



Friends of Arabuko-Sokoke Forest (FoASF)

Monthly Report

May 2019



Data collection

Summary table of observation

Human activity	Firewood	Cut Stems	Beam/Plank	Charcoal	Fito/withies	Poles	Carving
Count observation	1	41	0	4	5	16	0
Human activity	Weapons	Traps and snares	Cutting tools	Wildlife	Rain		
Count observation	0	39	0	47	9		

Patrol performance summary table

Team Blue

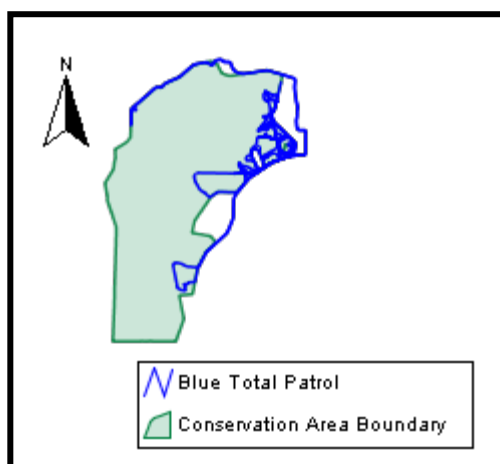
Transport type	No. of patrols	Distance (km)	Distance (km) per no. of patrols	No. of patrol hours
Foot	26.00	209.55	8.06	62.97
Motorbike	5.00	35.31	7.06	4.74
Tractor	1.00	11.18	11.18	1.11
Vehicle	13.00	160.36	12.34	31.13

Team Red

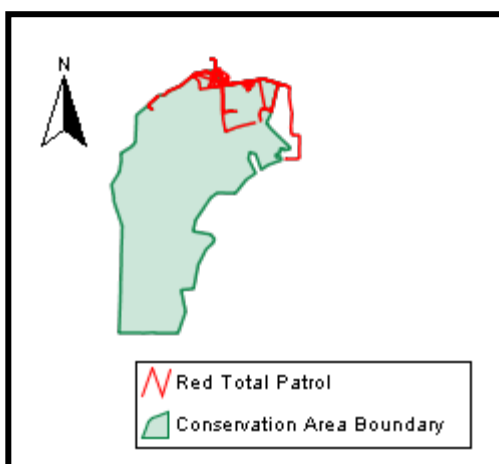
Transport type	No. of patrols	Distance (km)	Distance (km) per no. of patrols	No. of patrol hours
Foot	22.00	175.75	7.99	83.23
Motorbike	3.00	21.20	7.07	2.46
Tractor	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Vehicle	4.00	56.02	14.01	8.10

Team Blue and Red together

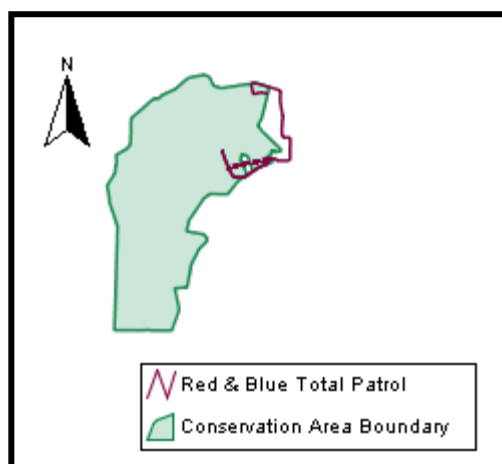
Transport type	No. of patrols	Distance (km)	Distance (km) per no. of patrols	No. of patrol hours
Foot	2.00	8.71	4.35	5.72
Motorbike	2.00	41.07	20.53	1.66
Tractor	1.00	16.96	16.96	1.17
Vehicle	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00



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	416.40	45.00	46.00
Red Team	252.98	29.00	30.00
Team Red & Blue	66.73	5.00	5.00

