

# Lewa News

A PUBLICATION OF THE LEWA WILDLIFE CONSERVANCY



## LEWA'S ROLE IN SUPPORT OF A COMMUNITY VISION TO PROTECT THE LAST OF A SPECIES

by Mike Watson | Chief Executive Officer

**A**ugust of 2012 marked an historic occasion for the Lewa Wildlife Conservancy's work as a catalyst for conservation: a joint team from Lewa, the Kenya Wildlife Service and Northern Rangelands Trust successfully captured and relocated close to 40 critically endangered hirola antelope into a purpose-built protected sanctuary on the Ishaqbini Community Conservancy. Plans for this operation have been underway for several years. These 40 hirola antelopes make up a significant portion of the remaining population, which numbers less than 1,000 and likely closer to 500 in the world.

The operation's success was doubly remarkable as no hirola fatalities were recorded during or since completion; this is a significant achievement bearing in mind the hirola's well-

documented sensitivity to capture and handling. There are now a minimum of 48 of these incredibly rare antelope, comprising roughly five males and a balance of females, well settled within the sanctuary; with predators, including six cheetahs and one hyaena, having been relocated outside of the predator-proof fence.

Lewa's value lies well beyond its boundaries, and it is only by looking outward that Lewa remains true to its mission and sustains its role as the leading catalyst for conservation in the region. It is vital that Lewa continue to serve as the foundation to the community-based conservation development being spearheaded by NRT across northern Kenya, as well as serving as a model that emerging conservancies can readily emulate. In order to remain relevant in this broader context, Lewa must continue to

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*A Catalyst for  
Conservation*



# From the Chief Executive Officer

## LANDSCAPE LEVEL CONSERVATION ENDOWMENT FOR NORTH KENYA! by Mike Watson | Chief Executive Officer

Kenya Government under the auspices of Kenya Wildlife Service (KWS) have embraced the success and advocate this model as that which they would like to see emulated in other parts of the country. A regulatory framework to provide an enabling environment for conservancies, private and community, to flourish is being structured and a national level association for conservancies is being proposed indeed demanded, by constituents! The 'Conservancy movement' in Kenya is coming of age!

How to secure the perpetuity of this success financially? Lewa and NRT community conservancies struggle, hand to mouth, with unpredictable revenue from tourism and invaluable but insecure funding from generous donors, individuals, foundations and bi-laterals. A conservation endowment of a size that could support a percentage of each conservancy's annual operating budget would be just the sort of financial security needed to ensure the success of conservation as a development tool is perpetuated in northern Kenya.

The first step towards this groundbreaking idea has been taken with a team from the tripartite group having been tasked to investigate the feasibility and develop a concept document for review by respective Boards before the end of 2012.

North Kenya conservation never stands still, consolidation is always dynamic and there is no doubt that the power of this partnership coupled with the huge opportunities before us will drive success in yet another visionary conservation step.

Mike Watson



Chief Executive Officer  
Lewa Wildlife Conservancy



*Mike Watson joins spectators at the girls' football tournament held in July this year*

**A**n aspiration and inspiration that may now become a reality as the Lewa, Northern Rangelands Trust (NRT) and The Nature Conservancy (TNC) partnership looks to yet again break new ground in the realms of community centric conservation in the country.

Meeting the cost of conservation across an ever-broadening landscape to the north of and including Lewa has and will always be a key challenge. It is incontestable that community conservation in north Kenya, born out of Lewa and driven under the umbrella of NRT, has had a massive, positive impact on the lives of the inhabitants of north Kenya, both two and four legged!



## ISHAQBINI COMMUNITY CONSERVANCY AND HIROLAS

*Continued from Page 1*

provide services and support well beyond its boundaries, acting as a critical partner to both the KWS and NRT in wildlife translocation, veterinary intervention, and armed anti-poaching patrols across northern Kenya. Lewa must also be prepared to use its broad network of contacts worldwide to share developments in conservation best practise and advances in the application of technology.

It is with the above uppermost in our minds that Lewa has partnered with NRT and KWS in the set up of Ishaqbini Community Conservancy. Over the last three years we have continued to support this project with members of our Security, Works and Logistics and Research and Monitoring Departments providing relevant training, technical advice and project management oversight when requested.

