



# BORANA

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*Newsletter 2017*







## BORANA FACTS

32,000 acres - 13,000 hectares

ALTITUDE: 6,300ft - 1,900m

LOCATION: Laikipia

TIME ZONE: GMT +3

CLIMATE: moderate high altitude equatorial climate, with sunny days and chilly evenings.

Average rainfall 500mm per annum spread over two seasons.



# AN INTRODUCTION

This newsletter details our conservation successes over the last 12 months and whilst it is primarily focused on Borana, none of what we have managed to achieve would have been possible without the strong partnership and support of The Lewa Wildlife Conservancy, the Kenya Wildlife Service along with The Northern Rangelands Trust. Most importantly conservation success is dependent on a very strong and progressive relationship with the entire community that neighbour's the Borana/Lewa conservation landscape. We are proud of our strong and real embeddedness within the community and all parties continue to have ownership of the success and challenges.

For 2016 we can celebrate 10 rhino births and zero poaching incidents bringing the total population to 165 rhino made up of 86 black rhinos and 79 white rhinos. Our 2017 wildlife census informs us that almost all species have increased in number, Grevy Zebra and Hartebeest remain a concern and we are exploring an intensive predator- proof breeding zone to build numbers. This was also the first year where citizen conservationists joined the census, armed with clip boards, cameras and binoculars, they played a great supporting role and this participation will become a regular feature of future counts.

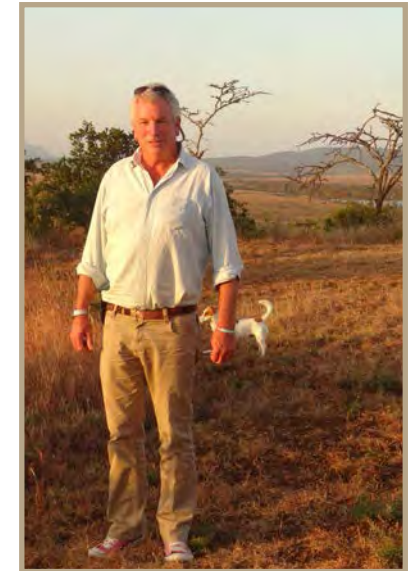
Guided by the 4 c's **Commerce** continues to drive our agenda supporting **Conservation** and we are grateful to all of our tourism partners and guests who visit for their support. Our **Community** livestock to market programme generated very significant sales and remains very important to the **Culture** and heritage of this region.

We remain committed to sustainability and as we extract from a long dry period we will re-focus our energy on sound holistic rangeland management practice across the wider landscape. Our entire team will continue to ensure that our health outreach, and education support programmes continue to grow and that we maximize the benefit. Regarding sustainability, we continue to progress towards sustainable energy solutions converting boreholes from fossil fuel to solar and by the close of 2017 most of our houses and lodges will be fully solar powered. We have also implemented a waste to wealth recycling center and work closely with The National Environment Agency to minimize our footprint.

I am most grateful to all the conservancy partners Arijiju, Borana, Laragai and Sirai and most importantly to all of the men and women that work in and around the conservancy whether they are on the hard front line of keeping rhinos safe or mixing cocktails, keeping plant and machinery working or entering data; the contribution is extremely valuable.

Borana is a not-for-profit and we have collectively committed all the retained earnings from our commercial tourism and livestock ventures to support the significantly increased cost of conservation. Regrettably this is not enough and we remain indebted to our many friends, Tour Operators, Partners, Conservation Organisations and Government now and into the future for their support. We continue to manage cattle not only for their financial contribution, but more importantly as a tool for enhancing the quality of the rangeland to the benefit of the many wild herbivores that share the eco-system. Our rangeland rehabilitation programme on community lands continues to yield great results and improved management of grass banks. In 2014 we implemented a livestock-finishing programme, which continues to deliver significant returns to our neighbouring pastoralist communities.

Never before has conservation in Africa been so critical, and never before have our iconic animals been so threatened with extinction. We are blessed with some incredible resources, but still need help to protect this wildlife for generations to come. Clearly tourism remains the single largest contributor to the cost of underwriting secure habitat and it is hoped that our collective commitment to cycling revenue directly back to the conservancy will guide peoples' decision in choosing Borana as a preferred destination. We are the generation that has the choice and responsibility to reverse the damage and the most critical challenge to wildlife is shrunken habitat. Let us focus collectively on reversing that trend and increase viable habitat.



**MICHAEL DYER - MANAGING DIRECTOR**







# THE BORANA CONSERVANCY

Borana is dedicated to the sustainable conservation of land and wildlife. Our holistic approach commits tourism, ranching, and other enterprise to building local livelihoods and enhancing ecosystem integrity.

Borana's shareholders have demonstrated their commitment to conservation by agreeing to a conservation easement, thereby ensuring Borana management is bound to protect wildlife and the environment, in perpetuity, over and above competing commercial considerations. The shareholders underwrite the core conservation costs and have agreed that all profits are reinvested in the conservancy.

