



## **FEB 8<sup>TH</sup> GAME COUNT REPORT.**

### **INTRODUCTION.**

The Kitengela conservancies do their count with Nairobi National Park on the same date to get the number of wildlife species inside and outside the park. On the second of February the TWF team together with the 8 scouts of the area and volunteers did a wildlife census for the 8 blocks of this triangle. The rest of the conservancies did their count on the 8<sup>th</sup>. There was an improvement in the areas counted as 16 conservancies participated in the count having a good representation. Here is a breakdown of the participants.

CONSERVANCY	ACRERAGE	NO. OF BLOCK	NO. OF SCOUTS	NO. OF PARTICIPANTS
ILRI- KAPITI	37006	10	10	65
SWARA	20000	6	6	14
MACHAKOS RANCHING	15000	5	5	24
NEW ASTRA	10199	3	3	5
KITENGELA CA	9025	8	8	15
LUKENYA	4300	3	3	10
LISA	5540	3	3	6
OLOSIRA	2500	6	6	13
ULU	800	3	3	4
MWAMBI	5297	2	0	9
MAANZONI	4093	5	7	16
MALINDA	5297	3	3	9
KONZA CITY	1000	1	0	3

EMARTI		3	3	4
PORTLAND		2		7
MALILI		1		3

#### TOTAL WILDLIFE SIGHTINGS.

HERBIVORES	TOTAL		CARNIVORES	TOTAL
1. Masai Giraffe	478		1.Black backed Jackal	23
2. Thomsons' Gazelle	2264		2. Bat eared fox	11
3. Grant Gazelle	1731		3.Spotted Hyena	56
4.Gerenuk	43		4.Cheetah	6
5. Impala	1196		5. Leopard	4
6.Plain zebra	3981			
7.Wildebeest	234			
8.Kongoni	1			
9.Eland	107			
10.Lesser Kudu	13			
11.Warthog	185			
12.Kirk's Dik dik	73		<b>BIRDS</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>
13. Waterbuck	8		1. Ostrich	527
14. Duiker	9		2.Guinea fowl	1606
15. Buffalo	6		3.Yellow Necked spurfowl	554
			4.Kori bustard	33
			5. B.B bustard	26
			6.W.B bustard	34

			7. Martial eagle	2
<b>PRIMATES</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>		8. Vultures	36
1. Olive baboon	483		9. Secretary bird	33
2. Vervet monkey	159		10. Grey heron	32
3. Sykes monkey	32		11. Marabuo stalk	124
			12. Egyptian goose.	175
			13. Fish eagle	16
			14. Tawny eagle	40

## DISCUSION.

The data highlights the significant difference in population sizes among herbivores, carnivores, birds, and primates in the observed ecosystem. Herbivores dominate in numbers, with the plain zebra (3,981), Thomson's gazelle (2,264), and Grant's gazelle (1,731) forming the largest populations. Their abundance suggests a well-supported grazing ecosystem, possibly driven by ample vegetation and water sources. In contrast, carnivores have much smaller populations, with spotted hyenas (56) being the most numerous. This disparity aligns with typical predator-prey dynamics, where predators are fewer due to the energy constraints of sustaining higher trophic-level species.

Birds also exhibit substantial diversity and numbers, with ostriches (527) and guinea fowls (1,606) leading. The presence of scavengers such as vultures (36) and marabou storks (124) indicate a functioning ecosystem where carrion plays a role in nutrient recycling. Among primates, the olive baboon (483) is the most populous, suggesting an adaptable species that thrives in varied environments. The data overall reflects an ecosystem where prey species far outnumber their predators, ensuring a stable food chain, while bird and primate diversity further contribute to ecological balance.

