TANZANIA / A PHOTOGRAPHIC FIELD JOURNAL

At Eye Level *with the Wild*



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The Time to Look

A herd leans towards a riverbank. A giraffe reaches between branches. A lioness turns her head in the last of the light. These photographs were made in Tanzania in August 2026 and begin with the simple act of paying attention.

Across twenty encounters, the frame opens onto a bigger question: what does each animal do here? Movement, grazing, predation and feeding at the water's edge all leave traces. Following those traces helps explain what could change if an animal, a herd or a breeding colony disappeared.

The field notes pair each encounter with evidence and a practical conservation question. Where the research is local or the count is old, its limits are given. A photograph can suggest what to look for; it cannot tell us how many animals are left.



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Twenty encounters in Tanzania

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I

The Shape *of the Savanna*

A hoof, a trunk and a long neck reach different parts of the same landscape. Put the photographs side by side and the savanna begins to look less like a backdrop. It is a place continually made and remade by the animals that eat, move and drink there.



Zebra and wildebeest on a plain of dry grass.



IN THE FRAME

Water falls from a curled trunk as calves stand between the larger animals. In the closer portrait, the folds of an ear and the eye tell a quieter story.



An elephant in profile

African savanna elephant

Loxodonta africana

WHY IT MATTERS 01 02

Elephants can carry some of the seeds they swallow beyond the parent plant and leave them in dung, where they may germinate. As elephants feed on branches, they also change the structure of some stands of trees. Where herds can move across seasons, these effects extend beyond a single waterhole or reserve.

WHAT PROTECTS IT 02 03 04

Keep routes between dry-season water and feeding grounds open through land-use agreements with the people who live along them. Fund patrols against ivory poaching and help farmers protect crops. A trial near Tanzania’s Udzungwa Mountains found that bees can deter elephants, but that empty hives leave weak points. Farm deterrents and landscape corridors solve different problems.

POPULATION AND TREND 04 05 06

EN · Endangered (2022)

352,271

Estimated in surveyed areas of 18 African countries · study published 2016

The Red List review used an estimated reduction of about 60% from 1965 to 2015. That range-wide trend and the survey total above come from separate analyses.



IN THE FRAME

A giraffe reaches into a low canopy at its own height. Seen from the front in the second photograph, the shape of the head is almost symmetrical above the long neck.



A second, head-on view

Masai giraffe

Giraffa tippelskirchi

WHY IT MATTERS 07

A giraffe feeds above most other browsers. It takes leaves and shoots selectively, sometimes revisiting the same trees. A Serengeti study found changes in acacia woodland consistent with the combined effects of elephant and giraffe browsing. Fire and other pressures also shape the woodland, so the change cannot be assigned to giraffes alone.

WHAT PROTECTS IT 08 09

Protect native woodland and the routes giraffes use between local populations. Tanzania’s genetic studies show that the Rift escarpment already separates some groups; road and land-use plans can avoid adding barriers where viable routes remain. Target anti-snaring patrols and compare repeated photo counts across landscapes so local declines are not hidden by a national total.

POPULATION AND TREND 10 11 12

EN · IUCN’s earlier subspecies assessment (2019)

43,926

Individuals across the African range · Giraffe Conservation Foundation, 2025

The 2025 report describes stability in Kenya and gaps in recent Tanzanian data. The IUCN recognised the Masai giraffe as a separate species in 2025; the cited category predates that change.



IN THE FRAME

The horns curve around a gaze held straight at the camera. A stem at the mouth and a second frame of the herd bring the portrait back to grazing country.



Buffalo along a shaded track

Cape buffalo

Syncerus caffer caffer

WHY IT MATTERS 13

Buffalo can eat grass that is too tall or fibrous for many other grazers. Where herds feed, they can open patches of grassland used by animals that prefer shorter growth. Buffalo also provide prey for lions. Grass, water and the room to move among them matter more to this role than the presence of a herd at one water point.

WHAT PROTECTS IT 14 15

Keep dry-season water and grazing areas connected, reduce illegal killing and monitor disease jointly with livestock services. A veterinary fence may reduce contact with cattle while also splitting habitat. Decisions about a fence should therefore account for both the local disease risk and the buffalo and other wildlife movements it would interrupt.

POPULATION AND TREND 14 16

NT · Near Threatened (2019; African buffalo as a species)

About 510,000

Cape buffalo · estimate for 2022, published in 2023

Trends differ by buffalo form and region. The 2023 synthesis does not give a single comparable decline rate for Cape buffalo.



