



WEST AFRICAN PRIMATE CONSERVATION ACTION

2013 Annual Report



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2013 ANNUAL REPORT

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Update from the WAPCA-Ghana Country Coordinator

Firstly, I would like to take a moment to say thank you to all our WAPCA members, sponsors, partners and friends who have shown us so much support over the past year. It is your on-going support that allows WAPCA to take crucial action toward securing a long-term future for highly threatened primate species in West Africa and to protect the remaining rainforests not only for primates and other endemic fauna and flora but for the rural communities whose livelihoods depend on the eco-services provided by this complex and fragile habitat.

The Upper Guinean Rainforest of West Africa 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. Over 85% of the Upper Guinean Rainforest has already disappeared and the remaining 15% is under constant threat from bush meat hunting, illegal mining and logging and massive clear cutting of the rainforest for rubber, cocoa and palm oil plantations.

Sustained preservation of the remaining rainforests and rainforest eco-services is a complex issue and can only be achieved by simultaneously improving the education and well-being of people living in and around rainforests. Providing alternative livelihoods and helping communities understand the interdependence between the community and the environment coupled with supporting actions that allow them to best utilize lands that have already been cleared will help to reduce the negative impact on the remaining virgin rainforest and rainforest inhabitants.

In 2013, WAPCA's *in situ* conservation efforts have focused on some of the poorest, most marginalized communities in Ghana. Through WAPCA's Trans-border Community-managed Rainforest Project, WAPCA aims to reduce illegal activities in the rainforest through the training and implementation of community patrols; improve the health of the rainforest through the reforestation of areas degraded by illegal lumbering and mining; create sustainable community-managed agro-forestry plantations in twelve communities surrounding the rainforest to reduce harvesting of forest products and clear-cutting of virgin forests for large scale export commodities (cocoa, palm oil, rubber) and lay the foundation for a Trans-border Community-managed Forest Reserve between the Kwabre Rainforest in Ghana and the Tanoé Community Forests. Additional *in situ* efforts have included helping the Wildlife Division of the Ghana Forestry Commission reduce illegal activities in Ghana's Protected Areas through the support and training of Community Patrol Teams and educating rural communities surrounding the Protected Areas about the importance of preserving their natural heritage for the benefit of the environment and the communities.

WAPCA's *ex situ* conservation efforts have focused on assisting the Wildlife Division of the Ghana Forestry Commission with the maintenance of an Endangered Primate Breeding Centre where endangered primates rescued from the bushmeat and pet trade play a vital role in providing the only source for new genetic stock for the White-naped Mangabey and Roloway Monkey European Endangered species Programme (EEP). In 2013 two female White-naped Mangabeys were born at the Endangered Primate Centre and a male Roloway was transferred to Ghana from La Vallée des Singes in France to pair with the primate centre's only female. Successful reproduction of this pair would result in a new founder for the Roloway EEP. It is envisioned that in future, offspring of the *ex situ* breeding program may one day provide stock for reintroduction of the species into protected areas throughout their former habitat.

So again, we would like to thank all our members, sponsors and partners for helping us with the vital work of preserving West Africa's most endangered primates.

Yours in conservation,

Jeanne Marie Pittman

PROJECT OVERVIEW

MISSION:

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

VISION

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

PRIMARY OBJECTIVES

- *In situ* conservation of *Endangered* West African primates and their habitats
- *Ex situ* conservation of *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 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 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 Centre in the capital 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 form 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 Mangabey in Ghana Association, the University of Barcelona and Coastal Resource Center-Ghana.

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



West African 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 diana roloway*) Status: *Endangered*
- White-naped Mangabey, (*Cercocebus atys lunulatus*) Status: *Endangered*

