



Friends of Arabuko-Sokoke Forest (FoASF)

Monthly Report

February 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 Stems	Beam/Plank	Charcoal	Fito/withies	Poles	Carving
Count	2	39	3	2	0	4	0
Observation							
Human activity	Weapons	Traps and snares	Cutting tools	Wildlife	Rain		
Count observation	1	87	0	17	0		

Patrol performance summary table

Team Blue alone

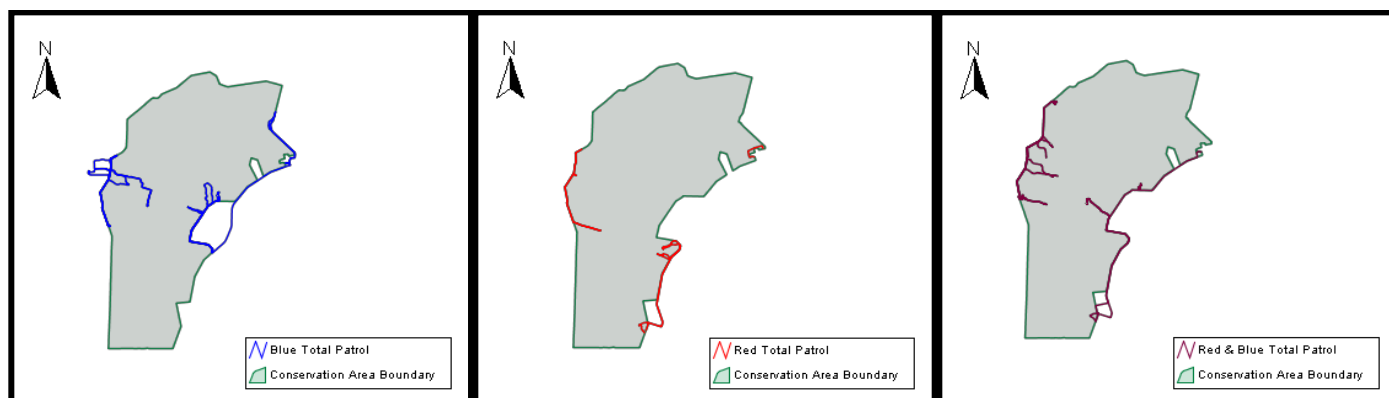
Transport type	No. of patrols	Distance (km)	Distance (km) per no. of patrols	No. of patrol hours
Foot	9	66.74	7.42	48.52
Motorbike	14	136.88	9.78	33.14
Tractor	0	0.00	0.00	0.00
Vehicle	0	0.00	0.00	0.00

Team Red alone

Transport type	No. of patrols	Distance (km)	Distance (km) per no. of patrols	No. of patrol hours
Foot	5	52.28	10.46	19.07
Motorbike	3	26.20	8.73	3.78
Tractor	0	0.00	0.00	0.00
Vehicle	0	0.00	0.00	0.00

Team Blue and Red together

Transport type	No. of patrols	Distance (km)	Distance (km) per no. of patrols	No. of patrol hours
Foot	9	85.25	9.47	29.73
Motorbike	11	81.59	7.42	8.58
Tractor	0	0.00	0.00	0.00
Vehicle	0	0.00	0.00	0.00



