1	—
Total ...	71	10	61

Those convicted were all natives.

DISEASES AMONGST GAME.

During the year rinderpest has been responsible for many deaths in western *Serengeti*. Near the *Ngorongoro Crater* this disease is almost an annual occurrence, though in recent years it does not appear to do much harm.

Towards the end of 1933 an outbreak was reported in the *Pare District*, *Tanga Province*. It is believed that illicit movement of cattle amongst the *Wakamba* and tribes bordering on *Lake Jipe* and eastwards was the cause of the outbreak. In January, 1934, rinderpest was rife amongst game on the *Jipe Steppe* and along the western slopes of *North Pare*. Buffalo, eland and lesser kudu were the main sufferers. Major Bradstock, D.S.O., M.C., Honorary

Game Ranger, reports finding the carcasses of nine lesser kudu within a radius of half a mile from the Kilurio-Mnazi Road. The carcasses of several more were seen by game scouts and veterinary guards in the Pare District. By the end of January the disease was spreading through the gap in the Pare Range and towards the west, and later it moved in a south-easterly direction towards the coastal line.

Investigations are being made and, if it appears necessary, steps will be taken to procure complete protection for lesser kudu until such time as normal conditions are reached.

ELEPHANT CONTROL AND CULTIVATION PROTECTION.

Elephant.

As in the previous year, cultivation protection has taken up the major time of four game rangers and 126 game scouts. A temporary ranger was also engaged for a short period towards the end of the year to deal with raiding elephant in the Moshi District. Owing to the drought, which was almost universal throughout the Territory, and the resultant shortage of water and food elephant herds came near to the vicinity of cultivated areas in their search for food and water.

The thinning out campaign inaugurated in 1933 was continued in the Southern and Eastern provinces. As far as possible old cows past the breeding stage and tuskless animals were killed but a large proportion had necessarily to be younger animals. 2,716 elephants were killed during 1934.

Percentage of Sexes.

The percentage of sexes killed was as follows:—

	Bulls	Cows
Kilosa, Kiberege and Mahenge districts ...	66%	34%
Rufiji District ...	60%	40%
Southern Province ...	50%	50%

Eastern Province.—In the Rufiji District the situation in regard to elephant control is so improved that shooting has been eased off since the end of the year. The Ranger (Mr. Gabbutt) reports that raiding has practically ceased, and, but for the ripening mangoes in December, which are such an attraction, there would be few elephants near settled areas, though where native gardens are cultivated on the edge of dense thickets they are still raided. 468 elephants were killed in this district during the year: weight of ivory 8,191½lb., found ivory 38 tusks only weighing 227lb.

In the Morogoro, Kilosa and Mahenge districts the Ranger (Mr. Arundell, M.C.) reports that elephant are becoming wary of raiding near large settlements but that small isolated settlements are suffering. The remedy is very obvious. 940 elephants were killed in these districts.

In the Dar es Salaam District the scheme begun in the previous October was continued under European control until March, when it was considered that sufficient elephant had been killed or driven away from the vicinity of cultivation to enable native scouts to deal with any further trouble, their duties being to keep guard and to intercept any herds that may return. 72 elephants were killed during the year.

Southern Province.—In the Kilwa District special operations were carried out in an attempt to drive out or kill all elephant in the coastal area. These operations have proved successful and that area is now practically free from raiding.

In the Liwale District a control scheme is being carried on with the object of driving all elephant towards the western boundary.

In the Mikindani District two or three small herds of approximately thirty elephants crossed over from Portuguese East Africa on account of the shooting there; most of them have been driven back. In the Newala District the same thing occurred but the number of elephants that crossed the Rovuma was much smaller.

In the Masasi District raiding is almost a thing of the past, but scouts are maintained there to keep watch.

In the Tunduru and Songea districts, in addition to ordinary cultivation protection, a certain amount of thinning out has had to take place. Mr. Harvey, Game Ranger in charge, and Mr. Ionides, temporary Ranger, have both noted that elephant, although they realize the danger attached to raiding cultivation, will upon being shot at immediately leave that area to raid again in another. This is probably owing to the very scattered settlements in these areas. 1,165 elephants were killed during the year in this province.

Two native scouts were stationed in the Iringa District to deal with raiders. They accounted for 58 elephants. A further two scouts were posted to the Sumbawanga District for the same purpose and shot 13 elephants.