The Borana Conservancy undertakes all of Borana's conservation and community support programmes, and is able to accept donations towards internal conservation costs and in support of conservation and community development beyond Borana. It will continue to work to increase Borana's contribution to conservation and we collaborate on the management of natural resources with the Lewa Wildlife Conservancy, thereby hosting rhino across a wider conservation area.

Under this structure Borana is able to:

- Optimise enterprise-based conservation and community support programmes.
- Satisfy the imperative of maximising employment, taxable revenues, and land use productivity in the context of commercial conservation.
- Sustain / provide wildlife habitat as efficiently as possible, ensuring that the wildlife has a secure environment in which to breed and thrive.
- Ensure that local communities recognise the economic advantage of wildlife, through employment, donations to community programmes along with enterprise development and commercial opportunities on their own land.
- Has entered into a collaborative management agreement with Lewa Wildlife Conservancy.
- Call on relevant organisations, the good will of guests to Borana and conservation fees that accrue from their visits to supplement the funding of conservation costs. This is widely recognised as critical to sustaining the viability of large land holdings with a primary focus on wildlife conservation.
- Allow for donor support towards meeting community conservation and development assistance costs external to Borana. Borana actively engages with local communities in seeking conservation-based development options and in demonstrating that wildlife can be a catalyst for poverty alleviation.

## wildlife



## community



## environment



## tourism



# THE FACES OF BORANA



**Rianto Lokoran** is second in command of the anti-poaching team (NPR). He holds a diploma in Wildlife Management from the Amboseli Institute as well as being a member of the Kenya Professional Guides Assoc. He is the link between conservation and tourism, playing a major role in Public Relations for the conservancy, regularly talking to the press and potential donors about our role in the wider landscape.



**William Kiupe** was born close to Kingara's Gate on the northern boundary, where his family still live. He is head of security on Borana and is now in charge of 101 men. Having culled zebra in the past, he is still a very accurate shot. Kiupe's association with Borana started a long time ago when Michael saved his life after he had been gored by a buffalo.



**Ochen Maiyani** is a Community Liaison and Development Officer for Borana Conservancy. He holds a Diploma in Procurement and Business Management from the Kenya Institute of Management. Born at Sanga Village in Il Ngwesi Group Ranch, he has worked with community and non-profit organisations in Laikipia County. Hailing from Laikipia and with a pastoralist background, Ochen's passion lies in rangeland improvement, protection and rehabilitation as well as wildlife conservation.



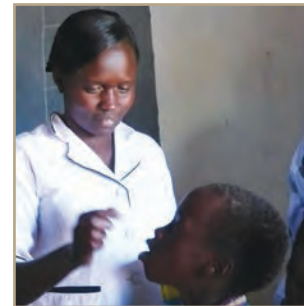
**Hunter Marrian** grew up in Nairobi, commuting to school across Nairobi National Park, giving him a taste for safaris. He was educated in the UK before working in the French Alps, making his reputation as a cocktail maker of note. Hooked on paragliding since he went solo aged 16 - he holds 3 world records for long distance flights and is a registered instructor, regularly taking guests flying from Samangua Hill. He has managed Borana Lodge since 2015.



**Abdi Sora** was born and brought up in Laikipia. After school he went to university and attained his BSc in Accounting. He joined the Borana team as Finance and Administration Manager in 2008, and keeps the wheels spinning on a day to day basis - he is now the General Manager. Aside from his many commitments, he is also passionate about helping the needy in society. He loves swimming.



**Lawrence Ngugi** is Head Guide at Borana Lodge. Having previously worked on Loisaba Conservancy, he joined Borana in 2013. He has been a professional guide for over a decade after working as the head curator at the Mt Kenya Animal Orphanage for 6 years. Lawrence is a very keen and accomplished birder and is helping ornithologist Brian Finch with the creation of a bird map of East Africa. He speaks six Kenyan dialects, is fluent in English and Swahili as well as a little Spanish.



**Pauline Kawap** has been nursing for the Borana Mobile Clinic since its inception in 2005, seeing others come and go she has been the continuous face of the BMC. She has been on many courses to keep in touch with modern methods of medicine and contraception. Pauline is greatly loved, admired and respected by the thousands of people who she talks to and administers to on a daily basis.



**Eloise Best** was brought up in the UK, but has been on countless safaris to Africa from a young age. She attended a French school in London and speaks fluent French. Her father was a prominent tour operator in the UK and Eloise caught the "Africa bug" aged 9, on her first visit to Kenya. She has worked at camps in Botswana, is trained as a chef and has cooked across Europe. She manages Borana Lodge and regularly joins guests horse riding.





**Ndesi Morijo** is 2nd in command of the anti-poaching squad, he is a respected elder within the squad, due in part to his marksmanship in training exercises. Despite being over 50 he can keep up well in the long distance runs. He came to Borana 10 years ago as a herdsman, but his love of wildlife and the bush caused him to volunteer for the Security Team.



