

# GUARDAPARQUE

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**Guardaparque** is a bi-weekly publication prepared and issued by the International Ranger Federation (IRF), an organization of about 40 non-governmental and governmental ranger organizations from around the world. **Guardaparque** carries reports on emergency service and law enforcement incidents, reports on protection of parks and the natural and cultural resources within them, reports on programs to educate visitors and communities on the values of parks and protected areas, and reports on the people who are responsible for all these activities.

**Guardaparque** contains information from rangers in the field on operations conducted in the field. From time to time, it also reports on political issues affecting those operations. It is supplemented by a quarterly newsletter, **The Thin Green Line**, which focuses on IRF activities.

If you have a submission for **Guardaparque**, please send it to the editor, Bill Halainen, at [TGLedit@ptd.net](mailto:TGLedit@ptd.net).

## EMERGENCY SERVICES AND LAW ENFORCEMENT

### **Tanzania – Moyowosi Game Reserve Ranger Recovering From Gunshot Wounds**

On Friday, August 25th, an anti-poaching patrol in Moyowosi Game Reserve was ambushed by poachers. Game scout Mtemi, field ranger Eluid Rutozi and driver-ranger Mohamed Mruma were all wounded by automatic gunfire. Fortunately, they were close to a hospital, about three hours away, where they were stabilized. Medical care was limited there, so they were evacuated by plane to Mwanza to a larger hospital. Sadly, game scout Mtemi passed away on August 27th. Rutozi, fortunately, received only flesh wounds and was discharged from the hospital. Mruma, though, a long-time employee of the Friedkin Conservation Fund, was in critical condition, as he had been shot twice in the stomach and twice in the upper legs. Tim Snow, chairman of the Game Rangers Association of Africa, received an update on his condition in early October. It took some time to complete surgery on Mruma because he was weak from loss of blood, but that surgery proved to be a success. He will be in the hospital at least through year's end, then off work for about six months thereafter. Updates on his condition will appear in **Guardaparque** as they become available.

[Message from Tim Snow, GRAA]

### **Kenya – Tsavo East National Park Wildlife Rangers Kill Poacher In Shootout**

This past fall, wildlife rangers shot and killed a notorious poacher who killed 17 elephants and nine endangered black rhinos in the last five years. Hussein Ture, 60, was killed during a gunfight with rangers in Tsavo East National Park, said Connie Maina, a spokeswoman with Kenya Wildlife Service. The park is 350 kilometers (215 miles) east of the capital, Nairobi. "We have been chasing him for the last 20 years," Maina said, adding that nobody knows for sure how many animals he has killed during that entire span. Conservationists have been tracking him in earnest in recent years. Poaching is a common problem in Kenya. Rhino horn is sold around \$1,800 (U.S.) on the black market, while an elephant's ivory goes for around \$70. Conservationists say there were once around 20,000 white and black rhinos in Kenya but their population has been decimated by poachers. Rhino horns are used in traditional Chinese medicine or for ceremonial dagger handles. Kenya's elephant population is estimated at 35,000 – down from a peak of 167,000 in the 1970s – due to rampant poaching. [Newspaper report]

## **USA – Kaloko-Honokohau National Historical Park Slayer Of Ranger Likely To Spend Life In Custody**

A 37-year-old man being held at a federal medical facility after his insanity acquittal in the 1999 fatal shooting of ranger Steve Makuakane-Jarrell will probably spend the rest of his life in custody. In November, a federal district court judge ruled that Eugene Frederick Boyce III is dangerous and ordered him to a secured medical facility to be chosen by the Bureau of Prisons. Assistant U.S. Attorney Ken Sorenson, who argued that Boyce should not be released, said that he will remain in custody until he demonstrates that he is not a danger. "The government believes quite firmly that his mental disease renders him a substantial danger, and we'll be fighting to keep him in custody for as long as we possibly can," preferably the rest of his life, Sorenson said. Makuakane-Jarrell was shot after responding to a complaint about Boyce's dogs. Boyce, who was homeless at the time, grabbed the ranger's gun during a struggle and shot him. Boyce's case was delayed several times because he was not ruled competent to face trial until this year. At the trial, mental-health experts testified that Boyce suffered from severe paranoia and schizophrenia. Les Inafuku, chief ranger at Kaloko-Honokohau, said that rangers were pleased because the decision was the best possible outcome, given the circumstances of the case. "We have to look at the big picture and not just think of park rangers," he said. "If somebody is a danger to a park ranger, obviously that person is probably a danger to everybody." [National Park Service *Morning Report*]

## **SPECIES MANAGEMENT**

### **Kenya – Tsavo East National Park Elephant Relocation Underway**

On September 29th, Kenyan wildlife authorities resumed the relocation of hundreds of elephants from an overcrowded reserve in Kenya's coastal region to a more spacious park further inland. The second phase of the relocation from the Shimba Hills National Reserve to Tsavo East National Park, about 300 km southeast of the capital, will target about 250 elephants. During the first phase, about 150 elephants were transferred in the exercise that was billed "the single largest translocation of animals ever undertaken since Noah's Ark"...." [News report]

## **PARKS AND PROTECTED AREAS**

### **Brazil – New Protected Areas Seven New Protected Areas Created in Pará State**

On December 4th, the governor of the Brazilian state of Pará announced seven new protected areas in Amazonia covering an area roughly the size of the U.S. state of Illinois. The announcement is an enormous step in Brazil's world-leading efforts to protect Earth's remaining tropical rain forests. Stretching from the border of Guyana and Suriname in the north to areas south of the Amazon River, these new protected areas encompass an unprecedented 37 million acres. For more information, go to <http://www.conservation.org/xp/frontlines/2006/12040602.xml> . [UNEP World Conservation Monitoring Centre]

## **EDUCATION AND INTERPRETATION**

### **United States – Nationwide National Park Service Begins Program To Evaluate Interpretation**

In late October, National Park Service leaders and numerous partners held a major "summit" meeting in Denver, Colorado, to discuss ways to better evaluate, design and deliver interpretive programs. Details on this new program will appear in a future issue.

## **NEWS ABOUT RANGERS**

### **United States – National Park Service Death Of Ranger Bill Supernaugh**

On November 20th, the National Park Service family lost both a friend and a lifetime advocate of the NPS when Bill Supernaugh succumbed to cancer following a valiant battle. With his trademark handlebar mustache, easygoing manner, affability and wry humor, Bill was a distinctive presence in the National Park Service during his 39 years with the agency. He will be sorely missed. Bill was an active member in the Association of National Park Rangers, where he managed the organization's mentoring program, and had just attended the 29th Ranger Rendezvous in Coeur d'Alene, Idaho. He was also a long-time friend and supporter of the International Ranger Federation. In lieu of flowers, the family has worked with ANPR to set up an account in Bill's memory. Donations to the account will be used in upcoming years to help members attend their first rendezvous'. Donations should be sent to The William R. Supernaugh Jr. Memorial Fund, c/o Wells Fargo Bank, 1301 Jackson Street, Golden, CO 80401. Donors should list account number 7165422739 on the memo line of the check. Condolences may be sent to his wife, Jean Sigafos, and family at PO Box 1005, Sulphur, OK 73086-8005.

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Prepared and published by the International Ranger Federation as a service to rangers around the world. Submissions should be sent to Bill Halainen at [TGLedit@ptd.net](mailto:TGLedit@ptd.net) .

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