Rhinoceros.

On account of the drought these animals were attracted to the vicinity of cultivated areas in their search for food and water. Unfortunately, in some instances their meanderings took them amongst young coffee trees, and complaints soon began to come in from planters near Mbulu and Oldeani. Parts of the Tanga Province, particularly in the Pare District, were also affected. Records show that 72 rhinoceroses have had to be destroyed as a result of this practice.

Hippopotamus.

In the Southern Province a thinning out campaign of these animals was continued in localities where crops were suffering from their depredations. These areas were chiefly the Rovuma River, the Kilwa coastal area and the Maliwe-Njenjo area of Kilwa. 350 hippopotami were killed, yielding teeth weighing approximately 2,000lb.

In the Rufiji District the campaign begun in 1933 was continued, and records show that 1,142 hippopotami were killed during the year, of which number 243 were killed by hunters who were not employed by Government. The teeth obtained from these animals weighed 4,328lb. 303 ammunition was used for the purpose and the average per head was 3.80 rounds.

The situation is very much easier, especially in the Rufiji River, where the reduction in numbers is most noticeable. As an example of the number of hippo in that river I would mention that the Ranger (Mr. Gabbutt) shot and recovered in one day the carcasses of 67 hippopotami in a stretch of not more than a quarter of a mile. Although a campaign has been in force for two years, and it is estimated that approximately 2,600 have been exterminated, this drastic killing does not appear to have unduly disturbed them. Calves are seen with practically all the cows. The drop in the weight of teeth is an indication that most of the older animals have been destroyed. The average weight for a set of teeth is now between four and five pounds as against seven pounds a couple of years ago.

APPENDIX III.

Table showing the details of Game Licences issued during the past four years.

LICENCE		1931	1932	1933	1934	REMARKS
Visitor's Full	at £75	23	24	25	19	—
„ Temporary	£10	31	35	24	26	—
Resident's Full	£15	62	61	49	86	Reduced to £10 in 1934.
„ Temporary	£ 3	22	30	23	1	Abolished in February, 1934
„ Minor	£ 4	380	332	273	270	—
„ Professional Hunter's	£16	14	10	13	10	—
Non-Resident's Professional Hunter's	£40	—	6	10	9	—
1st Elephant	£20	26	27	37	23	—
2nd Elephant	£30	6	7	11	3	—
Giraffe	£7 10s.	—	2	1	2	—
Rhinoceros in Northern Province	£7 10s.	10	14	4	4	—
Trophy Dealer's	£10	4	1	1	1	—
Game Meat Dealer's	£2	—	1	—	—	—
Bird Licence	Shs. 5/-	192	456	512	409	—
Governor's Licence*	Free	61	72	56	64	—
Governor's Licence for scientific purposes	—	—	—	9	3	—
Total Revenue		£5,713	£5,885	£5,864 10s.	£4,850 5s.	

*Issued by Provincial Commissioners for supplying meat to road parties.

APPENDIX IV.

Number and Weight of Tusks, Rhinoceros Horns, Hippopotamus Teeth and the Provinces from which they have been obtained.

PROVINCE	ELEPHANT				HIPPOPOTAMUS				RHINOCEROS			
	SHOT		FOUND		SHOT		FOUND		SHOT		FOUND	
	Tusks	Weight	Tusks	Weight	Teeth	Weight	Teeth	Weight	Horns	Weight	Horns	Weight
	No.	lbs.	No.	lbs.	No.	lbs.	No.	lbs.	No.	lbs.	No.	lbs.
1. Southern	2,117	28,479.4	219	2,632	3,055	1,566	64	50	—	—	—	—
2. Eastern	2,504	34,928.8	113	2,020	11,905	5,951	783	631	4	9.8	5	20.6
3. Iringa	157	2,825	52	968	24	20	—	—	—	—	—	—
4. Central	20	703	140	2,816	—	—	—	—	16	43.6	126	428.8
5. Western	26	629	7	289	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
6. Lake	4	130.12	4	44	23	19	15	18	—	—	6	19.8
7. Northern	59	1,553.8	93	2,243	—	—	12	15	117	392.5	166	588.15
8. Tanga	19	397	9	157	17	7	—	—	33	103.6	12	21.13
Total for 1934	4,906	69,646	637	11,169	15,024	7,563	874	714	170	548.9	315	1,069.2