



# Friends of Arabuko-Sokoke Forest (FoASF)

## Monthly Report

### January 2019



## Data Collection

**Summary table of observation**

	Firewood	Cut Stems	Beam/Plank	Charcoal	Fito/Withies	Poles	Carving
Human Activity	0	101	4	1	1	8	10
	Weapons	Traps and Snares	Cutting Tools	Wildlife	Rain		
Human Activity	0	116	0	25	0		

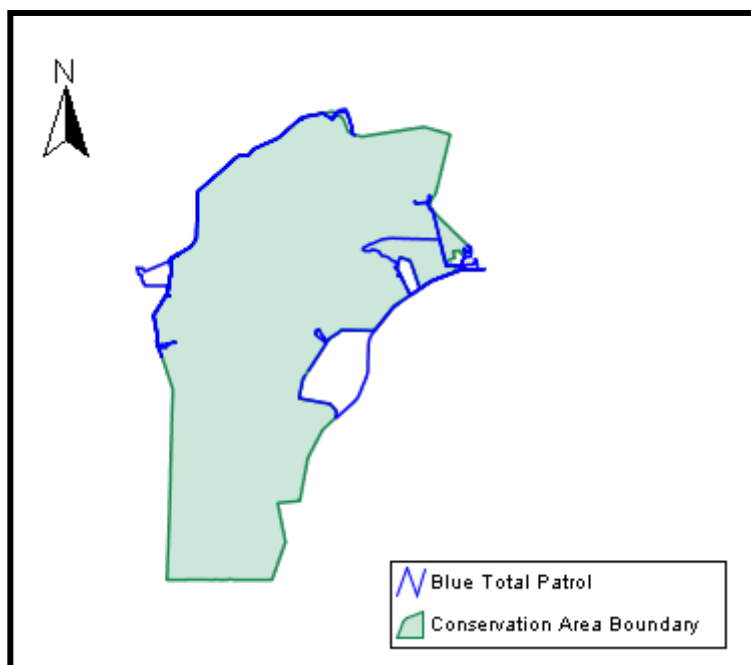
**Patrol performance summary table**

### Team Blue alone

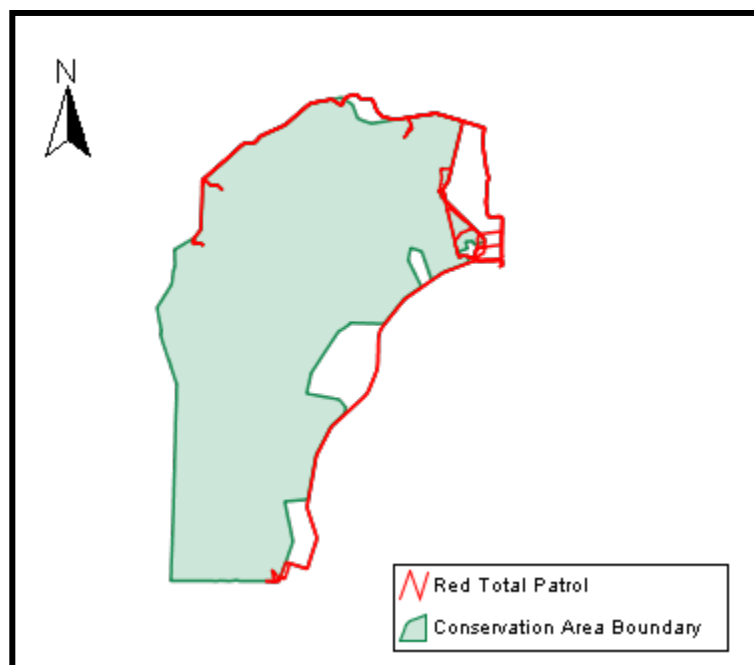
Transport Type	Number of Patrols	Distance (km)	Distance (km) per Number of Patrols	Number of Patrol Hours
Foot	8.00	47.53	5.94	35.64
Motorbike	10.00	105.54	10.55	24.14
Tractor	2.00	12.30	6.15	2.56
Vehicle	5.00	47.59	9.52	18.16

### Team Red alone

Transport Type	Number of Patrols	Distance (km)	Distance (km) per Number of Patrols	Number of Patrol Hours
Foot	7.00	128.90	18.41	22.26
Motorbike	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Tractor	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Vehicle	5.00	182.91	36.58	10.34