IN THE FRAME

An open mouth breaks the horizontal line of the pool. The second photograph, on dry ground, shows how much of a hippo's body usually disappears beneath the water.



The same species on land

Common hippopotamus

Hippopotamus amphibius

WHY IT MATTERS [17] [18]

Hippos graze on land and return to the river, where their dung brings in material from the grasslands. That subsidy can support aquatic food webs. In the Mara River, researchers also found that accumulated waste can consume oxygen and contribute to fish kills. The timing and strength of river flows influence how those effects play out.

WHAT PROTECTS IT [17] [19] [20]

Protect both sides of the daily journey: daytime pools and the grasslands hippos use at night. Manage upstream water withdrawals with seasonal river flows and the needs of downstream communities in mind. Enforce controls on illegal killing for meat and ivory. Repeated counts at the same season and water levels are more informative than isolated sightings.

POPULATION AND TREND [20]

VU · Vulnerable (2017)

115,000–130,000

Wild individuals in Africa · IUCN assessment published in 2017

The 2017 assessment described the overall trend as stable, with substantial differences among countries and declines in some areas.



IN THE FRAME

The two zebras stand so close that their stripes appear to run from one body into the other. Their heads turn in opposite directions.



A close view of the stripes

Plains zebra

Equus quagga

WHY IT MATTERS

Zebras and wildebeest compete for some of the same grasses. In an eight-year Serengeti study, zebras tended to move ahead of wildebeest; smaller gazelles followed and benefited from grazing by the larger animals. The order was less pronounced after severe fires. It shows how grazing by one animal can change the forage available to another.

WHAT PROTECTS IT

Keep pathways between wet-season grasslands, dry-season refuges and reliable water open. Use local observations and movement data before laying out a road or fence; prioritise the crossings animals already use. Protecting migration routes in the Serengeti–Mara also means coordinating land use and anti-poaching work across the Tanzania–Kenya border.

POPULATION AND TREND

NT · Near Threatened (2016)

Just over 500,000

Individuals in Africa · IUCN assessment published in 2016

The assessment estimated a global reduction of about 24% from 2002 to 2016. It is not an estimate of change since 2016.



IN THE FRAME

Two wildebeest lock horns amid the silhouettes of the herd. A small wader in the foreground puts the size of the animals into perspective.



A profile among the herd

Blue wildebeest

Connochaetes taurinus

WHY IT MATTERS

Dense herds eat grass that would otherwise become dry fuel. A long Serengeti study linked wildebeest recovery to less grass fuel and fewer fires. Along the Mara, occasional mass drownings also feed scavengers and transfer nutrients into the river. These are effects of very large moving herds, not just of individual animals.

WHAT PROTECTS IT

Protect the full migration circuit, including calving grounds, river crossings and dry-season range. Land-use planning can keep cultivation, permanent barriers and infrastructure away from known bottlenecks. Monitor the size and seasonal movements of individual herds: a broadly stable species can still lose a migration, along with the effects it has on grasslands and rivers.

POPULATION AND TREND

LC · Least Concern (2016)

About 1.55 million

Individuals in Africa · estimate cited in the 2016 synthesis

The IUCN described the species-wide trend as stable in 2016, with regional declines. The total is a historical benchmark, not a new count.



IN THE FRAME

At the edge of a thicket, the foreground animal turns its lyre-shaped horns towards the lens. Behind it, other impalas disappear into the shade.

Impala

Aepyceros melampus

WHY IT MATTERS [29] [30] [31]

Impalas eat grasses as well as leaves and shoots. Selective browsing can influence which shrubs become established: an East African exclosure study found that a group of browsers including impalas suppressed some shrubs. Impalas are also regular leopard prey, a link between the plants at woodland edges and a carnivore higher in the food web.

WHAT PROTECTS IT [29] [32]

Retain both open feeding areas and nearby woody cover. Use locally supported patrols to reduce illegal offtake and repeat counts in the same season to check the response. In a study east of the Serengeti, impala density doubled in one of the two protected areas examined after 15 years of improved management.

POPULATION AND TREND [29] [33]

LC · Least Concern (2016)

About 2 million

Common impala subspecies in Africa · East's historical estimate, 1999

The global assessment described the overall trend as stable. Local densities and pressures vary; the historical estimate is not a present-day census.



