



Friends of Arabuko-Sokoke Forest (FoASF)

Monthly Report

September 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	2	42	1	0	1	10	0
Human activity	Weapons	Traps and snares	Cutting tools	Wildlife	Rain		
Count observation	0	147	1	30	5		

Patrol performance summary table

Team Blue

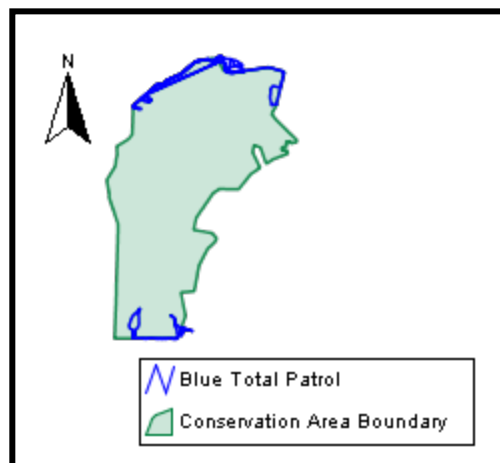
Transport type	No. of patrols	Distance (km)	Distance (km) per no. of patrols	No. of patrol hours
Foot	9.00	51.74	5.75	18.86
Motorbike	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Tractor	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Vehicle	15.00	209.68	13.98	15.36

Team Red

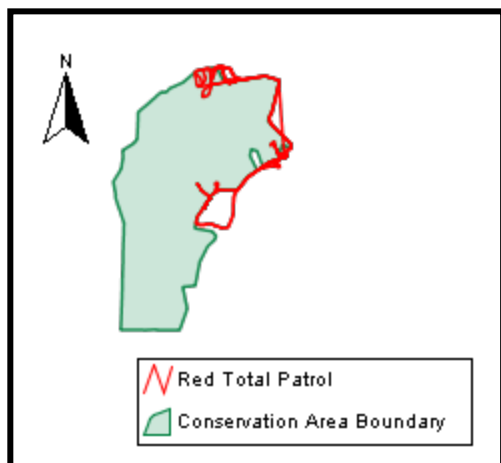
Transport type	No. of patrols	Distance (km)	Distance (km) per no. of patrols	No. of patrol hours
Foot	10.00	74.50	7.45	26.38
Motorbike	1.00	12.12	12.12	0.46
Tractor	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Vehicle	9.00	184.50	20.50	12.22

Team Blue and Red together

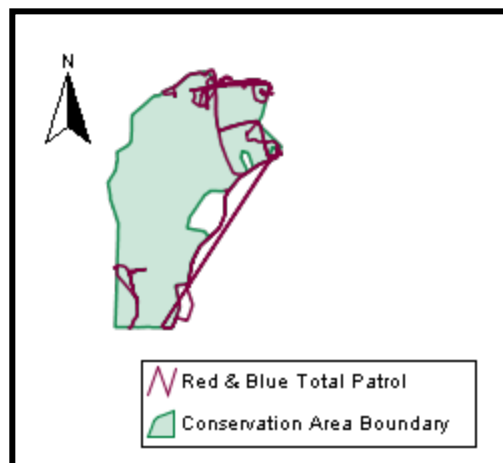
Transport type	No. of patrols	Distance (km)	Distance (km) per no. of patrols	No. of patrol hours
Foot	21.00	186.86	8.90	63.78
Motorbike	5.00	33.31	6.66	4.90
Tractor	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Vehicle	15.00	268.80	17.92	12.82



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	261.43	24.00	24.00
Red Team	271.12	20.00	20.00
Team Red & Blue	488.98	41.00	41.00

Team patrol mandate

Mandate type	No. of patrols	No. of days	Distance (km)	Person - field hours
Ambush	13.00	13.00	140.25	108.60
De-Snaring	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Monitoring	71.00	71.00	881.24	546.58
Road Clearing	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

