



TANGANYIKA

Annual Report
of the
Game Department
1954



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(b) *Game Reserves—General*

No new reserves were created in 1954 and no amendments were made to boundaries of existing reserves. All were visited by the supervisory staff of this department and few signs of poaching were seen.

(c) *Mount Meru Game Reserve*

The Ngurdoto crater in the Mount Meru game reserve has become increasingly popular and a "jeep" track has been put through to the summit of the rim. When practicable, game scouts accompany parties visiting the crater as the crater itself and the forest surrounding it abound in buffalo, elephant and rhino. One party had a nerve-racking experience. When approaching their car for the return run to Arusha, they found an elephant calf rubbing itself on the fender of their car. At this moment the calf's mother, backed by four other elephants, broke through the forest fringe and, seeing the calf in what they thought was considerable danger, set up a tremendous screaming and trumpeting. While a game scout covered the elephants, the visitors retreated to the top of the hill and waited until the elephants had retrieved the calf and withdrawn into the forest. No harm was done, but another party, which was there at the same time and which had no game scout to guide or guard it, took to its heels when the trumpeting commenced and is said to have kept going until the lower edge of the forest was reached, a mile and half away. Later, a member of this party had to climb to the summit to retrieve the car.

(d) *Lake Natron Game Reserve*

The Lake Natron game reserve was visited on a number of occasions. This is a disappointing reserve since much of the game has been forced out by the monopoly of water holes by Masai and their stock.

At night zebra, elephant and rhino water at the Kitumbeine water point and concentrations of wildebeest and zebra water in the Ngare Sero at the south-east corner of Lake Natron and in springs at the west foot of Gelai Mountain near the lake shore. On the plains between Kitumbeine and Gelai can be seen zebra, wildebeest, oryx, eland, Grant's gazelle and ostrich. Gerenuk are widespread throughout suitable parts of the reserve as far west as the foot of the Rift Wall at Ngare Sero.

A large breeding ground of the lesser flamingo was discovered in Lake Natron by Mr. L. Brown of the Kenya Department of Agriculture when flying over the lake, and later visited by him, with nearly disastrous results, on foot. Part of this same breeding colony was examined by the game ranger, Mto-wa-Mbu. Mr. Brown has given a vivid account of his visit in *Country Life* (issue of January 20, 1955, pp. 164-167). A detachment from the Game Department and the National Parks patrolled the northern end of this reserve along the Kenya boundary during the June emergency. A number of new motorable tracks were opened by this detachment and by staff of the Desert Locust Control.

(e) *Rungwa River Game Reserve*

In the Rungwa River game reserve most of the inhabitants have moved out of the Jongomeru area, but there still remain large numbers in those parts of the Idodi and Pawaga chiefdoms which lie in the reserve. In addition, many moved into the southern half of the reserve in 1954. It is hoped that these people will be removed in the near future, as was agreed in 1950. They are a constant threat to game in the area since their villages are sited on water which would otherwise be used by game.

Of the two timber concessionaries operating in the southern half of the reserve one, Mr. Carl Hussmann, had an unfortunate and fatal accident when his lorry fell off a bridge into the Ruaha River. This concession has not been taken up by any one else.

(f) *Selous Game Reserve*

The north-eastern section of the Selous game reserve is probably more heavily poached than any other part. In fact, game rangers report little activity by poachers in other parts of the reserve. The north-east section, however, which borders on areas in Morogoro and Rufiji Districts which can be accorded little supervision by staff of this department, is a veritable poachers' paradise. The fruits of their labour can easily be disposed of to the Rufiji, to Dar es Salaam through Kisarawe District, and to inhabited areas lying along the east and south-east of the Uluguru Mountains.

Patrols of game scouts operating in this section of the reserve succeeded in capturing four poachers. There was evidence of the killing of rhino and elephant, as well as the activities of crocodile hunters who used the meat of hippo to bait their traps. Though hippo are vermin in the Eastern Province, nonetheless within the reserve boundaries they are accorded as complete protection as is enjoyed by other animals.