IN THE FRAME

One horn rises above the brow of the foreground antelope. The double curve of another animal's horns is visible behind it. The frame does not establish why only one horn is visible.

Coke’s hartebeest

Alcelaphus buselaphus cokii · probable identification

WHY IT MATTERS

34 35

Hartebeest are grass eaters that also use the borders of woodland, where forage and cover differ from the open short-grass plains used by wildebeest. They feed large carnivores. A study in central Kenya showed that lions could affect both hartebeest survival and where the antelopes spent time, with effects depending on the local landscape.

WHAT PROTECTS IT

34 35

Retain native grassland and its woodland edges instead of protecting only open plains. Limit illegal offtake and repeat surveys to distinguish a local decline from animals shifting into a neighbouring habitat. When predator and prey are both recovering, monitor the two together; the Kenyan result is a reason to measure local conditions before choosing an intervention.

POPULATION AND TREND

34 36

LC · Least Concern (2017; this subspecies)

About 42,000

Coke’s hartebeest in Kenya and Tanzania · IUCN assessment, 2017

The assessed trend was decreasing. There is no newer, directly comparable rate in the sources used here. The figures apply to the proposed subspecies.



IN THE FRAME

Warm light picks out the small horns, the crest and the pale ring around the eye. The animal is scarcely taller than the low growth around it.

Dik-dik

Madoqua sp. · probably the Kirk's dik-dik group

WHY IT MATTERS 30 37

A dik-dik feeds close to the ground on leaves and tender shoots. In East African experiments, native browsers including dik-diks helped determine which shrubs persisted. These small antelopes are prey for carnivores and birds of prey. Their place in the food web depends on having dense cover close to the plants they feed on.

WHAT PROTECTS IT 37 38

Retain patches of native low scrub and the connecting cover between them. Avoid clearing all undergrowth around rangeland and reserve edges. Use repeated surveys in suitable habitat, with local identification expertise: counts published for Kirk's dik-dik under older classifications may include more than one of the forms recognised today.

POPULATION AND TREND 37 38 **No species-level status assigned**

No defensible total

The photographed animal can be placed in the genus, not securely to species

Some older population estimates combine forms that are now separated in some taxonomies. A rate of change for this photograph cannot be inferred.

II

Where the *Cats Wait*

The lioness is in the open. The leopard takes time to find. Their different ways of hunting change where other animals feed, travel and take cover. Preserving these relationships also means accounting for the people who live alongside them.



A leopard's outline between the branches.



IN THE FRAME

The lioness rests with her ears raised. A thin edge of light traces the muzzle; the background gives away very little.

Lion

Panthera leo

WHY IT MATTERS [39] [40] [41]

Lions hunt large herbivores and affect where some of them feed. Serengeti research found that the cats often hunt where cover or terrain makes prey easier to catch, and that resident and migratory herbivores respond differently to lion presence. Kills can feed scavengers. The effect is a shift in who eats where and when, and it varies by habitat and prey.

WHAT PROTECTS IT [42] [43] [44]

Keep wild prey available by reducing snaring, and keep routes between prides and feeding areas open. Where livestock also graze, fund enclosures with the herders who use them. A Tanzanian study near Tarangire found that fortified night bomas were 99.9% successful at preventing attacks during the monitoring period. Reducing losses gives people a practical alternative to retaliatory killing.

POPULATION AND TREND [43] [44]

VU · Vulnerable (2025)

22,000–25,000

Adult and subadult lions in Africa · IUCN estimate, 2025

The IUCN estimated a 34% loss of global range between 2004 and 2025. It inferred a similar fall in numbers from the range trend; the 34% is not a direct count of lions.



IN THE FRAME

At first there is only a pattern of branches. Then the eyes and the rosettes separate from the tree. In the second frame the leopard feeds above the ground.



A leopard feeding in the branches

African leopard

Panthera pardus pardus

WHY IT MATTERS

Leopards take medium-sized prey such as impalas, as well as smaller animals, in places with enough cover to stalk them. Their hunting distributes predation through thicket, woodland and forest. The link between wild prey and leopard survival becomes especially important along the edges of reserves, where wildlife habitat meets farms and livestock.

WHAT PROTECTS IT

Keep wooded river corridors and prey-rich cover connected across reserve boundaries. Removing snares protects the wild prey base as well as the cat. Near farms, maintain secure night enclosures for vulnerable stock and investigate losses before responding. Repeated camera-trap surveys, which distinguish individuals by their rosettes, can show whether local conservation work is followed by a change in density.

