



MONTHLY REPORT FEBRUARY 2020

LAW ENFORCEMENT

Illegal wood exploitation and bushmeat poaching continues to threaten the forest's biodiversity. FoASF scouts, employed from the local community, offers the much-needed foot patrols to protect the forest against these threats. In February, FoASF scouts achieved the following:

- 5 suspects arrested for illegal activities in the forest during 4 incidents
- 73 patrol days were executed, with 220Km covered on foot
- 115 snares removed
- 39 observations of illegal trees cutting recorded

In addition, KWS with support of FoASF realized 24 patrol days and supported maintenance of the fence.



Mature *Cynometra* (*Cynometra webberi*), locally called Mufunda, destroyed in the forest.



Elephant grazing close to the electric fence.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Community Forest Association Reformation Awareness Meetings

In February, FoASF provided financial and technical assistance to the three communities (Sokoke, Jilore and Gede) around the forest to conduct awareness meetings across their villages on re-instituting Community Forests Associations (CFAs) in line with the Forest Act, 2016. The Forest Act, 2016 offers the communities bordering forests an opportunity to benefit from the forest by engaging in projects that are eco-friendly.

The Gede and Sokoke CFAs began their meetings in February reaching out to over 200 community members as of now. They are currently forming different forest user groups which are the foundation to CFAs.



Community scout patrols

In 2020, FoASF will continue to work with KFS and the communities on desnaring activities in the forest. In 2020 shorter five-day blocks of desnaring activities will be implemented, with smaller teams, this will allow for larger coverage of the forest. FoASF is currently finalising the timeline for this with KFS and the community scouts.

ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION PROGRAMME

Following the success of the environmental education programme in 2019, FoASF hope to bring up to 1800 school children from schools around the forest for a day visit to the forest this year.

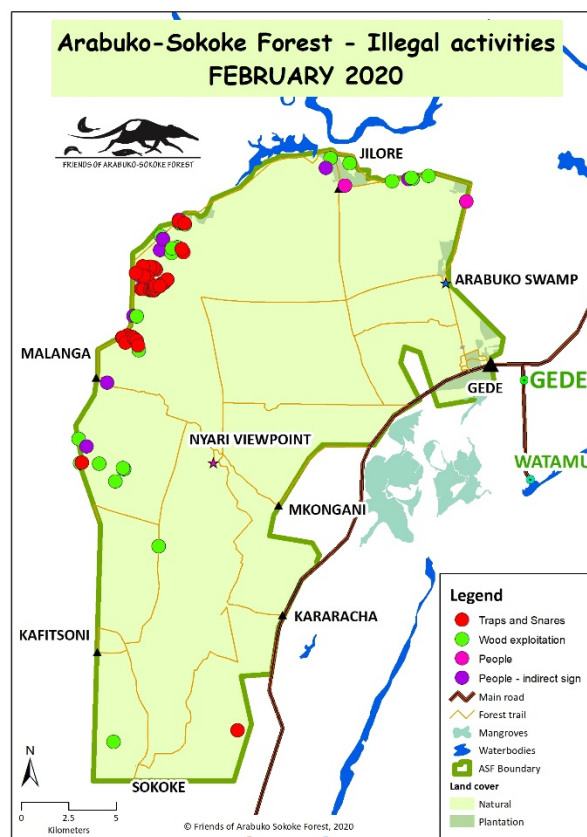
In February, working with the Kenya Wildlife Service, FoASF processed the necessary approvals from the Ministry of Education, developed the programme curriculum and identified the schools to be part of the environmental education programme.

ADMINISTRATION and MANAGEMENT

- KFS and KWS kindly offered FoASF an office at the Gede KWS premises. The office has been refurbished and is now functional. This will allow FoASF team members to be in close daily contact with our partners, especially KFS and KWS.
- Our new field and administrative manager Mlati Ochieng joined the team in preparation for the departure of Alia Moller, who has been managing our field and administrative operations for last two years.
- FoASF management met with FoASF scouts. The presentation of 2019's of their successes brought enthusiasm and the scouts will continue their forest protection with passion. Contracts of all the scouts were renewed and we expect successful teamwork in 2020.
- Joseph Kanundu was appointed as the FoASF law enforcement officer and will be fully responsible for the implementation of our protection activities with KFS and KWS.

Summary table and map of FoASF scouts patrol efforts

Patrols	Feb
No. of day patrols	73
No. of hours patrols	118.38
No. of man-days	410
No. of km covered on foot	220.042
No. of km covered by vehicle	542.64
No. of km covered by motorbike	11.84
No. of km covered by tractor	0.0
INCIDENTS	
No. of incidents	4
No. of arrests	5
No. of prosecutions	
No. of prosecutions running	
Pursuit without arrests	2
Warnings	0
Poaching incidents	
Poachers arrested	0
Poachers escaped	0
Animals poached	2
Kg bushmeat confiscated	0
Camp seen/destroyed	1
Illegal exploitation	
Wood exploitation arrests	5
No. of poles confiscated	45
No. of trees cut	39
No. of branches cut	11
No. of firewood headloads	20
No. of charcoal bags	0
No. of charcoal kilns	1
Weapons recovered	0
Snares recovered	115
Confiscation of equipment-other	0



With great thanks to our numerous supporters and funders who have made all this possible

