

2015 Annual Report



GREVY'S ZEBRA
TRUST



The year 2015 has been an incredible one! After welcoming my daughter into the world in January, I returned to work three months later, prouder than ever of our amazing team. In my absence, they oversaw the finishing of our new field headquarters, continued to deliver outstanding results on our demanding field programs, and launched three new projects. Each member of the team took on increased responsibility and ran with it. This, to me, is an indicator that Grevy's Zebra Trust has built significant conservation capacity and leadership at the grassroots level, which in the long-term will enable us to be more effective in saving Grevy's zebra.

In 2015, we pushed new frontiers in monitoring Grevy's zebra with the Grevy's Zebra Warriors penetrating the remote lava plateaus of Laisamis using camels; our Grevy's Zebra Scout women embarked on a reusable sanitary pad project that is changing the lives of women and girls; our conflict transformation work in El Barta saved human and wildlife lives; we built a dedicated water point for Grevy's zebra in Laisamis; and, we now have a permanent home base in Samburu to operate from.

None of these remarkable achievements would have been possible without you. From all of us at Grevy's Zebra Trust, thank you for believing in our work and supporting us to make a difference for this beautiful, endangered species, and icon of northern Kenya.



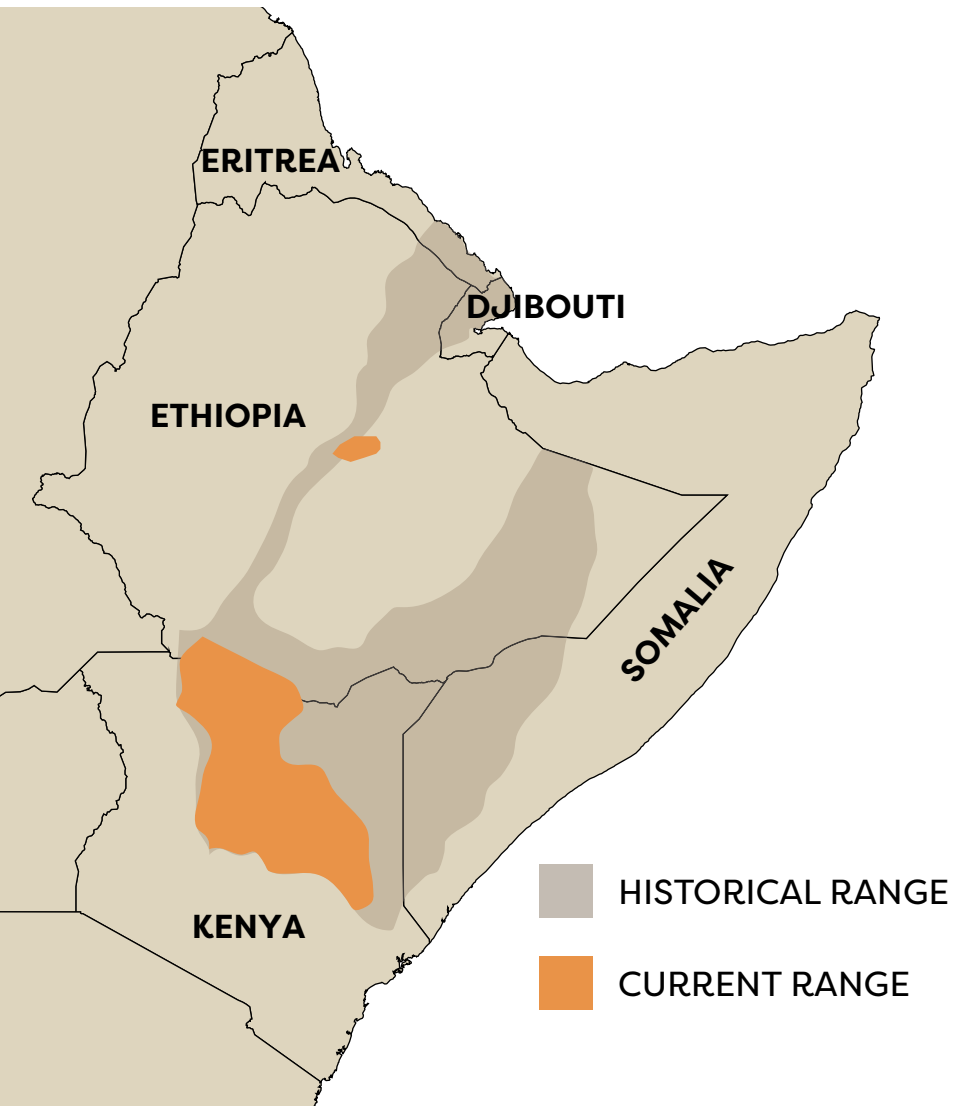
Belinda Low Mackey
Co-Founder and Executive Director