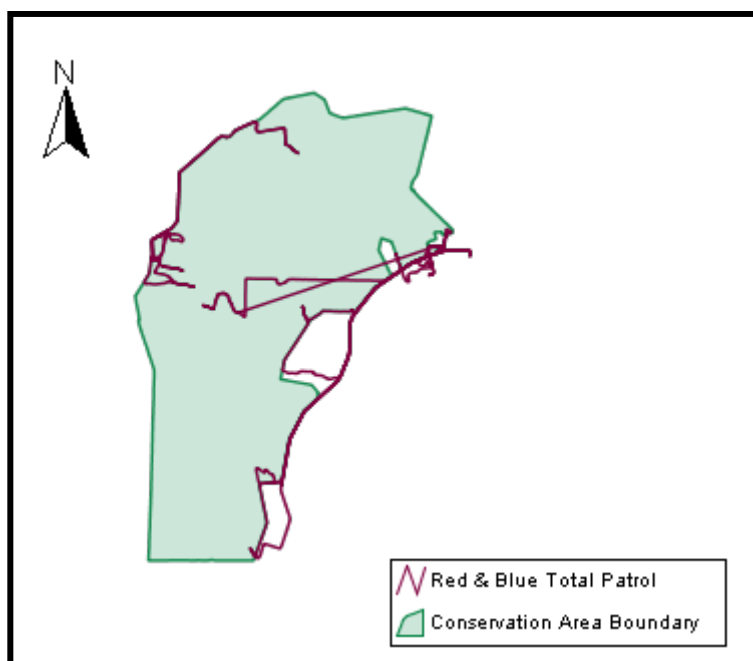
Team Blue tracks



Team Red tracks

### Team Blue and Red together

Transport Type	Number of Patrols	Distance (km)	Distance (km) per Number of Patrols	Number of Patrol Hours
Foot	17.00	190.38	11.20	52.61
Motorbike	3.00	53.31	17.77	6.04
Tractor	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Vehicle	4.00	103.60	25.90	8.00



Team Red and Blue tracks together

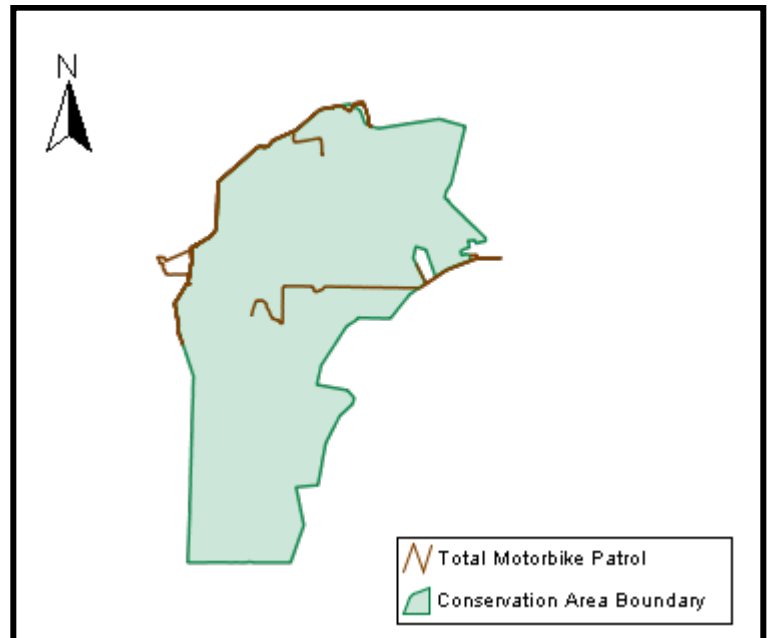
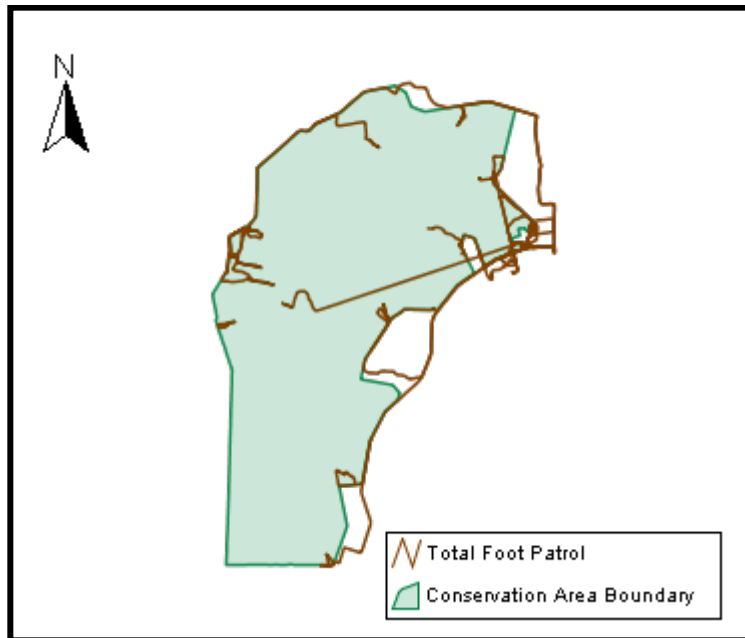
### Scout team patrol comparison table