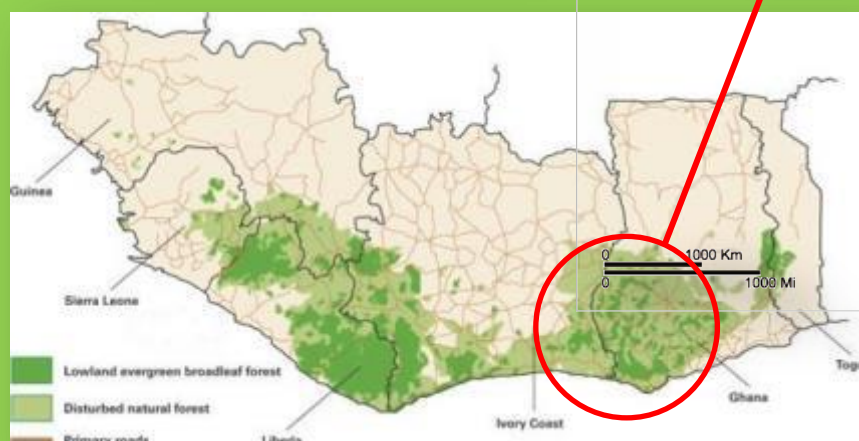
Within the eastern region of the Upper Guinean rainforest (extending from central Côte d'Ivoire to Ghana) resides a distinct community of primates, endemic to the area, including the *Critically Endangered* (possibly extinct) Miss Waldron's Red Colobus (*Procolobus badius waldroni*) the *Endangered* Roloway Monkey (*Cercopithecus diana roloway*) and the *Endangered* White-naped mangabey (*Cercocebus atys 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 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 (*Cercocebus diana roloway*), White-naped Mangabey (*Cercocebus atys 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 as well as other unique mammals such as Zebra Duiker (*Cephalophus zebra*), Royal Antelope (*Neotragus pygmaeus*), Liberian Mongoose (*Liberiictis kuhni*), Dephwa 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.

Upper Guinean Rainforest



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. 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.



2013 ACTIVITIES REPORT

WAPCA IN ACTION CREATING VIABLE LONG-TERM SOLUTIONS

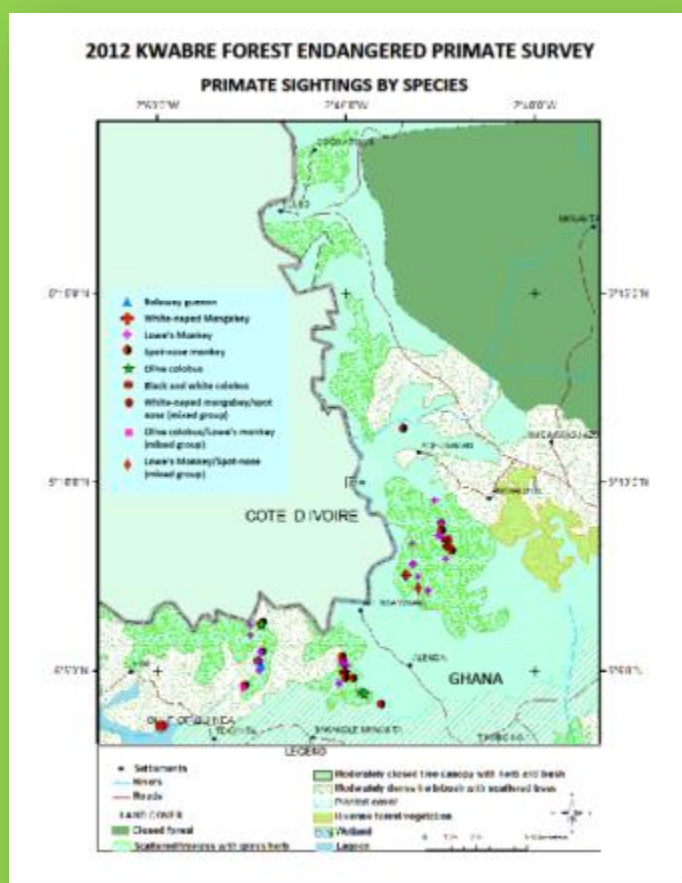
TRANS-BORDER COMMUNITY-MANAGED RAINFOREST PROJECT

Protecting the Last Remaining Roloway Monkey Habitat in Ghana

The Roloway Monkey (*Cercopithecus diana roloway*) one of the *World's 25 Most Endangered Primates* is literally on the knives edge of extinction! Roloway Monkeys have been systematically exterminated from all former habitat 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 and 2012 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*)



**Map showing location of Roloway Monkey
sightings in the Kwabre Rainforest**

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*). There is even reason to believe that the Kwabre Rainforest may still harbour a small population of *Critically Endangered* Miss Waldron's red colobus (*Procolobus badius waldroni*) a species which was declared extinct in 2000. 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.

