

WEST AFRICAN PRIMATE CONSERVATION ACTION



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2016 ANNUAL REPORT

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Update from the WAPCA-Ghana Country Coordinator



WAPCA members, sponsors, partners and friends have continued to generously support us over the past year allowing us to continue the work here in Ghana at both the Critically Endangered Primate Breeding Centre, Kumasi Zoo and also in the field working with communities to protect the forests and the wild primates that inhabit them, for which we are hugely grateful. We'd like to particularly welcome our newest WAPCA member Africa Alive.

WAPCA Ghana Board also grew with five new Board members joining – Dr Selorm Tettey, Edward Wiafe, Kwame Tutu, Micheal Abedi-Lartey and Noah Gbexede. The Board also elected David Tettey as our new Chairman. David has been Acting Chairman since the sad passing of our late Chairman – we look forward to him guiding us over the coming years.

2016 saw many visitors – David Morgan from Colchester Zoo, Heather MacIntosh, Hannah Joy and Miranda Crosby from ZSL London Zoo, Tobias Kremer from Heidelberg Zoo, Sabrina Linn from Frankfurt Zoo and Nicky Plaskitt from Paradise Park – I wish to thank them for spending time with our team here and sharing their expertise and knowledge, as well as the useful gifts which they donated including enrichment items donated from Zoo Wizards. We also greeted Andrew Rosindell – a UK Member of Parliament who sits on the All Party Parliament Group for Zoos and Aquaria and WAPCA Europe Vice Chairman Brice LeFaux who made a visit to both Accra Zoo and our field site. Lastly it was an honour to be visited by two world renowned primatologists Professor John Oates and Professor Simon Bearder.

WAPCA was represented at a number of conferences this year either in person or through a poster presentation, particular highlights included the EAZA Conservation Forum in Spain and the International Primatological Society Congress in Chicago. It was in Chicago that the African Primatological Society was launched and WAPCA is delighted to be part of the Steering Committee for its Inaugural Congress in 2017.

WAPCA celebrated Managbey Awareness Day on the 1st August with activities at Accra Zoo, International Zoo Keeper Day on the 4th October and launched the WAPCA Research Group – a collaboration of local and international universities, working cohesively to increase our knowledge on the primates we are working to protect.

In 2016, WAPCA's *in situ* conservation efforts continued to focus on the Trans-border Community-managed Rainforest Project, WAPCA is successfully working towards reducing illegal activities in the rainforest through the implementation of community patrols; improve the health of the rainforest through the reforestation of areas degraded by illegal lumbering and mining; and focusing in particular on an alternative livelihood programme and green value chain development to support the communities in a sustainable manner. We have also begun the process of creating a trans-boundary initiative with our colleagues in Cote d'Ivoire and we look forward to progressing with this over the coming years.

WAPCA's *ex situ* conservation efforts have focused on the Endangered Primate Breeding Centre where Critically Endangered primates play a vital role in providing new genetic stock for the white-naped mangabey and Roloway monkey European Endangered species Programme (EEP). WAPCA welcomed two new arrivals in 2016 – Klaus (named after Europe Chairman) born to Accra & Ape and Brendan (named after my long suffering husband) born to Sonia & Nuba. At the end of the year we broke ground on the Forested Enclosure, which location has moved to Kumasi Zoo. I'd like to thank all those that have made this unique exhibit in Ghana possible.

Finally, I'd like to thank all the WAPCA staff and interns for their hard work in 2016. 2017 holds a number of exciting new adventures and we are delighted to be the **Primate Society of Great Britain Conservation Cause for 2017**. Please keep up to date on our new website www.wapca.org or follow us on Facebook!

Best Wishes for 2017, *Andrea Dempsey*

PROJECT OVERVIEW

MISSION:

Conservation of *Critically Endangered* West African primate species and their habitat

VISION

Long-term survival of West African *Critically Endangered* primates and persistence of their habitat

PRIMARY OBJECTIVES

- *In situ* conservation of *Critically Endangered* West African primates and their habitats
- *Ex situ* conservation of *Critically Endangered* West African primates through the maintenance of an Endangered Primate Breeding Centre and participation in the EEP.
- Provide equipment and training for the staff of the Wildlife Division of the Ghana Forestry Commission to increase effective management of protected areas
- Conduct education and awareness programs with regard to the conservation of West African primates and protection of their habitat
- Provide in-country capacity building to enable local communities to sustainably manage community owned lands
- Conduct community benefit programs to help alleviate poverty and provide alternative livelihoods for local communities
- Monitor West African Critically Endangered primate populations in the Upper Guinean rainforest

