



The Carnivore Chronicle

A Newsletter of the African People & Wildlife Fund

Announcements

- **APW launches its 2011 Annual Fund Campaign! Please consider helping people and wildlife on the great Maasai Steppe and make a gift to this critical campaign today. Thank you!**
- **APW will award new Nolooho Youth Environmental Scholarships in January. Give the gift of education and sponsor a child's secondary school education!**
- **APW's website was recently re-designed by volunteers, Tina and Reed Copsey. Visit the new site and view current information and announcements about our work.**



WWW.AFRPW.ORG

The African People & Wildlife Fund, a registered 501(c)(3) non-profit organization, was founded in 2005 to help Africa's people and wildlife coexist through conservation, research, development and education programs.

Taking Action in the Maasai Steppe – Community-Led Conservation

The Maasai Steppe is a vibrant and important ecological stronghold for the wildlife and people of northern Tanzania.

This breathtaking ecosystem encompasses approximately 40,000 square kilometers or nearly 10 million acres of woodlands, bush land and open grasslands. It is home to rare species like the African wild dog and the fringe-eared oryx, as well as one of Tanzania's most threatened African lion populations. Nearly 92% of this ecosystem is inhabited by the Maasai people, whose lifestyle depends on successfully raising cattle, goats and sheep.

Maintaining healthy rangelands is critical to both the Maasai people and the wildlife dependent on this arid environment.

In an ambitious project, APW is working with local Maasai communities to identify and reduce critical threats to these rangelands.

Partnering with The Nature Conservancy, we conducted a three day natural resource management planning workshop at Nolooho with 37 community members. Participants included local government leaders, representatives from women's and youth's groups and cultural leaders.

The workshop resulted in a natural resource action plan and a new, local committee, called Reto-o-Reto (Maasai for interdependency). This



Local women participate in a three day workshop at the Nolooho Environmental Center to identify natural resources at risk and locally viable actions to improve rangeland conditions.

committee is responsible for overseeing the community's progress towards their goals, including strategies for improving water and rangeland management, habitat protection and access to benefits from wildlife. We are thrilled to help support the community's efforts to conserve the Maasai Steppe!



Laly Lichtenfeld, Ph.D.
APW Executive Director

APW NEWS

Nolooho was abuzz this summer with the help of three interns from Duke University. Emily Myron, Sam Baraso and Andrew Jacobson worked on projects including GIS mapping, environmental summer camps and village game scout training. We are grateful for their important contributions to our work.


In August, a third year Peace Corps volunteer, Mary McLaughlin, joined us to help



Mary McLaughlin helps create a tree nursery with wildlife club kids.

with program oversight and development, filling in for our Director of Programs during a recent trip to the states.

APW's U.S. Fall tour

included our participation in the National Geographic Big Cats Educator's Symposium and the Jackson Hole Wildlife Film Festival, as well as a visit to the State Department. In addition to speaking with the African Biodiversity Collaborative Group, Dr. Lichtenfeld was honored to present "Warriors for Wildlife: Saving Lions on the Maasai Steppe" at TEDx Jackson Hole, available on YouTube. 

APW and the Simanjiro District Council Host World AIDS Day Event

According to a UNAIDS report, Africa is home to 67% of all people living with HIV and 72% of all AIDS deaths. This epidemic has a devastating effect on families and communities, local economies and the environment (including increasing demands on natural resources by those caring for the sick). Awareness-raising efforts are critical to reduce rates of HIV infection as well as to decrease discrimination against those living with the disease.

On December 1st, APW and government officials convened a World

APW Wildlife Club Members participated in the event, singing songs to raise HIV awareness. They also created posters emphasizing the importance of a healthy diet for people living with HIV.



AIDS day event in Loibor Siret. With support provided by the U.S. Peace Corps and the Simanjiro District Council, the event provided free HIV testing for community members.

Speakers, choirs and a local entertainer raised awareness about testing, prevention, treatment and wellness. They emphasized the importance of being tested as a first step in living with HIV. Women, who suffer a higher HIV transmission rate in Africa than men, were encouraged to know the status of their partners. 🐾

WILD Weeks – Nolooho Environmental Summer Camps

In June and July, our summer camps lived up to their name as local schoolchildren galloped around the center, learning about the environment while having fun.

Encouraged to celebrate nature with their songs, skits and artwork, the children were exposed to APW's unique blend of environmental and cultural learning. The WILD weeks curriculum is designed to reinforce local relationships to the natural world while building appreciation for nature's critters, large and small.

In addition to classroom exercises and games, the children participate in nature walks, bird watching, mountain climbing, sports and cultural celebrations. New to the camps this year, our game scout team taught the

children about their work, carrying out mock wildlife counts with the kids. And, a special visitor helped engage the children's creative side.

Wildlife artist, Alison Nicholls, joined one of the camps and taught classes focusing on basic techniques for drawing animals and trees. Alison used wildlife drawing cards to demonstrate simple steps for sketching animals, such as a lion, elephant or cheetah. She also worked one-on-one with several of the children throughout the week, including Ramadhani Juma, a Nolooho Environmental Scholar.

APW is grateful to our supporters, including the SeaWorld & Busch Gardens Conservation Fund for helping to make the camps a great success! 🐾

Neovitus and Alison work with the children during wildlife drawing classes. Right, scenes from the summer camps sketched by Alison Nicholls. View her artwork at www.nichollswildlifeart.com.



