

# Kenya's

## Key Biodiversity Areas (KBAs)

# Status and Trends

# 2017

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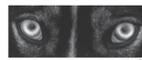
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Nature Kenya, Kenya Wildlife Service (KWS), Kenya Forest Service (KFS), National Environment Management Authority (NEMA), the Royal Society for Protection of Birds (RSPB) and BirdLife International



Cover Photo: **Cinnamon-chested Bee-eater** (*Merops oreobates*)

The **Cinnamon-chested Bee-eater** is a bird of highland forests and leafy towns. It is one of the bird species characteristic of the Afrotropical Highlands biome in Kenya.

Bee-eaters eat a variety of insects caught in flight, like the butterfly caught on the cover. They are not afraid to tackle bees and wasps, that other birds tend to avoid. A bee-eater simply rubs off the stinger on a branch before eating the bee or wasp.

Birds such as bee-eaters, the insects on which they feed, and the trees on which they perch, are all part of the diversity that make up a KBA – a Key Biodiversity Area. In this Report, we transition from Important Bird Areas to Key Biodiversity Areas – which are, at the moment, the same in Kenya. Other sites, based on other taxa but identified with the same rigorous criteria, will be added once they are designated.

In the cover photo taken by Peter Usher, an adult Cinnamon-chested Bee-eater is on the right. An immature bird – able to fly but with a green rather than cinnamon-brown chest, is on the left.



PHOTO BY PETER USHER

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# ACRONYMS

<b>AEWA</b>	African-Eurasian (Migratory) Waterbird Agreement	<b>KEFRI</b>	Kenya Forestry Research Institute
<b>ASA</b>	Amphibian Survival Alliance	<b>KFS</b>	Kenya Forest Service
<b>CEPF</b>	Critical Ecosystem Partnership Fund	<b>KWS</b>	Kenya Wildlife Service
<b>CI</b>	Conservation International	<b>NABU</b>	German Society for Nature Conservation
<b>DOF</b>	Dansk Ornitologisk Forening (BirdLife in Denmark)	<b>NEMA</b>	National Environment Management Authority
<b>GEF</b>	Global Environment Facility	<b>NK</b>	Nature Kenya
<b>GWC</b>	Global Wildlife Conservation	<b>NMK</b>	National Museums of Kenya
<b>IBA</b>	Important Bird Area	<b>RSPB</b>	Royal Society for the Protection of Birds (BirdLife in UK)
<b>IUCN</b>	International Union for Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources	<b>SSG</b>	Site Support Group
<b>KBA</b>	Key Biodiversity Area	<b>TIPs</b>	Transition Implementation Plans
<b>KEEP</b>	Kakamega Environmental and Education Programme	<b>WWF</b>	World Wide Fund for Nature

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We are grateful to Kenya Wildlife Service and Site Support Groups members who have contributed data and information to produce this report. Sincere appreciation is extended to the management and staff of Kenya Wildlife Service and Kenya Forest Service for technical and administrative support during the report compilation. We also appreciate the role played by the Nature Kenya staff based at various Key Biodiversity Areas (KBAs) for participating in the filling of the basic monitoring forms that were useful in compiling this report.

## **Disclaimer**

The views and opinion in this report are not necessarily those of the donors who have financially supported its production.



**Fischer's Turaco**  
BY E. SELEMPPO

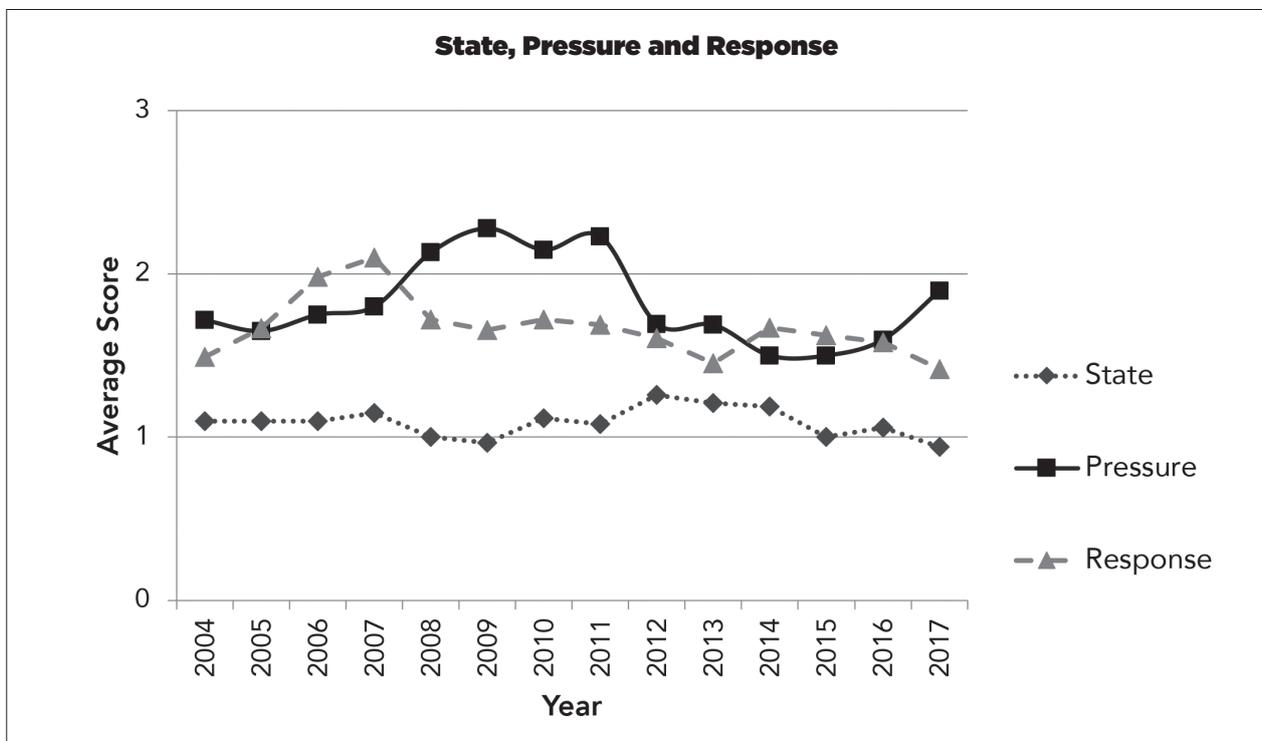
# EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Welcome to the first Key Biodiversity Areas Status and Trends Report! Since 2004, Nature Kenya has published “Kenya’s Important Bird Areas Status and Trends” each year. In recognition of the fact that IBAs are critical sites for the conservation of both birds and other biodiversity, IBAs became Important Bird and Biodiversity Areas. Then in 2016, A Global Standard for the identification of KBAs was adopted, and the KBA Partnership was launched by BirdLife International, IUCN, WWF, CI, CEPF, GEF, ASA, RSPB, GWC and NatureServe. The KBA Standard seeks to harmonise existing approaches to the identification of important sites for biodiversity, support identification of important sites for elements of biodiversity not considered in existing approaches, and provide an objective, standard, consistent, repeatable, transparent and rigorous system. Kenya’s Important Bird Areas fulfil the requirements and qualify to be Key Biodiversity Areas.

