



### Naivasha Mobile Vet Unit

### Monthly report - September 2016

#### Introduction

Routine clinical case interventions and ongoing research activities continued during the month. The team visited Lake Nakuru National Park and Tinderess Farm on diseases surveillance mission.

In summary the following activities were undertaken during this month;

- i. General routine clinical case work, lion collaring/collar replacement, white rhino autopsy and research activities.
- ii. Courtesy call and official introduction to the new Assistant Director at Central Rift Conservation area
- iii. A visit to Tinderess Farm

#### General weather

Nakuru surroundings and some parts South and North of Lake Naivasha during this reporting period had sporadic showers of rain. Generally mornings are cold later change to hot, sunny and windy days. The nights are cold dry and windy. Pastures are abundant in some areas and grass is mature and on transition to standing hay. Other overgrazed areas have no pasture.

Tinderess Farm management have made a passionate request for 2 male elands and one female from KWS, as the only one male eland jumped over the perimeter fence and strayed into community area and officially is now regarded as lost. The remaining 2 female elands are not a viable population.

#### Case reports

This is a summary of the clinical cases reported during the month.

On 1.9.2016 at Upper KARI the team desnares a male eland with strangulating neck wire snare. He was darted with 10mg of etorphine plus 100mg of Azaperone using a Dan Inject dart rifle Prognosis of the case is good.

#### Pictorial presentation of case



On 1.9.2016 at Annex (KWSTI) the team desnared a male Maasai giraffe with right hind leg wire snare. He was darted with 9mg of etorphine plus 80mg of Azaperone using a Dan Inject dart rifle Prognosis of the case is good.

**Pictorial presentation of case**



On 12.9.2016 at Lentolia (North Lake Naivasha) the team desnared a male zebra with a neck wire snare. He was darted with 6mg of etorphine plus 100mg of Azaperone using a Dan Inject dart rifle Prognosis of the case is good.

**Pictorial presentation of case**



On 14.9.2016 at Lodia (North Lake Naivasha) the team rescued snared a male eland with a neck wire snare. The eland had a strangulating wire snare and was unconscious when we arrived. We promptly desnared the unconscious animal and resuscitated him back to life. We poured a lot of cold water on his body; we also administered the following Doxapram 10mg IV and 500mg of Flunixin meglumine IV. We also administered 900mg of Oxytetracyclines (Alamycin 30% LA) and 25 ml of multivitamins. Prognosis of the case is good.

**Pictorial presentation of case**



On 14<sup>th</sup> September 2016 one injured female Maasai giraffe was treated at Sanctuary Farm (South Lake Naivasha). She was darted using combination of 10mg Etorphine Hcl & 100mg Azaperone tartrate using a Dan Inject dart rifle. She had sustained a sharp object cut on her hock joint, the cut was exposing part of the Achilles tendon. The open wound was managed by thorough cleaning with water and povidone iodine, plus a fly repellent (Oxytetracycline spray). Other treatments included administration of 9000mg of Oxytetracycline (Alamycin® LA 300), 1000mg of Flunixin meglumine and 50ml of multivitamins by intramuscular route.

**Pictorial presentation of case**





On 19.9.2016 at Soysambu – Lord Delamere Estate (Airstrip area) the team desnared a heavily pregnant zebra with a left hind leg wire snare. She was darted with 6mg of etorphine plus 100mg of Azaperone using a Dan Inject dart rifle. Prognosis of the case is good.

**Pictorial presentation of case**



On 19.9.2016 at Kiangazi (Neil’s Residence) Oserian Dev. Co. Ltd (South Lake Naivasha), the team treated a wounded male zebra with a hemorrhagic wound on the right hind leg. He was darted with 6mg of etorphine plus 100mg of Azaperone using a Dan Inject dart rifle. Treatment involved cleaning of the wound with water and povidone Iodine and ligation of the bleeding vessels, a fly repellent (Oxytetracycline spray) administration of 4500mg of Amoxicillin Trihydrate (Betamox LA), 500mg of Flunixin meglumine. Prognosis of the case is good.

