



Quarterly Report

JANUARY-MARCH 2025

The Grevy's Zebra Trust (GZT) is the only organization in the world dedicated exclusively to the conservation of the endangered Grevy's zebra. Understanding that the species' survival is deeply tied to its coexistence with the people of northern Kenya, we place these communities at the heart of our conservation efforts, partnering with them to safeguard the Grevy's zebra. In every initiative, GZT prioritizes using data and information (from both indigenous knowledge and science) to guide our decisions and achieve positive conservation outcomes. Our strategic goals are:

Valuing Grevy's Zebra

Ownership of Grevy's zebra conservation is embedded within indigenous and local communities.

Understanding Grevy's Zebra

Action is informed by accurate information on Grevy's zebra populations.

Supporting Grevy's Survival

Immediate threats to Grevy's zebra are mitigated.

Regenerating rangelands

Healthy rangelands support people, livestock and wildlife.

Connecting landscapes

Community and Grevy's zebra needs are integrated into land use planning.

At a Glance

- 13,951 km walked during foot patrols by Grevy's Zebra Ambassadors, Scouts and Warriors.
- 29.9% proportion of Grevy's zebra foals and juveniles in the populations monitored, indicating growth.
- 31,370 hectares under regenerative grazing.
- 3,220 cattle from seven villages managed under regenerative grazing.
- 1,097 semi-circular bunds constructed in Wamba and 173 in Laisamis.
- 41 bags of grass seeds harvested across restoration sites.
- 472 cows introduced to Grassland Champions restored sites in the Wamba region to utilize pasture.
- Rations worth KES 280,700/USD 2,167 distributed for grass harvesting, planting and restoration work.
- 2,213 dignity packs (reusable sanitary pads) produced and 1,370 distributed to school girls and community women

Valuing Grevy's Zebra

Nkirreten

Our group of 12 Nkirreten women, two of whom joined at the end of 2024, have been doing amazing work producing and distributing dignity packs, which include four reusable sanitary pads in Grevy's zebra-striped bags, to schools in our operation area. This quarter, 985 school girls (from eight schools) received dignity packs, alongside 385 women from the community who also benefited from the distribution.



The two newest Nkirreten women, Topira Lagwanani and Doris Lolpuranai, spent the first month of the year going through basic training in tailoring at GZT's field camp. At the end of January, their production tent was launched in Lturuya village with a colorful, vibrant event. They were able to learn quickly and are now comfortably producing sanitary pads.



The quarterly Nkirreten team meeting was held at the end of January, providing a chance for the women to share their experiences and challenges as well as to encourage teamwork and provide any needed support. They connected as a group and spent quality time with each other, including sharing meals and taking walks along the Pukur River.

The Nkirreten project conducted two community loops (women’s meetings) in Mabati and Nalepo Boo zones within Meibae Conservancy this quarter. These regular gatherings focus on menstrual health education, conservation awareness, the role of women in conservation, and addressing human-wildlife conflict. The Mabati loop was attended by 135 women and 85 women participated in Nalepo Boo.

During the Nalepo Boo *loop*, a human-wildlife conflict case was resolved. An elderly woman requested to speak and shared the story of a recent hyena attack that devastated a young woman’s household by killing all 12 of her goat kids. The *loop* community immediately rallied to support this young woman. Some who had twin-bearing goats offered donations, and by the end of the meeting, the affected woman had received eight twin goats and offers of help to reinforce her fencing and prevent future attacks. The response was a powerful example of community solidarity. The women expressed deep appreciation for the *loop* gatherings and committed to continuing to expand the initiative.



Production of dignity packs	
Month	No. of packs
January	770
February	728
March	715
Total	2,213

Grevy’s Zebra Scholarship Students

The Grevy’s Zebra Trust offers scholarships to academically talented students in our operation area whose families cannot afford school fees. We started off the year by celebrating the grades of 12 students who did their final secondary exam in 2024 and we continue to support one girl, Grace Lerus, in secondary school and one diploma student, Isaac Lenanyie, at the Wildlife Research Training Institute (WRTI) with Grevy’s Zebra Trust Scholarships.