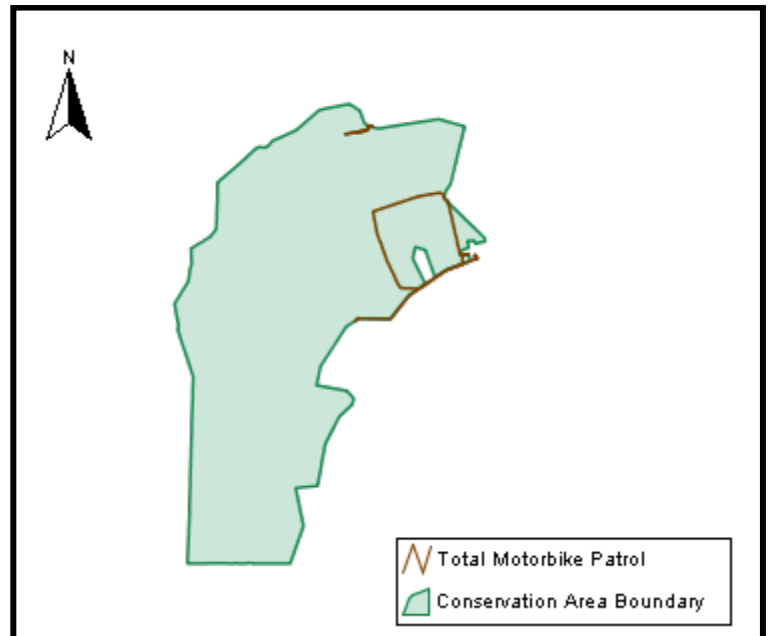
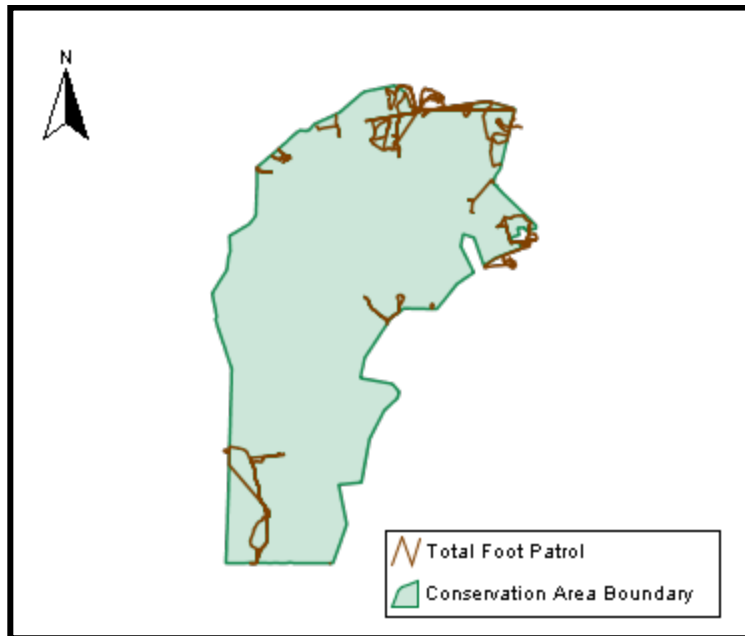
Areas covered

Location	No. of Patrols
Arabuko	8
Arabuko Sokoke primary school	1
Arabuko swamp	2
Bishop Kalu	9
Dida	1
Elephant track	1
Gede	5
Girimacha	11
Jilore	19
Kakuyuni	5
Kalia Papo	3
Katshuha Nzala	3
Mabuani	3
Mabuani	1
Mgurureni	5
Mugurureni	4
Mwambani	6
Njia ya Mafuta	6
Sokoke	2

