

Gilé National Park

Newsletter October 2020



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View from Mount Pope

Key Issues- October 2020

- The GNAP has received visits from its partners RADEZA, NITIDÆ and the Police of the Republic of Mozambique;
- Ranger candidates (see July Newsletter for details): at the end of October, candidates have been invited to report to GNAP Headquarter in order to begin their Ranger Training;
- 10 new tents for the Ranger Training and the Law Enforcement Department have arrived from South Africa;
- In October, 42 seasonal workers were recruited to support infrastructure development.

Management and Infrastructure



A tree that has fallen due to cold fires

- Around 245 km of roads have been lifted and cleared from fallen trees due to the controlled burning;
- Musseia Headquarters: construction of a wood bread oven; Hot water heating ovens installation is in progress; Electrical installation;
- Namurrua and Mulela Camps: the guardhouses have been built;
- The information boards at the junction's points around the GNAP have been installed;
- The routine activities and maintenance have been carried on.



The oven is built with local material

Law Enforcement

- At one of the checkpoints in the GNAP Buffer Zone, vehicles with 9.5 m³ of wooden planks (71 *Umbila* wooden planks, 5 frames and 1 door) were confiscated;
- The exchange of experiences between the GNAP and the Quirimbas National Park, QNP (see August Newsletter for details) ended on October 20th. The GNAP expressed its thanks for the benefit drawn and the friendship created between the rangers thanks to this collaboration;
- GNAP Rangers and officers from SDAE *Serviço Distrital de Atividades Económicas* (District Service for Economic Activities) carried out 5 patrols, managing to arbitrate and resolve a conflict between community operators disabling 1 mousetrap and 4 steel cables;
- A total of 33 patrols were undertaken in October covering a total of 355 km on foot and 369 by motorcycle;
- In October 64 signs of illegal activities, mainly related to poaching and illegal fishing, were detected;
- 4 roadblocks and 9 ambushes were performed;
- The following items have been confiscated: 143 fishing traps, 16 fishing nets, 14 steel cables, 14 spears, 12 traps, 5 bicycles and 1 car;
- 6 poachers and illegal loggers, were arrested. The following items were confiscated: fishing nets, steel cables, gin traps, machete and a bicycle;



An arrested poacher with illegal game meat

Biodiversity Conservation

- Elephants continued to stay close to Lice Tourist Camp: Elephant Alessandro has been detected in the Coutada most of the time;
- In October, GNAP responded to no cases of Human/wildlife conflict;
- More than 200 buffaloes have been directly observed in October. Kudus, sables, waterbucks, grey duikers, zebras, bush-bucks, reedbucks, warthog and 1 hyena have been also observed; it is the first-time hyena have been sighted this year;
- Spoors of buffaloes, sables, elephants, waterbucks, zebras, kudus and a wildebeest were also recorded;
- A previously placed camera trap captured images of some jackals, servals, warthogs, duikers, monkeys and birds.



A serval



A bushpig and a black-backed jackal

Community Development

- 97 members from 5 CGRNs, Comitês de Gestão de Recursos Naturais, (Natural Resource Management Committees) have been trained on the topics of sustainable forest management and restoration of degraded areas. The training has been held by the Community Development Department with the support of the partner NITIDÆ;



A moment during the training

- "SCAMBIO" (Program to provide agriculture tools in exchange for gin traps and others poaching instruments, see May Newsletter for details):
New information boards aimed to show the negative impacts caused by poaching have been designed;
It is expected that by the end of November the work will be ready and installed in the Buffer Zone community through the CGRNs;
- Non-Timber Forest Products (NTFP) Project:
 - Mushroom value chain: about 200 women, from 7 different groups, were equipped for the next mushroom picking rainy season;
 - Honey: the beekeepers from 7 communities have been trained on the commercialization of the next honey collection. The beekeepers have shown their willingness to save a part of the honey production destined for local marketing and consumption in order to promote the "honey culture" and forest conservation;

Forecast for November 2020

- Due to the current situation regarding the Covid19, all not-essential visits to Gilé NAP 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.

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