

The third quarter of 2026 was one of meaningful progress and important milestones for Big Life, as we continued our work on the ground while laying the foundation for the years ahead. Across the Greater Amboseli Ecosystem, our teams remained focused on protecting wildlife, securing critical habitat, and strengthening the partnerships with local communities that make lasting conservation possible.

Throughout the quarter, our rangers patrolled more than 173,000 kilometers, responding to wildlife emergencies, combating illegal activities, and protecting the landscapes that wildlife and people depend on. We also made encouraging progress in restoring degraded rangelands, expanding conservation agreements with landowners, and supporting community livelihoods. In education, the completion of a new 96-bed girls' dormitory at Olandi Primary School was another welcome milestone, helping create new opportunities for young people in the communities where we work.

Beyond our field operations, we celebrated two significant developments. The release of our new film, *Amboseli Forever*, offers a powerful look at what community-led conservation has achieved and why protecting this extraordinary ecosystem remains so urgent. We also introduced our 2026–2030 Strategic Plan, setting out an ambitious roadmap to secure critical habitat, strengthen wildlife protection, and ensure that conservation continues to deliver meaningful benefits for local communities.

These milestones reflect both how far we've come and how much work lies ahead. I'm deeply grateful to our rangers, field teams, community partners, and supporters whose dedication makes this progress possible. Together, we're working toward a future where nature thrives and communities prosper.

With gratitude,

Craig Millar

Chief Operating Officer, Big Life Kenya

WHERE WE WORK

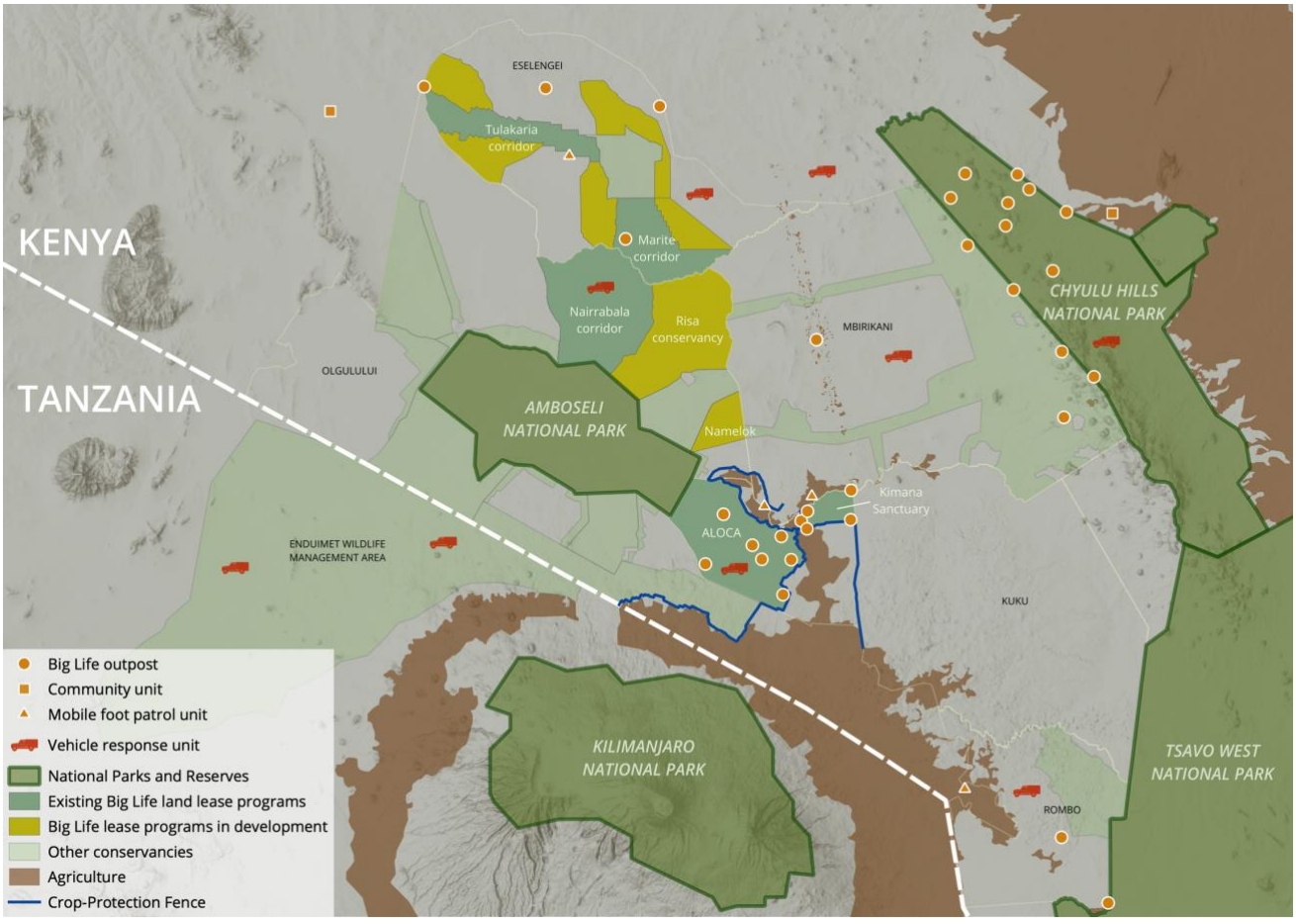
Big Life Foundation's area of operation (AOO) covers approximately 2 million acres across the Greater Amboseli Ecosystem in East Africa. Our team helps to protect and secure wildlife and critical habitat stretching from the rangelands north of Amboseli to the Chyulu Hills and Tsavo West National Parks in the east, and south to Kilimanjaro National Park. The area is a central connection point for migrating wildlife and contains some of the most iconic species and important habitat left in Africa.

