



# **WEST AFRICAN PRIMATE CONSERVATION ACTION**

## **2012 Annual Report**



# **WEST AFRICAN PRIMATE CONSERVATION ACTION**

## **2012 ANNUAL REPORT**

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## Update from the WAPCA-Ghana Country Coordinator

Firstly, I would like to say a huge thank you to all our WAPCA members, sponsors, partners and friends who have shown us so much support over the past year. Your on-going support allows WAPCA to take vital action toward securing a long-term future for West Africa's highly threatened primate species as well as all the other endemic fauna and flora that co-exist in the unique and fragile rainforest habitats of the Upper Guinean Rainforest. There are so many pressures facing the rainforests today, from bush meat hunting to illegal mining and logging to massive clear cutting of forest for rubber, cocoa and palm oil plantations. 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. Over 85% of the Upper Guinean Rainforest has already disappeared and the remaining 15% is under constant threat.

All is not doom and gloom however, and 2012 has been a very exciting year for WAPCA Ghana. David Osei has been promoted to *Field Projects Coordinator* and is making great progress with our community based projects in Ghana's Western Region. He is currently focussing on the development of a community-managed rainforest on the border of Côte d'Ivoire which will secure a crucial wildlife corridor that could potentially connect Ankasa Conservation area in Ghana to the Tanoé Forest of Côte d'Ivoire, with the long-term goal of creating the first trans-border community-managed reserve between Ghana and Côte d'Ivoire. Dr. Robert Horwich executive Director of Community Conservation and an expert in community based conservation initiatives, continues to work with WAPCA on this project. In the Ankasa region, Clàudia Turró Ortega, a social psychologist from Barcelona, has been working with rural communities surrounding the Ankasa Conservation Area to promote sustainable utilization of the community-owned rainforest areas on the border of the park and reduce environmental pressures on the park itself. In collaboration with Coastal Resource Center Ghana, the Cape Three Points project has seen the creation of the Cape Three Points Working Group and the training of Community Forest Patrols who are currently assisting Ghana's Forestry Service Division to reduce illegal activities in the Cape Three Points Forest Reserve.

Back at the Endangered Primate Breeding Centre in Accra, we have seen the birth of the first female White-naped Mangabey from a six year old primate, Sonia who was previously being kept as a pet. This is Sonia's second baby in less than two years. Future plans for the White-naped Mangabey Conservation Project managed by Dr. Sònia Sànchez in collaboration with WAPCA include the creation of a semi-free enclosure for the White-naped Mangabeys living at the Endangered Primate Breeding Centre. The semi-free enclosure will mimic their natural habitat and allow the mangabeys to be maintained in larger groups and exhibit more natural behaviours. Ongoing social integration and rehabilitation research continues under the direction of Dr. Sànchez and three of her students from Barcelona University came to Ghana this year to continue behavioural observations for the component of the project.

Once again, I would like to say thank you so much to all who have provided support for WAPCA's activities in 2012, especially our WAPCA members. As we continue to face massive environmental destruction that is so rampant throughout the world, we can take comfort in knowing that we have made our best contribution to reversing this trend and preserving what is left of the unique and glorious diversity of this amazing planet. Thank you for your participation!

Yours in conservation,

*Jeanne Marie Pittman*

## PROJECT OVERVIEW

### MISSION:

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

### VISION

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

### PRIMARY OBJECTIVES

- *In situ* conservation of *Endangered* West African primates
- *Ex situ* conservation of *Endangered* West African primates through the maintenance of an Endangered Primate Breeding Centre and participation in the EEP.
- Provision of equipment and training for Ghana Forestry Service Wildlife Division staff 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 West-African Upper Guinean Rainforest, which is under serious threat of extinction. 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. In addition, WAPCA works closely with the Ghana Wildlife



Division (WD) which is a full managing partner of WAPCA Ghana on 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, Coastal Resource Center, Ghana, Friends of the Nation, West African Fair Fruit, A Rocha Ghana and Nature Conservation Research Centre.

## 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



Zoo Heidelberg serves as the managing body for WAPCA. WAPCA memberships 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

*West African endangered primate  
illustrations by artist Stephen D. Nash*

- Miss Waldron's Red Colobus (*Procolobus badius waldroni*) Status: *Critically Endangered*
- Roloway Monkey (*Cercopithecus diana roloway*) Status: *Critically 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* Miss Waldron's Red Colobus (*Procolobus badius waldroni*) and Roloway Monkey (*Cercopithecus diana roloway*), 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.

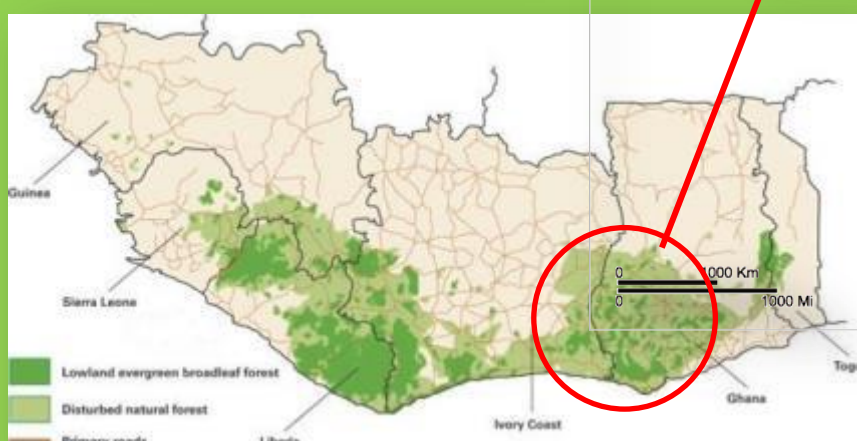


## GEOGRAPHIC AREA AND HABITAT

### Upper Guinean Rainforest, West Africa

The Upper Guinean Rainforest constitutes a 350 km wide strip of West African coastal forest 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 mammals such as Zebra Duiker (*Cephalophus zebra*), Royal Antelope (*Neotragus pygmaeus*), Liberian Mongoose (*Liberiictis kuhni*), Dephua 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 largest 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 population increases have left fragmented remnants of rainforest. The unique fauna and flora found within these areas of rainforest has long been under the stress of deforestation and overhunting and with diminishing forest cover in which to retreat, wildlife within these sparse forests has 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 conservationists 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 very little to no benefit to rural communities who also depend on the rainforest for their survival.





