



Friends of Arabuko-Sokoke Forest (FoASF)

Monthly Report

October 2019



Friends of Arabuko-Sokoke Forest – PO Box 925, Malindi 80200, Kenya

www.friendsarabukosokoke.org

Data collection

Summary table of observation

Human activity	Firewood	Cut trees	Beam/plank	Charcoal	Fito/withies	Poles	Carving
Count observation	3	26	0	1	1	7	2
Human activity	Weapons	Traps and snares	Cutting tools	Wildlife	Rain		
Count observation	0	194	7	43	9		

Patrol performance summary table

Team Blue

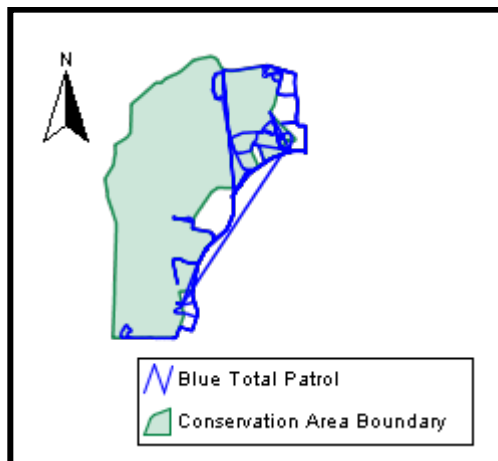
Transport type	No. of patrols	Distance (km)	Distance (km) per no. of patrols	No. of patrol hours
Foot	11.00	102.55	9.32	36.00
Motorbike	4.00	89.49	22.37	7.26
Tractor	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Vehicle	17.00	314.42	18.50	18.03

Team Red

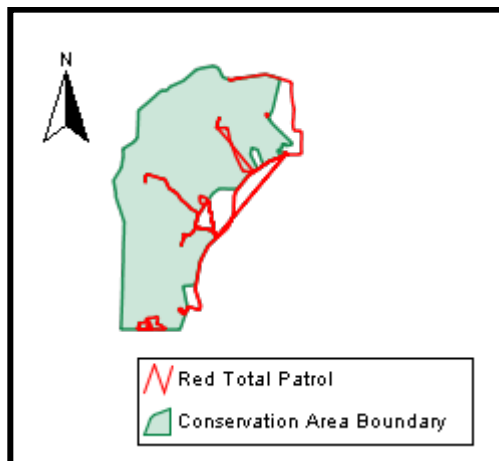
Transport type	No. of patrols	Distance (km)	Distance (km) per no. of patrols	No. of patrol hours
Foot	9.00	52.56	5.84	25.24
Motorbike	13.00	112.10	8.62	10.61
Tractor	1.00	14.36	14.36	1.89
Vehicle	2.00	87.56	43.78	3.64

Team Blue and Red together

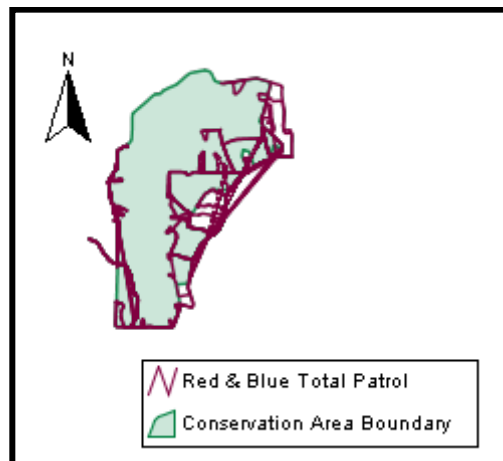
Transport type	No. of patrols	Distance (km)	Distance (km) per no. of patrols	No. of patrol hours
Foot	28.00	197.21	7.04	51.23
Motorbike	14.00	219.01	15.64	19.62
Tractor	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Vehicle	44.00	1428.88	32.47	303.81



Team Blue tracks



Team Red tracks



Team Red and Blue tracks combined

Scout team patrol comparison table

Team	Distance (km)	No. of patrols	No. of days
Blue Team	506.46	32.00	32.00
Red Team	266.59	25.00	25.00
Team Red & Blue	1845.09	86.00	96.00

Team patrol mandate

Mandate type	No. of patrols	No. of days	Distance (km)	Person - field hours
Ambush	12.00	12.00	152.57	83.96
De-Snaring	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Monitoring	128.00	138.00	2400.48	1294.13
Road Clearing	2.00	2.00	58.92	52.45

