Annex D - Final Progress Report

1. Identification:

Partners Name: Federal Ministry of Environment and Wildlife Conservation Society

Budget line: BAC

POW 2019-2020 Sub-programme: SSFA/2021/4225

Expected Accomplishments: Reduce the illegal killing of elephants and the illegal trade in elephant products; maintain elephant habitat and restore connectivity; equip wildlife authority staff on the frontline of enforcement with appropriate tools to carry out their mission as safely and effectively as possible; provide adequate resources for the effective management of existing protected areas and dispersal areas.

Outputs:

- Patrol allowances, field rations and bonuses for arrests made were provided which helped boost ranger morale and increase productivity. Joint patrols with the army were also conducted to maintain security for wildlife and surrounding communities.
- A total of 146 SMART-based ranger patrols (8,305 patrol man days) were completed covering a total distance of 18,066km.
- As a result, rangers made 50 arrests (33 hunters, 6 livestock grazers, 2 fisherman and 9 persons for collecting firewood for commercial purposes).
- No elephant carcasses were recorded during the period.
- Monthly and quarterly reports were shared with the government officials and on the WCS Nigeria website. https://nigeria.wcs.org/

Title of the approved PRC project: Saving Nigeria's Largest Elephant Population Amidst Covid-19.

SSFA starting date: 16/06/2021

Reporting period: from 16/06/2021 to 31/07/2022

2. Summary of Status:

The Yankari Game Reserve covers an area of 2,244km² and is covered mainly by Sudan savannah vegetation. The reserve contains the largest surviving population of elephants in Nigeria and one of the last remaining populations in West Africa as well as many other large mammal species such as lion, buffalo, roan antelope, hartebeest, and hippopotamus.

The project aimed to secure the relatively small and vulnerable elephant population in Yankari Game Reserve during the COVID-19 outbreak by providing the essential support required to sustain anti-poaching ranger patrols each month including field rations, camping allowances and fuel for ranger support vehicles through the project entitled 'Saving Nigeria's Largest Elephant Population in the Midst of COVID-19'. The project was highly successful and supported 146 patrols covering 18,066km and leading to the arrest of 50 persons for illegal activities in the reserve. Patrol rations were provided, and 5 patrol vehicles were fueled and maintained to ensure ranger patrols

received necessary logistical support in carrying out their duties. Sixty first-aid kits for rangers have been purchased and delivered and will be distributed to them during the ranger refresher training scheduled for the last quarter of 2022 and new ranger uniforms have been ordered from the US and we expect their delivery within the next couple of months.

3. Activity delivery status

Activity	Description of work undertaken during reporting period	Deliverables	Delivery date	Status of Activity (complete / on- going/ delayed)	Comments - brief description of implementing challenges, strategy/actions which have been adopted to address these challenges and planned actions to mitigate any identified risks
Activity 1: 48 anti-poaching patrols to be organised each quarter	A total of 146 anti-poaching patrols (an average of 36.5 patrols per quarter) were completed during the reporting period. Camping allowances were paid and field rations provided. Five vehicles that provide crucial support to our patrol teams were also fueled and maintained with regular monthly lubricant services, changing of some of the batteries. These vehicles assist our patrol teams to reach the harder to access locations in the reserve due to terrain challenges. They also carry the ration supplies and water for the teams.	146 anti-poaching patrols supported through field rations, camping allowances and fuel for support vehicles.	31/07/2022	Complete	Breakdown of patrol vehicles due to wear and tear, and poor road conditions impact patrol frequency. However, with the support of other donors, new patrol vehicles have been ordered and infrastructure is being rehabilitated using a hired grader. We hope to be able to meet the patrol target in the near future.
Activity 2: First aid kits and ranger uniforms have been purchased and shipped to Nigeria	First aid kits have been purchased from a supplier in South Africa and have been delivered to Yankari. We purchased ranger uniforms from a supplier in the US and are awaiting delivery within the coming months.	60 rangers to be provided with uniforms and first aid kits	31/07/2022	Ongoing, on-track	A slight delay in delivery was experienced due to airline shipping protocols and global supply chain problems. The first aid kits have been received in the reserve and will be distributed to rangers during the upcoming ranger refresher training to be held in the final quarter of 2022.

4. List of attached documents



Figure 1: Rangers on parade © WCS Nigeria



Figure 2: Patrol team leaders collecting field rations before setting off on patrols for the week © WCS Nigeria



Figure 3: The first aid kit items received and ready for distribution include 12 full first aid kits, 60 tourniquets with pouches and 60 compression bandages © WCS Nigeria

Signature:

Date: 23/08/2022

Name and title of signing officer: Nuradeen Y. Ahmed, WCS Yankari Project Manager