

SmartZone Communications Center Collaboration Suite

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## Not Just Samburu

Wed Apr 29 01:35:57 2009

From: mikerainy@gmail.com

To: Dohertyrt@state.gov

Cc: pas@bestweb.net; p\_slutz@hotmail.com

Attachments: Sinohydro-quarry-PR-28Apr.doc (77.6KB)

Rachel, I hope you have an informative day of interviews. I know Pakuo, Leritin, and Lati are keen to meet you. If I can be of any assistance feel free to call or email, and maybe we can meet in Nairobi or here in Kajiado.

Meanwhile this just in from Paul Schosberg and copied to Brooks who asked many weeks ago "Whats up in Samburu":

Brooks and all, I know that by now I must begin to sound like a broken drum but as you can see, Kenya's corrupt assaults on Pastoral communities and their Ecosystems are not just in Samburu and the Mara, this Chinese Quarry is about 20 Km East of our OI Kanjau camp in Amboseli, the Ivory bust was about 30 Km North East.

There is little doubt in my mind that they are related. The two men arrested with tusks of 50 mainly male elephants pleaded guilty and are to be sentenced on Mon 4th May in our local court here in Kajiado town. This is the single biggest Ivory haul in Kenya in a long time. The tusks were bound for Nairobi. The owner's probably know the Infamous Kenya Legal Mantra. " **Why Hire an Advocate when You Can Bribe a Judge!**"

All we can do here is witness and inform. The hushed silence makes me think I may have gone too far with Many of you. I hope not.

Please just help us get the word out. Judy and I ARE NOT trying to get any more donations from the wonderful people and friends on this e-mail recipient List. Many of whom were quick to help the GoK raid victims in Samburu East. In fact You have been fantastic in reaching out.

We will keep you posted unless you say individually NO MORE !

Stay well, very best regards from Mike and Judy

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Paul Schosberg <[pas@bestweb.net](mailto:pas@bestweb.net)>  
**Date:** April 29, 2009 3:10:05 AM GMT+03:00  
**To:** 'Judy' <[mjrainy@africaonline.co.ke](mailto:mjrainy@africaonline.co.ke)>, 'Mike Rainy' <[mikerainy@gmail.com](mailto:mikerainy@gmail.com)>  
**Subject:** FW: Illegal Quarry Devastates Communities and Wildlife Area

Mike: right in your backyard so guess this is hardly news, but at least you can see AWF and Cynthia working together. At some point, the Chinese presence and its acceleration of corruption will break loose as a major story, I am sure.

Best wishes, Paul

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**From:** Paul Thomson [<mailto:pthomson@awf.org>]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 28, 2009 8:09 AM  
**To:** Paul Schosberg  
**Subject:** Illegal Quarry Devastates Communities and Wildlife Area  
**Importance:** High

Hi Paul-

It's been a while -- I hope this finds you well. I want to share this story with you, as it's a pretty shocking example of a Chinese company flouting Kenya's laws to take advantage of people and wrecking a wildlife area in the process. Attached (and below) is a press release. It would be so fantastic if you could send it out through your channels. This is a very serious issue -- things are escalating by the hour. Also see a headline I did about the recent ivory bust, which was literally down the road. <http://awf.org/blog/huge-ivory-seizure-two-men-arrested/>

Best,  
Paul

April 28, 2009  
For Immediate Release

### **Illegal Quarry Devastates Communities and Wildlife Area**

Nairobi, KENYA 28/4/2009 – On Saturday, Chinese-owned Sinohydro Corporation Limited began detonating heavy explosives in a sensitive wildlife area to begin the excavation of an illegal rock quarry, effectively signaling the end of a key wildlife corridor and potential tourism revenue for local communities.

Sinohydro Corporation located the quarry and a staff camp within a critical wildlife corridor extending from Amboseli National Park to Kimana Sanctuary to Tsavo and Chyulu National Parks. This corridor is vital to the survival of Amboseli's wildlife as well as tourism and income-generating enterprises benefitting the local communities.

Community members of Oloitoktok District, the African Wildlife Foundation, Amboseli Trust for Elephants, and other alarmed conservation groups are protesting the project, which is in direct violation of a Stop Order issued by the National Environmental Management Authority (NEMA) on Friday of last week.

The quarry, to be used for the Emali-Oloitoktok Road, falls within the 3,000 acre (1,214 hectares) community-owned Osupuko Conservancy, which was created by 50 landowners from the Kimana community via a lease agreement signed in October 2008 with AWF.

The staff camp is located on the east side of the road, directly adjacent to the Kimana Wildlife Sanctuary, a community sanctuary providing benefits to members of the Kimana Group Ranch. The camp is in direct violation of the 2007 Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA), which states, "Contractor's Camp shall... not be installed in the areas used as wildlife grazing areas or migratory corridors."

"The quarry and camp will have a severe impact on the wildlife, natural surroundings, and livelihoods of people living in the area," said Dr. Helen Gichohi, President of the African Wildlife Foundation (AWF). "By no means are we against the road development. However, Sinohydro can and should use an alternative site for the quarry and camp that is not in a wildlife corridor, and they should obey Kenya's environmental laws."

Disregarding the Stop Order issued by NEMA, Oloitoktok District Commissioner, Mr. David Ole Shege, authorized excavation to begin on April 25. Mr. Ole Shege brought police to the construction site to bar community protesters and wildlife scouts from the site as Sinohydro began the illegal work.

Currently, AWF, the Amboseli Trust for Elephants, the East African Wildlife Society, African Conservation Centre, Satao Elerai, Maasailand Preservation Trust, Ol Donyo Wuas, and community members are seeking the Stop Order issued by NEMA to be obeyed.

"If action is not taken soon to stop the construction, it could cause irreversible damage to the region, and hurt the livelihoods of Kenyans who are starting to participate in wildlife-based enterprises," said Dr. Harvey Croze of Amboseli Trust for Elephants.

African Wildlife Foundation and Amboseli Trust for Elephants are not-for-profit, conservation organizations that have provided wildlife management information and conservation leadership in the Amboseli ecosystem for decades. We and the other organizations listed above are convinced the proposed quarry and camp are harmful in the extreme to the wildlife and the human livelihoods of southern Kajiado.

Photos and Maps available upon request

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