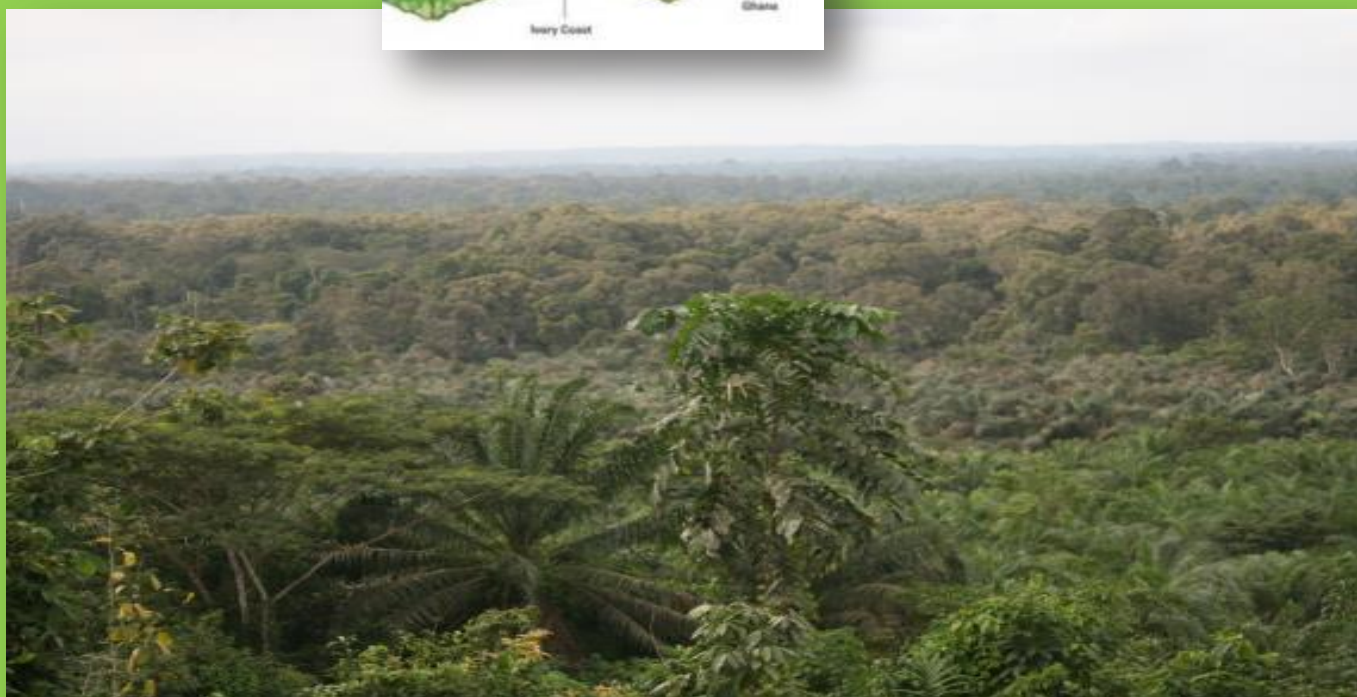
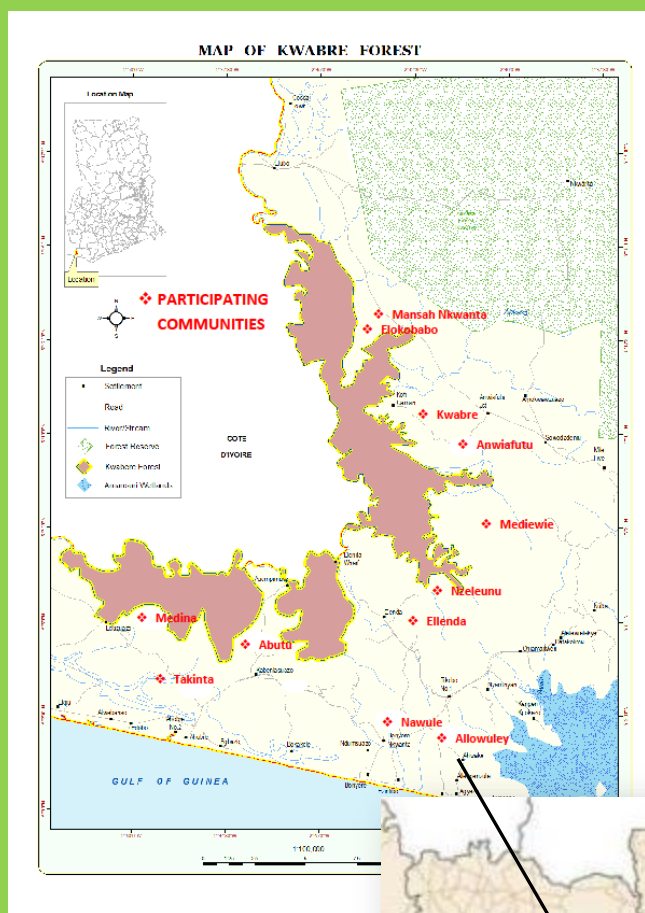
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TRANS-BORDER COMMUNITY-MANAGED RAINFOREST PROJECT

