

UK Helicopter Pilot Shot Dead By Poachers

17:55, UK, Saturday 30 January 2016



The pilot was tracking elephant poachers in Tanzania Pic: File

A British pilot has been killed after his helicopter was fired upon by elephant poachers in Tanzania.

Roger Gower was piloting a helicopter taking part in an operation to track and arrest active poachers when it came under fire, the Friedkin Conservation Fund said.

"We are profoundly saddened by the loss of our dear friend," the organisation said in a statement.

"We are committed to honouring Roger and his work. We are also committed to ensuring that those responsible for this attack are found and brought to justice.

"We believe that Roger can best be honoured by redoubling our commitment to protect

elephants and our priceless wildlife heritage.

"This tragic event again highlights the appalling risk and cost of protecting Tanzania's wildlife," it added.

In statement, the Foreign Office said: "We can confirm the death of a British national in Tanzania and are providing assistance to the family at this difficult time."

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