

LION



GUARDIANS

CONSERVING LIONS & PRESERVING CULTURES




2014 ANNUAL REPORT



In the last **50** years,
an estimated **50%** of Africa's
lions have disappeared

LION GUARDIANS

Conserving Lions & Preserving Cultures



We believe the fate of the lion lies in the hands of the people who live with them. By empowering warriors who were once lion killers and working closely with communities, Lion Guardians proactively minimizes conflict and enables coexistence.

LETTER FROM THE DIRECTORS

In 2014, the Lion Guardians team was hard at work expanding our reach. By building and strengthening partnerships, engaging additional Guardians and communities to protect lions, we have increased our capacity and impact on the ground. Some of our greatest achievements from the past year include officially launching the Lion Guardians Training Program and starting a new partnered-project in the Ngorongoro Conservation Area in Tanzania.

“It’s great to see Lion Guardians bringing conservation partners together from across Africa”

Maingu Killel, Tanzania
National Parks Association
(TANAPA)

In this report, we present a snapshot of 2014’s activities with a particular focus on how we have grown over the year.

As we often say, it takes a community to conserve lions and preserve cultures; we are grateful for the strong community that supports our work.

Ashe Oleng (‘Thank you’ in Maasai)



Leela

Dr. Leela Hazzah - Executive Director



S. Dolrenry

Dr. Stephanie Dolrenry - Director of Science

"I protect my lions like my own children"
Kisimir Olamayiani - Lion Guardians Trainer - has
protected lioness 'Nashomo' for over three years



IMPACT AT A GLANCE

A lioness silhouette is shown in profile, looking towards the right. The background is a warm, golden-brown savanna landscape at sunset or sunrise, with tall grasses and a hazy sky. The lioness's fur is dark, and its mane is slightly visible. The overall mood is serene and majestic.

> 95%

REDUCTION IN LION KILLING IN AREAS WHERE LION GUARDIANS OPERATES SINCE INCEPTION

In early 2014, three lions were killed in areas where we operate. We immediately re-evaluated our model and adapted to the changing situation on the ground.

44

LION HUNTS STOPPED OR PREVENTED BY LION GUARDIANS IN 2014

20% of these hunts were stopped in collaboration with other conservation partners.

TRIPLE

WE HAVE DOCUMENTED A TRIPLING IN THE DENSITY OF LIONS WITHIN LION GUARDIANS' AREAS OF THE AMBOSELI-TSAVO ECOSYSTEM

IMPACT IN THE COMMUNITY



OVER

\$3,500,000

OF POTENTIAL LIVESTOCK
LOSS WAS AVOIDED IN 2014
(93% OF 22,408 LIVESTOCK)

Guardian Kapante recovers over one
hundred lost sheep and goats.

438

BOMAS WERE REINFORCED
BY GUARDIANS IN 2014

A boma is a traditional livestock corral.
Bomas like this one (pictured right) are
vulnerable to predator attack if not reinforced.



100%

OF THE 21 LOST CHILDREN
REPORTED TO GUARDIANS
WERE FOUND

Guardian Parkesian gives milk to a 2.5 year
old boy he found who had been lost overnight.



OUR GROWING COMMUNITY

Kenya

 AMBOSELI

Serengeti
National Park

Ngorongoro
Conservation Area

Amboseli
National Park

Tsavo
National Park

 NGORONGORO

 TARANGIRE

Tarangire
National Park

Tanzania

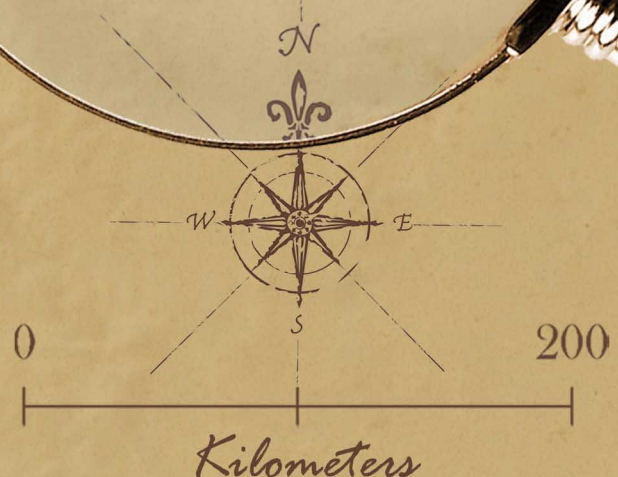
5,359 KM^2

THE NUMBER OF SQUARE
KILOMETERS OF CRITICAL LION
HABITAT WE MONITOR OUTSIDE
OF NATIONAL PARKS

In seven years, we have **quadrupled** our
coverage area from 326,040 acres in 2007
to 1,323,673 acres today.