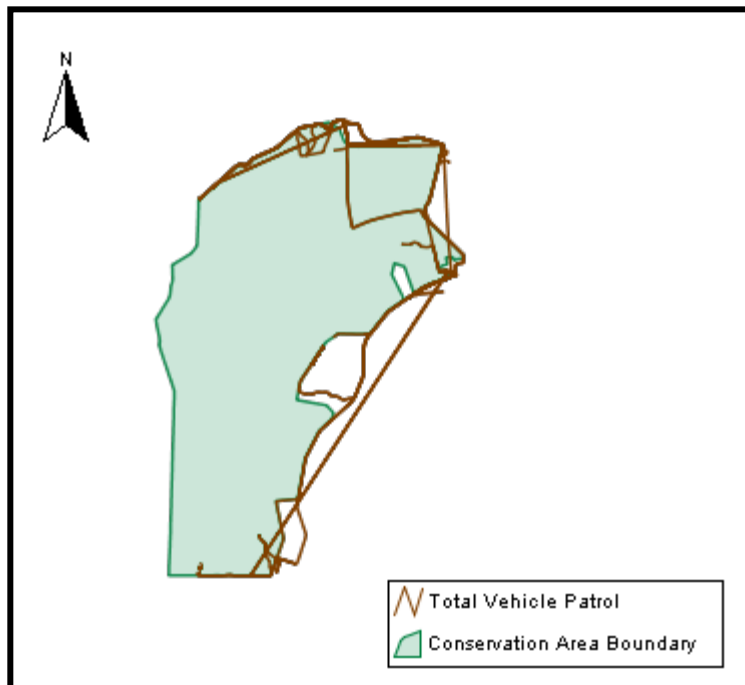
KFS and KWS ranger's present

Date	No. of rangers
2019-09-01	1
2019-09-02	5
2019-09-03	1
2019-09-04	4
2019-09-05	7
2019-09-06	6
2019-09-07	1
2019-09-08	0
2019-09-09	5
2019-09-10	3
2019-09-11	3
2019-09-12	9
2019-09-13	3
2019-09-14	3
2019-09-15	6
2019-09-16	3
2019-09-17	3
2019-09-18	1
2019-09-19	1
2019-09-20	1
2019-09-21	0
2019-09-22	0
2019-09-23	1
2019-09-24	6
2019-09-25	0
2019-09-26	3
2019-09-27	2
2019-09-28	1
2019-09-29	1
2019-09-30	2

