

MARCH 2019

THE VOICE OF CONSERVATION IN EAST AFRICA

NEWSLETTER



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First Ever Africa Protected Areas Congress Launched

East African Wild Life Society (EAWLS) Executive Director, Nancy Ogonje, joined leaders of other conservation organisations and dignitaries at the Nairobi National Park on February 14 for the launch of preparations to hold the first ever Africa Protected Areas Congress (APAC 2019). The Congress will be held in Nairobi from November 18 to 23.

The Congress will bring environmental and wildlife conservation organisations together in an effort to highlight conservation issues of concern to Africa and develop a common approach to address them. The aim is to develop common strategies to deliver essential ecosystem services in support of nature conservation and sustainable development.

The Congress will review Africa's overall progress towards implementing global commitments related to biodiversity and protected areas with reference to the Convention on Biological Biodiversity and the African Convention on Nature and Natural Resources.

The launch was presided over by Dr. Margaret Mwakima, Principal Secretary, Kenya's State Department of Tourism and Wildlife, Dr. John Waithaka, Kenya Wildlife Service



TOP: Dr. Margaret Mwakima (in blue) flanked by Congress steering committee officials unveil APAC 2019 website.

BELOW: EAWLS Executive Director (3rd left) celebrates together with other dignitaries during the launch of APAC 2019.

Chairman and Congress Director, and Luther Anukur, Regional Director, International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN).

An estimated 2,000 delegates are expected to attend the Congress. The launch event was also attended by Tanzania's High Commissioner (ambassador) to Kenya Dr Pindi Hazara, Dr. Ahmed Rafat, Third Secretary at of the Egyptian Embassy in Kenya and Mrs. Doris Ritcher, Minister at the Ghanaian High Commission to Kenya Mrs Doris Ritcher, key stakeholders from protected.

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EAWS Trains Tree Nursery Farmers around Lake Ol Bolossat

East African Wild Life Society's projects staff on February 20 and 21 provided training to 10 tree nursery farmers drawn from villages adjacent to Lake Ol Bolossat in Nyandarua County to equip them with skills that will enable them produce quality seedlings.

The training focused on physical and ecological requirements, seed selection and collection, planting methods, nursery management's best practices, marketing, record keeping and pest and disease control. On-site demonstration was later held in South Marmenet Forest.

The farmers were also made aware of how they can organize themselves by forming association to manage increased access to markets, fetch better prices for the samplings and eliminate middlemen. This training was necessitated by the



A forestry expert conducts tree nursery demonstrative training.

realization that there is a shortage quality seedlings to support Kenya's ambition to plant up to 1.8 billion trees by 2022, a step towards achieving the desired 10 per cent national forest cover by 2030.

The training was part of EAWS' project on "*Inspiring local communities surrounding Lake Ol Bolossat to restore its catchment and riparian reserve for continued livelihood support and biodiversity conservation*" funded by Rufford Foundation.

NEW STAFF



EAWS is pleased to welcome Daniel Letoie as Director of Operations. Mr. Letoie holds a Bachelor of Education (Science) degree from Kenyatta University, a Master of Science degree in Conservation and Rural Development from University of Kent's Durrell Institute of Conservation and Ecology.

He is currently pursuing a Ph.D in Environmental Policy at the University of Nairobi.

Global March for Elephants and Rhinos (GMFER)

The Global March for Elephants and Rhinos (GMFER) is an annual global movement that brings people from around the world to speak with voice to raise awareness on the need to protect endangered wildlife. The aim is to generate global media attention on the crisis facing wildlife and demand governments take action to stop the illegal wildlife trade and poaching.

The 2019 march will be held on 13th April 2019. In Nairobi, the march will begin at National Museums of Kenya, through Uhuru Highway to Nyayo Stadium and then proceed along Lan'gata Road to the headquarters of Kenya Wildlife Service where a ceremony will be held. Kenya has participated in the global movement since 2014.

WORLD WILDLIFE DAY 2019 MARKED

The United Nations World Wildlife Day (WWD) was marked on 3rd March. The focus this year WWD was marine ecosystems and resources. The theme was "Life below water: for people and planet", which aligns with Goal 14 of UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), which calls for sustainable use of the oceans, seas and marine resources for development. In Kenya, the national event to mark the Day was held at Malindi Marine Park.

EAWS through its Marine Programme has been implementing initiatives along the Kenyan Indian Ocean coast to manage and conserve marine ecosystems and species. The Society's initiatives include supporting and strengthening Beach Management Units (BMU), establishment of co-management areas (Community Conserved Areas), formation of County National Forums, clean ups, and advocating for and offering training on suitable fishing gear, among others.