About Grevy's Zebra

The Grevy's zebra is the largest zebra species in Africa. It is distinguished from the plains zebra by its large fuzzy ears, fine intricate stripes, gleaming white belly, soft brown muzzle, and a charcoal dorsal stripe bordered by a white space at the rump. Hence the Samburu name for Grevy's zebra "Loiborkurum" meaning "white-rumped".

The Grevy's zebra is one of Africa's most endangered large mammals. Less than 2,500 are left on earth in the arid landscapes of Kenya and Ethiopia; over 90% of these are found only in northern Kenya. Once hunted for its magnificent skin, the Grevy's zebra is now threatened by habitat loss due to land degradation, limited access to water, poaching, and disease.

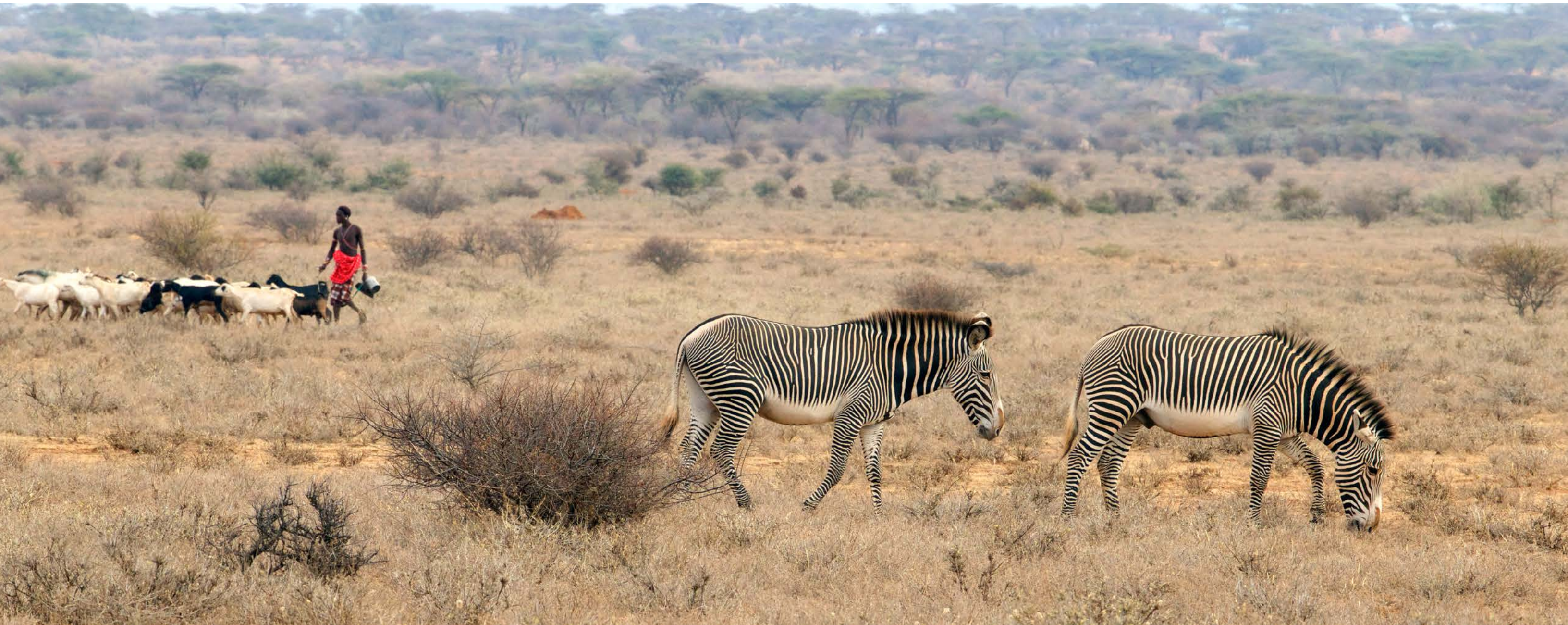


Mission:
Grevy's Zebra Trust conserves the endangered Grevy's zebra and its fragile habitat in partnership with communities.