Our AOO is divided into a core area with a permanent ranger presence and regularly patrolled by mobile units, a non-core area where mobile units respond based on need and are actively covered by our intelligence network, and adjacent areas where we provide support as needed. The level of Big Life support provided varies between outposts.

Core AOO: Eselengei, Kimana, Mbirikani, Nairrabala Conservancy, Oltemuai, Risa, Rombo, Chyulu Hills National Park, and Enduimet Wildlife Management Area (Tanzania)

Non-Core AOO: Amboseli National Park, Mailua Ranch, Merrueshi Ranch, Nasaru-Olosho Conservancy, Olgulului, Osilalei Ranch, Taveta Area

Adjacent: Kuku, Tsavo West National Park



Wildlife Protection

The Greater Amboseli Ecosystem is generally regarded as one of the richest wildlife regions left in Africa. But the same animals that make it famous also put it in the crosshairs for illegal wildlife crime.

Big Life strives to prevent the poaching of all wildlife in our area of operation. Our community rangers are expertly trained, well-equipped, and ready for action at a moment's notice. They're supported by a fleet of vehicles, two airplanes, two tracker dogs, and an expansive intelligence network.

Besides tracking and apprehending poachers, Big Life also supports local prosecutors to ensure the guilty are punished to the fullest extent of the law.

Since our inception, poaching of all animals has dramatically declined and many wildlife populations are rebounding.

2026 Q3 OVERVIEW

Total Staff: **597**	Rangers: **388**
Ranger Units: **47**	Tracker Dogs: **2**
Mobile Ranger Units: **13**	Permanent Outposts: **33**
Aerial Surveillance Hours: **45**	Ranger training workshops: **4** Ranger participation: **53**
Total Suspects Arrested: **46** Year-to-Date Total: **128**	Total Arrest Incidents: **34** Year-to-Date Total: **81**
Kilometers Patrolled This Quarter: On foot: **63,645** By vehicle: **109,598** Q3 TOTAL: **173,243** Year-to-Date TOTAL: **539,782**	Total Kilometers Patrolled Since Inception (2011): On foot: **2,014,997** By vehicle: **5,713,096** TOTAL: **7,728,093**

WILDLIFE CRIME & ANTI-TRAFFICKING

SUSPECTS ARRESTED Poaching – Bushmeat: **10** Poaching Intention: **1** Trophy Possession: **11** Wildlife Trafficking: **2**	**RECOVERED ITEMS** Ivory: **176.2+ kg** Snares: **167** Other: Sandalwood (**454.1 kg**), Leopard skin (**3**), Live guinea fowls (**3**), Owl eggs (**2**), Live pangolin (**1**), Pangolin scales (**0.5 kg**), Hyena skin (**1**), Other animal parts (**7**), Tools/weapons (**209**)