Ruaha
National Park

 RUAHA



OUR GROWING COMMUNITY



THE TOTAL NUMBER OF LIONS WE HAVE DOCUMENTED IN THE AMBOSELI-TSAVO ECOSYSTEM FROM 2004 TO 2014

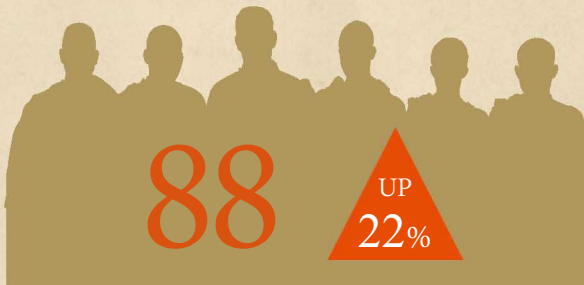
In May of this year, we reached a tremendous milestone – **ten years of data collection** on the lions in the Amboseli-Tsavu ecosystem.



THE NUMBER OF PARTNERED PROJECTS ESTABLISHED



From 2007-11, Lion Guardians solely operated in the Amboseli ecosystem. Today, with our partners, we operate at multiple sites across Kenya and Tanzania.



MEMBERS OF THE LION GUARDIANS TEAM

In addition to the near quarter increase in all staff, we also increased the number of Guardians by 32% in 2014, bringing the total to 70 across all sites.



RECOGNITION & ACHIEVEMENT

“The principle of Lion Guardians is to flip a switch in the minds of the Maasai who have always been fascinated by lions. Instead of pitting man against beast to gain status, there is greater status and benefit in becoming their shepherd. The beauty of this idea is that it resonates so deeply with their nomadic culture.”

Saba Douglas-Hamilton, Chair of International Selection Committee - Future for Nature

AWARDS:

- 2014 TOP 10 CNN HERO
- FUTURE FOR NATURE



CNN's Anderson Cooper with Luke Mamaai and Leela Hazzah at the CNN Heroes Tribute

PUBLICATIONS:

- Efficacy of Two Lion Conservation Programs in Maasailand, Kenya
Hazzah et al.
- A Metapopulation Approach to African Lion (*Panthera leo*) Conservation
Dolrenry et al.
- Impact of severe climate variability on lion home range and movement patterns in the Amboseli ecosystem, Kenya
Tuqa et al.
- Carnivores, culture and ‘contagious conflict’: Multiple factors influence perceived problems with carnivores in Tanzania’s Ruaha landscape
Dickman et al.



TRAINING PROGRAM

TRAINED IN 2014:

10 PROJECT MANAGERS 21 GUARDIANS

25 COMMUNITY LEADERS FROM ACROSS EAST AFRICA

For more details on our training program: www.lionguardians.org/the-training-program