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 in twelve communities surrounding the rainforest to reduce harvesting of forest products and clear-cutting of virgin forests for large scale export commodities (cocoa, palm oil, rubber) 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. The first step in this process, the creation of the federated Community Resource Management Area (CREMA) is already underway.

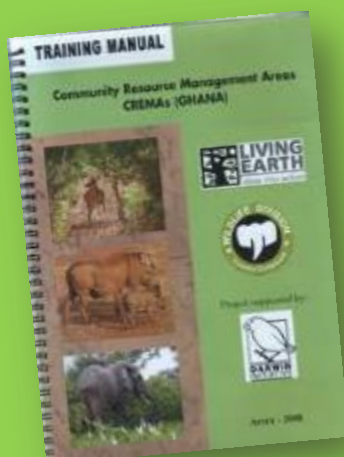


Kwabre Rainforest

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TRANS-BORDER COMMUNITY-MANAGED RAINFOREST PROJECT



Creation of the Kwabre Community Resource Management Area

Because rural communities depend on the health of the rainforest for their livelihood and because environmental monitoring and conservation must ultimately be implemented at the local level, it is crucial that local people have the understanding, skills, and economic incentives to manage their resources in ways that sustain natural ecosystem processes. The transformation of the Kwabre Rainforest into a federated Conservation Resource Management Area (CREMA) will allow the twelve rural communities surrounding this crucial virgin rainforest corridor to designate their collective lands as a dedicated conservation area and will also teach them how to sustainably manage their natural resources for the benefit of the wildlife, flora and communities.

The Wildlife Division of the Ghana Forestry Commission is currently utilizing CREMA's as the primary institutional mechanism for implementing collaborative sustainable natural resource management outside protected areas in Ghana. The CREMA is regulated through the development of a constitution, bylaws and natural resource management plan which are created by the CREMA committees composed of elected community members. The CREMA constitution, bylaws and natural resource management plan are formulated in consultation with the Wildlife Division and the District Assembly of the area and once they are approved the communities will receive a *Certificate of*



David Osei meets with village chief and elders of the village of Anwiafutu to explain the process for developing the CREMA



Community members in Ellenda gather to learn how to elect their CREMA committee

Devolution which will give them the authority to sustainably manage their lands and to apprehend illegal miners, bushmeat hunters and chainsaw operators. Over the past year, WAPCA's Field Projects Coordinator, David Osei, has been educating the twelve communities surrounding the Kwabre Rainforest about the CREMA process to help them make an informed decision about the election of their CREMA committees. All twelve villages have now elected their CREMA representatives. In the coming year, WAPCA will assist the CREMA committees in creating their constitution, bylaws and natural resource management plan.

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TRANS-BORDER COMMUNITY-MANAGED RAINFOREST PROJECT

Community Rainforest Protection Teams

One of the greatest challenges for the rural communities surrounding the Kwabre Rainforest in terms of sustainably managing their natural resources is the rampant illegal logging, mining and bushmeat hunting being perpetrated by people outside the community which is destroying habitat, polluting water bodies and depleting the wildlife in their rainforest.