An effort was made to open up the section of the reserve lying between the Ruaha River and the Uluguru Mountains. A bridge was thrown across the Mgeta River and a motor track pushed through to the Ruaha about fifteen miles west of its junction with the Kilombero.

Active examination is being given to an area of about 200 square miles in extent lying in the extreme north-western corner of the reserve with a view to opening it up for the production of sugar. While one's natural fear is that the excision of a small area like this is the first step towards utilizing further parts of this and other reserves for agricultural projects, obviously one cannot oppose any scheme which is likely to enhance the economy of the country.

At the eastern end of the reserve, astride the Rufiji River, teams of surveyors and hydrologists have been, and still are, engaged in examining that part of the river lying above Stiegler's Gorge with a view to impounding water behind a dam for irrigation purposes along the lower reaches of the Rufiji.

The southern portion of the reserve has been extensively patrolled by the game ranger, Liwale, and his staff. He reports that he came across little evidence of poaching and that game would appear to be on the increase and to have suffered no hardship as a result of shortage of water and grazing, the rains having been well distributed.

(g) *Lake Katavi Game Reserve*

As a result of the partial failure of the long rains much game moved into the Katavi reserve to the permanent water in the Katavi and Chada Lakes and in the Katuma River. Elephant, buffalo, giraffe and hartebeest were particularly in evidence. An all-weather road is being put through by the International Red Locust Control Service, which will join Mpanda to the Rukwa valley.

A buffalo with a recent wound in the snout from a .22 bullet twice tossed an honorary game ranger, Mr. L. O. Wood, in the air and was killed only just in time to stop it kneeling on the unfortunate man. A close shave!

The district officer, Mpanda, while photographing a recently killed hartebeest in the reserve, thought he heard a lorry approaching. He continued with his work but after a while when the lorry appeared to get no closer he looked up and saw above him the owner of the kill and the so-called "lorry"—a growling lioness sitting in the branch of a tree. When she saw she was detected, the lioness sprang down and bounded off into the grass.

(h) *Controlled Areas—General*

Nine new controlled areas were gazetted during 1954, and the boundaries of two existing ones were adjusted. Past policy has been continued whereby only a limited number of permits is issued to shoot in controlled areas.

(i) *Handeni Controlled Area*

The size of this controlled area was reduced to about a quarter of its former size and now only includes the north-west portion of Handeni District lying north of the Korogwe-Handeni-Kijungu road. In addition, the Handeni dam has been declared a controlled area.

(j) *Kongwa Controlled Area*

Game has increased in numbers and is becoming tamer. Much of the credit for this can go to Mr. W. S. Clayton, honorary game ranger, who has spent much time in supervising this controlled area. He records a herd of about one hundred eland and states that greater kudu, giraffe, ostrich and leopard are on the increase.

(k) *Lake Manyara Controlled Area*

It is gratifying to record that a narrow strip of country lying between Lake Manyara and the Rift Wall has been closed to shooting. Elephant, buffalo and rhino abound in the area, and, with its delightful forest, lake and plain backed by the Rift Wall, this sanctuary forms an unsurpassed setting for photography.

(l) *Doma-Mikumi Controlled Area*

This recently gazetted sanctuary lies astride the Mkata River in the angle formed by the Morogoro-Mikumi and the Kilosa-Mikumi roads. It consists of open seasonally swampy grassland, open and closed bush, riverine forest and, on the higher ground, deciduous miombo woodland. It is easily accessible and can be effectively patrolled. The principal game in the area consists of elephant, buffalo, wildebeest, impala, giraffe and zebra; lion and leopard and the smaller antelopes also occur.