POPULATION AND TREND

VU · Vulnerable (2025; African subspecies)

3.8–8.1 per 100 km²

Adults and subadults at seven Selous–Nyerere survey sites · Tanzania study, 2026

The African subspecies is decreasing. The figures are a range of local density estimates; there is no comparable continent-wide total in the sources used here.

III

Feathers and *Shorelines*

A marsh edge, a patch of open grass, a tall tree above the plain: these habitats support very different birds. Look at a bill, a foot, or the way a bird stands. Small details are often the clearest clues to the life around it.



A black-winged stilt steps through a band of light.



IN THE FRAME

Two cranes face one another with their bills nearly touching. Their gold crowns catch the light. The second frame shows the stiff crown feathers in profile.



A crane seen in profile

Grey crowned crane

Balearica regulorum

WHY IT MATTERS 48 49

These cranes feed in marshes, wet grasslands and adjoining fields, taking insects, seeds and other small foods. They draw on both wet and dry habitats for feeding and use shallow wetlands for nesting. A breeding pair therefore needs more than a patch of water: it needs a working mosaic of marsh and feeding ground.

WHAT PROTECTS IT 48 49

Protect the water supply of breeding marshes and retain adjacent grasslands. Arrange seasonal buffers with landholders around active nests; keep people and livestock from repeatedly disturbing them. Support enforcement against the capture of adults and collection of eggs for trade. Working with the people who use the surrounding fields is part of protecting the wetland.

POPULATION AND TREND 50 51

EN · Endangered (2024)

29,500–36,000

Individuals across eastern and southern Africa · estimate used for trend in 2024

The trend analysis reported more than 100,000 birds in 1985 and about 59% decline over three generations. The 2024 Red List assessed about 20,100–24,600 mature individuals.



IN THE FRAME

Pale eyes catch the light first. Then the angle shifts, and the wing changes from blue to green without the bird moving very far.



The face and eye in profile

Superb starling

Lamprotornis superbus

WHY IT MATTERS

52 53

The superb starling forages on the ground for insects and takes fruit as well. It links the life of the soil and scrub to the bird community by feeding across both, and can use open woodland and some human-modified country. There is no basis here for claiming that it controls insect numbers on a landscape scale.

WHAT PROTECTS IT

52 53

Keep a mix of native shrubs, scattered trees and open ground, including on farmland and lodge grounds. This retains both foraging space and shelter. Where pest control is necessary, favour targeted measures over routine broad-spectrum spraying in feeding areas. Regular local counts can flag changes that a range-wide category misses.

POPULATION AND TREND

52 54

LC · Least Concern (2017)

No reliable total

East Africa · no robust abundance estimate in the sources used

The assessment treated the population as stable. The sources used do not provide a measured East African trend or total.



IN THE FRAME

The back matches the colour of the dry grass. A narrow band of light along its neck makes the bird visible as it walks.



Feather pattern on the neck

Kori bustard

Ardeotis kori

WHY IT MATTERS

55 56

A kori bustard spends much of its time walking and feeding at ground level. It takes insects such as grasshoppers and beetles, along with plant material and occasionally small vertebrates. It is part of the open-country food web and needs large areas where it can forage and nest on the ground.

WHAT PROTECTS IT

56 57

Keep large tracts of open savanna and limit disturbance around known nests. Route new power lines away from regular flight paths and high-use sites where possible. A South African experiment found that the line markers tested helped some large birds but did not detect a benefit for bustards. Monitor collision sites after installation and adapt the design where mortality remains high.

POPULATION AND TREND

56 58

NT · Near Threatened (assessment published 2025)

No reliable total

Eastern and southern Africa · no robust continent-wide estimate

The global assessment suspected a reduction of 10–29% over three generations, about 36 years, rather than deriving a rate from a census.



IN THE FRAME

One leg lifts as the other meets the water. The slender bill and the long legs draw clear lines against the darker surface.



Crossed legs in shallow water

Black-winged stilt

Himantopus himantopus

WHY IT MATTERS 59 60

Stilts pick insect larvae and other small invertebrates from water and mud too shallow for many waterbirds. They feed where the timing of floods and drawdown brings prey within reach. A stilt's long legs give it access to a strip of habitat that can disappear if shorelines are steepened, hardened or kept permanently flooded.