Team patrol mandate

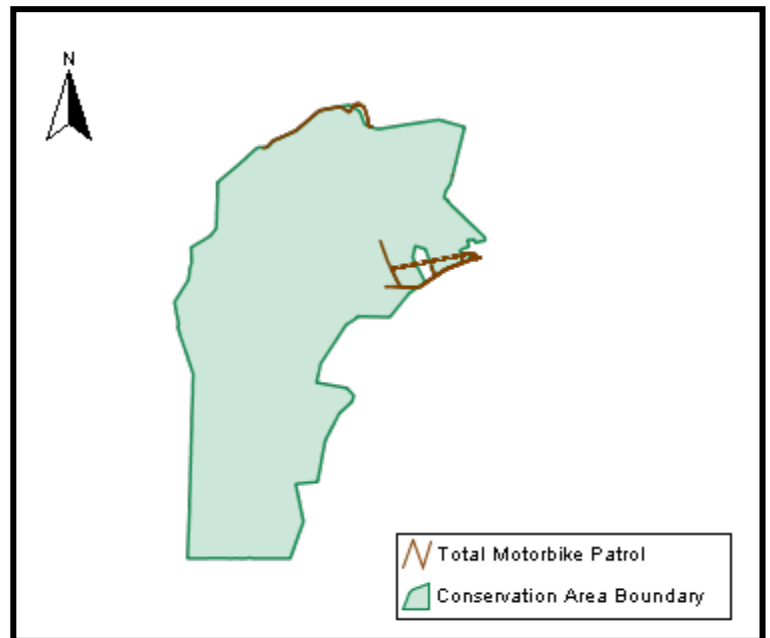
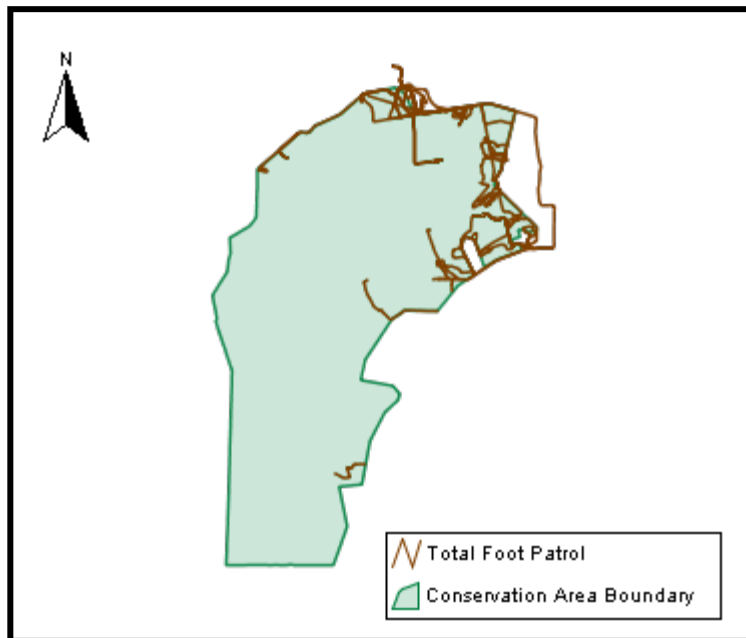
Mandate type	No. of patrols	No. of days	Distance (km)	Person - field hours
Ambush	2.00	2.00	12.23	20.05
De-Snaring	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Monitoring	77.00	79.00	723.88	821.08
Road Clearing	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

Areas covered

Area name	Number of Patrols
Arabuko	6
Arabuko Sokoke primary school	1
Arabuko swamp	4
Bandacho	1
Bishop Kalu	2
Jilore	4
Kakuyuni	2
Kalia Papo	4
Kararacha	1
Katsuha Nzala	2
Kipepeo football club	4
Komani	1
Mabuani	2
Mida	3
Mida (Jamii villa)	3
Mugurureni	1
Nature reserve	3
Njia ya Mafuta	3

