



Quarterly Report

APRIL – JUNE 2026

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

15,481 km walked during foot patrols by Grevy's Zebra Ambassadors, Scouts, and Warriors

28 beehives occupied out of the 180 beehives supplied in Q1

1,384 semicircular bunds constructed within restoration sites

54 bags of grass seeds harvested from restoration sites led by Grasslands Champions

33% proportion of Grevy's zebra foals and juveniles in the populations monitored, indicating population growth potential

1,883 zebra-striped Dignity Packs produced (with reusable sanitary pads) and 1,978 distributed to schoolgirls and community women (more were delivered than produced due to a balance from previous quarters)

208 hectares of degraded land under restoration by women Grassland Champions

Valuing Grevy's Zebra

Nkirreten



Distribution of Dignity Packs at Ndonyo Wuasin Junior School.

The Nkirreten Project currently employs 12 women working across six production tents in three community conservancies, producing reusable sanitary pads packaged in zebra-striped Dignity Packs that help girls manage their menstrual cycles with dignity which allows them to stay in school. Distribution of Dignity Packs was paired with mentorship sessions for schoolgirls, which raised conservation awareness of the endangered Grevy's zebra and reinforced hygiene practices. The quarterly Nkirreten team meeting brought women together to socialise and share work challenges and achievements, with a quality check conducted. The quarter also included scheduled machine service and multiple visits to the tents.

A community meeting held at Lturuya village provided an opportunity for community elders and women to recognise the impact of the Nkirreten unit on women's livelihoods and on conservation awareness through Loip meetings, which bring community women together. They also repositioned one of the Nkirreten production units away from livestock paths.

Meet Naimutie Lengirnas

Inside a small production tent, Naimutie Lengirnas sits behind a sewing machine, carefully guiding fabric beneath the needle. The steady rhythm of stitching fills the space as piles of reusable sanitary pads slowly take shape, simple items that carry profound meaning for girls across Samburu.

To many, they are just pads. But to Naimutie, every stitch tells a story of survival, dignity, and transformation.

Naimutie is a single mother who once lived through years of domestic abuse. Her life reached a breaking point after surviving a violent attack in her marriage, including a stabbing that nearly claimed her life.

With courage and determination, she made the decision to leave and return to her elderly mother's home with her children.



With no stable income, Naimutie struggled to provide even the most basic needs for her family. She survived by collecting and selling gum resin, sometimes earning as little as 80 Kenya Shillings a day. At times, her children lacked proper clothing, and there were days when the family went several days without food. She often depended on neighbors who would lend her food to survive.

“I had no stability. I was just trying to survive each day,” she recalls.

Like many women and girls in her community, Naimutie had no access to sanitary pads. During her menstrual cycle, she relied on rugged pieces of cloth; unhygienic, uncomfortable, and often unsafe. **“I knew what it felt like to struggle during menstruation,”** she says. **“We used old strips of cloth. It was not safe, and it affected our dignity.”** This lived experience now shapes the meaning behind her work.

Everything began to change when Naimutie joined the Nkirreten Project. She began learning how to thread pads by hand, learning patiently under guidance. With time, she was trained to use a sewing machine and eventually became a skilled producer. For the first time in years, she had both an income and a skill she could rely on.

Today, Naimutie’s life looks completely different. The income she earns has enabled her to move from daily survival to stability. She can now feed her children consistently, support her elderly mother, pay school-related needs, and invest in a growing livestock business that strengthens her household’s resilience. **“When I make these pads, I think of the girls who will use them,”** she says. **“I know they will be comfortable, confident, and able to stay in school. That makes me proud.”** Today, Naimutie herself no longer relies on unsafe materials during her menstrual cycle. She now uses the same reusable sanitary pads she helps produce.

For years, Naimutie saw conservation as something distant. Today, she understands it as part of her daily life. She has witnessed how poverty can increase pressure on natural resources. **“When women have income, families become stronger,”** she explains. **“And when families are strong, we can also protect our environment.”**

For Naimutie Lengirnas, every stitch now carries a deeper meaning: a girl staying in school, a woman regaining her dignity, a family rebuilding stability, and a community finding balance between livelihood and conservation.

School Outreach

As a central aspect of GZT's work, teams visit schools to share information with students about Grevy's zebra and the importance of conservation. These visits include distributing Dignity Packs to help keep girls in school, while inspiring the next generation of conservationists. This quarter, we conducted school visits in the Wamba and El Barta regions. The team reached a proportionally higher number of boys in Wamba than in the previous quarter, so the distribution of Dignity Packs made up a smaller proportion of the activity.

Connecting Communities Through Conservation

The El Barta team conducted a multi-day school outreach at Lengima and Waso Rongoi Junior Schools, combining Grevy's zebra conservation education with peacebuilding activities and Dignity Pack distribution.



Joel Loong'onyo (El Barta Regional Coordinator) sharing information about Grevy's zebra in the classroom.

On the third day, 10 students from each school went on a learning tour to the Kawuap, Mputaput, and Lkotikal plains. For many, it was their first opportunity to see wildlife in its natural habitat, bringing conservation lessons to life.

The visit also became a powerful moment for peacebuilding. There is a history of rivalry within Lengima and Waso Rongoi, but despite this history, the children were warmly welcomed, and parents from both communities exchanged contact information afterward to stay connected. Since the school outreach, several parents have remained consistently in touch, speaking regularly by phone.

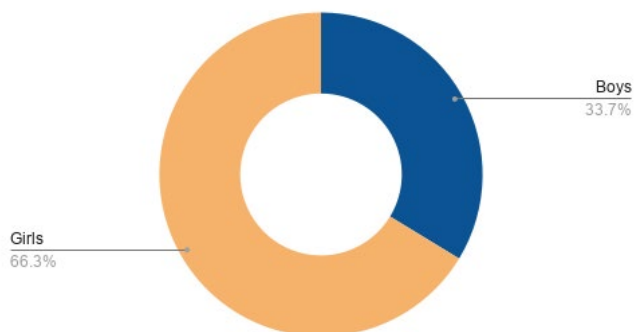
Reflecting on the experience, Area Chief Mr. Lorubat noted that working with children as “connectors of peace” is especially powerful because they can influence families and communities in ways adults often cannot.



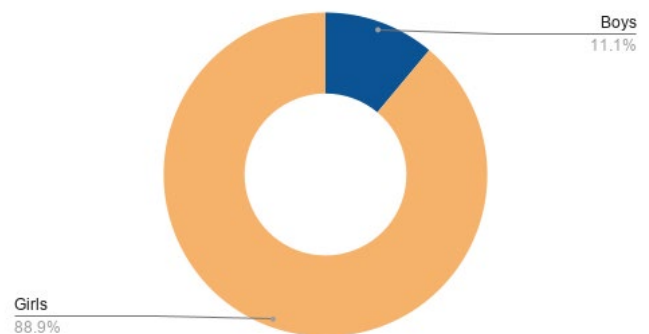
Children enjoying the view of Grevy's zebra in the wild.

Region	Names of the schools	Boys Attending	Girls Attending	Dignity Packs Distributed
El Barta	Waso Rongoi Primary School and Manyatta Lengima Primary	63	124	124
Wamba	Kipsing, Narasha, Ndonyo Wuasin, Lpus Leluai, Nkutuk Engiron Primary Schools, Sereolipi Comprehensive and Sereolipi Mixed Secondary Schools	111	891	1,040
Total		174	1,015	1,164

El Barta



Wamba



School Outreach by Gender (Q2 2026)

Scholarship

Isaac Lenanyie, who received a scholarship from San Diego Zoo through Loisaba Conservancy to attend the Wildlife Research and Training Institute (WRTI), completed the program earlier this year and joined the GZT team as an intern. He has been supporting the Wamba Regional Coordinator, participating in joint patrols, conservancy surveys, and community meetings. He says, **“I have really enjoyed working with the team and especially enjoyed participating in the conservancy survey, collecting data on Grevy’s zebra and other wildlife.”** Beyond his day-to-day work, he has an obvious love for nature and the landscape in which he lives and works.



Isaac (far right) spotting a herd of Grevy’s zebra in Loijuk, alongside John Lekishe (Wamba Regional Coordinator) and James Lalampaa (Wildlife Conservation Network Intern).

Women’s Outreach Program



Grevy’s Zebra Scouts, Grassland Champions, and Nkirreten ladies participating in the Women’s Outreach Program training.