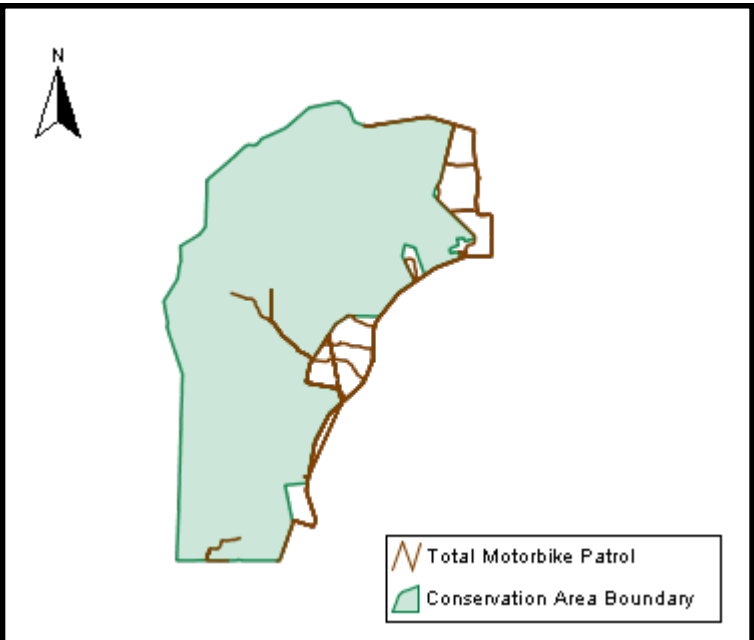
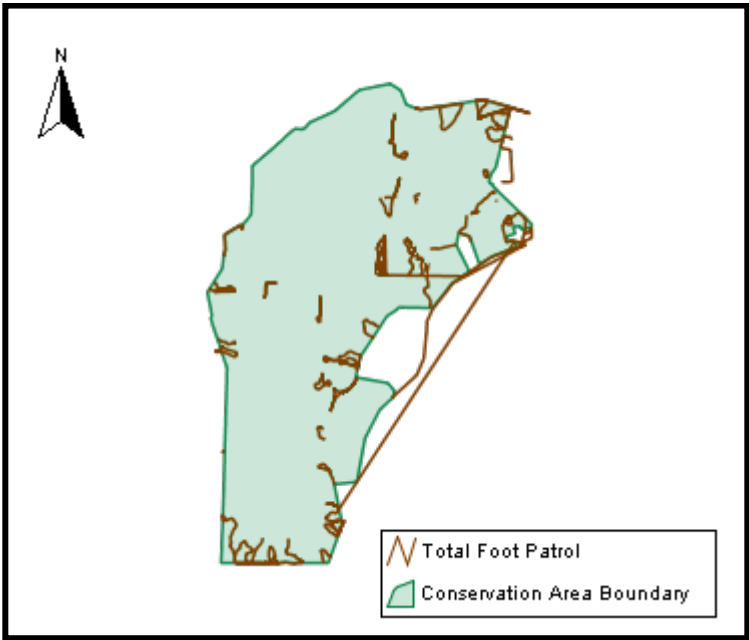
Areas covered

Location	No. of patrols
Arabuko	2
Arabuko Sokoke primary school	6
Arabuko swamp	6
Bandacho	6
Bishop Kalu	6
Chumani	11
Dida	2
Elephant track	4
Gede	16
Jilore	6
Kaembeni	3
Kahingoni	7
Kakuyuni	3
Kalia Papo	3
Kararacha	22
Komani	13
Mabuani	2
Mabuani	1
Malanga	10
Matsangoni	4
Matsanjeni	6
Mgurureni	4
Mida	5
Mkongani	17
Mwambani	7
Nature reserve	8
Ngerenya	1
Nyari	16
Sokoke	8

