



Rangeland Management Report

Conservancy Name	Lekurruki conservation Trust		
Compile By	Thomas Sakui	Year	2013
Month	July	Date	30

INTRODUCTION-Summarize the report

Rangeland management is still taking great strides in the Lekurruki community. Holistically grazing planning had been really good convenient approach to convince communities on importance of land management. The community has embraced the idea after witnessing the positive outputs of the program and they were now fully participating.

Several grazing committee, community meetings and joint meeting between Mpus Kutuk and Lekurruki elders were held during the reporting period and the agendas mostly based on rangeland management issues as well as challenges faced, encroachment being the burning issue that was discussed at length and decisions were made as well as recommendations. The meetings were also used to continue to sensitize the community on issue of rangeland management, benefit of holistic management and share with them the success achieved so far. The community contributed a lot in those meetings and got an opportunity to participate in decision making in the programme.

Lekurruki community had an exposure tour within the conservancy and it was conducted in duration of four days, the team comprises three groups: elders, Moran's and ladies. The tour was carried out with an objective to motivate and inspire them to continue enhancing rangeland management as well as committing themselves for effective running of the program.

Grazing by-laws harmonization workshop and wild silk survey training was conducted within the reporting period on the respective day 4th-22nd/07/2013 at Isiolo

The bunched herd records are detailed in the report on monthly base for monitoring purposes and also to obtain information that can help in management decision.

The challenges faced within the reporting period and also plan for the next month is given in detail in the report.

MONITORING-Forage utilization and availability, No. of bomas ,amount of rainfall received and water availability and distribution

Forage utilization as per the regular monitoring carried out by the grazing coordinator is moderately grazed for the two blocks that were in the grazing plan since the bunched herd left at right time leaving with cover, as pertain to forage availability is minimal for now, likely enough Wazee buffer which was in our grazing block was recently open for only the bunched herd has enough carrying capacity of 1170 animal unit for a duration of four months.

The temporary bomas made so far in the bare ground is forty two in total, meaning that a good size of an area is brought back to life.

The dry season is getting to it is climax, meaning that there is no rain received but fortunately ngarandare river is still flowing up to now. However in the Wazee buffer water is abundantly available since there are springs and also Ngarandare lugga is near.



Photo.1 The bunched herd taking water at Ngarandare river. **Photo.2** Elders exposure tour in the bunched herd.

GRAZING COMMITTEES MEETINGS AND COMMUNITY MEETINGS ON GRAZING ISSUES –Key decision made, and recommendation.

During the reporting period several meetings were held within the group ranch as follows;

A joint meeting between Lekurruki and Mpus Kutuk elders was held at Lekurruki HQ on 2 July and the burning issue was encroachment from Mpus Kutuk community and it was concluded that the owners of the cattle to take the responsibility to make sure that cattle are grazing where suppose

On 19/07/2013 joint meeting was held between Lekurruki and Mpus Kutuk elders at a big manyatta within lekurruki buffer zone which is for one clan of samburu known as *longeele*. The agenda discussed at length was encroachment that is really tampering with grazing plans. The above clan was found guilty felling to respect any of our plans, so having portrayed that bad picture they were given two days to remove their cattle out of Lekurruki and also two weeks to organize themselves to migrate out of lekurruki.



Photo. 3 Elders in a meeting held at the big manyatta. **Photo.3** a joint meeting held at Lekurruki HQ

As pertain to challenges that had being hampering the implementation of grazing planning, NRT facilitated the workshop for harmonization of grazing by laws and it was held on 4th/07/2013 at Isiolo. The participants were divided according to county and each group proposes the grazing by laws that would not conflict with their existing plans and each team present their views which finally they were harmonized together



Photo.5 The participants harmonizing the grazing by laws. **Photo.6** Laikipia team proposing their grazing by laws

Community exposure tour was conducted on 15th-18th-/07/2013. The team is a group of three: women, morans and elders, the three groups visited the conservancy on different dates on a mission to explore Lekurruki buffer zone to learn more as far as holistic management is concern. The community members were received at Headquarter and they were briefed by Manager and Grazingcoordinator, on issues of rangeland management as well as success achieved and challenges faced, thereafter the team was taken around the buffer and also to the bunched herd and finally they went back to HQ and we all enjoy lunch together, as we interact and shares ideas. The exposure tour was design to createmotivation to the community to make steps head to promote the program. The last day the three groups were brought together to hold a meeting. The

purpose of the meeting was to give them chance to present the views on what they have witnessed on their exposure tour. The presentations are inspirational since they all recommended being wonderful work done. The team went back home rejoicing and appreciating the success achieved and there was quick positive response from the community that is increasing number of the herd in the bunch, for holistic management program.



Photo.7 An elder smiling next to his cow after having hard time searching for it, in the bunched herd since it was long time he ever seen again. **photo.8**

LIVESTOCK RECORDS;-Health, births and death, predated and injured, lost, added and removed, sick and treated.

The health of the bunched herd is good due to availability of pasture. The number of the bunched herd as per now is 311, this being an indicator that shows community had married in the idea of holistic management.

Description	Births	Deaths	Predated	injured	Lost	Added	Removed	Sick	Treated
Number	3	2	1	1	2	43	0	38	38

EXPENDITURE FOR THE MONTH of July

ITEM	UNY COST	NO. UNIT	TOTAL
Herders wages	6,000	8	48,000
Ranger's ops all.	5,000	2	10,000
Ration	1800	10	18,000
Casuals	1500	4	6,000
Vet. Supply	8,500	1	8,500
Total			90,500

ISSUES, CONSTRAINS AND CHALLENGES

- ❖ Encroachment threat from Mpus-kutuk community: high pressure of encroachment due to this dry season is being faced
- ❖ The two big manyattas situated within our buffer zone is another great challenge that is violating our grazing plans. The two blocks were highly grazed meaning less cover left and no time to recover.
- ❖ Human wildlife conflict: a cow predated by a lion

PLANS FOR THE NEXT MONTH

- To hold a community zones meeting on the course of next month.
- *Acacia reficiens* clearance and grass reseeding in the bare ground areas.