Team Blue tracks

Team Red tracks

Team Red and Blue tracks together



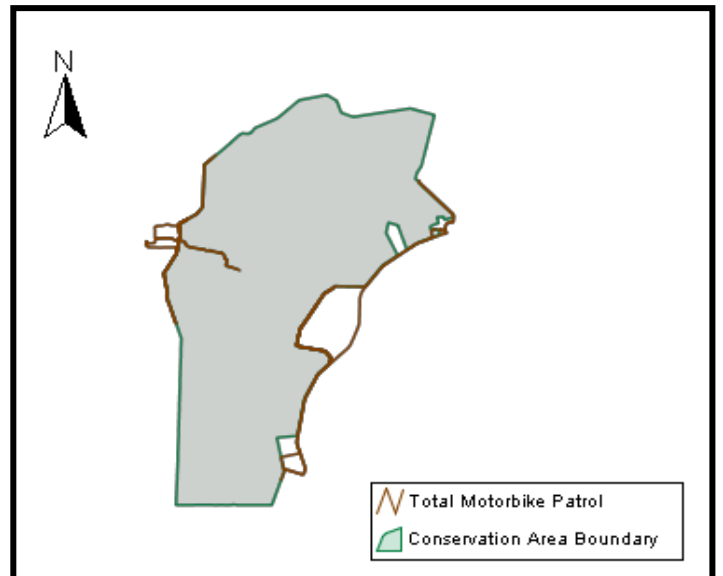
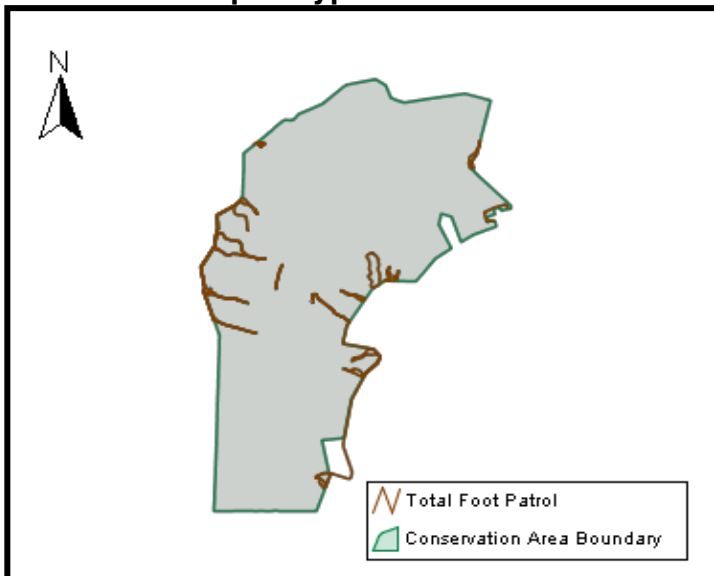
Scout team patrol comparison table

Team	Distance (km)	No. of patrols	No. of days
Blue Team	203.62	23	25
Red Team	78.48	8	8
Team Red & Blue	166.84	20	20

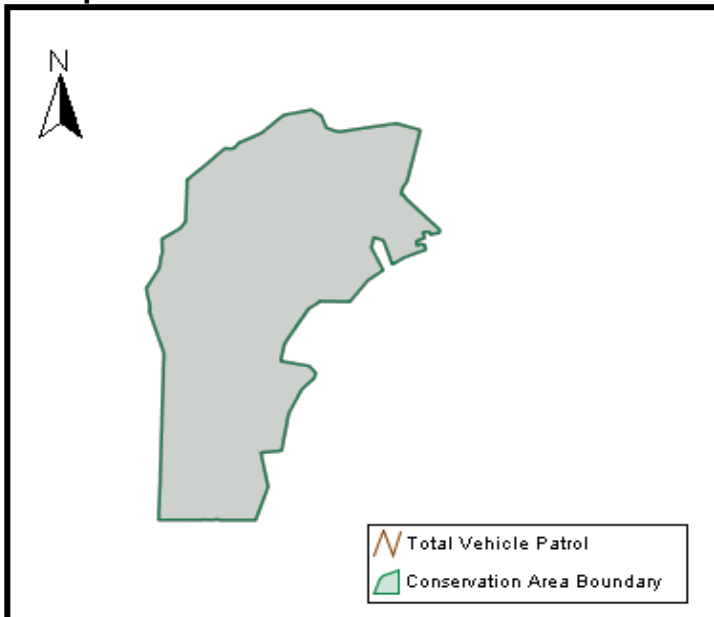
Team patrol mandate

Mandate type	No. of patrols	No. of days	Distance (km)	Person - field hours
Ambush	4	4	25.74	35.13
De-Snaring	0	0	0.00	0.00
Monitoring	47	49	423.19	712.59
Road Clearing	0	0	0.00	0.00

