Project Update: January 2014

We have just finished the laborious work of data entry. The next step will be analysing this information in order to see how much we have achieved our objectives. Specifically, the analysis will focus on composition and spatial distribution of poaching signs in order to understand where and to what extent do poachers carry out their activities within Ugalla Game Reserve. This will form the basis for assessing the efficiency and drawbacks of anti-poaching efforts in the reserve. Once the analysis is done and results summarised, the final report will be submitted to the Rufford Foundation by Monday 31st March 2014.



Top left: A deep saw pit. Such pits were numerous. Apart from destroying habitats, saw pits jeopardise the survival of creeping and crawling animals as well as small mammals. Top right: A poacher arrested during fieldwork. While doing walked transects, it was difficult for poachers to notice our presence. Bottom left: Illegal loggers' hut. Bottom right: Poachers apprehended by research assistants (Ugalla Game Reserve rangers working on the project) when accidentally encountered us on one of our walked transects. One of them had a muzzleloader used for bushmeat hunting. Others managed to flee, but left behind their bicycles.