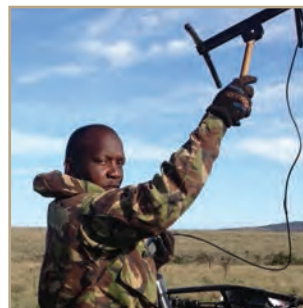
**Jay Macleod** was born and raised in Kenya on the shores of Lake Baringo. He schooled in Zimbabwe and went to college in Cape Town making him truly African. His knowledge of the bush is phenomenal and he is an excellent ornithologist! Jay has managed many properties in Kenya, but has always managed to return to Borana - a piece of land he obviously loves. His love of motorbiking means that he has explored the length and breadth of Kenya. Jay manages Laragai House.



**Jackton Okanja** - I am from Kakamega County and I am currently employed at Sirai House as Head Butler. I started my training as a waiter in 2004. I discovered my passion and enjoyed what I was doing. In 2008 I joined Shompole Lodge and was quickly promoted to Head Waiter. Years later the prospect of Sirai crossed my path and I was given this golden opportunity for which I am grateful to Mr & Mrs Spencer everyday. The best part of the job is meeting so many people from across the world. I even have a baby named after me. I love making people happy.



**Terry Thiringi** – I was born and raised in Meru County and having finished my schooling I planned to learn secretarial skills. However my father, who was working in the Ngare Ndare House secured me a position there as housekeeper. When Mama Rose Dyer realised my interest in cooking she took me to be trained at Borana Lodge. Bimbi nurtured me into being a great chef for which I am very grateful. I am now working as Chef at Arijiju House.



**Wilson Sambaine** is responsible for monitoring the rhinos and lion on Borana. He tracks them with a telemetry tracker or on foot the old fashioned way. Passionate about his responsibility, he provides a valuable service to the rhino monitors and ‘Lion Landscapes’ imparting vital data, which is also shared with our local communities, preventing livestock losses to opportunistic lion.



**Nicholas Nangunye** walked into the Borana stables in 2002 looking for a job. It quickly became obvious that he has a love for a horses, a very gentle way of riding and extraordinary eyes for finding almost anything in the bush. He is now one of our top riding guides. His other love is running and he always competes in the Lewa Marathon. He also took part in the London marathon a few years ago - raising funds for Save the Rhino.



**Bernard Njaramba** started working at Borana Lodge in 2004 as a waiter but was sponsored to attend Kenya Utali college in 2007 to finish his chef’s diploma. On his return he began working in the lodge kitchen. With his natural passion for food Bernard quickly became head chef and with the opportunity to continue his training in different culinary styles and interning in the top restaurants in Nairobi, Bernard is making a Borana a food destination.



**Jack Dyer** also 4th generation born and raised on Borana. Jack has trained as both a chef and a butcher, working in the UK and Berlin. His concern for ethical meat has led him to start his own abattoir and butchery, where he purchases grass-fed and happy livestock from Borana and neighbouring farmers, and supplies to lodges and restaurants all over Kenya. Jack lives on neighbouring Kisima Farm.

These people, together with an extended team of over 500 employees across the different sectors of the conservancy, are putting Borana’s conservation model into action and bringing the conservancy to life. 90% of our team are from the local area.







# WILDLIFE AND THE ENVIRONMENT



The objectives of the conservancy are to fund and effectively implement a mutually beneficial co-existence between all components of the living environment – the land, wildlife, and communities. The Borana Conservancy embraces an integrated and sustainable strategy to conservation that includes the following initiatives:

## **RANCHING AND HOLISTIC LAND MANAGEMENT**

Having originally been a livestock ranch, Borana has a long history of cattle ranching and grassland management. Cattle are used as a tool to enhance the quality of the grazing. Cattle grazing reduces the moribund grass biomass, promotes seed dispersal, increases the nutritional value of the grass and decreases the risk of bush fires. The importance of cattle gives Borana common ground and shared concerns with its neighbours. Every week the cattle are run through a spray race to rid them of ticks. This is beneficial to Borana's wild herbivores as the tick population and the diseases they spread is kept under control. Ranching also contributes financially to the running of the conservancy. The beef and lamb used in our kitchens is grown on the ranch.

Livestock to Market (LTM) is a scheme where community cattle are grazed on Borana land for fattening before being taken to market. This can increase the value of the animal by up to 80% (average 25% value increase) over a relatively short space of time. Of the increased value of the animal Borana Ranch takes 20% to cover grazing and management costs, and the remaining 80% is essentially free income paid back to the owners. During 2016 289 community steers grazed on Borana and were tended by Borana Ranch herdsmen. These steers were sold to Kenyan butchers bringing a total of 13,500.000/- into the local community – this is spread out through eight communities housing 290 households. The programme has already brought in over 20 million shillings during 2017.