Isaac Lenanyie, from Nkutuk village, is jointly supported by Grevy’s Zebra Trust and Loisaba Conservancy to pursue a diploma in Wildlife Management at WRTI.





School outreach done by the Grevy's Zebra Ambassadors team in El Barta.

School Outreach

School visits are an essential part of our work, allowing our teams to connect with young people and support an early understanding of conservation and the value of Grevy's zebra. These visits not only provide an opportunity to inspire future conservationists but also support students in practical ways, such as distributing sanitary pads through the Nkirreten project to ensure girls do not miss school unnecessarily. When children learn early on about the connection between conservation and community wellbeing, it can have a lasting impact.

"Instilling conservation and rangeland management values in the young generation ensures long-term sustainability for both communities and wildlife." - Joel Loongonyo, El Barta Regional Coordinator



"The students, pupils, and teachers were enthusiastic about learning more about wildlife conservation and Grevy's zebra. They were particularly grateful for the educational materials and discussions, which deepened their understanding of the importance of protecting endangered species. Additionally, they were delighted to receive reusable sanitary towels and the conservation book, *Africa is Our Home*." - John Lekishe, Wamba Regional Coordinator

During recent school outreach activities, the GZT team conducted a series of engaging sessions that combined conservation education with reproductive health awareness. Students participated in interactive discussions on topics such as Grevy's zebra conservation, rangeland restoration, the dangers of poaching, and the importance of water access for wildlife. In addition to these joint sessions, girls received dedicated mentorship on menstrual health, including demonstrations on hygiene practices and the use of the reusable sanitary pads they were given. The positive response from both teachers and students highlighted the value of integrating conservation messaging with health education, with many expressing appreciation for the program's relevance and impact. In total, our team visited five schools during the first quarter, interacting with a total of 545 students (307 boys and 238 girls).

Understanding Grevy's Zebra

Patrols

Our team conducts regular monitoring and data collection on Grevy's zebra populations, which informs conservation strategies and helps track changes over time.