A combination of habitat encroachment and predation from the ubiquitous predator population of lion, leopard, hyaena and cheetah continues to take its toll on the hirola. With the recognition that the population was reaching a 'tipping point' beyond which it was unlikely to recover, the concept of establishing a 'hirola sanctuary' within the Ishaqbini Conservancy, providing a 3,000 acre predator-proof breeding area, was developed in 2009.

### ISHAQBINI

Ishaqbini is situated amongst the Somali community of Ijara District, close to the Tana River Primate Reserve, to the north of Lamu on the Kenyan coast and provides the ideal dry and arid conditions where



*A hirola is carried out of the helicopter to its new home. Extreme caution had to be exercised while handling each individual as they are quite sensitive to capture. The operation was a great success with no hirola fatalities recorded*

these remaining hirola can thrive. These rare antelope are not only animals worthy of greater scientific study and international recognition, but they also represent a huge opportunity for the local Somali community at Ishaqbini. This community has been remarkably successful in living in harmony with wildlife, and will soon be realizing tangible benefits from these holistic practices.

In the final months before the operation to catch and translocate the pre-identified groups of hirola, Lewa's team stepped up its support in an effort to meet the deadline of having the sanctuary's infrastructure, including fencing, water pipelines and water points, ready by end of July so the animals would be well provided for and secure once within the sanctuary. In the last weeks counting down to the hirola capture Lewa's veterinary and wildlife capture teams joined in the preparation and activities, providing crucial support without which the operation could not have gone ahead.

We wait to see whether or not this huge effort will prove successful in saving the hirola from certain extinction. However, at this stage we can be sure of one thing: Lewa has again demonstrated its value as more than just a north Kenyan wildlife conservancy, we have reinforced our role as a key conservation partner to other Kenyan's who are engaged in community centric endangered species conservation.



*A young Somali girl looks on during a meeting with elders. The Somali people of Ishaqbini have lived in harmony with wildlife for generations and the establishment of the hirola sanctuary is a great success for the Conservancy and its people*



# Wildlife Conservation

## LEWA TRANSLOCATES GREVY'S ZEBRAS TO THE OL PEJETA CONSERVANCY by Matthew Mutinda | Veterinary Officer



*A suitable Grevy's zebra female candidate is prepared for the translocation to the Ol Pejeta Conservancy*

**3**0 years ago, a healthy population of 15,000 Grevy's zebras roamed the wilds of northern Kenya. Today, as a result of habitat encroachment and competition for resources from humans and other wildlife, only 2,600 remain in the world - making these charismatic and beautiful equines one of the African mammals that has suffered the most drastic decline. With approximately 384 Grevy's zebras, Lewa is home to the single largest population in the world. The remaining animals are found in unprotected areas in northern Kenya and southern Ethiopia. The Grevy's Zebra has been listed as highly endangered, and as our second flagship species – the first being the black rhino - Lewa continues to provide a safe and secure habitat, with the aim to breed a population large enough to replenish other areas that were previously home to these majestic animals.

### THE HYBRID PROBLEM ON THE OL PEJETA CONSERVANCY

The Ol Pejeta Conservancy forms the southern most point of the Grevy's historical range but is home to only a handful of these rare zebras. Hybridization of the remaining Grevy's has been occurring due to a skewed sex ratio

- the number of female Grevy's zebras is significantly lower than that of the males, while the general population of the common zebra in sympatric co-existence is high. The two equids are closely genetically related, offering a fertile ground for hybrids to thrive. However, the mixing of the species interferes with efforts to save the Grevy's zebra from extinction, and it was determined that a healthy female population needed to be translocated to the Ol Pejeta Conservancy to encourage breeding within the species. Lewa's Grevy's population is not only stable; it also has a balanced sex ratio, thus making it a natural donor.

The translocation operation was undertaken by the Lewa veterinary and capture teams. Eight female Grevy's zebras were selected from suitable herds and moved to Ol Pejeta

where they were released into a newly set aside 500-acre sanctuary. The operation was brief, safe and efficient and all animals are doing well in their new environment.

This operation marks an important milestone in the collaborative efforts to increase the world's population of Grevy's zebra. The introduction of these eight healthy females into this new breeding sanctuary will start to change the dynamics of the sex ratio and thereby improve the birthrate and increase the Grevy's population on Ol Pejeta.