Our Approach

We work in Kenya with women, elders, warriors, youth, and children. Together, we monitor trends in Grevy's zebra populations; we increase conservation awareness and foster positive attitudes towards the species and its habitat; we provide protection for Grevy's zebra and other wildlife threatened by poaching; we restore and improve habitat for Grevy's zebra, other wildlife, and community livelihoods; and we help Grevy's zebra survive during times of environmental stress. Many of our actions also protect other important wildlife species in northern Kenya.

We are a grassroots and gender conscious organization with more than 95% of the team employed from communities living in Grevy's zebra range.



Grevy's Zebra Ambassador Program

GREVY'S ZEBRA PROTECTION

Our Grevy's Zebra Ambassador Program operates in the El Barta Region where poaching is the major threat to Grevy's zebra. Our team of Grevy's Zebra Ambassadors is dedicated to protecting and monitoring Grevy's zebra and other wildlife. Crucially, this program engages the communities living off wildlife, turning them from poachers to conservationists. The number of poaching incidents in El Barta has dropped by 60% since 2014, due to an increased conservation presence resulting from the work of the Grevy's Zebra Ambassadors, the El Barta Conservation Council, and the establishment of three community conservancies in the region supported by Samburu County.

The number of poaching incidents in El Barta has dropped by 60% since 2014



"I used to be one of the guys that killed wildlife. When I saw the Grevy's Zebra Ambassadors earned money from protecting Grevy's zebra, I saw wildlife in a different light and my perceptions towards it changed. When the community chose me to be employed by Grevy's Zebra Trust I was very surprised. I was the leader of the warriors... and this is why I was chosen to be an Ambassador. I felt so lucky. Even now, I still lead the warriors and I think this is why poaching has gone down in my area. The warriors respect me and respect my beliefs." - Joburuk Namulen





BUILDING PEACE IN SUPPORT OF CONSERVATION

Conflict between ethnic groups in El Barta poses a threat to wildlife security as livestock raiders from both sides live off wildlife during their raiding operations. Grevy's Zebra Trust established the El Barta Conservation Council in 2014 to promote peace and mediate conflict. The 22-member council is made up of one elder and one warrior from seven Samburu and four Turkana villages. The Trust has invested in training both the council and the Grevy's Zebra Ambassadors in conservation conflict transformation to equip them with mediation skills. In 2015 the council engaged 1,918 community members on peace and conservation and resolved ten cases of conflict, together with the Grevy's Zebra Ambassadors. The council's logo shows the Grevy's zebra wearing the feathers of both cultures, symbolizing peace between the two groups, and unified by the Grevy's zebra.

In 2015 the council engaged 1,918 community members on peace and conservation and resolved 10 cases of conflict, together with the Grevy's Zebra Ambassadors

Grevy's Zebra Scout Program

The Grevy's Zebra Scout Program operates in the Wamba Region in partnership with community wildlife conservancies. The Grevy's Zebra Scouts have been collecting long-term data on Grevy's zebra and raising local awareness of the conservation challenges facing Grevy's zebra and how community members can help address them. In 2015 we expanded the reach of the Grevy's Zebra Scout Program to six new areas with the addition of six women to this amazing team! Nineteen women and ten men now serve as Grevy's Zebra Scouts operating in nine community conservancies, and we are excited to learn more about the Grevy's zebra in these newly added areas.

IMPROVING LIVES

Being a Grevy's Zebra Scout increases their standing within the community, and this is particularly so for women, who, as a result of being a Scout, are publicly recognized by men for their important role in conservation of the community's resources, and are called upon to contribute to meetings and decision-making. Furthermore, a socio-economic survey conducted last year, found that nearly half the Grevy's Zebra Scouts invest their salary into other enterprises, increasing their income by 57%. As a result of their income, the Scouts also contribute significant financial resources to households within their homestead and beyond.