PROJECT SUMMARY

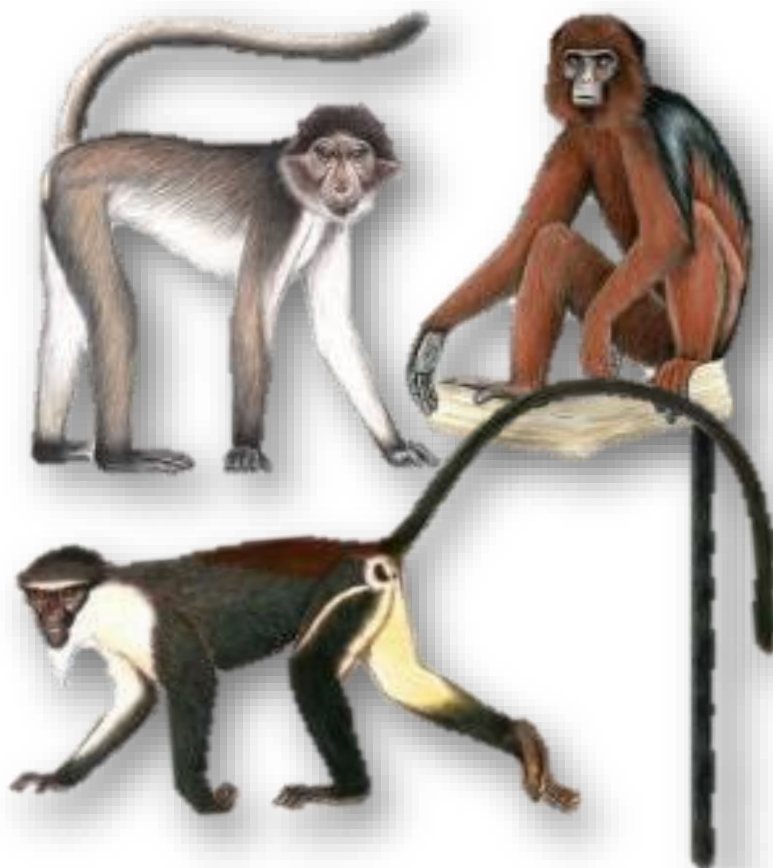
West African Primate Conservation Action (WAPCA) is an initiative of several European Zoos, the Zoological Society for the Conservation of Species and Populations (ZGAP) and its French Partner organization Conservation des Espèces et des Populations Animales (CEPA). The main goal of WAPCA is to effectively preserve primate habitat in the Upper Guinean Rainforest of West Africa, which is under serious threat of destruction. WAPCA has been promoting the protection of Critically Endangered primates in Ghana and Côte d'Ivoire since 2001 and in 2007, we established, WAPCA Ghana, a local NGO which is managed in partnership with the Wildlife Division of the Ghana Forestry Commission. WAPCA Ghana's activities have integrated various approaches to primate conservation, including research to assess current population levels, training/support for Wildlife Division field staff to improve wildlife monitoring and anti-poaching, training of community members as wildlife monitors and forest patrol team members, small-scale ecotourism and livelihood projects, awareness campaign in rural and urban communities



as well as the establishment of an Endangered Primate Breeding Centre in the capitol city of Accra. WAPCA works closely with the Wildlife Division (WD) of the Ghana Forestry Commission which is a full managing partner of WAPCA Ghana and assists the Commission with the protection of the rainforests of the Western Region of Ghana which forms a significant portion of the Upper Guinean Rainforest. Other collaborating partners include; Research and Actions for the Safeguard of Primates in Côte d'Ivoire (RASAP-CI), Community Conservation Inc., the University of Barcelona and Man and Nature.

WAPCA MEMBERS

- Zoo Heidelberg
- Zoo de Mulhouse
- Parc Zoològic de Barcelona
- Dublin Zoo
- Zoo Landau
- Allwetterzoo Münster
- Zoologische Gesellschaft für Arten-und Populationsschutz (ZGAP)
- Zoo La Palmyre
- La Vallée des Singes, Romagne
- Zoological Society of London
- Zoo Bojnice
- Twycross Zoo
- Zoo Duisburg
- Munich Zoo
- Bioparc Valencia
- Africa Alive



**West African Critically Endangered
primate illustrations by artist Stephen D.
Nash**

Zoo Heidelberg serves as the managing body for WAPCA. WAPCA membership dues provide the crucial funding for all WAPCA Ghana core operating expenses and also provide significant funding for rainforest protection activities in Côte d'Ivoire.

FOCAL SPECIES AND CONSERVATION STATUS

- Miss Waldron's Red Colobus (*Procolobus badius waldroni*) Status: *Critically Endangered*
- Roloway Monkey (*Cercopithecus Roloway*) Status: *Critically Endangered*
- White-naped Mangabey, (*Cercocebus lunulatus*) Status: *Critically Endangered*