*When reaching Ol Pejeta, the female Grevy's zebras were released into the 500-acre endangered species boma set aside to discourage hybridization with the closely related common zebra*



## INCREASING COMMUNICATION EFFICIENCY TO ENHANCE SECURITY by Aloise Naitira | Security Administrative Officer

**R**adio communication and message relay enables efficient dissemination of information, thereby facilitating rapid response to security threats, follow up to poaching and other criminal incidents within and outside our boundaries and as such continues to be the backbone of Lewa's successful rhino protection programme.

For many years Lewa has used an analogue radio communication system whose limitations created the need to upgrade to the more sophisticated digital version. And the advantages of the new system as compared to the old are many- from streamlining patrol techniques to reducing the cost of communication, this must be one of the Lewa security team's best investments this year!



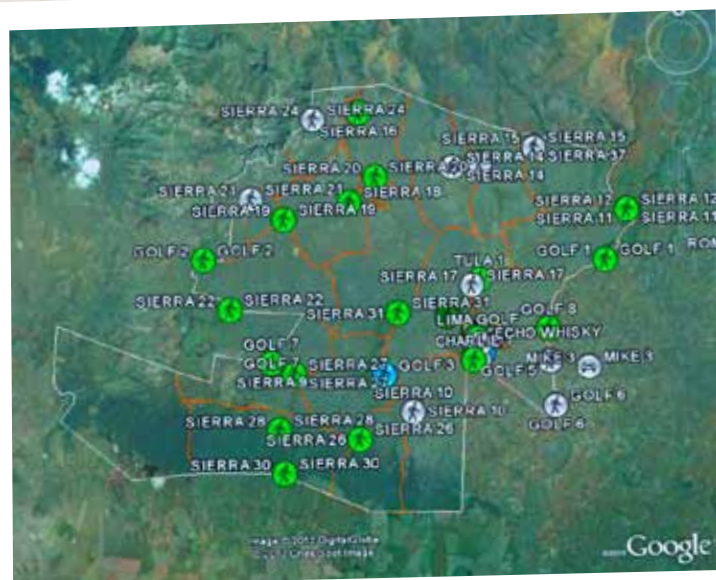
*A ranger using one of the new digital radios. The new system has provided Lewa with a safer and a more secure communication platform*

### WHAT DOES THE SWITCH TO THE DIGITAL SYSTEM MEAN FOR LEWA?

- Simultaneous communication paths are now possible and features such as caller ID, status buttons and enhanced text messaging are embedded into a single digital radio channel, facilitating better communication and message relay

- Digital radio communication provides a more secure and reliable communication platform
- The digital signal covers a wide radius of approximately 90km
- The digital radios are GPS enabled, making it possible to identify the location of the rangers and advise on areas that they need to patrol more often
- Reduction of external background noise and in instances of strong winds, there is minimal interference in the stability of the signal. The sound from digital radio does not fade with distance from the repeater as opposed to the analogue system where sound fades with increase in distance from the transmitter

The switch from analogue system to the digital system has placed Lewa in a better and much stronger position in augmenting its security, communication, monitoring and patrol efforts through the provision of an enhanced and secure communication platform. The system has been operational since the end of July 2012, with strong signals, reaching areas not previously covered by the analogue signal, especially the north eastern boundary.



*Above is a screenshot of the digital monitoring system. This screen shows the position of digital radios all over the Conservancy, making it possible to identify the location of the rangers at all times, enabling the streamlining of patrol techniques*



# Community Development

## FUN AND CONSERVATION EDUCATION AT THE FIRST GIRLS' FOOTBALL TOURNAMENT!

by Faith Riunga | Education Programme Manager



*Every match was entertaining to the spectators as the girls searched for goals endlessly in thrilling encounters!*

Sports are not only important for the physical health of school going children; they also provide a fun platform to increase self-confidence and esteem, build sportsmanship, teamwork and also to learn! On Friday the 13th of July 2012, girls from the neighbouring Lewa sponsored schools braved the blazing sun to participate in the first ever girls football tournament. The event, sponsored by Eco-Sys action ([www.ecosysaction.org](http://www.ecosysaction.org)) and organized by the Lewa Education Programme, saw a total of 10 teams participate, with each team proudly representing their school, and the boys for once playing the role of cheerleaders!