### 1. HERBIVORES

ANIMAL SPECIES	Masai Giraffe	Thomson's Gazelle	Grant Gazelle	Gerenuk	Impala	Plain zebra	Wildebeest	Kongoni	Eland	Lesser Kudu	Warthog	Kirk's Dik dik	Waterbuck	Duiker	Buffalo

Feb-25	478	2264	1731	43	1196	3981	234	1	107	13	185	73	8	9	6
Oct-24	290	2911	920	20	950	2443	261	1	279	4	93	32	6	0	0
Deviation	+188	-647	+811	+23	+246	+1538	-27	0	-172	+9	+92	+41	+2	+9	+6

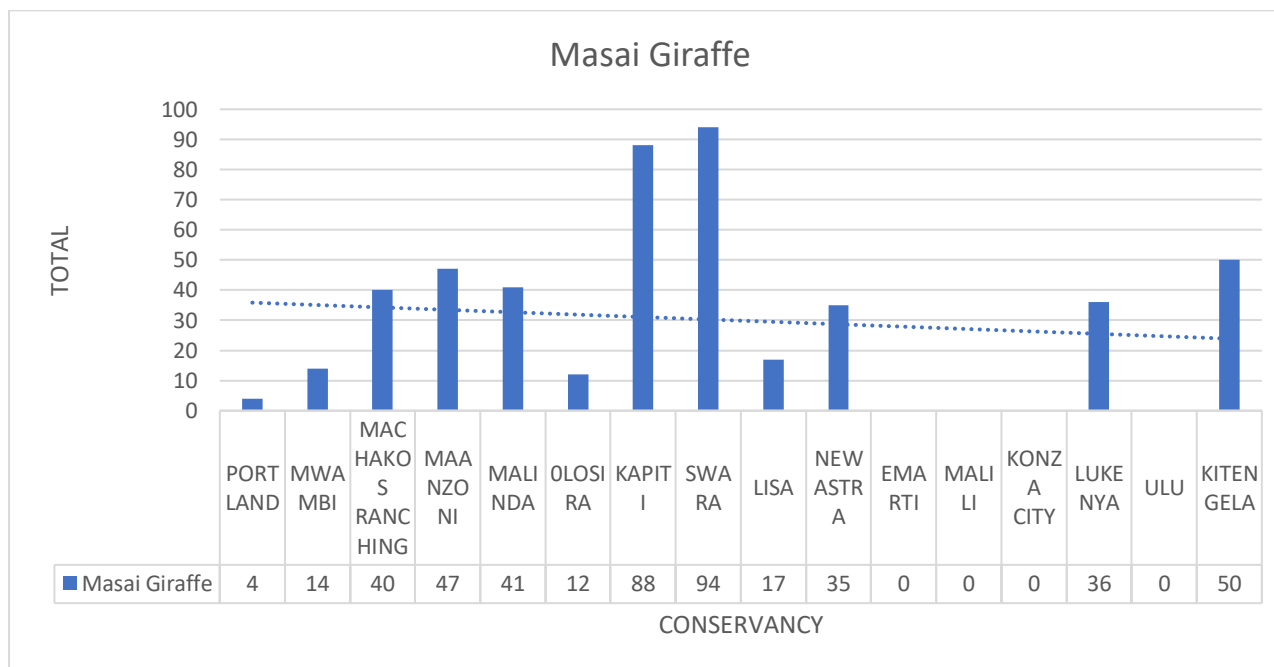
## DISCUSSION

The positive increase in data can be attributed to several key factors including the rise in the number of volunteers engaged in the current count, leading to a wide coverage and more species sightings. Additionally, the number of conservancies participating grew from 11 to 16, enhancing data accuracy and representation. Improved training, including pre-game count sessions on data entry on earth ranger resulted to better data management. Strategic marketing and better planning ensured a higher participation, favorable weather conditions and improved coordination among conservancies also contributed to the overall success of the count.

