

**US Fish and Wildlife Service  
Division of International Conservation  
African Elephant Conservation Fund FY2014**

In 2014, the USFWS provided funding to 21 projects from the African Elephant Conservation Fund, totaling \$1,915,337 and matched by \$5,193,845 in additional leveraged funds. Field projects in 11 range countries (in alphabetical order below) and three projects across multiple countries are included.

**CAMEROON**

**AFE1401**

**Grant # F14AP00808**

*Protecting the Dja conservation complex; a world heritage site in danger and a conservation priority landscape for the African elephant.* In partnership with the Zoological Society of London. This project aims to reduce illegal poaching in and around the Dja Biosphere Reserve, Cameroon. The recipient will equip and train eco-guards to use SMART (Spatial Monitoring and Reporting Tool) to improve patrolling performance; provide support to ensure the proper application of the law for wildlife crimes; develop a community surveillance network involving communities to inform patrols; and establish wildlife protection activities in forestry concessions in the periphery of the Reserve.

FWS: \$199,947

Leveraged Funds: \$393,318

**CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC**

**AFE1430**

**Grant # F14AP00459**

*Dzanga forest elephant study.* In partnership with the Wildlife Conservation Society. This grant supports the longest running study of African forest elephants at Dzanga Bai in the Central African Republic. In spite of political turmoil and instability in the country, the area remains an important habitat and gathering site for large numbers of elephants. Funds support ongoing surveillance and monitoring of the site, collection of baseline data, and collaboration with the Dzanga-Sangha project in anti-poaching efforts.

FWS: \$46,170

Leveraged Funds: \$49,196

**CHAD**

**AFE1418**

**Grant # F14AP00772**

*Aerial support for anti-poaching, monitoring, and management of Zakouma National Park, Chad and periphery.* In partnership with African Parks Foundation Of America. This project provides aerial support for anti-poaching, monitoring and management of Zakouma National Park and its periphery, Chad's largest remaining elephant population. Funds support the operating costs of aerial surveillance by a fixed wing aircraft.

FWS: \$115,700

Leveraged Funds: \$109,996

## **ETHIOPIA**

### **AFE1403**

#### **Grant # F14AP00843**

*Improved security and community support for elephant conservation in the Omo Ecosystem of Ethiopia.* In partnership with Born Free USA. This project supports securing Omo National Park as a legally gazetted protected area, strengthening elephant protection, maintaining wildlife corridors in the greater Omo ecosystem, and building community relations. Activities include demarcating park boundaries, developing pilot community wildlife areas, developing information networks, and conducting anti-poaching.

FWS: \$49,143

Leveraged Funds: \$81,551

## **KENYA**

### **AFE1413**

#### **Grant # F15AP00032**

*Community based conservation of wild African elephant in the Mathews and Ndoto mountain ecosystems, northern Kenya.* In partnership with Milgis Trust. This project supports community scouts in the Mathews and Ndoto mountain ranges in Kenya's arid northern rangelands to conduct anti-poaching patrols and to secure access to water for elephants and other wildlife in order to alleviate conflict with livestock. Funds allow the recipient to improve scout capacity, expand scout patrol coverage, and increase monitoring of ecosystem health (vegetation quality, wildlife densities, and water availability).

FWS: \$40,025

Leveraged Funds: \$303,129

### **AFE1417**

#### **Grant # F14AP00780**

*Enhancing elephant security in community lands in the Kenya-Tanzania Borderlands.* In partnership with African Conservation Centre. The purpose of this project is to conserve large free-ranging elephants in the community lands of the Rombo-Chalal and the Loita-South Rift borderland areas of Kenya by building a network of community scouts and developing strategies to overcome the challenges of cross border collaboration. The project is intended to conserve migrating elephants by addressing the impacts of poaching and cross-border conflict. Specific activities include: 1) support for the community scout network including training, equipment, development of SMART (Spatial Monitoring and Reporting Tool) system and a monitoring database to enhance patrolling; and 2) facilitation of cross border collaboration through development of protocols, joint patrols, information sharing and meetings to improve anti-poaching efforts.

FWS: \$78,330

Leveraged Funds: \$85,110

### **AFE1444**

#### **Grant # F14AP00462**

*Orma Community Anti-Poaching Unit, Tsavo-Amboseli-Chyulu Ecosystem, Kenya.* In partnership with Tsavo Trust. This project supports community scouts who play an important role in protecting elephants in Kenya, where elephants still occur in large numbers outside of protected areas. This new initiative has mobilized local residents to better secure rangelands on the eastern edge of Tsavo East National Park. Funds will be used to sponsor community scouts

for basic training at the Kenya Wildlife Service's (KWS) law enforcement academy at Manyani, and advanced training on site, and to assist with operating costs for a joint operations center to liaise with KWS and support aircraft when needed, and infrastructure for offices and ranger housing.