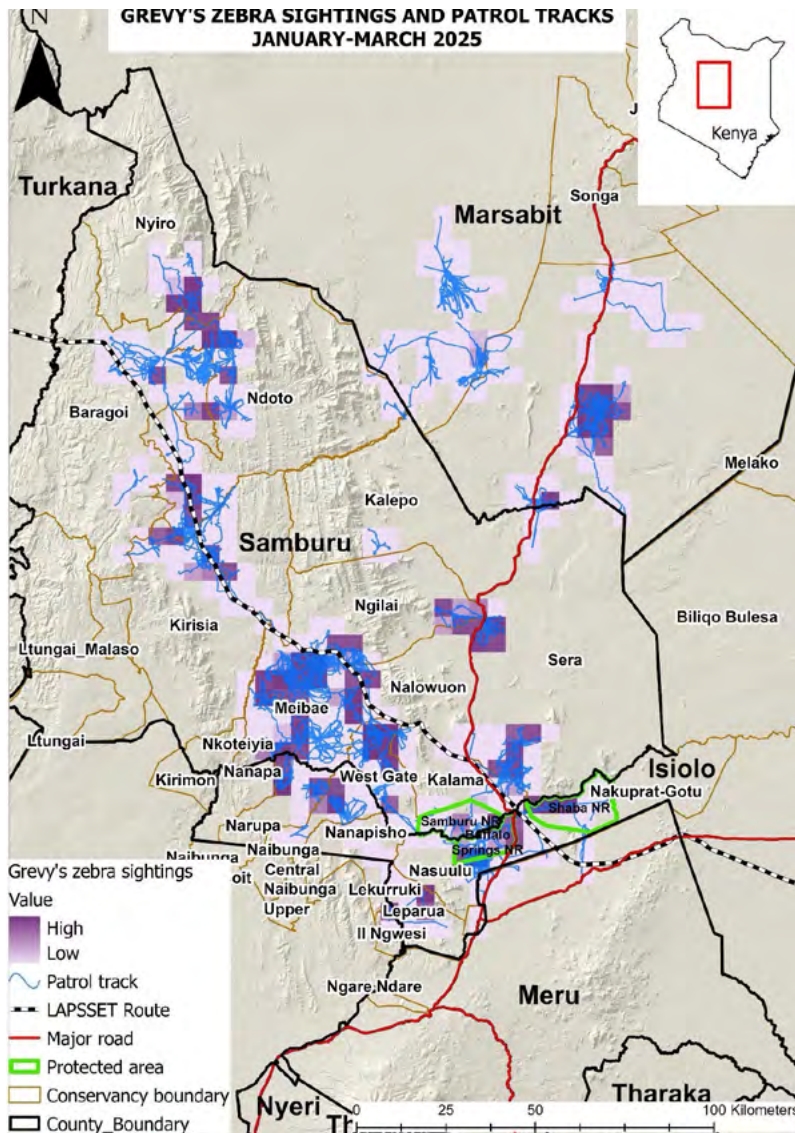


Grevy's Zebra Ambassadors on patrol.

For example, a patrol in Wamba region revealed a notable increase in the number of Grevy's zebra using the Oldonyiro area. The high number of Grevy's zebra in the area has been accompanied by increased predation, resulting in more injuries that require timely monitoring and veterinary interventions. To address this, the team is considering either enhancing engagement from existing teams or assigning a dedicated team member to be based in Oldonyiro in the short-term to ensure sustained oversight and rapid intervention when needed.



Photo of Grevy's zebra taken by Grevy's Zebra Warriors on patrol.



Grevy's Zebra Scouts, Ambassadors, Warriors, Isiolo Regional Coordinator, and Ecological Monitoring Officers' Grevy's zebra sightings and patrol tracks (Q1, 2025).

Table 1: Results of Grevy's zebra monitoring by GZT's teams, January through March 2025

Metric	Grevy's Zebra Ambassadors	Grevy's Zebra Scouts	Grevy's Zebra Warriors
No. of team members	16	26	10
No. of foot patrols	342	573	155
No. kms walked	4443	7472	2036
No. Grevy's zebra sightings	448	3553	391
No. Grevy's zebra encounters	77	397	61
Average group size	6	9	6
Foal/juvenile adult ratio	30.8%	29.7%	30.4%
Sex ratio (M:F)	1:1.8	1:1.6	1.2:1

Joint Patrols

In addition, joint patrols with partners are conducted by our teams in various regions to cover gaps in monitoring that our teams on foot cannot reach.

In Isiolo County, the team successfully carried out a five-day joint patrol in partnership with Isiolo County Rangers and rangers from Nasuulu, Nakuprat-Gotu, and Leparua Community Conservancies. Covering key areas including Shaba, Buffalo Springs National Reserve, and surrounding conservancies, the patrol focused on understanding Grevy's zebra distribution, assessing body condition, evaluating resource availability, and accessing typically insecure areas. Findings included stable body condition (4.0 for territorial males and 3.5 for lactating females), concern regarding water due to declining Ewaso Nyiro River levels, and increased livestock competition for pasture. Thanks to improved security, the team successfully reached remote areas, with high numbers of Grevy's zebra sighted in Shaba and Nakuprat-Gotu, while Buffalo Springs recorded the lowest sightings. Light showers were also noted in upper Nasuulu and Leparua, offering some relief to the rangelands.



Grevy's Zebra Ambassadors joint patrol with El Barta Rangers, Nyiro Conservation Rangers (Mputaput), & Baragoi Conservation Team (Bendera).