The Women’s Outreach Program held a familiarisation workshop at the Grevy’s zebra camp to set the foundation for future outreach and promote conservation awareness within the partner conservancies of Kalama, Westgate, and Meibae. Participants included Grevy’s Zebra Scouts, Grassland Champions, and Nkirreten women. The workshop covered an organisational overview of GZT, the outreach program’s short-, mid-, and long-term goals, and presentations by each program connecting their work

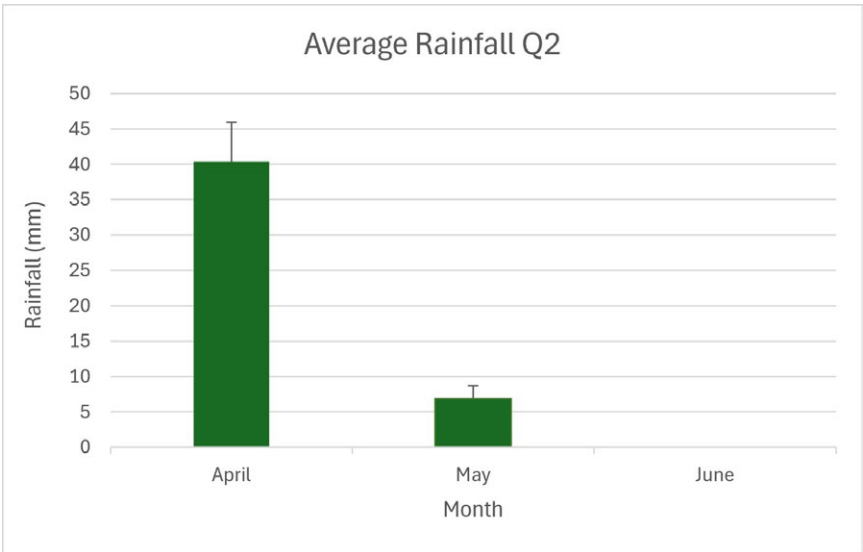
to organisational goals. The approach of the Women’s Outreach Program merges the women of the three lead programs, the Grevy’s Zebra Scouts program, the rangelands program and the Nkirreten project, to amplify a One Health campaign focused on the health of the land, wildlife, and people. It targets primarily women and youth through community meetings supported by posters, local music, short videos, impact stories and maps. The training concluded with a short play of an example outreach meeting and a team leads meeting on the strategy for a way forward. The first outreach meetings are scheduled for the beginning of Q3.

Understanding Grevy’s Zebra

This Quarter’s Environmental Context

Rainfall

This quarter, rainfall was received from late March through early May, with both the amount and distribution varying considerably across the region and between months, with no rainfall received in June. The rainfall pattern this quarter was a mirror of Q1 rainfall patterns, which started off quite dry and ended with a decent amount of rainfall. Rainfall



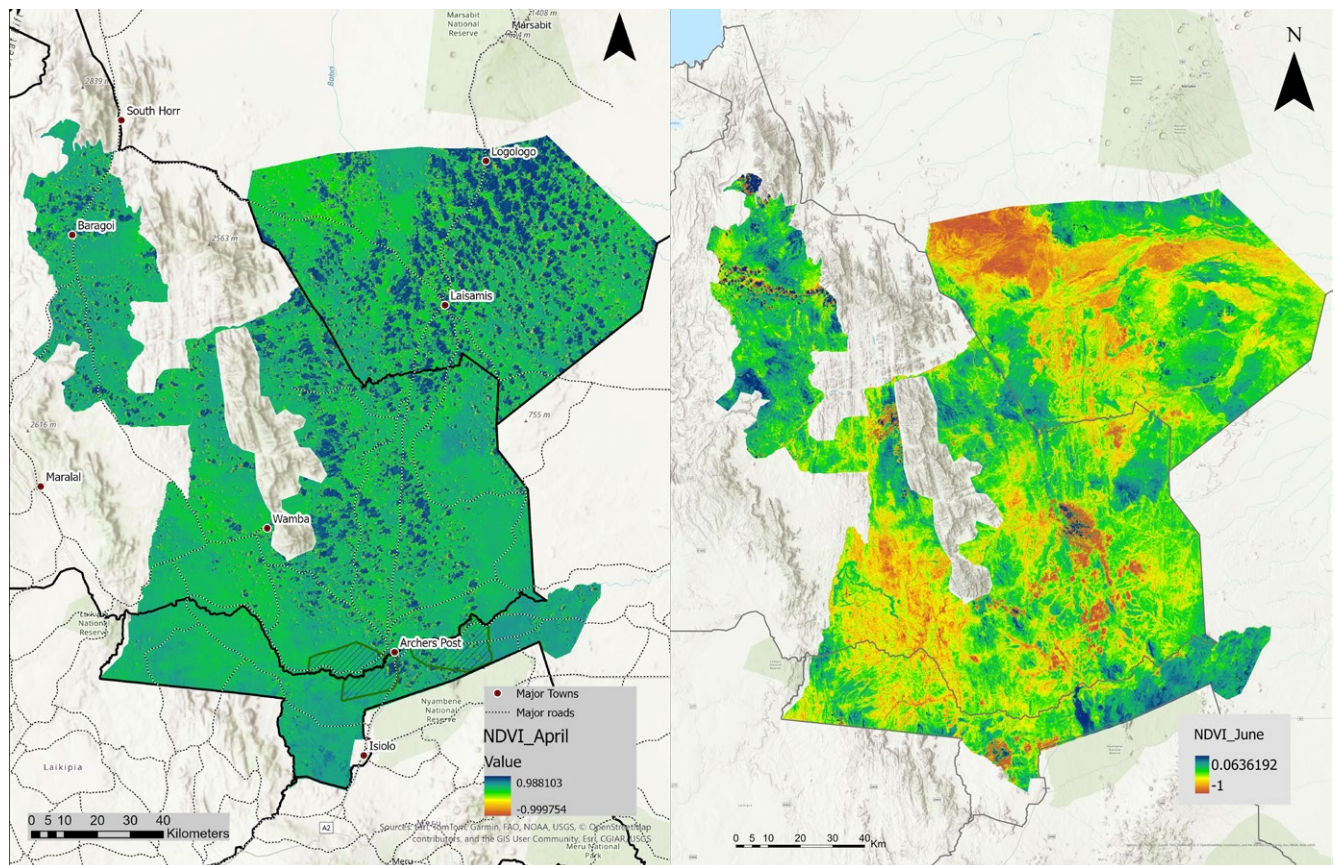
Average Rainfall April - June 2026

this quarter was considerably lower than during the same period in 2025, averaging 47 mm over the three-month period compared with 100 mm during the corresponding quarter last year. The rainfall received this quarter supported increased, though uneven, vegetation growth during the first part of the quarter. However, the rains ended by mid-May, and vegetation productivity declined significantly through June. With little to no rainfall across most areas from late May through June, both the quality and quantity of forage decreased towards the end of the quarter. Water levels in the Ewaso Nyiro River also declined significantly during June, possibly due to a combination of reduced rainfall across the catchment and unregulated water abstraction upstream. Field assessments indicate that forage and water remain sufficient to last until the next anticipated rains at the beginning of Q4. Regular monitoring will continue to provide early warning of changes in resource availability and animal body condition.

Normalized Difference Vegetation Index (NDVI)

Analysis of satellite images across our areas of operations between April and June showed a significant drop in peak productivity, corresponding with the cessation of the rains in most regions towards the end of April and early May. This means that while there might be plenty of standing biomass in some areas, most vegetation has switched colour from green to brown, suggesting

reduced crude protein and increased crude fibre composition. This would further suggest that the landscape might start seeing reduced body scores as we head towards the next rainy season as a result of reduced forage quality. The one exception is El Barta, which retained productivity relatively later into the season compared to the rest of the regions, although still exhibiting a reduced productivity index in June compared to April. Vegetation productivity was well correlated with Grevy's zebra sightings, as higher densities were sighted in El Barta as well as in Buffalo Springs National Reserve. There was also higher densities of Grevy's zebra sighted in the Loijuk area of Westgate.