FWS: \$194,900

Leveraged Funds: \$1,107,247

#### **AFE1450**

##### **Grant # F14AP00465**

*Aerial support for security and conservation of elephants in the Tsavo Conservation Area (TCA).* In partnership with Tsavo Trust. This project helps support Kenya Wildlife Service in the greater Tsavo ecosystem, home to Kenya's largest remaining population of elephants. It provides funds to conduct regular aerial reconnaissance flights and to respond to emergencies and poaching incidents.

FWS: \$40,941

Leveraged Funds: \$109,533

### **NIGERIA**

#### **AFE1426**

##### **Grant # F14AP00457**

*Strengthening the protection of elephants at Yankari Game Reserve through enhanced law enforcement action and monitoring.* In partnership with the Wildlife Conservation Society. This grant supports operational costs of patrols to protect elephants and other wildlife in Yankari Game Reserve, Nigeria.

FWS: \$66,514

Leveraged Funds: \$66,390

### **SOUTH AFRICA**

#### **AFE0842**

##### **Grant # F13AP00400**

*The transboundary elephant research program with Great Limpopo National Park, South Africa.* In partnership with Save the Elephants. This long-term project tracks individual elephant movements within Kruger National Park, South Africa's largest elephant population, and outside into village land and hunting blocks to better understand elephant habitat needs and how management decisions alter elephant behavior and distribution.

FWS: \$84,021

Leveraged Funds: \$1,732,232

### **TANZANIA**

#### **AFE0846**

##### **Grant # F13AP00447**

*Monitoring the long-term effects of poaching on elephants in southern Tanzania.* In partnership with the Southern Tanzania Elephant Program. In collaboration with USAID-Tanzania, this USFWS grant supports monitoring and protection of elephant populations in Southern Tanzania. Activities include training staff from Tanzania's wildlife research institute, TAWIRI, assessing demographic data from four elephant populations (including Selous and Ruaha), for early

warning signs of decline, and training national park staff in monitoring elephant populations and conducting anti-poaching activities.

FWS: \$36,900

Leveraged Funds: \$77,900

#### **AFE1437**

##### **Grant # F14AP00807**

*Protecting Tanzania's elephant populations through the expansion of new and innovative law enforcement methods.* In partnership with the Wildlife Conservation Society. In collaboration with USAID-Tanzania, this grant supports the implementation of real time anti-poaching monitoring by Tanzania National Park (TANAPA) staff. To improve anti-poaching, Tanzania is implementing a law enforcement monitoring system using SMART (Spatial Monitoring and Reporting Tool) software in Ruaha, Katavi and Tarangire National Parks. Funds will be used to train rangers in SMART data collection methods while on patrol, and training and ongoing support for dedicated on-site SMART data managers at each of the three parks, and in deploying a network of camera traps for detection of illegal activities.

FWS: \$93,939

Leveraged Funds: \$52,740

## **UGANDA**

#### **AFE1410**

##### **Grant # F14AP00776**

*The expansion of intelligence led elephant management and protection throughout Uganda.* In partnership with Uganda Conservation Foundation. This project supports law enforcement capacity in Murchison Falls National Park and other elephant areas in Uganda using WILD LEO technology. Specific activities include: 1) expanding the use of the WILD LEO integrated system to monitor elephant distribution, observe illegal activities, and create patrol deployment strategies in order to strengthen management, inform operational decisions and provide robust evidence for wildlife crime prosecution throughout the conservation areas in Uganda; and 2) establishing a ranger post in the Wangkwar Valley and 3) developing community partnerships and conservation education in local schools to increase understanding about elephant conservation and park management in the Nanda regions of Murchison Falls.

FWS: \$69,870

Leveraged Funds: \$46,490

#### **AFE1427**

##### **Grant # F14AP00777**

*Strengthening the capacity of Uganda Wildlife Authority to tackle the ivory trade.* In partnership with the Wildlife Conservation Society. The purpose of this project is to prevent ivory trafficking and transit through Uganda by building the capacity of Uganda Wildlife Authority's (UWA) newly formed Wildlife Crime Unit. Specific activities include: 1) training selected UWA staff to tackle illegal wildlife trafficking, assess management needs and establish a framework for reporting information from the field to headquarters, and development of a master plan for upgrading UWA operations to enhance law enforcement; and 2) improving monitoring and information management through an offenders and crime database to better track poaching suspects and prosecutions of cases in Ugandan courts.

