



Quarantine Progress!

Health

Mac's wounds have dried and scars disappearing. He has no worms and despite having a good appetite for food, his weight has remained at 5.2 kilograms since arrival.

Africa on the other hand, has just completed his deworming medication. Unlike Mac, the surrogate mothers find it difficult to give oral medication to Africa. She does not take it even when mixed in sugary food.

Africa is registering a steady weight gain from 5.3 to 9 kilograms since her arrival in quarantine.

Social Behavior

The two infants have established a very close bond with each other. They spend most of the time grooming and tickling each other.

Africa is still so afraid of new people, goes into hiding or runs to surrogate mother. However, Mac has a lot of human trust and loves to be groomed and trickled at times.



Mac (right) and Africa (right) in the photo above.

Please look out for more quarantine progress in our next issue!

Our Island Residents!

The relationship between the juveniles and adults has greatly improved leading to a reduction in attacks especially during feeding time and related body injuries or bruises.

However, a series of alliances have emerged among the infants and juveniles. Rambo, Rutoto and Kikyoo have formed their camp, that is always antagonizing Nakuu, Billi and Namukisa. Rambo gets a lot of fun in use of his acrobatic skills to attack other young females in the group. As a result, many low ranking females continue to develop a lot of inferiority complex before the small three young boys! Mawa continues to remain in the holding facility for safety reasons, as Asega is also keen on giving him company. No serious injury or ailment was recorded in February. Maisiko and Sunday escaped to the keeper service corridor, but were easily returned to the holding facility and escape spot worked on.

February Round Up!



Annual Health Checks

The annual chimp health checks kicked off on 25th February, 2008. Prof. S.W Merwe of Pretoria University donated a Gastroendoscopy machine and together with Jacob Alella Van Schalkwck came over to train our vets how to use the equipment.



Board of Trustee Meeting

All trustee members turned up for the annual meeting held from the 18th to 20th February, 2008 in Hoima; Dr. Andrew Sseguya (UWEC), John Makombo (UWA), Pauline Nantongo (ECOTRUST), Shelley Waterland (BFF), Steve Njumbi (IFAW), Annet Nakyeeyune (UWS) and Dr. Pater Apell stood in for Keith Brown (JGI-USA). The board also inspected the progress of site programs in Hoima.



Education Center- Hoima Roofing of the structure has been completed. We have embarked on fitting windows, doors and rendering of the interior walls. However, the women and drama groups have already started to make use of the facility for their performance, meetings and displaying handcrafts for sale!



Effects of forest Fragmentation in Hoima A group of 19 chimpanzees forage on the fruit trees behind the education center frequently. Fierce fights with baboons, injuries are so rampant, since the riverine forest in the area has been fragmented, confining them to small forest patches. This requires an immediate intervention to save the remaining habitats and restore the forest corridor, before the situation gets out of control!

Other Operations! We had one outreach to Bugonga Primary School- Entebbe, where we screened a wildlife film; Jane Goodall with Wild Chimpanzees to 96 pupils. At the island, two community education visits to Myende and Koombe Primary School were organized. The Rochester Friends of Ngamba visited and were impressed with the changes at the sanctuary since 2006! Two of our staff, Mandy and Rodney went to Budogo Forest as part of our keeper and ranger exchange program.



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EVENTS

Wildlife Challenge at Kyabongo College School on the 15th March 2008. Discover the kids passion for nature!
City Tyres 4WD Chimp Charge Challenge on 3rd May 2008 at On course Ground in Kitende, along Entebbe-Kampala Road. Come Support the Chimps!

On 12th October 2008, Ngamba will mark 10 years caring for chimps and working towards ensuring their survival in the wild. Join the organizing team to make it a success!

CORPORATE SUPPORTER

Rufford foundation are our corporate supporter this month.

INDIVIDUAL SUPPORT

Prof S.W Van Merwe donated a Gastroendoscopy Machine.

Andy Pike helped out at the Island

Pant hoots from the chimps & staff of CSWCT!