WHAT PROTECTS IT 60 61

Retain gently sloping shores and seasonal shallows. Where water levels are controlled, avoid sharp rises at active ground nests and preserve exposed feeding margins at the right times of year. Keep space between visitors and breeding groups, reduce polluted runoff and repeat counts at comparable water levels.

POPULATION AND TREND 61 62 **LC · Least Concern (2025)**

100,000–200,000

Sub-Saharan Africa excluding the south · expert estimate for 2004

For that population the AEWA report noted possible stability from 1997 to 2015, but rated the trend evidence as poor. This is not a continent-wide rate.



IN THE FRAME

Two birds feed head down, their necks bending in opposite directions. In profile, the dark bill is easier to see.



The dark bill in profile

Lesser flamingo

Phoeniconaias minor

WHY IT MATTERS 63 64

The bill filters microscopic food, especially cyanobacteria, from alkaline lakes. Lesser flamingos turn this primary production into the biomass of large flocks. They move among lakes as food supplies change. Research published in 2024 found declines in food productivity at many East African soda lakes associated with rising water levels and dilution.

WHAT PROTECTS IT 63 64

Protect the network of feeding lakes and Lake Natron in Tanzania, the region's only regular breeding site. Plan upstream withdrawals and land use across catchments, keeping the flow and chemistry of inflows under review. Limit disturbance near colonies. Monitor water level and food availability together: the amount of water alone does not tell us whether a lake can feed flamingos.

POPULATION AND TREND 65 66

NT · Near Threatened (global assessment)

1.5–2.5 million

East Africa only · historical estimate for 1995–2005

The global trend is decreasing. The count range is a historical reference point, not an estimate of present-day abundance.



IN THE FRAME

The yellow bill falls down the centre of the frame. The folded dark flight feathers and long legs give the portrait an almost architectural symmetry.

Yellow-billed stork

Mycteria ibis

WHY IT MATTERS

This stork wades through shallows with the bill partly open and snaps it shut on contact with prey. It takes fish and other small aquatic animals, feeding where changing water levels concentrate or expose them. Its feeding and nesting may depend on different places: productive shallows and safe trees used by breeding colonies.

WHAT PROTECTS IT

Keep a chain of feeding sites through seasonal wetland cycles. Protect nest trees, avoid repeated disturbance during breeding and prevent pollution or sudden water-level changes that remove suitable shallows. Repeat counts at both colonies and feeding areas: birds moving between wetlands can make a single count deceptive.

POPULATION AND TREND

LC · Least Concern (2025)

50,000–100,000

Mature individuals globally · IUCN estimate, 2025; primarily African range

The global trend is decreasing. Regional declines can be more severe than the single global category suggests.



IN THE FRAME

A white throat line and a dark cap separate the bird from the reeds and reflections. One eye and the point of the bill carry the direction of the photograph.

Black-headed heron

Ardea melanocephala

WHY IT MATTERS 69 70

The black-headed heron is just as much a hunter on land as at the water's edge. It takes small vertebrates and large invertebrates, including rodents in open ground. This links grassland and wetland food webs to an established colonial breeder. Feeding on rodents does not, by itself, demonstrate reliable pest control.

WHAT PROTECTS IT 69

Find and protect the trees or other sites where the herons breed together, including colonies outside reserves. Retain grassland and open feeding habitat around them. BirdLife notes that contaminants and chemicals in agricultural areas warrant investigation; monitor exposure and avoid blanket chemical treatment around regular feeding sites where practical.

POPULATION AND TREND 69 70 71

LC · Least Concern (2016)

100,000–500,000

Sub-Saharan Africa · very broad estimate for 1991–2001

The global assessment presumed an increase. The available trend for the cited sub-Saharan population is uncertain and the abundance range is old.



IN THE FRAME

The hooked bill, yellow gape and tawny head emerge from the branches. These features suggest a tawny eagle, but the photographs do not settle the identification.



The raptor in its perch

Tawny eagle?

Aquila rapax · provisional identification

WHY IT MATTERS 72

A tawny eagle hunts live prey and also scavenges. Feeding at carcasses puts it in the same food web as ground predators and vultures, and gives it a second way to find food when prey is scarce. It also creates a point of exposure: one poisoned carcass can kill animals that were never the intended targets.