Patrol transport types

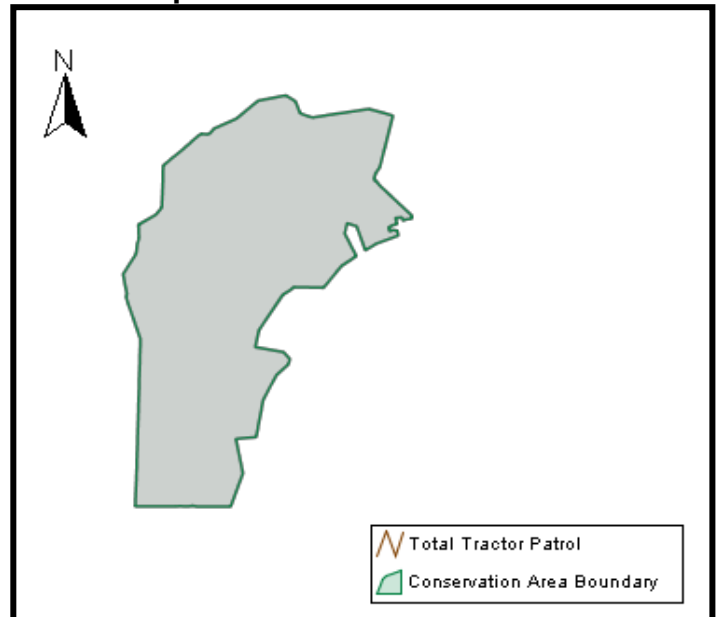


Foot patrols



Vehicle patrols

Motorbike patrols



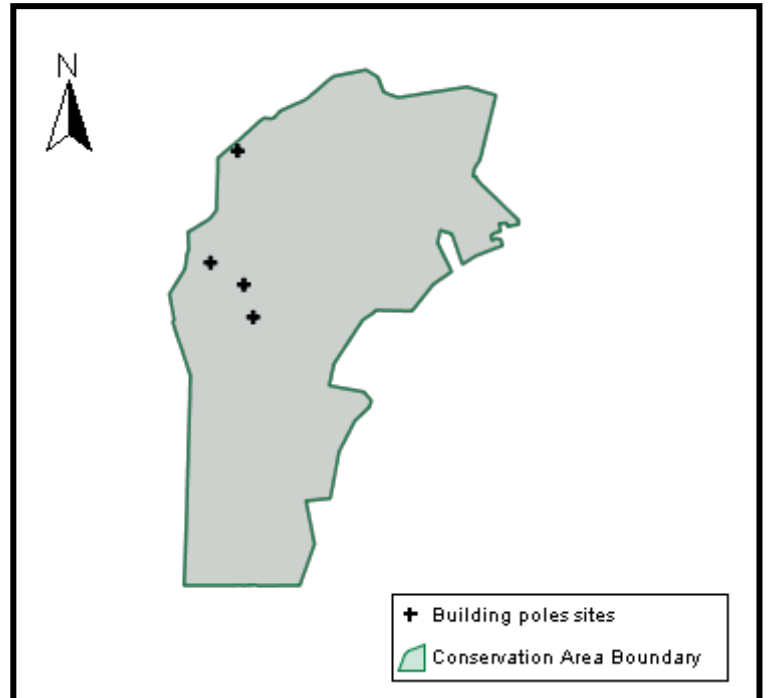
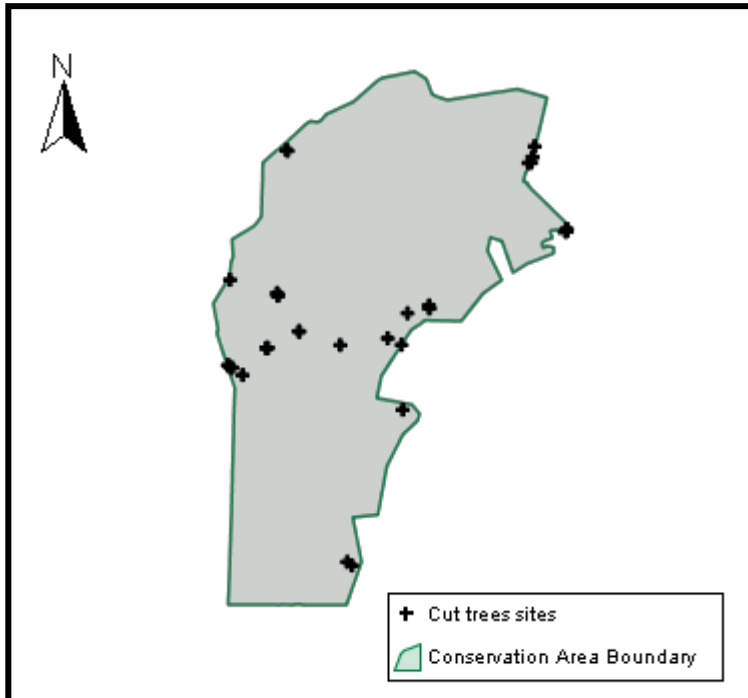
Tractor patrols



