



**Lewa Wildlife Conservancy**

[www.lewa.org](http://www.lewa.org)



*Dr. Matthew Mutinda with the New Veterinary Vehicle*

## **Veterinary Vehicle Report**

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## THE MOUNTAIN REGION VETERINARY UNIT

The Mountain Region Mobile Veterinary Unit based at Lewa Wildlife Conservancy (LWC) is responsible for all wildlife in the larger Northern Conservation Area. This team provides veterinary care to 5 National parks, 9 National reserves, and other community and private ranches within the Samburu and Laikipia regions. These areas are home to more than half of the national population of endangered black rhino, several thousands elephants, Grevy's zebras, wild dogs, cheetahs and many other wildlife species.

The Unit has been in operation since January 2007, when the Kenya Wildlife Service deployed a veterinary officer to this region. The current Vet, Dr. Matthew Mutinda, is based at LWC and provides essential and invaluable services to animals throughout the region.

The main objectives of this unit includes but is not limited to:

- Rapid response to veterinary emergencies-this includes clinical interventions to animals in distress, ranging from gunshot/fight wounds or animals trapped in snares
- Creating a more effective disease and early warning surveillance network (this helps in the early detection of disease epidemics)
- Overseeing the veterinary facets of wildlife translocation operations
- Wildlife collaring operations
- Necropsies

## VETERINARY VEHICLE OPERATIONS

The Mountain Region Mobile Veterinary Unit recently received a new vehicle. This generous and much-needed gift has enabled the team to offer continuous assistance to the region's wide variety of wildlife. The vehicle will serve from its operational base at LWC providing veterinary care to the areas under its jurisdiction as detailed above. These areas hold 46% of Kenya's population of the endangered black rhinos, 87% of the global population of endangered Grevy's Zebra, Mountain Bongos, several elephants, wild dogs, and numerous other endangered species. The Unit's coverage area is expansive and the terrain is often difficult, however, this new and efficient means of transport now allows conservation efforts to continue moving forward in this important and naturally diverse region.

The challenges requiring veterinary care in wildlife continue to be varied by each day. The past year has seen a terrible resurgence in gunshot wounds as a result of increased demand for ivory and rhino horn in the international market, requiring prompt responses to these cases in an effort to conserve this highly endangered species. Disease also continues to be a challenge; in 2010 alone 9 black rhino were lost to disease at Ol Jogi Ranch. Out of a national population of less than 600, this was a regrettable loss. In addition, the veterinary unit continues to spearhead conservation through the translocation of wildlife to conservancies throughout the region. This involves the capture and relocation of animals from areas of high density concentrations to newly established community conservancies.



In summary, the acquisition of this new vehicle is very beneficial to this unit and will continue to enhance the veterinary services provided in the region.



***Elephant at buffalo Springs***



***The vehicle on its first trip- the Vet was collaring an elephant***

## FINANCIAL REPORT

The vehicle was purchased from Esso Motors one of the Toyota agents in Kenya. It has been specially fabricated at the Lewa workshop with various extras including, high lift jack, spare wheel mountings, steel fabrication at the back, heavy duty suspension and a VHF radio.

A detailed financial report is shown below:

### Report Ending 31-12-2011

	Zuercher Tierschutz	Pettus Crowe	Total (YTD)
<b>INCOME</b>			
Zuercher Tierschutz	\$29,988		\$29,988
Pettus Crowe		\$19,700	\$19,700
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>\$29,988</b>	<b>\$19,700</b>	<b>\$49,688</b>
<b>EXPENSES</b>			
Land Cruiser Purchase	\$29,988	\$12,461	\$42,479
LWC Workshop Fabrication , Metal Work		\$2,156	\$2,156
Comprehensive Insurance		\$300	\$300
Vehicle Running costs		\$4,783	\$4,783
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$29,988</b>	<b>\$19,700</b>	<b>\$49,688</b>
<b>Surplus/Deficit</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

### CASH SUMMARY:

Total Donations Received -\$49,688

Cumulative Expenses- \$49,688

Cash Balance- \$0

We are extremely grateful to Zuercher Tierschutz and the Pettus Crowe Foundation for providing generous support towards the acquisition of this vehicle.