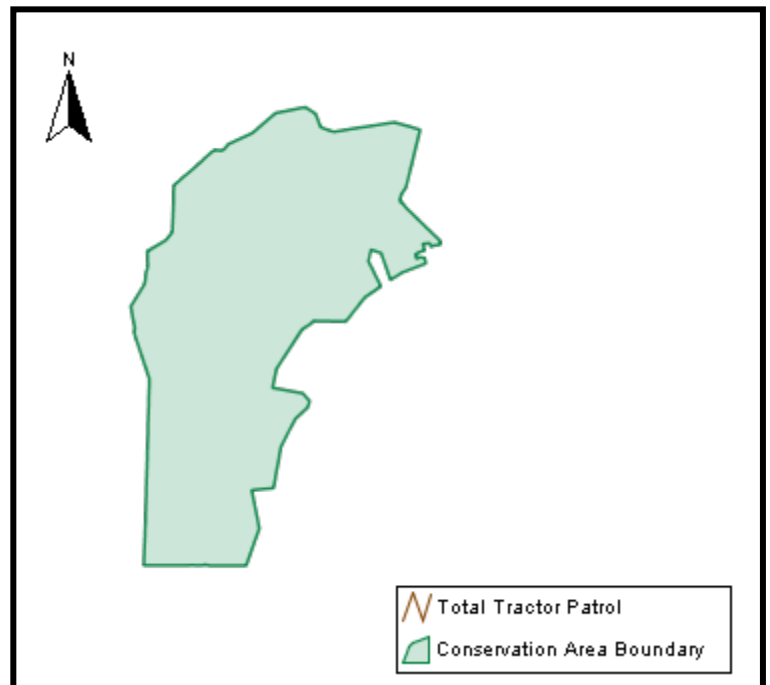
Patrol transport types



Foot patrols



Motorbike patrols



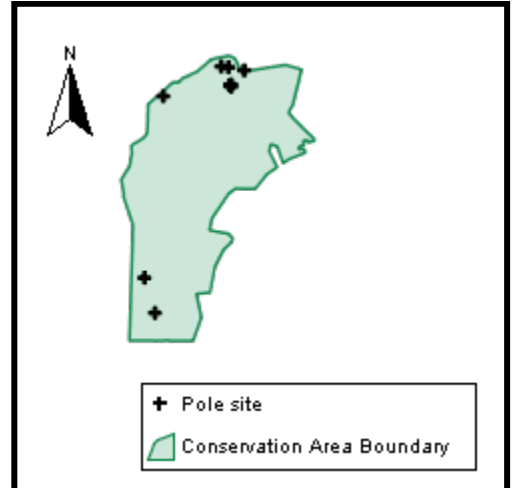
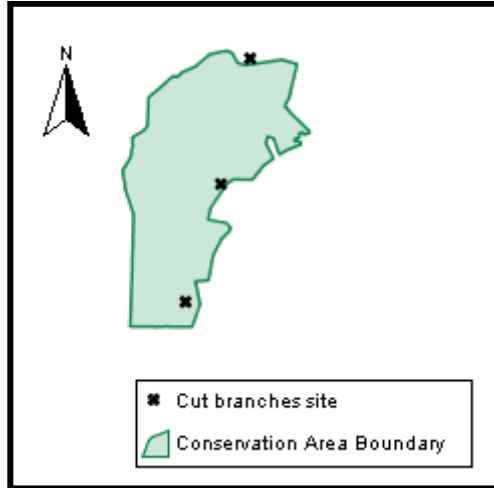
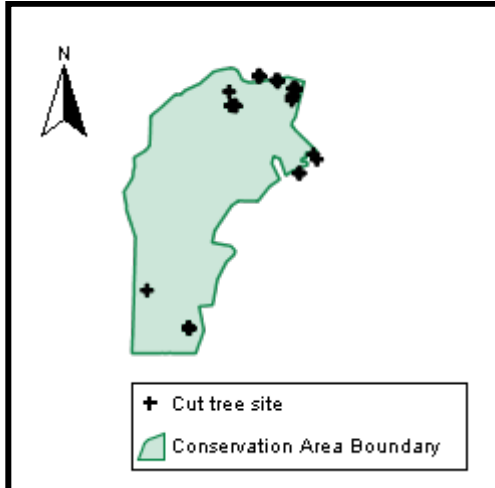
Vehicle patrols

Tractor patrols

Illegal activities

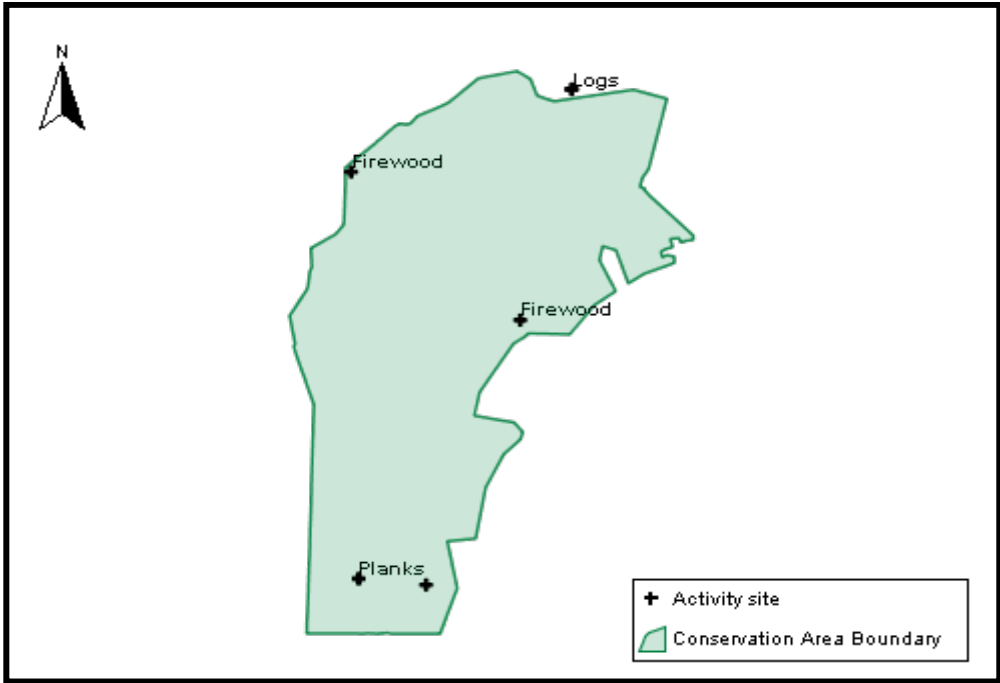
Cut trees and branches

83 cut trees and 3 cut branches were recorded and a total of 45 poles were collected.