LOOKING AHEAD - 2015

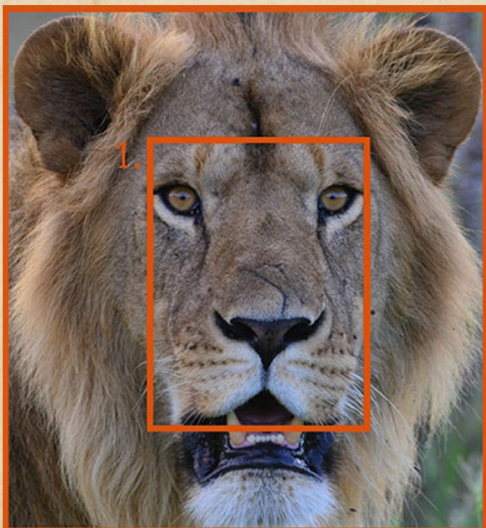
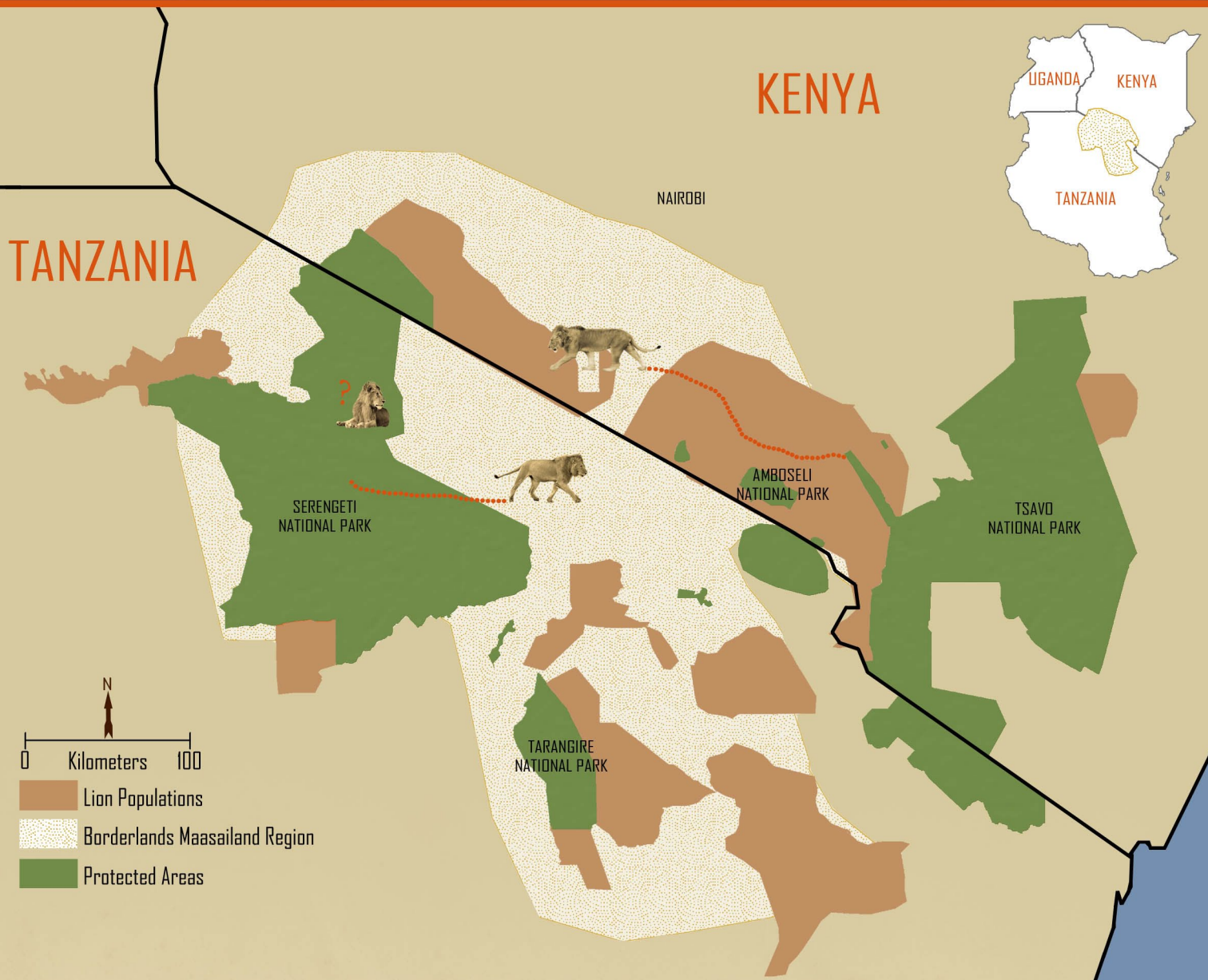
A YEAR TO REFLECT...

- REVIEW MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS
- DEVELOP A PARTNERSHIP FRAMEWORK
- PROVIDE TRAINING TO EXPAND OUR IMPACT
- BUILD AWARENESS & OUTREACH

For the complete 2015 workplan, visit: www.lionguardians.org/reports-newsletters



LOOKING AHEAD - LiNC



In 2015, we will embrace the power of the Lion Identification Network of Collaborators (LINC).