(m) *Ugalla River Controlled Area*

This is another 1954 addition to Tanganyika's game sanctuaries. It lies astride a stretch of the Ugalla River in the Western Province and contains an excellent variety of game animals. Of particular interest may be mentioned sable antelope, kudu (possibly a new sub-species), southern reedbuck, topi, oribi, dikdik, giraffe, lion, leopard and cheetah. Rhino have not yet been recorded within the controlled area but are known to occur in small numbers in the country to the north and to the south.

(n) *Lake Rukwa Controlled Area*

Game is generally on the increase in this controlled area, despite the frequent droughts, and responsibility for this happy state of affairs can be largely attributed to the efforts of Mr. L. D. E. F. Vesey-Fitzgerald, honorary game ranger. In his report on the northern and central sections of the Rukwa controlled area for 1954, he states:

"Recently a team composed of experts from many Government departments, but not including game, pronounced the area as useless for development. Except for red locust control personnel in camps on the plains, and scattered villages and cultivations in the perimeter woodlands, the area is uninhabited and the vast open grasslands are ungrazed by domestic stock.

"The fauna is now well known as regards to species, and even the numbers of different animals present can be estimated with some accuracy. The list includes species which are rare in other parts of Tanganyika, i.e. puku, and several others which here find their southernmost limit in this part of Africa, i.e. topi, the East African giraffe, bohor reedbuck and dikdik. About twenty-four species of game animals occur, a few of them in great abundance. In addition, about 400 species of birds are found, including unbelievable numbers of water fowl and migrants during certain seasons. The environment has well-defined boundaries, which do not however always coincide with those of the controlled area, and its ecology has been studied in some detail in connection with red locust work. Several visitors during the year have been enchanted by both the scenery and the tameness of the wild life.

"The Rukwa controlled area, therefore, possesses attributes which might well qualify it to be raised in status to a game reserve. But if this is not possible, it at least forms an ideal locality for biological study of certain species, and for a large scale experiment in wild life management in Africa.

"To this latter end, it would appear to be worth while spending some money on development. Since the beginning of the present decade, when game was wild and diminishing, shooting by Europeans has been stopped, the wholesale slaughter by Africans in drives and ambushes during the breeding season has been more or less eliminated, and muzzle-loader poaching sharply restricted. As an immediate result practically all species have increased in numbers, some very noticeably so. However, one still gets the impression that there are vast empty spaces, and this may be primarily due to the frequent droughts, although cycles of high flooding (not experienced during recent years) may also have limiting effects on the fauna. It is indeed quite remarkable how any animals at all have managed to survive the fierce droughts of recent years. It seems that it is not the actual lack of water which is the limiting factor, but the effect the drought has of driving animals into close proximity of human beings, where they are poached or cause trouble, and so have to be controlled. The obvious remedy, and first experiment in management therefore, is to provide water-points in the centre of the area so as to draw the game away from the perimeter during the dry season. While the area retains its present status, the cost of such an experiment, if successful, might be paid for by allowing a crop of game meat to be taken to relieve the frequent famines which threaten the Rukwa population from time to time."

A start will be made in 1955 with the development of water for game in the centre of the area. This has been made possible by a generous gift of money from Mr. Carr Hartley, the well-known Kenya game catcher.

(o) *Partial Game Reserves—General*

No new partial game reserves were created in 1954.

In the Eastern range a number of big tuskers in the region of 80 to 90 pounds a side were shot on licence along the Wami River. The biggest of all (103 and 99 lb.) was unfortunately shot by a game scout near Kimamba on crop protection duties.

The average weight of ivory shot on licence during 1954 was 52.9 lb. a tusk; of found and confiscated ivory 19.9 lb. a tusk; and of ivory shot by the department in the course of cultivation protection 13.6 lb. a tusk. Comparative figures for 1953 are 53, 18, and 11 lb. respectively.

(h) *Sirenia*

Dugong.—A number of these marine mammals have been sold in the meat markets in Tanga and Panguni during the past year. They are generally caught inadvertently by fishermen in their nets, but one or two were deliberately hunted and killed. Little is known of the status of these animals on the coast.