NDVI in April and June

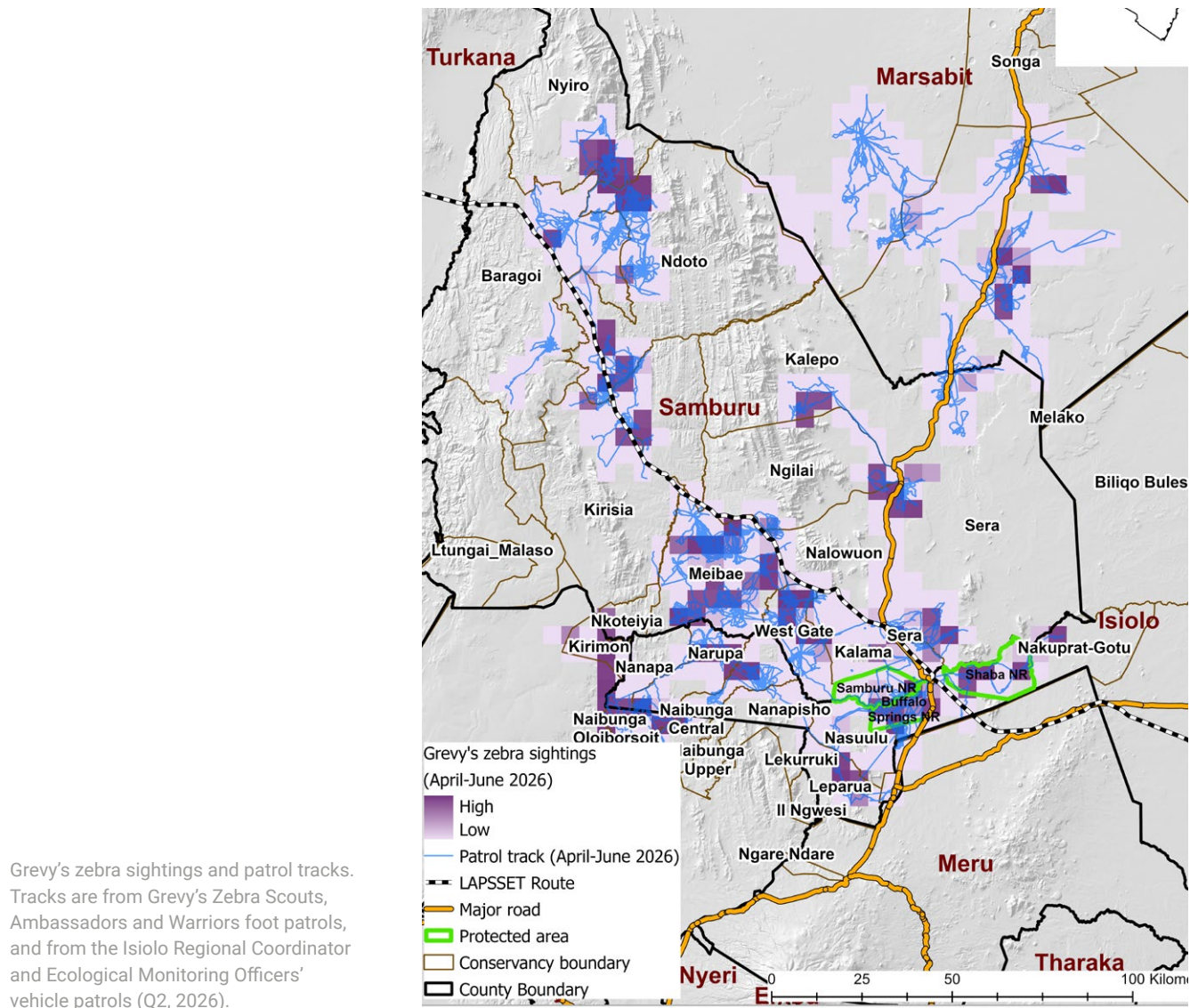
Patrols

Our field teams continued to patrol across El Barta, Wamba, Laisamis regions. The teams carried out over 1,200 foot patrols, covering nearly 15,500 kilometers during the quarter, compared to 15,128 kilometers in Q1. This shows a very high degree of consistency regardless of challenges with phone charging and drying conditions across the landscape. Through these foot patrols, our teams were able to ascertain the general distribution and abundance of Grevy's zebra in their areas of operation. Our main proxy for population growth across our populations, the foal- and juvenile-to-adult ratio, was 38% in areas patrolled by Grevy's Zebra Ambassadors in El Barta and 29% in areas covered by Grevy's Zebra Scouts (Wamba and Isiolo) and Warriors (Laisamis). Given that the ideal ratio is 30%, the populations remain in good demographic condition. However, we expect this proportion to decline as foals and juveniles transition into the next demographic group over the course of the year, unless additional foals are born later in the year. The Warriors team recorded fewer Grevy's zebras during regular foot patrols, as drier conditions prompted the animals to move onto the plateau. In response, the team increased patrols in these plateau areas. Body condition remained stable at 3.9–4.0 out of 5 across all regions, indicating that the overall population was in good health.

Grevy's Zebra Ambassadors, Scouts and Warriors Foot Patrols							
Metric		Grevy's Zebra Ambassadors (El Barta)		Grevy's Zebra Scouts (Wamba & Isiolo)		Grevy's Zebra Warriors (Laisamis)	
No. of team members		18		28		10	
No. of foot patrols		466		548		208	
No. kms walked		5,699		6,204		3,578	
No. Grevy's zebra sightings		1,050		2,106		177	
No. Grevy's zebra encounters		144		241		19	
Average group size		4		5		6	
Foal/juvenile adult ratio		38%		29%		29%	
Sex ratio (M:F)		1:2.8		1:2		1:1.9	
Joint Patrols and Surveys							
Metric		El Barta	Wamba	Isiolo	Laisamis	Surveys Kalama & SNR	Collar tracking
No. of vehicle patrols		4	2	10	4	2	5
No. kms covered		430	229	648	255	125	464
No. Grevy's zebra sightings		126	361	184	2	8	333
No. Grevy's zebra encounters		16	13	36	1	6	24
Average group size		8	25	5.7	2	1.3	15
Body condition rating (1-5)		3.9	3.9	3.9	4	4	4
Foal/juvenile adult ratio		37%	24%	20%	0	0	40%
Sex ratio (M:F)		1:3.7	1:4.8	1.3:1	1:0	1:0	1:4

El Barta Region

The Grevy's Zebra Ambassadors conducted four joint patrols this quarter across the El Barta landscape with the involvement of county conservancy rangers. The patrols aim to enhance Grevy's zebra security and assess the condition of resources that they depend on, generating information on wildlife distribution, habitat conditions, water availability, forage status, and emerging threats.



In May, Grevy's zebra were concentrated in the Lkotikal Plains alongside several other key species; by June, they had shifted to a more sparse distribution, with concentrations observed at Mputaput and Kamura. Lactating females appeared to maintain their previous range, suggesting continued reliance on familiar habitats with access to critical resources. Most seasonal dams in the area have dried up, leaving only Lepesepe and Ngilai holding water, and Grevy's zebra are now relying heavily on the Naisicho River as their primary water source. Animals observed at Giligala showed a high reaction index (where 1 is docile and 5 is extreme flight), potentially indicating human presence or disturbance in the area. General forage conditions were below normal for the season, with annual vegetation growth declining due to the combined effects of previous burning and inadequate rainfall. During one patrol, the team encountered poachers, underscoring the ongoing threat to wildlife across the landscape and the importance of consistent joint patrols as both a deterrent and an early detection mechanism.

A SMART follow-up and internal program meeting was also held to review first-quarter performance, strengthen team skills in data interpretation and analysis, address operational challenges, and boost staff morale. The team developed location-specific action points to address the key threats facing Grevy's zebra. June to August is especially critical due to increased livestock influx into the El Barta Plains, while January to March brings challenges from declining water levels. These seasonal insights will continue to guide targeted conservation action and improve preparedness across the landscape.



Grevy's Zebra Ambassadors during the joint patrol.

Wamba Region

Conservancy surveys were carried out over four days across Westgate and Meibae Conservancies, as well as the four conservancy units of Oldonyiro (Narupa, Naapu, Nanapisho, and Nanapa). Survey findings indicated that the highest concentrations of Grevy's zebra were recorded in Westgate Conservancy and in the lower parts of the Oldonyiro landscape, particularly within Narupa and Nanapa Conservancies, which continue to provide important habitat and resources for the species. Meibae Conservancy recorded comparatively lower numbers of Grevy's zebra, though the body condition of the individuals observed was generally good, indicating adequate forage resources in most areas. Water scarcity was noted in some locations and remains a concern as the dry season progresses. The surveys also revealed significant livestock presence in several areas, resulting in increased competition for grazing resources and disturbance within key Grevy's zebra habitats. Overall, the conservancy surveys provided insights into the current distribution of Grevy's zebra, the challenges affecting their survival, habitat condition, reported injuries, and mortality incidents, which will help guide future monitoring efforts and conservation actions across the Wamba landscape.

In June, the team also conducted three days of joint patrols with the Kenya Wildlife Service (KWS) across the Oldonyiro landscape, involving Grevy's Zebra Scouts, conservancy rangers, and KWS personnel, to assess the distribution and abundance of Grevy's zebra, monitor habitat condition, identify conservation threats, and strengthen collaboration among key conservation stakeholders. Lower numbers of Grevy's zebra were recorded than expected, but observations from community members, conservancy rangers, and KWS officers indicated that numbers were considerably higher during the wet season, with many individuals believed to have since moved to other areas in search of better forage and water resources as conditions became drier. The patrols also recorded good diversity and abundance of other wildlife species, demonstrating the continued ecological importance of the Oldonyiro landscape. Beyond wildlife monitoring, the joint patrols provide an opportunity to



Grevy's zebra observed in Westgate Conservancy during the Wamba conservancy survey.

strengthen relationships and collaboration between GZT, KWS, conservancy management, and local communities, which are essential for effective conservation, coordinated monitoring efforts, and the long term protection of Grevy's zebra and their habitat.