Team	Distance (km)	No. of patrols	Number of days
Blue Team	212.95	25.00	27.00
Red Team	311.81	12.00	12.00
Team Red & Blue	347.28	24.00	24.00

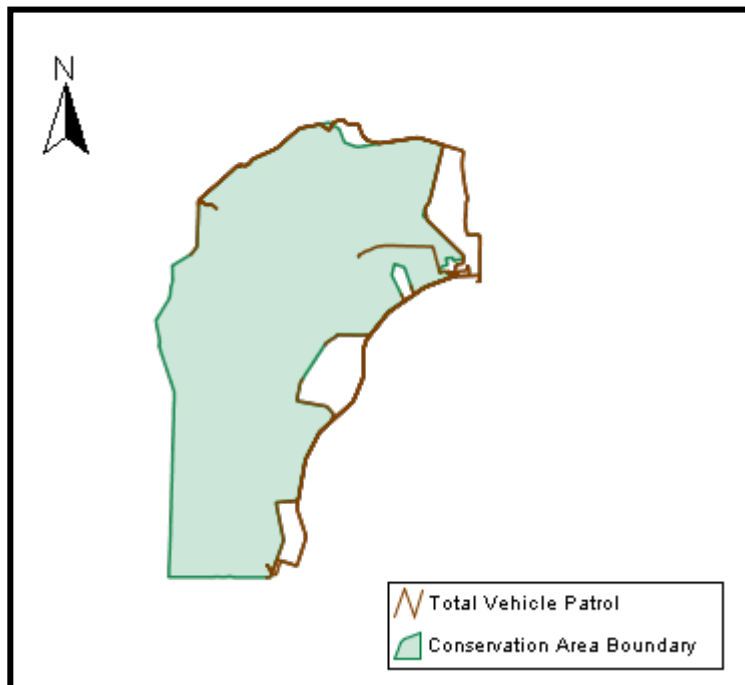
### Team patrol mandate

Mandate type	No. of patrols	No. of days	Distance (km)	Person - field hours
Ambush	10.00	11.00	57.71	139.20
De-Snaring	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Monitoring	51.00	52.00	814.33	705.38
Road Clearing	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