WILDLIFE

INCIDENTS Poaching – Bushmeat: **8** Poaching Intention: **1** Trophy Possession: **9** Wildlife Trafficking: **2**	**PROSECUTIONS** Cases – Concluded: **0** Cases – Ongoing: **1,482** suspects
MORTALITIES – ELEPHANT Human-Elephant Conflict: **1** Poaching: **0** Natural Causes: **1** Unknown: **17** Other Human-related: **0**	**MORTALITIES – OTHER** *(excluding large predators)* Augur buzzard (**1**), Buffalo (**1**), Civet (**1**), Dik-dik (**1**), Eland (**4**), Gazelle (**5**), Gerenuk (**1**), Giraffe (**20**), Guinea fowl (**2**), Impala (**1**), Ostrich (**1**), Wildebeest (**1**), Zebra (**16**)
INJURIES – ELEPHANT Elephants Injured: **5** Elephants Treated: **3**	**RESCUES/TREATMENTS – OTHER ANIMALS** Elephant (**1**), Eland (**1**), Giraffe (**3**), Vulture (**1**), Zebra (**2**)

RHINO PROTECTION

There are **six** known Eastern black rhinos in Big Life's area of operation. We previously reported nine, but three individuals have not been documented on camera in more than two years. While it is possible they are still present or moved to neighboring areas, for scientific accuracy, we are adjusting our population estimate. These rhinos are critically endangered and spend their time in the densely forested Chyulu Hills National Park, protected by dedicated Big Life rangers and the Kenya Wildlife Service. Big Life also improves and maintains infrastructure in the rhino area, such as roads and watering holes, which will support the future inbound translocation of rhinos.

Rhino Mortalities: **0** Rhino Births: **0**	Rhino Snares Found: **0**
Rhino Protection Rangers: **63**	Dedicated Rhino Outposts: **10** Dedicated Rhino Units: **10**
RHINO MONITORING Direct Sightings: **3** Indirect Sightings *(via camera trap)*: **83** Spoor Sightings: **43**	**INFRASTRUCTURE** Fencing: **70+ km** constructed by SWT to date Water Points: **3** Camera traps: **44**

NOTABLE WILDLIFE UPDATES (click to read):

- Beloved Chyulu tusker, One Ton, passed away of natural causes.
- Big Life rangers helped rescue a snared giraffe.
- A live pangolin was rescued from traffickers.
- Our statement about the mysterious passing of several elephants from Amboseli

Human-Wildlife Conflict

Human-Wildlife Conflict (HWC) takes three primary forms across Big Life's area of operation: crops raided by wildlife, particularly elephants; livestock killed by predators, such as lions; and humans injured or killed due to living in proximity with wildlife.

HUMAN-ELEPHANT CONFLICT (HEC) MITIGATION

Poaching continues to pose a significant threat, but many elephants face an even bigger challenge: conflict with humans. As the human population increases, so do competing land uses, such as farming. As humans compete for limited resources like water and land, we further encroach onto what were once wild lands. With less space to share, people and animals now come into direct contact at an alarming rate, often with fatal results.

Elephant Crop-Raiding Incidents: **16** **Kenya Core AOO only.*	Acres Damaged by Elephant: **14.25**
Crop-Protection Fence Constructed to Date: **100 km** Crop-Protection Fence Maintenance Workers: **34**	Elephant Retaliatory Hunts Attempted: **0** Retaliatory Hunts Stopped: **0**
Additional HEC incidents*: **30** **including water tanks/pipes damaged by elephants, boma destruction, etc.*	Livestock Killed by Elephants: **1**

PREDATOR PROTECTION

Big Life protects predators in the ecosystem in collaboration with partners and local communities. The core component of Big Life's predator protection program in Kenya is livestock compensation, which reduces the motivation for retaliatory killing in response to livestock depredation.

The Predator Compensation Fund (PCF) pays Maasai livestock owners a portion of the value of their livestock lost to predators, on the condition that no predators are killed in retaliation. Big Life manages PCF on Mbirikani, Eselengei, and the ALOCA conservancies.

The second part of Big Life's predator protection program is the Maasai Olympics, which was established in 2012 as an alternative for the traditional killing of lions. At the Maasai Olympics, young warriors can compete for recognition, prove bravery, and attract girlfriends through a sports competition based on traditional warrior skills. The 7th Maasai Olympics Finals will take place on December 12, 2026.