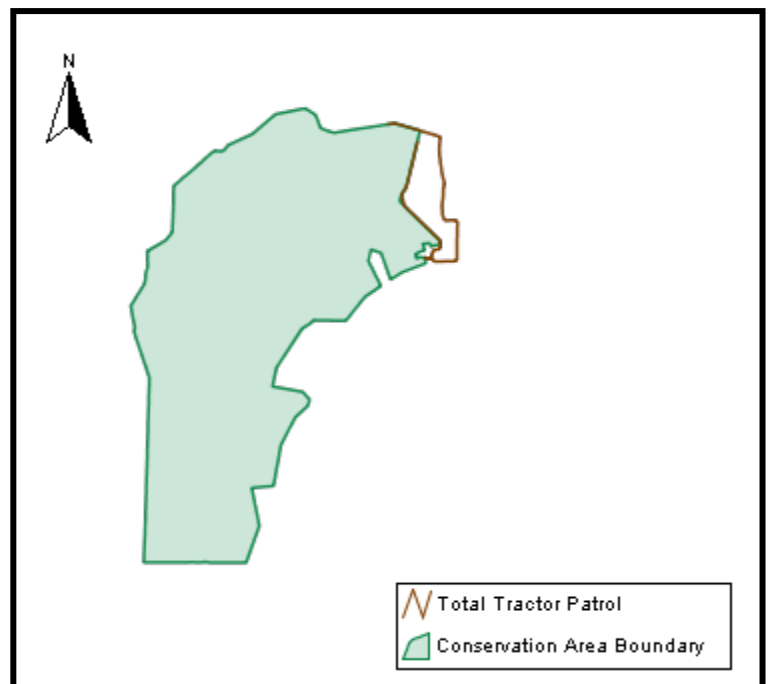
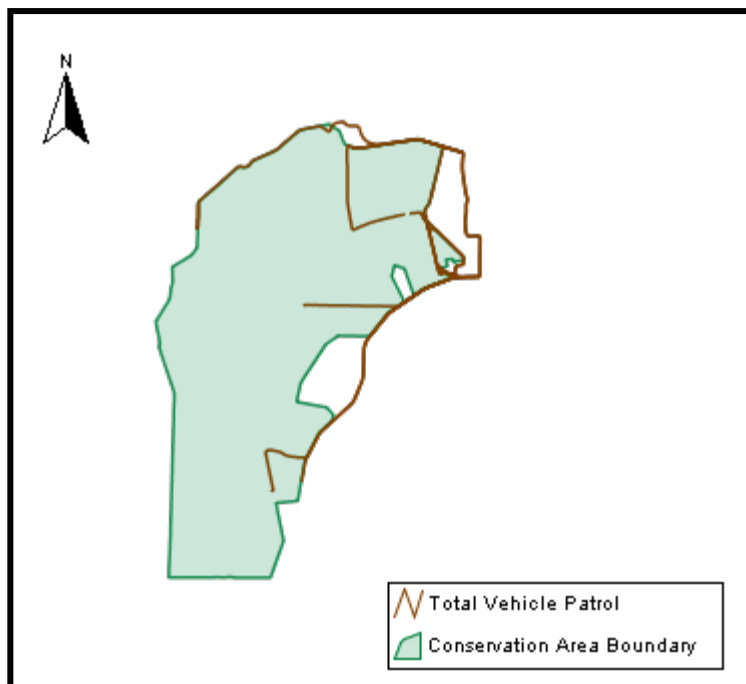
NOTE: On May 6th the area names were added, which is an addition to our SMART database.
From June 2019 ranger names will likewise be collected by the scouts using SMART.