Summer camp participants on a game drive to count wildlife with our scouts. Children also learned how to use camera traps to photograph elusive species.



Nolooho Scholar, Karakai (back right) watching campers play animal charades. Scholars join the camps as peer leaders, inspiring the younger students to work hard in school.



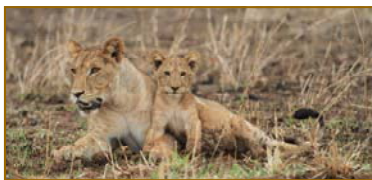
APW at Work – Select Program Updates

Maasailand Lion Conservation Initiative

Racing against the rains, APW’s Living Walls project is nearing its goal of 100 Living Walls installed in the Maasai Steppe by 2012. With increasing requests from neighboring Maasai communities to become part of the program, APW significantly expanded our efforts in the villages of Narakauo and Kimotorok this year. Meanwhile, due to the coordinated efforts of our human-wildlife conflict and lion program officers, as well as our village game scout team, five lions were saved from certain death when a poisoned cattle carcass was discovered in the southern plains and burned by the APW team. Thanks to local community members, the team learned of the poisoning just in time — carried out by disgruntled immigrant herders who lost track of several animals while moving their cattle. 🐾



A wire drop in Narakauo; Living Walls keep livestock and lions safe.



Maasai Steppe Conservation Education



Celebrating Seventh Grade Graduates of APW’s Wildlife Clubs at Noloholo; these students are eligible for our competitive scholarships (see overleaf). In addition to our popular environmental summer camps and regular wildlife club activities, our children’s program collaborated with Trees for The Future to establish a new tree nursery at the Loibor Siret Primary School. Fall also marked our annual field trips to Tarangire National Park. This year, more than 100 sixth graders were lucky to see big cats each day. Find us on Facebook and view our 2011 album of Tarangire National Park Trips. 🐾

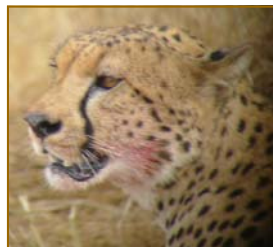
Villages for Conservation

Over the years, residents of Loibor Siret have noticed a significant change in the flow of their stream — the only local source of water for people, livestock and wildlife during the dry season. Each year, more and more of the riverbed remains dry due to increasing droughts, overuse and lack of watershed protection. Therefore, the new Reto-o-Reto committee (see page 1) has identified watershed protection as a first priority. With the help of maps produced by APW, a preliminary watershed management plan is now under development. 🐾



The Loibor Siret watershed in shades of blue with the river drainage buffered in red. Determining where and how to protect this area is a local priority.

Cheetah Conservation



Every cheetah has a unique spot pattern that we can use to identify it by. This male was feeding when we found him.

Finding cheetahs is often like looking for a needle in a haystack, since they occur at low densities and actively avoid people outside of protected areas. So, our team was thrilled with recent cheetah sightings near Noloholo, adding to our database of individually recognizable cats and helping us to identify important areas where cheetahs roam.

Several of the sightings occurred during monthly wildlife counts conducted by our game scout team. Over time, these counts will help us to estimate the numbers and ranging patterns of various wildlife species in the local vicinity, including important cheetah prey. 🐾

APW Partner Services

APW teamed up with new partners, the Institute for Environment and Development and the Tanzania Natural Resources Forum, to provide their “Strengthening Voices” workshop at Noloholo for local residents. This workshop reinforces the critical linkages between sustainable rangeland management and pastoralist livelihoods. Meanwhile, another organization, the Ujamaa Community Resources Trust, used Noloholo for a good governance training seminar. 🐾

Mr. Alais Morindat of IIED-TNRF presents the three pillars of pastoralism: natural resources, livestock and people.





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“At the African People & Wildlife Fund, we emphasize the importance of on-the-ground, community-led initiatives that support the collective management of natural resources for the mutual benefit of people and wildlife.”

Give the Gift of Education – Support a Noloholo Youth Environmental Scholar

In December of every year, graduating seventh grade members of APW's wildlife clubs have the opportunity to compete for a limited number of Noloholo Environmental Scholarships.

Successful candidates excel in several areas, including nationally and locally administered exams, interviews, and of course, they must demonstrate

a real interest in the environment.

With 8 children currently benefiting from five year scholarships, we need your help to add more scholars. At just \$1000/year, students receive full tuition to a private school, books, uniforms, materials and tutoring. Please consider full or partial sponsorship of a child in need! 



Donate Today and Contribute to APW's 2011 Annual Fund Campaign!

We depend on people like you to help support our programs. Please make a tax-deductible donation today and become part of our efforts to conserve Africa's wildlife and help its people.

\$50 \$75 \$100 \$250 \$500 \$_____

Please send your name, address and tax-deductible donation to:

African People & Wildlife Fund, Box 624, Bernardsville NJ 07924

THANK YOU!!!

APW Wishes to Thank Our Supporters this Year:

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&

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AWELY, CTW, Alison Nicholls Wildlife Art, Nabaki Afrika, The Abilene Zoological Garden, Alison Jones Photography



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