Follow-up feedback sessions were conducted in 12 Grevy's Zebra Scout areas as a continuation of the Q1 performance review process, focusing on reviewing data quality, discussing field challenges, highlighting achievements, and identifying areas for improvement in Grevy's zebra monitoring and conservation activities. The sessions provided a platform for Scouts and community members to discuss the conservation challenges affecting their respective areas and explore practical solutions, with community members actively participating in identifying issues impacting Grevy's zebra and their habitat, including resource competition, habitat degradation, water availability, and human activities. Each area faces unique conservation challenges, and the sessions encouraged collaboration between Scouts, community members, and local leaders to develop area-specific solutions, strengthening community ownership of conservation initiatives through open dialogue, shared learning, and collective problem solving.

The Scout program also conducted a refresher training aimed at strengthening monitoring skills, improving SMART data collection and reporting, reviewing performance, and developing action plans for the coming quarter. These sessions strengthen the Scouts' capacity to use the SMART system, ensuring continued collection of accurate, timely, and high quality data to support evidence based conservation decision making.

Conservation as Shared Responsibility

In Remot village within Westgate Community Conservancy, a routine Scouts performance session evolved into a powerful reflection of community ownership in conservation.

The Scouts presented their conservation work, focusing on the monitoring and protection of the endangered Grevy's zebra alongside efforts to restore degraded rangelands. However, the most significant outcome was not the presentation itself, but the depth of community response.

Community members demonstrated strong understanding of how conservation is directly linked to their daily survival in healthy rangelands, reliable grazing systems, water availability, and resilient livestock livelihoods. They clearly expressed that conservation is already part of their lived practice through protecting grazing areas, reporting wildlife threats, discouraging illegal hunting, and promoting coexistence between people, livestock, and wildlife.

A reflection came from Mzee Lentiwoo, a community elder, who reframed conservation as a shared responsibility rooted in ownership.



The Grevy's Zebra Scouts performance meeting held in Remot.

"Conservation is our responsibility because this land belongs to us as a community. Protecting Grevy's zebra has brought benefits to our people. Some of our children have received school scholarships, and we have been supported with beehives in the restoration areas as a way of adding value to our conservation efforts."

He further emphasized that Grevy's zebra, being a harmless species to both people and livestock, makes its monitoring and protection easier and more harmonious, strengthening community willingness to safeguard and coexist with it.

Isiolo Region

A joint patrol was conducted in June, covering parts of Nakuprat-Gotu Conservancy, Shaba National Reserve, Buffalo Springs National Reserve, Nasuulu Conservancy, and Leparua Conservancy. Grevy's zebra sightings during the patrol reflected the very low vegetation cover and dry conditions recorded between the Nasuulu conservancy headquarters and Mlango. The team recorded a wildlife reaction index as high as 4 to 5 in Budji-dera, indicating elevated wildlife insecurity. They also observed firewood collection and high levels of charcoal burning in the Nasuulu Mlango area and Leparua, where rangers destroyed two kilns during the patrol. The Mlango borehole, the area's main water source, was seen serving roughly 100 head of livestock. No significant livestock encroachment was observed within the reserves apart from a few isolated cases.



Grevy's zebra observed during the conservancy survey in Nakuprat-Gotu Conservancy.

The team concluded that more patrols and attention are needed in Shaba and Nakuprat to address wildlife insecurity, and that charcoal burning is especially extensive in Nasuulu and Leparua, threatening the indigenous *Acacia tortilis*. These monitoring findings were reinforced at the Isiolo Conservation Area Partners Forum, held at the Isiolo-Samburu Complex with representatives from GZT, KWS, Shaba and Buffalo Springs National Reserves, Ngaremara Conservation CBO, the Northern Rangelands Trust (NRT), the Isiolo Reticulated Giraffe Project, and the County Government of Isiolo. Partners agreed to organize conservation awareness sessions for Administrative Police officers following concerns over poaching in areas under their jurisdiction, and to pursue GPS mapping of electric fences along the certain road corridors, which threaten wildlife movement. The forum also agreed to share road-kill data with the Kenya National Highways Authority (KeNHA) through the Northern Kenya Road Watch to inform mitigation measures, and to follow up on establishing a borehole to address water shortages in the Leparua-Mlango area, a critical Grevy's zebra habitat.

Meet Jamarose Moru

In the pastoral area of Isiolo, where wildlife and communities share the landscape, Jamarose Moru moves quietly but purposefully across the terrain. As a Grevy's Zebra Scout, her daily responsibility is clear but also demanding: patrolling and monitoring the endangered Grevy's zebra within her zone, advocating for their safety, and strengthening coexistence between wildlife and local communities.

For Jamarose, this work is a calling rooted in passion and a deep understanding of the value of conservation. One of her most memorable moments came shortly after she was employed, when she recorded an extraordinary sighting of 146 Grevy's zebra together. She has not recorded such a large herd since, making it a rare and unforgettable experience that continues to inspire her work.

Working with wildlife, her journey has also been marked by moments of danger and resilience. Despite such experiences, Jamarose remains unwavering in her commitment to conservation. She strongly believes that protecting Grevy's zebra brings value that goes beyond wildlife preservation.

"Protecting Grevy's zebra is like owning a cow. Except when you take it to the market and sell it, instead of the buyer taking it away, they pay you the money, and you still remain with your cow," she explains. Her words reflect a growing understanding in Isiolo that conservation is not just about protecting animals, but also about creating long-term benefits for communities living alongside wildlife.

Beyond her fieldwork, Jamarose expresses her passion through music. She has composed a song about Grevy's zebra conservation and is preparing to record it, using her voice to raise awareness and inspire others in her community. At home, her dedication is so deep that her lastborn child is fondly referred to as "mtoto wa Grevy" (a child of Grevy) because Jamarose often carried her while continuing her field duties.

Through her work, the story of Grevy's zebra continues to be written not only as a conservation priority, but as a shared heritage shaped by people like her who choose to protect it every day.



Laisamis Region

The Grevy's Zebra Warriors plateau patrol began in June to understand the current status of Grevy's zebra distribution and body condition. A team meeting was held first to harmonise expectations and deliverables, covering the progress towards the annual work plan, effectiveness of data collection, budgets and resources, and general logistics. One of the most interesting findings from the plateau patrol was finding a herd of 50 Grevy's zebra, a herd size not commonly seen on the sprawling plateaus. The plateau patrols continue to underscore the importance of positive community relationships as exemplified by a high level of forage cover at Sengererua resulting from planned grazing. The Laisamis community's cooperation in securing refuge areas for wildlife is the only way the Warriors are able to reach the Grevy's zebra, especially during the dry period.

Metric	Grevy's Zebra Warriors Plateau Patrols
No. of team members	10
No. of foot patrols	31
No. kms walked	412
No. Grevy's zebra sightings	106
No. Grevy's zebra encounters	19
Average group size	6
Body condition rating	4
Foal/juvenile adult ratio	27%
Sex ratio (M: F)	1:1.1



Joshua Labarakwe (Laisamis Regional Coordinator) and one of the Grevy's Zebra Warriors, Lmangesian, during a plateau patrol.

Supporting Grevy's Zebra Survival

Water Management

Water management in Laisamis this quarter was addressed primarily through the lens of grazing governance. At the Korr Village Based Committee (VBC) meeting, members raised concerns over illegal sand harvesting along the Korr Lugga, which has contributed to declining water tables. The community resolved to stop sand harvesting within stream channels to promote water infiltration and groundwater recharge.

Water points also continue to serve as key community gathering points and grazing management anchors. The Namarei VBC meeting was held at Loirewa Water Point, and the Larapasi Swamp and its associated water sources remain the main water points in the area. These are effectively managed by the community alongside the area's grazing blocks, supporting an increased number of wildlife sightings. Grevy's zebra were frequently reported using the Lekuchula dams in the same area, underscoring the link between well-managed water sources and wildlife presence.



Photos taken by GZT camera traps of Grevy's zebra accessing water at the Laisamis River

A three-day corridor survey from the Laisamis River towards Tirmamo, Kumkum, and Rusarus found that Grevy's zebra were using the corridor heavily at night. This prompted mitigation work at the Laisamis and Tirmamo boreholes to improve evening access, along with the installation of camera traps to monitor water point use, wildlife presence, population trends, and wildlife body condition. Elders also blessed the water points in the newly opened grazing blocks before authorizing their use.