FWS: \$78,397

Leveraged Funds: \$20,001

## **ZAMBIA**

### **AFE0829**

#### **Grant # F13AP00989**

*Law enforcement and field support for African elephant conservation in Nsumbu National Park, Zambia.* In partnership with Conservation Lake Tanganyika. This project supports law enforcement operations in Nsumbu National Park on Lake Tanganyika, Zambia. Specific activities include equipping the Zambia Wildlife Authority (ZAWA) patrol boat to operate along the shores of Nsumbu NP and operating costs and consumables to support patrols on land and on the lake, day and night.

FWS: \$22,692

Leveraged Funds: \$49,489

### **AFE1404**

#### **Grant # F14AP00450**

*Improving wildlife law enforcement infrastructure through the construction of a Field Operations Outpost in the Lower Zambezi National Park, Zambia.* In partnership with Conservation Lower Zambezi. This project supports village scout activities in the Lower Zambezi National Park and surrounding Game Management Areas of Chiawa and Rufunsa in southern Zambia. Activities include establishing a permanent field operations outpost on the Zambezi River, and purchasing equipment and a vehicle to improve the scouts ability to assist Zambia's wildlife agency, ZAWA, in wildlife law enforcement operations.

FWS: \$84,850

Leveraged Funds: \$94,000

### **AFE1409**

#### **Grant # F14AP00804**

*Developing a wildlife contraband detection dog unit and supporting the South Luangwa Conservation Society's (SLCS) anti-poaching efforts to reduce the escalating ivory and bushmeat trade emanating from the Luangwa Valley, Zambia.* In partnership with the South Luangwa Conservation Society. This grant supports anti-poaching patrols and a detection dog unit in and around South Luangwa, Zambia. Specific activities include: (1) providing operating expenses for ground patrols to support law enforcement in the South Luangwa National Park and the Lupande Game Management Area; (2) support for game scouts at remote fly camps in the park to provide anti-poaching surveillance in areas targeted by poachers; and (3) establishing a detection dog unit to be deployed at roadblocks, borders, the airport, and other wildlife contraband hotspots. Handlers and dogs will be trained to detect ivory, bushmeat, rhino horn, and animal skins.

FWS: \$179,682

Leveraged Funds: \$395,142

## **ZIMBABWE**

### **AFE1421**

#### **Grant # F14AP00453**

*Increased security along the Zimbabwean-Mozambique border in Gonarezhou National Park, Zimbabwe.* In partnership with the Frankfurt Zoological Society. This project supports park protection activities in Gonarezhou National Park in Zimbabwe. Specific activities include the refurbishment of a ranger training center inside the park, basic and specialized training courses

for rangers, establishment of a scene-of-the-crime unit to investigate poaching incidents, and operational support for aerial surveillance.

FWS: \$197,641

Leveraged Funds: \$261,823

## **MULTIPLE COUNTRIES**

### **ALL RANGE, TRANSIT, AND CONSUMER COUNTRIES**

#### **AFE1407**

##### **Grant # F14AP00795**

*Training and capacity building guide for wildlife enforcement officers.* In partnership with the Environmental Investigation Agency. Funds support the production of a film to train law enforcement personnel and customs officers around the world about the plight of the elephant, the fight against poaching and the illegal trade in ivory. The film will include interviews with rangers risking their lives to protect elephants, representatives of international treaties and transnational law enforcement bodies, and experts on forensic techniques and wildlife crime in order to make officers aware of the toll poaching is taking on elephants and on ways that traffickers can be intercepted and successfully prosecuted.

FWS: \$50,000

Leveraged Funds: \$36,100

#### **AFE1446**

##### **Grant # F14AP00464**

*African elephant conservation genetics: GIS mapping of haplotypes for ivory forensics.* In partnership with the University of Illinois. This project supports genetic research to more accurately identify the geographic region of origin of ivory using genetic markers. Researchers are working to refine the method for mapping mitochondrial DNA (mtDNA) to source sites using existing reference samples, a method that shows great promise in identifying geographic origin more reliably than previous methods. Funds will be used to collect additional samples from unsampled sites, and will develop a system and conduct training to make this technique and technology accessible and usable in African range states and wherever seizures occur.

FWS: \$126,985

Leveraged Funds: \$56,104

#### **AFE1452**

##### **Grant # F14AP00787**

*Supporting the management of the Elephant Trade Information System (ETIS): analyzing illegal trade in ivory for CITES.* In partnership with TRAFFIC International. This grant will support the collection of data necessary to monitor and analyze trends in illegal trade in ivory in elephant range states and illegal consumer markets. The ETIS database holds data on 21,000 seizures of ivory. Funds will support analysis of trends since 2012 (when data were compiled for the 16th Conference of the Parties to the Convention of International Trade in Endangered Species) through 2013.

FWS: \$58,690

Leveraged Funds: \$66,354