WILDLIFE

Lion Mortalities: **1** (*unknown*) Violations of PCF: **0** Lion Retaliatory Hunts: **1** Retaliatory Hunts Prevented/Stopped: **1**	Additional Predator Mortalities (*human-related or unknown*): Hyena: **5** *(1 HWC, 3 Vehicle, 1 Unknown)* Jackal*:* **1** *(Vehicle)*
Compensation Issued for: **53** Cows: $10,769 **565** Sheep/Goats: $17,880 **6** Donkeys: $323 **Q3 TOTAL: $28,972** **YTD TOTAL: $76,380**	A total of 623 livestock were killed by predators: Caracal: **4** Cheetah: **46** Hyena: **204** Jackal: **260** Leopard: **8** Lion: **101**

ADDITIONAL HUMAN-WILDLIFE CONFLICT

Humans Injured: **2**	Wildlife Responsible for Injuries: Buffalo (1), Elephant (1)
Humans Killed: **1**	Wildlife Responsible for Death: Elephant



Securing Wildlife Habitat

Protecting habitat is at the heart of ensuring wildlife can thrive across Greater Amboseli. As pressures from land subdivision, fencing, and unsustainable development increase, safeguarding open rangelands and critical wildlife corridors has become an urgent priority. Without connected habitats, wildlife cannot move freely to find food, water, and breeding grounds—making long-term conservation impossible. Recognizing this, Big Life works closely with local communities to secure and manage the land that both wildlife and people depend on.

This work takes two primary forms. First, Big Life provides annual lease payments to hundreds of landowners in key areas like the Kimana Corridor, creating a direct financial incentive to keep land open and free from incompatible development. Second, we support the establishment and strengthening of community conservancies in strategically important areas. These conservancies protect vital wildlife movement corridors and dispersal zones while also sustaining traditional pastoralist livelihoods by maintaining access to grazing land.

By aligning conservation with community needs, these efforts create a balanced, long-term solution. Landowners benefit from reliable income, livestock retain access to grazing resources, and wildlife can continue to move across a connected landscape. Through collaborative land-use planning, conservation agreements, and the development of sustainable income opportunities such as tourism, Big Life is helping to ensure that Amboseli remains a living ecosystem—one where wildlife and local communities can coexist and thrive together.

ALOCA: Landowners benefitting from lease fees: **324** Number of acres protected: **19,440** Other: Lease renewal signings ongoing, Herding 4 Health Project ongoing	**Kimana Sanctuary:** Landowners benefitting from lease fees: **844** Number of acres protected: **5,700** Paying visitor days: **1,187**
Eselengei: Landowners signed lease agreement: **699** *(Marite (368) and Tulakaria (331))* Number of acres under lease: **32,853** Other: **Marite & Tulakaria expansion** Landowners signed lease agreement: **191** Number of acres under lease: **8,977** Other: N/A	**Olgulului:** Landowners signed lease agreement: **2,728** *(Nairrabala (1,672), Risa (989), Oltemuai (67)* Number of acres under lease: **57,288** *(Nairrabala (35,112) and Risa (20,769), Oltemuai (1,407)*

HABITAT

Amboseli's arid rangelands are also under increasing strain. Rising livestock numbers, combined with the erosion of traditional rotational grazing practices, have placed unsustainable pressure on native grasses and led to widespread degradation. As a result, critical habitats are deteriorating, threatening both wildlife and the communities who depend on these landscapes. In response, Big Life is working alongside local communities to address these challenges and restore balance to the ecosystem.

LAND

Rangers actively protect the land by fighting against illegal habitat destruction activities such as logging or charcoal production, sand and water extraction, and combatting bushfires. Rangers also enforce protected area rules in conservancies and national parks, where encroachment activities like trespassing, settlement, and grazing are illegal and harmful to critical habitats.

In addition, since 2017, we've partnered with local communities, partner NGOs, and local government to implement a carbon credit program in the Chyulu Hills to protect it from deforestation and overgrazing. The program generates significant income for the management of the Chyulu Hills National Park and creates benefits for surrounding communities.

<table>
<tr><td rowspan="2">Suspects Arrested* for Habitat Destruction: 13
Habitat Destruction Arrest Incidents: 7
*Sometimes released depending on severity of crime</td><td>Non-Arrest Habitat Destruction Incidents: 14</td></tr>
<tr><td>Incidents of Community Grazing, Conservancy, and Subdivision Land Use Rules Enforcement: 17</td></tr>
</table>



HABITAT

RANGELAND HEALTH & LIVELIHOODS

The Greater Amboseli Ecosystem is dominated by semi-arid grasslands and savannas that support both wildlife and the pastoralist communities who call this landscape home. Healthy rangelands are essential for biodiversity, sustainable livestock production, and the long-term wellbeing of local communities.