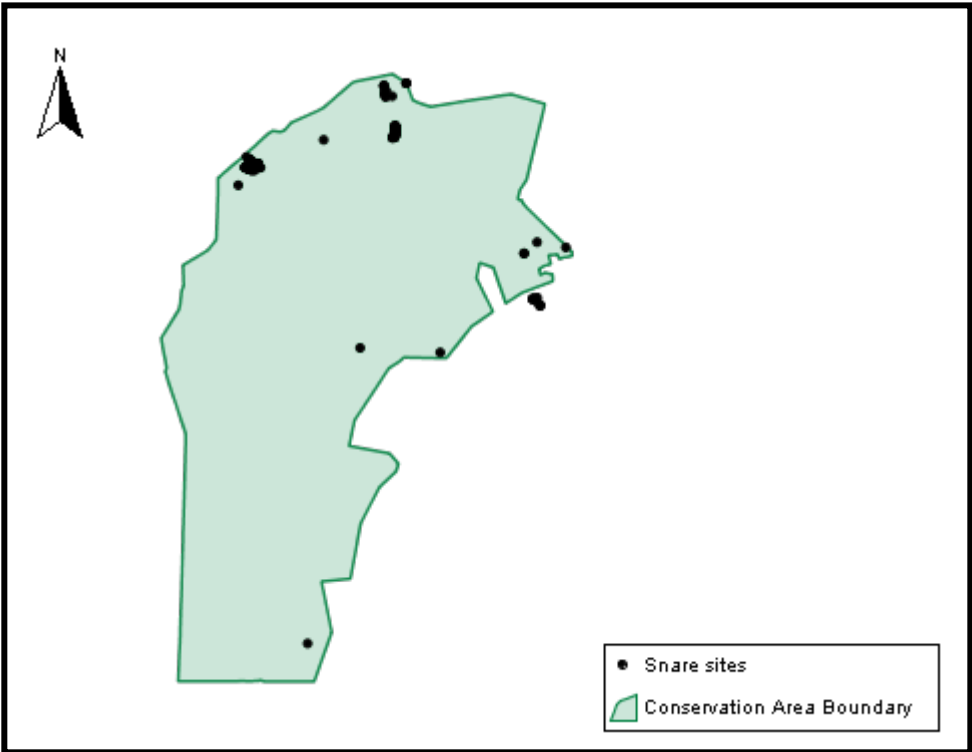
Firewood, timber (planks/beams), logs, fito/withies (small poles), charcoal and carving

Human activity	No. of Bags	No. of headloads	No. of Logs	No. of kilns	No. of Fitoes	No. of Planks	Count observation
Carving	0	2	0	0	100	6	2
Charcoal							
Firewood							
Fitoes/withies			9				1
Logs							3
Planks							1