A six-day joint patrol with three vehicles was conducted in El Barta, involving 84 participants and covering a total of 374 kilometres. The patrol aimed to assess the distribution of Grevy's zebra and other wildlife in relation to vital resource availability and human presence. Specific objectives included evaluating the condition of key resources, capturing stripe ID photos of individual Grevy's zebras, tracking a collared individual, and engaging local partners. The involvement of the Kenya Defence Forces (KDF) added significant value, with their use of drones significantly improving wildlife detection and landscape coverage. A variety of other species were observed during the patrol, including Somali ostrich, Grant's gazelle, plains zebra, gerenuk, warthog, and caracal. Monitoring showed that essential resources such as water and grazing areas were sufficient during the reporting period, supporting both wildlife and community livestock.



Our Grevy's zebra monitoring is conducted in collaboration with partners and community members. This photo shows a young moran who guided the team to a cave where a Grevy's zebra carcass was found—clear evidence of the integral involvement of local communities in monitoring and reporting on Grevy's zebra.

"Today was a day of great joy and pride as all the Grevy's Zebra Scouts happily received their uniforms. Their excitement was undeniable as they admired how the uniforms enhanced their appearance, bringing a sense of unity and identity." John Lekishe, Wamba Regional Coordinator



Grevy's Zebra Scouts during their annual workshop



Kawap with her foal

“Kawap is one of the collared Grevy’s zebra in the El Barta region. We have been monitoring her remotely and have gained valuable insights from her movements. In 2023 and 2024, Lkotikal (the open plains in El Barta) was her preferred habitat, where she gave birth to a female foal. Although we are unsure of the exact birth date, Alois Lempesie, our Grevy’s Zebra Ambassador, first spotted her with her foal in

October 2024 and estimated that it was around three months old. Lkotikal plains provided a safe environment during this period, with all vital resources in place, and the Lesirikan community implemented grazing plans, which helped wildlife remain in their breeding areas for an extended period.

Kawap has been leading a herd of lactating females, and their movements have been closely monitored. Earlier this year, our remote monitoring raised concerns when we observed her moving between Naisiicho River, Gilgila, and Mputaput. This shift was primarily due to changes in the availability of vital resources. During the dry season, wildlife often have no choice but to move to less secure areas when essential resources, especially water, become scarce. Our main concern for Grevy’s zebra in this area was the presence of disturbances along a certain corridor where bandits often operate. To mitigate this, we initiated monthly joint patrols this year, which have helped us monitor and protect Grevy’s zebra in these high-risk areas. We found that the lactating females were spending their nights traveling from grazing fields to water points in Naisiicho River and resting during the day on the plains of Gilgila and Mputaput.

Seeing the foals grow past the vulnerable stage is a great sign of survival and adaptation. If their mothers are already expecting another cohort by the end of 2025, it will indicate a healthy breeding cycle, which would be promising for the El Barta population.” - Joel Loongonyo, El Barta Regional Coordinator



The group of lactating females with Kawap (right)

Supporting Grevy's Zebra Survival

Water Management

In Laisamis, due to low rainfall received during the last rainy season, water scarcity re-emerged as a significant challenge, placing considerable pressure on the available boreholes. To address this issue and ease the water shortages, all six dry-season boreholes were activated, ensuring that both the community and livestock had access to sufficient water during this difficult period. Our Laisamis Grassland Champions are also working closely with the water management committees to ensure proper water source management. This collaboration is crucial for managing the water scarcity and ensuring that the available resources are distributed efficiently among the communities and wildlife.

In El Barta, two water monitors were engaged at Suyian to help maintain water availability for wildlife. A notable number of Grevy's zebra were observed in the area during this period.

Peace Building

Tensions have been high in the El Barta region in the first quarter of this year, primarily triggered by political tensions and disputes over land ownership, with conflicts between groups creating instability that affects both people and wildlife. Increased violence often leads to disrupted conservation efforts, making it harder to protect vulnerable species and ecosystems.