Our camera traps encouragingly caught a large number of Grevy's zebra drinking at the Laisamis River sand dam. Repeated photography in these hard-to-reach areas helps track changes in numbers over time and provides the data needed to illustrate the importance of these water sources.

Peace Building

Peacebuilding remained a central focus this quarter in El Barta, delivered through El Barta Conservation Council (ECC) cluster meetings, *moran* peace meetings, and a special intergenerational meeting, alongside continued collaboration with partner organizations working in overlapping areas. Four ECC cluster meetings were conducted across 22 villages, bringing together community representatives, *morans*, and cluster coordinators to review progress on peacebuilding and conservation, strengthen coordination among cluster members, and recognize local peace champions. Participants shared inspiring examples of community leadership. Mr. Ekeno Ibong'on of Nachola, a Turkana man, rescued a lost Samburu woman and, in a separate instance, supported the recovery of stolen livestock. Mr. Nakuret and Belinda, from Kilepoi and Loruko villages, have maintained regular communication and information sharing, going the extra mile by connecting other community members. Through Belinda, Nakuret has also made friends from Loruko, demonstrating the importance of young leadership in strengthening trust, security, and peacebuilding.



"One of our ECC members, Mr. Ekeno Ibong'on, is highly creative and talented in woodworking. He also has a deep passion for wildlife, which is reflected in his craftsmanship. He decorated his rundu with carvings of various wildlife species, showcasing both his artistic skills and appreciation for nature." Joel Loong'onyo

VBC members also credited *moran* leaders with mobilizing peers toward peace and responsible resource management, reporting a reduction in cattle raids and less movement of *morans* into conflict-prone areas. In the Kilepoi area, participants reported a decline in wildlife poaching and illegal hunting, highlighted by one case in which community members apprehended and cautioned a suspected poacher from the Suguta Valley rather than allowing the incident to escalate. Based on these discussions, the team recommended establishing an Inter-Ethnic *Moran* Council, providing airtime support to cluster coordinators to improve communication and mobilization, continuing regular cluster meetings to sustain momentum, and continuing to follow up on the Kids Peace Camp at the village level.

Three *moran* peace meetings were held during the quarter, reaching a total of 194 men. The meetings were deliberately held in grazing areas where *morans* are active and able to participate easily, and focused on strengthening intra-community peacebuilding, fostering dialogue between the Samburu and Turkana communities, coordinating grazing management, and preventing conflict. Participants emphasized the value of regular dialogue in reducing tensions and building lasting peace, resulting in increased commitment among *morans* and elders to peaceful coexistence and coordinated grazing. A challenge noted during the quarter was resistance in some villages where *morans* and elders were not working closely together, which weakened community ownership and slowed implementation of peacebuilding initiatives.



Moran peace meeting held with members of the Turkana community in Nachola.

A special intergenerational meeting brought together 56 *morans* and 36 elders to strengthen indigenous knowledge and traditional systems among the generations responsible for addressing community issues today. Elders openly acknowledged a decline in their traditional mentoring role, noting that this gap has contributed to eroding community values, rising social vices, and disorganization that affects both resource management and peace. As an outcome, a dedicated meeting of elders will be convened to review traditional roles and responsibilities and develop an action plan for strengthening leadership, mentorship, and social cohesion. *Morans* also agreed to consolidate livestock in common grazing areas, supporting better implementation of grazing plans, reduced pressure on resources, and improved security.

The team also engaged the Initiative for Suguta Valley Development (ISVD) in areas of overlapping operation, sharing approaches to community engagement, peacebuilding, and monitoring. The discussions revealed strong alignment between the two organizations, particularly around engaging *morans* as key actors in peace and resource management, and resulted in an agreement to strengthen collaboration, pool resources, and develop a shared work plan for the coming quarter.

Anti-Snare Patrols

A de-snaring patrol was conducted over three days across Buffalo Springs National Reserve and Nakupurat-Gotu Conservancy. The patrol brought together KWS, Nakupurat-Gotu rangers, county rangers, National Police Reservists, local administration chiefs, community elders, and the Buffalo Springs conservation team, combining foot patrols along known snare corridors, snare detection surveys, wildlife spoor assessments, and habitat health checks.

No active snares were found during the patrol, and numerous wildlife spoor sightings confirmed healthy ecological activity across the surveyed areas, including fresh Grevy's zebra spoor near water sources. One old snare was identified as evidence of past illegal hunting. Community elder Lodeli

explained that snaring tends to decline during the rainy season, when food is more available, but can spike during dry spells as food scarcity drives illegal hunting, an insight that will help guide the timing of future patrols.

The most encouraging finding of the patrol was a Guinea fowl discovered nesting and laying eggs in a tree that had previously been a hotspot for illegal snaring and had since been cleared through sustained de-snaring efforts. Its return is a strong indicator of habitat recovery and growing wildlife confidence in areas once threatened by illegal hunting.



A guinea fowl nest found during an anti-snaring patrol.

Veterinary Interventions

Veterinary monitoring recorded four interventions during the quarter, with three animals receiving favourable or guarded prognoses and one individual humanely euthanised following a severe femur fracture. Continued collaboration with the Northern Kenya Mobile Veterinary Unit and Kenya Wildlife Service remains essential for rapid response to injuries and providing early warning for any disease concerns.

Veterinary Interventions (April - May, 2026)					
Date	Age	Wamba	Location	Intervention	Outcome
13/04	Adult	Male	Louwa Dapach, Laisamis, Marsabit	Complete fracture of the femur	Poor prognosis – euthanized on humane grounds
16/05	Adult	Male	Buffalo Springs National Reserve, Isiolo	Penetrating injury in groin region	Favorable prognosis
20/05	Juvenile	Male	Lkioriti, Samburu	Inguinal hernia	Guarded prognosis
20/05	Adult	Male	Nkolkin. Samburu	Sharp lacerations from barbed wire fence	Favorable prognosis



An injured male Grevy's zebra in Buffalo Springs National Reserve being treated by the Northern Kenya Mobile Vet Unit for lacerations from a barbed wire fence.

Grevy's Zebra Mortalities

Two territorial male mortality cases were reported. One died in the Laisamis region, Marsabit County as a result of fighting, whereas the other was a suspected poaching case in Leparua, Isiolo County. Our teams continue to raise awareness in this area and KWS is taking the lead in law enforcement.

Grevy's zebra mortalities (April - June, 2026)				
Cause of death	Means of death/Age class	Adult	Juvenile	Total
Human causes	Gunshot	1	0	1
Natural causes	Fighting	1	0	1
Total		2	0	2

Regenerating Rangelands

Across Wamba, Laisamis, El Barta, and Isiolo, VBCs continued to serve as the primary platform for coordinating grazing management and wet and dry season grazing plans, bringing together elders, *morans*, women leaders, and grazing committees. Following the March-May rains, communities generally reported improved pasture condition and vegetation recovery, with reserved dry season grazing blocks protected through patrols and coordinated livestock movements. Restoration activities also progressed across the regions, including semi-circular bund construction, grass seed and hay harvesting, beekeeping, and site fencing.

Wamba Region

The Wamba rangelands team continued working with Kalama, Westgate, and Meibae Conservancies to strengthen grazing governance through steering committee, grazing committee, and VBC meetings. Harmonised work plans and budgets helped direct resources effectively, and most conservancies recorded improved pasture condition and positive signs of rangeland recovery, with several zones successfully activating or continuing their wet and dry season grazing plans.

VBC meetings held across the three conservancies reviewed grazing management and dry season plans. Members reported progress on implementing wet-season grazing plans, protecting reserved dry season grazing blocks, and rehabilitating degraded rangelands, with several zones recording improved vegetation recovery, increased grass production, and stronger cooperation between neighbouring zones. Community champions, such as Ms. Jane Lenkunai of Nkutuk Zone, continued to motivate sustainable grazing management and restoration.



Jane (second from the right) and her fellow VBC members.

“I am proud to be a VBC member and to have grown through the leadership ranks to become a board member. My role in the VBC gives me a better understanding of the realities on the ground and allows me to contribute more effectively to decision-making. This quarter, we held our meeting in Namparian, at the heart of our dry season grazing area, where I was able to see the forage conditions and grass quality firsthand. I also observed challenges facing livestock keepers, particularly water shortages in Loijuk. I am committed to raising these issues during the next board meeting so that solutions can be found to support both livestock and herders. This is how we bridge the gap between grassroots communities and conservancy leadership.”