Illegal activities

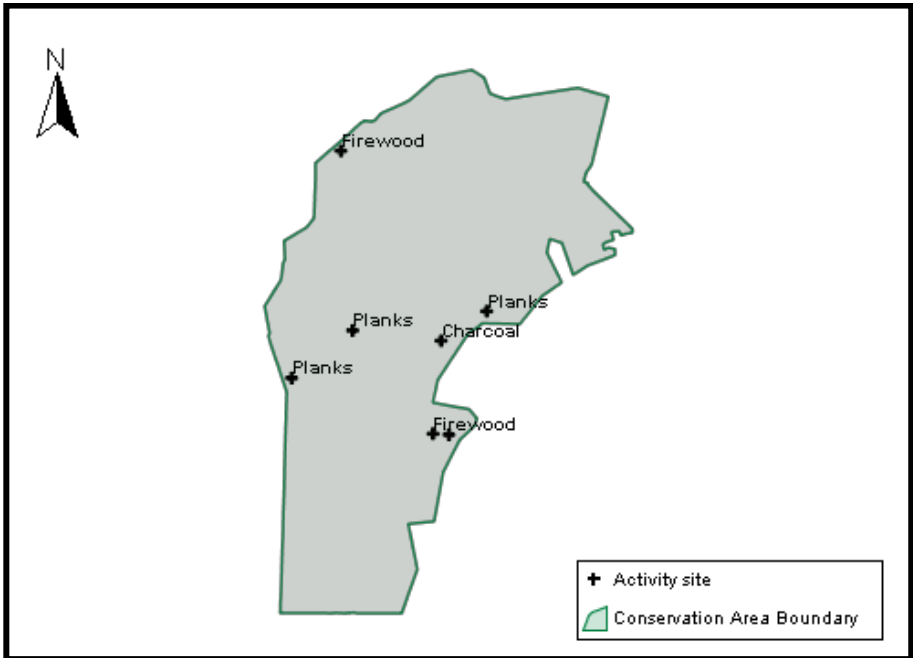
Cut trees and branches

67 cut trees and branches were recorded and a total of 11 poles were collected.



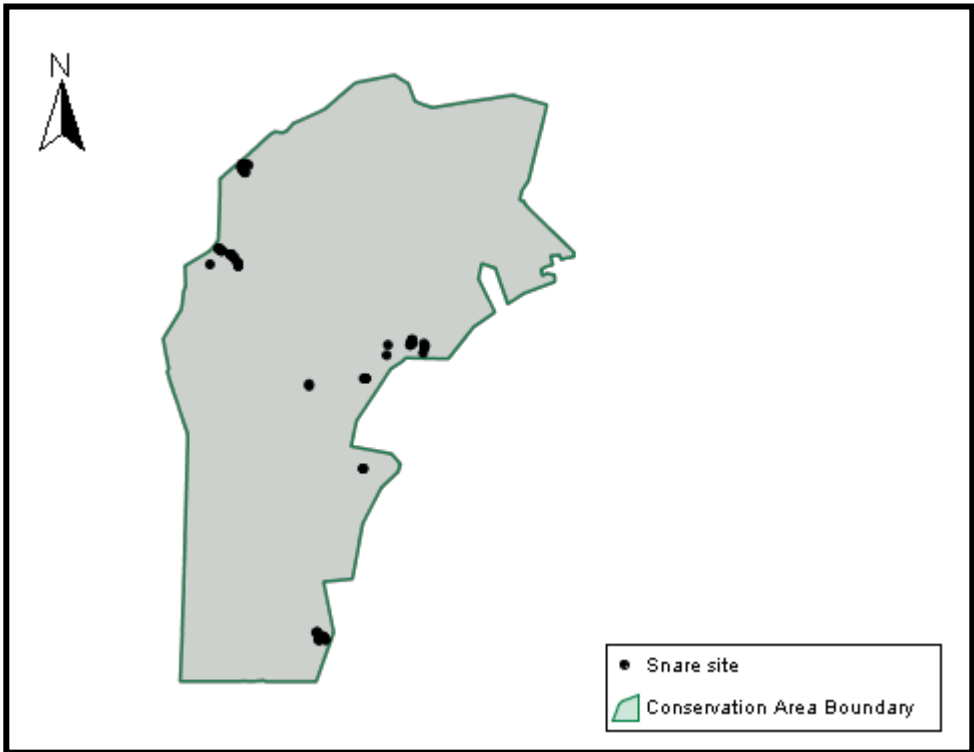
Firewood, Timber (Planks/Beams), Fito/Withies (small poles), Charcoal and Carving