Adding to these challenges, widespread fires—the causes of which remain unclear—have negatively impacted the landscape. This destruction is particularly disheartening given the recent rains that had been nurturing the recovery of once-parched land. What should have been a season of continuous renewal has been stalled, hurting both the environment and the communities that depend on it.



Suyian burns in El Barta Region

Despite this, Joel Loongonyo, our El Barta Regional Coordinator, and the Grevy's Zebra Ambassadors have been beacons of peace, stability, and restoration.

"We spent hours at the area where there was burning, where the fire destroyed one of the most critical grassbanks, Ltepes Waare. I am truly grateful to our warriors and a few elders from Soit Naibor who fought tirelessly the whole day to protect this vital resource. Thanks to their efforts, they managed to put out the fire. Grevy's Zebra Trust supported the response by supplying water, snacks, and milk—and I must say, these men gave it their all. However, despite their efforts, over 8,900 acres have burned. During our patrols around the affected area, we found that while the fire has been largely contained, logs are still burning, and some sections remain at risk. This was my message to the communities in El Barta: 'Please, wherever you are, mobilize our people to stay alert. Those in Masikita, Soit Naibuor, Ngilai, Bendera, and Mpagas—this is your land, your grazing fields! It is shameful to sit back while the land burns. If not you, then who will respond?'" - Joel Loongonyo, El Barta Regional Coordinator

Towards the end of March, the security situation in El Barta showed some signs of improvement with tensions easing slightly, but things remained volatile, leading to disruptions and challenges for local communities. In some areas, residents had to seek temporary refuge outside their homes. The movement of cattle from the plains to the lowlands helped alleviate some pressure on security, and patrols played a role in stabilizing the area. However, challenges persisted due to the cycle of revenge attacks and continued efforts will be needed to ensure lasting stability.

Addressing Wildlife Challenges in the Isiolo-Samburu Complex

GZT participated in a highly engaging and productive stakeholder meeting held in the Isiolo-Samburu complex, bringing together partners from the Samburu and Isiolo conservation areas, including Buffalo Springs National Reserve, Ewaso Lions, Isiolo County, Isiolo County Conservation Association, Kenya Wildlife Service, Nakuprat-Gotu Community Conservancy, Nasuulu Community Conservancy, Samburu National Reserve, and Save the Elephants. The primary agenda was to identify



Gotu conservancy board and grazing committee meeting.

key challenges facing wildlife in the region and collaboratively explore solutions. Major issues raised included charcoal burning, livestock encroachment into protected areas, insecurity, poaching, and the use of bushmeat and snares.

Following a thorough discussion, participants unanimously agreed on the need to launch intensive community awareness campaigns to address these threats. Key hotspot areas were mapped out, and meeting dates were set for targeted community engagements. The group also agreed to involve local chiefs and County Assembly Members in the upcoming meetings to strengthen outreach and local support.

Veterinary Interventions

In early 2025, two veterinary interventions were carried out to support Grevy's zebra conservation efforts. In February, an adult Grevy's zebra in the Kisima area was treated by Dr. Phogon after the case was reported by Marwell Wildlife Community Scouts. The team promptly coordinated the necessary veterinary support to ensure the animal received timely care. A second intervention took place in March in Namunyak, where a five-year-old Grevy's zebra at Reteti Sanctuary, which had been rescued in 2020 from Ltungai, had a deep cut above its nose. The Grevy's zebra was attended to by Dr. Sharon and her expert stitching not only treated the injury but also restored the animal's striking appearance.



Veterinary intervention for the Grevy's zebra in Kisima.

In one particular instance, an injured bachelor male reported by our Ecology and Monitoring Officer, Andrew Letura.

The team were pleased to have located Grevy's zebra and assessed its condition following a predation attempt by a lion. The wound was healing well and the animal showed a promising chance of recovery without the need for veterinary intervention. We were able to address this issue quickly thanks to our partners in Samburu National Reserve, who have continually supported us in the monitoring and conserving of the Grevy's zebra population. Their prompt reporting of injuries was what allowed us to immediately address this issue and plays a crucial role in our conservation efforts.

