

Stop trophy hunting — save the Amboseli “super tusker” elephants

Five **“super tusker” elephants were shot and killed in a span of a year, and more of these animals are at risk.** Tanzania recently granted permits to trophy hunters to allow them to kill these iconic elephants—ending 30 years of protection for them from trophy hunters.

These elephants roam across the Kenya-Tanzania border, from Amboseli National Park in Kenya, where they are protected and studied, to the wildlife concessions in northern Tanzania, where they have recently been targeted by hunters. These super tuskers are also known as hundred-pounder elephants for having at least one tusk weighing 100 pounds (45 kg) or more. They are critically important for stability in elephant societies and their habitats and ecosystems, yet there may be as few as 50 of them alive in Africa today. The killing of any one of them is a major blow, and many more will be at risk unless action is taken urgently to reverse the new policy in Tanzania.

Join us and more than 50 wildlife and conservation experts in calling on the president of Tanzania to reinstate the ban on trophy hunting of elephants in this region before it’s too late.

TAKE ACTION NOW

Send a letter to Her Excellency Samia Suluhu Hassan, President of the United Republic of Tanzania and/or your country’s Tanzanian Ambassador

Subject line: Save the Amboseli elephants

Dear President Samia:

The Amboseli elephants desperately need your help. These beautiful creatures are under serious threat, following the granting of new hunting licenses—ripping up a 30-year-old agreement to protect them. We are calling on you to formalize a ban on hunting these elephants, and to work together with Kenya and the researchers from the Amboseli Elephant Research Project, who have studied these elephants for over five decades, to ensure their conservation and continued survival.

We request protection for these iconic elephants through specific measures that include:

- a) Formalizing regulations to ban hunting of elephants in the Enduimet Wildlife Management Area, Narco Ranch, Longido GCA, Lake Natron East GCA, and Lake Natron North GCA.
- b) Collaborating with Kenya to find alternative conservation strategies that ensure the Amboseli elephants' protection.
- c) Launching a public enquiry into the previous hunts of the 5 super tuckers known to have been killed.

The Amboseli cross-border population should be regarded as a shared heritage. With fewer than 30-50 super tuskers left on the African continent, these Amboseli super tuskers should be declared national treasures and revered for the ecological, economic, scientific, aesthetic and cultural value that they embody.

Please act now before it is too late to ensure that these magnificent animals remain in the wild for future generations to come.

Suggested contact details:

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<https://www.uk.tzembassy.go.tz/about/message-from-the-high-commissioner>
2. Tanzania [United Republic of] South African High Commission
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3. Embassy of the United Republic of Tanzania in the U.S.
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