This report provides a summary of the State, Pressure and Response at Kenya’s 67 Key Biodiversity Areas (KBAs) – all IBAs. Data has been collated and analyzed from 45 sites using basic monitoring forms and secondary data (newspaper reports and other articles). For the 22 sites where data was not received, the data was extrapolated. The report also highlights ongoing conservation efforts in the country and provides results from detailed monitoring work in Kakamega Forest. Information in this report is collectively provided by staff from government agencies (that include NMK, NEMA, KFS, and KWS), Site Support Groups and non-governmental biodiversity conservation and management institutions.

## State, Pressure and Response Summary

Overall (**Figure 1**), the state of KBAs declined from an average score of 1.06 in 2016 to an average score of 0.94 in 2017. Despite our efforts, the state of Kenyan KBAs is still unfavourable.



**Figure 1:** The average trends in State, Pressure, and Response in Kenya’s Important Bird Areas, 2004-2017

Kenyan KBAs are increasingly experiencing high pressure. Pressure average score increased by 0.3 from 1.60 in 2016 to 1.90 in 2017. This can be attributed to the increase in the ongoing and proposed infrastructural developments (roads, rail, pipelines, geothermal, wind energy), changes in land use especially in KBAs that are not formally protected, and illegal activities like logging. The drought that was experienced in 2016-2017 led to increased incursions of pastoralists into forests and protected areas in search of pasture, and because of poor agricultural harvests local communities explored alternative livelihood options which included charcoal production and clearing wetlands for agriculture among others.

The response score reduced by 0.16 between 2016 and 2017. Even though conservation actions are being implemented across the country, more needs to be done with support and goodwill from governments – National and County. Despite the decline in the responses, it should be noted that: the national government launched the National Forest Program which provides a framework to support sustainable conservation and utilization of forests; Tana River and Lamu counties adopted the Land Use Plan that Nature Kenya developed in consultation with stakeholders; the County government of Kilifi formulated policy and legislation to guide forest conservation; Siaya and Busia counties supported the Yala Wetland Land Use Planning development; the Arabuko-Sokoke Forest-Dakatcha Woodland-Tsavo elephant corridor was described in the national wildlife corridors and dispersal areas report; Nature Kenya Site Support Groups (SSGs) planted a total of 750,000 trees; approximately 750ha of forest area was rehabilitated; and of course the implementation and development of Participatory Forest Management Plans.

### **Summary of Recommendations**

1. Mainstream biodiversity conservation into other sectors of the economy.
2. Review the existing forest and national parks management plans to ensure compliance with the guidelines and law.
3. Require infrastructural projects to put in place at the design stage ecological safeguards that promote overall net gain for biodiversity.
4. Encourage development investors to apply the mitigation hierarchy to avoid adverse negative environmental impacts.
5. Undertake the economic valuation of various ecosystems in the country and provide an estimate of their ecosystem services and social benefits.
6. Encourage a national Payment for Ecosystem Services (PES) scheme as an incentive to forest adjacent communities to engage in protection and conservation.
7. Inventorize, map and document all environmentally significance areas (ESAs) outside protected areas, including areas of endemism, rarity, water catchments, historical heritage sites, wildlife corridors and sanctuaries; and develop management plans for such areas with the view to enforcing compliance with such plans.
8. Intensify conservation and protection of biodiversity in protected areas, and design approaches to such conservation and protection intervention with local communities.
9. Develop policies, legislation and strategies for management of KBAs, at both the National and County level.
10. Request the National Treasury to improve funding to regulatory institutions to upscale compliance and enforcement actions across the country: Enhance their capacity through training and equipment; and provide them with adequate investigators, prosecutors and an armed wing to make compliance and enforcement complete.
11. Encourage all County Governments to sign and/or operationalize the Transition Implementation Plans (TIPs).
12. Develop a clear framework for coordination between the national and county governments in the management of forests.
13. Build capacity of relevant county committee members on environmental matters.
14. Build capacity for biodiversity conservation and research among communities and other stakeholders.
15. Promote retraining of KWS and KFS officers on the ground on KBA basic monitoring protocols.