Patrol transport types



Foot patrols

Motorbike patrols



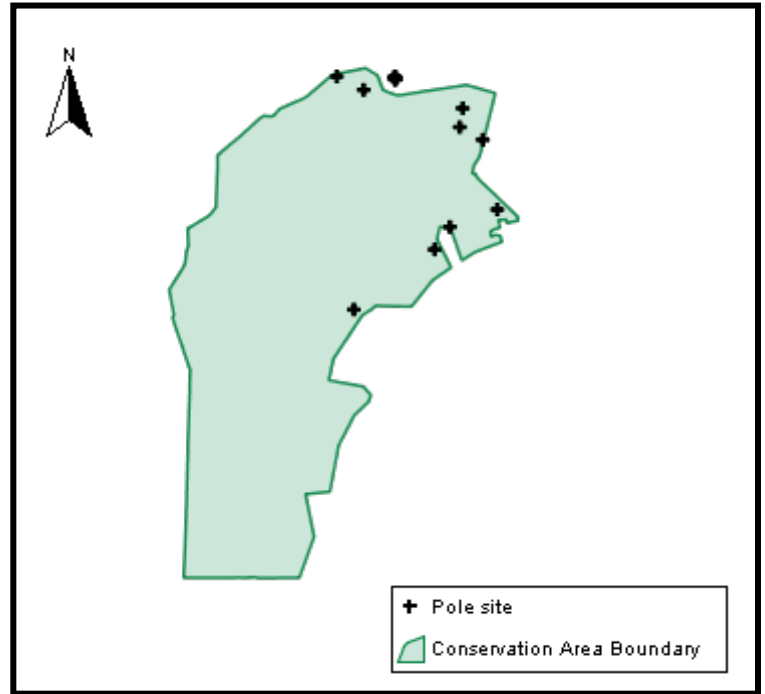
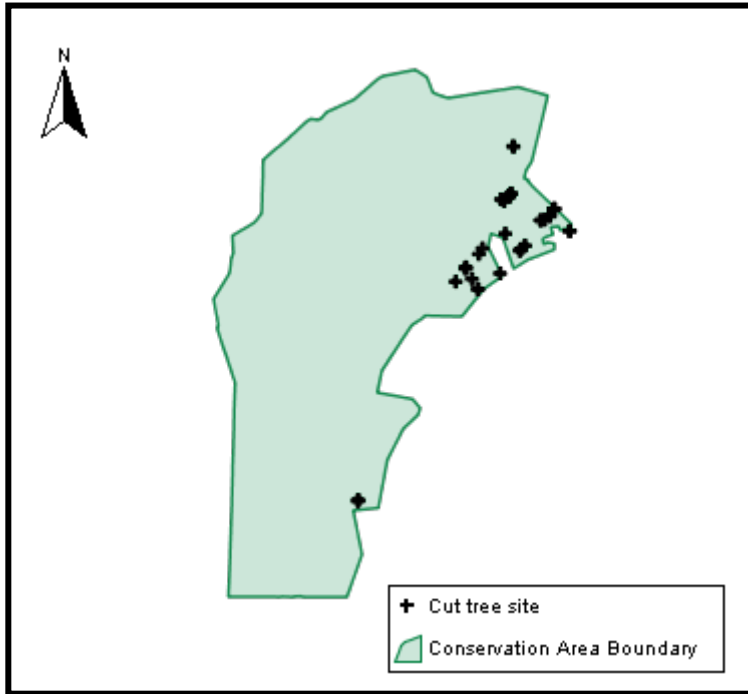
Vehicle patrols

Tractor patrols

Illegal activities

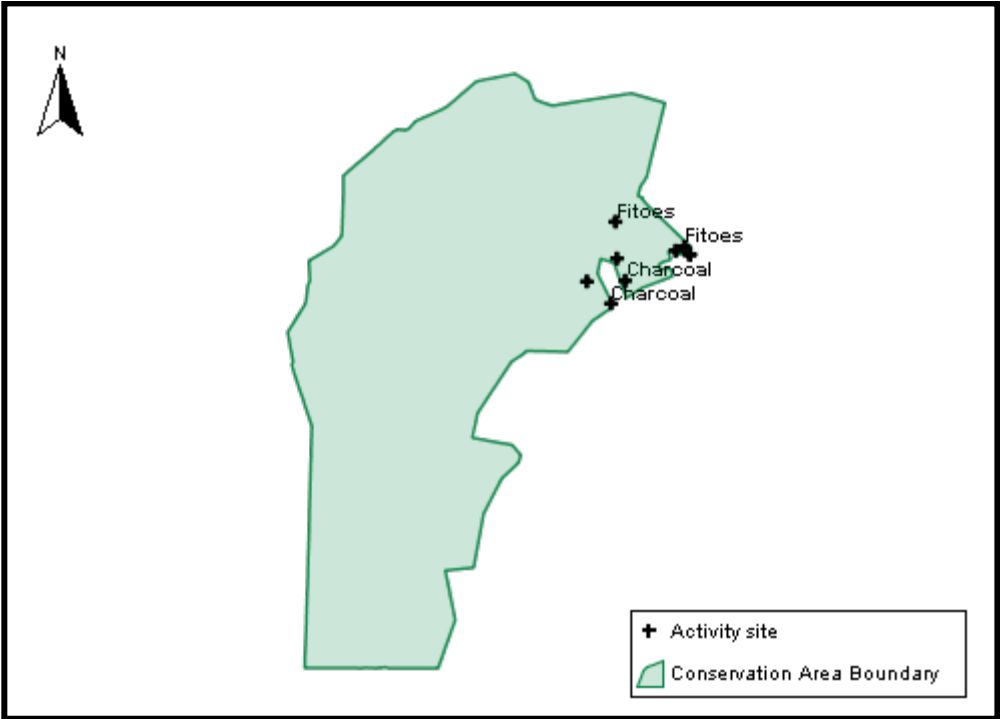
Cut trees and branches

59 cut trees and branches were recorded and a total of 68 poles were collected.