Nearly half the Grevy's Zebra Scouts invest their salary into other enterprises, increasing their income by 57%

The proportion of foals and juveniles in the population increased from 12% in 2009 to 21% and stable over the last 3 years

STABLE TREND CONFIRMED

An analysis of the last seven years of data collected by the Grevy's Zebra Scouts showed that Grevy's zebra sightings, while decreasing during drought years due to migration, are increasing overall across the landscape. The proportion of foals and juveniles in the population has also increased from 12% following a devastating drought in 2009, to a stable 21% over the last three years. This echoes the general impression by scientists that Grevy's zebra are stabilizing in Kenya.

Nineteen women and ten men now serve as Grevy's Zebra Scouts operating in nine community conservancies



DISEASE MONITORING

In northern Kenya, herds of livestock graze close to Grevy's zebra, so the potential for spreading disease between both groups is very high. To understand how disease affects Grevy's zebra health and survival, we are tapping into the indigenous knowledge of the Grevy's Zebra Scouts, who see the same disease symptoms affecting their donkeys, in Grevy's zebra. We convened a disease training workshop, facilitated by Kenya Wildlife Service vets, to review key diseases, and build a rapid and efficient response network. Of 17 mortality cases in which disease was suspected as the cause of death in 2015, nine were confirmed by the Scouts as exhibiting symptoms of a tick-borne disease called babesiosis. This will be a focus of investigation going forward.

To understand how disease affects Grevy's zebra health and survival, we are tapping into the indigenous knowledge of the Grevy's Zebra Scouts



This project keeps girls in school, gives women and girls in the community a hygienic option during their cycle, and provides additional income to the women making the pads

EMPOWERING WOMEN AND KEEPING GIRLS IN SCHOOL

We were excited to launch our reusable sanitary pad project in 2015 through our Grevy's Zebra Scout Women's network! Named the Nkirreten Project by the women (Nkirreten referring to women's undergarments), this initiative trained our Grevy's Zebra Scout women and their community peers to make reusable sanitary pads for sale to community members and schools. Many girls are forced to drop out of school as a result of their monthly cycle because they have no sanitary protection - this project keeps girls in school, gives women and girls in the community a hygienic option during their cycle, and provides additional income to the women making the pads. The pads are zebra-striped to ensure that the benefits of this project are associated directly with Grevy's zebra.



Grevy's Zebra Warrior Program

TEAMING UP WITH CAMELS

The Grevy's Zebra Warrior Program operates in the Laisamis Region, the most arid of the regions that the Trust works in, and where water access for Grevy's zebra is most limited. In Laisamis, the volcanic lava rock plateaus become a grazing refuge for Grevy's zebra, especially during the dry season. These remote areas are only accessible by foot so we are now the proud owners of two camels which carry enough camp and food supplies for the Grevy's Zebra Warriors to last them for two weeks. Deki and Kabbarai joined our team in July 2015, becoming much-treasured companions for the Warriors during these high-endurance patrols. Sightings of Grevy's zebra by the Warriors increased by more than 50% during one month of camel patrols in the plateaus compared to their sightings during eight months of monitoring in their home areas.



Sightings of Grevy's zebra by the Warriors increased by more than 50% during one month of camel patrols

HELPING GREVY'S GET WATER

The most prevalent threat to Grevy's zebra in Laisamis is limited access to water due to water scarcity in the region, and therefore increased demand from livestock. Grevy's zebra typically access water at night due to human activity around water during the day. During the long dry season, the main water source for Laisamis can be occupied by livestock round the clock, effectively cutting off the resource for Grevy's zebra. Based on two years of camera-trap monitoring and community feedback, Grevy's Zebra Trust built a sand dam and a wildlife dedicated water trough at Laisamis River in late 2015 to increase water availability for Grevy's zebra and other wildlife.



Grevy's Zebra Trust built a sand dam and a wildlife dedicated water trough at Laisamis River



Community Outreach

Not only do our teams monitor Grevy's zebra, but they also actively engage people in their communities. A total of 2,537 community members were reached through our Grevy's Zebra Scout, Ambassador, and Warrior networks. These interactions focused primarily on Grevy's zebra conservation, peace-building, security, and water access.