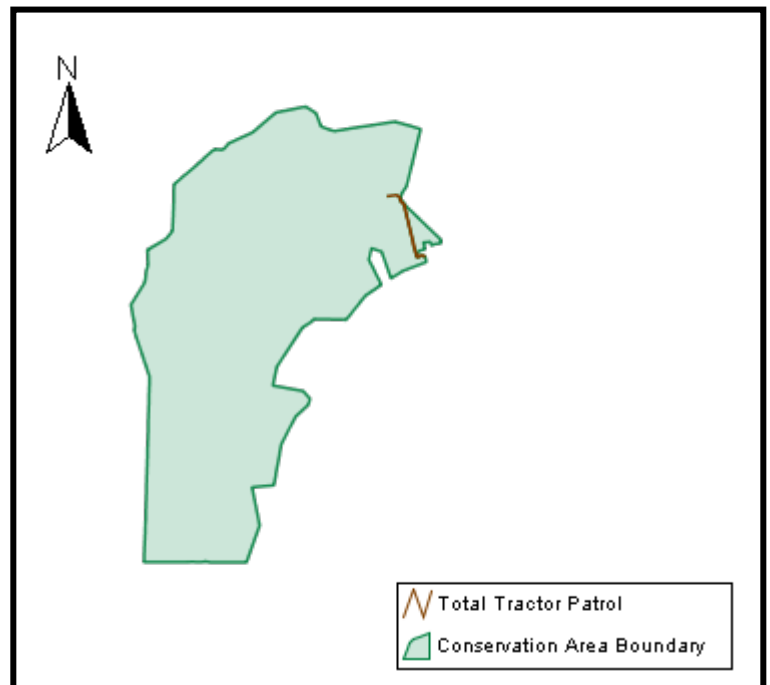
## Patrol transport types



## Foot patrols



## Motorbike patrols



## Vehicle patrols

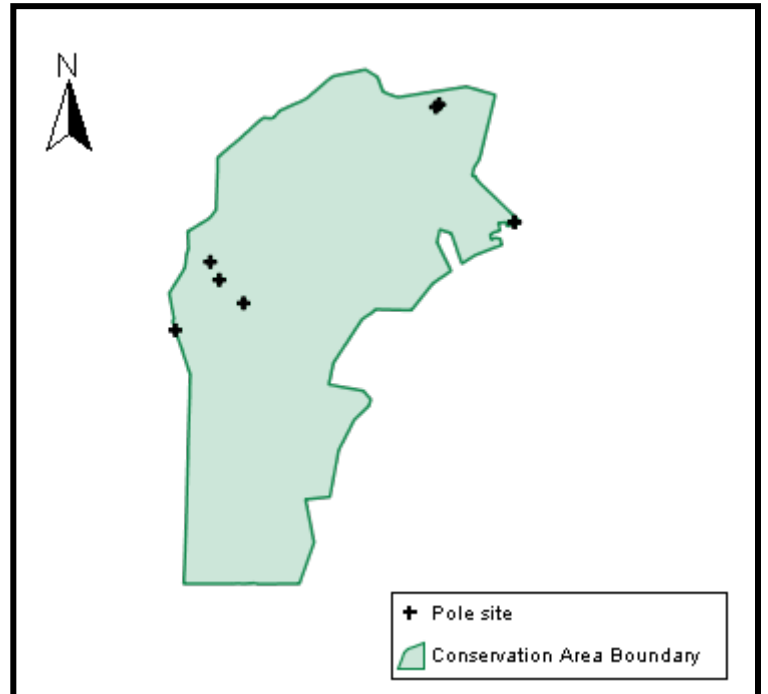
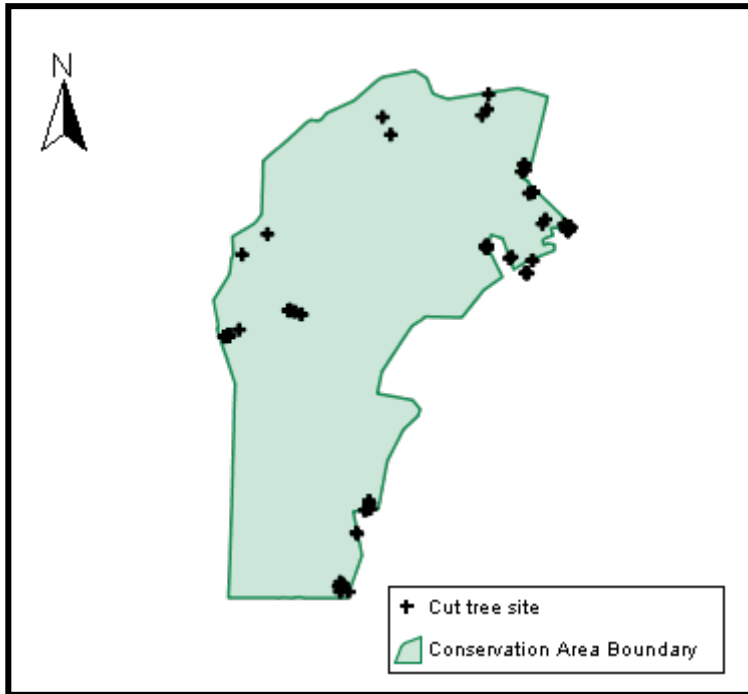
## Tractor patrols



## Illegal activities

### Cut trees and branches

153 cut trees and branches were recorded and a total of 14 poles were collected.





Firewood, Timber (Planks/Beams), Fito/Withies (small poles), Charcoal and Carving

