

**Day 5, Wednesday, 12 Dec 2001**

## **Rhino Day**



*We started the day seeing rhino prints in the road.*



*Almost immediately, we caught up to him and he posed graciously for photographs.*

In addition to our surprise start to the morning, we spotted 14 more white rhinos, including a calf, in the course of the day.

Today, we did 2 loops, Isiolo Valley and Milima Tanki. In addition, we conducted 2 transects and organized and entered the amazing amount of data we had collected to date.

On Isiolo loop, we named “Ian”, a GZ territorial male and “Indiana Jones.” Indy was in the road when we drove up and he not only held his ground, but advanced quite closely as if to make sure we were not a threat to

his territory. We got good pictures, even with point and shoot cameras. His ears were quite marked, both



right and left. We saw 7 other GZ and 5 elephants.

On the Milima Tanki loop, we didn’t name anyone, but saw 17 GZ and 87 PZ including 5 foals, and in the distance bunches more PZ. We finished our final transect after dark, but the first one was a bit nerve racking with 2 white rhinos supervising from a short distance across the road. We decided to do the Isiolo transects another day because of the elephant and rhino presences.

**New sightings and unusual events:** spur-winged goose (possibly), black headed heron, Speaks weaver, a mixed herd of 21+ impala with 60+ baboons. We found Mary Locke’s sunglasses by the side of the road - she had lost them on the first day!!

I found a dead 2 inch long rhinoceros beetle back at Anna’s house which I thought was a fitting end to “rhino day.”



*Drawing by Colleen*