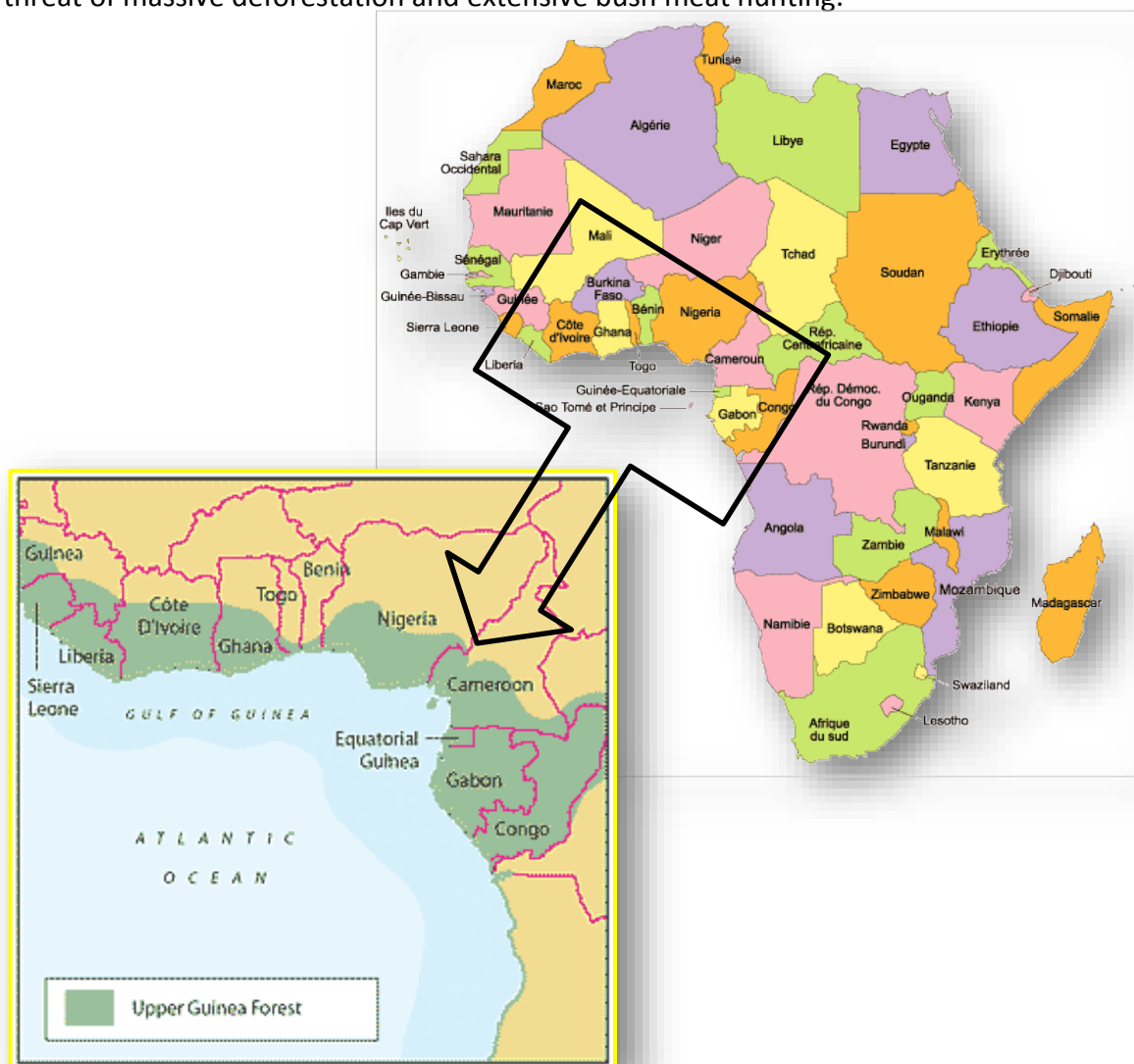
Within the eastern region of the Upper Guinean rainforest (extending from central Côte d'Ivoire to Ghana) resides a distinct community of primates, endemic to the area, including the *Critically Endangered* (possibly extinct) Miss Waldron's red colobus (*Procolobus badius waldroni*) the *Critically Endangered* Roloway monkey (*Cercopithecus roloway*) and the *Critically Endangered* white-naped mangabey (*Cercocebus lunulatus*) which are listed amongst the world's 25 most Endangered primates. While Miss Waldron's red colobus may already be extinct, the Roloway monkey and white-naped mangabey appear to be following the same path to extinction. Additional endemic primates include the *Endangered* Western chimpanzee (*Pan troglodytes verus*), the *Vulnerable* Geoffroy's black-and-white colobus (*Colobus vellerosus*), the *Near Threatened* olive colobus (*Procolobus verus*), the lesser spot-nose monkey (*Cercopithecus petaurista petaurista*), the Lowe's monkey (*Cercopithecus mona lowei*). WAPCA's main mission is the protection of these last remaining rainforests and the long term survival of West Africa's

Critically Endangered primates through the maintenance of an Endangered Primate Breeding Centre and the development of sustainable rainforest management projects.

GEOGRAPHIC AREA AND HABITAT

Upper Guinean Rainforest, West Africa

The Upper Guinean Rainforest constitutes a 350 km wide strip of West African coastal rainforest stretching from Sierra Leone to the Ghana-Togo border and is listed as one of the IUCN's 25 Key Biodiversity Areas, WWF's Global Spot region, a CI Biodiversity Hotspot, and a Birdlife International's Important Bird Area. The IUCN 25 Key Biodiversity Areas cover only 1.4 % of the earth's surface but contain more than 60% of all animal and plant species found on this planet. The Upper Guinean Rainforest is one of the most biologically diverse ecosystems on the African continent supporting over 1800 endemic plants, 31 endemic threatened birds, 35 endemic threatened mammals and 49 endemic threatened amphibians. Within the eastern portion of the Upper Guinean forest, relatively large areas of lowland rain forest are now almost entirely confined to eastern Côte d'Ivoire and western Ghana. These forests form a secondary area of endemism and are home to a number of threatened primate species including Roloway monkey (*Cercopithecus roloway*), white-naped mangabey (*Cercocebus lunulatus*), Miss Waldron's red colobus (*Procolobus badius waldroni*)-possibly extinct, Geoffrey's black and white colobus (*Colobus polykomos*), lesser spot-nose monkey (*Cercopithecus cephus petaurista*), Lowe's monkey (*Cercopithecus mona lowei*) and olive colobus (*Procolobus verus*) as well as a number of other unique mammals such as zebra duiker (*Cephalophus zebra*), royal antelope (*Neotragus pygmaeus*), Liberian mongoose (*Liberiictis kuhni*), Dephuma mouse (*Dephomys eburnea*), white-throated shrew (*Crocidura wimmeri*) and the Togo mouse (*Leimacomys buettneri*). The unique fauna and flora of the Upper Guinean Rainforest has long been under the threat of massive deforestation and extensive bush meat hunting.



