



KPSGA

NEWSLETTER

April 2010

NOTE: The articles in this newsletter are contributions from individual members. The views and opinions expressed therein should not be taken as those of KPSGA:

MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRMAN

I would like to pass my sincere thanks to all members for the support they gave the association in the past year.

There is however a higher need for even greater support this year and in future to ensure to see that the Association lives up to its principal goal of improving the guiding standards in the country.

Our members should be aware that **KPSGA** is self supporting financially, and it is through the support of our dedicated members. Bearing this in mind, I would like to urge all members to submit their subscription fees on time. I would like to inform you that we have extended the amnesty to members whose subscriptions had lapsed for over four years to mid this year. Please take this opportunity to update your membership.

I would also like to inform you that in order to give our members more interaction among themselves and improve on information exchange, we are soon launching a new website which should be up and running in the next couple of weeks.

We do urge our members to register for the E-newsletter on the web as well as discussion forum.

Lastly, as we head into the usual low season, I would like to wish our members a good break, and for those who are going out marketing all the best.

Paul Kirui
Chairman



THE SOUTHERN GREVY'S ZEBRA (*Equus grevyi*)

In January 2010 we had a chance to do the monitoring of the Grevy's zebra who were introduced in Tsavo in 1964 and 1970. We had a chance to observe them to know how they were doing and whom they are living with. I joined Dr Bruce Peterson from Field Museums Chicago and Alex Mwazo a student Kenyatta University and we did a one month monitoring. We covered Tsavo East and the private ranches that are sandwiched between the two parks. All went well though we got stuck due to heavy rains at the beginning of this year. We were able to count about 41 individuals; but maybe our time was not enough to monitor the whole area properly to get the whole population. During the process we realized that the population is very scattered but doing well. It is with great respect that we appreciated the work of the Wildlife works for the great conservation impact they have put to protect Rukinga Wildlife Sanctuary and their effort to amalgamate together other ranches. Most of the small groups we saw are between 1 territorial male to 12 individual mares and their fawns. They did not keep strong bondage since they are territorial. They occupied the central area of Taita ranch mostly.

However, only up until the 21st of January the Grevy's zebra's were doing very well and were looking very settled. Their life is not same anymore after the cattle invaded the land dominating all areas.

They started running away to give way to the cattle and dispersed all over Taita Ranch, Rukinga, KMC Ranching company and in the far south of Tsavo East national park. In the open area of the Taita Ranch they like edges of the commiphora, acacia wood land during the hot hours coming out in the open after sun set to feed.



In Rukinga there are resident families that we been seeing during our 7 years Lions of Tsavo program with the Earth Watch volunteers. It looked phenomenal these Grevy's zebras closing the park boarder every morning from KMC Ranch to Tsavo East between 9am and 10am at first were told by one the cattle hands man that they go to KMC to drink.

We thought of two things that would make them do that either because of many predators in Tsavo or that they have gotten used to drinking fresh water from the troughs at KMC cattle ranches.

We discovered one Hybrid between the Grevy's zebra and the common zebra. This was a young male with four normal Grevy's zebra's males.

B U S H M A T T E R S

We couldn't differentiate him from the common zebra at first. We stayed and waited for them mix with the common ones. But when they approached the common ones all came running to smell him some started biting till he run away to his brothers and all went away. Its my hope that these very endangered zebra species population will keep increasing for the benefit of our feature wildlife.

(cactus sp) or the *opuntia* seriously invading and dominating the vegetation in southern part of Tsavo East. Lots of respect congratulations to them for their effort to keep the cattle out of the park.

Wish you all a nice game drive.

**Simon wanjohi –
KPSGA Silver-Level Member**

My only polite appeal is to
KWS is to remove the exotic

W I L D W A Y S

IN THE KRUGER.....

The astonishing spectacle of a leopard savaging a crocodile has been captured for the first time on camera.



The photographs were taken by Hal Brindley, an American wildlife photographer, who was supposed to be taking pictures of hippos from his car in the Kruger National Park. The giant cat raced out of cover provided by scrub and bushes to surprise the crocodile, which was swimming nearby.



W I L D W A Y S

A terrible and bloody struggle ensued. Eventually, onlookers were amazed to see the leopard drag the crocodile from the water as the reptile fought back.



With the crocodile snapping its powerful jaws furiously, the two animals somersaulted and grappled. Despite the crocodile's huge weight and strength, the leopard had the upper hand catching its prey by the throat.



Eventually the big cat was able to sit on top of the reptile and suffocate it.

In the past, there have been reports of crocodiles killing leopards, but this is believed to be the first time that the reverse scenario has been observed.



**Kristina Rogers -
KPSGA Silver-Level Member**

E X A M D A T E S



The exam dates for the rest of 2010 are as follows:

BRONZE-LEVEL:

26 th May	30 th June	28 th July	25 th August
29 th September	27 th October	24 th November	

SILVER-LEVEL:

20 th May	23 rd September	18 th November
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