– Jane Lenkunai, Nkutuk Zone VBC Member

In collaboration with partner conservancies, GZT conducted wet season awareness meetings and grazing block surveys to assess rainfall distribution, rangeland status, and livestock movements. This helped strengthen community grazing plans and built consensus on managing external livestock pressure. As a result of the agreed plans, some foras moved to reduce grazing pressure on key blocks and allow pasture to recover. Wet season awareness meetings for *morans* in Naisunyai and Kiltamany, together with a Westgate engagement of over 300 *morans* supported by the Frontiers Counties Development Council (FCDC) Program and National Drought Management Authority (NDMA), strengthened *moran* participation in grazing governance, coordinated rangeland management, and compliance with agreed grazing plans. These meetings also informed a series of special grazing committee meetings that guided the planning of livestock bunching exercises, which will be conducted in Q3. The rainfall patterns and subsequent vegetation productivity as identified by NDVI analysis suggest that if conditions persist as they are through Q3, some areas might find it easier to plan grazing patterns than others. Therefore the dry season plans need to incorporate potential influxes from surrounding communities where the combination of rainfall and grazing pressure might spur herders to move in search of greener pastures.



A quarter two VBC meeting held in Westgate Conservancy.

The Wamba Grassland Champions continued to strengthen management activities across the restoration sites. Grass seed harvesting by women leaders and community members supports the economic empowerment of women and the expansion of locally adapted grass species, while continued construction of semi-circular bunds improves water infiltration and creates favourable conditions for vegetation recovery. After the successful installation of 180 beehives in Q1, the hiving process began, whereby bees are introduced to inhabit the hives. So far, 28 beehives have been inhabited by bees, and the hiving process will continue until the remaining hives are complete.

Moran Council

In partnership with Meibae and Kalama Conservancies, GZT continued to strengthen *moran* leadership and participation in grazing governance through quarterly *moran* council meetings. These forums provide an opportunity for *morans* to review grazing management progress, discuss emerging challenges, and identify actions to support sustainable rangeland management and peacebuilding. The meetings emphasise the important role of *morans* in supporting wet and dry season grazing plans, coordinating livestock movements, managing grazing-related conflicts, and working closely with community elders to strengthen rangeland governance. Discussions highlighted increasing livestock movements driven by forage shortages in some areas. Participants stressed the need for stronger collaboration between *morans* and elders through regular joint engagements to improve decision-making and grazing management across the landscape.



Westgate Conservancy *moran* council meeting.

Moran councils reported active participation in zonal grazing planning meetings and implementation of grazing plans across several zones. They played a key role in facilitating meetings with the larger team of *morans* at the village level on best rangelands management practices and mobilising communities around grazing management activities and participated in the restoration efforts. However, challenges such as external livestock influx, cattle rustling incidents, limited engagement of some herding *morans* due to livestock migrations, and continued pressure on grazing resources were

identified as key concerns requiring collective action. Despite these challenges, participants noted a positive response from their peers towards their participation in grazing plan actions, clear wet and dry season grazing plans, as well as a good number of Grevy's zebra and other wildlife being reported in the reserved dry season grazing blocks.

A Story of *Moran* Council Leader

When the planned grazing initiative began, many *morans* did not understand the importance of holistic land and livestock management. Some community members opposed the idea and even insulted those involved, claiming that the land was being restricted and that traditional grazing practices were being interfered with.

Despite these challenges, the *Moran* Council remained committed to its mission. Through continuous community engagement, awareness creation, and capacity-building sessions, they educated fellow *morans* on the importance of sustainable grazing and rangeland restoration. They organized grazing bunching sites, promoted responsible livestock movement, and encouraged peaceful coexistence among community members.

Over time, attitudes began to change as people witnessed improvements in grazing areas and recognized the benefits of organized rangeland management. The *Moran* Council also played an important role in promoting peace and security by addressing conflicts and reporting troublesome individuals to community elders for appropriate action. As a result, cooperation among *morans* increased, peace improved, and support for rangeland conservation became stronger within the community.

***Moran* Eco-Literacy Training**

Following the *moran* council meeting, in collaboration with Meibae Conservancy, GZT conducted a three-day eco-literacy training for 60 *morans*. The training resulted in a clearer understanding that grazing decisions should be based on social, ecological, and economic objectives together, and agreement that livestock entering the conservancy from neighbouring areas should be incorporated into existing grazing plans and comply with conservancy grazing bylaws rather than being excluded. Following the training, *morans* increased their participation in day-to-day grazing management, supporting elders in monitoring grazing blocks, enforcing agreed grazing plans, and coordinating livestock movements within and between zones. This strengthened compliance with grazing regulations, improved communication among herders, and enhanced the implementation of coordinated grazing plans across the conservancies.

Laisamis Region

Community members across three VBCs in Korr, Namarei, and Lependera focused on strengthening dry-season grazing management, settlement planning, and restoration activities. Participants reinforced compliance with agreed grazing plans, including patrols of designated dry grazing blocks, coordination of grazing activity by village, and daily meetings to review progress. To discourage random grazing, communities agreed to a penalty of two goats for violations and planned joint meetings to manage shared grazing areas across villages.



Lependera VBC members harvesting grass seeds at the restoration site.

Communities also reported positive outcomes from these efforts, with grazing plans functioning effectively and livestock remaining around homesteads for over a year in some areas. Increased wildlife presence, particularly gazelle, was noted within protected dry-season grazing areas. Restoration activities progressed well following the rains, with most sites showing significant recovery, though Korr and Logologo experienced more limited regeneration. Key achievements for the quarter included harvesting seven bags of grass seed across restoration sites, expansion of the Lependera restoration site, proper fencing and protection of all restoration sites, construction of 21 new semi-circular bunds in Lependera, and reseedling of all sites ahead of the rains, with overall vegetation recovery improving considerably after the April rainfall.

The Q2 Grassland Champions meeting was combined with a SMART refresher training to review monitoring data alongside the SMART lead, helping participants better understand the type and quality of data being collected and its role in informing rangeland management decisions. The meeting also gave Grassland Champions a platform to share zone updates, review quarterly achievements and challenges, and jointly develop Q3 action plans, with participants committing to strengthening data collection, reporting, and validation going forward so that monitoring data reliably reflects patrol and field activity across the landscape.

Community commitment to planned grazing, backed by active patrolling, continued to improve across the region this quarter. In Korr, Grassland Champions successfully protected and managed the Kuuya grazing block, an important refuge for Grevy's zebra and other wildlife, enforcing grazing control measures since the onset of the rains and reporting high numbers of Grevy's zebra using the area as a result. In Namarei, strong grazing governance continued, with all grazing blocks, including the Larapasi Swamp and its associated water points, under effective management, and Grevy's zebra reported frequently using the Lekuchula dams. Lependera maintained well-coordinated grazing plans with all blocks effectively managed and protected. In Merille, community elders, supported by Melako Conservancy and GZT, coordinated the migration of over 1,000 cattle from Samburu into designated dry-season grazing areas, with daily patrols helping enforce the grazing plans. In Logologo, Grassland Champions continued to monitor and ensure adherence to grazing regulations, with both wet- and dry-season blocks remaining under effective management.

El Barta Region

This quarter, VBCs in El Barta brought together representatives from villages across the landscape to coordinate grazing plans in areas where boundaries and grazing blocks overlap. Across the three VBCs, communities reached concrete agreements on livestock movement, reinforced links between land management and community stability, and pointed to measurable gains from restoration work.

VBC members agreed on coordinated grazing arrangements, including consolidating cattle in one designated area to allow another area to recover, redirecting livestock to the more abundant pasture, and separating the movement of small sheep and goats from cattle. Discussions also built on action points implemented the previous year to strengthen coordinated grazing plans and livestock movement more broadly.



The Barsaloi VBC meeting, held in April 2026.

Community-led natural resource management has produced tangible results, including four active restoration sites and harvested hay providing substantial benefit to the community. Increased forage availability has allowed livestock to remain closer to home for longer than in previous years, and during dry periods the restoration sites have served as critical refuge for weak and vulnerable livestock, reducing the need for long-distance movement. Community members shared testimonies of livestock saved during periods of resource scarcity, reinforcing ownership of the initiative.

The team was also invited to engage with the Community Land Management Committee (CLMC) of the Masikita Group Ranch, presenting its conservation, monitoring, peacebuilding, and community engagement work, including the contribution of GZT employees working within the group ranch. The CLMC recognized the value of conservation data in informing land-use decisions and expressed interest in participating more actively in grazing planning. As an outcome, the CLMC requested GZT's support in capacity building on land management, resource governance, grazing management, and sustainable rangeland planning.