CRITICAL ISSUES AND THREATS

Deforestation is the greatest threat to both the environment and wildlife dependent upon the rainforests of West Africa. According to a recent CEPF Ecosystem Report, the Upper Guinean Forests which stretches from Sierra Leone to the Ghana-Togo border, has been reduced to a mere 15% of its original forest cover. Logging, agriculture, illegal mining, and human encroachment have left fragmented remnants of rainforest. Studies of legal and illegal logging in Ghana have shown an increase of 600% in 15 years. As you would imagine illegal logging being the most devastating as it is wholly unmanaged with no discipline for tree species, age or size. Illegal logging is carried out by two sources – 1/3 is carried out by legal companies who take more than their quota or in areas that are protected and 2/3 is carried out by illegal chainsaw operators, operating anyway they can access by road. According Global Forest Watch between 2001-2014 Ghana lost more than half a million hectares, around 9% of its total forest cover.

The unique fauna and flora found within these areas of rainforest have long been under the stress of deforestation and overhunting and with diminishing forest cover in which to retreat, wildlife within these sparse forests are finding no place left to hide.

Extensive bush meat hunting for both local consumption and export to other countries has caused a massive decline in the wildlife populations of West Africa. Wildlife populations in Ghana and Côte d'Ivoire are disappearing at such an alarming rate that many of the remaining rainforest habitats have become nearly devoid of mammal species, causing conservationist to now label these forests as “empty forests”.



Estimates of the bush meat trade run as high as \$400 million per year in Ghana and \$500 million in Côte d'Ivoire.

Rampant clear cutting of virgin rainforest for agroforestry plantations such as palm oil, rubber and cocoa is the major cause of deforestation of the Upper Guinean Rainforest. Unsustainable agriculture practices not only destroy the rainforests and pollute the environment, but also provide little benefit to rural communities who also depend on the rainforest for their survival.

2016 ACTIVITIES REPORT

WAPCA IN ACTION CREATING VIABLE LONG-TERM SOLUTIONS

TRANS-BORDER COMMUNITY-MANAGED RAINFOREST PROJECT

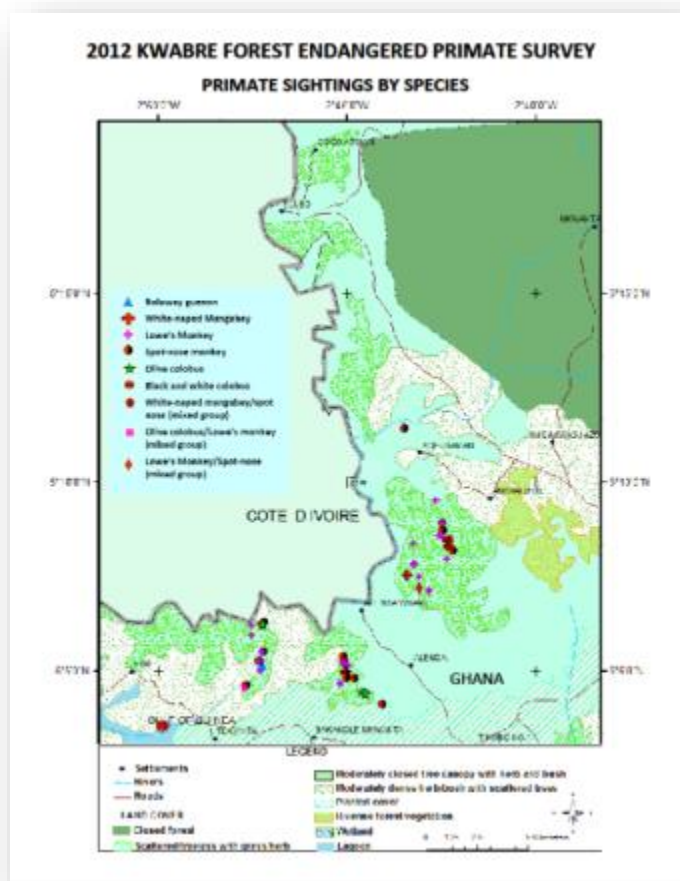
by Field Coordinator David Osei

Protecting the Last Remaining Roloway Monkey Habitat in Ghana

The Roloway monkey (*Cercopithecus roloway*) one of the *World's 25 Most Endangered Primates* is on the knives edge of extinction! Roloway monkeys have been systematically exterminated from all former habitats across their entire range with the exception of two community-owned rainforest in eastern Côte d'Ivoire and Western Ghana respectively. The Kwabre Rainforest is a 2,550 hectare corridor of community-owned virgin rainforest which lies along the Tanoé River, directly opposite to the Tanoé Forest in Côte d'Ivoire. Until very recently, primatology experts believed that the Tanoé Forest housed the world's only remaining populations of Roloway monkeys. However, surveys conducted by WAPCA in 2011, 2012, 2014 and 2016 have revealed the presence of additional Roloway monkey populations in the adjoining community-owned Kwabre Rainforest in Ghana's Western Region. This is the first sighting of Roloway monkeys in Ghana since 2003, despite extensive surveys conducted in protected/unprotected areas throughout their former range in Ghana.



