CYNTHIA MOSS

THE ELEPHANTS OF KENYA'S SCENIC AMBOSELI NATIONAL PARK . . .

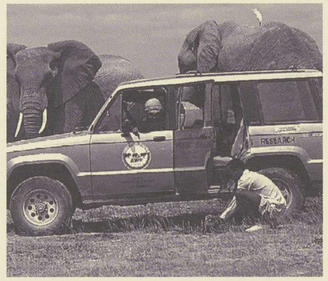
are perhaps the most celebrated group of wild elephants in the world. Thousands of people have observed these pachyderms firsthand at Amboseli, but millions more know them through the many books and films by Cynthia Moss, well-known elephant authority with the African Wildlife Foundation, a US-based organization. These fascinating animals are the subject of the longest running study ever of elephants in the wild, AWF's Amboseli Elephant Research Project.

Since 1972 when she founded the project, Cynthia Moss has identified and recorded more than 1,400 elephants by name, number or code. Today, the Amboseli Project regularly collects, analyzes and disseminates invaluable data on the 900 elephants presently living in and around Amboseli National Park. This field work generates a body of information available nowhere else in the world.

Each day, Cynthia or her three research assistants, Soila Sayialel, Katito Sayialel, and Norah Njiraini, criss-cross the park to monitor the various elephant family groups and independent males. From years of patient observation, they are able to recognize by sight all of the Amboseli elephants.

Cynthia and her team have documented the birth dates of more than half the population and have compiled individual histories, yielding chronicles as absorbing as a family soap opera.

The Amboseli elephants comprise one of Africa's few remaining undisturbed elephant populations. Between 1973 and 1989, 85 percent of Kenya's elephants were poached for ivory. Thanks to the presence of the AWF researchers, tourists and the local Maasai people — who do not tolerate trespassers and poachers — the elephants of Amboseli were spared the slaughter.

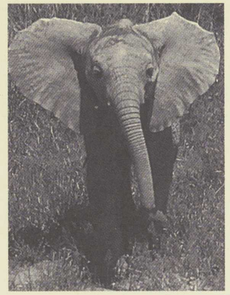


AMBOSELI RESEARCH ASSISTANTS GATHER FIELD DATA.

The animals thus represent an intact social structure that reveals invaluable information on elephant social behavior, reproductive patterns, intelligence, family life and communications. The Amboseli Elephant Research Project shares these findings with other researchers and institutions around the world.

The presence of the Amboseli elephants and the park also serves the interests of neighboring Maasai communities. Tourism revenues generated each year by thousands of safari-goers to Amboseli benefit the Maasai, who share the land with visitors and elephants alike.

JOIN THE AMBOSELI ELEPHANT RESEARCH PROJECT



Through the project, you can learn more about the endangered African elephant and help protect these wondrous animals for generations to come.

Amboseli Research Sponsor—$100

Your donation of $100 will go toward much-needed field provisions for the project, including fuel and replacement parts for staff research vehicles, camp and equipment, computer supplies and study reports. Over a 12-month period, Amboseli Research Sponsors receive:

- The Amboseli Elephant Annual Report, written by Cynthia Moss from her field camp;
- The Amboseli Field Bulletin with details of new births, deaths and research observations;
- Full membership in the African Wildlife Foundation, including a one-year subscription to African Wildlife News.

Amboseli Research Partner—$500

A gift of $500 will help cover the day-to-day costs for a full year of studying one of Amboseli's elephant family groups, which are each named for the ruling matriarch or female leader. As an Amboseli Research Partner, you will receive the above benefits, as well as:

- The opportunity to select your own "named" family group from six of the best known research groups – AA Wart Ear, EB Echo, GB Gloria, JA Joyce, PC Phoebe and TA Tuskless. *Please indicate your choice on the attached coupon.*
- A color photo taken by Cynthia Moss of your elephant family group and a family history.

NAME AN AMBOSELI RESEARCH ELEPHANT

Among the elephants living in Amboseli National Park are numerous calves yet to be given a research name. With your donation, you will be invited to select a name for one of the research elephants, either for yourself, a child, a friend or loved one. This name will be recorded in the project ledger and remain for the life of the animal—elephants can live 60 years or more.

When you name an elephant, you join an exclusive group of individuals around the world who have demonstrated a special commitment to this exceptional project and these exceptional animals. Project Director Cynthia Moss will send you personally a history of the elephant's family with information about its mother, brothers, sisters and aunts. You will also receive a photo of the calf along with a "birth certificate", bearing the name of your choosing.

Over the course of the year project staff will send you an update on your elephant and its family. You also will become a member of the African Wildlife Foundation's "Baobab Society" and join a distinguished group of individuals committed to conserving Africa's remaining wildlife and wild places.

For more information on naming an Amboseli elephant, please contact the African Wildlife Foundation staff in Washington, DC. (Address on back)