Mortality and Injuries

At the end of March, we received distressing reports of a Grevy's zebra poaching incident in Nakuprat village, near Shaba National Reserve. The cause of death was confirmed as a gunshot. This incident highlights ongoing conservation challenges in the area, and efforts to address wildlife protection remain crucial.

Table 2: Grevy's zebra mortality January through March, 2025.

Age Class/ Means of Death	Birth Complications	Predation	Gunshot	Unidentified	Total
Adult	1	2	1	1	5
Juvenile	0	2	0	0	2
Total	1	4	1	1	7

John Major, one of our drivers, showed his dedication to the wellbeing of Grevy's zebra, facing a challenging day as he traveled to Oldonyiro's Narasha village in search of an injured Grevy's zebra, with the vet team on standby to assist. Unfortunately, he was unable to locate the injured animal, but the day was not without success. John observed and documented over 40 Grevy's zebras, including lactating females, pregnant females, foals, bachelor groups, and territorial males. His dedication to conservation remains evident in his efforts to monitor and protect these endangered animals. The support from local community members was also invaluable, as they provided critical information about the Grevy's zebra in the area.



Gotu conservancy board and grazing committee meeting.

Regenerating Rangelands

Northern Kenya experienced a fairly dry start to the year. Despite these challenging conditions, the Rangelands team focused their efforts on sustaining grazing resources for both wildlife and community livestock, ensuring the resilience of the northern Kenya rangelands ecosystem. As the season progressed and rains began to arrive at the end of March, the team's comprehensive grazing plans continued playing an important role in restoring critical habitat for Grevy's zebra while supporting community well-being.

Wamba

A core group follow-up was conducted in Ndonyo Wasin (Nesesia zone), bringing together 31 participants and revealing encouraging progress. After introducing them to USAID Nawiri last year, the community in Ndonyo Wasin is actively practicing voluntary rangeland restoration, thanks to support from Kalepo Community Conservancy, and food rations provided by GZT. Their dedication stands as a powerful example, contributing to the restoration sites by training on semi-circular bunds and providing grass seeds. Additionally, a follow-up meeting with the conservancy board led to a renewed commitment to mobilize additional resources for sustaining restoration work in Lekoren. This work has significantly boosted the morale of the Grevy's Zebra Scouts, who are now reporting more frequent sightings of Grevy's zebra in restored and surrounding patrol areas.



Meibae Conservancy steering committee meeting

Laisamis

The rangelands in Laisamis were dry, but despite the challenging conditions, there was still a healthy presence of grass and other useful plants that had grown during the previous November-December 2024 rainy season.

Before embarking on planned activities, a survey of the Naimarei and Logologo dry season grazing areas was conducted to assess the availability of grass and forage. Key findings indicated that

sufficient grass and forage were available in the dry season grazing blocks, grazing plans were well-managed, and livestock were concentrated in the Soriadi and Gudas areas. A healthy presence of wildlife was observed in the dry grazing blocks. Action plans include engaging herders on proper grazing plans to reduce pressure on dry grazing areas and sharing the survey results with the community to improve understanding of their rangeland status.

A key highlight of the Naimarei core group meeting was the community's appreciation for a small investment GZT made toward their purchase of grass seeds. This support was well received, and the community members agreed to expand restoration sites to enhance grass growth, not only to grow more grass but also to ensure the harvesting of additional grass seeds, which would further support sustainable grazing. Successes highlighted in the meetings included the fact that livestock have been able to remain closer to homesteads, overgrazing has been reducing, and a consensus that well-managed grazing plans are critical for maintaining a balance between land, livestock, and wildlife.