WAPCA has been working with the Wildlife Division of the Ghana Forestry Commission and the twelve communities surrounding the Kwabre Rainforest to help reduce the illegal activity through the formation and training of Community Rainforest Protection Teams. Thus far a total of 36 people from the communities have been trained as members of the Community Rainforest Protection Teams.

Initial training sessions which took place in the rural villages surrounding the Kwabre Rainforest focused on the use of field equipment such GPS, compass, binoculars etc. More comprehensive sessions were then conducted in the Kwabre Rainforest and the Ankasa National Park to familiarize the team members with primate identification, wildlife monitoring and accurate recording of field data. The last phase of the training aimed to educate the Community Rainforest Protection Teams about the laws of Ghana that protect natural fauna and flora, the

detection of illegal activities in the rainforest and ways in which the communities can work with the Wildlife Division of the Ghana Forestry Commission and other legal authorities to apprehend illegal offenders.

The Community Rainforest Protection Teams are now patrolling in various areas of the Kwabre Rainforest to help combat illegal activities and have already begun to assist the Wildlife Division of the Ghana Forestry Commission to apprehend illegal miners, bushmeat hunters and chainsaw operators.



Community Rainforest Protection Team members Paul Fobli and Dennis Qarshie learn about monitoring wildlife populations in Ankasa National Park



Community Rainforest Protection Team and the Wildlife Division stop the transport of illegal lumber in the village of Edu.

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WAPCA IN ACTION CREATING VIABLE LONG-TERM SOLUTIONS

Transborder Collaboration with Côte d'Ivoire



Once the CREMA has been formed in the communities surrounding the Kwabre Rainforest, investigations will be made with regard to the creation of a Trans-border Community-managed Reserve potentially joining the Kwabre Forest in Ghana with the existing Tanoé Forest in Côte d'Ivoire. The non-profit organization, Research and Actions for the Conservation of Primates in Côte d'Ivoire (RASAP-CI) is currently helping the communities surrounding the Tanoé Forest to sustainably manage their rainforest. However, people from outside the rural communities are illegally trafficking lumber, bushmeat and other forest products across Tanoé River which forms the border between Ghana and Cote d'Ivoire.



Illegal lumber trafficked across the Tanoé River

The apprehension and prosecution of illegal offenders is difficult once the perpetrators have crossed the border as the traditional authorities in the communities have no jurisdiction over the trafficking of illegal products that have been obtained from outside their respective lands. WAPCA, RASAP-CI and the Wildlife Division of the Ghana Forestry Commission are currently helping the communities on both sides of the Tanoé River to form joint-patrol teams that will allow for the efficient prosecution of people illegally trafficking forest products between Ghana and Cote d'Ivoire.



Victor Agyeman Duah (top far right) from the Wildlife Division of the Ghana Forestry Commission and Selassie Sorgalli (bottom far left) from RASAP-CI assist with training of the Community Rainforest Protection Teams

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WAPCA IN ACTION CREATING VIABLE LONG-TERM SOLUTIONS



Bushmeat hunter in Cape Three Points Forest Reserve

Management Area (CREMA) have been established to assist the Ghana Forestry Commission with addressing and halting illegal activities in the reserve and facilitating the management of natural resources on community-owned lands surrounding the reserve.

In 2012, WAPCA assisted the Cape Three Points Working Group and the Ghana Forestry Commission with the training of Community Monitoring Teams for the Cape Three Points Forest Reserve. Over the past year, WAPCA and the Community Monitoring Teams have been helping the Ghana Forestry Commission detect and reduce illegal activities such as mining,

Protecting Natural Resources in the Cape Three Points Forest Reserve

The Cape Three Points Forest Reserve is a 51km² coastal evergreen rainforest reserve located in the Western Region of Ghana and is one of the last remaining coastal rainforests in the country. The reserve is located roughly 35 km west of the large metropolitan city of Takoradi. Although the vegetation is largely intact, the reserve is surrounded by human settlements and as a result, the fauna and flora are under constant pressure. A Cape Three Points Working Group and Community Resource



Mine shaft in Cape Three Points Forest Reserve

lumbering and bushmeat hunting in the reserve.

