

MASAI MARA

July - September 2019-2019



African Impact

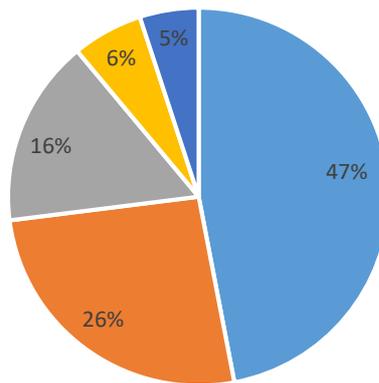
78 Volunteers

20 Nationalities

1141.3 Hours Volunteered



HOURS SPENT VOLUNTEERING ON EACH ACTIVITY



- Big Cat Monitoring
- Game Counts
- Conservancy Work
- Conservation Education
- Data Entry

CONSERVATION PROJECT

Volunteers conducted grass monitoring surveys on 4 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.

The team did clean up at a nearby center with the community members. They also collected litter with the conservancy rangers at the boundary of the conservancy next to the community.

Volunteers were involved in uprooting invasive plants in the entire conservancy. The plant species are harmful to the animals and inhibits the growth of other plants. Volunteers built erosion fences to control soil erosion in the eroded parts of the conservancy.

Wildlife counts were done in 8 transects (sample areas). These are done to provide wildlife data that could be used to observe general wildlife distribution and trends over time.

Raptors monitored were entered into the African raptor database in an effort to contribute to a better understanding of raptor behaviour, distribution, and migration.



COMMUNITY PROJECT

Volunteers spent time preparing and delivering lessons to local schools. This encourages a passion for wildlife conservation and environmental care consciousness among the students using interactive learning methods and fun activities.

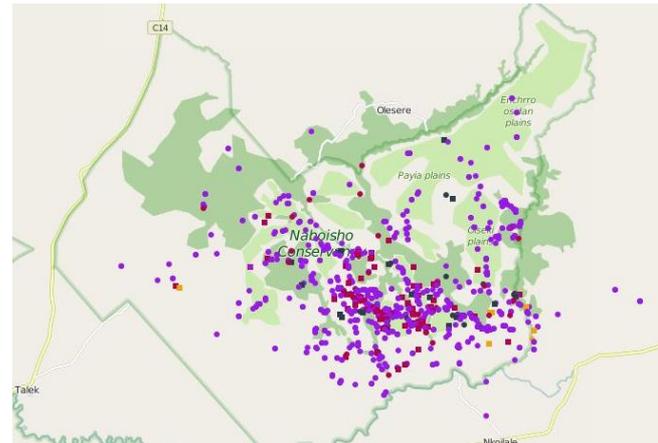
BIG CAT MONITORING



Volunteers supported the Mara Predator Conservation Program through intensive monitoring. This enables the program to estimate spatial trends in population density of cats and find the relative abundance of important variables, such as prey, livestock, and tourism in the conservancy.

Volunteers recorded a total of 887 sightings of the big cats and other individuals during this quarter (176 lions, 47 Cheetahs, 8 leopards, and 656 others). This is important in monitoring their movement patterns and studying their behavior.

3 prides of lions were monitored and different individuals profiled in the conservancy.



Lion **Cheetah** **Leopard** **other species**; Quarterly sightings.

“Before I went on the project in Kenya, one of my dreams was to see animals living in their natural habitats and, as Kenya has been known for seeing animals, it was on my bucket list for a long time. I'm very glad that I went on this project. During the 1 month stay in the Naboisho conservancy, camping in the wild with animals passing by every day, I not only had my dream come true but also made friends with people all around the world. The big cat project also allowed volunteers to contribute to the ecosystem and to learn about conservation knowledge.”

Stella Yao, Volunteer



Until next time... THE MAASAI MARA TEAM