## **ORGANIC FARMING AND SUSTAINABLE WATER USE**

Starting in January 2014 – Llewellyn Dyer returned to the ranch to work on the irrigable fields and the vegetable garden down at Ngare Ndare. He has converted the Kabati fields into a regenerative project, putting in swales to harvest the water and mulching many plants to improve the quality of the soil. He is now finishing all the Borana steers before they are sold. He will also be planting up avocado, mulberry and macadamia trees.



This happens alongside the Afriorganic Company that produces F1 hand-pollinated flower and vegetable seeds employing an additional 220 people.

Both Borana and Afriorganic are actively involved in the Water Resource Users Association, ensuring management and conservation of the Ngare Ndare river catchment as well as the sustainable use of the river water. Many rivers stopped flowing during the dry season, but careful management of abstraction ensured the Ngare Ndare River continues to flow. During the recent prolonged dry period, the Ngare Ndare River flowed strongly throughout.





### KEEPING WILDLIFE SAFE

The security and monitoring of wildlife especially rhino requires large numbers of highly trained and motivated personnel to perform these tasks. The monitoring of rhino involves skilled tracking and perseverance in thick bush. Long hours are spent amongst elephant, buffalo and other dangerous animals in the pursuit of identifying and establishing the daily whereabouts and health of each individual rhino. This information gathered allows the anti-poaching security team to be deployed. They operate almost exclusively at night, in response to current trends of poachers, patrolling and scanning specific areas with thermal imaging and night vision binoculars. These men are on the front line protecting these animals against heavily armed and determined gangs, as well as working in harsh, cold and uncomfortable conditions.

All of these activities are now monitored by the joint operations and communications centre - based on Lewa. Using cutting edge technology to support men and women in the field. Annual recurrent training is conducted by both the police and 51° - the charity ForRangers provides support with equipment.



### LION LANDSCAPES

Lion Landscapes is a research programme carried out on Borana that extends throughout Ewaso-Laikipia. All the lions on Borana including a resident pride of over 18 are followed and their movements and habits monitored by Wilson 'The Lion Man'. He patrols the ranch on his motorbike, keeping track of the prides' movements, so as to prevent them from interfering with the cattle and their herdsman, who roam freely on the ranch. Wilson also monitors the collared lions when they move onto community land and warns livestock owners when they are in the neighbourhood. This gives herdsman information on lion locations and movements and is the most important factor in avoiding predation of domestic stock. This is an ongoing programme and as the lions fragment to start new prides and coalitions we must add more collars to continue with the monitoring.

Borana is perhaps the only ranch where lion and domestic stock have little or no conflict.



### PROTECTING ENDANGERED SPECIES

Borana Conservancy is part of the wider Ewaso-Laikipia ecosystem, holding an abundance and diversity of wildlife comparable to any of Kenya's national parks. Critically endangered species, such as the Patas monkey, Jackson's Hartebeest, Reticulated Giraffe, Greater Kudu and African Wild Dog are resident on Borana and Lewa. Securing their habitat and increasing the conservation landscape available for wildlife is the underlying mission of the Conservancy. Patrols from the security teams, either mounted on horseback or on foot, give security to all species, making Borana and Lewa a safe haven where wildlife can flourish.



## THE ELEPHANT CORRIDOR

Elephant habitat is declining at a significant rate. The human population of Kenya is growing rapidly. Human-wildlife conflict is on the increase and therefore a solution had to be found to allow the elephants of the North to be able to pass up into the forests of Mt Kenya without destroying human livelihoods on the way. They need to access the food in the forests - an elephant consumes about 300 kg a day and the savannahs of the North cannot supply all the nutrients they need - trees and shrubs are also essential.

Borana helped to raise a significant amount of funding, along with the LWC, LWF, Kisima and Marania for the construction of this fenced corridor. Previously elephant movements between the Ngare Ndare Forest and Mount Kenya were causing conflict with farmers - now all wildlife can move freely and safely.

During 2016 there were 1200 elephant underpass crossings connecting previously isolated elephant populations while mitigating human-elephant conflict.



photo: Associated Press

## RHINOS ON BORANA

The Borana Conservancy was established in 2011 and was incorporated into the Kenya Wildlife Service “Conservation and Management Strategy for the Black Rhino in Kenya 2012-2016”

By August 2013 everything was in place to receive a founding population of 21 black rhinos the preparations for this event were exhaustive and included, upgrading perimeter fencing, constructing gate houses, training scouts and rangers, improving road networks, procuring vehicles and equipment. Mapping habitats and ecological surveys to determine future carrying capacity and so much more. The translocation of rhino was brilliantly orchestrated by Kenya Wildlife Service and Lewa Wildlife Conservancy over a period of 7 days and with no injuries the rhino 10 from Nakuru National park and 11 from Lewa were free released and soon established territories in their new home. This was a bold and progressive move at a time when secure habitat for rhino was shrinking.