Isiolo

GZT is an implementing partner with the GEF Small Grants Programme working on protection of the Samburu-Isiolo Conservation Area through community-led sustainable land management in Northern Kenya. A foundational training and engagement meeting with the Nakuprat-Gotu Conservancy was held in Daaba village to introduce GZT's work to key stakeholders in the Isiolo region, where our presence is still being established. The session focused on introducing Grevy's zebra as a species of conservation concern, explaining the mission of GZT, and laying the groundwork for future collaboration. Participants were also introduced to core rangeland management concepts, including the benefits of healthy rangelands and practical solutions for regeneration. The response was highly encouraging, with committee members expressing strong interest in GZT's approach and a commitment to collaborate in upcoming activities.

“We come from the Lempaute zone, and during our childhood, nothing ever grew here. But through the bunching of cows, we have witnessed grass growing, and both livestock and wildlife are now enjoying grazing at Loidadapoi Lenambarian where once there was barren land. Look at the difference between the inside of the boma and the outside; it is completely different. It is the land recovery that has truly touched us. I would suggest that the next bunching exercise focus on areas not yet covered until we achieve full recovery.” - a woman met by Babylon Letrok, Rangelands Officer, during a visit to Loijuk.

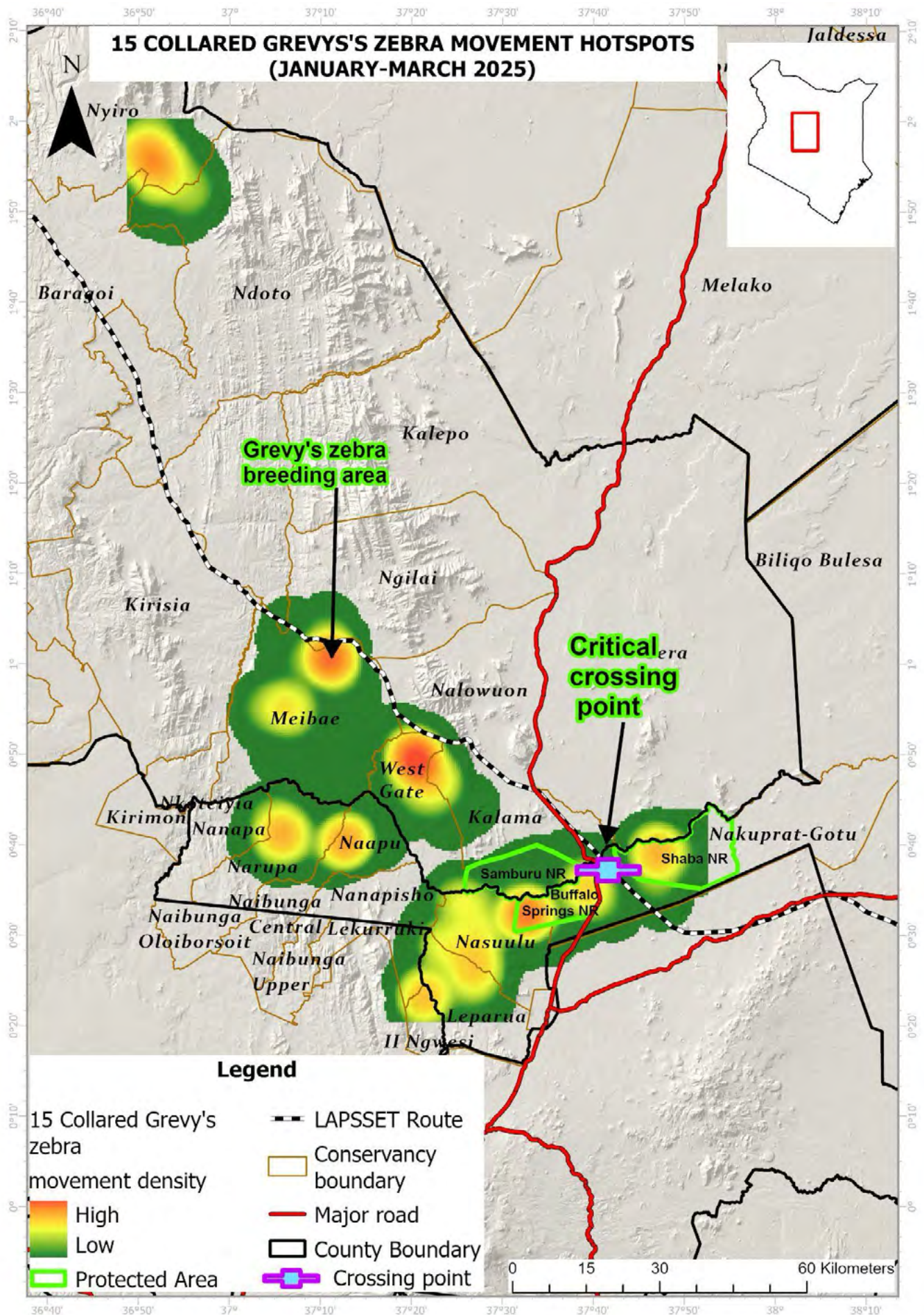


Lempaute zone boma site (left) compared to outside the boma site (right)

Connecting Landscapes

The A2 Green Reference group continues to work with the Kenya National Highways Authority (KenHA) to push forward with signage and road modifications for wildlife collision hotspots on the A2 highway. Final versions of the suggested sign designs have been shared with the KenHA office in charge, and we are now awaiting completion of the procurement process for a new contractor. We will continue to work with the relevant officers to move the process forward.

GPS satellite data showed Grevy's zebra movement hotspots within Isiolo, Samburu and Laikipia Counties. The hotspots were predominantly in community conservancies and three national reserves. The movement showed highway avoidance behavior along the Samburu National Reserve -Shaba National Reserve critical crossing area. There was also notable movement close to the road but not across the habitats. Three collared Grevy's zebra made some crossings from Meibae Conservancy to Ngilai Conservancy. This area is a key breeding site for Grevy's zebra and we continue to monitor their behavior to inform appropriate mitigation measures.