## 2012 ACTIVITIES REPORT

### WAPCA IN ACTION CREATING VIABLE LONG-TERM SOLUTIONS

#### WAPCA STAFF NEWS



***David Osei works with a rural community to develop a community-managed conservation area in the Kwabre Forest***

David Osei has just passed his sixth anniversary of working for WAPCA. David holds a BSc. in Zoology from the University of Ghana and began his career with WAPCA as our *Administrative Assistant*, based in Accra, Ghana. In February 2012, David was promoted to *Field Projects Coordinator* and was transferred to Ghana's Western Region to facilitate further development of WAPCA's field work and community projects. David's

concern for the protection of Ghana's rainforest inhabitants began in 2005 when

he paid his first visit to a local bush meat market in Kumasi. Horrified by the volume of forest wildlife he saw there, he began teaching bush meat sellers to identify and avoid hunting and selling endangered species. In 2006, David joined forces with the West African Primate Conservation Action. After six years of assisting at the Endangered Primate Centre and teaching inner-city children in Accra about endangered primates and their environment, David has turned his attention to the rural communities surrounding the rainforests in Ghana's Western Region where some of the last remaining populations of Roloway Monkeys and White-naped Mangabeys still exist. David is now designing and implementing innovative community education programs aimed toward youth and adults which include conservation-themed competitions such as dramas, plays and essay contests that capture the attention of the whole community through an entertaining and interactive process aimed at educating and empowering community members to value and protect their forests and forest inhabitants. David is also currently assisting over a dozen rural rainforest communities to develop sustainable rainforest management practices, including the identification and elimination of illegal activities such as mining, logging and bush meat hunting on community owned lands.



***David Osei teaches school children in rural rainforest communities about the importance of rainforest conservation***



## 2012 ACTIVITIES REPORT

### WAPCA IN ACTION CREATING VIABLE LONG-TERM SOLUTIONS

#### New WAPCA Staff Member

WAPCA's newest employee, Chaachele Esther Faalong, joined us in September 2012. Chaachele holds a BSc. Environment & Natural Resource Management from the Presbyterian University Collage of Ghana and is WAPCA's new *Conservation and Public Awareness Assistant*. Chaachele has a strong interest in sustainable biodiversity conservation. Her main responsibilities include; assisting with environmental enrichment, nutrition and behavioural observations at the Endangered Primate Centre as well as developing fundraising and public awareness strategies with a strong focus on utilizing social media to deliver WAPCA's rainforest conservation message to Ghanaian citizens. Welcome Chaachele!



**Chaachele with White-naped Mangabey  
at the Endangered Primate Centre**

#### ENDANGERED PRIMATE CENTRE

The Wildlife Division of the Ghana Forestry Service maintains the Ghana Wildlife Rescue Centre (formerly known as the Accra Zoo) in the capitol city of Accra, Ghana, located in Ghana's large urban forest known as the Achimota Forest Reserve. In 2005, WAPCA constructed an Endangered Primate Breeding Centre on the rescue centre grounds, which is currently managed by the Wildlife Division's veterinarian, Dr. Richard Suu-Ire. Dr. Suu-Ire has been extremely pro-active in incorporating all the confiscated and orphaned Roloway Monkeys and White-naped Mangabeys living at the centre into the European Breeding Program for Endangered Species (EEP) in order to ensure a healthy assurance population for these species. These endangered primate breeding populations, currently being maintained under human care, may in future provide breeding stock for the reintroduction of these species back into secure wild habitat in their home range. The Endangered Primate Breeding Centre houses *Critically Endangered* Roloway Monkey and *Endangered* White-naped Mangabey breeding population.



**Endangered Primate Breeding Centre**

There is currently only one female Roloway Monkey at the centre but a male has been identified to be transferred from Europe some time in 2013. Fourteen White-naped Mangabeys (eight males and six females) are currently housed at the Endangered Primate Breeding Centre in Accra, Ghana. This represents nearly 20% of the total population of White-naped Mangabeys managed under human care and the largest population housed in one location. The Endangered Primate Breeding Centre has produced numerous offspring from this population which have been sent to various breeding institutions and have contributed greatly to the genetic diversity of the *ex situ* population.

## 2012 ACTIVITIES REPORT

### WAPCA IN ACTION CREATING VIABLE LONG-TERM SOLUTIONS

### ENDANGERED PRIMATE BREEDING CENTRE

#### New Baby White-naped Mangabey

The first female White-naped Mangabey, Afua-Maria was born at the Endangered Primate Breeding Centre on Friday the 26<sup>th</sup> of October 2012. More than half a dozen male White-naped Mangabeys have been produced at the centre, but this is the Primate Centre's first female. It is customary in the Akan culture of Ghana to name children after the day of the week they were born. In the Akan language of Twi, one of the most widely spoken languages in Ghana, "Afua", means "Born on Friday". Sonia, Afua-Marie's mom is only six years old and this is the second offspring she has produced in less than two years. Sonia was captured from the wild in 2006 and was being kept in isolation as a pet in the Western Region of Ghana. She was surrendered to the Wildlife Division of the Ghana Forestry Service by her owners in 2008 and taken directly to the centre where she was incorporated into a White-naped Mangabey breeding group. In February, 2011, she gave birth to her first youngster, Kweku, meaning "Wednesday born". Sonia and her two offspring live in a group of six White-naped Mangabeys housed at the Endangered Primate Breeding Centre.



*Sonia and her second baby Afua-Marie*

#### Barcelona University Students Assist with Environmental Enrichment



Barcelona University students, Anaïs Avilés de Diego, Núria Badiella Giménez and Víctor Carbajal Perelló participated in behavioural studies at the Endangered Primate Centre as part of the White-naped Mangabey Conservation Project managed by Dr. Sònia Sanchez. In addition to their daily observations, the students helped *Enrichment Officer*, Martin Apusinaba and *Senior Keeper* Evans Yirenikiyi to construct and install bamboo swings and ladders in the primate enclosures. The structures have been very popular with the mangabeys who spend many hours climbing, jumping, hanging and swinging from them.



*Victor and Núria (above) help Martin construct and hang bamboo structures, while Evans (right) encourages "Nuba" to try out a new swing.*



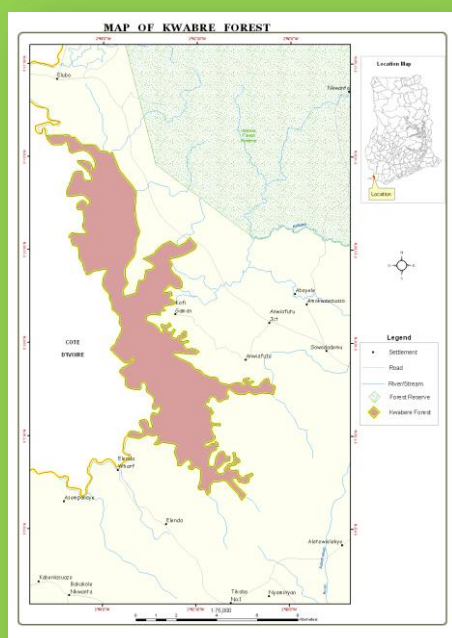
# 2012 ACTIVITIES REPORT

## WAPCA IN ACTION CREATING VIABLE LONG-TERM SOLUTIONS

### ENDANGERED PRIMATE POPULATION MONITORING

#### 2012 Kwabre Rainforest Endangered Primate Survey

WAPCA's endangered primate surveys for 2012, sponsored by the Margot Marsh Biodiversity Foundation have focussed on the Kwabre Forest, a community-owned swampy forest, located along the border of Côte d'Ivoire, directly opposite the Tanoé Forest. The Kwabre Forest forms a crucial wildlife corridor that could potentially be expanded to join both the Ankasa Conservation Area in Ghana and the Tanoé Forest of Côte d'Ivoire. In 2011, preliminary recce surveys conducted by WAPCA confirmed the presence of the *Critically Endangered* Roloway Monkey (*Cercopithecus diana roloway*) in the Kwabre Forest. This was the WAPCA's first confirmed sighting of the species in Ghana since the year 2000. *Endangered* White-naped Mangabeys (*Cercocebus atys lunulatus*) were also observed as well as more common species of primates such as Lowe's Monkeys (*Cercopithecus campbelli lowei*), Lesser Spot-nosed Monkeys (*Cercopithecus petaurista*), Geoffrey's Black & White Colobus (*Colobus vellerosus*) and Olive Colobus (*Procolobus verus*).