Lewa's football field was transformed into a flurry of activity as the girls, clad in brightly coloured T-shirts and shorts, played continuously entertaining matches proving their worth in what is traditionally a male dominated sport. From the qualifiers to the finals, the teams relentlessly searched for goals in thrilling encounters, in a bid to secure the first spot and take home the grand prize of a goat and a Boopy trophy. From the 10 participating teams, the girls from Karimba and Munanda were the two teams left standing, with Karimba emerging victorious after an exciting last match that capped a successful day.

Boopy the Eco-sys action eco -detective Orange Mascot came all the way from France to cheer the teams!

Aptly dubbed, "Conservation Soccer"; the event's appeal, came from it having the attractive combination of competition, socializing and fun, crowned by the uniqueness of it being a girls' only football competition. Teachers, fellow pupils, invited guests and Lewa staff members all formed part of the engaging audience that watched the girls battle it out.

The girls were also in for a pleasant surprise- after each match the teams were taken on a game drive organized by the Conservation Education Centre, where they got to see Lewa's resident species such as the black rhinos and Grevy's zebras. During the game drive they were also educated on the benefits of conservation, the preservation of species and sustainable developmental practices at home and in school.

The Lewa Education Programme hopes to continue providing similarly engaging and educational activities for children from the Lewa neighbouring schools, and through such efforts impact knowledge on the importance of conservation.



*Boopy the Eco-sys action eco -detective Mascot was part of the audience that cheered the girls on as they battled it out!*



## IMPROVING COMMUNITY ACCESS ROADS FOR DEVELOPMENT

by the Community Development Team

**T**he link between poor infrastructure and poverty is undeniable. This is especially true in isolated and marginalized rural areas where access to schools, hospitals, market places and other important facilities is limited by lack of good roads. Public transport channels of acceptable quality stimulate trade and are a prerequisite for economic and social development.

Unfortunately most of Lewa's neighbouring communities have poorly maintained roads that are not only

ment, notably the upgrade of these bad roads as extremely urgent and necessary, especially before the onset of the rainy season in late October.

Within this programme Lewa has grouped the communities into four clusters according to their geographical scope and economic activities and has set up development committees that will oversee all the projects within their specific communities. These include the building, upgrade and maintenance of the road networks.



*Heavy rains often gorge deep gullies on the roads making them impassable*

hazardous but impede the free flow of people, goods and information, acting as a hindrance to economic activity in the region.

The bad state of the roads has been exacerbated by the sporadic weather patterns and frequent flooding experienced in recent times as a result of global warming. Late last year Kenya suffered devastating floods that destroyed many roads, washing away bridges and paralyzing mobility across the country. And the roads in our neighbouring communities were not spared either; the water gorged deep trenches, turning movement from one place to another into a nightmare. Some of these roads were so horribly damaged that they were declared impassable.

With this background the Lewa Community Development Programme has identified infrastructure improve-



*Community members, in collaboration with the Lewa Community Development Programme repair a damaged road*

26 km of roads so far have been upgraded in Subuiga, Manyangalo, Ntumburi and Ngare Ndare communities, with plans to upgrade more throughout the year. And the community members have never been more elated: most of them are farmers and pastoralists who depend on proper transport channels to sell their farm produce and livestock, and the newly improved roads will not only reduce their transport costs but will also link them to previously unexplored markets.

The Lewa Community Development Programme will continue to run similar projects that improve the livelihoods of the adjacent communities, and in this way continue to strengthen the link between conservation and community development.



# Sustainability

## VISITING LEWA? BE SPOILT FOR CHOICE WITH THESE FIVE SPECTACULAR LODGES

### LEWA HOUSE

The newly refurbished Lewa house is set on top of a hill, with stunning views of Mount Kenya to the south, the rugged Mathews range and the sacred mountain of Ol Olokwe to the north. Lewa house has three of the original thatched family cottages and four recently added single room cottages of stunning architectural design. The furniture is a combination of rustic and African pieces and has a traditional relaxed ambiance mixed with modern comfort.