Collared Grevy's zebra movement map (Jan-Mar 2025)

Other Updates

Student Visit from Southampton University




A group of master's research students from Southampton University, led by Marwell Wildlife, came to the GZT camp and spent the day exploring our rangelands restoration efforts at the Remot Rangelands Rehabilitation Site. We showcased various rangeland restoration approaches, including semi-circular bunds and reseedling activities. The students also learned about the history of rangeland restoration in the area and its impact across conservancies and communities we collaborate with. Mama


Grevy led a mentorship session, sharing valuable insights on rangeland conservation. The women's voluntary rangelands team highlighted their successes, ongoing challenges, and future prospects. The students engaged in discussions, asking insightful questions about rangeland interventions and their connection to the conservation of Grevy's zebra and other wildlife. The Grevy's Zebra Scouts demonstrated how they use technology to collect data while patrolling in search of Grevy's zebra. In the evening, they visited Naibelibeli plains, where they spotted over 70 Grevy's zebra near Namanyaroo Boo—an excellent opportunity for photographs before heading back to camp. The GZT team had a wonderful time engaging with the students during their visit, who showed great enthusiasm for learning about the culture and valued the opportunity to connect. A key highlight of their visit was their keen interest in our conservation approach for Grevy's zebra, which led to insightful discussions on wildlife conservation and holistic environmental sustainability. As they departed, the students left glowing feedback in our visitors' book, expressing their appreciation for the experience.


Snake Safety Training

Teams from Grevy's Zebra Trust, Ewaso Lions, and Action for Cheetahs Kenya participated in a Snake awareness and handling training program provided by East African Reptiles/ Taylor Ashe Antivenom Foundation. The two day training focused on debunking common myths about snakes, understanding their ecology and behaviour, and finally how to safely remove them from human habitations like our camp. The training went very well with participants getting first hand skills that should help keep our teams safer in the field.

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