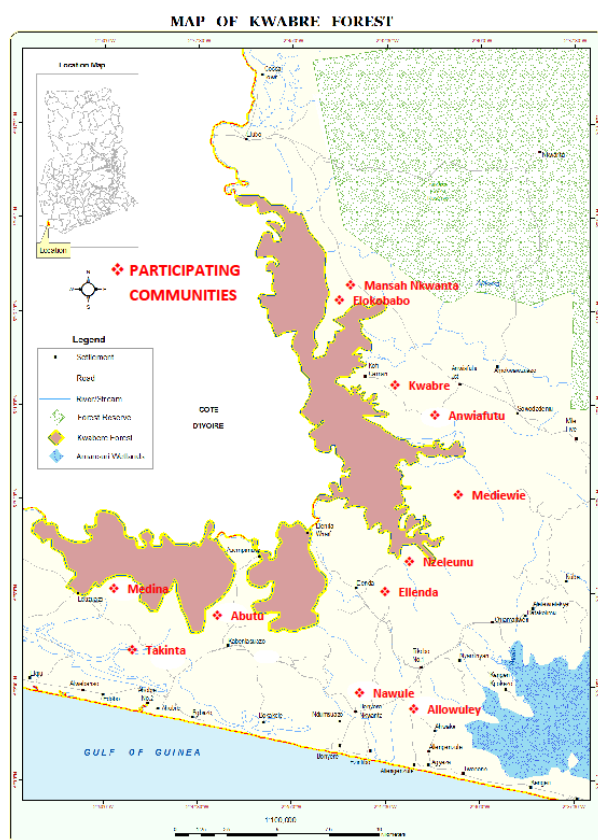
Roloway Monkey
(*Cercopithecus diana roloway*)



The Kwabre Rainforest surveys also identified significant populations of other Endangered primates including white-naped mangabeys (*Cercocebus atys lunulatus*), Geoffrey's black & white colobus (*Colobus vellerosus*) and olive colobus (*Procolobus verus*) as well the more common Lowe's monkeys (*Cercopithecus campbelli lowei*) and lesser spot-nosed monkeys (*Cercopithecus petaurista*). WAPCA and the Research and Actions for the Conservation of Primates in Côte d'Ivoire (RASAP-CI) are currently assisting the rural communities on both sides of the border to declare the Kwabre and Tanoé Forest as federated community managed conservation areas with a long-term goal of creating a community-owned trans-border rainforest.

2016 ACTIVITIES REPORT

WAPCA's Trans-border Community-managed Rainforest Project has four main aims;



- 1) Protect and enhance 2,500 hectares of community-owned virgin rainforest through the transformation of the Kwabre Rainforest into a federated Community Resource Management Area (CREMA)
- 2) Reduce illegal activities in the rainforest through the training and implementation of community patrols,
- 3) Improve the health of the rainforest through the reforestation of areas degraded by illegal lumbering and mining
- 4) Create sustainable community-managed agro-forestry plantations to reduce harvesting of forest products and clear-cutting of virgin forests for large scale export commodities
- 5) Lay the foundation for a Trans-border Community-managed Forest Reserve between the Kwabre Rainforest in Ghana and the Tanoé Community Forests in Côte d'Ivoire.



Kwabre Rainforest

2016 ACTIVITIES REPORT

1. Community Resource Management Area



The CREMA is working very effectively. They hold regular meetings to discuss issues of concern. During one such meeting, concerns were raised on how some chiefs were involved in the illegal lumber trade. The executive committee took it upon themselves to meet with the chiefs and educate them on the need to sustainably use the forest resources. They further agreed that every confiscated lumber and chain saw machine should be brought to the CREMA chairman who will then meet with the executives and the CRMC in question to determine the fines and penalties to be paid by the offender.

During the year the CEC executives met with District Coordinating Director of the District Assembly to again present the CREMA constitution and bylaws to him because the Assembly had misplaced the first copy brought to them. The validation of the constitution has delayed due to the inability of the District Assembly to organize itself properly. The CREMA has agreed to involve the local Assembly men in the communities in all their activities so that the District Assembly will be well informed about the CREMA.

The CREMA welcomed three new members. These new communities included Atwebanso, Edobo and Epu. Elections have subsequently been organized to elect the CRMCs respectively.

2. Community Rainforest Protection Teams

Forty community people have been trained and equipped to conduct forest patrols and to also collect bio data. The activities of patrols teams have reduced the incidence of illegal lumbering significantly.

Before the introduction of forest patrols, about ten chainsaw machines could be confiscated within a month. This has reduced dramatically. A maximum of two chainsaws are now confiscated within a month.

There are three types of patrols conducted by the patrol teams. A local patrol involves four to six people patrolling their forest two times a week. A joint patrol involves bringing members from different communities together with an armed Wildlife Division guard to conduct patrols in one community. This kind of patrol is conducted when the culprits in question are armed and also of high social standings.

Thirdly, the trans-border patrols when the patrol team from Ivory Coast join the team in Ghana to conduct patrols in either country. The patrol team have been provided with a boat to make the Trans- border patrols effective.