(i) *Perissodactyla*

(i) *Rhino*.—"At Kiganga village, Iringa District, in August, two honey-hunters informed me that they had come across a rhino with three horns in the Rungwa River Game Reserve. They stated that the third horn was situated on the forehead, directly in line and above the second horn. No amount of leg-pulling could shake their statement."—Mr. P. L. Achard.

Rhino are rare in southern Ulanga District so the record by Mr. R. A. Pollard of spoor and droppings on the path between Boma ya Lindi and Pitu is of interest.

"Between 22.5.54 and 21.6.54, while camped in Uliyampiti, four miles south-south-east of Ikungi in southern Singida District, in a fairly open miombo woodland area, I came upon what I consider positive evidence that rhino and greater kudu can stand on their back legs and browse. The evidence was in the form of deeply indented spoor at the foot of young trees that had obviously been browsed off at high level. In the case of the rhino the tree was *Dalbergia ochracea* Harms and a number of branches were broken under the weight of the animal."—Mr. G. R. Jewell.

(ii) *Zebra*.—"There are over 200 in the north Rukwa and over 700 in the central Rukwa. They appear to be slow breeders, few juveniles are seen and there is no real evidence of increase in numbers."—Mr. L. D. E. F. Vesey-Fitzgerald.

In the Western range a few new-born zebra were seen in September.

(j) *Artiodactyla*

(i) *Warthog*.—In December Mr. R. A. Pollard found warthog with young in the Kilombero valley. He is of the opinion that they breed all the year round since he has seen young during every month of 1954.

(ii) *Hippopotamus*.—Mr. Vesey-Fitzgerald reports that "despite the 1953 drought, the north Rukwa hippo herd appears to have numbered nearer 400 than 300 at the end of the last rains. But the 1954 drought has hit them hard. It is not necessary to repeat the same sad story. Rather over 100 have died and a few others, having been forced by lack of water into too close proximity to human activities, have been shot on control. At the end of November, by which time the rains had set in, about 300 living hippo were counted. So perhaps after all they have not come out too badly.

"An interesting feature of this season's drought was the decision to allow approved wild animal catchers to remove a quota of young animals for sale overseas. Two parties were allotted twenty animals each, but only one availed itself of the privilege. The experiment was a success. The young animals were noosed in the dry water-course by means of a rope stretched between two vehicles, one on either side of the river bed. They were then drawn from the herd with the minimum disturbance to the remaining animals. Mr. Carr Hartley's pen at Rungwa village was visited at the end of the operation and, although it may be unwise to anthropomorphize in considering hippos' emotions, one could not help believing that the young animals were very much happier being fed out of a trough on 'posho', condensed milk, glucose and cut grass than dying slowly in the shadeless death-pit which the river bed had become by this time. The creatures were already quite docile, fed freely and showed no alarm or resentment to us as we entered their pen. We who remain in Rukwa wish them the best of health and happiness in their future life!"

In the Annual Report for 1953 it was reported that only ten hippo remained in Lake Basotu. In 1954, ten adults and four youngsters were noted.

Head Game Scout Abdullah Mwidini reported having seen about 200 dead hippo in the Kilombero River between the Shuguri Falls and Mkalinzu. He thought they had died of natural causes.

(iii) *Giraffe*.—Several giraffe with twins were seen in the Western range. In the north Rukwa they are only found in woods of the Kavuu valley at the north of the controlled area, where they are rather numerous—about four to the square mile.

(iv) *Greater Kudu*.—"On 14.6.54, at about a mile east of my camp (Uliyampiti, four miles south-south-east of Ikungi, Singida District) I was walking through an area of miombo adjoining 'Itigi' thicket when up jumped a greater kudu cow and very young calf that I should judge to be not more than a week old."—Mr. G. R. Jewell. It was in the same area that Mr. Jewell came across evidence of greater kudu standing on their hind legs to browse. He states that greater kudu appear to be fond of young miombo.

