

## Gilé National Park

### Newsletter June 2020



#### Key Issues- June 2020

- The Secretary of State of Zambézia Province visited Gilé NP together with a delegation of District Administrators (Gilé, Pebane and Mocubela) and institutions representatives.  
The purpose of the visit was to gather information and prepare a strategic plan for the Park, and establishing of an office to promote its image.  
Highlights included possible support to education and health sectors for local communities;
- A meeting between Tomás Bastique regional representative of FNDS - *Fundo Nacional de Desenvolvimento Sustentável* (National Sustainable Development Fund), the Gilé NP's Warden and the Head of the Community Department was held in Musseia Headquarters on the 24th of June.  
In the meeting agenda: Deforestation reduction program (REDD +, Reduced Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation); Benefit sharing plan distribution proposal; MozFIP - Mozambique Forest Investment Project- review mission; Protection and Law Enforcement management unit;
- In June, 41 seasonal workers were recruited to support infrastructure development.





The Secretary of State of Zambia visiting Gilé NP

### Management and Infrastructure

- 55 km of roads inside the Park were graded;
- Roads between Mulela - Lice Tourist Camp and towards Musseia Headquarters have been cleared from fallen trees;
- Musseia Headquarters: 2 single houses: roofs have been plastered. Painting, electrification and plumbing are in progress; Pavilion for drivers and guards: wall construction is on course.

In preparation for the visit of the Secretary of State for Zambia, an outdoor kitchen with a brick oven was built with local material. The wooden walkway leading to the senior staff's homes was replaced;

- Opening of a water well at the Mulela Post.



Graded road



Mulela's well construction

### Law Enforcement

The Law Enforcement Department together with AQUA - *Agência Nacional para Avaliação da Qualidade Ambiental* (National Agency for Environmental Quality Assessment) carried out a 3 – day joint patrol, discovering an illegal track entering the Coutada of Mulela.

Following the trail, the Rangers discovered an illegal mining camp. Miners had left the spot few days before.

During the operation, illegally cut logs were seized.

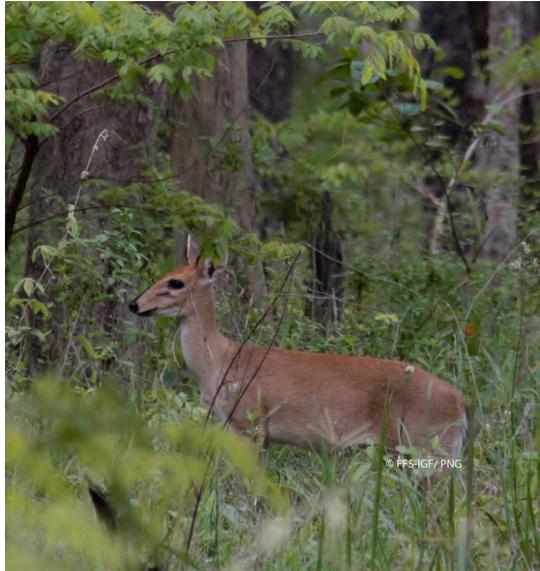
- A total of 21 patrols were undertaken in June covering a total of 114 km on foot;
- In June, 16 signs of illegal activities (poaching and illegal logging) were detected;
- 8 roadblocks and 12 ambushes were performed;
- The following items were confiscated: 2 steel cables, 1 bicycle and 1 a pickup truck with 128 wooden planks;
- 1 poacher and 2 illegal loggers were caught. The arrests were submitted to Pebane 's District Attorney's office and 3 legal processes were opened.



Confiscated items

## Biodiversity Conservation

- Elephants stayed out of the Park during most of the month. The group of females left the protected area during the first days of June, coming back to the Coutada of Mulela a few weeks later where they remained stably for the rest of the month;
- In June, Gilé NP responded to 6 cases of Humans/wildlife conflict related to elephants which frequently invaded communities' plantations. In the past months, an increase of conflicts has been recorded and the situation is expected to continue during the dry season;
- Animal directly observed in June: bush pigs, waterbucks, kudus, duikers, bushbucks and zebras.
- Spoors of zebras, buffaloes and elephants were also recorded.



Red Duiker

## Community Development

- A meeting led by the Head of the Community Department and a group of community technicians was held on the 27th of June at the Musseia Headquarters. The meeting aimed to strengthen Covid-19 prevention, provide a work plan and report on the status of activities. Surgical masks, soap, disinfectants and buckets will be delivered to the Community Management Committees;
- In order to comply with the response plan to Covid-19, the Community Development Department has printed and distributed 150 copies of the Health Guide produced by the Ministry of Health, to community facilitators in order to raise awareness in the communities in the Buffer Zone.  
In July, approximately 140 community technicians will be trained to spread key messages among the communities;
- Human/wildlife conflict: 11 volunteers from 5 different communities neighbouring PN Gilé attended a training on Human/wildlife conflict mitigation techniques;
- Non-Timber Forest Products (NTFP) Project:
  - Honey: in preparation of technical training activities and the development of beekeeping activities 150 hives and 30 hive transfer boxes have been procured.



The Community Department's Haad during the H/W mitigation conflict Training

## Forecast for July 2020

- Due to the current situation regarding the Covid-19, all notessential visits to Gilé NP are temporarily suspended;
- The building of new infrastructures and maintenance of the existing one, will carrying on;
- Law enforcement and other core activities will be, however, guaranteed.