Illegal activity	No. of bags	No. of bundles	No. of fito/withies	No. of planks	No. of observation
Firewood		3			2
Planks				7	3
Charcoal	23				2
Fito/withies			0		0
Carving					0



Traps and snares

A total of 107 snares were removed from the forest in February.

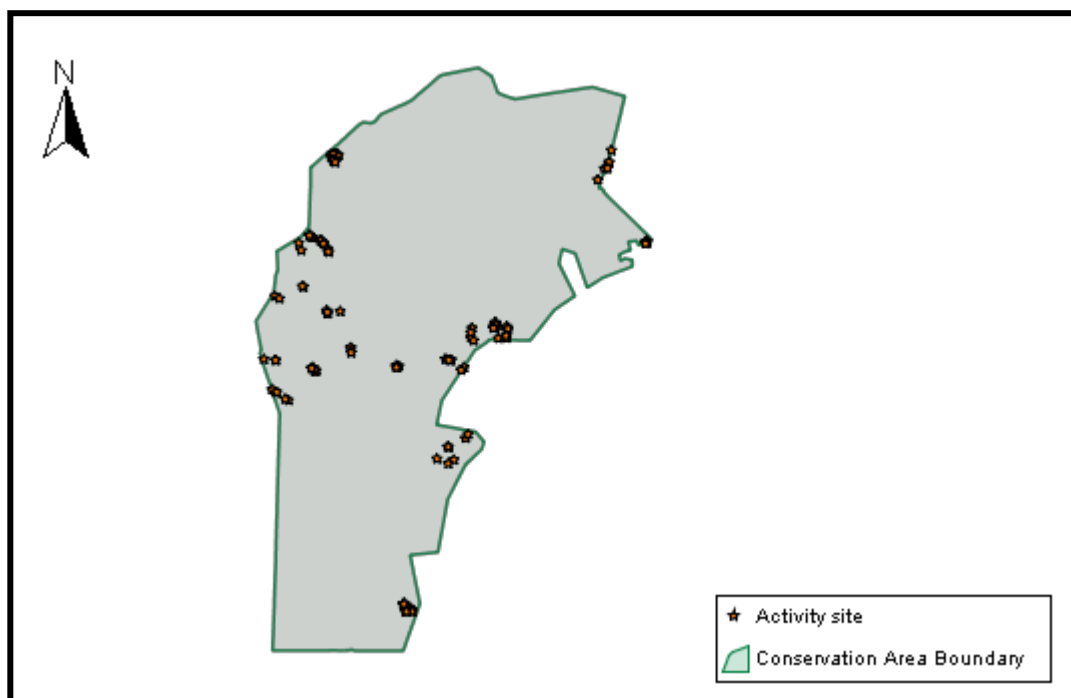


Arrests

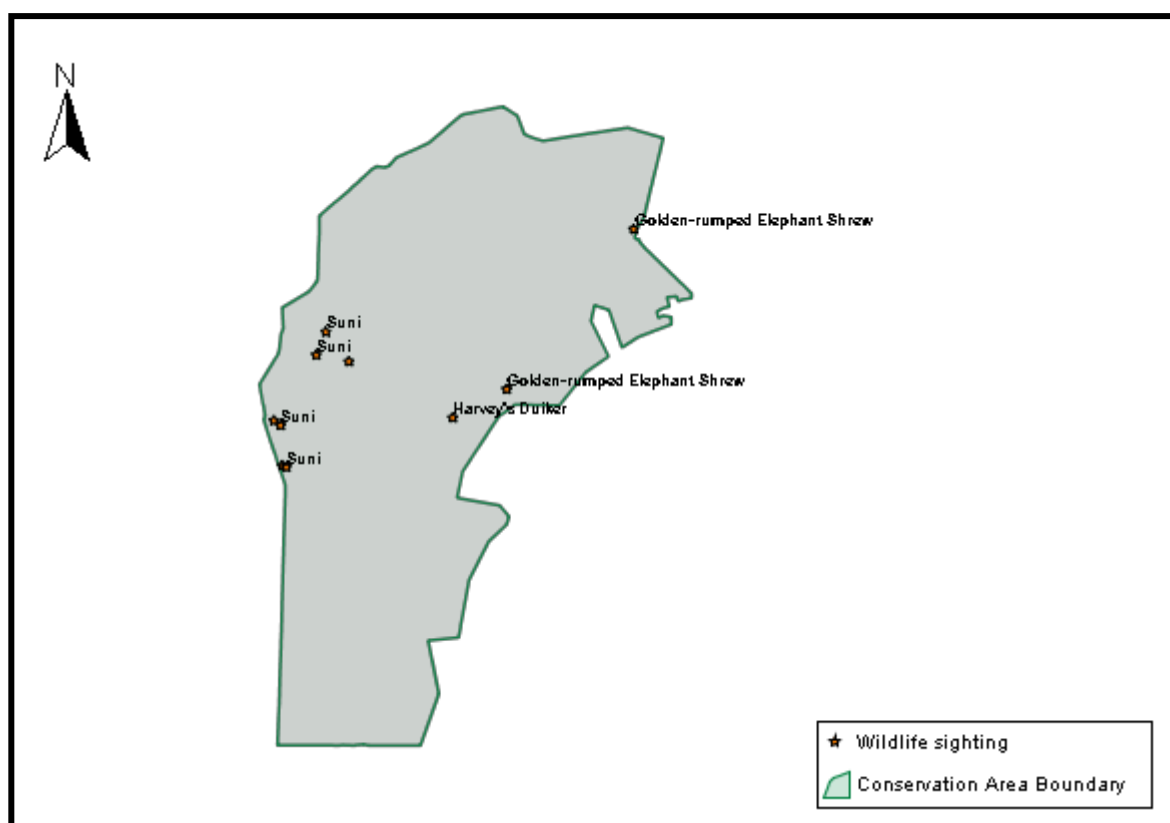
Arrested for	No. of Arrests	No. of People	Average person's age	No. males	No. female
Logging	1	1	58.00	1	0



Illegal activity hotspots



Wildlife activity



Wildlife signs (including tracks, dung and pathways)



Recent news

Forest protection project

In February FoASF received funding from the Minara foundation and a pledge from Oak foundation so we can continue the forest protection program.

African Fund for Endangered Wildlife (AFEW) have also provided funding for the FoASF 2019 protection project.

The community scout teams will now be able to continue to operate through to the end of 2019.

We are hugely grateful to Minara, Oak and AFEW for once again supporting us.

Scout training

The ten scouts will be traveling to Ol Pejeta on 4th March for a three-week training course. The training covers a vast number of activities including bush craft, patrol techniques, drills, map reading, communications, biodiversity data collection, care and management of wildlife, first aid and report/analytical skills. Conducting this training will bring a new, enthused and professional life-force to the team.



A Rocha training and GBIF data

Presently A Rocha Kenya is implementing a Biodiversity Information for Development 6t5(BID) project to digitize biodiversity data for the Arabuko-Sokoke Forest for publication on the GBIF open source database.