In March 2012, WAPCA conducted a more extensive endangered primate survey of the Kwabre Forest which was funded by the Margot Marsh Biodiversity Foundation. Twelve community members from eight different rural communities surrounding the Kwabre Forest, were selected to participate in primate survey workshop (see primate survey workshop) and served as members of WAPCA's endangered primate survey team. Fieldworkers Salassie Sorgalli and Nda Aboua from Research and Actions for the Conservation of Primates in Côte d'Ivoire (RASAP-CI) also joined the survey team. The team members were split into two groups which were led



## 2012 ACTIVITIES REPORT

### WAPCA IN ACTION CREATING VIABLE LONG-TERM SOLUTIONS

#### ENDANGERED PRIMATE POPULATION MONITORING



Survey team leaders David Osei & Victor Agyemang scan the rainforest canopy for endangered primates

#### 2012 Kwabre Rainforest Endangered Primate Survey

(continued) by *Field Projects Coordinator*, David Osei from WAPCA and Victor Agyemang Duah, from the Ghana Forestry Commission's Wildlife Division operating in Ankasa Conservation Area. WAPCA and Wildlife Division staff provided expertise in survey methods and the use of field equipment such as GPS etc. while the staff members of Conservation of Primates in Côte d'Ivoire (RASAP-CI) assisted with identification of primates, primate calls, feeding signs and footprints as well as identifying signs of illegal activities. Primate surveys were conducted over a forty-one day period between March and May 2012, with 28 effective days of survey and a total survey time of approximately 300 hours and covered approximately 240 km. All primate species sighted in the 2011 recce surveys were also sighted during the 2012 survey including Roloway Monkeys (*Cercopithecus diana roloway*), White-naped Mangabeys (*Cercocebus atys lunulatus*), Lowe's Monkeys (*Cercopithecus campbelli lowei*), Lesser Spotted Monkeys (*Cercopithecus petaurista*),

Geoffrey's Black & White Colobus (*Colobus vellerosus*) and Olive Colobus (*Procolobus verus*). While encounter rates for some of the more common species such as Geoffrey's Black and White Colobus and Olive Colobus was low, it was very encouraging to confirm the presence of most endemic forest primate species, most notably the *Critically Endangered* Roloway Monkey and the *Endangered* White-naped Mangabey. A total of 433 individual primates were sighted during the survey period, including sixteen Roloway Monkeys and ten White-naped Mangabeys. The survey also demonstrated significantly more primate sightings and greater primate species diversity in the Kwabre Rainforest than was noted during the 2008 primate surveys in the nearby Cape Three Point Forest Reserve or Ankasa Conservation Area. Data on primate numbers and wildlife numbers as well as illegal activities collected from the 2012 primate surveys will be used as a reference point to compare to future surveys in order to determine if current community conservation initiatives are yielding positive results or if sustainable management efforts should be reviewed and modified.



*The flooded understory of the Kwabre Forest makes primate surveying difficult but offers excellent protection for primates during the rainy season.*



# 2012 ACTIVITIES REPORT

## WAPCA IN ACTION CREATING VIABLE LONG-TERM SOLUTIONS

### ENDANGERED PRIMATE POPULATION MONITORING

#### Primate Encounter Rates; 2012 Kwabre Rainforest Endangered Primate Survey

PRIMATE ENCOUNTER RATES 2012 KWABRE FOREST SURVEY		
Species name	IUCN Conservation Status	Total primates seen
Roloway Monkey ( <i>Cercopithecus diana roloway</i> )	Critically Endangered	16
White-naped Mangabey ( <i>Cercocebus atys lunulatus</i> )	Endangered	10
Black & White Colobus ( <i>Colobus vellerosus</i> )	Vulnerable	10
Olive Colobus ( <i>Procolobus verus</i> )	Near Threatened	16
Lowe's Monkey ( <i>Cercopithecus campbelli lowei</i> )	Least Concern	198
Lesser Spot-nosed Monkey ( <i>Cercopithecus petaurista</i> )	Least Concern	183

#### Primate Encounter Rates (Kilometric Index of Abundance (KIA) and encounters/search hours)

Survey Area	Distance surveyed (km)	Obs. Time (hr-min)	Species	Direct sighting	Indirect evidence	KIA allsigns enc/km	KIA direct enc/km	Total enc.rate enc/hr	Direct enc.rate enc/hr
<b>Takinta</b>	38	68	mona	48	11	1.55	1.26	0.87	0.71
			spotnose	38	0	1.00	1.00	0.56	0.56
			mangabey	10	0	0.26	0.26	0.15	0.15
			roloway	7	0	0.18	0.18	0.10	0.10
			olive colobus	5	0	0.13	0.13	0.07	0.07
			BW colobus	0	0	0	0	0	0
			<b>Total</b>			<b>3.12</b>	<b>2.83</b>	<b>1.75</b>	<b>1.59</b>
<b>Nawule</b>	41.8	65	mona	35	7	1.00	0.84	0.65	0.54
			spotnose	58	0	1.39	1.39	0.89	0.89
			mangabey	0	0	0	0	0	0
			roloway	9	0	0.22	0.22	0.14	0.14
			olive colobus	6	0	0.14	0.14	0.09	0.09
			BW colobus	10	0	0.24	0.24	0.15	0.15
			<b>Total</b>			<b>2.99</b>	<b>2.83</b>	<b>1.92</b>	<b>1.81</b>
<b>Allowuley</b>	29.05	41	mona	18	1	0.65	0.62	0.46	0.44
			spotnose	20	5	0.86	0.69	0.61	0.49
			mangabey	0	0	0	0	0	0
			roloway	0	0	0	0	0	0
			olive colobus	0	0	0	0	0	0
			BW colobus	0	0	0	0	0	0
			<b>Total</b>			<b>2.99</b>	<b>2.83</b>	<b>1.92</b>	<b>1.81</b>
<b>Ellenda</b>	21.24	64	mona	82	7	4.19	3.86	1.39	1.28
			spotnose	38	4	1.98	1.79	0.66	0.59
			mangabey	0	0	0	0	0	0
			roloway	0	0	0	0	0	0
			olive colobus	5	0	0.24	0.24	0.08	0.08
			BW colobus	0	0	0	0	0	0
			<b>Total</b>			<b>6.41</b>	<b>5.89</b>	<b>2.13</b>	<b>1.95</b>
<b>Kwabre</b>	17.9	28	mona	12	2	0.78	0.67	0.50	0.43
			spotnose	14	2	0.89	0.78	0.57	0.50
			mangabey	0	0	0	0	0	0
			roloway	0	0	0	0	0	0
			olivecolobus	0	0	0	0	0	0
			BWcolobus	0	0	0	0	0	0
			<b>Total</b>			<b>1.67</b>	<b>1.45</b>	<b>1.07</b>	<b>0.93</b>
<b>Mansah Nkwanta</b>	19.9	9	mona	0	1	0.05	0	0.05	0
			spotnose	0	0	0	0	0	0
			mangabey	0	0	0	0	0	0
			roloway	0	0	0	0	0	0
			olive colobus	0	0	0	0	0	0
			BW colobus	0	0	0	0	0	0
			<b>Total</b>			<b>0.05</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0.05</b>	<b>0</b>