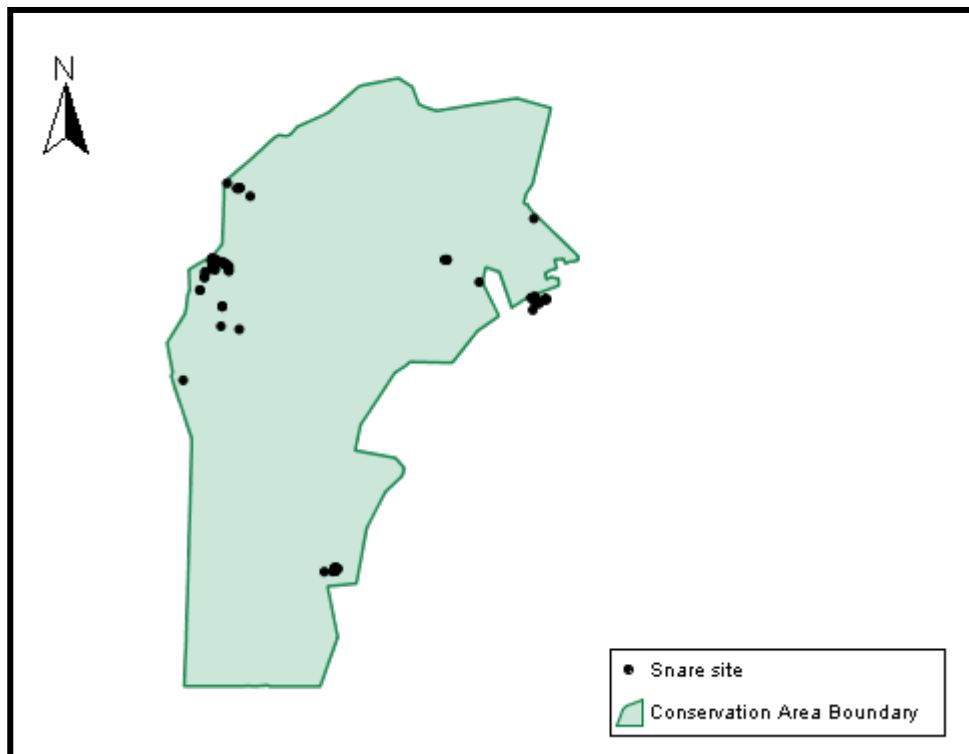
Illegal activity	No. of bags	No. of bundles	No. of fitoes/withies	No. of planks	No. observation
Firewood		0			0
Planks				7	4
Charcoal	1				1
Fitoes/withies			95		1
Carving					10



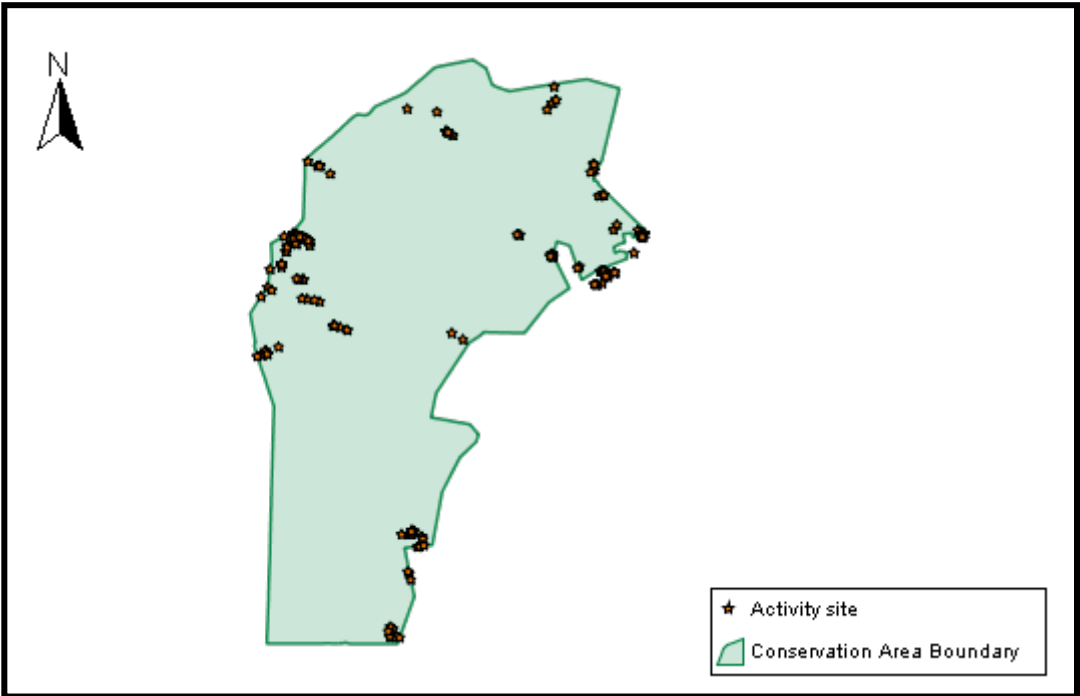


## Traps and snares

A total of 148 snares were removed from the forest in January. Two weeks were spent in the Malanga area, an area known for high levels of logging and animal poaching.