2016 ACTIVITIES REPORT

3. Reforestation

Eight tree nurseries were established to raise seedlings to replant the degraded core zones within the forest and to also establish tree plantations for each community. These community plantations were established to reduce the pressure on the forest in the near future. Each community provided about three acres of land for this purpose. Twelve thousands trees were planted in the community plantations. Tree species planted in the plantation included Baku, Mahogany, *Terminalia superba*, Cidrella, Emire and Nyankom. Three thousand trees were planted in the core zone of the forest. Tree species planted in the



core zone included mahogany, baku, *Parkia bicolor*, subaha, ehuruke and kontine. The tree species planted in the core zone were trees used by the primates within the forest. Five hundred seedlings were distributed to individual farmers.

The patrol teams in each community were tasked by the CREMA executives to be in charge of the plantation. WAPCA assisted the communities to organize routine weeding around the trees and also replace dead trees.

4. Transborder Collaboration with Côte d'Ivoire

A lot of progress have been made towards the establishment of a Trans border community managed forest. In 2016, a joint community education was organized in Atsimmenu and Kramo suazo. These two communities are found at the banks of the Tano River in Côte d'Ivoire. The people were educated on the importance of conservation. This became necessary because the people were deeply involved in illegal lumbering and hunting. Due to their location it was difficult to organize patrols in the area. The program was very successful because the level of illegal lumbering reduced after the awareness education.

A joint patrol teams were been established. This team made up of individuals from both Ghana and Cote d'Ivoire patrol the Tano River to confiscate lumber being brought from Côte d'Ivoire to Ghana or vice versa. The implementation of this kind of patrols has contributed to the decline of illegal lumbering in both countries. The patrol team has been provided with a boat which has improved and made the patrols very effective.

A workshop was held in Ghana where members of both countries attended, including the Vice Chairman of WAPCA Europe, Director of Mulhouse Zoo and Studbook Keeper of the Roloway monkey – Dr Brice LeFaux. The workshop programme consisted on a number of presentations including those on law enforcement, primate landscape and example transboundary projects/IUCN Guidelines. The workshop lay the foundations for future meetings to harmonize the work of the two countries and to create a legally recognised transboundary forest.



Members of the transboundary workshop

In Other Field News.....

IUCN RED LIST MEETING

In April David Osei attended the IUCN African Primate Red List meeting in Rome. Working with fellow primatologists all African primates were assessed and their IUCN status reviewed. It was agreed at this meeting that both the Roloway monkey and the white-naped mangabey should be upgraded to Critically Endangered. After the meeting, WAPCA worked to update the species information found on the website and database, which should be publicly available Easter 2017.



NEW FIELD VEHICLE



After last years appeal for funds to secure a much needed new field vehicle we are delighted to announce, thanks to the generosity of Mulhouse Zoo, Heidelberg Zoo, Gaia Zoo, Minerex Drilling Contractors and Autoparts Ltd, we have a new vehicle!! The vehicle is vital for our field work, it brings community members together as an impromptu taxi, acts as the main mode of transport for the Rapid Response Team and carries tree saplings to degraded areas of forest.



WAPCA RESEARCH GROUP

For many years WAPCA has worked with Barcelona University and Barcelona Zoo to conduct research on both wild and captive primates to enhance our conservation actions..



This year Chester University approached WAPCA to also carry out vital studies and so to rather work independently the WAPCA Research Group was formed. In April representatives of the group met alongside community members, Wildlife Division Officers and WAPCA staff to discuss projects, budgets and logistics.

By working together, sharing data, knowledge and expertise we can get a detailed understanding of the landscape, the animals and people that rely on it.

Next year will see students from Barcelona and Chester working in the field.



2016 ACTIVITIES REPORT

WAPCA IN ACTION CREATING VIABLE LONG-TERM SOLUTIONS

ENDANGERED PRIMATE BREEDING CENTRE

By Kwadwo Mensah – Primate Centre Officer

All too soon another year has come to an end. I would like to thank the management and staff of the Accra Zoological Gardens for their immense contribution and support within the course of the year, notably Dr. Richard Suu-Ire and Alfred David Turkson. Also my sincere gratitude goes to the numerous volunteers and visiting experts who came to the Centre to help with our work, spending many man hours helping provide enrichment and improve husbandry conditions for all the animals especially the primates at the zoo. They have been outstanding in their efforts. We welcome volunteers, keepers and students at the Centre so please get in touch if this interests you.



***Tyler Chase with myself and full time intern Nuria Badiella
Trent in Ghana Volunteer Programme***

The Wildlife Division of the Ghana Wildlife Commission maintains the Accra Zoo in the capital city, which is located in a large urban forest known as the Achimota Forest.

In 2005, WAPCA constructed an Endangered Primate Breeding Centre (EPBC) on the Accra Zoo premises, which is managed by current Country Coordinator, Mrs. Andrea Dempsey. Mrs. Dempsey has been extremely proactive with the help of Dr. Richard Suu-Ire, Alfred David Turkson and the Wildlife Division in bringing the EPBC up to speed to its current status. They have been able to incorporate all the confiscated and orphaned monkeys into social groups and the white-naped mangabeys and Roloway monkeys living at the centre into the European Endangered Species Programme (EEP), in order to ensure a healthy population for these endangered primate species.

Species focus has also expanded notably to the patas monkey, green vervet and spot nosed monkey which now come under the care of WAPCA. This is in addition to our sixteen white-naped mangabeys (nine males and seven females) at the centre, the world's largest collection of white-napped mangabeys under human care, housed in one location. The centre also holds a pair of Roloway monkeys.