In preparation for this, a course was conducted at the Kenya Wildlife Service (KWS) education centre on the skills of good data collection practices, particularly for biodiversity data and to have a good understanding of the importance of data and how it can and should be used. The initial training occurred in August 2018, but due to time constraints it was not completed.

On 1st February 2019 the course was completed with a practical. Participants were then taken to the Bio-Ken snake farm in Watamu to learn about the different species of snakes and their biological importance.

Thank you Kirao Lennox and Colin Jackson from A Rocha for the training.

Also, thanks to A Rocha and to Judith Adhiambo for spending their time organising the FoASF data into a format compatible with the GBIF system.

FoASF liaison officer

On 4th February, after completing an initial trial period, Mohamed Kamanya has now joined FoASF on a consultancy basis. Mohamed will be tasked with bringing the current scout teams up to an even higher standard and aid in coordination in patrols and other activities with KWS and KFS and other stakeholders.

With special thanks to AFEW for supporting this initiative.



ASF working group meeting

The initial management working group meeting was held 19th February.

Key topics discussed:

- KFS Sokoke and Jilore forest stations reported a lack in patrols due to transport issues. FoASF asked for proposals to address the issue (Sokoke Forester Silas Tsuma sent a proposal that day and has received funding for fuel for one month).
- The three KFS forest stations reported that FoASF scouts were coordinating well and helping with patrols.
- FoASF currently working on signage with KWS and KFS to inform communities and visitors not to feed wild animals, litter or light fires.
- Members were informed that FoASF are exploring the idea of creating a permanent camp for the scouts in the Malanga area.

Kilifi Gold Triathlon - school visits

Throughout February, school visits have been ongoing. As at 26rd February, 1128 children have attended from 33 schools (30 primary and three secondary schools). An additional 17 schools have been contacted and now KWS wait on confirmation and dates.

Roxie Davies who has been volunteering for FoASF over the last two months has handed over to KWS education officer Jamillah Muhammed and FoASF Secretary Deborah Goodhart to continue the school visits throughout March.

Thank you, Roxie, for your tireless work and to African Fund for Endangered Wildlife (AFEW) for funding her stay.



Nature Kenya signboards

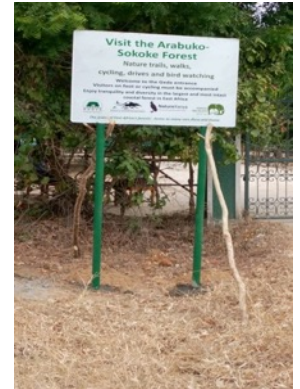
KFS has begun distributing the sign boards created by FoASF with the Gede entrance signboard in place.

FoASF with KWS are currently working on signage to run along the Arabuko swamp road in order to caution people not to feed the wild animals, litter or touch the fence.

FoASF bins

FoASF have donated 11 bins to be distributed around the KFS, KWS and Kenya Forestry Research Institute (KEFRI) Gede office area, the KWS Gede campsite and the FoASF scout campsite. Waste will be separated into biodegradable and non-biodegradable items. Each department will be responsible for clearing their bins and keeping the monkeys from getting in.

Thank you to FoASF committee member Andrew McNaughton for making and donating these bins.



Wonders of Watamu

On 6th February Blue Marmalade Supermarket started a monthly subscription of 6,500/- for FoASF to become members of the 'Wonders of Watamu' travel agency group. Wonders of Watamu (WOW) through social media and an online website encourages people to travel to Watamu. This online initiative will provide FoASF with up to date advertisements and marketing for the forest. Thank you to Blue Marmalade and especially to Gail Conway for this generous contribution.



Direct support to KWS and KFS

FoASF activity	Cost (\$) justification	Total (\$)
KWS vehicle running costs	Warden Sokoke vehicle donated by Captain Andy's Fishing Supplies.	100
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 Gede Forester motorbike patrols around the forest.	50
KFS fuel	Assistance with fuel for the Sokoke forest station for patrols in the forest.	50
KWS ranger support	Daily stipend for patrols with scout teams.	20
KFS ranger support	Daily stipend for patrols with scout teams.	20
Total		520



All pictures in the field taken by FoASF Scout (February 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