Illegal activity hotspots



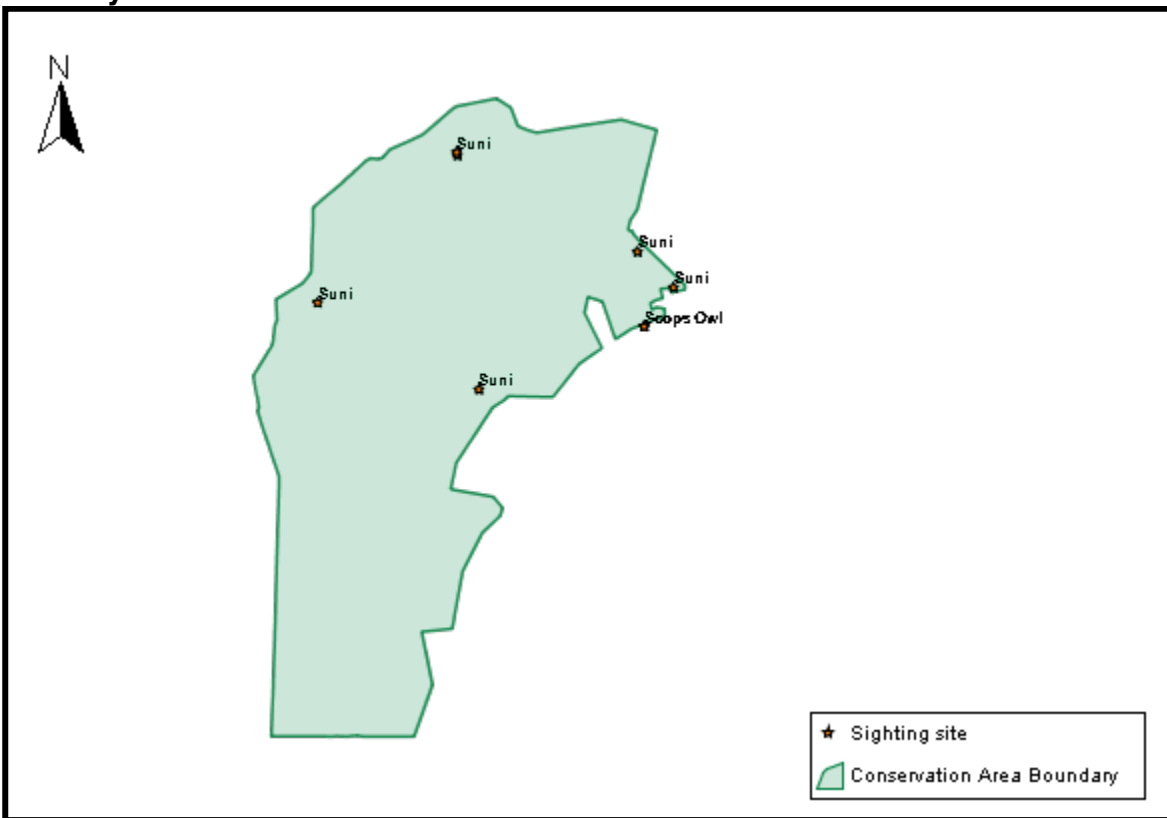
Arrests

Illegal activity	No. of arrests	No. of people	Average age	No. of males
Logging	2	2	37.50	2
Fire wood collection	1	1	-	1