### KEY SPECIES FOCUS: MASAI GIRAFFE.

CONSERVANCY	Masai Giraffe
PORTLAND	4
MWAMBI	14
MACHAKOS RANCHING	40
MAANZONI	47
MALINDA	41
OLOSIRA	12
KAPITI	88
SWARA	94
LISA	17
NEW ASTRA	35
EMARTI	0
MALILI	0
KONZA CITY	0
LUKENYA	36
ULU	0
KITENGELA	50

<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>478</b>
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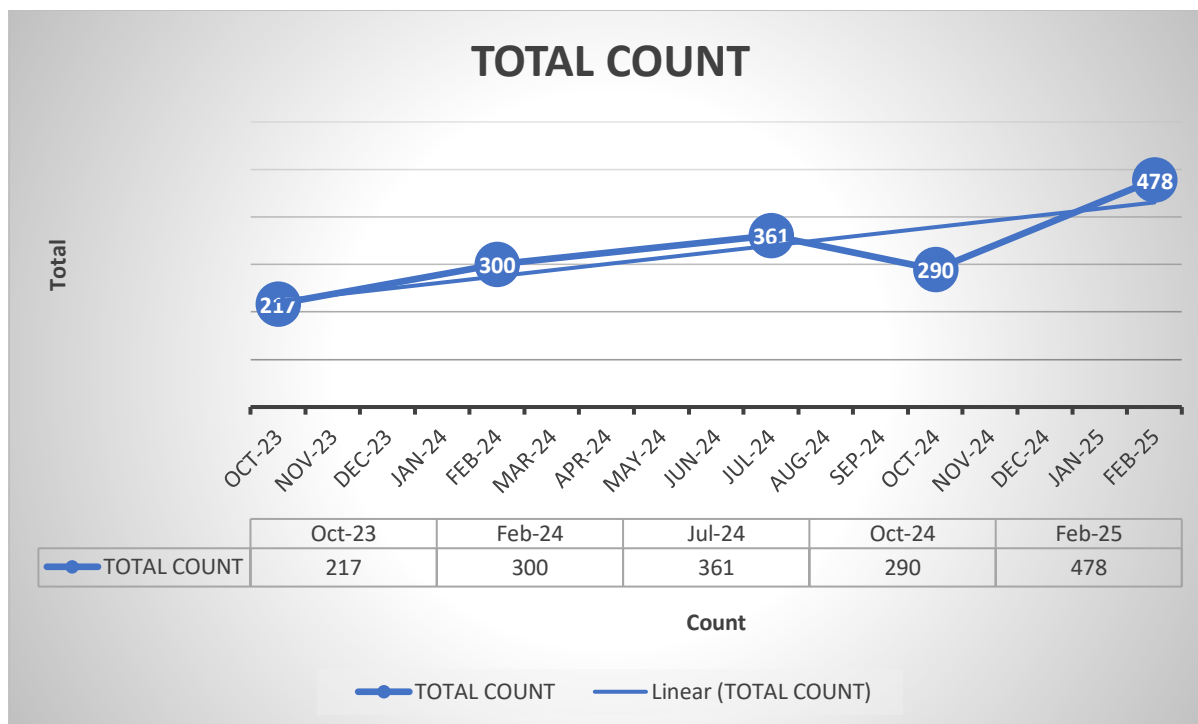
## DISCUSSION

The Masai Giraffe conservancy data records a total of 478 giraffes across 15 locations, averaging approximately **31.87** giraffes per site. Swara holds the highest population (94), comprising **19.67%** of the total. Kapiti follows with 88 giraffes (**18.41%**), while Kitengela (50) accounts for **10.46%**. Maanzoni (47), Malinda (41), and Machakos Ranching (40) contribute **9.83%**, **8.59%**, and **8.37%**, respectively. Lukenya (36), New Astra (35), and Lisa (17) host smaller shares. Locations such as Emarti, Malili, Konza City, and Ulu report zero giraffes, impacting conservation efforts. Understanding these distributions is crucial for targeted wildlife management strategies.