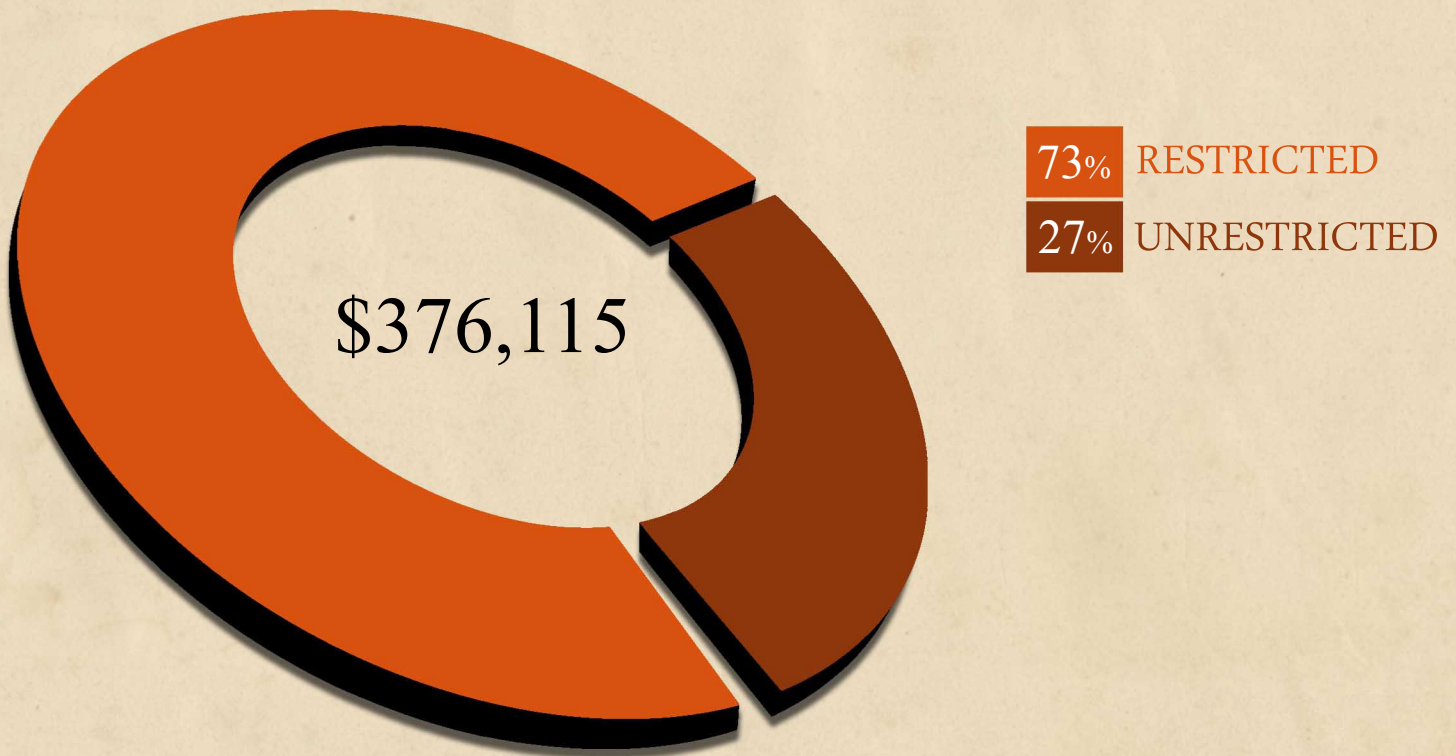
Using cutting edge technology, LINC will revolutionize broad scale lion conservation by:

- creating a platform that allows for collaboration between researchers
- discovering links and corridors between the remaining lion populations to enable effective conservation action and planning

