

Project Update: October 2013

1. A 1-year monitoring of the park's butterflies has been adopted in collaboration with the Uganda Wildlife Authority (UWA) and myself. I have trained two rangers to undertake a bi-monthly mark, release, recapture census of traps which are permanently left in the field (five forest floor, five understorey and five canopy traps) at two transects. This project is called the Semuliki Biodiversity Monitoring Project. This will allow us to look at spatial and temporal data of butterfly populations in the park as well as population data. I am employing two rangers (Justice and Martha) from the Rufford Small Grant. They worked with me every day while I was there this time and are both highly motivated and competent. UWA are delighted at the collaboration we are undertaking.
2. I have contacted a Ugandan website designer and am happy with his skills and quality of previous work and will be working on a website design in the coming months.
3. The digitisation project will commence in January 2014. I have attached some photos of the task ahead (cabinets and glassine envelopes) from Makerere University museum. We will focus firstly on the cabinets, photo id, and record details into a database and then upload onto the website. I will be working at the Royal Scottish Museum here in Edinburgh for best practice for photographing pinned butterflies.