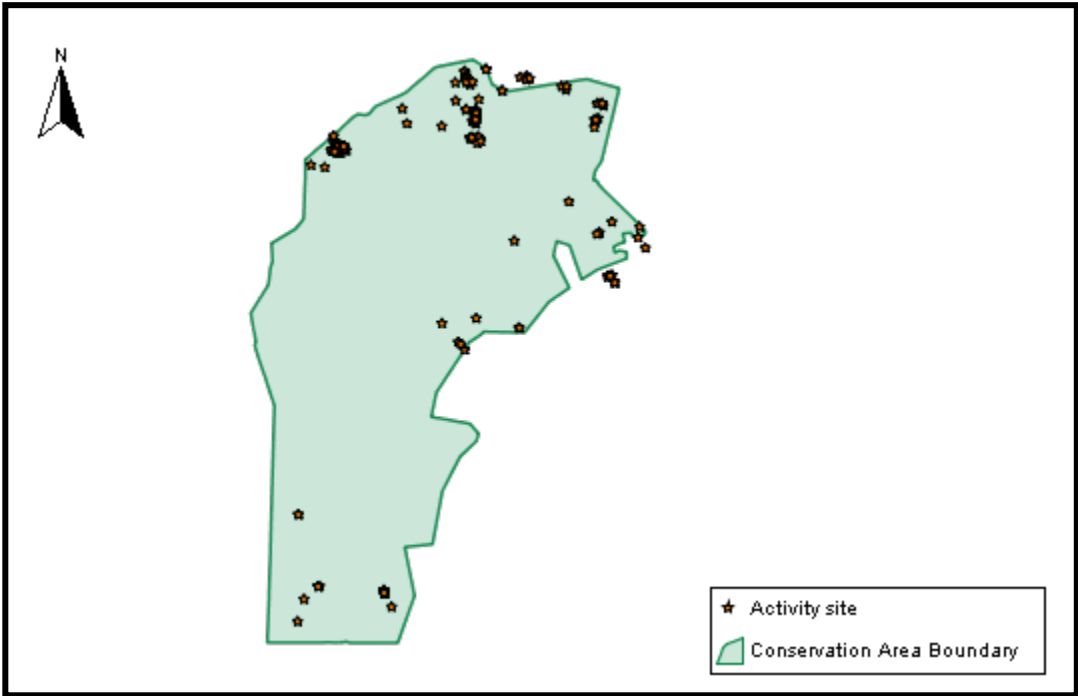


Traps and snares

A total of 186 snares were removed from the forest in September.