Isiolo Region

Rangeland activities this quarter centered on VBC meetings, benchmarking and exposure visits, and community awareness sessions aimed at advancing restoration across the Nasuulu, Nakuprat, and Gotu areas. A Nasuulu VBC meeting held at Loruko reviewed the committee's progress against its action plan. Two VBC members and elders had engaged charcoal burners active in the area and successfully persuaded them to stop cutting trees and to vacate the sites. Two community meetings introduced a fining system for repeat charcoal burners, though the committee asked for closer partner support, including meeting attendance and logistics.



The Barsaloi VBC meeting, held in April 2026.

Members reported that rangeland conditions have improved significantly following recent rainfall, with vegetation sprouting and major rivers flowing, and with wildlife sightings, including Grevy's zebra in good body condition, increasing near homesteads.

VBCs were introduced to a restoration strategy for the conservancy involving removal of invasive *Acacia reficiens* and construction of semi-circular bunds. Members raised concerns about the need for water support for Grevy's zebra during drought periods. Thirty-two Nasuulu VBC members subsequently took part in a benchmarking visit to the Lolingered pasture production site in Kalama Conservancy to learn grass planting and contour trenching techniques for harvesting rainwater and reducing soil erosion. The site has become an income generating asset for its community and the pasture also serves as a drought grazing reserve.

Restoration site assessments and exposure visits were conducted across Nakupurat, Gotu, and Kalama Conservancies. At Nakupurat, the restoration site was found partially fenced with VBC members committed to completing the work, while the Gotu site remained unfenced but with community members ready to support fencing and restoration. Agreed next steps included community awareness meetings, tool distribution, site clearing and fencing, and bund construction at both Nakupurat and Gotu. Follow-up awareness meetings were then held in each village. In Nakupurat, community members who reviewed the original restoration site determined it was unsuitable due to its small size and private ownership, and instead identified and approved a larger, community-owned site with greater potential for long-term management, alongside renewed commitment to reducing poaching.

In Gotu, attendance was lower than expected due to community expectations around participation allowances, though VBC members who had attended the Kalama exposure visit remained strongly engaged and shared lessons learned, and the team recommended continued sensitization, engagement of local leaders, and regular follow-up to build trust and momentum. Across the landscape, the establishment of conservancy boards, grazing committees, and VBCs has strengthened local governance, with communities now taking the lead in identifying restoration sites and contributing labor and leadership toward their implementation.

Connecting Landscapes

Isiolo County Engagement

In June, the GZT team met with a team from the County Government of Isiolo as part of the ongoing engagement under the Connected Landscapes Program. The purpose of the meeting was to strengthen partnerships with key county departments while making progress on the establishment of a multi-stakeholder county-level action group to coordinate connectivity conservation efforts for Grevy's zebra in Isiolo County. Discussions and presentations provided updates on ongoing projects being undertaken by both GZT and the county government, spanning conservation, rangelands management, and infrastructure development, and highlighted the key threats and challenges facing landscape connectivity in the county. Relevant legislation supporting conservation were also discussed, including the Wildlife Conservation and Management Act, the Tourism Act, and the Community Conservancies Act. Following these discussions, the Isiolo County Government and GZT

agreed to maintain frequent engagement going forward, with a shared commitment to collaboration on data sharing, policy advocacy, and information dissemination.



Isiolo County engagement meeting.

Peer-to-Peer Learning Exchange Visit

As part of ongoing efforts to strengthen rangeland governance and restoration practices across community conservancies and counties in Northern Kenya, a peer-to-peer learning exchange visit was



The peer-to-peer meeting in Meibae Conservancy

conducted at Meibae Community Conservancy in Samburu County. The visit brought together teams from Laikipia Conservancies Association (LCA) to engage with Meibae Conservancy and GZT with a focus on how regenerative grazing principles and learning sites are applied to restore rangeland health and productivity. Beyond the technical aspects of grazing management, the exchange sought to understand the community governance structures that support this work, including the roles of the conservancy board, grazing committee, and VBCs in decision-making and accountability. Special attention was given to the contributions of the Women Grassland Champions and *morans*, whose active participation have been instrumental in advancing rangeland restoration and stewardship at the community level. Ultimately, the visit underscored the centrality of rangeland health in sustaining landscape connectivity, a critical factor for both livestock mobility and wildlife movement across the wider ecosystem, reinforcing the link between sound natural resource governance and long-term ecological resilience.

“I am grateful to my community for choosing me to be their representative. The training I attended was truly eye-opening and gave me knowledge I will carry forward in this work. I also want to acknowledge Dominic Leparmarai (GZT Rangelands Officer, Meibae) and Meibae Conservancy because they laid the foundation for what we do and have never stopped supporting us. We are nearly four years in, and we are still going strong. We will keep moving forward. I can say with confidence that there is no turning back. Thank you, all of you.”

- Lendi, Grassland Champion Meibae Conservancy who attended the peer-to-peer meeting.



Lendi, one of the Grassland Champions working in Meibae Conservancy, at the peer-to-peer meeting.

Northern Kenya Road Watch Data

The Northern Kenya Road Watch (NKRW) group continued to collect data on wildlife-vehicle interactions along the A2 highway. This quarter, the number of collisions increased to 12 (from six in Q1). It is worth noting that after last quarter's installation of road signs emphasizing speed limits, the number of collisions reduced, but then increased afterwards. The increase could be attributed to motorists getting habituated to the signage and paying less attention. NKRW will be meeting within the next quarter to come up with solutions for long-term interventions.

Species Observed	Dead	Injured (Survived)	Total Dead & Injured
Black-backed jackal	2	0	2
Cape hare	1	0	1
Common genet	1	0	1
Elephant	0	1	1
Olive baboon	2	0	2
Unidentified snake	1	0	1
Puff adder	1	0	1
Reticulated giraffe	0	1	1
Striped ground squirrel	1	0	1
Striped hyena	1	0	1
Tawny eagle	1	0	1
Mongoose	1	0	1
Total	12	2	14

Collared Grevy's Zebra

Grevy's Zebra Tracking

The collared Grevy's zebra tracking program continued to provide valuable insights into landscape use and the effectiveness of community-led conservation. During the quarter, the team completed five days of ground tracking, covering 464 km and locating 10 collared Grevy's zebra while recording a total of 333 individual Grevy's zebra, similar to the previous quarter despite reduced tracking effort. Body condition remained high (4/5), while the foal-to-juvenile ratio increased from 30% in Q1 to 40% in Q2, indicating sustained foal survival through the reporting period.

	Q1 2026	Q2 2026
Ground tracking dates	17 March - 31 March	22 June - 2 July
Ground tracking effort (kms)	682	464
Number of days	7	5
Number of Grevy's zebra seen	332	333
Number of collared Grevy's zebra seen	12	10
Foal/juvenile ratio	30%	40%
Average Grevy's zebra body condition	4	4



