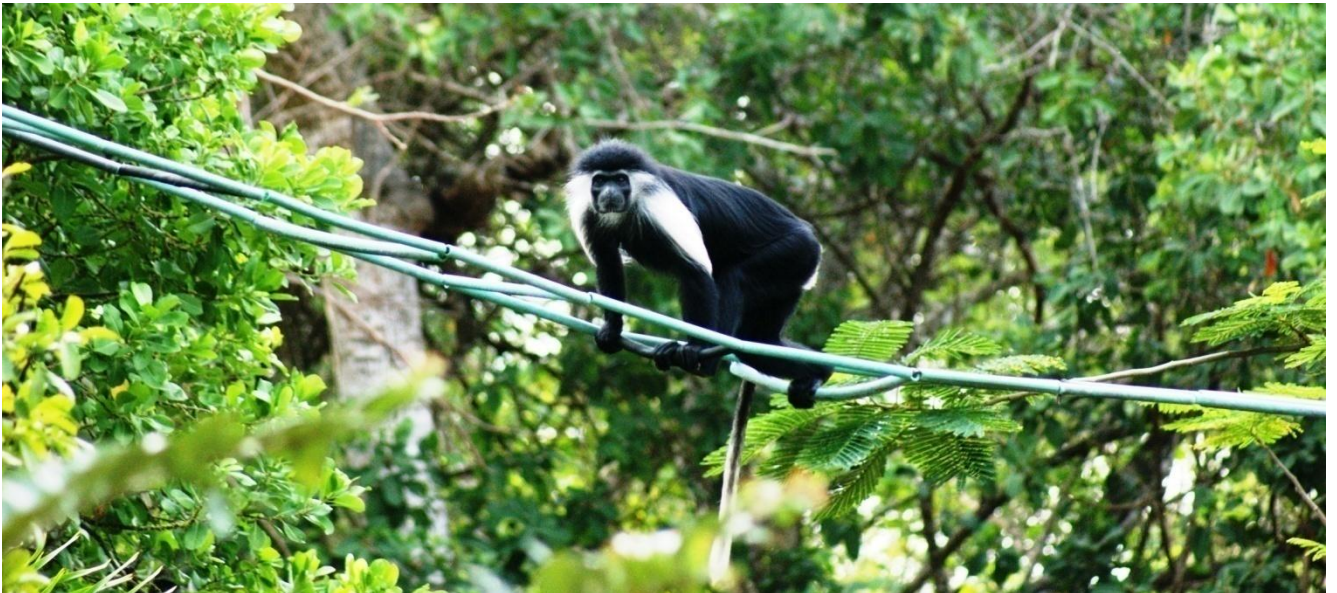




Annual Report

2013



For more information, references or detailed project information on Colobus Conservation activities or results, contact the Conservation Manager at:

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Introduction



Colobus Conservation (CC) is a not-for-profit organization based in Diani Beach, Kenya. The organization works in partnership with local communities to promote the conservation of the Angolan black and white colobus monkey (*Colobus angolensis palliatus*), along with other endemic primate species, and the unique coastal forest habitat on which they depend. Colobus Conservation programmes focus on habitat conservation and community linkages as well as human/primate conflict management, welfare, education and research. The objectives and work of Colobus Conservation are recognised internationally by AZA Colobus Species Survival Plan (SSP), Pan African Sanctuary Alliance (PASA) accreditation and are supported by well known conservationists Jonathan and Angela Scott through their role as Patrons.

The main activities carried out during 2013 were:

Habitat Conservation

The forest ecosystem of the coastal areas of Kenya and Tanzania is listed as one of the top global biodiversity hotspots by Conservation International. With high levels of endemic and near endemic species, these forests abound with plants and animals found nowhere else in the world. In Kenya the once extensive coastal forests on which the Angolan colobus depend, have been reduced to a fragmented patchwork along a narrow coastal strip. This fragile resource is made up of gazetted forest reserves and conservation areas; community managed forests and woodlands, including culturally important sacred “kaya” forests; and privately owned forest and woodland patches. Sadly, forest loss and degradation is continuing due to pressures from agricultural expansion, urban development, tree cutting for firewood, charcoal, carving wood, and clearance for mining. To promote habitat conservation Colobus Conservation has conducted the following activities.