# INTRODUCTION

## Important Bird Areas (IBA) to Key Biodiversity Areas (KBA)

In 2016, A *Global Standard for the identification of KBAs* was adopted, and the KBA Partnership was launched, which comprised BirdLife International, IUCN, WWF, CI, CEPF, GEF, ASA, RSPB, GWC and NatureServe. The KBA Standard seeks to harmonise existing approaches to the identification of important sites for biodiversity, support identification of important sites for elements of biodiversity not considered in existing approaches, and provide an objective, standard, consistent, repeatable, transparent and rigorous system.

Key Biodiversity Areas (KBAs) are sites that contribute significantly to the global persistence of biodiversity. The sites are identified based on criteria that incorporate elements of biodiversity across genetic, species and ecosystem levels. Thus it's based on any or a combination of:

1. The **threatened biodiversity** criterion (A) identifies sites contributing significantly to the global persistence of *threatened species* (A1) or *threatened ecosystem types* (A2).
2. The **geographically restricted biodiversity** criterion (B) identifies sites contributing significantly to the global persistence of *individual geographically restricted species* (B1), *co-occurring geographically restricted species* (B2), *geographically restricted assemblages* (B3), or *geographically restricted ecosystem types* (B4).
3. The **ecological integrity** criterion (C) identifies sites that contribute significantly to the global persistence of wholly *intact ecological communities* with supporting large-scale ecological processes.
4. The **biological processes** criterion (D) identifies sites contributing significantly

to the global persistence of *demographic aggregations* (D1), *ecological refugia* (D2), or *recruitment sources* (D3).

5. The **irreplaceability through quantitative analysis** criterion (E) identifies sites that have *very high irreplaceability* for the global persistence of biodiversity as *determined through a complementarity-based quantitative analysis of irreplaceability*.

The KBA identification builds on more than 30 years of experience in identifying important sites for different taxonomic, ecological and thematic subsets of biodiversity. These include, in particular, the 12,000 Important Bird and Biodiversity Areas (IBAs) identified by BirdLife International (2014). In Kenya, 67 sites qualified as IBAs also qualify as KBAs, covering forests, wetlands, semi-arid and arid areas and moist grasslands. Kenya hosts 40 bird species that are globally threatened, of which eight are endemic to Kenya.

Re-assessment of KBAs against the criteria and thresholds is recommended to be carried out at least once every 8-12 years. Frequent monitoring of KBAs is recommended wherever possible. Monitoring is modelled to track the "Pressure" or "Threats" to a KBA, the "Status" or "Condition" of sites, and "Responses" or "Interventions" to address threats within a KBA, by measuring a set of parameters as indicators. State is scored from 0 (very unfavourable condition) to 3 (very favourable). Pressure ranges from 0 (low) to 3 (very high) while Response ranges from 0 (negligible) to 3 (high).

The trend scores are calculated by comparing status scores between years and are presented using graphs. The 2017 report is based on 48 basic monitoring forms, retrieved for 45 out of the 67 KBA sites. For the 22 sites where data was not received, the data was extrapolated.

# KEY RESULTS

## Status of Habitats and Species

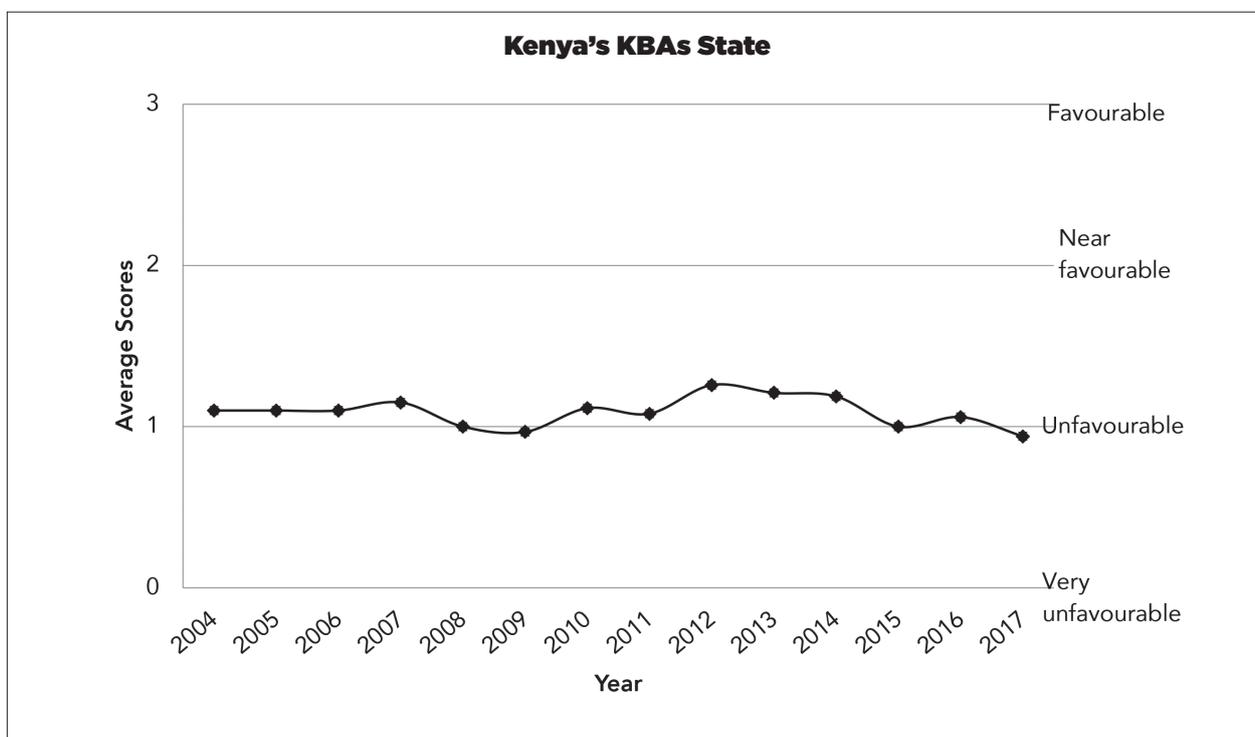
The **Status** of the 67 KBAs that have continuously been monitored scored an average of 0.94 during this reporting period (**Figure 2**). The State score has reduced compared to the previous year (1.06). Overall, the status of the Kenyan KBAs is unfavourable. This is mainly catalysed by the fact that majority of the KBAs fall outside the protected area network of the country, so they are susceptible to changes in land use practices which overall may affect the ecosystem integrity of the site.

