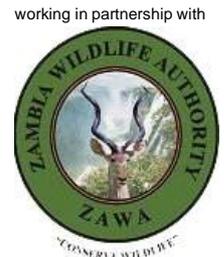




GAME RANGERS INTERNATIONAL GRI Newsflash #17



OCTOBER 2011

News update from: Elephant Orphanage Project

~To Rescue, Rehabilitate and safely Release orphaned elephants back into the wild~

Another orphan elephant was rescued just days ago by ZAWA in Sioma Ngwesi National Park...

We are sad to report another young elephant calf has become an orphan due to the apparent increase in poaching activities in Zambia.

Baby 'Musolole' (less than 6 months old) was found by ZAWA Officers in Sioma Ngwesi on 21st October. He was taken to the Ngonye Falls base, where he was cared for until the EOP team could arrive. After the long journey from Lusaka the experienced EOP team were at Musolole's side and immediately started to support this tiny elephant with rehydration, nutrients and medical attention that this young calf required.

Whilst the drivers recovered from the exhausting journey and the crate was prepared, Musolole was



introduced to a mud bath – which he absolutely loved! The mud helped cool his body and seemed to give him a real boost! He was then loaded into the purpose made crate, filled with hay and mattresses for comfort and the 16 hour journey began! Musolole was mildly sedated by the ZAWA Vet to keep him calm through the journey and we had to stop every few hours to allow him to drink and rest. On arrival to Lusaka he was taken to Lilayi Game Ranch where another recently orphaned elephant, Kavalamanja, is currently recuperating before being transferred to KNP. Despite our expectations, the two elephant calves did not seem very interested in each other at first – preferring to ask for milk!! Although we are sure that over time they will become friends and comfort each other as they form

the replacement siblings for each of these orphans' tragically lost families.

Musolole is in a very vulnerable condition showing signs of dehydration, malnourishment and subsequent loss in condition. His skin is so thin he bleeds after scratching and his toe nails have even started to fall off! We will be doing everything possible to help him recover from this tragic start to his life.



Little Musolole checks out his ride as Sport secures the 'Bushtracks' crate to the GRI LandCruiser, kindly donated by Toyota Zambia

Even more tragic is the story surrounding Musolole as it is with very great sadness that we share the sad news of the death of two incredibly brave ZAWA WPO's who were responding to the poaching of this little elephants mother. ZAWA are fighting hard to combat the constant battle with poachers and as a patrol team pursued a very sophisticated gang of poachers inside Sioma Ngwesi National Park it resulted in the very tragic loss of ZAWA Officers Sitali Musolole and Libakengi Chibenge. The young orphan elephant was named in honour of the very brave officer who continued to chase and engage the poachers even after his team had become compromised by a snap ambush. We would like to send our deepest sympathies and condolences to the families of these very brave men – who are fighting on the front line of endangered species conservation and taking the biggest risks to bring these criminals to justice. The scouts and conservation in Zambia need all our support. Please help the cause!

Musolole's safe rescue was thanks to the fantastic ZAWA team at Sioma Ngwesi NP, our sincere thanks to the Park Ranger Mr. K Mubita, WPO's Kingstone Shauyombwe, Moses Mufaya, Sitali Simasiku, Sitali Makuyu, Liwakala Masiku, Mukubesa Muhongo, Kwaleyla Muyundu and HPWO Flip Nell. Big thanks also to the ZAWA Vet Dr David Squarre who accompanied EOP for the entire translocation totalling 42 hours!! Many thanks also to helpers: Liz, Lauren, Tanya and Tiff – without their encouragement the drivers may not have stayed awake! We would like to thank 'Bushtracks' for the crate which has now transported 4 elephants safely and Sam for the refreshments at a well timed pit-stop!

GRI is dedicated to wildlife conservation in Zambia through four vitally important projects: Conservation Awareness Programme, Park Protection & Training Support, Community Outreach Programme and the Elephant Orphanage Project. With the increase in our support to the communities bordering KNP and with four suckling orphans in our care we are in need of your support more than ever!

To help make a difference to Zambian wildlife with a cash or in-kind donation please email us at elephantorphanageproject@gmail.com or call Rachael on +260-978-736025 or donation's can be made online by clicking this link <http://www.davidshepherd.org/help-us/donate/> and choosing 'Zambia' from the drop down menu - 100% will go to the project.

For further information please contact:
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EOP is a project of:



Supported and funded by:



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