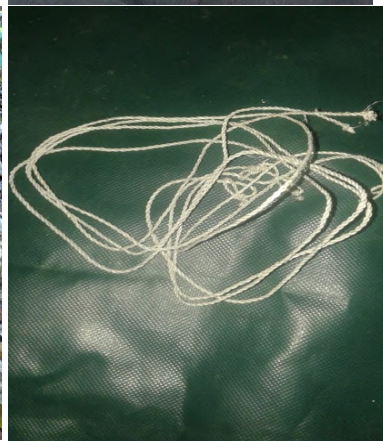
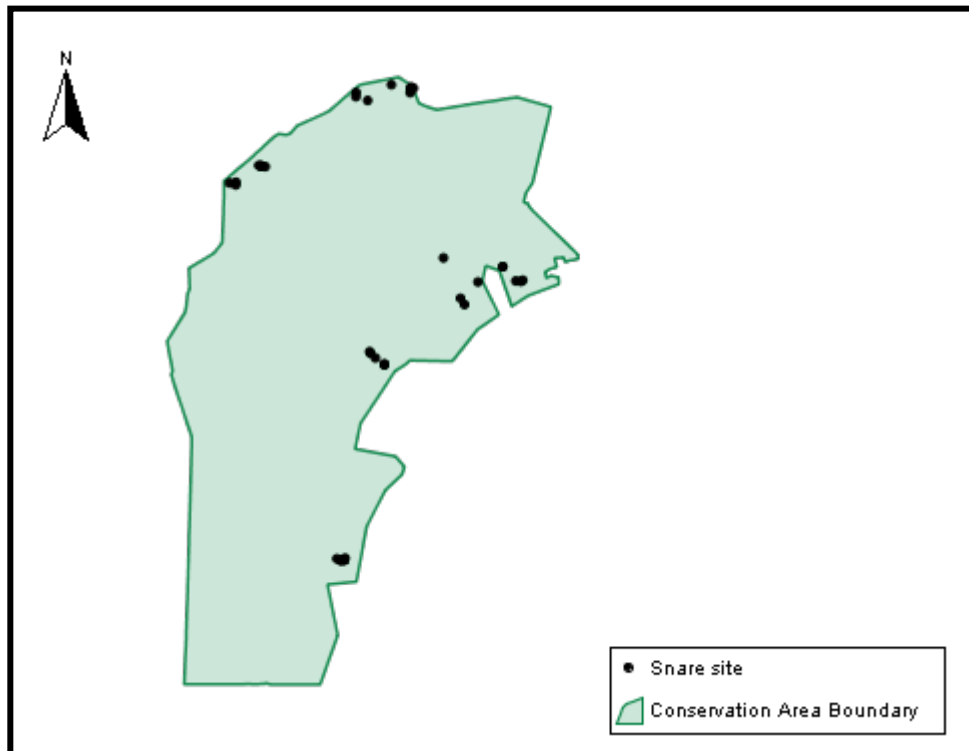
Firewood, Timber (Planks/Beams), Fito/Withies (small poles), Charcoal and Carving

Illegal activity	No. of bags	No. of bundles	No. of fitoes/withies	No. of planks	No. of observation
Carving					0
Charcoal	0				4
Firewood		3			1
Fito/withies			8		5
Planks				1	1