Only five sites showed favourable status: Aberdare Mountains, Kikuyu Escarpment Forest, Mwea National Reserve and Ruma National Park. A near favourable status was recorded in Chyulu Hills National Park, Lake Baringo, Mt. Elgon, Mumoni Forest and Sio Port Swamp. Kakamega Forest, Lake Bogoria National Reserve and Kwenia KBAs were among the 38 sites that recorded unfavourable status during this monitoring period. The status of the remaining 19 KBAs was very unfavourable, for example in Tana River Delta, Yala Wetland, Dakatcha Woodland, Busia Grasslands and Mukurweini valleys.

## Detailed Monitoring at Kakamega Forest: Status of Trigger Species

Trigger species are those species for which the site was selected. For example, the Taita Thrush, Taita Apalis and Taita White-eye are trigger species in the Taita Hills.

Kakamega Forest is a mid-altitude tropical rainforest, the easternmost outlier of the Congo Basin forests. The forest lies in the Lake Victoria catchment, c.40 km north of Kisumu, and just west of the Nandi Escarpment that forms the edge of the central highlands. Less than 10,000 ha of the overall gazetted area is still closed-canopy indigenous forest, of which some 3,200 ha is in the National Reserve. The remaining area consists of grassy and bushed glades (some natural, some maintained by fire or grazing), tea, cultivation and 1,700 ha of plantations of softwoods and commercially valuable hardwoods. The terrain is undulating, with often steep-sided river valleys. The forest is home to two globally threatened species, over 190 forest-dependent bird species, and 40 Guinea-Congo Forest biome species.



**Figure 2:** Representation of trend on the average score of **STATE** of 67 KBAs in Kenya

### Methodology for Data Collection

Chapin's flycatcher (*Muscicapa (Fraseria) lendu*) (Vulnerable) and Turner's Eremomela (*Eremomelaturneri*) (Endangered) are IBA trigger species for Kakamega forest. Trained and experienced Kakamega Environmental Education Programme (KEEP) Site Support Group members carry out bird monitoring twice in a year: Wet (May) and Dry (December) seasons. Data collection is done in the southern (Isecheno) and northern (Buyangu) forest blocks. Systematic point count data collection is carried out along three 2km transects, located in the three main vegetation types (Primary, Secondary and Riverine Forests). Results presented (Figure 3) are based on ten years' data collected from 2004-2014, of Turner's Eremomela based on number of individuals birds recorded during transect surveys.

From this locally based monitoring, led by local community members of the SSG, results indicate that overall the habitat state and quality in Kakamega Forest KBA remains favorable for the selected trigger bird species. There has been a slight decline in the number of birds sighted which can be attributed to a suite of factors like survey effort. Chapin's Flycatcher has been a rare species, with single birds being sighted occasionally in sampling

sites. This indicates that both the northern and southern forest blocks still have favorable habitats to support this species. Other species of conservation interest recorded included Crowned Eagle, Red-chested Owlet, Grey-chested Babbler and Southern Hyliota.

Based on these findings, it is now possible for the KEEP SSG members from both sites to direct their visitors to areas where they can find the two rare globally threatened species.

Despite the pressure on the natural resources of Kakamega forest being on the increase, the presence of the trigger species indicates that suitable habitat still exists that can support them. Efforts to sustainably manage the forest effectively are required to safeguard the ecosystem values.

### PRESSURE: Threats to KBAs

KBAs (IBAs) are increasingly experiencing a high level of pressure. In 2017 the pressure score increased by 0.3 compared to 2016 (Figure 4). Some of the threats include:

1. Increase in ongoing and proposed infrastructural developments (roads, rail, pipelines, geothermal power, wind energy)
2. Changes in land use especially in KBAs that are not formally protected