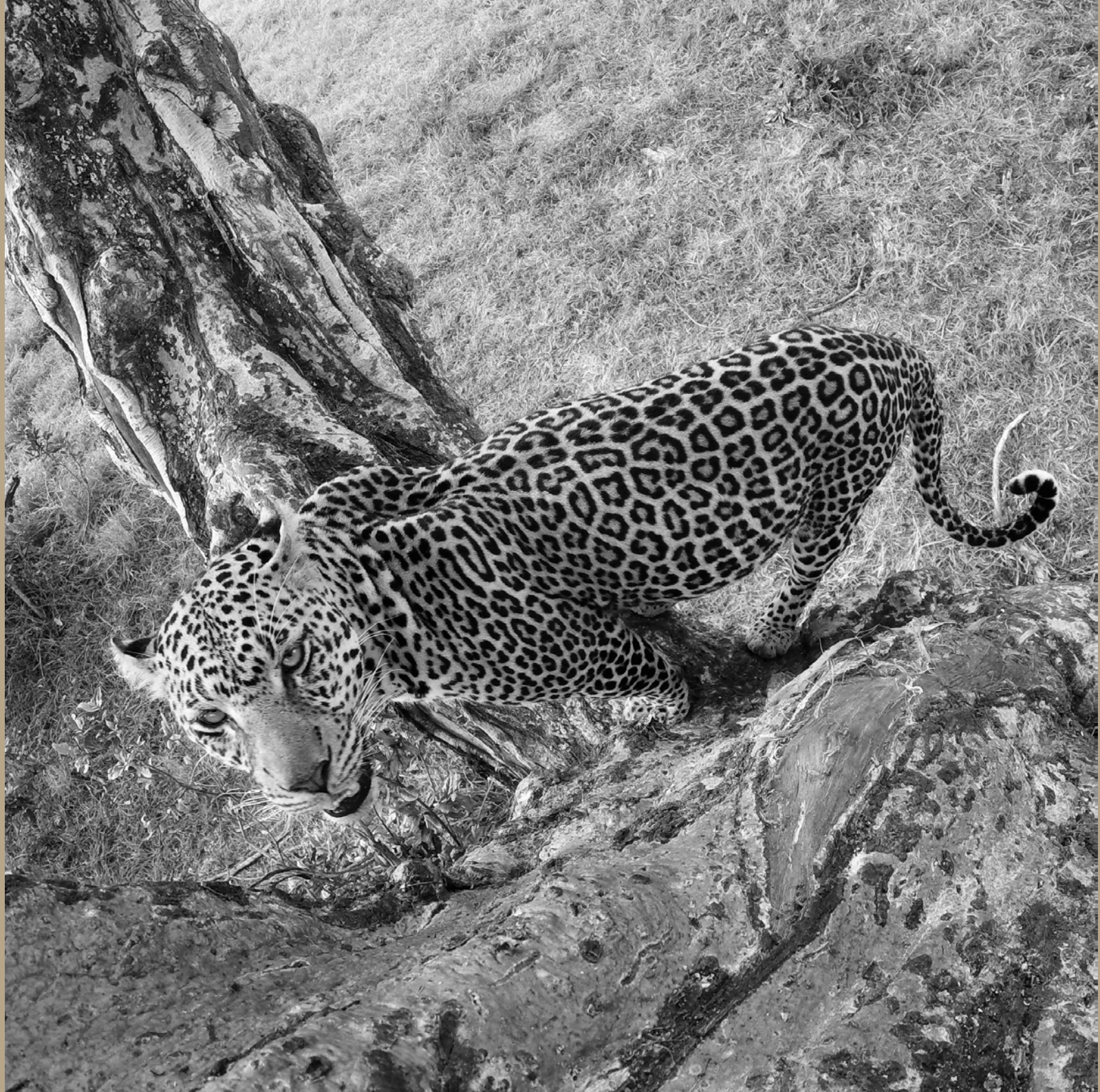
The most exciting news of course is that there were ten births on Borana over the last four years, representing an incredible birth rate in a new population. Not all news has been happy as a leopard recently wounded one of our calves – he was flown to the San Diego vet lab at Reteti Orphanage on Namunyak Group Ranch but the intervention was too late. Another young male broke his back falling down a cliff.

The whole rhino population appears to be well settled and there is very little territorial movement – suggestive of adequate social and ecological carrying capacity on Borana despite the incredibly dry year we have been having.

Importantly the Lewa Borana landscape now collectively hosts 86 black rhinos and 79 white over 98,000 acres of secure habitat.