**Pictorial presentation of case**



On 21.9.2016 at Hippo point (Casidra’s Residence) (South Lake Naivasha), the team treated a female zebra with an overgrown hoof. She was darted with 6mg of etorphine plus 100mg of Azaperone using a Dan Inject dart rifle.

The prognosis of the case is good.

**Pictorial presentation of case**



On 22<sup>nd</sup> September we attended to a debilitated male warthog at ARR/KWS camp. He was restrained through net capture method. Treatments included administration of 900mg of Amoxicillin Trihydrate (Betamox® LA) IM, 1ml of Ivermectin SQ and 10ml of multivitamins by intramuscular route. The wounds were also sprayed with a fly repellent oxytetracycline spray.

#### **Pictorial presentation of the case**



On 1.9.2016 the team visited Lake Nakuru National Park on a disease outbreak investigation. The park management had reported one dead bull buffalo at 36M0174074, UTM9963222. The carcass was more than 3 days old. The carcass had undergone autolysis. . An autolysed carcass is not ideal for diagnostic sample taking. The park management was advised to report dead carcasses which are less than 24 hours old. Continuous monitoring of the herds and disease surveillance in particular anthrax should be a priority to the park research scientist and rhino security rangers.

#### **Pictorial presentation of case**



On 28.9.2016 the team replaced a failing collar of one lioness at Soysambu Conservancy. The team searched for the lioness and failed to sight her on the 27.9.2016. The team successfully collared Valentine (Lioness) at night on 28.9.2016 in this conservancy. This is an ongoing lion monitoring and research project to reduce human wildlife conflict and predation on Delamere's prime beef. The lioness was darted with 290mg of Ketamine Hcl plus 4mg of medetomidine. After the first dart she was under light anesthesia and she was topped up with a second dart of 290mg of Ketamine Hcl plus 4mg of medetomidine to facilitate deep anesthesia which is ideal for a collaring exercise. She was collared with a Savannah tracking GPS/GSM collar. She was safely reversed from anesthesia after one hour using 20mg of atipamizole given IM.

**Pictorial presentation of case**







On 30.9.2016 at Sanctuary Farm South Lake Naivasha the team desnared male implala with head wire snare. He was darted with 25mg of Butorphanol + 40mg of Azaperone tartrate + 20mg of Medetomidine (BAM) using a Dan Inject dart rifle Prognosis of the case is good.

**Pictorial presentation of case**



On 30.9.2016 at Lake Nakuru National Park, a postmortem of female white rhino (Number 91, Awino) was undertaken. She had a less than one month old calf that was physically rescued from lions. The rhino calf sustained serious injuries and later was airlifted to Nairobi for further management. The female adult rhino sustained fatal bullet injuries. A bullet (projectile) was retrieved from ventral lateral aspect of the abdomen 15cm cranial to left hind leg. Cause of death of female white rhino is fatal injury due to gunshot(s). Separate autopsy report is available.

**Pictorial presentation of case**



**Ongoing research activities**

On 2<sup>nd</sup> September, blood sampling of 4 horses at Benghoug's Stable and Subira's stable was undertaken. On the same day 6 donkeys were also sampled at Mirera. On 13<sup>th</sup> September 10 horses and 6 donkeys were sampled at Kendong Ranch. Again 2 donkeys were treated at Kendong Ranch with bite wounds. On 22<sup>nd</sup> day of September 6 donkeys were samples at La Peieve Ltd, (Oserian) 2 were treated for diarrhea and dewormed with Ivermectin. On the same day at Rift Camp Gate (Moi South Lake Road) a female donkey with tin snare on front leg was attended to and blood sample also taken. On 26.9.2016 the team sampled 3 horses at Karen's stable Soysambu. Samples taken include whole blood in EDTA and storage of the same in liquid nitrogen at -196°C and other blood samples in plain tubes for serology. This is an epidemiologic study of equine herpesvirus in selected domestic and wild animals. In these farms or ranches there a close association of horses and zebras as occasionally these animals graze on the same pasture. This close interaction of zebras, horses and donkeys is a nexus for pathogen(s) sharing and virus jumps or host(s) switching between domestic animals and wildlife.

Pictorial presentation - sample taking





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Report compiled by;

Dr. Titus Kaitho  
Resident Veterinarian  
Naivasha Mobile Vet Unit