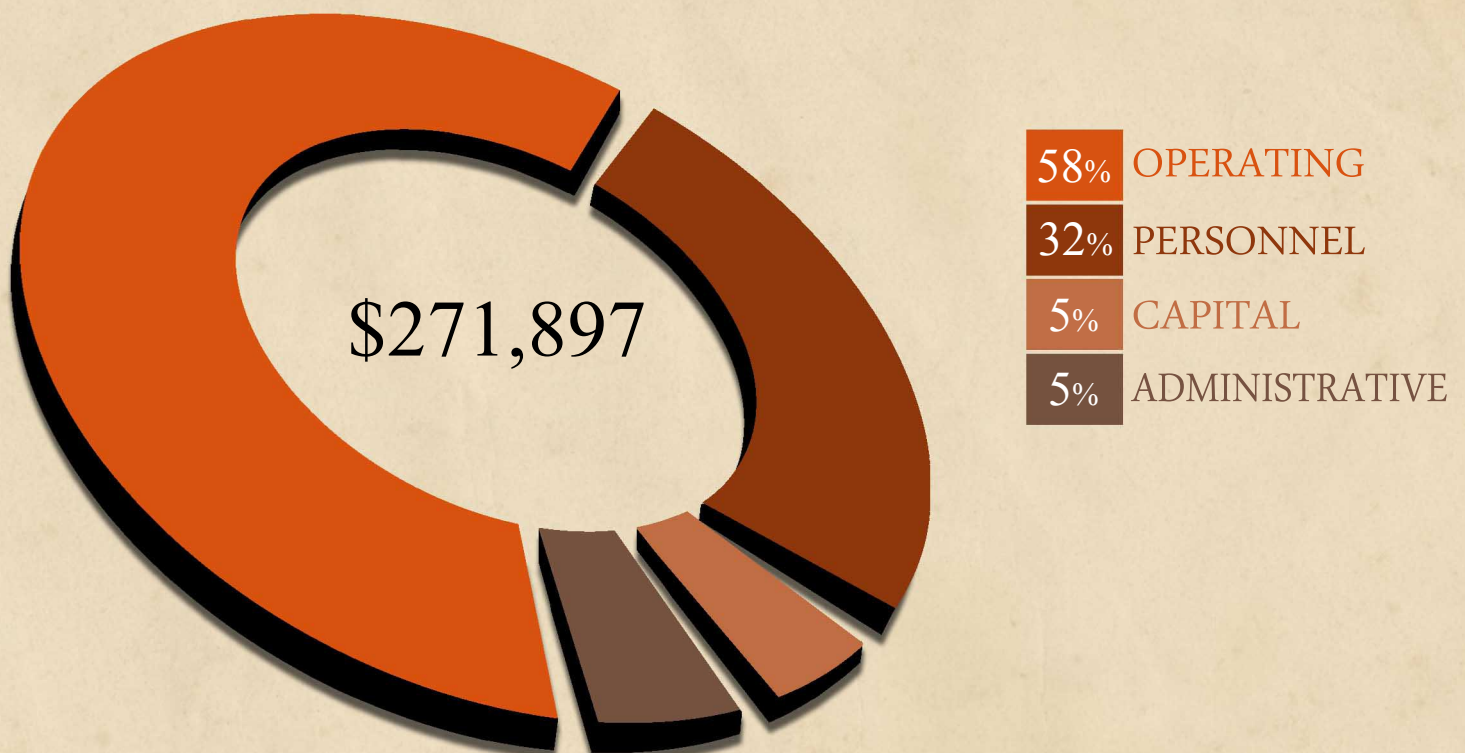
FINANCIALS

EVERY \$ RAISED GOES TOWARDS IMPROVING LOCAL LIVELIHOODS,
CONSERVING LIONS, AND PRESERVING TRADITIONAL CULTURES

\$ TOTAL FUNDS RAISED IN 2014: \$376,115



\$ TOTAL EXPENSES INCURRED IN 2014: \$271,897



THANK YOU

“The Lion Guardians program is a unifying force, bringing together people from various tribes and far off places.”

Kiro Samhenda, Ruaha Lion Guardian

WE COULD NOT HAVE DONE IT WITHOUT YOU

As we review the successes of 2014, we want to take this moment to congratulate and thank all of you. Without your dedicated support, we would not be able to achieve all that we do—thank you for helping us make a lasting impact, year after year.

From the foundations that support us to the individual donors, Guardian sponsors and lion adoptees, each dollar we receive is spent towards furthering our mission on the ground. In addition to supporting our conservation efforts and saving lions, your donations provide benefits to the local communities where opportunities are hard to find. The Guardians use their monthly wages to buy food for their families, pay school fees for their children, and pay medical bills. Your support is helping to save lions and provide benefits to the Guardians, their families and their communities.

**It takes a community to conserve lions & preserve cultures
– thank you for being a part of ours!**





www.lionguardians.org

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