

Annex D – Final Progress Report

1. Identification:

Partners Name: University of Nairobi and Kenya Wildlife Service
 Budget line: BAC M99-32QTL-11224-SB-005458.22.02-14AF001
 POW 2014-2015 Sub-programme:
 Expected Accomplishment(s): Priority Objective 1: Reducing illegal killing of elephants and illegal trade in elephant products
 Output(s): (1) Trained officers on ivory detection and monitoring, and (2) forensic lab established for DNA analysis and crime management
 Title of the approved PRC project: Enhancing prosecution of elephant poachers through training, ivory stockpile genotyping and construction of African Elephant DNA library
 SSFA starting date: 15/06/2019
 Reporting period: from 15/06/2019 to 15/06/2021

2. Summary of Status: Completed

3.

Activity delivery status

Activity	Description of work undertaken during reporting period	Deliverables	Delivery date	Status of Activity	Comments - brief description of implementing strategy/actions which have been adopted to address these challenges and planned actions to mitigate any identified risks
Activity 1 – Project planning and	Planning and inception meeting for collaborating scientists in Naivasha	Workplan for implementation of the project developed, including assignment of roles to the partners	July 2019	Complete	Successfully executed

inception meeting	Training conducted for project staff, associates and other personnel handling requisition of laboratory and field materials and expenditure	Materials required for field and laboratory work identified and a procurement plan developed	July 2019	Complete	Successfully executed
Activity 2 – Development of Scenes of crime protocols, monitoring, and training manuals	Scenes of crime protocols, monitoring, and training manuals were prepared by project partners	Scenes of crime protocol, monitoring, and training manual available for training of first responders	August 2019	Complete	Successfully executed
Activity 3 – Additional sampling of tissue and poached or diseased elephants	Additional elephant tissue and dung sample collection in Amboseli, Samburu, Aberdare, Mount Elgon, Tsavo, and Maasai Mara national Parks	240 elephant samples collected from Tsavo, Amboseli, Samburu, Aberdare, Mt Elgon, and Maasai Mara, preserved and transported to the KWS forensic lab	October 2020	Complete	Successfully executed despite encountering some unusually wet months, that provided moderate level of sampling difficulty
Activity 4 – Training of frontline field officers on the scene of wildlife crime management including use of forensic bags for exhibit collection, and on monitoring illegal killing of elephants, in six (6) wildlife conservation areas: Amboseli, Samburu, Aberdare, Mount Elgon, Tsavo, and Maasai Mara.	Training of frontline field officers on the scene of wildlife crime management including use of forensic bags for exhibit collection, and on monitoring illegal killing of elephants, in six (6) wildlife conservation areas: Amboseli, Samburu, Aberdare, Mount Elgon, Tsavo, and Maasai Mara.	120 frontline officers trained on scene of wildlife crime management	January 2021	Complete	Successfully executed despite the challenges imposed by COVID-19 situation in the country, which changed the way training is conducted such as lower trainee numbers per session, and associated delays in reaching targeted numbers.
Optimizing and extracting DNA	Protocols for recovering DNA from ivory	Protocols for recovering DNA from ivory	October 2020	Complete	Successfully executed

Activity 5 – Optimizing DNA extraction and genotyping protocol for ivory samples	from tissues collected	optimized			
	Training of laboratory personnel	Six (6) Lab personnel trained on analyzing difficult samples and genotyping			
	Extraction and genotyping of elephant samples and ivory stockpile	440 DNA samples extracted and genotypes obtained	December 2020	Complete	Successfully executed
Activity 6 – Final Project Evaluation	Bioinformatics analyses to assign individuals to their provenances (source populations)	A method for unambiguously assigning an exhibit to its provenance (source population)	March 2021	Complete	Successfully executed
	Construction of a DNA library to aid in future exhibit identification and assignment	A database providing base genotypes for unambiguously assigning Individual exhibits	April 2021	Complete	Successfully executed
	Preparation of final project report	Final project report prepared	June 2021	Complete	Successfully executed
	Preparation of manuscript	Manuscript on the genetic distinctiveness of Kenya elephant DNA prepared			

4. List of attached documents

- Background outcomes and recommendation
- Kenya Elephant DNA Library 2021 snapshot
- Manuscript under review Conservation Bio

Signature:



Date:

18 July 2021

Name and title of signing officer:

Joel W. Stivers, Programme leader