

Project Updates: December 2015.

The fieldwork for this project started in September 2015. We conducted transect surveys to detect and record the signs of illegal activities in the Serengeti National Park and Ikorongo and Grumeti Game reserves. The illegal killing of wildlife and other activities such as cattle incursion, trees and thatch harvesting were the commonly encountered signs across the national park and game reserves. Poachers appear to employ a range of techniques, such as physically chasing and cutting animals with sharp knives (*pangas*) at night ambushes, pit falling to using wire snares to kill the animals. Also, although various species are extracted by the poachers, the wildebeest species appears to be proportionally dominant on the list. Our next field work will be conducted in the Maswa Game reserve.

Photographs taken during field work



Left: A researcher recording data at a wire snare set by poachers to catch animals inside Serengeti National Park. Right: A researcher and assistant recording snare prints left by poachers after catch success. These were used to quantify the amount of wire snares previously set in a particular location.



Left: Poachers do not only kill animals but also harvest a ranger of other plant products. This tree has repeatedly been cut by poachers in the north within the Serengeti National Park. Right: A large number of wildlife is decimated on wire snares set by poachers. This wildebeest was encountered in one of our transects in the north zone of Serengeti National Park