



Progress Report

This report covers work done from 18th of June 2018 to 28th September 2018. I would like to share with you some highlights of my work using photographs.



This is a portrait of Rafael aged 6 years old and the new pride head of the oil region (Photo credit Tutilo Mudumba). Rafael is the 4th alpha male to take over oil region in a period of 6 years. The lions in our Intensive Survey Area (From the delta to Wangkwar on the north bank) have less tenure (about 1.6 years) than the average African lion (3 years). Rafael had an easy take over from MacDonald who was injured around the waist by a wire snare. We must continue to remove wire snares and expand the artisans work to use more wires and reduce their density from the landscape.

This will ensure that pride takeover are not unduly influence by human activity is currently the case.



Hartebeests' rest under the tree shades during the peak heat of the day and form an easy target to people who set wire snares (Photo credit Tutilo Mudumba). The photograph on the left shows a hartebeest walking through a wire snare, the photo on the right is of another hartebeest with wire snare around the neck. I took these photos while we were surveying the density and distribution of wire snares on the north bank. In total, we collected 943 wires on the north bank in 12 survey efforts distribution in just 3 months. All wires collected were given to the snare youth to make crafts out of them. Uganda Wildlife Authority, MFNP provided 200 wire snares to the snare group to make crafts.



In this photograph taken by Tutilo (Photo credit Tutilo Mudumba) at the end of a survey transect, you can see the sort of numbers of wire snares we were collecting from a single survey effort and the types of wires we found. The darker colored wires which the majority of the rangers are carrying are from vehicle tires and the lighter type such as the ones Sophia (green t-shirt) is carrying are from vandalized electricity lines. The major problem still remains wire from vehicle tires. In this picture, everyone is carrying about 20 wire snares. Preliminary analysis of survey data shows that wire snares are more wide spread inside MFNP than previously thought. Our results will be used by Uganda Wildlife Authority to efficiently remove wires.



A group of youths engrossed in creating wire sculptures (Photo credit Tutilo Mudumba). This group works on the verandah of the Pakwach Council offices because we have not yet secured funds for a workshop. Our team of artisans has increased to more than 250 youths including 50 girls and now create in excess of 500 pieces per week. We hope that through the sale of crafts and generosity of donors, we will be able to house these youths at a proper workshop.



When we first started the snares to wares sports team in Pakwach, we had just one team that played football against other local teams. The snares to wares has expanded to four football teams and four netball teams. In this photograph, Pakwach 1 football team (green) played against Amor Kaal football (red) (Photo credit Tutilo Mudumba). Walking out of the picture on the extreme right is Lydia. Lydia was the first snares to wares female artisan and she prefers to play football, a predominantly male sport in Uganda. Through art and sport, the snares to wares initiative is demonstrating that women and men can do everything they want. Our work is not only transforming the economic status of the people of Pakwach but also empowering previously marginalized groups to openly seek equal opportunities.

Thank you for providing funds that enabled me contribute to the development of the snares to wares initiative that is directly conserving wildlife and saving families from poverty. I look forward to your continued support. Thank you.