Illegal activity hotspots

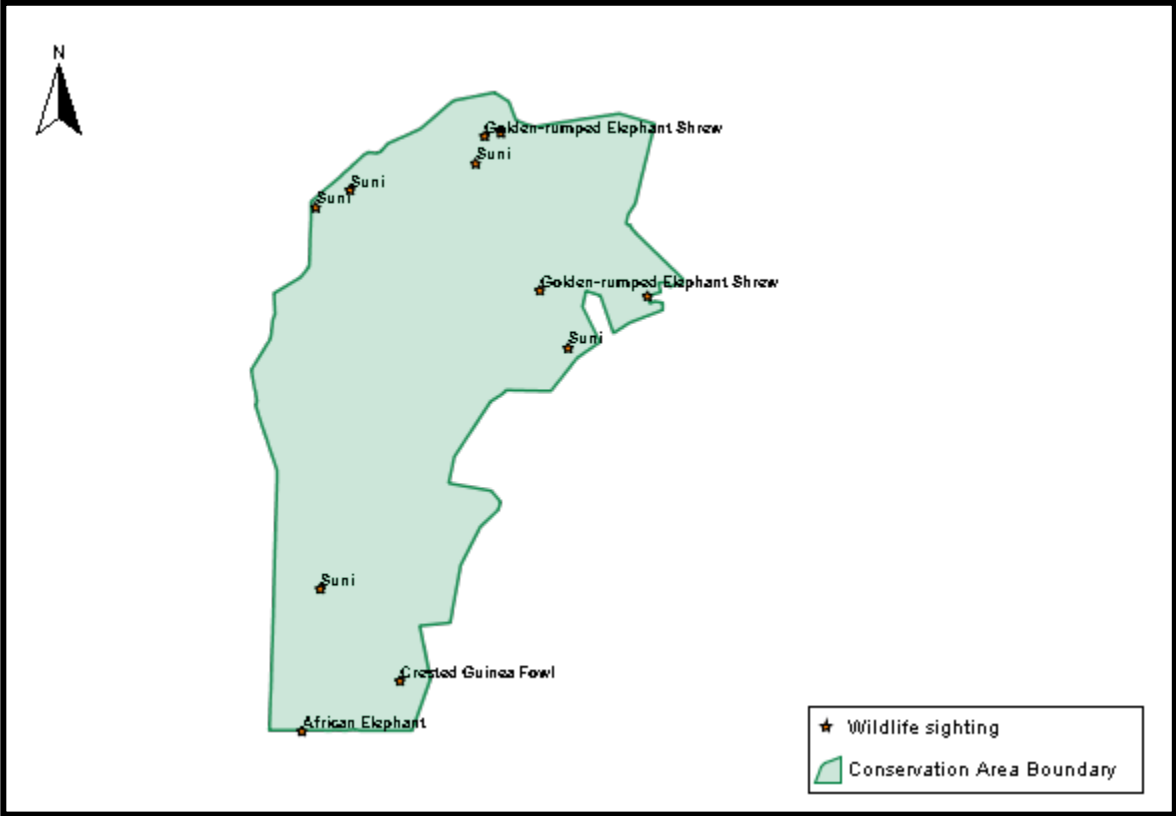


Arrests

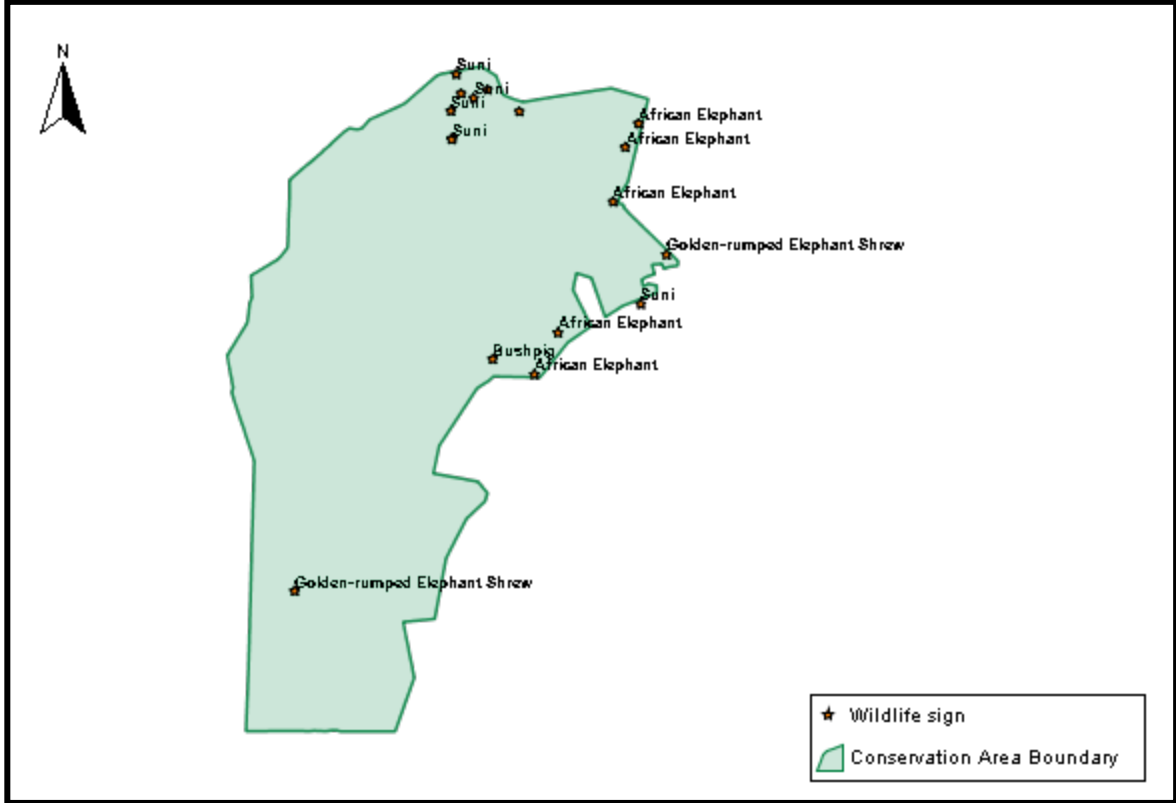
Arrested for	No. of incidents	No. of people	Average person's age	No. of male
Logging	2	4	29.33	3
Wood carving	1	2	Na	1



Wildlife activity



Wildlife signs (including tracks, dung and pathways)



Recent news

Scout refresher training

On Wednesday 25 September FoASF scouts with Alia Moller, the field and administrative assistant, attended a refresher data collection course facilitated by KFS. The Gede assistant forester Ambrose Genga reminded the group how to report the data gathered in the field correctly, with a focus on the various illegal timber activities observed in the forest.