**To book Lewa House, email [info@lewahouse.com](mailto:info@lewahouse.com) or contact [info@bush-and-beyond.com](mailto:info@bush-and-beyond.com). Visit [www.lewahouse.com](http://www.lewahouse.com)**



### KIFARU

Kifaru House, operated by one of Lewa's most generous donors, Susan Lyall, is a modern colonial style facility with a central living area, a swimming pool and six separate cottages. At Kifaru, Swahili for 'rhino', no expense has been spared to offer the best to its visitors. There is a large common area with comfortable sofas and a magnificent dining table where huge fires are lit in the hearth casting a ruby glow. A sky blue infinity pool adds to the breathtaking beauty of the place. **To book Kifaru, email [raaji@royalafrican.com](mailto:raaji@royalafrican.com)**



### LEWA SAFARI CAMP

Each luxurious tent on Lewa Safari Camp has a thatched roof, veranda and all en suite bathrooms, with extensive views of Mount Kenya and the northern lowlands. Lewa Safari camp offers tented luxury with guest areas that include an intimate dining area, a cosy sitting room which overlooks a floodlit waterhole, and a swimming pool. Guests can also enjoy a fine glass of wine while they sit around a blazing campfire.

**To book Lewa Safari Camp, email [info@chelipecock.co.ke](mailto:info@chelipecock.co.ke)**  
Visit [www.lewasafaricamp.com](http://www.lewasafaricamp.com)



### SIRIKOI LODGE

Sirikoi offers a touch of class in the wild. The lodge boasts four luxury tents, a cottage with two bedrooms and the unmatched, exclusive Sirikoi house. Surrounded by an acacia grove and overlooking a natural waterhole fed from a mountain spring, Sirikoi offers superb game viewing and excellent services.

**To book Sirikoi, email [bookings@sirikoi.com](mailto:bookings@sirikoi.com). Visit [www.sirikoi.com](http://www.sirikoi.com)**



### WILDERNESS TRAILS

Wilderness Trails radiates an ageless charm and elegance. Situated at the heart of the Conservancy, this lodge has entertained guests in luxury for the past 30 years and continues to do so in the most exciting fashion. The view of Lewa's rugged terrain, wildlife and gentle rolling hills is breathtaking from Wilderness. It sleeps 16 people housed in eight beautifully decorated cottages, featuring fireplaces and verandas, and is the home of Will and Emma Craig. Wilderness offers an intimate family atmosphere.

**To book Wilderness Trails email, [info@bush-and-beyond.com](mailto:info@bush-and-beyond.com)**  
Visit [www.lewawilderness.com](http://www.lewawilderness.com)





## THE SAFARICOM MARATHON - BRINGING THE WORLD TO LEWA

by Alexandra Ames | PR & Marketing, Lewa USA

Every year top athletes, running buffs and enthusiastic supporters come together to participate in one of the toughest marathon's on earth: the annual Safaricom Marathon on the Lewa Wildlife Conservancy. This unique fundraising event, organized by Tusk Trust, offers an unparalleled Kenyan experience **and has raised over three million dollars for conservation since its inception 13 years ago**. Through grants funded by the marathon, thousands of Kenyans have benefitted from schools, hospitals and community conservation projects.



Every year the event gets bigger and more exciting, and 2012 was no exception. This year's competition, held on the 30<sup>th</sup> of June, attracted over 1,000 participants from 32 nationalities, reinforcing the Marathon's position as a truly unique race with global appeal. In fact, the registration for the race was full within three weeks of it opening! From Kenyans to Australians, teenagers to senior citizens, professional elites to relaxed amateurs, participants from every walk of life came together to take on Lewa's rugged terrain, all in support of community conservation. This year's corporate teams were particularly successful both in terms of their time running the race and in the funds that they raised. The Deutsche Bank was particularly impressive, raising an astonishing \$170,000.

Another special team taking part in this year's race was made up of security personnel from Lewa, Ol Pejeta, Ol Jogi, Borana and the Northern Rangelands Trust. Every member of the team successfully completed the marathon,

carrying their full military kits with them throughout the entire course!

The gruelling race route cuts through Lewa's landscape of undulating hills and sprawling savannah, giving runners and supporters the chance to experience the breath-taking scenery throughout the course of the race. However, no one taking part in this event, or the planning, can forget that Lewa is a wildlife conservancy and home to some of the world's feistiest animals. Security was enhanced during this year's event, to further ensure safety for everyone on the conservancy, with aerial support monitoring the course and security check-points strategically stationed every few kilometres.

We are so appreciative of the support that Lewa receives for the Safaricom Marathon and Tusk Trust. We relish the opportunity to welcome athletes from around the world back on to the Conservancy and it's our goal to replicate this year's success in marathons for years to come. Thank you to everyone who took part, and we hope you'll join us again next year.