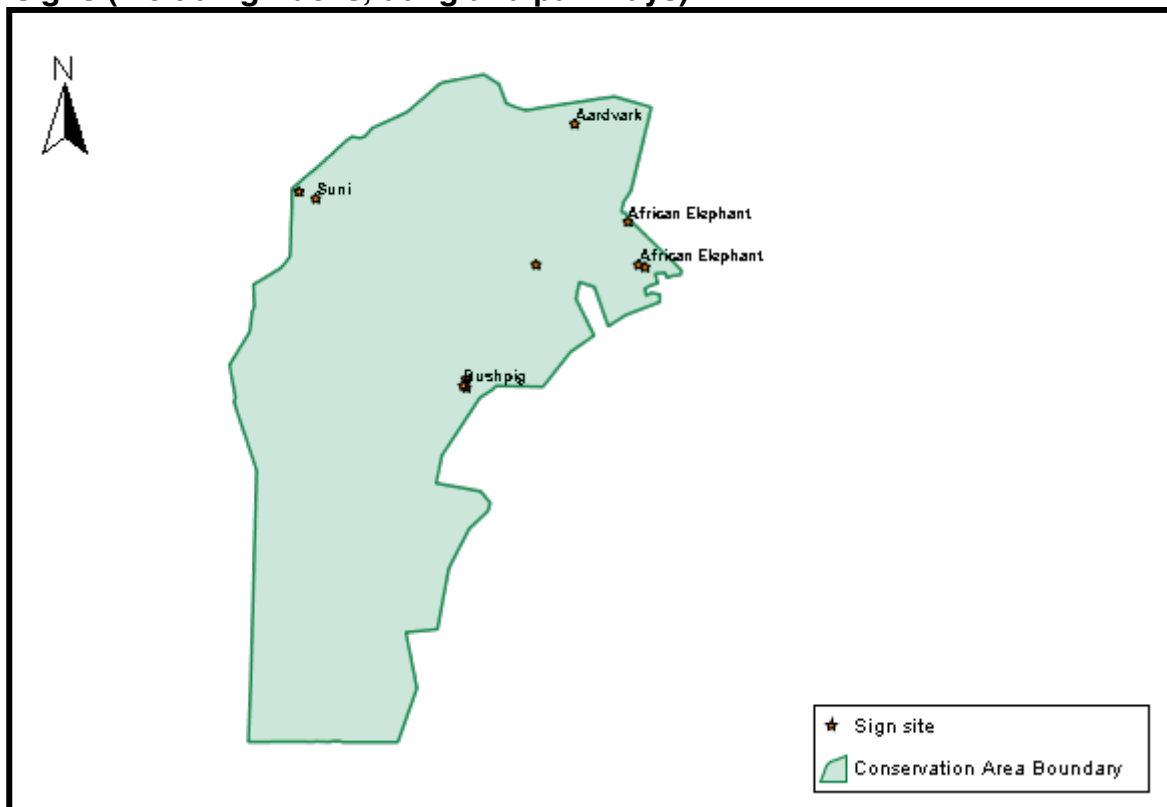




## Wildlife activity



## Wildlife signs (including tracks, dung and pathways)



## Recent News

### Kilifi Triathlon Funding - School visits

With funds raised from the Kilifi Gold Triathlon in September 2018 the planned education programme to bring in up to 2,000 local school children into the forest started at the beginning of the year with the first school, Bamba Kofi, coming in on Saturday 5th January 2019.

The programme is being run by Jamila Mohammed KWS education officer, Lynn Njeri KWS research officer and Roxie Davies an environmental educator from England who has volunteered eight weeks of her time for the project. FoASF is extremely grateful to AFEW who are covering all of Roxie's expenses.

As of 28th January, 462 children have attended from 15 schools. The team has already visited an additional 33 schools to invite them to come along and have the potential to invite another 13. All of these schools give priority to members of the schools current Wildlife Club to encourage the growth in their interest in nature and ecology.

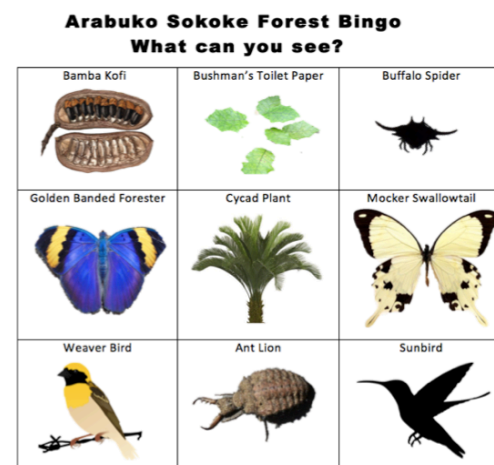
The schools arrive at the Gede KWS Education Centre, where they are shown the short film created in 2018 by FoASF, followed by a talk from Madam Jamila. This talk gives background to the forest, when it was first protected and how important its location is on the Kenyan coast. It explains the huge diverse ecology of the forest, including species of medicinal trees, endemic birds, mammals and butterflies.

Special emphasis is given on the importance of managing the Arabuko-Sokoke Forest sustainably to maintain the ecosystem service benefits that the forest provides, such as clean air, clean water and a diverse habitat.

The final part of the talk focuses on the pressures and challenges that the forest faces and how the forest management teams and stakeholders apply different methods to reduce these pressures such as environmental education, patrols and eco-tourism projects.

The children are then driven just down from the Gede forest station to the Nature Trail where they are taken on a guided, sensory walk for roughly 45-50 minutes. During this walk, led by KWS Madam Jamila, they are given a game called 'Forest Bingo'; this is a sheet with nine key species on that they are likely to encounter in the forest such as the buffalo-horned spider, the Golden-Rumped Elephant Shrew and a Cycad. This game was created to involve and encourage the children to look closer at the forest around them, and also inspire them to engage their senses, what can they smell, see and hear. They are given binoculars to take a closer look at birds or mammals that have been spotted. During this walk the children can listen individually to the 'Sounds of the Arabuko Sokoke Forest' soundtrack to increase the use of their senses while they are walking.