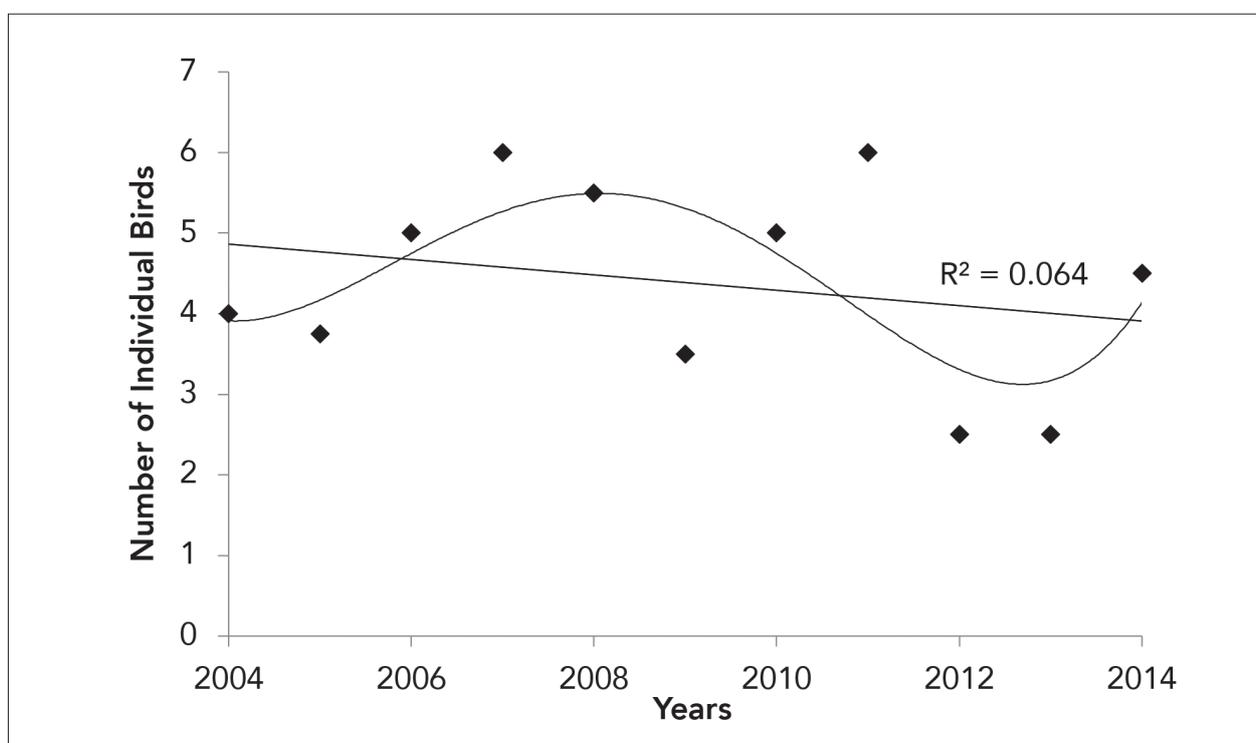
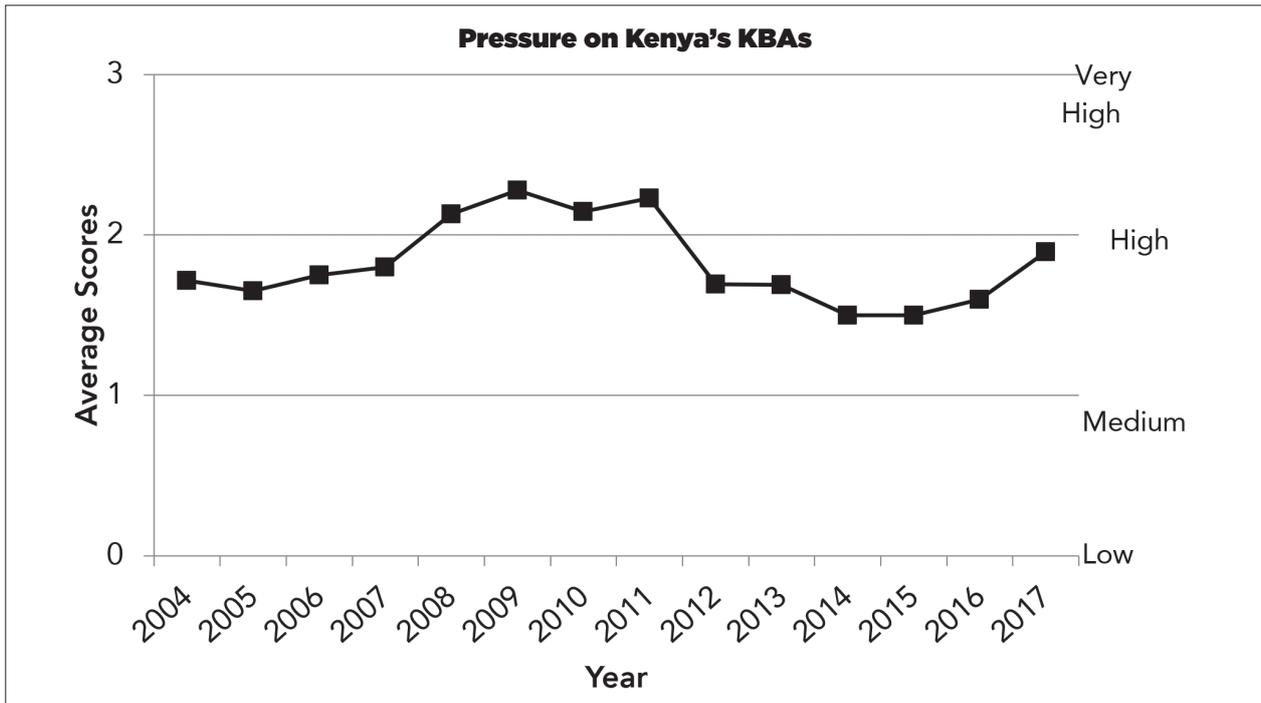


Figure 3: Trend of individual Turner's Eremomela (*Eremomelaturneri*) recorded along three transects in Kakamega Forest KBA between 2004 to 2014



**Figure 4:** Representation of trend on the average score of **PRESSURE** recorded in 67 KBAs in Kenya

3. The call by TARDA (Tana and Athi Rivers Development Authority) for a bid to revive the irrigation scheme in the Tana Delta, and the national government assigning land to the National Youth Service to produce food within the Tana Delta
4. Massive charcoal production within Dakatcha Woodland
5. Papyrus burning and encroachment within the Yala Swamp Complex
6. Illegal activities like logging
7. Drought experienced in 2016-2017 increased incursions of pastoralists into forests and protected areas in search of pasture. Due to poor agricultural harvests, local communities explored alternative livelihood options which included charcoal production and clearing wetlands for agriculture.

The sixteen sites that recorded very high pressures include Arabuko-Sokoke Forest, Dakatcha Woodland, Kinangop Grasslands, Taita Hills and Yala Swamp.