2016 ACTIVITIES REPORT

NEW BABY MANGABEYS – Accra's 2nd, Sonja's 5th



Accra with Klaus

On the 27th of January and 15th of December, two male mangabeys were born to Accra and Ape and Sonja and Nuba respectively. The healthy males have been named Klaus and Brendan.

We have also through routine observation of the genital swelling of one of our juvenile females (Efua Marie) been able to establish that she's due to give birth early 2017. So, hopefully, we expect another new baby in 2017.

BEHAVIOURAL TRAINING FOR MANGABEY TRANSFERS

In order to ensure a healthy breeding population for these highly endangered primate species and WAPCA's commitment to improving the living conditions of the primates at the EPBC, regrouping occasionally occurs depending on evolving social trends observed at the EPBC.

Preparations are far advanced to regroup our mangabey stock and move a breeding group to the new Forested Enclosure at the Kumasi Zoo. In order to move the animals with minimal stress the team have been working hard to implement behavioral training programmes, as a result individuals moving to Kumasi are now box trained and the adult male joining them will accept a hand injection.

Equally Kweku (our juvenile adult male) is being trained to sit in a transfer box for reward. Kweku will be transferred to a new enclosure at the EPBC where he will be placed with two breeding females. Our thanks to Landau Zoo and Africa Alive for their generous donations which has made this new enclosure possible. This training follows on from our successful box training of Obyibiefe and hand injection training of Annan which allowed us to move them into a new enclosure at the EPBC early in 2016 with minimal stress, infact both animals were happy to resume their training the next day!



Nuria box training Obyibiefe

VISIT BY WAPCA BOARD MEMBERS



Board Members at the Zoo

The Board took a decision to visit the centre to acquaint themselves with works at the EPBC. So on the 21st of September they did so, they were well received by the Accra Zoo Manager, Dr. Richard Suu-Ire, who equally is also a member of the Board. They were excited as this was the first time some members were visiting the centre after the Board expanded in member size, following the death of the Board Chairman Togbi.

2016 ACTIVITIES REPORT

MANGABEY AWARENESS DAY



1st August we celebrated the Mangabey Awareness Day at Accra Zoo. The day was organised and run by WAPCA intern Lisa Kopsiker. It was our first time celebrating this event, and it was to be a great day. Lisa prepared several activities for the public adults and children. These consisted of a raffle, a gymkhana where the children had to find mangabey pictures hiding around the zoo and mangabey art and crafts. The raffle prize was to name one of our male spot-nosed and the winner named him "Adzato", which is the name of a town in the "Anlo" district of the Volta region.

Huge thanks to Lisa for such a fantastic day for WAPCA and the families that came.

Artwork designed free of charge by Peppermint Narwhal

WORKSHOPS FROM VISITING EXPERTS

Several workshops and training programmes were organised and conducted throughout 2016 by visiting experts from Zoological Society of London (ZSL), Colchester Zoo and Paradise Park on rope splicing and safe methods of capture, including non-invasive and reward based training procedures. Our visitors have shown great generosity on their visits and have provided WAPCA with many donated items.

In conclusion I would like to thank all staff, students and volunteers who in their diverse ways helped in our work at the centre in 2016, we hope to have a favourable cooperation than we had in the ensuing year, and wish all well in their endeavours.



Top L-R Dave Morgan, Colchester Zoo. Heather MacIntosh, Vet Nurse, ZSL. Miranda Cosby and Hannah Joy, ZSL.

Bottom L-R Tobias Kremer, Heidelberg Zoo. Nicky Plaskitt, Paradise Park

2016 ACTIVITIES REPORT

WAPCA IN ACTION CREATING VIABLE LONG-TERM SOLUTIONS

FORESTED ENCLOSURE AT KUMASI ZOO

After some discussion, it was decided by both the European and the Ghana Board that the first Forested Enclosure, previously called the Semi-Free enclosure should be relocated to Kumasi Zoo. Based on the same design as the Semi-Free this large natural exhibit will be an open top enclosure with a solar powered electric fence, to prevent escape. At the end of 2016, the area for the enclosure was marked out and construction plans put in place. In December ground was broken and the enclosure began to take shape. Work will continue into 2017 with a completion date in the early part of the same year. The Forested Enclosure is approximately 0.4ha with a mix of trees, shrubs and banana plants. There is an adjoining satellite enclosure planned so that we can house the animals securely during routine maintenance or emergencies. WAPCA would like to thank the generosity of all those who have supported this project over the years and their patience while we construct it.



L-R Perimeter fence is walked and marked out. Boundary teak pole positions are measured and marked. Boundary trench is dug and teak poles are cemented into place.

IN OTHER WAPCA NEWS.....

Awareness

New Website



WAPCA has launched its new website www.wapca.org. Here you can find up to date news, project details and ways you can help. There are opportunities to buy merchandise, adopt a monkey or contribute specifically to a project element.

The website informs people not only about WAPCA but about the different primates that we have in Ghana. It also allows for people to get in touch with us if they have any questions or wish to conduct research or volunteer.

Presentations



The Country Coordinator delivered a presentation at Paradise Wildlife Park in the UK. The talk was attended by staff and members of the public. At the end of the talk Friends of Paradise Park presented the Coordinator with a cheque for £250. WAPCA are most grateful for the donation and for inviting WAPCA to speak at their collection.