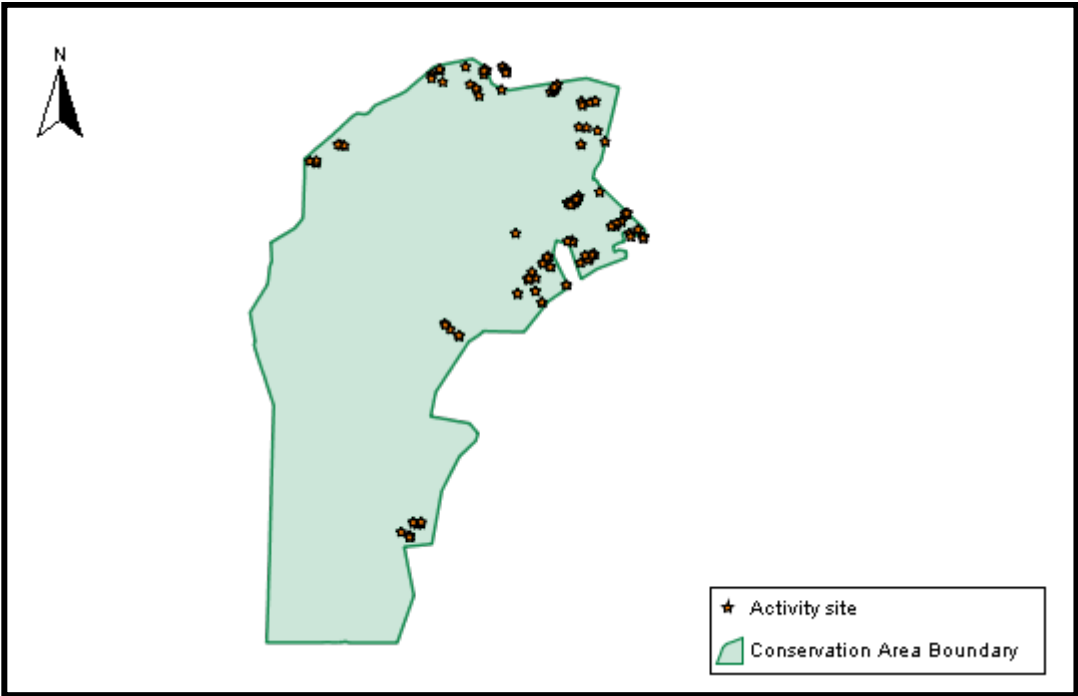


Traps and snares

A total of 49 snares were removed from the forest in May.