WHAT PROTECTS IT 72 73

Work with herders and local response teams to prevent and report poisoning; use non-lethal ways to protect stock. Retain mature nest trees and open feeding habitat. On electricity infrastructure, modify dangerous pole designs to prevent electrocution. Track active nests and breeding success, rather than relying only on sightings of adults.

POPULATION AND TREND 72 73 74

VU · Vulnerable (if the identification is confirmed)

About 74,000 pairs

African model based on suitable habitat · cited in 2025; not a census

The global trend is decreasing and long-term surveys report steep regional declines. The figures and conservation status belong to the proposed species.



IN THE FRAME

Last light catches the feathers on the back of the head. The dark upperparts, yellow eye and spotted pale underparts strongly support the identification.

Martial eagle

Polemaetus bellicosus · adult plumage

WHY IT MATTERS [75] [76]

Martial eagles take a broad range of medium-sized prey, from ground birds and small mammals to reptiles. They hunt over open country and use tall trees for nesting, sometimes adapting to pylons. By hunting across large territories, they link several prey groups to a top avian predator. Their disappearance removes that link even where some prey remain.

WHAT PROTECTS IT [73] [75] [76]

Protect tall nest trees, prevent repeated disturbance around active nests and retain prey-rich savanna beyond park boundaries. Retrofit hazardous pylon designs where eagles perch or nest, and work with livestock and wildlife teams to prevent and investigate poisoning. Follow breeding territories over time: single sightings can conceal the loss of nesting pairs.

POPULATION AND TREND [73] [76] [77] [78]

EN · Endangered (global assessment, 2020)

950–1,100

Mature birds in South Africa, Lesotho and Eswatini · regional assessment, 2025

There is no reliable African total. The global assessment suspected a 50–79% fall over about 33 years; long-term surveys in several African regions also show steep declines.

Keep the Connections



LEAVE ROOM TO MOVE 02 26

A fence beside a road and a cultivated strip beside a river may each look small on a map. Together they can close a route between grazing, water and breeding grounds. Protecting a corridor means agreeing how the land can be used with the people who depend on it.

PLAN AROUND WATER 17 63

The animals in these photographs need very different water conditions. Hippos need persistent pools and grass nearby; stilts need shallow margins; flamingos depend on the chemistry as well as the level of soda lakes. A conservation decision upstream may be felt in several habitats downstream.

MEASURE WHAT CHANGES 42 46

Track the same places and seasons, and ask whether a change follows an intervention. A boma is useful if it prevents losses; a wildlife crossing is useful if animals use it. Record what local residents and field teams observe, together with the limits of each measure.

Reading the Evidence

READ THE UNIT 79

Some estimates count all individuals; others count adults and subadults, mature individuals, or pairs. A density measures individuals per unit of area. It cannot be multiplied across a continent without evidence that the habitats and densities are comparable.

READ THE MAP AND DATE

A regional estimate describes the stated area only. An old estimate is a benchmark, not a current census. Species-wide trends and local trends can go in different directions. For example, an apparently stable species can lose a particular migration.

DISTINGUISH EVIDENCE FROM INFERENCE

A study of diet documents which animals or plants are eaten. It does not by itself quantify a population effect. Where the evidence comes from one landscape, the text describes that place. Changes in range and changes in animal numbers are distinguished.

READ THE IDENTIFICATION AND STATUS

Photographic identifications are marked where provisional. A risk category applies to the taxon and area specified by the assessment; if taxonomy changes, the dates and the old assessment scope matter.

LC · Least Concern NT · Near Threatened
VU · Vulnerable EN · Endangered

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Nouha in the field, Tanzania, August 2026.

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Freelance photographer

Nouha Rouabah is an Algeria-based freelance photographer with a particular interest in nature conservation. Her work spans wildlife, macro photography, portraiture and street photography. Across those subjects, she looks for moments when light, gesture or proximity changes what can be seen.

The photographs in this journal were made in Tanzania in August 2026. They linger on the things a longer look can reveal: spray off an elephant's trunk, the pale eye of a starling, a leopard almost lost among branches.

This journal brings that way of looking to the habitats the animals depend on. It asks what connects each animal to the land and water around it, and what it takes to keep those connections alive.

NOUHA PHOTOGRAPHY

Tanzania, August 2026

TANZANIA / A PHOTOGRAPHIC FIELD JOURNAL

At Eye Level with the Wild

From elephant herds and big cats to the birds of grassland and shore, twenty encounters in Tanzania trace the work animals do in their habitats and the choices that can protect them.



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