KFS and KWS ranger's present

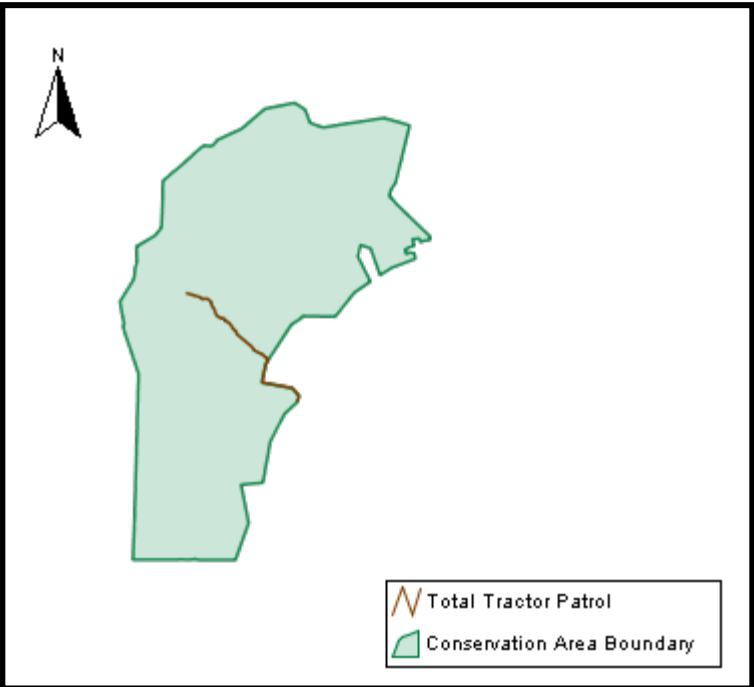
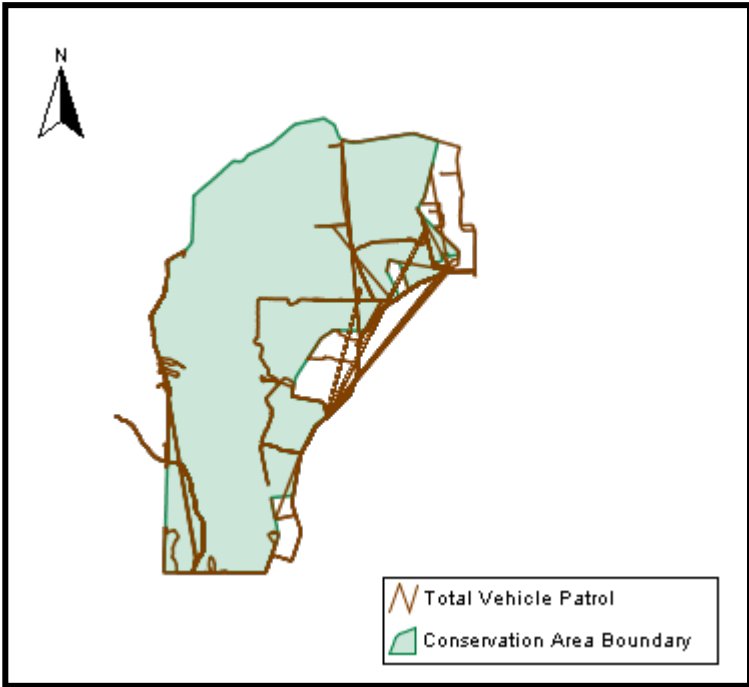
Date	No. of rangers
2019-10-01	5
2019-10-02	3
2019-10-03	5
2019-10-04	4
2019-10-05	2
2019-10-06	1
2019-10-07	2
2019-10-08	4
2019-10-09	2
2019-10-10	0
2019-10-11	4
2019-10-12	3
2019-10-13	0
2019-10-14	3
2019-10-15	3
2019-10-16	7
2019-10-17	3
2019-10-18	0
2019-10-19	1
2019-10-20	3
2019-10-21	3
2019-10-22	8
2019-10-23	7
2019-10-24	4
2019-10-25	5
2019-10-26	5
2019-10-27	2
2019-10-28	8
2019-10-29	8
2019-10-30	9
2019-10-31	9