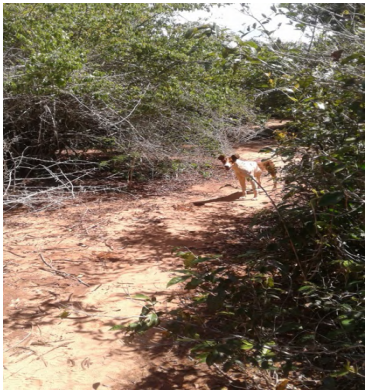


Illegal activity hotspots

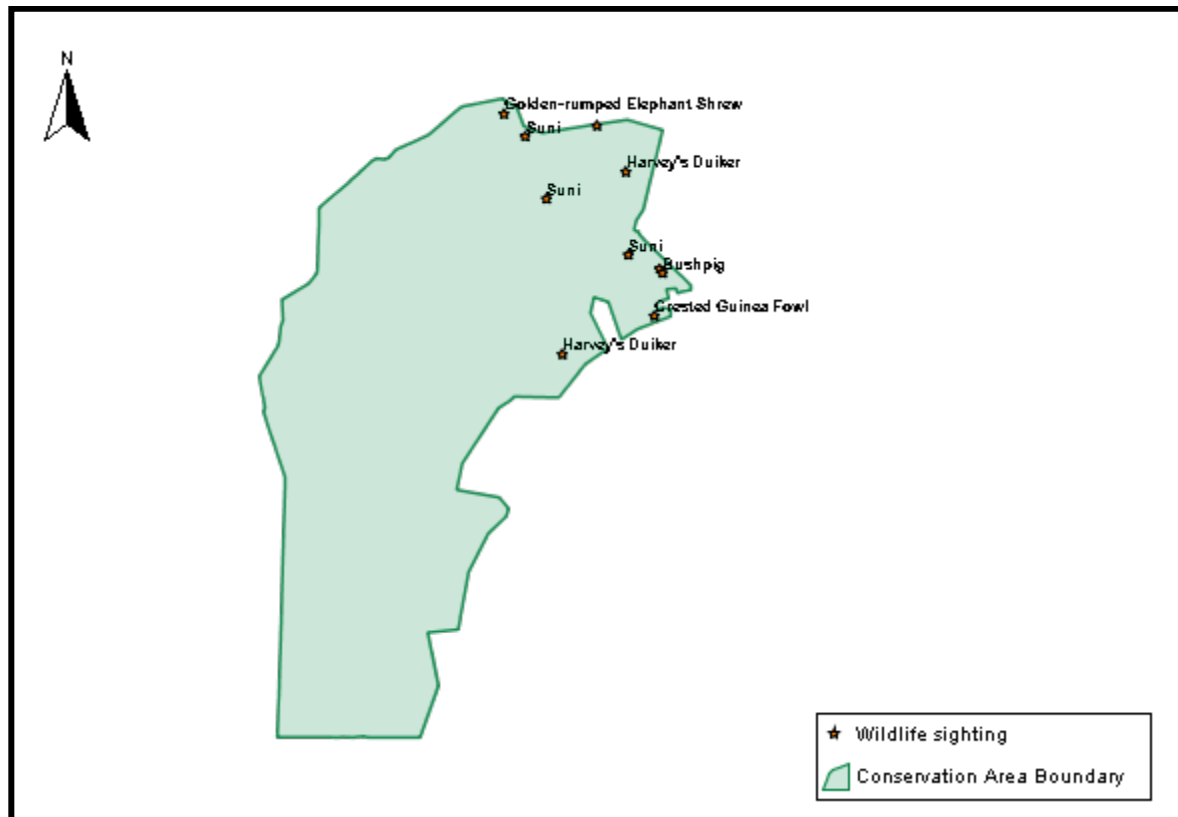


Arrests

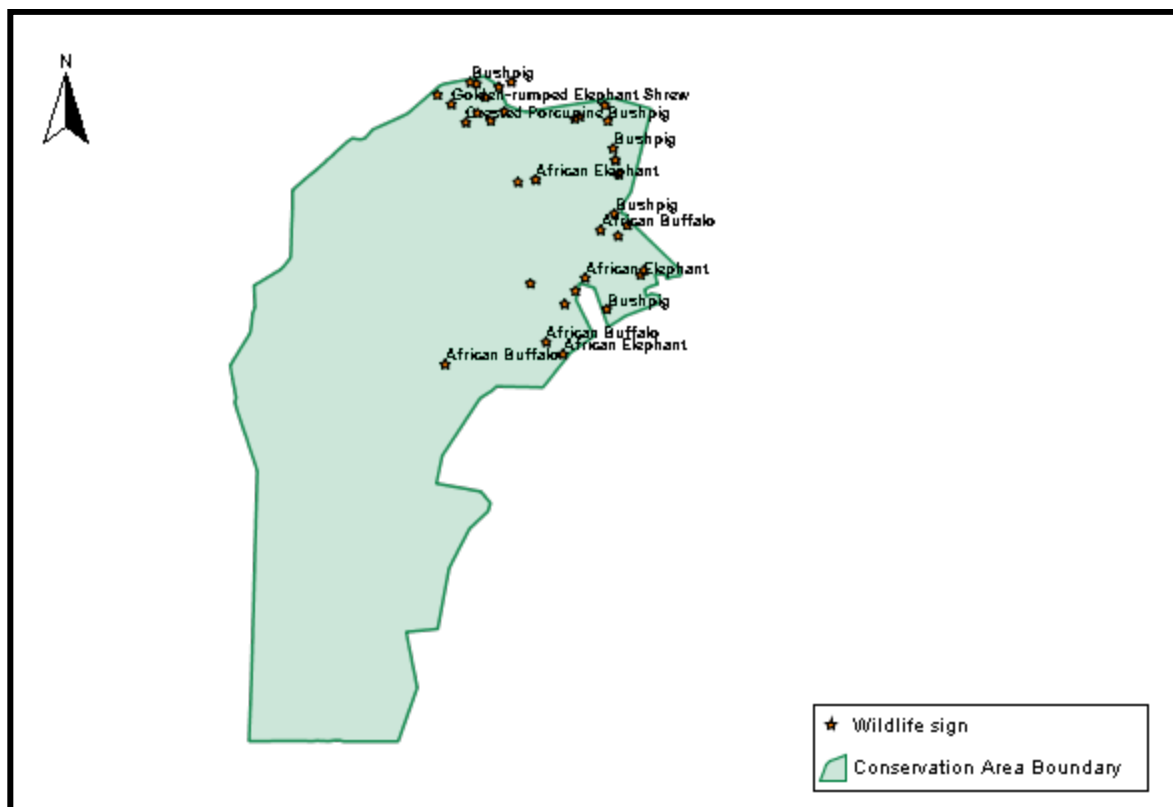
Arrested for	No. of arrests	No. of people	Average person's age	No. of male	Action taken: Verbal warning
Illegal entry into forest	1	1	22.00	1	1