In August, WAPCA and the Community Monitoring Teams assisted Cletus Balangtaa, the park manager of Ankasa National Park with a large mammal survey in the Cape Three Point Forest Reserve. The survey results showed encouragingly high encounter rates with large mammals, especially duikers and bushbuck. However, incidence of illegal activity was also very high and the survey team encountered and detained several illegal chainsaw operators, miners and bushmeat hunters.



Illegal small-scale mining operation in Cape Three Points Forest Reserve

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WAPCA IN ACTION CREATING VIABLE LONG-TERM SOLUTIONS



School children from Old Ankasa village visit Ankasa National Park

Environmental Education in Communities Surrounding Protected Areas

Preventing further destruction of the rainforest in Ghana's Protected Areas will require strengthening the management of the Protected Areas as well as increasing the understanding of the importance of preserving the environment areas amongst the rural people living adjacent these areas. Rural people on the forest fringes depend on the utilisation of products and services provided by natural resources and it is often difficult to distinguish the "fringe areas" from the Protected Areas resulting in significant encroachment.

Today's children are tomorrow's decision makers and changing attitudes towards the utilization of natural resources begins with educating the youth of the communities about the inter-relationship between the health of the rainforest and the welfare of their communities. Educating children at an early age instils a sense of community responsibility for environmental protection that will help ensure appropriate decision making with regard to sustainable development and biodiversity conservation long into the future. WAPCA's 2013 environmental education program focused on school children living in fringe villages surrounding Ankasa National Park and the Kwabre Rainforest. Despite living on the fringes of the rainforest, many children have never actually been inside the forest, thus a component of WAPCA's environmental education program includes a field trip to the exploration base in Ankasa National Park where the children are able to experience the wonder of the rainforest first hand. Inter-village environmental awareness programs were also conducted in the communities to bring children from various communities together to talk about environmental challenges and solutions in their respective communities. Through these inter-village programs the children come to understand that the challenges their communities face are universal and are better able to grasp the "bigger picture" with regard to sustainable natural resource management and community development.



Inter-village environmental awareness program help children understand "bigger picture"

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WAPCA IN ACTION CREATING VIABLE LONG-TERM SOLUTIONS

ENDANGERED PRIMATE BREEDING CENTRE



The Wildlife Division of the Ghana Forestry Commission maintains the Accra Zoo in the capitol city of Accra, Ghana which is located in Ghana's large urban forest known as the Achimota Forest. In 2005, WAPCA constructed an Endangered Primate Breeding Centre on the Accra Zoo grounds, which is currently managed by the Wildlife Division's veterinarian, Dr. Richard Suu-Ire. Dr. Suu-Ire has been extremely proactive in incorporating all the confiscated and orphaned Roloway Monkeys and White-naped Mangabeys living at the centre into European Endangered species Programme (EEP) in order to ensure a healthy assurance population for these

highly endangered primate species. The endangered primates being maintained at the Endangered Primate Breeding Centre currently provide the only new founders for the White-naped mangabey and Roloway Monkey EEPs.

There are currently fifteen White-naped Mangabeys (eight males and seven females) at the Endangered Primate Breeding Centre. This is the world's largest collection of White-naped Mangabeys under human care housed in one location. There is currently one male and one female Roloway Monkey at the centre.

New Male Roloway Monkey

On Wednesday, May 29th, 2013, Fergus, a seven-year-old male Roloway Monkey was transferred from La Vallée des Singes, in France to the primate centre in Accra, Ghana. Fergus, who was born in Heidelberg Zoo in 2006, is now one of only two roloway monkeys housed in the African continent. Fergus was placed in an enclosure next to Sweet Pee, an eight-year-old female who was born in the wilds of Ghana and was kept as a pet until she was confiscated and brought to the primate centre in 2005. The pair was introduced a month after Fergus arrived and were seen copulating within a few weeks of their introduction. Many thanks to La Vallée des Singes, Mulhouse Zoo and Heidelberg Zoo for their assistance in providing the necessary funding and documentation to bring Fergus home to Ghana! We are very hopeful this new pairing will result in a significant production of offspring and the addition of a new female founder for the Roloway Monkey EEP.