Patrol transport types



Foot patrols

Motorbike patrols



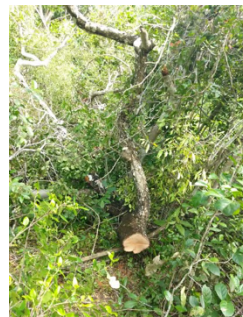
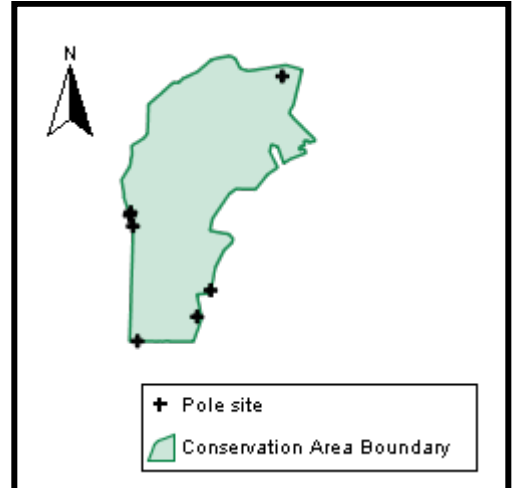
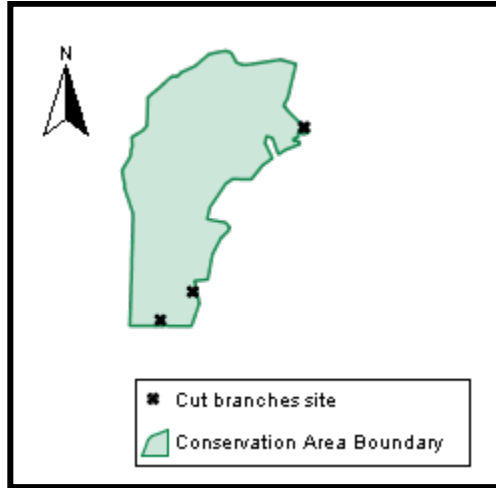
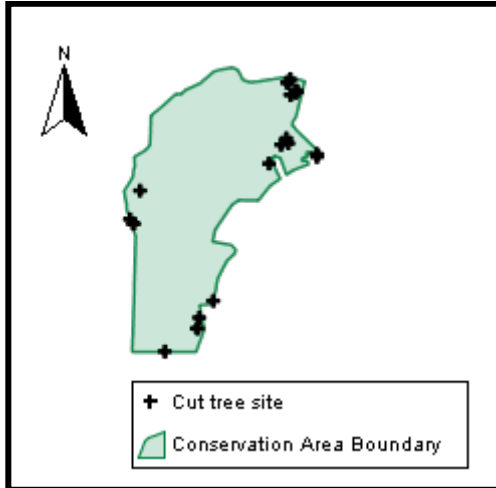
Vehicle patrols

Tractor patrols

Illegal activities

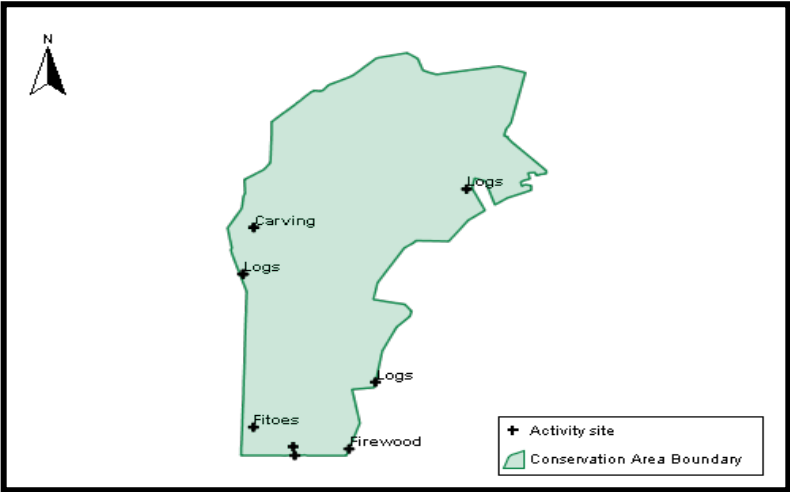
Cut trees and branches

55 cut trees and 13 cut branches were recorded and a total of 88 poles were collected.