BUILDING CONSERVATION CAPACITY

Grevy's Zebra Trust holds community workshops to build capacity at the village level on environmental stewardship. One day is dedicated to women, one to warriors, and one to elders. The groups develop a collective Community Action Plan and elect a Core Group to take it forward.

"The population of the people has grown and they are living everywhere and grazing everywhere, destroying everything. Nowadays, there is no controlled grazing." - Woman from Ngilai West community

A shining example of the success of our workshop approach was in Westgate Conservancy. As a result of training received during the workshop in Naisunyai village, the warriors voluntarily rehabilitated a large area of degraded land, which will provide additional habitat for livestock and wildlife. This proactive approach is now being used as an example for others to follow in the wider conservancy.



In 2015, we trained 685 women, 591 elders, 491 warriors and 31 local leaders in improved environmental stewardship

SHAPING THE FUTURE

Grevy's Zebra Trust currently supports six children to attend secondary school through our Grevy's Zebra Bursary Program, and we conduct school outreach visits to increase knowledge about Grevy's zebra and how students can help conserve the species. In 2015, Grevy's Zebra Trust reached 749 students from eight schools.

A Wildlife Safari, held from 3-6 December 2015, hosted 23 children at our Field Headquarters. The children were both Samburu and Turkana from all our program areas. The children were exposed to diverse conservation approaches by interacting with different conservation groups. As insecurity and conflict are negatively affecting wildlife populations in many regions, the safari experience provided a unique opportunity for children from different ethnic origins to come together and appreciate each other for their differences rather than see their differences as an opportunity for conflict.

An El Barta elder observed: "If children can actively participate in activities in a non-discriminatory fashion with children from other tribes, the adults should follow their example."

*In 2015, Grevy's Zebra Trust
reached 749 students from eight
schools*



*An El Barta elder observed: "If
children can actively participate in
activities in a non-discriminatory
fashion with children from other
tribes, the adults should follow
their example."*

Our New Home!

The completion of Grevy's Zebra Trust's Field Headquarters in 2015 means we now have a permanent base from which to operate in northern Kenya, significantly improving our ability to carry out our field programs and communicate as a team on a regular basis. Going from crouching to being able to stand up in a tent and

sleep in a real bed is still surprising to us! Between May and December 2015, we hosted 554 people at our field headquarters through six events. We officially opened the headquarters on 24 August 2015 with guests of honour Kris Norvig and Hon. Lemarkat, Deputy Governor of Samburu County. Our theme for the day was "Celebrating Grevy's Zebra". The event was aired on two national television stations and written about in a mainstream newspaper, which increased national awareness about the status of Grevy's zebra in Kenya.



Thank You!

Our sincerest gratitude goes to the Saint Louis Zoo and the Wildlife Conservation Network for their continued efforts to support us as we move forward with our strategic vision for Grevy's zebra conservation in Kenya. They are dedicated to helping us build best-practice methods across the Trust's programs, and integrate them with our strong grassroots approach.



Our deepest thanks go to our growing network of institutional and private donors who champion our efforts across the world. Thank you for supporting us to save Grevy's zebra in the wild.

\$100,000 and above

Kristan and Peter Norvig
Saint Louis Zoo WildCare Institute

\$50,000 - \$99,999

Fondation Segré

\$25,000-49,999

Princeton University
San Diego Zoo Global

\$10,000-\$24,999

Beagle Charitable Foundation
Columbus Zoo Conservation Fund
Disney Conservation Fund
Gloria and Kent Marshall
Steven and Florence Goldby
World Women Work
Zurich Animal Protection Association

\$5,000-\$9,999

AZA/Zebra Pen
Brevard Zoo Conservation Fund
Caridad Giving Circle
Detroit Zoo
M. Piuze Foundation
Rufford Foundation
Sue Dexter
Thomas and Kathy Leiden

\$1,000-\$4,999

Anonymous
Bruce and Lori Laitman-Rosenblum Family Fund
Chicago Zoological Society
Diane and Ted Johnson
Eliana Shor
Fresno Chaffee Zoo
Genentech
Jeffrey and Sharon Morris
K. Karnos