Sweet Pee grooming Fergus the day they were introduced

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ENDANGERED PRIMATE BREEDING CENTRE

Accra's First Baby

On February 18th 2013, an eight-year-old White-naped Mangabey, aptly named "Accra", gave birth to a healthy female baby at the Endangered Primate Breeding Centre. The new baby has been named Akosua-Chaachele. It is customary in the Akan culture of Ghana to name children after the day of the week on which they were born. Akosua means "Monday born girl" in the Akan language of Twi, which is one of the most widely spoken languages in Ghana. Her second name, Chaachele is in honour of Chaachele Faalong, WAPCA's *Conservation and Public Awareness Officer*, who spends many hours helping to provide enrichment and improve husbandry conditions for the primates at the centre.

Akosua's mom, Accra was born in Barcelona Zoo in 2005. In December 2011, she was transferred to the Endangered Primate Breeding and introduced to "Ape" a twenty-year-old male who has sired many offspring. Within five months of being introduced to Ape, Accra was pregnant with her first offspring. Accra is proving to be an excellent mother and is even teaching Oyibiefye, an older female mangabey in her group about appropriate parenting skills. Oyibiefye, who often exhibits stereotypic behaviour as a result of being kept as a pet prior to her arrival at the primate centre is now grooming and carrying Akosua on occasion. This experience will be helpful when and if Oyibiefye has a baby of her own.



Akosua is growing quickly and is very independent



Sydney Nyann getting to know a female White-naped Mangabey named "Accra"

Meet Sydney Nyann

In October 2013 the Wildlife Division of the Ghana Forestry Commission posted National Service person, Sydney Nyann to work at the Endangered Primate Breeding Centre. The Ghana National Service Scheme mobilizes and deploys Ghanaian citizens of 18 years and above, especially newly qualified University graduates, on national priority development programmes for a period of one year. Sydney holds a Bachelor's degree in Entomology and Wildlife Management from the University of Cape Coast. He is currently helping Chaachele and the staff of Accra Zoo with the daily care of the primates at the centre and is also helping to provide environmental enrichment and monitor diets for the endangered primates. Sydney also helps us with administrative tasks.

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ENDANGERED PRIMATE BREEDING CENTRE

Dublin Zookeepers Assist With Environmental Enrichment



*Abbie Dalglish and Jennifer Fagan help
Chaachele Faalong install a tire swing*

The first few weeks Abbie and Jennifer helped scrap and re-paint all of the primate enclosures. The rest of their time was spent creating various environmental enrichment items. Bamboo structures and new climbing branches were placed in all the enclosures as well as tire swings and ladders made from branches collected in the forest. Large plastic bottles were donated by Voltic, a local water bottling company. The team set about drilling small holes in the bottles to create puzzle feeders for all the enclosures.



*Fergus, a Roloway monkey at the primate centre
investigates a new bottle feeder*



*Animal Health Officer David Turkson and
Chaachele Faalong build a branch ladder*

Dry dog food and other enrichment items are placed in the Voltic bottles and the primates spend many hours manipulating the bottles to get the treats out. Leaf litter was also collected from the forest surrounding the primate centre to line the bottoms of the enclosures and various treat items scattered amongst the substrate for the primates to scavenge. The appearance of the primate enclosures was greatly improved and the primates are really enjoying their new environmental enrichment. Many thanks to Abbie, Jennifer, Chaachele and all the staff of the Accra Zoo for their assistance with this project.

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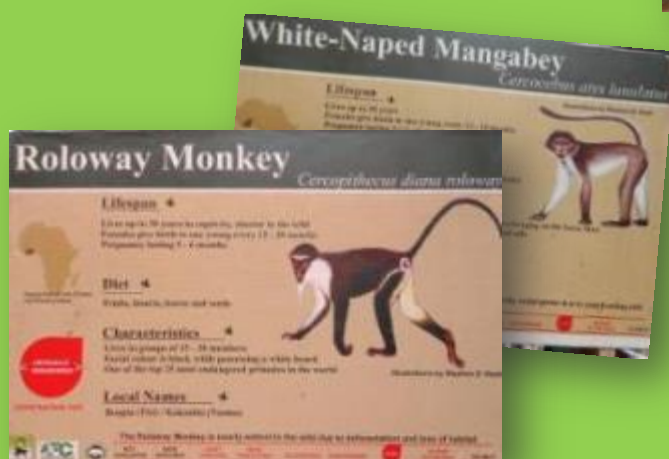
ENDANGERED PRIMATE BREEDING CENTRE