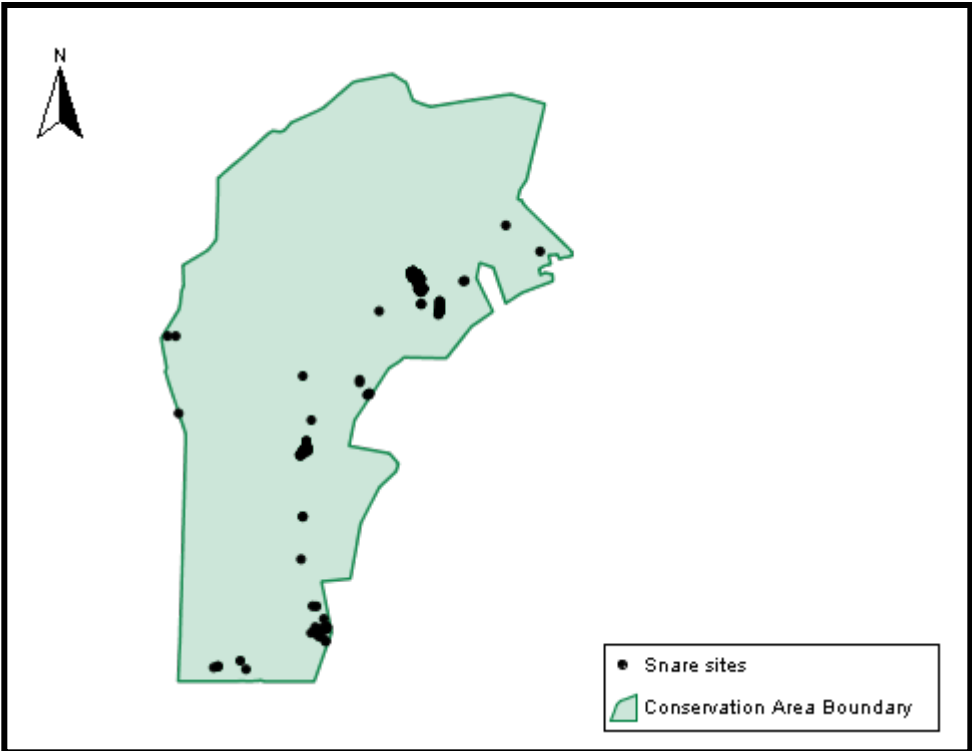
Firewood, timber (planks/beams), logs, fito/withies (small poles), charcoal and carving

Human activity	No. of Bags	No. of Logs	No. of heaps	No. of Fitoes	No. of crosscut logs	No. of cut stems	No. of crosscut logs	No. of headload	No. of headload	Count Observation
Poles						46				7
Carving										2
Charcoal	15	15								1
Cut branches							15			4
Cut Stems					36					26
Firewood								5		3
Fitoes				34					1	1
Logs		2	3							3
Planks										0

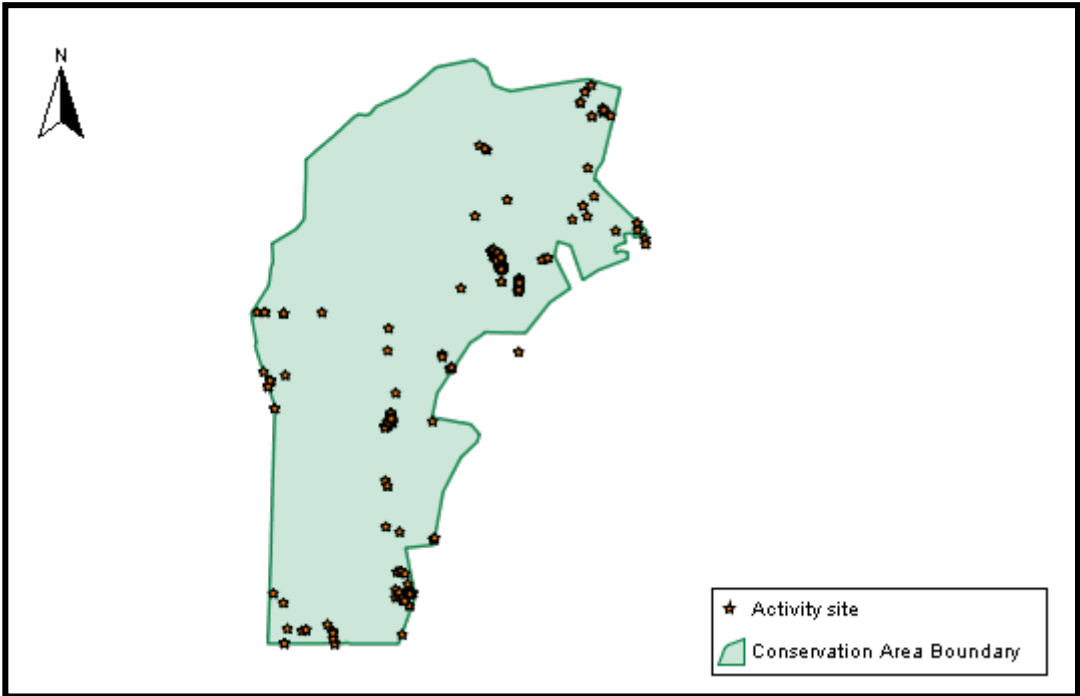


Traps and snares

A total of 278 snares were removed from the forest in October.