## CONSERVATION IN ACTION









# CONSERVATION PARTNERSHIPS WORKING TOWARDS A CONTIGUOUS ECOSYSTEM

**BORANA CONSERVANCY** firmly believes in collaboration, and has forged long-lasting and beneficial relationships with various other conservation agencies and initiatives within Laikipia and across the Kenyan landscape. Here are a few of our key conservation partnerships:



## **KENYA WILDLIFE SERVICE**

The Kenya Wildlife Service is the government agency tasked to protect and manage the fauna, flora and eco-systems of Kenya. The Kenya Wildlife Service Conservation and Management Strategy (2012) for Black Rhino underlined a long-term target of conserving a viable metapopulation of 2000 Eastern Black Rhino (*Bicornis michaeli*) in situ in Kenya, with a short-term goal of achieving 700 Black Rhino by 2011. This was dependent on a minimum 6% growth increment of the population. In order to maintain the potential growth of the black rhino population and to resolve problems created by current territorial overlaps within Lewa, more secure habitat is required and Borana has been identified as suitable. Borana is part of the KWS strategy officially launched in December 2012. An updated strategy will shortly be published.



## **LEWA WILDLIFE CONSERVANCY**

The LWC works as a catalyst for the conservation of wildlife and its habitat. This is achieved through the protection and management of species, the initiation and support of community conservation and development programmes, and the education of neighbouring areas in the value of wildlife. Lewa Wildlife Conservancy borders Borana to the east. It was one of the first rhino conservancies in Kenya. LWC is host to the annual Lewa Marathon, an endurance race on dirt roads with the possibility of encountering rhinos, elephants and lion on the route! Borana and Lewa have become one large contiguous ecosystem, giving their rhino additional secure habitat.



## **NORTHERN RANGELANDS TRUST**

NRT's mission is to develop resilient community conservancies, which transform people's lives, secure peace and conserve natural resources. The highest governing body is the Council of Elders, Chairs of the conservancies make up the majority and are joined by others who represent, county councils, wildlife forums, KWS and the private sector. The success of NRT has already helped to shape new government regulations on establishing, registering and managing community conservancies.

North Kenya faces a host of challenges, transport corridors, oil discoveries, population growth and climate change - NRT is helping the conservancies to understand what these threats and benefits mean for them and how they can develop a resilience to cope with the changes. Better land management, diverse sources of income; better education and strong governance will be the key to survival and prosperity.



## **MOUNT KENYA TRUST**

Mount Kenya is 'one of the most impressive landscapes of Eastern Africa, with its rugged glacier-clad summits, Afro-alpine moorlands and diverse forests that illustrate outstanding ecological processes'. The forest zone is the largest remaining in Kenya and its ecosystem as a whole plays a critical role in water catchment for two main rivers in the country, the Tana and Ewaso Ngiro. Millions of Kenyans depend directly on these rivers for their livelihoods. The Mt Kenya Trust was founded to protect these forests. Various projects have been put in place to achieve this goal. Seedlings have been planted, fences erected and ponies patrol the forests protecting wildlife and deterring loggers. Mt Kenya Trust organises the annual 10 - 4 mountainbike race attracting bikers from all over the world, which finishes on Borana.



## **NGARE NDARE FOREST TRUST**

Borana Conservancy is a Trustee of the Ngare Ndare Forest Trust and has been significantly involved since its inception. The trust is run entirely by the Ngare Ndare community in partnership with the Kenya Forest Service, their aim being to protect the forest and its vital water-catchment for future generations. The Ngare Ndare Forest Trust emphasises the community ownership of the forest, thus fostering a sense of responsibility for this vital resource and ecosystem. Borana supports this community as well as the trust's conservation efforts by sending guests on forest visits. The forest is a truly unique feature of the ecosystem and the birdlife, butterflies, canopy walkway and blue pools add great value to the Borana experience.



# COMMUNITIES AND CONSERVATION

A conservancy cannot only focus on the protection of the land and wildlife itself, but also needs to acknowledge the relationship of the environment to its people, and the ever-increasing competition for vital resources – land, food, water – between an increased human population and wildlife populations that are struggling to survive and that we are striving to protect.

Managing the interaction between humans and wildlife is one of the core objectives of the conservancy - a harmonious balance needs to be maintained. There needs to be infrastructure, strategic fencing, the maintenance of roads, the upgrading of school facilities, access to medicine and healthcare, water distribution and efficient management of that resource. Advice on rangeland management and access to certified and appropriate seed along with modern agricultural technology is also provided. Obviously this all takes time and investment, however slowly but surely we are collectively demonstrating the positive effects of conserving wilderness, by allocating income that has been generated through Borana to community projects.

Through both projects and our local employment policies along with opportunities generated at Tassia, Il N’gvesi, Lewa and the Ngare Ngare Forest Trust, the wider community who are our partners in conservation can realise real benefits from a well-managed contiguous ecosystem.

Looking ahead we will work with our conservation partners, the Kenya Forest Service and the peoples of the Mukogodo Forest to create a trust to conserve and preserve this vast and largely pristine forest. The same progress has been made under the entity ‘Ilmamusi’, which now has a management plan in place supported by the Northern Rangeland Trust /Lewa Wildlife Conservancy and Borana Conservancy.

The next stage is to engage with REDD carbon offset schemes across the wider landscape and if successful, this will be a positive way for communities to accrue returns from the land that they have so successfully nurtured over the years.