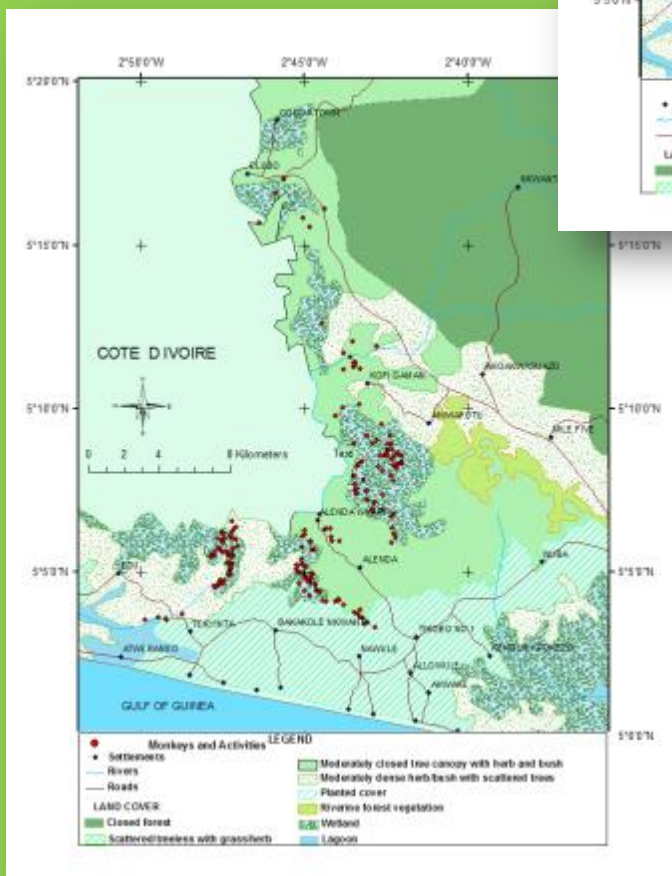
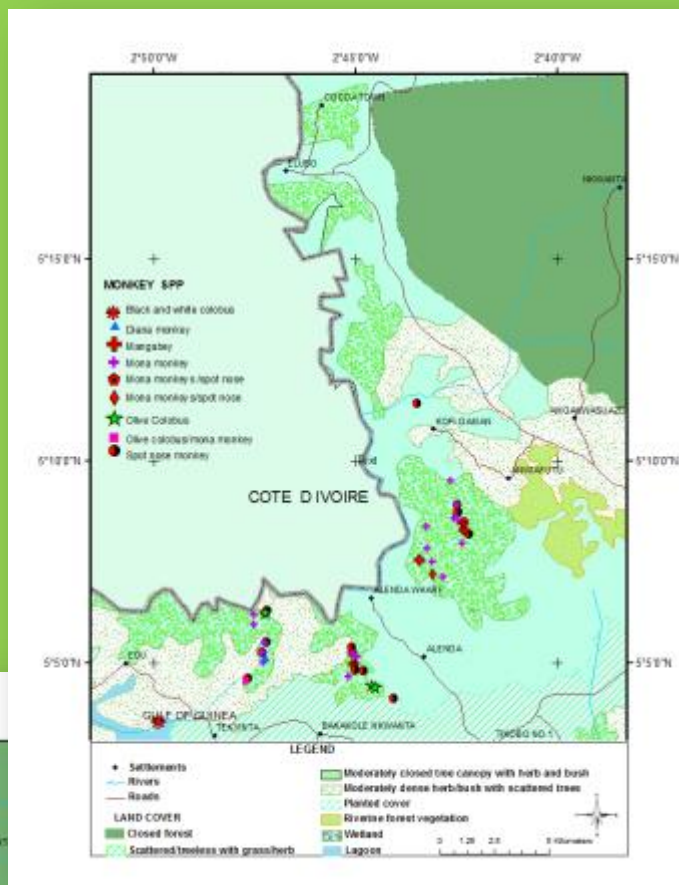
# 2012 ACTIVITIES REPORT

## WAPCA IN ACTION CREATING VIABLE LONG-TERM SOLUTIONS

### ENDANGERED PRIMATE POPULATION MONITORING

#### 2012 KWABRE RAINFOREST ENDANGERED PRIMATE SURVEY MAPS

*Location of primate  
species encountered  
during 2012 Kwabre  
Rainforest Endangered  
Primate Survey*



*Location of primate species  
combined with evidence of  
primate activity (footprints,  
droppings and feeding signs such  
as dentation marks on fruit, etc.)*





## 2012 ACTIVITIES REPORT

### WAPCA IN ACTION CREATING VIABLE 2012 ACTIVITIES

#### ENDANGERED PRIMATE POPULATION MONITORING



*Community members participating in primate survey training workshop*

Workshop participants were trained in primate identification techniques and the use of field equipment such as the GPS, compass and binoculars. They were also given instruction on how to accurately record data and transfer the collected data onto data sheets. The training was conducted over a three day period with the third day being a hands-on practical session in the Ankasa Conservation Area. David Osei, the *Field Projects Coordinator* for WAPCA and Victor Agyeman Duah, a forest guard from the Wildlife Division of Ghana's Forestry Commission in

#### Primate Survey Training Workshop

In February 2012, a training workshop was conducted whereby, a total of twelve community members were selected by community consensus from the eight of the villages surrounding the Kwabre Rainforest in the Jomoro district of Ghana and trained as survey assistants for WAPCA's 2012 endangered primate surveys in the Kwabre Rainforest. Participating community members came from the villages of Takinta, Nawule, Ellenda, Nzelenu, Mediewie, Anwiafutu, Mansah Nkwanta and Kwabre.