A fine bull, with a head of 57½ inches, was shot on the Ugalla River by a professional party.

A herd of five females and one male was seen at Engaruka under the Rift Wall.

Calves aged one or two months were seen in Manyoni District in July and three months' old calves in Kondoa District in September.

(v) *Lesser Kudu*.—The distribution of lesser kudu in Tanganyika, which reaches the south-western limit of its range in the Central, Western and Lake Provinces is becoming increasingly clear by the addition of further records. Mr. F. P. H. Le Riche records it from the Kimali area of Meatu, Maswa District, where it has been seen on three occasions.

Dr. C. H. N. Jackson writes: "About ten miles north-west of the village of Igunga on the road from Nzega to the Wembere crossing at Igongola, I saw a single lesser kudu cross the road and return. Then about three miles further along we saw a female and a fairly young lesser kudu very close to the road on our left. These observations were made about noon on the 27th December, 1954.

- 1953 Mr. F. G. Smith, Tabora.
 1954 Mr. B. W. H. Stronach, Tabora.
 1951 Mr. C. P. Sutcliffe, M.B.E., Arusha.
 1951 Mr. W. H. M. Taberer, Amboseli.
 1953 Major E. W. Temple-Boreham, M.C., Narok.
 1954 Mr. E. A. Thomas, Singida, Dodoma.
 1951 Mr. M. C. Thomson, Kahama.
 1953 Mr. A. P. Thomson, Tunduru.
 1951 Mr. L. L. Van Rooyen, Oldeani, Esimingor.
 1951 Baron Verheyen, Arusha.
 1951 Mr. L. D. E. F. Vesey-Fitzgerald, M.B.E., Lake Rukwa.
 1951 Mr. R. de L. Wheeler, Tabora.
 1945 Mr. R. L. Willan, Lushoto.
 1951 Mr. J. O. Willey, Kilosa.
 1953 Mr. G. Williams, Kilosa.
 1954 Mr. L. O. Wood, Lake Rukwa.

Appendix III

REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE FOR THE DECADE 1945-1954

Source of Revenue	1945	1946	1947	1948	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953	1,154 to 30,654	Total	Average Per Year 1945-54
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Ivory	36,689	53,076	53,138	42,616	45,654	45,456	48,947	46,761	48,433	33,159	454,039	47,794
Rhino Horns	786	2,392	2,526	954	2,317	2,889	2,005	1,569	3,487	2,906	21,831	2,298
Hippo Teeth	300	686	484	209	276	346	515	513	452	402	4,183	440
Leopard Skins	603	1,240	668	617	1,358	992	705	710	1,134	205	8,232	867
Lion Skins	24	15	8	6	23	9	9	10	45	16	165	17
Other Game Trophies	111	224	381	390	235	107	102	10	10	9	1,559	167
Live Animals	-	261	1,242	601	900	1,152	1,563	2,273	1,547	1,785	11,374	1,332
Sale of Game Licences	3,211	10,080	8,734	11,749	17,752	22,235	20,669	24,279	27,801	14,476	160,986	16,946
*Sale of Trout Licences	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	349	383	324	663,292	782
Total Revenue	41,724	67,974	67,181	57,142	68,515	73,276	74,515	76,474	83,312	53,182	663,292	69,821
Total Expenditure	15,365	17,415	17,534	24,329	35,217	43,660	49,903	57,990	75,425	29,861	366,699	38,600
Balance of Revenue over Expenditure	26,359	50,559	49,647	32,813	33,298	29,616	24,612	18,484	7,887	23,321	296,596	31,221

*The Game Department assumed responsibility for Trout in 1952.