**RESPONSE: Conservation Actions in KBAs**

The response score reduced by 0.16 in the 67 Kenyan KBAs during this reporting period (Figure 5). Even though conservation actions are being implemented across the country, more needs to be done with support and goodwill from governments - National and County. High responses were recorded in Kikuyu Escarpment, Mt Kenya, Lake Bogoria

National Reserve, Mrima Hill, Mwea National Reserve and Aberdare Mountains. Some of the major responses that were noted included:

1. National government launched the National Forest Program (2015-2020) which provides a framework to support sustainable conservation and utilization of forests
2. Tana River and Lamu counties adopted the Land Use Plan developed by Nature Kenya in consultation with stakeholders
3. Formulation of policy and legislation at county level to guide forest conservation, for example in Kilifi County
4. Siaya and Busia Counties supported the Yala Wetland Land Use Planning development
5. The Arabuko-Sokoke Forest-Dakatcha Woodland-Tsavo elephant corridor was described in the national wildlife corridors and dispersal areas report
6. Local community groups were engaged in forest and riparian areas rehabilitation through tree planting
7. Development and implementation of Participatory Forest Management Plans for Community Forest Associations by the Kenya Forest Service
8. Development of a national wildlife poisoning response protocol aimed to guide conservation stakeholders on approaches to apply to mitigate environmental contamination and wildlife deaths as a result of poisoning.

### Wildlife Poisoning Response Protocol

The wildlife poisoning response protocol aims at developing evidence-based solutions for wildlife conservation in Africa, raising awareness and influencing county and national policy. There has been increased awareness by local communities on the importance of vultures and the dangers associated with wildlife poisoning. Now a national wildlife poisoning response protocol has been developed to guide on-the-ground actions to deal with poisoning cases and increase the profile of wildlife poisoning as a punishable crime. This would not have happened a decade ago where many poisoning cases would go unreported. The wildlife poisoning response protocol was developed by Kenya Wildlife Service with funding support from BAND Foundation and Fondation Segré through Birdlife International to Nature Kenya and The Peregrine Fund.

Through such initiatives, people on the ground have been provided with knowledge and tools to better respond to poisoning events. With a strong network of people and stakeholders at all levels, working together to respond to poisoning incidents, there is hope in saving African vultures from extinction. Globally, various efforts have been undertaken towards the protection of African vultures. The most

notable one is the approval of the Multi-species Action Plan for African-Eurasian Vultures (Vulture MsAP) to better protect this group of ecologically important scavengers. Approved in October 2017 by the 12th Conference of the Parties of the Convention for Migratory Species (CMS) in Manila, the Philippines, the action plan aims for the recovery of 15 Old World vulture species to favourable population levels by 2029.

Despite all these efforts, more needs to be done to ensure the survival of our vultures. More resources, policies and conservation measures are required to avert the catastrophic demise of nature's most important scavengers.

### Arabuko-Sokoke Elephant Corridor

Arabuko-Sokoke forest, on the north coast of Kenya, is home to a large population of African elephants, approximately 250 individual animals. Elephants were not resident in the forest until the late 1960's, according to local community elders. This migratory corridor was confirmed in 1999, when 28 elephant bulls were captured in Mwaluganje Elephant Sanctuary near Shimba Hills and translocated to Tsavo East national park. One elephant moved 150 km in five days to Mida Creek which is adjacent to Arabuko-Sokoke forest. The migratory route between Arabuko-

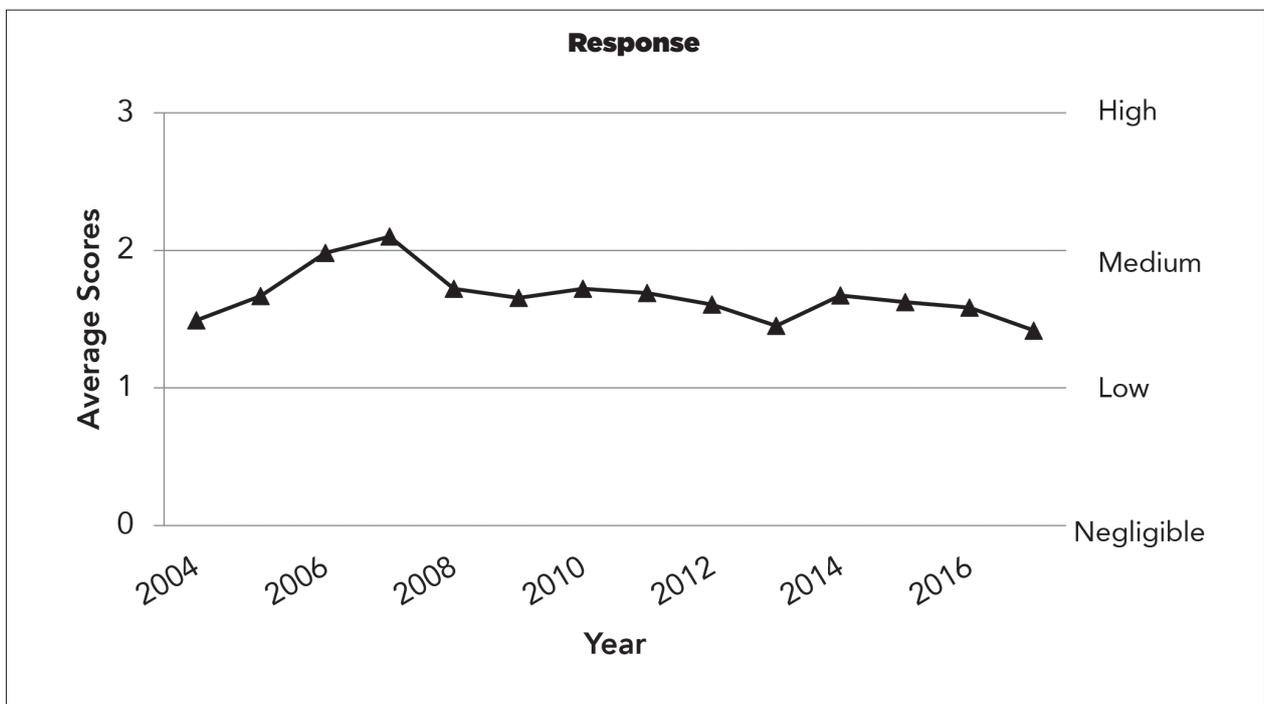


Figure 5: Representation of trend on the average score of **RESPONSES** initiated in 67 KBAs in Kenya