*David Osei & Victor Agyeman Duah identifying various primate species for workshop participants*



*Community members participate in practical training session in Ankasa National Park*

Ankasa Conservation Area conducted the training of the community members. Victor was trained by WAPCA on primate identification and survey techniques in 2007 and continues to help train other colleagues and community members. Training of rainforest community members in primate survey techniques and including them as paid members of the WAPCA endangered primate survey team not only provides an economic incentive for community based rainforest protection, but gives community members an opportunity to learn about the uniqueness and value of the fauna and flora of their community-owned lands.

## 2012 ACTIVITIES REPORT

### WAPCA IN ACTION CREATING VIABLE LONG-TERM SOLUTIONS

#### CONSERVATION EDUCATION AND AWARENESS CAMPAIGNS

WAPCA's 2012 Conservation Education and Awareness Campaigns were multifaceted and aimed at educating not only the school children in the communities surrounding Ghana's dwindling rainforests, but also the adults and most notably the decision makers within rural communities bordering the rainforest. The 2012 Conservation Education and Awareness Campaigns were



*Rural school children compete for prizes in a conservation quiz competition*



*Two hundred conservation themed T-shirts were distributed to rural communities*

conducted in eight rural rainforest area communities throughout the Western Region of Ghana. Prior to designing and conducting the campaigns meetings were held with the village chiefs and the local teachers in each community to seek their advice on the design and implementation of the program and to help ensure a positive reception and make the campaigns as effective as possible. The Conservation Education and Awareness Campaigns had two major components. The first component was focused on school children from Primary School to Junior High School, while the second component was focused on the entire village.

For the school children's component, a comprehensive program was designed to fit in with the current school curriculum at each grade level from Primary to Junior High School in the various communities. School programs included lectures in schools, screening of documentaries, school competitions, enacting of conservation themed dramas and a school excursion. Topics for the lectures included the importance of forests in terms of local economy, the sustainable harvest of rainforest products, environmental degradation, plant pollination, seed dispersal, primates in general and factors affecting primates and rainforest degradation in Ghana. The students were taught an understanding of why primates are so important to the rainforest in terms of seed dispersal, pollination etc., as well the ways in which primates are affected by rainforest degradation. The school children also competed in debates, quizzes and the staging of a conservation themed drama.



*Approximately 5,500 school children learned about the importance of rainforest preservation through activities such as this lesson about sustainable harvest of rainforest products*



## 2012 ACTIVITIES REPORT

### WAPCA IN ACTION CREATING VIABLE LONG-TERM SOLUTIONS



*School children enact a drama about the importance of complying with Ghana's wildlife laws for their parents and peers*

communities, with approximately 5,500 students participating. Awareness and education material was distributed in all eight communities, including; two hundred rainforest themed conservation posters, two hundred rainforest themed conservation T-shirts and one hundred conservation bags as well as numerous copies of the documentaries used in the education program.

The second component of WAPCA's Conservation Education and Awareness Campaign addressed the entire community, with a focus on the adult population. A series of programs were carried out in a total of eight communities and included, open forum discussions with regard to conservation, screening of conservation documentaries and viewing of the conservation-focused drama performed by village children. Open forum discussions included topics such as the importance of rainforests to the community in terms of the sustainable use of forest products, climate change, environmental degradation, wildlife conservation, sustainable agriculture and sustainable use of forest products. Conservation Education and Awareness Campaign activities generally took place in the evenings when the community members returned from their farms. Documentaries on primates and environmental degradation were screened in each of the eight communities. Questions generated from these screenings were then used for further open forum discussions during which all community members were invited to share their views on the various topics. The village chiefs contributed immensely to these discussions in terms of reminding the community of their ancestral heritage and the need to preserve the rainforest for future generations as well as the need for ensuring sustainable harvest of rainforest products.



*Open forum discussions with community members included topics such as the detriments of environmental destruction and sustainable rainforest management*

### CONSERVATION EDUCATION AND AWARENESS CAMPAIGNS

*(continued).* The theme for this year's drama was the sustainable use of the rainforest and the importance of complying with the Ghana's wildlife laws. The entire community was invited to watch the drama. The parents enjoyed watching their children acting out the drama and also educating their elders about important conservation issues. Conservation Education and Awareness Campaigns were conducted in twenty-four schools in eight



*Conservation documentaries were screened in rural villages and viewed by approximately 800 villagers*

## 2012 ACTIVITIES REPORT

### WAPCA IN ACTION CREATING VIABLE LONG-TERM SOLUTIONS

#### HELPING RURAL COMMUNITIES COMBAT ILLEGAL ACTIVITIES IN COMMUNITY-OWNED RAINFORESTS

Data collated during WAPCA's endangered primate surveys in the Kwabre Rainforest indicated a high level of illegal human activity. The field team frequently encountered animal snares and traps, spent gunshot cartridges, charcoal burning and timber felled by chainsaws. Illegal logging was so prevalent that it often disrupted the survey work. The noise from chainsaws was so loud in some areas that it drove the primates away, making it very difficult to determine primate species and numbers. The rainforest areas surrounding the villages of Kwabre and Allowuley recorded the highest level of illegal logging while those near the village of Nawule recorded the least. During numerous meetings with the village chiefs and elders, community members requested help from WAPCA to address these illegal activities occurring in their communal rainforests. It is customary in these villages for community members to seek the permission of the chief of the village prior to utilizing the forest, thus people engaging in illegal activities are generally from outside the community. WAPCA worked in collaboration with the Wildlife Division of the Ghana Forestry Commission (WD) to assist the communities and help identify and halt illegal activities on communal lands. Confiscation of chainsaws from illegal chainsaw operators and bush meat from poachers was conducted under the direction of the WD and illegal offenders were placed under arrest. Community meetings were then held in the respective villages after each arrest. During these meetings, the village chiefs addressed the offenders and

*Wire snares are often used by bush meat hunters to capture rainforest wildlife*



*Illegally felled timber and confiscated chainsaws*



consulted with the entire community as well as the village elders do discuss measures that should be taken to prevent the individuals from engaging in further illegal activity. Throughout these meetings, village chiefs and elders reminded the communities that the rainforest is their natural ancestral heritage and spoke of the importance of preserving the rainforest for the sustainable use by current and future generations. In the coming years, WAPCA hopes to assist the communities with the development, equipping, training and monitoring of community-led rainforest patrol teams who will continue to identify and halt illegal activities in and around the Kwabre Rainforest (see Trans-border Community-managed Rainforest Project).