- Mapping of all large forest areas within Kwale District was conducted using aerial photography and ground truthing techniques. These data will inform our Kwale wide forest work.
- A plot by plot survey of Diani and Galu was conducted detailing habitat type and usage. These data will be used to increase our understanding of census results and inform our Colobus Corridor tree planting programme.
- Promoted tree planting aimed at enhancing fragmented and isolated forest patches by encouraging local residents, community groups and land owners to replenish the natural environment with indigenous trees. A detailed catalogue of recommended species was published on our website.
- Strengthened the capacity of community elders to protect and manage the Kaya sacred forests through activities such as provision of technical advice, lobbying support, education and training activities.
- Target forest adjacent communities and schools with environmental education programmes to raise awareness of biodiversity values and advocate against forest destruction and poaching.
- Botanical surveys documenting tree and shrub species in both Kaya forests and within private plots in the Diani and Galu area.
- Consultative meetings with Kaya elders to identify conservation priorities for habitat conservation.





Human/primate conflict management

Human-primate conflict management is targeted in the Diani area of Kwale district. This location is Colobus Conservation's focus area as it contains Kenya's second largest population of Angolan colobus monkeys.

- Reduce primate road traffic injuries – Since 1997 Colobus Conservation has installed primate canopy bridges at critical road crossing points along the main Diani road that bisects the primate habitat. During 2013 Colobus Conservation continued to maintain and repair 28 canopy bridges over the main Diani Road.
- Reduce incidents of primate electrocutions - Colobus Conservation regularly trims trees growing alongside the power lines and where possible, in conjunction with the Kenya Power and Lighting Company, insulates them using PVC covering. In 2013
 - 15320 meters of trees were trimmed and
 - 1170 meters of electricity cable insulated in hot spot areas
- Snare removal - Wire snares are set by poachers to capture Suni antelope for bush meat. Ground dwelling primates of Diani are also at risk of being caught in these snares. In recent years snaring activities have become greatly reduced within Diani however CC still conducts checks walking through known areas of snaring activity, dismantling and removing snares.
 - 21 snares removed from the local forested areas



Animal Welfare

Colobus Conservation operates a 24hr hotline and responds to welfare cases for all Diani primate species. Frequently these are road injuries, electrocution, snares and cases of animal cruelty. We have a veterinarian clinic and quarantine facility on site for when cases require intervention.

- Colobus Conservation attended 175 welfare call outs in 2013 of which;
 - 52 were road traffic incidents,
 - 20 were electrocution incidents,
 - 3 were individuals trapped in snares,
 - 9 were dog related attacks,
 - 2 were poisoned individuals,
 - 3 were pet monkey confiscations via KWS,
 - 33 were injuries or illness due to natural causes,
 - 53 were due to other or unknown causes.
- Of these 175 animals
 - 39 individuals were treated and release back to their territory,
 - 13 are undergoing long term rehabilitation for future release back to the wild,
 - 123 arrived at our facility already deceased or died shortly after their arrival.
- The 175 welfare cases attended consisted of;
 - 50 colobus monkeys,
 - 65 Sykes monkeys,
 - 39 vervet monkeys,
 - 9 baboons,
 - 6 galagos and
 - 6 other animals, including birds, hedgehogs and reptiles.