Sokoke forest and Tsavo is now completely cut off by small-scale subsistence farms and subsequently by the electric fence. The electric fence was erected to reduce incidences of crop raiding by elephants. It has helped to reduce human elephant conflict with villagers living around the forest; it has also hindered the free movement of elephants. This fence has created a barrier to the Sabaki River and other wetlands, hindering elephant access to water. As a result, Kenya Wildlife Service has to physically deliver water into the forest for the elephants during the dry season.

In 2017, the Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources State Department of Wildlife launched a report which highlighted all wildlife corridors and dispersal areas in Kenya (Ojwang et al, 2017). A corridor between Arabuko-Sokoke forest and Tsavo East ecosystem through Dakatcha Woodland KBA was documented. When actualized, the corridor would provide wildlife with access to permanent water, manage inbreeding pressure, reduce pressure on forest food resources and provide opportunity for Kilifi County to initiate local community ecotourism initiatives

### **Mitigation Hierarchy**

Kenya is on a pathway of development guided by the Vision 2030 development blueprint. One of the key development components is infrastructure: roads, rail, wind power and multi-purpose use water dams. As a result, there has been lobbying and advocacy from civil society to safeguard the ecosystem values of the environment and minimize negative impacts. The mitigation hierarchy is described as:

1. Avoidance: measures taken to avoid creating impacts from the outset, such as careful spatial or temporal placement of elements of infrastructure, in order to completely avoid impacts on certain components of biodiversity.
2. Mitigation/Minimization: measures taken to reduce the duration, intensity and/or extent of impacts (including direct, indirect and cumulative impacts, as appropriate) that cannot be completely avoided, as far as is practically feasible.
3. Rehabilitation/restoration: measures taken to rehabilitate degraded ecosystems or restore cleared ecosystems following exposure to impacts that cannot be completely avoided and/or minimized.
4. Offset: measures taken to compensate for

any residual significant, adverse impacts that cannot be avoided, minimized and/or rehabilitated or restored, in order to achieve no net loss or a net gain of biodiversity. Offsets can take the form of positive management interventions such as restoration of degraded habitat, arrested degradation or averted risk, and protecting areas where there is imminent or projected loss of biodiversity.

(Source: [http://bbop.forestry-trends.org/pages/mitigation\\_hierarchy](http://bbop.forestry-trends.org/pages/mitigation_hierarchy) )

Guided by the International Finance Corporation (IFC) Performance Standard 6: Biodiversity Conservation and Sustainable Management of Living Natural Resources, this should provide opportunity for investors and development partners to integrate conservation needs to development priorities.

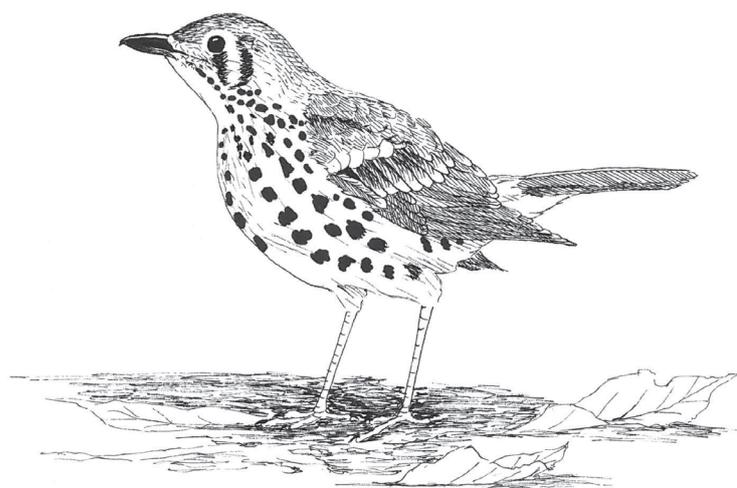
### **KBA Media Coverage**

The media continues to play a critical role in nature conservation through mass information dissemination. This is important for education and awareness, advocacy and monitoring of conservation events. In 2017 we extracted and summarized issues that pertain to nature conservation. Information was collated from four main national and regional newspapers: The Standard, the Nation, the East African, and The Star. In these newspapers, 10 articles reported different threats to ecosystems, 8 articles on human wildlife conflict compensation cases, 26 articles called for conservation actions i.e. tree planting and the ban on plastic bags and 17 articles highlighted animal diseases killing wildlife, which included bird flu.

Key threat types which were profiled impacting on KBAs were: over-exploitation of resources i.e. forests, water, wildlife persecution (poaching) and control of species especially birds appeared in 202 articles. This was followed by 135 articles on human intrusion and disturbance of natural ecosystems. Pollution of the environment was profiled in 44 articles and impacts of infrastructure development to the environment especially residential and commercial developments were mentioned in 33 articles.