## MASAI GIRAFFE TRENDS.

COUNT	Oct-23	Feb-24	Jul-24	Oct-24	Feb-25
TOTAL	217	300	367	290	478

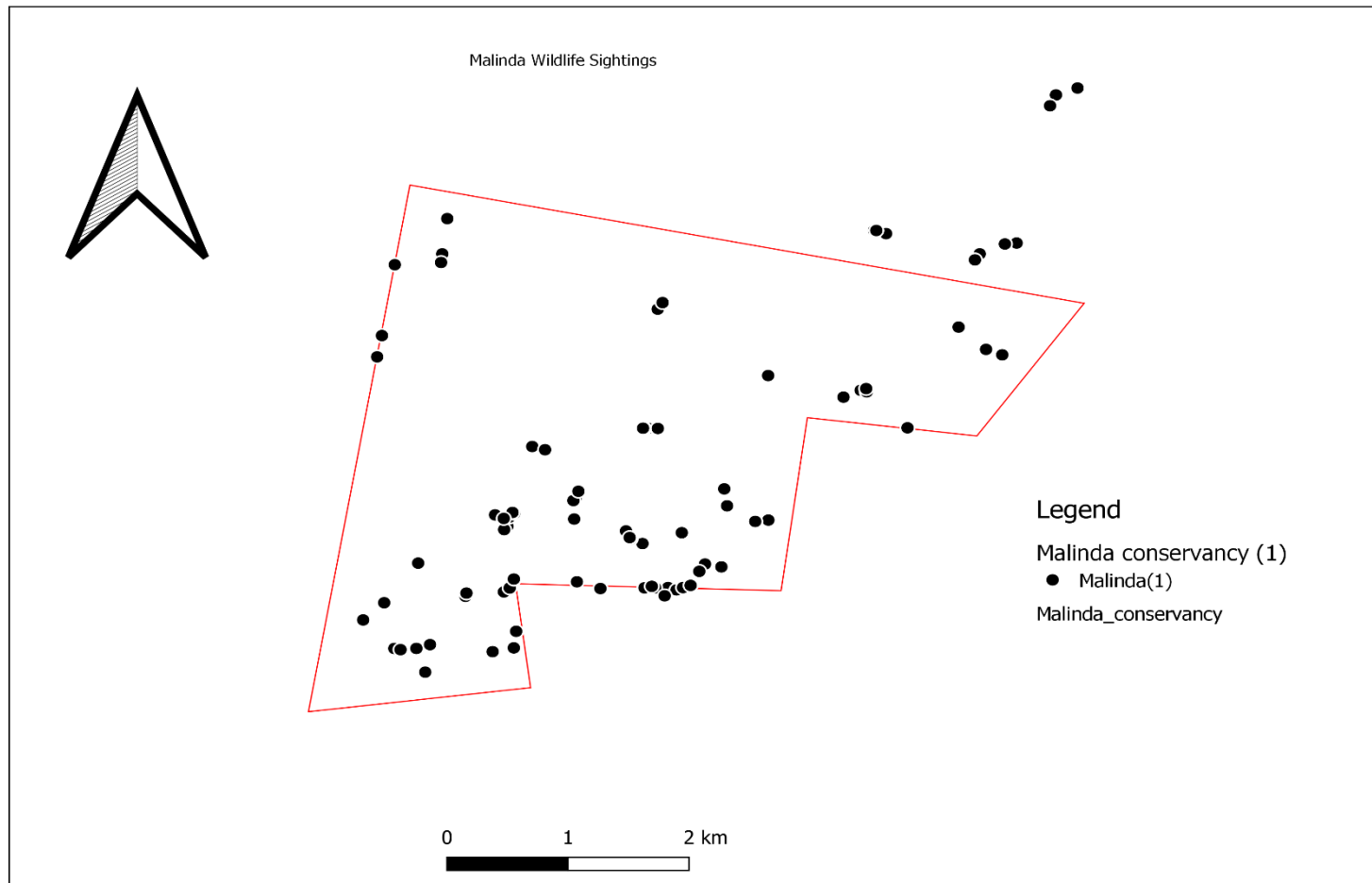
There has been a significant increase in the number of giraffes counted between October 2024-February 2025 with a +188 giraffe sightings. This is due to the increased number of volunteers counting and better data collection in most of the conservancies.