Once the walk has finished the children are taken back to the forest station for biscuits, a banana



**EXTRA: Elephant Shrew  
Ader's Duiker**

*Use your senses: What can you see, smell and hear?*



and some water, they then do some drawing and writing at the Education Centre before returning to school.

All those that attend are asked participate in a competition for the best drawing or essay with a prize to the student and a certificate to the school and teacher. The winner will be announced at the end of the project.

To view a short film compiled of the school trips so far, please use the following link:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7OpXcVF48W8>.



### **Arabuko-Sokoke Forest Management Team meeting (ASFMT)**

The first ASFMT was held on 29th January at the KWS education centre.

Key points discussed included:

- All members were asked to submit six-month workplans for 2019.
- The issue of an elephant corridor was again raised. FoASF stated they were interested in conducting an elephant count. KWS has also communicated with the Nairobi office on the same and we will continue to work together on this.
- FoASF proposed the idea of creating a signboard at the Arabuko swamp to encourage people to pay for a KFS entrance ticket and a donation for the water supply to the elephant.
- The forest disturbance report was received from Arocha in December. Generally showed an increase in disturbance from 2006 to 2018.
- FoASF initiated discussions on the issue of charcoal increase in the Matsangoni area. KFS are currently tackling the situation.
- An impressive presentation was conducted by Arocha on adaption for management and policymakers of the GBIF data being developed on the ASF.
- Dates for the ASFMT meeting were scheduled for the rest of the year, plus the initial meetings for the working groups.

## Snaring suni's

On 9th January two suni and one duiker were recovered from the forest. The individual carrying the three antelope dropped them after being discovered by the FoASF scouts in the forest. The two suni (both males) were still alive but seriously injured. Both were taken to the KWS office at the Gede station, where FoASF treasurer Lissa Ruben was called for assistance. Alia Moller collected Faraj the Watamu vet, who has previous experience working with these animals and an initial examination was given. They were in shock and one definitely had a fractured or broken back leg.

Faraj wanted to give them a chance, however after two days in the Watamu veterinary clinic, despite pain killers, splints and anti-inflammatory, their conditions deteriorated and both had to be euthanized. The bodies were taken back to KWS and with the help of the FoASF scouts they were buried.

Thank you to Faraj and his assistant Baya for all their efforts; and to Lissa for her quick reaction and Alia for her back-up.



## Oryx Magazine - Arabuko-Sokoke Forest Feature

The Oryx Opulence magazine for February 2019 has now been released with a seven-page feature on the Arabuko-Sokoke Forest, the community and beyond.

Thank you to South African Journalist Melanie Van Zyl and Photographer Stephanie Veldman for including FoASF in your adventures to the forest and for this incredible spread on the wonders that the Arabuko-Sokoke Forest have to offer. To view this feature please use this link and flick to page 68.

<http://oryx.ink-live.com/html5/reader/production/default.aspx?pubname=&edid=bb38a7a4-1878-47fd-bbf4-c7f152cc71bf>



## Signage

Five sign boards funded by Nature Kenya have been completed and delivered to the KFS office at the Gede station. These boards will be located around the outside of the forest with distances to the Gede entrance and some brief information.

KFS has chosen the five locations which will be installed at Pwani University, Gede station entrance, Kilifi town, Malindi airport and Watamu junction.



## FoASF liaison officer

With funding from African Fund for Endangered Wildlife (AFEW), FoASF have been able to find a new liaison officer, who is currently on a probation period with the community scouts in the forest.

The liaison officer will provide leadership, management and cohesion to the work with the present scouts and in tandem with KFS, KWS and the Community Forest Associations (CFA's).



### Direct support to KWS and KFS

<b>FoASF Activity</b>	<b>Cost (\$) Justification</b>	<b>Total (\$)</b>
KWS Vehicle Running Costs	Warden Sokoke vehicle donated and maintained by Captain Andy's Fishing Supplies.	1000
KWS Field Staff Rations x1	40\$ per person for rations while complementing our scouts in the forest.	40
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KWS Fuel	Assistance with fuel for motorbike and vehicle patrols with scouts.	200
KFS Fuel	Assistance with fuel for Gede Forester motorbike patrols around the forest.	50
KWS Ranger Support x1	Daily stipend for patrols with scout teams.	20
KFS Ranger Support x1	Daily stipend for patrols with scout teams.	20
<b>Total</b>		<b>1370</b>



*All pictures in the field taken by FoASF Scout (January 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 FoASF