THE FOREST CHALLENGE 2018 WINNERS AND TROPHY HANDOVER

After a successful event The Forest Challenge 2018, EAWLS Executive Director presented trophies to the winning corporate teams in different categories. The overall winning team was from PEAK DMC (Destination Management Company) and they were awarded the Forest Champion trophy. Madison Group was awarded the Forest Conservation trophy while the Forest Stewardship trophy award went to TransAd Advertising Network Company.



TOP: Madison Insurance Managing Director, Joshua Njiru (in blue tie) receives their trophy from EAWLS Executive Director, Nancy Ogonje (in red). Looking on are staff from EAWLS and Madison Insurance.

MIDDLE: PEAK DMC Head of Sales, Teddy Mogaka receives the winner's trophy on behalf of the company from EAWLS Executive Director, Nancy Ogonje (in red).

BOTTOM: TransAd Director, Wilson Mwaniki receives their Forest stewardship trophy award from EAWLS Executive Director, Nancy Ogonje (in red).





THE EAST AFRICAN
WILD LIFE SOCIETY

EAST AFRICAN WILD LIFE SOCIETY IMRE LOEFLER LECTURE



WORKING WITH COMMUNITIES TO CONSERVE RHINOS AT OL PEJETA CONSERVANCY

BY MOSES MUTHOKI

Ol Pejeta Conservancy works to conserve wildlife, provide a sanctuary for great apes and deliver a Community Development Program (CDP). The Conservancy holds significant rhino populations with a total of 121 black rhinos, 32 southern white rhinos and the only last 2 northern white rhinos on earth. The greatest threat to Ol Pejeta in its conservation work remains losses incurred on endangered species through poaching. These rhinos are under significant poaching threat necessitating Ol Pejeta to institute proactive measures in community engagement and law enforcement.

Ol Pejeta's CDP works in 18 focal community areas providing developmental support focused on supporting health, education, livestock and agriculture activities as a means to offset the negative social impacts that the Conservancy can have on its nearest neighbours, to enhance environmental sustainability and to build trust and relationships important in securing critical community support. This engagement encourages and strengthens the voluntary reporting of poaching activities by local communities to the conservancy and wildlife authorities.

Moses Muthoki is a Head of Community Development Programmes at Ol Pejeta Conservancy since 2014, developing and implementing programs in livelihood support, healthcare, education and energy to enlist support for conservation work among neighboring populations.



VENUE: Muthaiga Country Club in the Ballroom

DATE: 6th March, 2019

PROGRAMME

6.30 P.M: Bar and canapés | **7.00 P.M:** Lecture starts

LECTURE & CANAPÉS:

Members & Guests: **1,500**

Additional Dinner charges : **1,950/-**

Extra **500/-** at the door

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EAST AFRICAN WILD LIFE SOCIETY IMRE LOEFLER LECTURE

Whales and Dolphins

African Whales and (some) Dolphins - insights, discoveries and conservation challenges

The story of cetaceans (whales and dolphins) in Africa and the Northern Indian Ocean is rich with surprises. A wide diversity of species occur here, and many exhibit regional traits that link them inextricably to these waters. Tens of thousands of southern hemisphere whales visit African shores each year whilst others live in tropical waters year around. Some African whale populations are now recovering from the excesses of 19th and 20th century whaling. However, they are now threatened by a range of rapidly expanding anthropogenic activities. These require both new management strategies and an increased awareness of our collective effect on the marine environment. This talk will provide a broad and necessarily brief background on the story of whales in Africa, the Middle East and Kenya, and will identify where new research and management efforts are focused.

Tim Collins is a marine biologist who works for the Wildlife Conservation Society. He has spent the last 20 years studying the whales of the Northern Indian Ocean and tropical African waters. Much of this work has focused on elucidating the population status of humpback whales and coastal dolphins, and identifying conservation threats and solutions. As member of the International Whaling Commissions (IWC) Scientific Committee, he has also worked to ensure that national management strategies reflect the best available science, and acknowledge where data is deficient. Tim will briefly address the consequences of Japan's withdrawal from the IWC this year, and how it may affect whale conservation in Africa.

VENUE: Karen Country Club @ the Ngong room

DATE: 27th March, 2019

PROGRAMME

6.30 P.M: Welcome glass of wine

7.00 P.M: Lecture starts

MEMBERS & GUESTS:

Members & Guests: **1,500**

Lecture & Dinner : **2,800/-**

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Branded
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Kshs.
1,000/-



Branded
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A4-200/-

Branded Maasai shuka with fleece



Branded Maasai
shuka with fleece
Kshs.
3,000/-

Branded Maasai shuka with fleece



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