Illegal activity hotspots

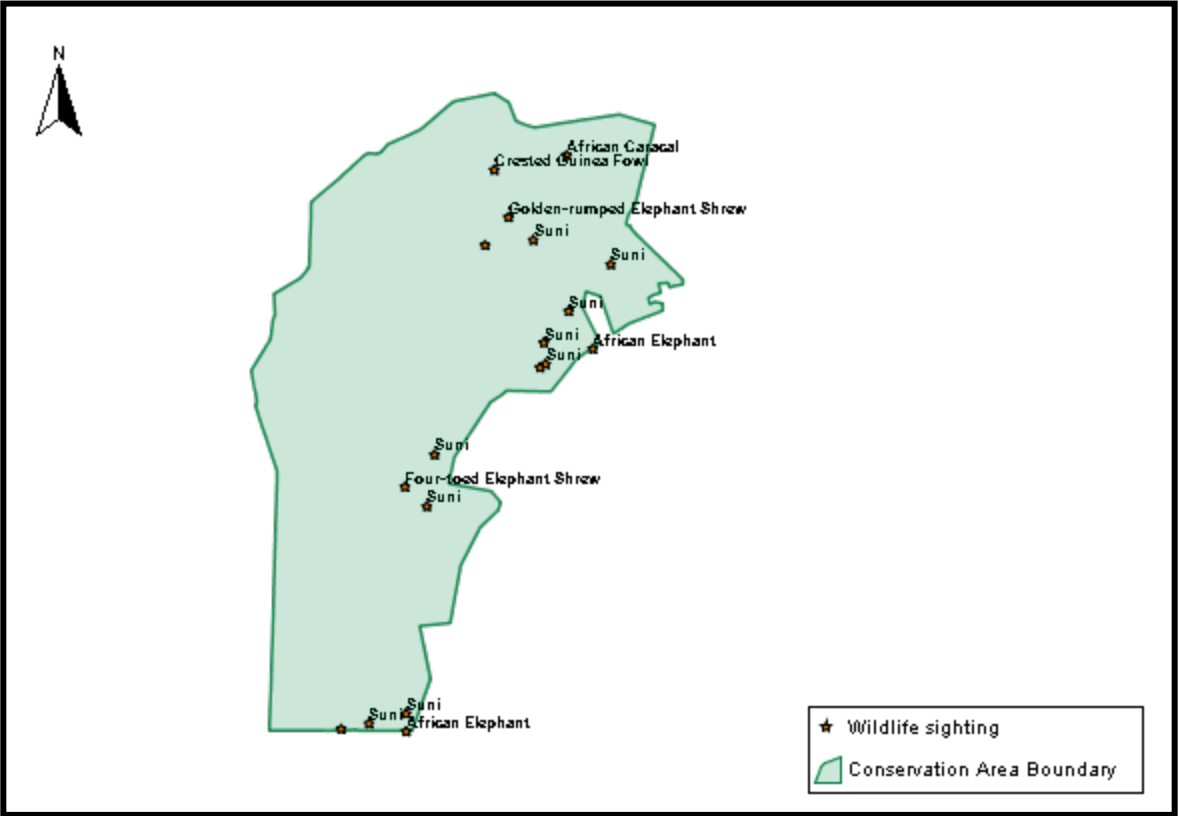


Arrests

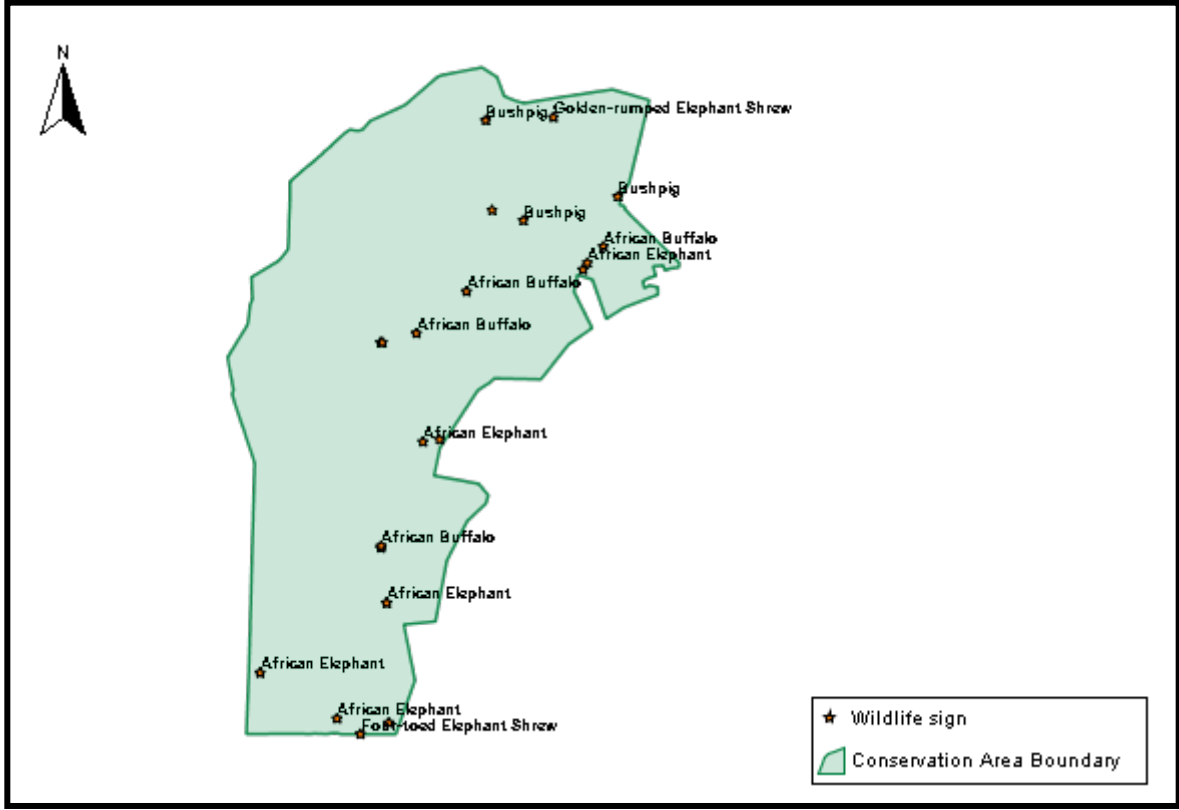
Arrested for	No. of incidents	No. of people	Average person's age	No. of male	No. of verbal warnings
Logging	4	9	36.40	7	1
Wood Carving	1	1	30.00	1	0



Wildlife activity



Wildlife signs (including tracks, dung and pathways)



Recent news

Anne Powys' book launch - Tuesday 22 October 2019

Friends of Arabuko-Sokoke Forest (FoASF) and Kenya Horticultural Society, North Coast District were delighted to welcome Anne Powys for the coast launch of her book *Wild Flowers of Kenya and Northern Tanzania* on Tuesday 22 October at the KWS education centre at the Gede entrance to the forest.

Chairman of FoASF Tukero Ole Kino welcomed over 50 people to the event and asked board member Dr Dino Martins to introduce his colleague and friend Anne Powys. Dino reminded people that we must remember whatever we are looking for on safari or in the forest plants come first.

Anne gave the history behind her book and how she was born and raised on Suyian Ranch in Laikipia. She refers to herself as an ethno botanist by experience with a considerable knowledge of the traditional uses of plants. She also has a long and deep association with the local pastoral communities. Her maternal grandfather was a forester in Kenya in the 1930s and with an upbringing filled with plant safaris – the path she chose is not surprising.

She encouraged the young students at the meeting to follow their passions as she had done.