Student Volunteers

Three international students studying abroad at the University of Ghana volunteered at the Endangered Primate Breeding Centre for the practical component of their studies; Maddie Macdonald an international development student from Trent University in Ontario, Canada; Somakhanden Keo a biology student from California State University in the USA; and Irene Bower, a Wild Life and Conversation Biology Major at the Deakin University in Australia.



Somakhanden Keo observes a White-naped Mangabey troupe investigate their new hammock



The students helped with the care of the primates as well as assisting with various environmental enrichment projects at the Endangered Primate Breeding Centre including the construction of climbing structures and hammocks made from donated fire hose.

Somakhaden also designed new signage for the Roloway Monkey and White-naped Mangabey enclosures to help visitors and school children learn more about these endangered primates. She also raised funds that will be used to help build a new enclosure at the centre. Maddie Macdonald helped with the design of WAPCA's new FACEBOOK page.



Maddie McDonald helps Chaachele Faalong install a climbing structure



Irene Bower hand-feeding Salume', the oldest female at the primate centre to help her maintain her good body condition

2013 ACTIVITIES REPORT

WAPCA IN ACTION CREATING VIABLE LONG-TERM SOLUTIONS

WHITE-NAPED MANGABEY CONSERVATION PROJECT



Dr Sònia Sànchez and Chaachele Faalong gather information in Achimota Forest

The White-naped Mangabey Conservation Project managed by primatologist, Dr Sònia Sànchez, was developed to assist WAPCA with the *in situ* and *ex situ* conservation of the species. Dr Sànchez and her students have been studying the behaviour of the White-naped Mangabeys at the Endangered Primate Breeding Centre for several years and have helped integrate the mangabeys into two main groups. The project is now in its third phase which aims to “Maintain and enhance the natural behaviors and increase breeding success in the world’s largest population of captive White-naped Mangabeys through the creation of a forest enclosure and facilitation of their behavioural and ecological adaptation to a more natural environment.”

The first step in this phase will be the construction of a 3000 m² enclosed forest area adjacent to the existing Endangered Primate Breeding Centre in Achimota Forest where the centre’s largest troupe of White-naped Mangabeys can be housed in a more natural environment. The forest enclosure will be surrounded by a solar powered electric fence and an observation tower will be constructed to facilitate behavioural observations.



In July 2013, Dr Sànchez travelled to Ghana to work with WAPCA and the Wildlife Division to finalize the design of the enclosure and the best location in the forest and also to set research goals for the 2014 students. Nearly one-quarter of the funds needed to build the enclosure have been donated thus far. A full project proposal is available for anyone interested in supporting the construction of the enclosure.



Forest area where the enclosure for the White-naped Mangabeys will be located



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.

Additional WAPCA Ghana partners include Research and Actions for the Safeguard of Primates in Côte d'Ivoire (RASAP-CI), Community Conservation Inc., the Mangabey in Ghana Association, the University of Barcelona and Coastal Resource Center-Ghana. Collaboration with these partners has greatly enhanced the effectiveness of WAPCA Ghana over the past year and we would like to thank them for their support and assistance.

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 2013. 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 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:

Togbi Kporku III – Chairman of the Board
 Mrs Vivian Nuhu – Director of the Board
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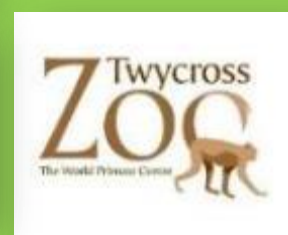




ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

THANK YOU WAPCA MEMBERS!

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. It is the support of WAPCA membership that has allowed WAPCA to implement vital *in situ* and *ex situ* conservation efforts in the Upper Guinean Rainforest over the past thirteen years. Zoo Heidelberg serves as the managing body for WAPCA. Funds for specific projects are acquired through major sponsor donations.



MAJOR FIELD PROJECT SPONSORS