*The men in uniform were not intimidated by the distance or Lewa's rugged terrain!*



## HOLLYWOOD STAR KRISTIN BAUER VAN STRATEN JOINS THE FIGHT AGAINST POACHING

by Wanjiku Kinuthia | Communications & Marketing Officer

**M**ost people know her from HBO's hit series *True Blood* where she plays Pam De Beaufort, a vampire whose nail biting sarcasm has endeared her to many fans. These same fans would be pleased to learn that their favourite star has now thrown her weight behind a very important cause- the fight against poaching.

Harrowing images of slaughtered rhinos and elephants have become daily news, and Kristin's meeting with James Isiche from International Fund for Animal Welfare (IFAW), coupled with her South African husband's love for wildlife, triggered her desire to help. In late August 2012, she shed her Hollywood glamour, hired a film crew and left Los Angeles for Kenya, along with her husband and mother-in-law, to shoot a documentary in an attempt to increase awareness against wildlife crimes happening in Africa, notably the endless persecution of elephants and rhinos.

### DAYS ON LEWA

The van Stratens, along with their film crew, arrived on the 4<sup>th</sup> of September 2012, eager to witness the factors that have contributed to Lewa's success as a rhino sanctuary with the hope that these measures can be replicated elsewhere. They had earlier visited the David Sheldrick Wildlife Trust, Amboseli National Park and Sarara lodge in Northern Rangelands Trust's Namunyak Conservancy.

The team spent their first day on Lewa with the security department. They interviewed Edward Ndiritu, the Deputy Chief Security Officer, visited the radio operations room (where Kristin broke down on seeing a picture of a slaughtered elephant), and filmed an exercise with the tracker dog unit. They also spent time with a patrol ranger, roaming the fields of Lewa, identifying the rhinos that they came across, and calling back to the radio room to report on the sightings.

Kristin had one word to describe this day: **phenomenal**. "Rarely do we realize how much work, effort and resilience it takes to secure wildlife. Spending the day with Lewa's security team has made me aware of the vast amount of resources - human and financial- required to protect rhinos."

Later on Geoffrey Chege, our Chief Conservation Officer, gave them a tour of the elephant underpass that opens up the historical elephant route connecting Lewa, Ngare Ndare Forest and the Mount Kenya ecosystems.

Day two was equally as eventful. Mike Watson, Lewa's CEO, gave Kristin a treat; he flew her across the Conservancy, allowing her to savour an aerial view of the stunning scenery decorated by the free roaming wildlife, gentle hills and expansive savannah. Her other meeting of the day with Ian Craig - one of Lewa's founding members-moved the star to tears, terming his dedication and passion to saving endangered wildlife as a 'great inspiration.'

Despite their short stay, the van Stratens were inspired by the enthusiasm and dedication of the people they met. They were particularly impressed by Lewa's working model where wildlife conservation goes hand in hand with community development.

The rise in demand for rhino horn and ivory in Asia in recent years has put great pressure on the vulnerable elephant and rhino populations and Kristin hopes that the documentary, once ready, will reach a large audience and create a huge impact.

"In essence, I want it to highlight the men and women who work tirelessly to protect these endangered animals and get them the help they need. They cannot win this war alone; everyone needs to get involved."



*Kristin Bauer, with the security team's John Tanui, peruses through a daily recording sheet of rhino statistics maintained by Lewa's radio room staff*



## SUPPORT THE LEWA WILDLIFE CONSERVANCY FROM ANYWHERE IN THE WORLD!

**L**ewa's supporters can be found all across the globe. No matter where you are in the world your support can be received and directed to the areas it is needed the most. By contacting any of our affiliate offices abroad, you too can be a part of Lewa's success story and have a lasting impact on the wellbeing of communities, endangered wildlife species protection and poverty alleviation.

There are offices in the United Kingdom, Switzerland, the United States and Canada registered as independent charities from which you can receive a tax deduction on your donation to Lewa. The staff and volunteers within these offices organise various events throughout the year to keep our supporters informed on developments at Lewa and to help raise funds for ongoing projects.

For those not resident in any of these countries, donations can be received directly by Lewa in Kenya.

You can contribute in many different ways as listed below, however this is not exhaustive, and a full list of our needs can be obtained by contacting our office directly, or one of our affiliate offices.