Crispin Sharp chairman of the KHS North Coast District thanked Anne for her inspiring talk and how delighted he was to bring members of the two organisations together in a formal way. He said “It is affirming and in a sense comforting to see so many people who share the aim of preserving and promoting the well-being of the forest, and at a broader level who are willing to work together to face the challenges of preserving our local environment and of sharing knowledge and expertise about it”.



Ole Kina then gave the background to the recently concluded education programme that had been sponsored by the Kilifi Triathlon in 2018 with help from African Fund for Endangered Wildlife and told those present that nearly 1400 children from 37 schools from around the forest had been brought into the forest.

The three winners of the essay competition were at the meeting and given their certificates and prizes by Ole Kina as were their teachers and schools.

Third prize: Selina Sifa Kahindi; teacher Patricia Nyale; Mkongani Primary School

Second prize: Aisha Nyamvula; teacher Agnes Kananu Njuri; Bambakofi Academy

Winner: Christine Salama Charo; teacher Samson Kazungu Chengo; Girimacha Primary School

They were also awarded with a selection of species books including the *Wildflowers of Kenya and Northern Tanzania* which Anne Powys kindly donated.

In early November, the winners and their teachers will be taken to Tsavo East National Park for the day to look at the flora and fauna as a final reward for their efforts.

KWS Watamu warden Dadley thanked everyone for attending and said that it was important to keep an education programme going. He also thanked FoASF for their extraordinary contribution to the Arabuko-Sokoke Forest.