## 2012 ACTIVITIES REPORT

### WAPCA IN ACTION CREATING VIABLE LONG-TERM SOLUTIONS

### TRANS-BORDER COMMUNITY-MANAGED RAINFOREST PROJECT



*Community members discuss the potential for the creation of a community-managed forest reserve*

#### Project Overview

This project aims to establish the first Trans-border Community-managed Rainforest Reserve between western Ghana and eastern Côte d'Ivoire. The creation of a Community-managed Rainforest Reserve will help to prevent further rainforest fragmentation and could potentially be expanded to create a wildlife corridor joining the Ankasa Conservation Area Ghana to the community-managed Tanoé Forest of Côte d'Ivoire. Endangered primates as well as other forest fauna could then move safely between the official protected area and the community-protected rainforests. Community members in

the villages surrounding the rainforests are fully supportive of the project and are involved in the planning and execution of all project activities, ensuring that communities maintain ownership of the project and develop sustainable rainforest management solutions that are effective within their respective communities. These community-owned rainforests may represent some of the last potential havens for endangered primate species such as the *Critically Endangered* Roloway Monkey, the *Endangered* White-naped Mangabey (*Cercocebus atys lunulatus*) and possibly even the Miss Waldron's Red Colobus (*Procolobus badius waldroni*). The high-canopy rainforests of Ghana and Côte d'Ivoire have previously served as the exclusive habitat of Miss Waldron's Red Colobus, which was declared extinct the year 2000. However, more recent evidence suggests that a relic population may still exist in the Tanoé Forest where the mouth of the Tano River joins the Ehy Lagoon.





## 2012 ACTIVITIES REPORT

### WAPCA IN ACTION CREATING VIABLE LONG-TERM SOLUTIONS

#### TRANS-BORDER COMMUNITY-MANAGED RAINFOREST PROJECT

##### Stakeholders Meeting in Half-Assini

In March 2012, a stakeholders meeting was held in the town of Half Assini with the Paramount Chief, Awulai Anor Agyei and the sub-chiefs from all of the villages of the Jomoro District surrounding the Kwabre Forest. Additional participants included the Wildlife Division of the Ghana Forestry Commission, the Jomoro District Assembly and staff members from various local and international NGO's including, WAPCA, Community



*Paramount chief Anor Agyei urges support for a trans-border community-managed rainforest reserve*



*Map depicting the Jomoro District and the communities surrounding the Kwabre Forest*

Conservation, Research and Actions for the Safeguard of Primates in Côte d'Ivoire (RASAP-CI) and Coastal Resource Center. Dr. Robert Horwich, executive director of Community Conservation and an expert in community-based approaches to conservation gave a presentation describing some similar successful projects he has been involved with around the world and expressed his support for the creation of a trans-border community-managed rainforest reserve. Staff members from Research and Actions for the Safeguard of

Primates in Côte d'Ivoire (RASAP-CI), who were instrumental in the development of the community-managed Tanoé Forest in Côte d'Ivoire, also addressed the audience and discussed their reasons for establishing a community-managed rainforest conservation area as well as some of the challenges and successes they experienced. The concept of creating a community-managed trans-border rainforest reserve with Côte d'Ivoire was well received by the paramount chief as well as the village sub-chiefs. In his closing remarks, paramount chief Anor Agyei urged meeting participants to move forward with the concept and pledged his support for the continued development of the project.





## 2012 ACTIVITIES REPORT

### WAPCA IN ACTION CREATING VIABLE LONG-TERM SOLUTIONS

#### TRANS-BORDER COMMUNITY-MANAGED RAINFOREST PROJECT

##### Community Collaboration

Following the stakeholders meeting in the town of Half-Assini (see above), a total of thirty-two informal meetings and planning sessions aimed at determining an effective strategy for the development of a community-managed rainforest and a trans-border rainforest reserve were held over the course of the year in rural communities surrounding the Kwabre Rainforest. Approximately 800 community members participated in meetings and planning sessions. The possibility of forming a CREMA (Community Resource Management



*Trans-border reserve planning session held in the rural village of Allowuley*

Area) was discussed at length and collective decision was taken by the community members to create their own management system overseen by the village chiefs for the time being. It is customary in the Jomoro District rural villages for community members to seek the permission of the chief of the village prior to utilizing rainforest resources, thus the communities members felt that this traditional approach should serve as the platform for the management of the community-managed rainforest conservation area. The community members have requested additional support from WAPCA to gain the knowledge and skills to effectively police their lands to prevent illegal activity, implement sustainable agriculture practices and effective rainforest management policies and potentially develop alternative livelihood and reforestation projects.

#### Cross-border Collaboration with Côte d'Ivoire

In February 2012, Dr. Rob Horwich travelled to Côte d'Ivoire with WAPCA's *Field Projects Coordinator*, David Osei to strategize with Research and Actions for the Safeguard of Primates in Côte d'Ivoire (RASAP-CI) with regard to the development of the Trans-border Community-managed Rainforest Project and invite them to the upcoming stakeholders meeting which took place in March in the town of Half Assini, Ghana on the border of Côte d'Ivoire. During the visit, a strategy for cross-border collaboration on WAPCA's endangered primate surveys and the halting of illegal activities occurring in the rainforests on both sides of the border was developed. Following the stakeholders meeting in Half-Assini, RASAP-CI representatives visited rural communities surrounding the Kwabre Rainforest in Ghana to encourage the communities' interest in developing a community-managed rainforest. It was very advantageous to have assistance



*Dr. Rob Horwich and David Osei visit Côte d'Ivoire (top). Meetings with RASAP-CI to discuss collaboration on the Trans-border Community-managed Rainforest Project (bottom)*

## 2012 ACTIVITIES REPORT

### WAPCA IN ACTION CREATING VIABLE LONG-TERM SOLUTIONS

#### TRANS-BORDER COMMUNITY-MANAGED RAINFOREST PROJECT

(continued) from RASAP-CI, as they were able to communicate with the Ghanaian communities in their local language of Nzema, which gave them a clearer understanding of the issues and processes. Despite the country borders and due to the ease of access the Tano River (which separates Côte d'Ivoire and Ghana), many inhabitants of the rural communities living on either side of the river consider themselves as "one people" and routinely cross the border to visit relatives or engage in local business. In an effort to eventually establish one community-managed trans-border rainforest reserve that is managed by communities on both sides of the river, members of the communities on Côte d'Ivoire and Ghanaian side of the border are now collaborating to identify and apprehend offenders who crossing the river and conducting illegal activities in the rainforest such as illegal logging, mining or hunting etc.

#### WHITE-NAPED MANGABEY CONSERVATION PROJECT

##### Project Update

The survival of the White-naped Mangabey (*Cercocebus atys lunulatus*) is highly threatened and White-naped Mangabeys have been classified as Endangered by the International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN) owing to the rapid decline of wild populations. The plight of the White-naped Mangabey prompted Dr. Sònia Sànchez from the University of Barcelona to begin the development of the first phase of this project in 2010, in collaboration with WAPCA and financially supported by the Parc Zoològic de Barcelona. The project aims to contribute to the *in situ* conservation of the species through a multi-disciplinary approach which includes, social integration and rehabilitation research conducted on White-



**Dr. Sònia Sànchez from the University of Barcelona**

naped Mangabeys housed at the Endangered Primate Breeding Centre in Accra, combined with participatory action research in the rural villages surrounding Ankasa Conservation Area, a current stronghold for wild White-naped Mangabeys populations. Phase II of the project is now nearly complete and in January 2012, Dr. Sànchez travelled to Ghana to meet with local stakeholders and partners and work on further development of the White-naped Mangabey Conservation Project.

