

APPENDIX
Larger Mammals of Kainji Lake National Park.

Baboon	<i>Papio anubis</i> (Fischer)	Leopard	<i>Panthera pardus</i> (Linn.)
Buffalo	<i>Syncerus caffer</i> (Spartman)	Lion	<i>Panthera leo</i> (Linn.)
Bush Buck	<i>Tragelaphus scriptus</i> (Pallas)	Mongoose	<i>Ichneumia albicauda</i> (Curvier)
Caracal	<i>Felis caracal</i> (Schreber)	Oribi	<i>Ourebia ourebi</i> (Zimmermann)
Civet Cat	<i>Viverra civetta</i> (Schreber)	Red (Patas) Monkey	<i>Erythrocebus patas</i> (Schreber)
Elephant (African)	<i>Loxodonta africana</i> (Blumenbach)	Red-flanked Duicker	<i>Cephalophus rufilatus</i> (Gray)
Genet	<i>Genetta</i> sp.	Reed Buck	<i>Redunca redunca</i> (Pallas)
Green Monkey	<i>Cercopithecus aethiops</i> (Linn.)	Roan Antelope	<i>Hippotragus equinus</i> (Desmarest)
Grey (Grimm's) Duicker	<i>Sylvicapra grimmia</i> (Linn.)		
Hartebeest (Western)	<i>Alcelaphus buselaphus</i> (Pallas)	Side-striped Jackal	<i>Canis adustus</i> (Sundevall)
Hippopotamus	<i>Hippopotamus amphibius</i> (Linn.)	Serval	<i>Felis serval</i> (Schreber)
Hunting Dog	<i>Lycaon pictus</i> (Temminck)	Warthog	<i>Phacochoerus aethiopicus</i> (Pallas)
Hyaena (Spotted)	<i>Crocuta crocuta</i> (Erxleben)	Water Buck	<i>Kobus defassa</i> (Ruppell)
Kob	<i>Adenota kob</i> (Gray)	Wild Cat	<i>Felis libyca</i> (Forster)

Uganda's Elephants Near Extinction?

A recent report warns that Uganda's Elephant (*Loxodonta africana*) population—once one of Africa's finest—is in imminent danger of extinction. A survey carried out during March and April, 1980, has found that the poaching, which became widespread during Idi Amin's régime, continues unabated. Accordingly Elephant numbers in their two former strongholds—the Rwenzori and Kabalega Falls National Parks in western Uganda—have plummeted from the 1972 levels: in Rwenzori the population has fallen from 3,000 to just 150 individuals. But despite the reduction in numbers, ivory poaching shows no signs of slackening.

A team under the leadership of Dr Iain Douglas-Hamilton, of IUCN's African Elephant Group, carried out the survey and recently released their findings. Dr Douglas-Hamilton writes in the survey report that 'the most pressing need is for active and forceful anti-poaching measures to be introduced without delay, and maintained indefinitely'. If emergency measures are not taken, the Uganda Elephant population faces 'extinction within a year or two.'

The survey, made in collaboration with the Uganda Institute of Ecology, was financed by WWF with help from the Uganda Government and the New York Zoological Society. IUCN and WWF are cooperating with the New York and Frankfurt Zoological Societies and the African Wildlife Leadership Foundation in rendering assistance to Uganda, and are calling for funds.

The need is pressing. In the isolated southern section of the Kabalega Falls National Park, the decline has been even more catastrophic than in Rwenzori: here the IUCN team found that 160 elephants remained out of a population which numbered 9,000 only seven years ago. In the north of the Park, where anti-poaching measures are still in force, the position is less critical: 1,200 elephants remain out of a 1973 population of 5,000.

Dr Douglas-Hamilton reports that most of the surviving 150 Elephants in Rwenzori National Park are clustered around the park lodge because they seem to have learnt that this is the only area where they are safe from poachers. Elsewhere in the Park the IUCN team noticed that Elephant trails were strewn with carcasses at frequent intervals.

The survey team used sophisticated aerial counting techniques to establish the size of the current Elephant populations in the two parks, in both of which they logged a ratio of two dead Elephants to every live one. After examining carcasses in the southern part of the Kabalega Falls National Park, the IUCN team estimated that three-quarters of the surviving Elephant population had been killed within the last twelve months. In Rwenzori, 17% of the carcasses were believed to have been killed within the previous six months. Indeed, while the team was working in Rwenzori they heard bursts of automatic weapon fire. Most of the dead Elephants were found in groups of between two and eight, which seems to confirm that poachers are using modern automatic weapons.

The IUCN team believes that if poaching is brought under control in Uganda, the Elephant populations could recover. But first poaching must be stopped: 'This is the time,' says Dr Douglas-Hamilton, 'for conservation bodies in Uganda, and internationally, to make a stand so that this year may prove to be the lowest ebb in the fortunes of the Uganda Elephants'.

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