RECORD OF DANGEROUS ANIMALS KILLED BY THE GAME
DEPARTMENT IN PROTECTION OF LIFE AND PROPERTY

Range	Elephant	Rhino	Buffalo	Hippo	Leopard	Lion
Northern	20	6	55	-	2	-
Tanga	40	17	37	3	1	2
Eastern	781	4	74	368	8	5
Southern	1,070*	-	-	99*	-	-
Southern Highlands	104	-	34	14	4	-
Central	189	28	4	-	9	7
Western	61	-	7	33	2	3
Lake	18	13	9	66	-	1
Total	2,283	68	218	583	26	18

*Figures incomplete.

Appendix VII

CONVICTIONS OBTAINED FOR OFFENCES AGAINST THE
FAUNA CONSERVATION ORDINANCE, 1951

Offence	No. of Convictions
Hunting in protected areas (sections 5 and 11)	11
Carrying a weapon in a Game Reserve (section 7)	9
Hunting game without a licence (section 12)	86
Hunting Royal game or unscheduled animals without a permit (sections 18 and 24)	13
Failure to carry licence while hunting and to record game killed (section 23)	3
Cruelty to animals (section 29)	1
Failure to report wounding of dangerous animals (section 30)	1
Lending weapon to unauthorized person (section 31)	1
Unlawful methods of hunting (section 34)	19
Shooting protected vermin (section 35)	1
Trading in game meat (section 36)	17
Carrying on the business of a trophy dealer without the necessary licence (section 37)	2
Illegally importing or transferring a trophy (section 40)	1
Unlawful possession of leopard skins (section 41)	1
Failure to produce a Government trophy (section 48)	26
Unlawful possession of or dealing in Government trophies (section 49)	70
Obstructing a Game Scout in the execution of his duty (section 51)	2
Failure to stop at a barrier when ordered (section 52)	1
Total	265*

*Total number of convictions in 1953 was 435.

DETAILS OF ANIMALS EXPORTED, 1954

A.—MAMMALS

Species	Number exported	Species	Number exported
1. <i>Primates</i> :		4. <i>Perissodactyla</i> :	
Bushbaby	3	Zebra	53
Baboon	5	Rhino	23
Vervet Monkey	2		
Sykes's Monkey	4	5. <i>Artiodactyla</i> :	
Chimpanzee	1	Bushpig	1
		Warthog	4
2. <i>Carnivora</i> :		Hippo	18
Jackal	3	Giraffe	29
Mongoose	1	Eland	10
Spotted Hyena	4	Buffalo	1
Striped Hyena	2	Red Duiker	1
Caracal	2	Reedbuck	3
Serval	1	Oryx	5
Leopard	2	Wildebeest	12
Lion	3	Thomson's Gazelle	4
Cheetah	8		
3. <i>Proboscidea</i> :			
Elephant	12		

B.—BIRDS

1. <i>Struthioniformes</i> :		6. <i>Gruiformes</i> :	
Ostrich	34	Greater Bustard	13
		Lesser Bustard	18
2. <i>Ciconiiformes</i> :		7. <i>Charadriiformes</i> :	
Marabou Stork	2	Dove	16
3. <i>Anseriformes</i> :		8. <i>Cuculiformes</i> :	
Ducks	4	Cuckoo	1
Egyptian Goose	2	Go-away Bird	3
Spur-winged Goose	2	Grey Parrot	14
		Meyer's Parrot	6
4. <i>Falconiformes</i> :		Love-birds	14,974
Secretary Bird	4		
Vulture	1	9. <i>Coracliformes</i> :	
Falcon	3	Roller	33
		Hornbill	74
5. <i>Galliformes</i> :		Ground Hornbill	4
Francois	168		
Quail	6	10. <i>Passeriformes</i> :	
Helmeted Guineafowl	40	Crow	1
Crested Guineafowl	14	Starling	201
Vulturine Guineafowl	2	Finch	37

C.—REPTILES

1. <i>Chelonia</i> :		2. <i>Squamata</i> :	
Giant Tortoise	23	Python	4
		Boomslang	2