## EMPLOYMENT

Borana Conservancy maintains a local employment policy, where 90% of the employees are from communities on the boundaries of Borana. Borana and our partners provide jobs, pensions and health insurance to over 500 members of our immediate community.





## EDUCATION

Borana funds an Education Programme, which supports five local primary schools and has sponsored many young minds through secondary and tertiary education, thereby inspiring the lives and futures of children, families, and communities.

The Education Programme helps children continue their education beyond primary level, through bursaries; improves each of the five schools through investment in the facilities and teaching tools; and enhances conservation efforts by organising activities in the schools, which ensure that pupils recognise the importance of the environment and wildlife. To date, 160 children have received 100% scholarships from the programme.

## THE EDUCATION PROGRAMME

- employs 14 teachers at 6 different local primary schools.
- sponsors 30 scholars at 15 different local secondary schools in the area (3 of whom are students attending schools for special needs).
- sponsors 8 of the top students in the area with scholarships to university. All of our students have studied well and achieved good grades.



### **CRAWLING TOWARDS A BETTER DAY - By Moses Ndira - Moi University, School of Law**

Sometimes there are no next time, no timeouts and no second chances. Sometimes it is now or never. That's exactly what I was faced with 9 years ago when I had completed my primary education and a chance to join high school consistently knocked at my doorstep. Aware of the hardships that I went through as son of a single mother, I was almost sure that the dream of stepping into a secondary school was unreachable and unrealistic at its best.

I applied for 5 scholarships with no success. I almost resigned to fate. The promise of a better day was proving elusive. Everything seemed broken at that moment: a broken heart, a broken spirit and broken dreams. My classmates started joining school while my prospects of doing so were enclosed in a dark cloud of uncertainty. My mother's appeal to relatives to aid in the raising of school fees proved futile. We explored all available options but it seemed that the gods were conspiring to discredit all my efforts and hard work whilst in primary school. I began to interrogate the popular saying "hard work pays."

One last chance of ensuring that my dream remain on course came my way rather unexpectedly. A friend told me about Borana Conservancy and that I might get full sponsorship to study. I burnt the midnight oil that fateful night sharing my life with that piece of paper addressed to unknown people whom I just referred to as 'Sir/Madam.' I explained the kind of life I live, with my poor mother and siblings. I shared the struggles, shame and challenges mum goes through to put food on the table. It was a story, which not only left me exposed but also ashamed. Most importantly I shared my dreams for the future. I told an interesting story of my bright future if only I can get someone to fuel my dreams by paying the school fees. I wrote out of conviction that a better day lies ahead of me. I concluded by hoping that my application would be considered. The news of my successful application rekindled my dreams, which were slowly fading away.

I joined high school courtesy of Borana Conservancy. I worked hard throughout the 4 years and recorded a sterling performance. I was selected to join Moi University to pursue Law on merit basis. Borana Conservancy continued paying school fees for me. Before I had finished my first year in the University, death robbed us of my mother, who was the only constant in my life. May her soul rest in eternal peace. I knew the responsibility to raise my younger siblings shifted heavily to rest on my weak shoulders. It was a big blow once again to my dreams of a better day. I contemplated bringing my education to an end so that I could remain at home to ensure that my siblings got a basic education. Fortunately Borana Conservancy gave me a shoulder to cry on when they sponsored my two younger brothers for secondary education. Currently I am in my last semester at Moi University School of Law. God willing I will be joining the Kenya School of Law next year in January for the post-graduate diploma that is a requirement for one to practice law in Kenya. My childhood dreams of practicing law are on course because Borana Conservancy aided me to pursue them. I intend to practice as an advocate as soon as I am admitted to the bar to gain the necessary experience required for one to be a Judge.

The good Bible records the parable of the Good Samaritan. I imagine that the first question the Priest and the Levite asked was 'If I stop to help this man what will happen to me?' but by the very nature of his concern the Good Samaritan reversed the question 'If I do not stop to help this man what will happen to him?' That must have been what Borana Conservancy asked itself when it sponsored my siblings and I.







## COMMUNITY HEALTHCARE AND THE BORANA MOBILE CLINIC

Borana Conservancy sponsors the Borana Mobile Clinic, which provides basic health care, health lectures, HIV Aids awareness, antenatal counselling, child immunisation programmes (mainly polio and measles) and family planning advice to all members of the local community. Two nurses and one driver visit 10 different locations on a two week rotation to deliver medical assistance and health education in the local schools.

Since its inception in 2005, the Borana Mobile clinic has administered on average 12,500 treatments a year within our local area. In 2012, the Borana Mobile Clinic was registered with the Ministry of Health and the National Hospital Insurance Fund, and is now recognised as an important partner with the MOH, doing coordinated immunisation campaigns, as well as advising community health workers on sanitation and nutrition.

Over US\$24,000 was spent on community healthcare in 2016, with full support from the Ministry of Health.