Wildlife activity



Wildlife signs (including tracks, dung and pathways)



Recent news

FoASF scout teams

A scout data training was conducted on 29th May to refresh the ten scouts individually on their data collection techniques. This included basic GPS data collection and data sheet completion, as well as their SMART data collection skills. All scouts proved themselves to be hard working, focused and precise with their data collection methods.

Kenya Wildlife Service and Kenya Forest Service

Signage made by FoASF to stop people from feeding the elephant are now on the fence line in the Mida, Kararacha, Mwambani, Sokoke, Dida, Malanga and Jilore areas.

Education and tourism meeting

The second education and tourism working group meeting for 2019 was held on 14th May.

Main topics discussed.

- A need for literature such as maps and leaflets for forest visitors. FoASF are currently in the final stages of producing a map with 4Shore Designs, which will be followed by a leaflet for distribution to the hoteliers and visitors entering the forest.
- A.Rocha, KFS and FoASF plan to discuss the possibility of creating an elephant hide at the Arabuko swamp.
- FoASF are presently looking into ecotourism ideas including the idea of creating a mountain bike track in the Jilore area/reserve of the forest.



Jilore replanting project

KFS Jilore Forester Mr. Ochi with the assistant forest Mr. Kidake, facilitated a replanting activity in the burnt area of the Jilore sector/reserve of the forest.

FoASF decided to fund the project due to the strong possibility of squatters. FoASF assisted with employment of casuals from the local community and fuel for transporting the seedlings from the KFS Lango Baya nursery to the planting site.

The activity was conducted on 27th and 28th May. A total of 1,834 seedlings were donated by the KFS Jilore station and planted over a 4.5-hectare area of burnt forest. As it happens, when starting the activity, it was noted that a farmer had started planting maize which was encroaching onto forest land.



Species included: 20 x *Brachylaena huillensis* (Silver oak), 850 x *Milicia excelsa* (African teak), 550 x *Azelaia quanzensis* (Pod mahogany), 10 x *Majidea zanguebarica* (Velvet-Seed tree), 400 x *Senna siamea* (Cassia tree) and 4 x *Terminalia spinosa* (Spiny terminalia).

Many thanks to all the participants involved and to KFS Jilore for overseeing and coordinating the project.



Pictures taken by KFS Jilore assistant forester Mr. Aggrey Kidake, May 2019.

Display plantation

In preparation for the rains (that arrived in early May) the plot was ploughed and recently planted with green grams and maize.

World Migratory Birds Day 2019

The World Migratory Bird Day was celebrated on 11th May at the Mida Creek.

The theme for this year's event was to 'Protect birds: be the solution to plastic pollution'.

Mida creek was selected as the venue to host the celebrations because of its vastness and the high populations of northern migrants that frequent the creek.

The event was hosted by the Mida Creek Conservation and Awareness group, together with Arabuko Sokoke Forest Adjacent Dwellers Association (ASFADA), Gede Community Forest Association, Friends of Arabuko-Sokoke Forest, Kenya Forest Service and Kenya Wildlife Service.

The program started with a bird watching event in the creek, guided by guides from ASFGA and MCCAG. After regathering, a beach clean-up was conducted, which was ended by a huge rain storm. All members gathered inside for speeches from the hosting members. Once the storm broke, the group gathered to plant mangroves. It was an enjoyable and fun day of teaching and celebrations. Thank you to all.



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
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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
KFS Jilore replanting	Replanting of the burnt area of the Jilore reserve to prevent squatting.	290
Total		720



All pictures in the field unless otherwise credited taken by FoASF scouts/Alia Moller (May 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