From January to July, 2012, Barcelona University students, Núria Badiella Giménez, Víctor Carbajal Perelló, Anaïs Avilés de Diego conducted behavioural observations of the White-naped Mangabeys housed at the Endangered Primate Breeding Centre for the social integration and rehabilitation component of the project. This research helps to integrate the mangabeys into larger, more cohesive groups which will hopefully facilitate natural reproduction of this highly endangered species.



**Barcelona University students, Anaïs Avilés de Diego (top), Víctor Carbajal Perelló (center) and Núria Badiella Giménez (bottom) conduct behavioural**



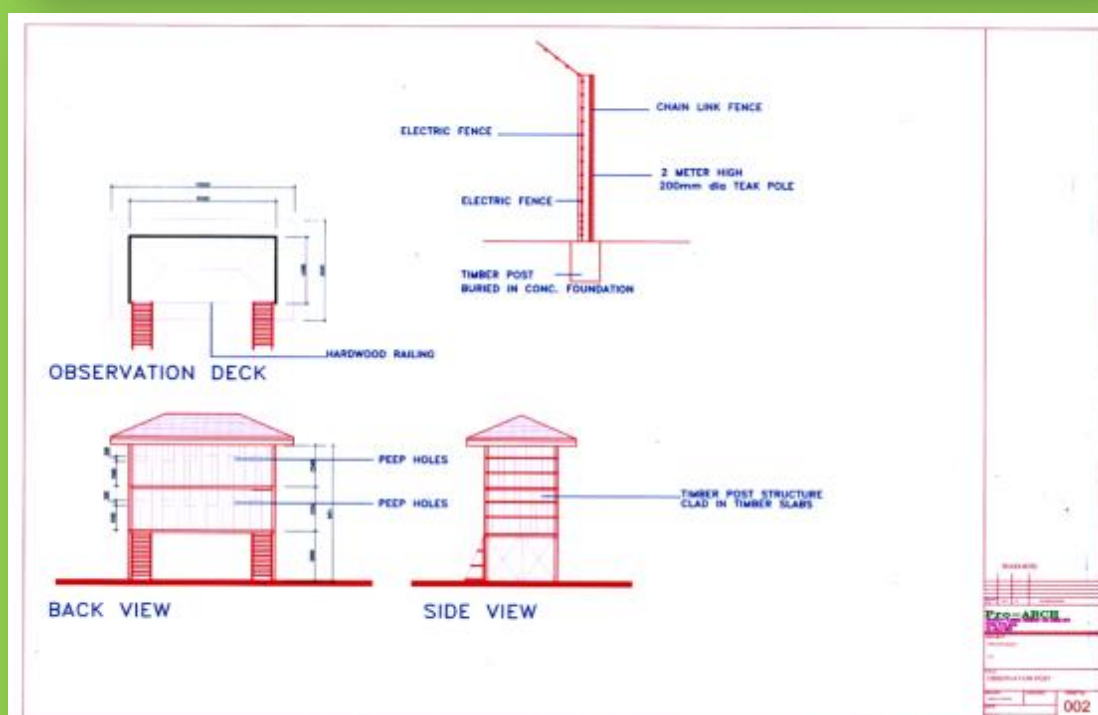
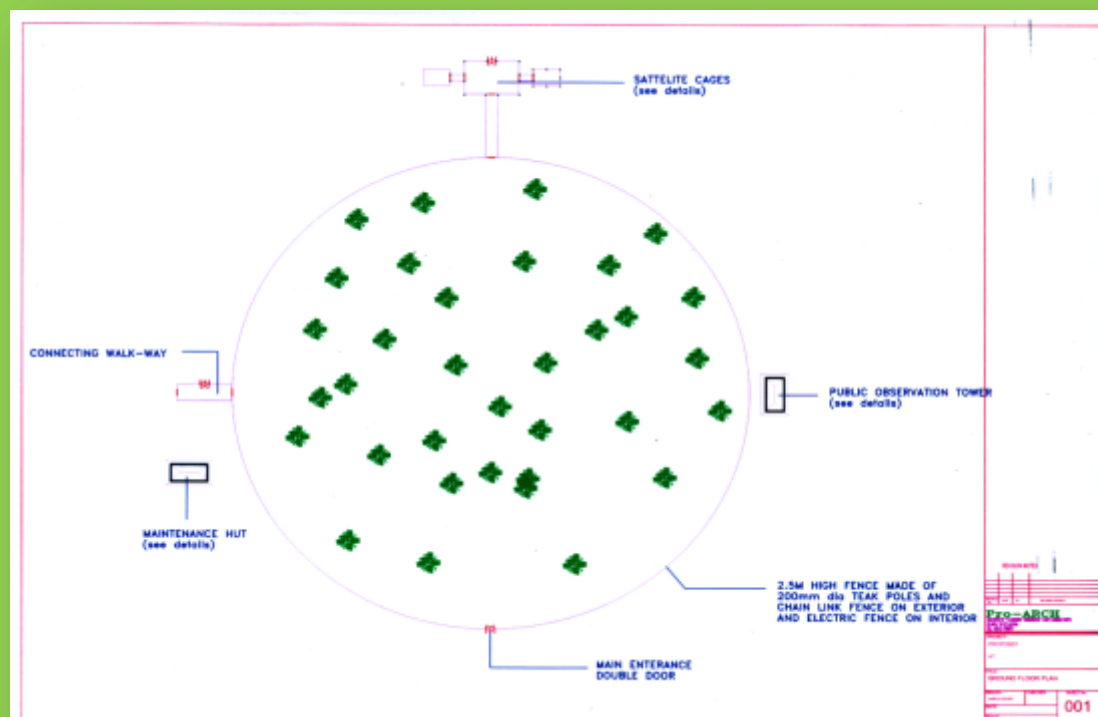
# 2012 ACTIVITIES REPORT

## WAPCA IN ACTION CREATING VIABLE LONG-TERM SOLUTIONS

### WHITE-NAPED MANGABEY CONSERVATION PROJECT

#### Semi-free Enclosure Design

Future plans for the White-naped Mangabey Conservation Project include the construction of a semi-free enclosure which will mimic their natural habitat and allow the mangabeys to be maintained in larger groups and exhibit more natural behaviours. Earlier this year, Mr David Tettey, an architect and member of the Board of Directors for WAPCA Ghana, kindly donated his services to create a blueprint for the construction of the semi-free enclosure for the White-naped Mangabeys.



