

MASAI MARA

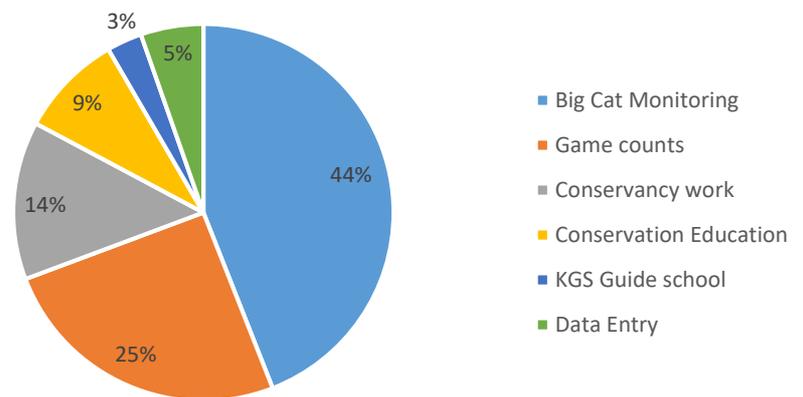
APRIL - JUNE 2019



11 VOLUNTEERS
5 NATIONALITIES
1163 HOURS VOLUNTEERED



HOURS SPENT VOLUNTEERING ON EACH ACTIVITY



COMMUNITY INITIATIVES UPDATE

- Volunteers spent time preparing and delivering lessons to surrounding primary schools. This encourages a passion for wildlife conservation and environmental care consciousness among the students using interactive learning methods and fun activities.
- Volunteers helped develop presentation skills among students and improve their confidence levels. They were also introduced to foreign languages (basic phrases) that they could use in their line of duty as guides (French, German, Dutch, Spanish).
- Students did their bronze level exam which they all passed, happy the volunteers contributed in their success. Two volunteers also donated books, including The Safari Companion and even a camera!
- The team exposed students to many different countries and cultures from around the world through volunteer presentations. These included different aspects such as culture and lifestyle, animals, and food. This gives the students an advantage in understanding their where their clients come from and what is unique about Kenya.

CONSERVATION UPDATE



- Volunteers conducted grass monitoring surveys on four plots. This is very helpful in looking at grass densities in different parts of the conservancy. Overall, quarterly averages showed that the grassland is in a normal range.
- Volunteers were involved in uprooting invasive plants in the entire conservancy after short rains. The plant species are harmful to the animals and inhibits the growth of other indigenous plants. Volunteers built erosion fences to control soil erosion in parts of the conservancy.
- Wildlife counts were done in eight sample areas. This is done to provide wildlife data that could be used to observe general wildlife distribution and trends over time.
- The Raptors that we monitored were entered into the African Raptor Database to contribute to a better understanding of the raptor behavior, distribution and migration.



BIG CAT MONITORING

- Three prides of lions were monitored, and different individuals profiled in the conservancy.
- Total number of predator sightings this quarter were 39; 27 lion, 9 cheetah and 3 leopards.



“This has been one of the most unique and exciting experiences of my life so far. I have learnt more in the past 2 weeks than I have done in many years. It's been fun, challenging, exhilarating and emotional.”

Natasha Davis, 43, UK



Until next time... **THE MAASAI MARA TEAM**