Linda Tabor-Beck
Margaret McCarthy and Bob Worth
Marwell Wildlife
Mulhouse Zoo
Nancy Denison
Phoenix Zoo
Phyllis Brissenden
Ray Wack and Nancy Anderson
Rebecca Patton and Thomas Goodrich
Reid Park Zoo/Reid Park Zoo Teens
Sacramento Zoo
Sedgwick County Zoo
Susan and Curtis Combs
Susan McConnell and Richard Scheller

\$250-\$999

Alison Fuller
Anne Trela
Anonymous
B Bryan Preserve
Bhadury Family
Brevard American Association of Zoo Keepers
Bryn Snider
Dave Cortright
Debbie and Russ Hall
Dinah Sloan
Dixie Luebcke
Doug and Gail Cheeseman
Eileen Walsh
Froebel College
Houston Zoo
Jack and Lynne Rosser
James and Elaine Holt
Jennifer Kuhn
Jim and Brenda Jones
John and Vanessa Lukas
Jolene Lu and Bob O'Grady
Judy Andersen Baker
Julie and Chuck King
June Heilman
Junko Takeya
Kathryn Olson
Laura Stein Conrad
Laureen De Buono
Mark Reed
Michelle Swenson and Stanley Drobac
Nancy and Christopher Deyo
Pamela Cook and Paul Gietzel Charity Fund
Patricia Handeland
Paula March
Richard Goold
Russell Pharr
Safari West
Sarah Fisk
Stephan Meyer-Ewald and Andrea Ewald
Steven and Karin Chase
Susan Overman
Tierney Bindelglass Charitable Fund

Tim Mather
Tod Klingler
Tom and Mary Locke Crofts
Virginia Smith
Zoological Association of America

In-Kind Support

Houston Zoo
Saint Louis Zoo
Wildlife Conservation Network

Complete financial reports are available on request - please email belinda@grevyszebratrust.org.

We thank our in-country partners for their collaboration and support:

Kenya Wildlife Service
County Governments of Samburu, Isiolo and Marsabit
The community conservancies of Westgate, Kalama, Meibae, Oldonyiro, Sera, Melako, Namunyak, Nasuulu, Nakupurat-Gotu, Elbarta, Nyiro and Ndotos
Northern Rangelands Trust
Ewaso Lions
Sasaab Lodge
Saruni Lodge
Save the Elephants
Marwell Wildlife
Reticulated Giraffe Project
Lewa Wildlife Conservancy
Samburu and Buffalo Springs National Reserves
Samburu-Isiolo Tourism Forum

Contributing Photographers for this Report:

Tyrel Bernadini
Mia Collis
Grevy's Zebra Trust
Nelson Guda
Paulo Leroux
Susan McConnell
James Warwick

The Team

Founders

Belinda Low
Martha Fischer
James Munyugi

Board

Martha Fischer
Tom Lalampaa
David Njonjo
Patrick Omondi
Juliet King
Sara Spendrup Dyer
Peter Leshakwet
Guy Parker

Operations Team

Belinda Low – Executive Director
Peter Lalampaa – Field Director
Morgan Pecora-Saipe/Sheila Funnell – Research Manager
Lilian Seko – Administrator
Julius Lekenit – Conservation Officer
Rikapo Lentiyo – El Barta Regional Coordinator
Joel Loong'onyo – Laisamis Regional Coordinator
Annsarah Wangui – Research Officer

Andrew Letura – Research Assistant
David Muriira – Driver
Ropi Lekwale – Driver

Community Teams

Grevy's Zebra Scouts – 29
Grevy's Zebra Ambassadors – 14
Radio Operators – 2

Radio Base Guards – 2
Grevy's Zebra Warriors – 10
Grevy's Zebra Trust Field Headquarters Team – 5
Camera Trap Monitors – 3
Mud Rescue Volunteers (seasonal) – 4
Water Monitors (seasonal) – 4
Elbarta Conservation Council – 22





GREVY'S ZEBRA
T R U S T

PO BOX 15351-00509 | NAIROBI, KENYA

www.grevyzebratrust.org