#### SPARTIAL ANALYSIS OF THE WILDLIFE SIGHTINGS.

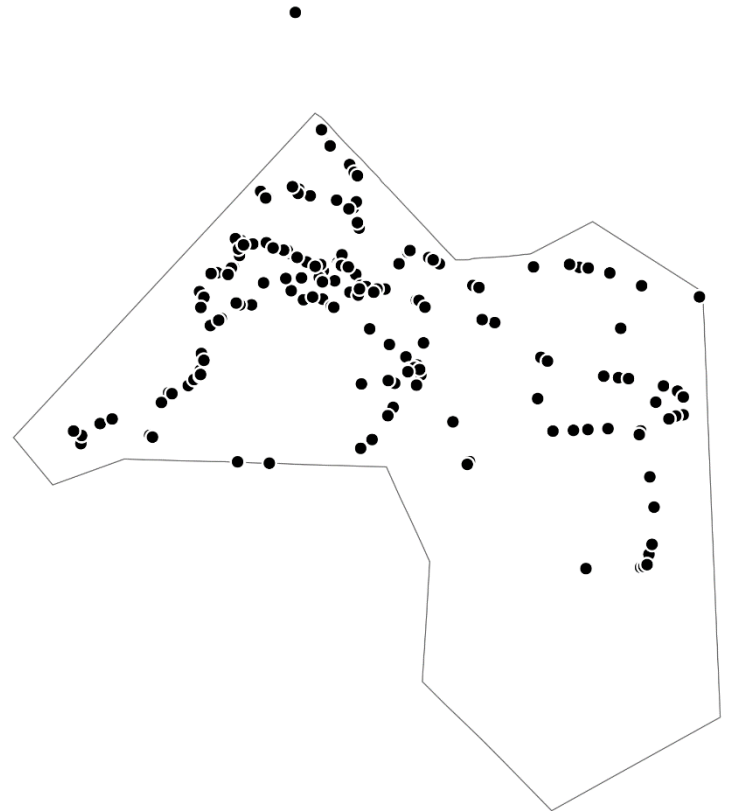
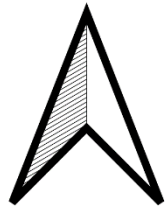
Using Earth rangers, the wildlife sightings can be exported as CSV files and the georeferenced data was used to determine the spatial data of the wildlife in these conservancies.

b. LUKENYA WILDLIFE CONSERVANCY.

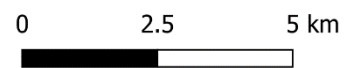


b. SWARA PLAINS CONSERVANCY.

SWARA WILDLIFE SIGHTINGS.



● Swara Export  
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## **CONCLUSION**

The wildlife count was successful, as evidenced by the high turnout of various species and the comprehensive data collected. The large numbers of herbivores, particularly zebras and gazelles, indicate thorough coverage of the ecosystem, while the presence of multiple carnivores, bird, and primate species reflects a well-rounded survey. The detailed recording of species populations suggests careful data entry, ensuring accuracy in assessing the ecosystem's balance and health.

The diversity and abundance of recorded species highlight the effectiveness of the count, providing valuable insights into predator-prey relationships and habitat conditions. The inclusion of both large and small species, from giraffes to dik-diks, as well as a variety of birds and primates, further confirms that the survey successfully captured a wide range of biodiversity. This level of detail demonstrates the success of the count in contributing to ecological monitoring and conservation planning.

## **CHALLENGES AND WAY FORWARD.**

### **Challenges Observed During the Game Count:**

1. **Incorrect Animal Identification** – Scouts and volunteers need additional training on species identification.
2. **Errors in Earth Ranger Data Entry** – More training is required to ensure accurate data input.
3. **Short Staffing** – A lack of personnel led to delays in technical data reporting.
4. **Insufficient Equipment and Personnel Support** – More laptops, cameras, and binoculars are needed, along with additional staff.
5. **Planning and Marketing Issues** – Better organization and promotion are necessary for smoother operations.