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## How You Can Help Lewa

<b>\$50</b>	Can purchase either stationery, a desk and or teaching aids to assist the teachers during lessons
<b>\$100</b>	Buys two pairs of boots for the rhino guards and keepers
<b>\$200</b>	Pays a teacher's salary for a month
<b>\$900</b>	Pays for one year's high school scholarship for a student
<b>\$2,000</b>	Covers the costs of a two-month environmental impact study on the Lewa Wildlife Conservancy
<b>\$5,000</b>	Annual operating costs of a two-man rhino surveillance field team
<b>\$5,800</b>	To cover the annual cost of training communities in agricultural practices, water conservation and management
<b>\$6,800</b>	For the purchase of 17 binoculars for the rhino surveillance team
<b>\$12,225</b>	Purchase of seven solar water heaters for staff camps to make Lewa more eco-friendly
<b>\$15,000</b>	Cost of conserving a rhino for approximately a year
<b>\$15,000</b>	Set up further 'elephant exclusion zone' fencing to conserve woody vegetation for black rhino. Currently Lewa's elephant population is putting pressure on the black rhino habitat
<b>\$16,750</b>	For the annual purchase of clinic drugs and equipment
<b>\$37,500</b>	For the upgrade of Lewa's finance systems to Pastel Evolution to streamline and improve current systems
<b>\$68,000</b>	For the purchase of a 120HP tractor to maintain Lewa's road network

These are just a few of the items that Lewa needs help with. For additional information on how to support the work of the Conservancy, please contact Ruwaydah Abdulrahman at [ruwaydah.abdul@lewa.org](mailto:ruwaydah.abdul@lewa.org).



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## Our Mission

*The Lewa Wildlife Conservancy works as a catalyst for the conservation of wildlife and its habitat. It does this through the protection and management of species, the initiation and support of community conservation and development programmes, and the education of neighbouring areas in the value of wildlife.*



[www.lewa.org](http://www.lewa.org)

*A Catalyst for  
Conservation*

## About the Lewa Wildlife Conservancy

### A BRIEF HISTORY OF LEWA

The Craig/Douglas family first came to Lewa Downs in 1922 and whilst the land was managed as a cattle ranch for more than half a century, the family also recognised the great importance of the wildlife living on Lewa, and engaged in wildlife tourism. In the 1980s, when the plight of the black rhino became desperate in Africa, part of the cattle ranch was converted into the Ngare Sergoi Rhino Sanctuary, with the enthusiastic support and funding of co-founder and rhino conservationist, Anna Merz.

### WHO WE ARE TODAY

In 1995 the Lewa Wildlife Conservancy was established as a not-for-profit organisation, and today it manages 62,000 acres that is home to over 10% of Kenya's black rhino population, over 14% of Kenya's white rhino population, and the world's largest resident population of Grevy's zebra. As well as endangered species, the Conservancy is also home to over 350 species of birds and 70 species of mammals, including the 'Big Five.'

### WHAT WE DO TODAY

- We monitor and protect endangered species and their habitat
- We ensure wildlife conservation generates direct benefits for neighbouring communities through our dedicated education, healthcare, enterprise and water development programmes
- We finance wildlife conservation by combining tourism with carefully focussed donor support
- We support the Kenyan Government with wildlife translocation, veterinary intervention and armed anti-poaching teams across northern Kenya

### LEWA AS A CATALYST BEYOND ITS BOUNDARIES

Lewa's mission is to act as a catalyst for conservation, and its successful model combines the protection of wildlife, community development, and sustainable tourism. Acting as that model, we

have helped to stimulate community-owned conservation throughout northern Kenya, and beyond.

The Conservancy has been instrumental as the foundation to the Northern Rangelands Trust (NRT), headquartered on Lewa. NRT is an innovative partnership which works to facilitate community-led conservation initiatives in northern Kenya, promoting the collective management of ecosystems for improved human livelihoods, biodiversity conservation and enhanced rangeland management. This dynamic partnership has increased the amount of land under integrated conservation management to around 2 million acres, allowing wildlife to begin to migrate throughout their historical natural ranges once more.

### HOW YOU CAN HELP

Lewa's mission of conserving of endangered wildlife, and supporting community development, has been made possible by generous supporters from all over the world.

For more information and to pledge your support, please visit us at [www.lewa.org](http://www.lewa.org) or email us at [info@lewa.org](mailto:info@lewa.org).



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