Healthcare Programme	Total treatments since 2005	Total treatments in 2016
Curatives	29,944	2,301
Family Planning	9,148	829
Immunisation	15,408	972
Antenatal	3,147	140
Health Lectures	38,038	2,344







## BORANA is very proud to be a member of THE LONG RUN

- One of the world's largest sustainable development initiatives led by nature based businesses.
- Members safeguard 12 million acres of nature and touch the lives of 520,000 people. The Long Run aspires to conserve 20 million acres of biodiversity and improve the lives of 2 million people by 2020.
- The Long Run Vision: Business, nature and people are harmoniously working together for a sustainable future.
- Support, connect and inspire nature-based businesses to excel in following the highest standards of sustainability encompassing the **4Cs - Conservation, Community, Culture and Commerce** to collectively influence others to take up best practices for a sustainable future worldwide.

[www.thelongrun.com](http://www.thelongrun.com)

### CONSERVATION ACTIVITIES

Many guests would like to get more involved with the conservation on Borana so we have put together some activities to ensure this can happen. These include: a morning run with the armed guards, evening deployments and morning collections for the night rangers, track and sight rhinos with their scouts and report on their locations, monitor rhino and lion with Wilson or Rianto with the telemetry set, identify lions by using the whisker spot cards, get involved with any darting or collaring that might be going on at the time. Every March we carry out a wildlife census in which guests are welcome to participate.

### THE LEWA SAFARICOM MARATHON AND THE 10-4 MOUNTAIN BIKE RIDE

For guests who would like to get involved in a fund raiser for Conservation, the **Lewa Marathon** happens at the end of June every year and is one of the toughest marathons in the world, being on dirt tracks, at altitude and with high temperatures - you need to run fast before the sun goes too high in the sky!

The **10-4 mountain bike race** happens in mid-February and is basically a very fast downhill chase through some spectacular country, finishing on Borana.





# HOW TOURISM SUPPORTS CONSERVATION

The engine fuelling the Borana Conservancy is tourism. Tourists from all over the world travel to experience Kenya's wildlife and wide-open spaces and without the tourism industry, conservation projects would struggle to survive. Sharing this piece of wilderness we protect with our guests, is essential to Borana's sustainability.

Every precious cent earned through tourism on Borana is ploughed back into protecting wildlife, its habitat and the people who live in the area. Tourism contributed \$828,530 towards the budget for sustaining our community and conservation projects during 2016. This meant that 538 people were employed from the local area, 8,500 medical treatments were carried out in 10 different locations, 14 teachers and 38 children were sponsored, health education was brought to 9 schools, there was recurrent training given to over 100 rangers, 9 highly endangered species were protected, 32 lions in 2 prides with several satellite males were monitored and 4 baby black rhinos were born within 1 month.

## THE BORANA CONSERVANCY SAFARI EXPERIENCE

Borana offers some of the most thrilling, authentic and unique ways to encounter Kenya's wildlife and wilderness thanks to our conservation efforts. The conservancy strives to retain this land as pristine wilderness that guests are able to enjoy first hand, be it walking through the bush, riding on ranch horses or mountain bikes, driving in the open-top safari vehicles, or lounging at infinity pools and enjoying the view. Since Borana is a private property, there is guaranteed exclusivity, making every aspect of the safari experience personal, peaceful and uninterrupted - giving guests the rare opportunity to be totally immersed in nature.

## WHERE TO STAY

Borana Lodge - [www.borana.com](http://www.borana.com) / Laragai House - [www.borana.com](http://www.borana.com) / Sirai House - [www.siraihouse.com](http://www.siraihouse.com) / Arijiju House - [www.arjiju.com](http://www.arjiju.com)





# BORANA LAIKIPIA, KENYA

is 30,000 acres  
within 94,000 acres of  
protected rhino habitat  
in partnership with Lewa Wildlife Conservancy

secure habitat for  
wildlife

53 different mammal species and 334 different bird species



1,400 travellers visited Borana



in 2016

to experience pristine wilderness  
and enjoy the abundant wildlife

## TOURISM AND CONSERVATION ON BORANA MEANT THAT

502 people employed from the local area

8,500 medical treatments in 10 locations

14 teachers and 30 children sponsored

recurrent training for over 100 rangers

protecting 9 highly endangered species

monitoring 30 lions in 2 different prides

health education in 9 schools

Incorporating the 4Cs

Commerce



Community



Culture

Conservation

tourism generated  
\$828,530

100% CONSERVATION  
AND  
COMMUNITIES  
poured back into

sustaining the conservancy and ensuring the  
environment, wildlife and local people  
benefit from conservation

# ALL FOR CONSERVATION



## IMAGES FROM THE KABATI REGENERATIVE FARM



The regenerative method of farming land works around the principal of working with natural systems; land, plants, soil and water to minimise external inputs and maximise production. Everything ultimately in balance, all the elements working within the framework of a natural eco-system.





Embracing the Principles of the 4Cs - Community - Conservation - Culture - Commerce

ALL FOR CONSERVATION