African Primatological Society



At the IUCN/SSC Primate Specialist Group African Primate Red List Assessment Workshop held in Rome, it became evident that there should be greater commitment from all stakeholders towards the conservation of African primates and in particular, Africans must be better positioned to lead efforts if long term, effective conservation of African primates is to be realized.

As a result, the African attendees at this workshop held a series of meetings to discuss progress towards the formation of an African primate group/society. The meetings in Rome, Italy built on that of the former African Primate Working Group (APWG) held in Cape Town, South Africa in July 2015.

The decision to transition from a Working Group to a Society has come at an opportune time with many more researchers and conservationists working on African primates increasingly more interested in being part of a home-grown network. A steering committee was immediately constituted in Rome to deliver on the mandate of first Congress inaugurating this new society, and undertaking associated activities to facilitate the affairs of the group. The Congress will gather together approximately 150-200 African Primatologists, non-African researchers and conservationists working on African primates as well as other stakeholders.

Fundraising

Roar With Laughter



The Zoological Society of London and WAPCA joined forces to stage Roar With Laughter, an evening of comedy, for the second year. Comics such as Dara O'Briain and Alan Davies took to the stage to raise money for our conservation work. The event was held at the Hammersmith Apollo in London and will be repeated again in 2017.

Money Boxes



Pupils at Holmers Green Secondary School, as part of their Resistance Material class, designed and made wooden money boxes for WAPCA. The money boxes have been placed in various places in Accra with educational leaflets collecting small change for us and spreading the word of our work.

Thank you to the pupils and to teacher Mrs Nicholls for such hard work and skills. We would also like to thank

Robi's Dutch Bar, Colours of Africa, Suntrade Beads and Dzorwulu Yoga Studio for having them in their establishments.



Gecko Handicraft Mangabeys

WAPCA is delighted to be working with Wild Gecko Handicrafts in Accra to locally produce brass mangabeys for purchase! The original model was made out of clay by UK based sculpture Casey Banwell, who has worked on films such as 'Cinderella', 'Pan' and the recently released 'Tarzan Unleashed' and 'Alice Through The Looking Glass' starring Johnny Depp and Helena Bonham Carter. The model was carefully bought to Ghana where local artisans used the clay model as reference to sculpt the mangabey into wax, which is then used as the mould for the brass ornament. Each ornament is individually sculptured so each piece is unique. The ornaments are on sale in Wild Gecko Handicraft with a percentage of each sale coming to WAPCA!



ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The West African Primate Conservation Action was formed by a consortium of European zoos and conservation organizations. WAPCA began working in Ghana in 2001, with additional activities commencing in Ivory Coast in 2004. In 2007, WAPCA established the local NGO, WAPCA Ghana. WAPCA Ghana operates in full partnership with the Wildlife Division of the Ghana Forestry Commission. We would like to thank the Wildlife Division for all their support over the past year, without which the activities and achievements of WAPCA Ghana would not be possible.



WAPCA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

West African Primate Conservation Action Ghana would also like to formally thank our board members for all their support and advice throughout 2016. The WAPCA boards are the backbone of our organization and it is through their support and advice that WAPCA Ghana is able to have a positive effect on preservation of West African primate habitat and the successful breeding of Critically Endangered West African primates.

WAPCA EUROPE BOARD

WAPCA's global activities are overseen by the WAPCA Europe Board of Directors which includes the following members:

Dr. Klaus Wuennemann-Chairman of the Board
 Dr Brice Lefaux-Vice Chairman of the Board
 Dra. M^aTeresa Abelló Poveda -Secretary
 Mrs Sandra Reichler-Treasurer
 Mr Nick Lindsay-Advisor to the Board
 Mr Roland Wirth- Advisor to the Board

WAPCA GHANA BOARD

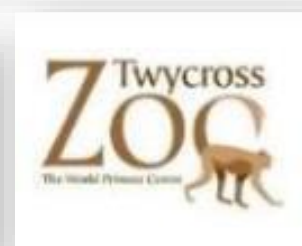
WAPCA Ghana is a local NGO, overseen by a Ghanaian board of directors, who direct all WAPCA's Ghana's in situ and ex situ activities. The WAPCA Ghana Board of Directors includes the following members:

III Mr David Nuku Tetey – Chairman of the Board
 Mrs Vivian Nuhu – Director of the Board
 Dr Erasmus Owusu – Director of the Board
 Dr Richard Suu-Ire – Director of the Board
 Mr Stephen Tamanja- Director of the Board
 Dr Selorm Tetey – Director of the Board
 Mr Edward Wiafe – Director of the Board
 Mr Kwame Tutu – Director of the Board
 Mr Noah Gbexede – Director of the Board
 Mr Micheal Abedi-Lartey – Director of the Board
 Mrs Andrea Dempsey - Secretary

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

THANK YOU WAPCA MEMBERS!

WAPCA membership provide the crucial funding for all WAPCA Ghana core operating expenses and also provide significant funding for rainforest protection activities in Côte d'Ivoire. It is the support of WAPCA membership that has allowed WAPCA to implement vital *in situ* and *ex situ* conservation efforts throughout the years. Zoo Heidelberg serves as the managing body for WAPCA. Funds for specific projects are acquired through major sponsor donations.



MAJOR FIELD PROJECT SPONSORS



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WAPCA is very grateful to our local supporters who over the past year have donated goods, services or provided discounted rates.