## 2012 ACTIVITIES REPORT

### WAPCA IN ACTION CREATING VIABLE LONG-TERM SOLUTIONS

#### WHITE-NAPED MANGABEY CONSERVATION PROJECT



Clàudia Turró Ortega and David Osei meet with rural communities surrounding Ankasa Conservation Area

#### Assistance for Ankasa Communities

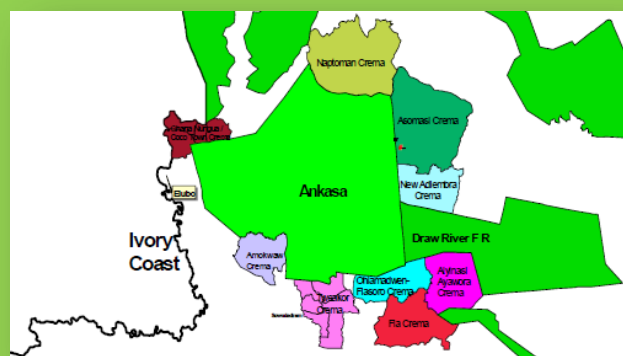
Ankasa Conservation Area is currently one of the most secure natural habitats for White-naped Mangabeys populations in Ghana. However, one of the greatest threats to the survival of White-naped Mangabeys is the pressure that human activities put on the environment and the natural resources of the rainforest, especially in non-government, community-owned rainforest areas bordering Ghana's National Parks. Rural communities surrounding parks and rainforest areas in Ghana rely heavily on agriculture (which results in clear cutting of the forest) and harvesting of rainforest products for their survival. Thus the participatory action research component of this

project aims to incorporate active community participation in addressing the challenges of sustainable rainforest management while concurrently addressing many of the communities' needs, including for example, their forms of livelihood. It is hoped that through this participatory action research it will be possible to assist the communities in taking responsibility for the sustainable management of their rainforest and reduce the pressure placed on the borders areas of Ankasa Conservation Area.

In August 2012, Clàudia Turró Ortega a social psychologist from Barcelona, Spain who has been working on the participatory action research component for the project, travelled to Ghana to complete the next phase and give feedback to the local partners and Ankasa community on the results of her social research conducted in 2010. Several activities were conducted throughout her visit, including the following:

- Report back to the Ghana Forestry Commission's Wildlife Division (WD) director and staff on the outcomes of the social research carried out in 2010.
- Report back to the local communities on the outcomes of the social research carried out in 2010.
- Interviews with other NGOs working in Ankasa: A Rocha and West African Fare Fruit.
- Interviews with WD staff of the CREMA Unit in the Headquarters of Ankasa National Park.
- Interviews with members of the Community Executive Committee (CEC) of Amoka and Naboronga.
- Interviews with members of the District Assemblies of Jomoro and Ellembelle.

Clàudia spent several weeks travelling with WAPCA's *Field Projects Coordinator*, David Osei to a number of the villages surrounding Ankasa Conservation Area to speak with community members about ways in which the White-naped Mangabey Conservation Project can assist them to develop more sustainable utilization of the remaining community-owned rainforest areas on the border of the park. Funding is currently being sought to continue with the participatory action research component of the project.



Map of rural communities surrounding Ankasa Conservation Area



## 2012 ACTIVITIES REPORT

### WAPCA IN ACTION CREATING VIABLE LONG-TERM SOLUTIONS

#### CAPE THREE POINTS FOREST RESERVE

Cape Three Points Forest Reserve located in the Western Region of Ghana, covers an area of 51km<sup>2</sup> and is situated, approximately 35 km west of the city of Takoradi and 150 km south-east of Ankasa Conservation Area. The forest is moist evergreen and is one of the few patches of coastal rainforest remaining, being located less than 5km from Ghana's shoreline. The reserve is surrounded by rural settlements and rubber plantations. Though the vegetation remains largely intact, it is under constant pressure from the surrounding populations and there are currently seven permitted farms operating within the forest reserve itself. The Cape Three Points Forest Reserve is managed



Dr Robert Horwich addresses the  
Cape Three Points CREMA



by Ghana's Forestry Service Division but presently, the FSD does not have enough man power to sufficiently protect the reserve. Illegal harvesting of rainforest products, small-scale gold mining and bush meat hunting are all prevalent in and around the reserve.

In response this challenge, both the Cape Three Points Working Group and a Community Resource Management Areas (CREMA) have been created to assist the Forestry Service Division with

addressing and halting illegal activities in the reserve as well as facilitating the management of natural resources on community-owned lands surrounding the reserve. WAPCA is a member of the Cape Three Points Working Group which provides assistance to both the Forestry Service Division and the local communities. Through the framework of the local CREMA, a series of rights and responsibilities has been developed by the communities which helps the communities better manage the communal rainforest areas that border the Cape Three Points Forest Reserve.



Cape Three Points CREMA meeting

## 2012 ACTIVITIES REPORT

### WAPCA IN ACTION CREATING VIABLE LONG-TERM SOLUTIONS

#### CAPE THREE POINTS FOREST RESERVE

Dr. Robert Horwich, Executive Director of Community Conservation in Gay Mills, Wisconsin has been working with WACA and Coastal Resource Center Ghana for the past several years, advising on the development and activities of the Cape Three Points Working Group and CREMA's. In both March and September, 2012, Dr. Horwich addressed the CREMA's and spoke about success and challenges of fruitful community conservation initiatives he is involved with in Belize, India, Papua New Guinea and Peru. Dr. Horwich explained that the communities who have agreed to conserve and protect their forests have experienced an increase the numbers of endangered primates and other wildlife in their communities. He also expressed that governments alone cannot solve the challenges associated with environmental issues, especially forest degradation and that he feels that the communities themselves hold the key to the most viable solutions.



**Map of Cape Three Points  
Forest Reserve**

#### Community Patrol Training & Halting Illegal Activities in the Reserve



**Members of the Cape Three Points Working Group confront perpetrators of illegal gold-mining activities inside the reserve**

In November 2012, WAPCA assisted the Cape Three Points Working Group and the FSD with the training of Community Monitoring Teams whose main responsibility will be to address illegal activities in the Cape Three Points Forest Reserve. In all approximately two hundred community members were trained by David Osei and Cletus Balanta, the park manager of the Ankasa Conservation Area. Community Patrol Teams were given instruction on wildlife laws and methods of detecting illegal activities and safely confronting and apprehending poacher and illegal miners and loggers. Additional training was provided on primate and wildlife identification and the collection and recording of wildlife data. Data collected by Community Patrol Teams will be used to determine the effectiveness of the project. At the beginning of December, shortly after the training, David Osei and several members of the Community Patrol Teams discovered a large illegal gold-mining operation in the reserve. The issue was reported to the Forestry Service Division and the District Assembly of the area for further action.



# **WAPCA IN ACTION CREATING VIABLE LONG-TERM SOLUTIONS**

## **ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

WAPCA would like to thank our working partners at the Wildlife Division of the Ghana Forestry Commission, our WAPCA members and all our sponsors and collaborators who have made possible WAPCA's vital initiatives for preserving West Africa's endangered primates and their habitat.

### **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

### **Additional sponsors and collaborators**

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- Tulsa Zoo
- University of Barcelona
- University of Ghana
- USAID (Coastal Resource Centre – Ghana)
- World Association of Zoos and Aquariums