# OVERALL RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Mainstream biodiversity conservation into other sectors of the economy.
2. Review the existing forest and national parks management plans to ensure compliance with the guidelines and law.
3. Require infrastructural projects to put in place at the design stage ecological safeguards that promote overall net gain for biodiversity.
4. Encourage development investors to apply the mitigation hierarchy to avoid adverse negative environmental impacts.
5. Undertake the economic valuation of various ecosystems in the country and provide an estimate of their ecosystem services and social benefits.
6. Encourage a national Payment for Ecosystem Services (PES) scheme as an incentive to forest adjacent communities to engage in protection and conservation.
7. Inventorize, map and document all environmentally significance areas (ESAs) outside protected areas, including areas of endemism, rarity, water catchments, historical heritage sites, wildlife corridors and sanctuaries; and develop management plans for such areas with the view to enforcing compliance with such plans.
8. Intensify conservation and protection of biodiversity in protected areas, and design approaches to such conservation and protection intervention with local communities.
9. Develop policies, legislation and strategies for management of KBAs, at both the National and County level.
10. Request the National Treasury to improve funding to regulatory institutions to upscale compliance and enforcement actions across the country: Enhance their capacity through training and equipment; and provide them with adequate investigators, prosecutors and an armed wing to make compliance and enforcement complete.
11. Encourage all County Governments to sign and/or operationalize the Transition Implementation Plans (TIPs).
12. Develop a clear framework for coordination between the national and county governments in the management of forests.
13. Build capacity of relevant county committee members on environmental matters.
14. Build capacity for biodiversity conservation and research among communities and other stakeholders
15. Promote retraining of KWS and KFS officers on the ground on KBA basic monitoring protocols.



**Ground-spotted Thrush**  
BY E. SELEMPO

## **Recommendations for Government and Non-Governmental Organisations**

### **Kenya Forest Service**

1. Increase the capacity within the enforcement unit, including the number of rangers.
2. Establish an elaborate framework and procedure to monitor, verify and audit the compliance with the licensing conditions by the saw millers.
3. Develop robust chain-of-custody management procedures and controls for wood and other forest products.
4. Engage with private landowners and state corporations with vast acreage of land to increase investment in private forest plantations to complement public plantations in meeting the ever-increasing wood demand in Kenya.
5. Review the existing forest management plans to ensure compliance with the guidelines and law.
6. Encourage retraining of the officers on the ground on filling of the basic monitoring forms.

### **National Museums of Kenya**

1. Work with other stakeholders to safeguard the conservation of Kaya forests.
2. Continue availing biodiversity research findings to inform conservation of sites and species.
3. Continue to apply biodiversity research to guide policy in Kenya.
4. Continue building capacity for biodiversity conservation and research among communities and other stakeholders.
5. Work with county governments to strengthen biodiversity conservation.
6. Collaborate with other stakeholders to produce biodiversity checklists for little known sites.

### **Kenya Wildlife Service**

1. Work with all conservation stakeholders, local communities and the international community to combat threats to wildlife and their habitats

2. Provide leadership in the national KBA monitoring program.
3. Offer conservation education and extension services to the Kenyan public, highlighting the consequences of wildlife loss, and creating awareness of wildlife conservation laws.
4. Provide leadership in ensuring that wildlife face minimal or no threats from infrastructural and other development programmes in Kenya.
5. Review and revise park management plans, Species Action Plans and Recovery Strategies.
6. Continue providing much-needed technical support and guidance to County Governments in managing National Reserves.

### **National Environment Management Authority**

1. Conduct physical inspections and environmental audits on licenses it has issued – EIA license renewals should be tied to compliance.
2. Ensure that all development activities, whether by government, foreign direct investors or otherwise, undertake environmental impact assessment (EIA) before approval; and comply with Environmental Audits(EA) during implementation and decommissioning.
3. Hasten the gazettelement and establishment of County Environment Committees in order to support decision making on environmental issues at the county level.

### **Nature Kenya**

1. Mobilize resources for a review of the book “Important Bird Areas in Kenya” and produce a Kenya KBA book
2. Provide leadership to identify sites critical for other taxa to be designated as KBAs
3. Disseminate criteria and tools and coordinate identification and monitoring of KBAs
4. Continue to track the Status, Pressure and Response at KBAs.

# Data Contributors

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**Jackson's Francolin**  
BY E. SELEMPO

## Appendix 1: Pressure, Status and Response Scores at Kenya KBAs Monitored in 2017

Site Name	Pressure	State	Response
Aberdare Mountains	1	3	3
Arabuko-Sokoke Forest	3	1	2
Cherangani Hills	2	1	2
Chyulu Hills forests	2	1	1
Dakatcha Woodland	3	0	1
Diani Forest	2	0	1
Dunga swamp	2	1	1
Dzombo Hill Forest	2	1	1
Gede Ruins National Monument	1	1	2
Hells Gate National Park	3	0	2
Kakamega forest	1	1	3
Kaya Gandini	2	0	1
Kaya Waa	2	0	0
Kikuyu Escarpment forest	1	3	3
Kinangop grasslands	3	0	1
Kisite Island	2	1	1
Kiunga Marine National Reserve	1	1	2
Kwenia	3	1	0
Lake Bogoria National Reserve	2	1	3
Lake Elmenteita	2	1	2
Lake Magadi	0	1	1
Lake Naivasha	3	1	1
Lake Nakuru National Park	2	1	2
Lake Ol' Bolossat	3	1	1
Lower Tana River Forests	2	0	1
Marenji Forest	2	1	1
Masai Mara	2	0	2
Meru National Park	2	1	2
Mida Creek, Whale Island and the Malindi-Watamu coast	2	1	1
Mount Kenya	3	1	3
Mukurweini valleys	2	0	0
Mumoni Hill Forest Reserve	2	2	1
Mutitu Forest	1	3	1
Mwea National Reserve	2	3	3
Nairobi National Park	3	0	3
North Nandi Forest	1	1	2
Ruma National Park	0	3	3
Sabaki River Mouth	1	1	0
Shimba Hills	1	0	2
South Nandi forest	1	1	1
Taita Hills Forests	3	1	2
Tana River Delta	3	0	1
Tsavo East National Park	2	1	2
Tsavo West National Park	2	1	2
Yala swamp complex	3	1	1