Grevy's zebra in Loijuk

Naiwuot

Naiwuot the Traveler

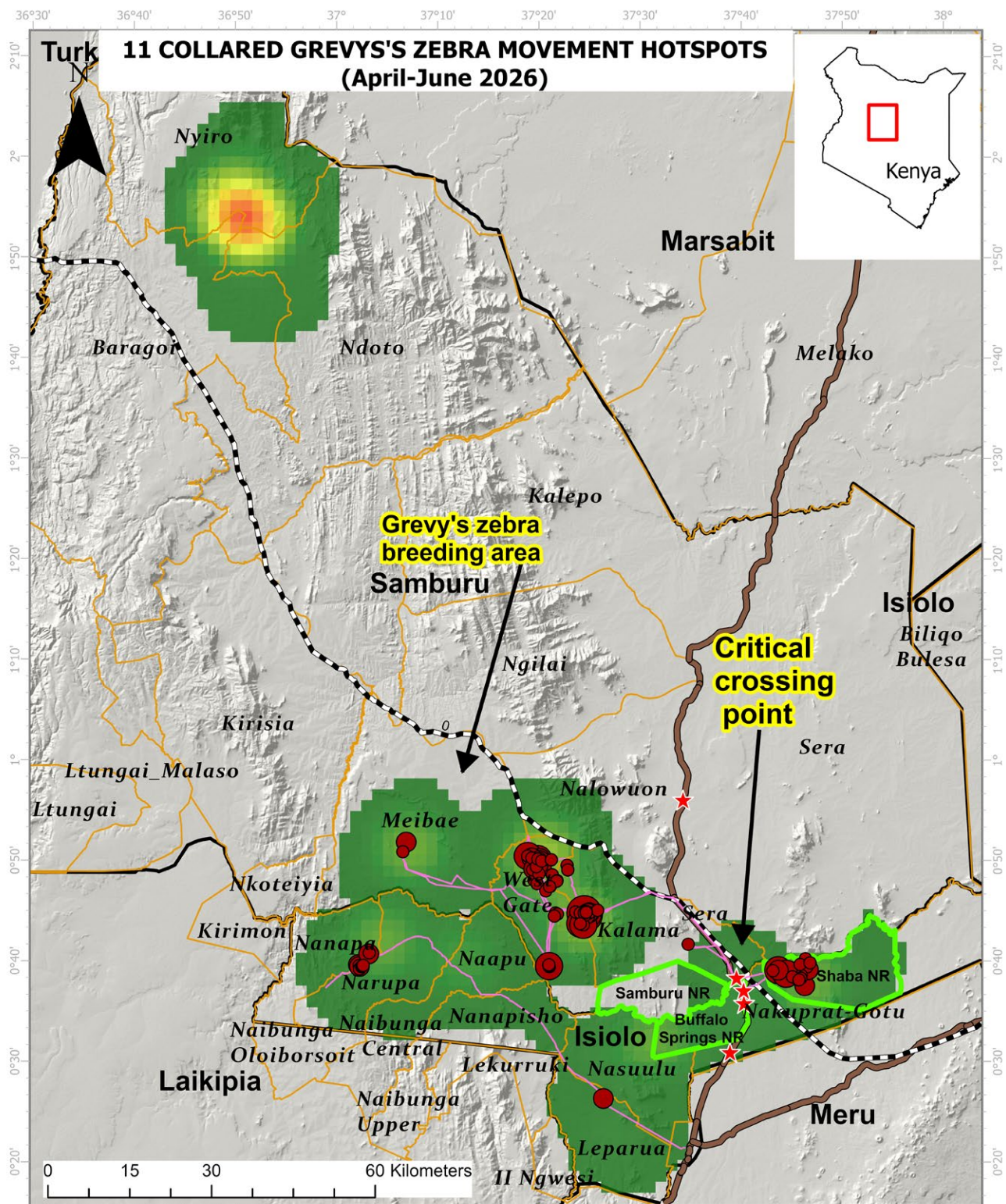
In September 2023, we collared a young Grevy's zebra in Shaba National Reserve and called her GZ002. She renamed herself. Through her movements, she became Naiwuot, or "The Traveler." Pregnant at the time, she crossed the busy A2 at Archers Post into Buffalo Springs. In February 2024, she gave birth in Westgate's Naibelibeli plains. Today, in Meibae, she raises her second foal while grazing in the Barsilinga dry season block and Lomeer restoration site.



Naiwuot, "The Traveller" spotted in Meibae.

"Naiwuot has now used 70% of the regenerative grazing blocks and restoration sites in Westgate and Meibae, places where our communities chose to rest and restore again. Her presence is proof that when we invest in community-led restoration, the land heals, livestock thrive, and wildlife return."

– Andrew Letura (Ecological Monitoring Officer)

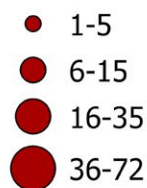


11 Collared Grevy's zebra movement density

Value



Group size



★ Wild animal road kill

— Vehicle tracking path

— Major road

--- LAPSSET Route

Protected Area

Community conservancy

County Boundary

Other Updates

Esri Eastern Africa User Conference and Conservation summit

In May, Redempta Njeri (Impact and Learning Manager) and Tony Orwa (Research Officer) represented GZT at the Esri East Africa User Conference and Conservation Summit. They had the honour of accepting the Customer Success Award in the Collaboration and Community Engagement category on behalf of GZT. This recognition highlights the strong partnerships with local communities, teamwork, and shared commitment while demonstrating how Esri's geospatial tools can be used to communicate conservation outcomes through powerful storytelling. Special thanks to Esri User Conference East Africa for providing a platform that celebrates innovation and to GIS Corps who supported us in developing the storymap showcasing the rangeland initiatives being implemented by communities in the Westgate, Meibae, and Kalama Community Conservancies in Samburu County.



Redempta Njeri and Tony Orwa receiving the Customer Success Award in the Collaboration Community Engagement category on behalf of GZT.

Laikipia Wildlife Forum Expo

GZT participated in the Laikipia Wildlife Forum and Tourism Expo in Nanyuki, organized by the Laikipia Wildlife Forum. The team showcased the organization's Grevy's Zebra Scouts, Nkirreten project, and restoration work, with women from the community explaining the programs to visitors and stakeholders.



Damaris Lekiluai (Gender and Youth Coordinator) and Ngeeti Lempate (known as Mama Grevy) presenting to Gilbert Mutembei, the chairman of the Laikipia Wildlife Forum.

Lewa Safari Marathon

Several members of the GZT team took part in the Lewa Safari Marathon, with three team members running and several colleagues joining to cheer them on from the sidelines. The event is partially funded by Tusk Trust, a long-standing GZT funder that specifically supports the Grevy's Zebra Warrior program in the Laikipia region. In the weeks leading up to race day, GZT hosted members of the media, who reported on the work of the Grevy's Zebra Warriors, with coverage reaching audiences across Kenya in conjunction with the marathon event.



Some of the GZT team members who participated in the Lewa Safari Marathon.

Laboratory in Northern Kenya (LiNK)

David Kimiti (Director of Research and Impact) represented GZT at the opening of the Laboratory in Northern Kenya (LiNK) at Lewa Wildlife Conservancy, which was an opportunity to chart a way forward for disease surveillance, diagnostics, and research for the landscape. During a panel of experts session, Dr. Sharon and Kimiti were both on the same page, calling for increased collaboration and partnerships aimed at collective knowledge creation and sharing, and avoiding duplication of efforts. The KWS Director General officially opened the lab, pointing out that several species of interest in Northern Kenya will be uniquely served by the lab, highlighting rhinos and Grevy's zebra.



Dr. David Kimiti presenting alongside Athuman Komora, Dr. Dennis Mwangala, Dr. Sharon Mulindi, and Dr. Dominic Maringa.

Aloyce Gonzaga Lekuton Joins as Program Director

Aloyce Gonzaga Lekuton has joined GZT as our new Director of Programs. Aloyce brings a deep commitment to community-led conservation, along with extensive experience in strategic programme leadership, organizational management, and landscape conservation across Africa and internationally. Born and raised in Laisamis, northern Kenya, he has pursued education and leadership roles across Kenya, Uganda, South Sudan, Costa Rica, Spain, the United States, South Africa, the Dominican Republic, and Haiti. His deep understanding of pastoralist communities and rangeland ecosystems, combined with his global experience leading multi-stakeholder conservation and development initiatives, is a tremendous asset to the team.



Aloyce meeting the Grevy's Zebra Warriors in Laisamis.

Before joining GZT, Aloyce held several senior leadership positions with the Northern Rangelands Trust, including Project Director for the European Union-funded NaturAfrica Programme, where he led strategic conservation partnerships across Kenya, Uganda, and South Sudan. Throughout his career, he has worked closely with governments, communities, donors, and international partners to strengthen conservation, sustainable livelihoods, and organizational performance. We are already grateful for the leadership, insight, and collaboration he has brought as we continue working to protect Grevy's zebra and the rangelands they depend on.

Grevy's Zebra IUCN Red List Data Workshop

The GZT team was able to send representatives to the IUCN Grevy's zebra Red List update workshop at Mpala in late June. During the workshop, it was clear that the GZT field teams have historically and continue to reach a level of data collection consistency not present in other areas, allowing a clear snapshot of Grevy's zebra abundance and distribution over the last few years. Conversely, Great Grevy's Rally data showed an increased intensity in Laikipia for the survey dates, challenging us to better structure our rally coverage with key personnel in hotspot areas. GGR 2024 data analysis was presented at the workshop, signifying the completion of the current analysis pipeline first milestone. The second milestone is now for analysis of 2020 data by the Kenya and US teams jointly as proof of concept for the 2027 rally data analysis. While the 2024 data showed a lower number of Grevy's zebra, further analysis showed that this was due to inconsistent effort across the two days of sampling, and especially challenges with photo quality from El Barta, Laisamis, and parts of Wamba and Isiolo. Strategies for avoiding these issues were discussed and will be incorporated into the design of the 2027 rally, which has been confirmed for the 30th and 31st of January, 2027.

Conclusion

This quarter was marked by the consistency of our field teams and the continued leadership of communities, even as the rains ended in mid-May and drier conditions set in across the landscape. Foot patrols covered nearly 15,500 kilometres, with Grevy's zebra populations remaining in good demographic and body condition across the regions, while communities continued to take the lead through VBC coordination of grazing plans, protection of reserved dry season grazing blocks, restoration work by Grassland Champions, peacebuilding in El Barta, and the production of zebra-striped Dignity Packs by the women of the Nkirreten Project. As an organisation, we remain committed to supporting these community-led efforts and look forward to building on the momentum of this quarter in the months ahead.

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