Big Life works with our community partners to restore degraded landscapes, improve grazing management, and strengthen sustainable livelihoods that create lasting incentives to protect wildlife habitat.

Our approach focuses on three complementary programs:

Active Restoration restores severely degraded areas through practical interventions such as half-moon bunds and reseeding, helping rainwater soak into the soil, reducing erosion, and encouraging the return of native grasses.

Herding for Health supports communities in combining traditional grazing knowledge with modern techniques, including Ultra-High Density Grazing (UHGD), to improve soil health, increase pasture productivity, and strengthen livestock-based livelihoods.

Community Enterprise Development helps communities diversify income from healthy rangelands through enterprises such as grass seed production for restoration projects and community-managed beekeeping, creating direct economic benefits that reinforce conservation.

Together, these programs improve ecosystem resilience while ensuring that healthy rangelands continue to support both people and wildlife for generations to come.

Rangeland Restoration Area: **16,976** acres Active restoration: **4,154** acres Natural regeneration: **12,822** acres	Bunds installed Q3: **17,200** **YTD: 17,200** **Total: 290,627**
Total acres reseeded: **3,655** to date	Number of people employed: **253**
162 goats issued to 6 Grass Seed Banks (GSB), 400kg grass seed harvested by women GSBs, 129 GSB women trained on Financial literacy, governance, and leadership, 172 women reached through capacity building training on Enterprise Development	

NOTABLE HABITAT UPDATES (click to read):

- Aerial surveillance and data supports habitat protection.
- Secured habitat on Nairrabala Conservancy is keeping lions protected.

COMMUNITY

Winning the hearts and minds of local communities and providing a mutual benefit through conservation is the only way to protect wildlife and wild lands far into the future. Big Life implements a number of community development programs including education, healthcare and income-generating initiatives, as well as lesser-known activities, such as using ranger vehicles as ambulances, arresting criminals for community crimes (like theft), conducting search and rescue operations, and supporting in-school education on sustainable agriculture.

Community Crime Incidents: **1**	Suspects Arrested: **2**
Human Search and Rescue Incidents: **1**	Livestock Search Incidents: **0**
Other Community Support Incidents: **3** – *first aid, emergency transport*	Beehives: **76** in 6 apiaries

Big Life invests in the future of our partner communities by funding teachers' salaries, providing scholarship funds for local students, and implementing conservation-specific curriculum in classrooms and communities.

Long-Term Student Scholarships Awarded: **447** Boys: **146 (33%)** Girls: **301 (67%)** One-Time Student Scholarships Awarded: **150** Amount paid in Scholarships: **$96,561**	Students Reached by Conservation Lessons: **936** Students Reached by Club Activities: **733** School Visits: **34** National Park Trips: **3** (76 students)
Tertiary-Level Graduates: **0**	Teachers' Salaries Funded: **8**

Healthcare is a key part of Big Life's community support program and working in close coordination with the Kajiado South Department of Health, Big Life facilitates outreaches that provide primary healthcare, family planning services, immunizations, and antenatal check-ups across the Greater Amboseli ecosystem.

Big Life is also working to improve sexual and reproductive health and rights education. This not only improves individual health outcomes but also helps to build more resilient and empowered communities.



COMMUNITY

Back-Pack Medical Outreaches: **129**	Community Health Promoters Household Visits: **13,996**
Family Planning Dialogue Days: **175**	People De-wormed: **5,845**
Sexual & Reproductive Health & Rights school talks: **55**	Immunizations Administered: **8,195** Family Planning Services Provided: **3,467**
Child Rights Club Meetings: **220**	People Reached with Family Planning Information: **38,587** People Receiving Primary Healthcare: **15,183**

NOTABLE COMMUNITY UPDATES (click to read):

- Big Life's medical outreach program is expanding.
- Lenkism primary school 11 door girls' ablution block was completed.
- Olandi primary school 96-bed girls' dormitory was completed



Thank you to our wonderful partners and supporters for helping make our work possible. Together we can save wildlife and wild lands - now and for future generations.