Education



Weekly education workshops are hosted at Colobus Conservation's base, teaching children and teachers about the beauty of the wildlife surrounding them and the importance of the forest. In addition, Colobus Conservation has an information and education centre, which is also open to the public to visit during a guided Eco-tour. In 2013 Colobus Conservation educated;

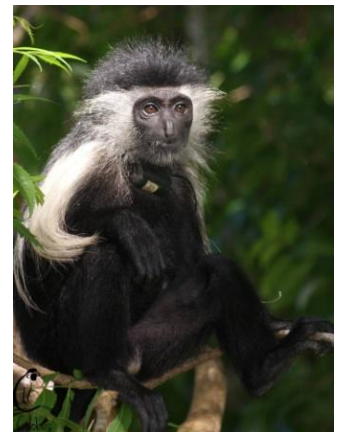
- 816 school children from 31 schools attending our one day on-site education workshop.
- Approximately 1400 eco-tours visited Colobus Conservation to learn about our project, the work we conduct, the forest environment and it's inhabitants.

Research

Key conservation issues are addressed by working in partnership with national and international universities and other research bodies and by promoting information sharing.

Colobus Conservation conducted research contributing to five projects during the course of 2013 including;

- Primate Rehabilitation and Release: A Scientific Approach
 - Post release data collection continued on one troop of vervet monkeys and one troop of Sykes monkeys, both released in 2012.
 - Baseline and comparative data collection also continued on two wild troops of each species, in two different habitat types.
 - This research project concluded in December 2013 and the data is currently under analysis.
- Integration of two hand reared Angolan colobus monkeys
 - The process of integrating two hand reared colobus monkeys in to a wild troop was monitored daily, collecting scientific data so the process can be analysed,
 - By the end of 2013 one colobus (Tumbo) was considered a wild monkey having spent three months entirely in the company of the wild troop and never returning to her enclosure or human carers. The second colobus (Betsy) interacts with wild colobus on an almost daily basis but remains heavily reliant on human carers and her night enclosure.
- Diet and Spatial Ecology of the Yellow Baboon in a human dominated Environment
 - Five baboon troops were tracked daily to detail home range sizes and influences on areas occupied by troops.
- Identifying zoonotic infection risks
 - Samples taken from primates during the necropsy and for analysis to identify any zoonotic disease prevalent.





- Annual census of Diani's diurnal primates
 - A census was conducted in October 2013, covering approximately 7km² from Southern Palms Hotel to Pinewood Beach Resort covering areas on both sides of the Diani Road. The primate species encountered and their numbers are detailed below.

Species	Number of Troops	Number of Individuals
Colobus	56	399
Vervet	21	282
Sykes	87	1110
Baboon	5	156

Other

- Publications
 - A Case Study in a Road Ecology Textbook entitled Canopy Bridges for Primate Conservation.
 - Numerous articles in the local South Coast Residents Association Newsletter.
 - Colobus Infant and Mother Reunite in SWARA Magazine for East African Wildlife Society.
- Workshops and Conferences attended
 - PASA veterinary workshop 19th - 21st February,
 - PASA education workshop on Human Wildlife Conflict 25th February - 1st March,
 - PASA managers meeting and workshop 12th - 14th September,
 - Great Ape Re-introduction workshop 15th - 18th September.
- Grants and Donations - During 2013 grants and donations were received from the following organizations:
 - International Primate Protection League (IPPL), USA
 - Safarilink Aviation, Kenya
 - Chester Zoo, UK
 - Columbus Zoo, USA
 - San Antonio Zoo, USA
 - Afro Chic, Kenya
 - Woodland Park Zoo, USA
 - Henry Doorly Zoo, USA
 - Riverbank Zoo and Gardens, USA
- Volunteers
 - 45 volunteers donated their time to gain future experience and help Colobus Conservation achieve our goals.
 - Volunteers from 16 countries joined our programme including Britain, Kenya, America, Australia, Spain, Portugal, France, Canada, Taiwan, Brazil, Greece, Finland, Holland, Sweden, Netherlands and Belgium.
 - Volunteers stayed from 2 weeks to one year, with the average length of stay being 10.5 weeks.