Community Forest Association scout patrols

With support from FoASF, the three Community Forest Association's (CFA's) scout teams have started to patrol the forest.

Five scouts/community members from each CFA were funded for 10 days of patrols in the forest. The three CFA's decided to split the patrol days into two parts during October and November. The Jilore CFA has conducted three days, the Gede CFA four days and the Sokoke CFA five days of patrols so far.

Human activities noted:

Gede CFA

- 5 cut stems for poles observed
- 6 cut stumps observed
- 1 Gambian rat trap removed
- 94 snares removed
- 1 suni released from snare

Jilore CFA

- 16 cut stumps observed
- 1 beam found
- 1 warning given

Sokoke CFA

- 1 arrest
- 24 snares removed
- 2 cut stump observed
- 1 cut branch observed
- 2 pieces of timber observed
- 3 headloads of firewood collected
- 10 poles collected
- 3 Gambian rat traps removed



African Fund for Endangered Wildlife (AFEW) projects

Outpost renovations

Signage was put up on the completed Kakuyuni and Malanga outposts showing that AFEW had supported the renovation in October 2019.

Map and leaflet

An initial 150 copies of the new forest leaflet/map have been placed at the Gede forest entrance ticket office for the Arabuko-Sokoke Forest Guides Association (ASFGA) to sell to visitors. An Mpesa buy goods till number has been set up for these sales.

The guides have agreed that funding from sales will be accumulated over the year and the Arabuko-Sokoke Forest Management Team (ASFMT) will decide which project the funds be used for.



Arabuko-Sokoke Forest Guides Association (ASFGA) uniform and binoculars

In September Kobe Suite Resort donated funds to purchase the first uniform for 10 guides. On 18 October the uniforms along with the binoculars donated by AFEW, were officially handed over to the guides at the Gede forest entrance.

Thank you to Kobe Suite Resort for their generous donation and to AFEW for furnishing the guides with new Nikon 10x50 binoculars.



Songa Mbele self-help group - cassava project

A cassava processing machine and solar drier were procured in September with funding from AFEW. Both machines were delivered to the forest and officially handed over to the Songa Mbele self-help group in October.

The group started harvesting and selling their cassava crop in September, the raw cassava was sold to the forest adjacent communities for 20/- a piece.

Using the machines, the cassava crops are now being processed to make flour, which can be used for making cakes, chapati, ugali and other staple foods. The group plan to offer an area for the local communities to learn about cassava planting and processing. These machines will be made available to all.

Members of the group have already been approached by a number of small businesses, which are interested in outsourcing the various cassava products. They plan to sign agreements for selling the cassava products and continue to provide an alternative source of living to the local communities.



Donation of tents from Ker and Downey Safaris

Ker and Downey Safaris donated three tents to FoASF in October. These tents were handed to the KFS Jilore station, who plan to spend more time camping inside the forest and patrol from there.

Thank you to Ker and Downey for their generous donation and in particular to Paolo Parazzi and to Julia Horne for arranging for her driver to pick two up and deliver them to Malindi.



Road clearing

This month the FoASF scouts, with two guides, cleared the roads from the Gede forest station to the Arabuko swamp, the Elephant track and from the Nyari view point to the Kararacha gate; 10 fallen trees were removed from the roads.



Direct support to KWS and KFS

FoASF activity	Cost (\$) justification	Total (\$)
KWS field staff rations x1	\$40 per person for rations while complementing our scouts in the forest.	40
KFS field staff rations x1	\$40 per person for rations while complementing our scouts in the forest.	40
KWS fuel	Assistance with fuel for motorbike and vehicle patrols with scouts.	200
KFS fuel	Assistance with fuel for the Gede forest station for patrols around the forest.	50
KFS fuel	Assistance with fuel for the Jilore forest station for patrols around the forest.	50
KFS fuel	Assistance with fuel for the Sokoke forest station for patrols around the forest.	50
Total		430



All pictures in the field taken by FoASF scouts (October 2019).

With great thanks and appreciation to: Minara Foundation; Oak Foundation; Kenya Wildlife Service; Kenya Forest Service; Captain Andy's Fishing Supplies; African Fund for Endangered Wildlife; Blue Marmalade Supermarket; Royal African Safaris; Promaco Limited; Committee members; Community volunteers; and numerous supporters and funders who have made all this possible.

Report compiled by Alia Moller - of Friends of Arabuko-Sokoke Forest