Funding from African Fund for Endangered Wildlife

1) Scout vehicle and driver

In August a new Isuzu DMAX 4x4 single cab pickup was purchased for the FoASF scouts to use for patrolling the forest. The vehicle was painted and furnished with back to back seating, a canvas cover, a dual spare wheel rack at the back and protection side bars.

The car arrived in Watamu in September and was fitted with FoASF logo stickers on each door and a tracker for monitoring in the field.

After receiving a number of job applications which were then shortlisted, three candidates were given a practical test and interview in the forest by representatives from FoASF, KWS, KFS and the local community. Jackson Furaha was appointed to become the new FoASF driver/scout, who started work on Monday 23 September for a two-month probation period.



2) Kakuyuni and Malanga outpost

Renovations of the Kakuyuni and Malanga outposts were completed in September. Wall, roof, door and window repairs were done; inside and outside were cleaned and painted and netting was added to stop bats and other animals or insects from entering.

3) Forest leaflet and map

Five hundred copies of the forest leaflet and map have been printed.

FoASF are currently setting up an Mpesa buy goods till number for selling purposes.

FoASF hopes that with the help of the Arabuko-Sokoke Forest Guides Association (ASFGA) this literature will be sold to visitors at the forest entrance.

In addition to the leaflets and with support from AFEW, FoASF were able to purchase 10 Nikon 7572 PROSTAFF 10X50 binoculars (in black) for the ASFGA members. An official handover is planned for October 2019.



4) Cassava project

In September both a cassava processing machine and a solar drier were procured. The Songa Mbele group, with assistance from FoASF committee member Sammy Safari, will now be able to start harvesting their cassava crops.

Arabuko-Sokoke Forest Guides Association (ASFGA)

In September FoASF approached Kobe Suite Resort in Watamu for support to purchase the first uniforms for members of the ASFGA. Funds were received on Monday 23 September. The procurement process is ongoing.

FoASF would like to thank Kobe Suite Resort for their generous donation and look forward to equipping the guides with their new uniform in October.

Community Forest Association (CFA) desnaring reports

The three CFA desnaring reports were evaluated in a meeting in September. The meeting, led by KFS, highlighted the positive and negative results of each CFA's activity and provided guidance and advice to each on how to improve for future projects and the expectations a donor has.

Kenya Forest Service

In late September the two FoASF tractor drivers with scouts from the Gede CFA and community casuals assisted in transporting one load of soil to the Gede forest station nursery.

Education project

All the submissions for the best drawing or essay were collected and graded by a panel of representatives from KWS and FoASF. Three students from different schools were selected as winners, Christine Charo from Girimacha Primary school winning first place, Aisha Nyamvula from Bambakofi Academy second place and Selina Sifa Kahindi from Mkongani primary third place.

Prizes are being procured for the students and certificates will be printed and signed by the FoASF chairman for the winning students, schools and teachers. Awards will be presented on Tuesday 22 October at the KWS education centre.

Thank you to the Kilifi Gold Triathlon for supporting this unique project brining a total of 1376 children from 37 schools into the forest.

International Coastal Cleanup Day

International Coastal Cleanup day was on Saturday 21 September. It is the world's largest volunteer day to protect our environment.

The FoASF scouts took part in the Watamu beach cleanup with KWS and other stakeholders collecting a total of 306 bags of litter.



Liaison officer

On Monday 23 September, Joseph Kanundu the FoASF liaison officer, with Sammy Safari - FoASF committee member and chairman of the board of Arabuko primary school, visited the Arabuko primary school, Arabuko-Sokoke primary school and Mijomboni primary school to introduce himself to the teachers, students and conservation educators at each school. During this visit Joseph happened to meet and communicate with 16 students from the Wildlife Clubs of Kenya.

Joseph represented FoASF at the Gede Community Forest Association (CFA) mangrove planting on Thursday 26 September. In attendance was KFS Gede forester Simon Gwiyo and assistant forester Ambrose Genga, National Museums director Hussein Aden, A.Rocha Kenya, four KWS rangers and the local communities. 3100 mangrove seedlings were planted.

FoASF thanks the Gede CFA for the invitation and commends their efforts.



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.	
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 (September 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