FINAL REPORT

TO

Mohamed bin Zayed Species Conservation Fund

CONSERVING THE ENDANGERED WHITE-NAPED MANGABEY:

ASSESSING POPULATION STATUS AND PROMOTING ITS CONSERVATION THROUGH COMMUNITY-BASED EDUCATION PROGRAMMES

Application ID	250537549
Funder	Mohamed bin Zayed Species Conservation Fund (MBZCF)
MBZCF Grantee	Joseph Kobina Daniels
Partner NGO	West African Primate Conservation Action (WAPCA), Ghana
Reporting Period	January to March 2026
Date of Submission	25th June 2026
Study Location	Ankasa Conservation Area, Western Region, Ghana
Target Species	White-naped Mangabey (*Cercocebus lunulatus*) — IUCN Endangered

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The white-naped mangabey *(Cercocebus lunulatus)* is listed as Endangered on the IUCN Red List, with populations restricted to small, fragmented forest patches in Ghana, Côte d'Ivoire, and Burkina Faso. Ankasa Conservation Area (ACA) in Ghana's Western Region is one of its last remaining strongholds, yet previous surveys have documented only extremely low detection rates. This project, funded by the Mohamed bin Zayed Species Conservation Fund (MBZCF) in partnership with the West African Primate Conservation Action (WAPCA), aimed to assess the population status, habitat suitability, and spatial distribution of the species within ACA, while building local stakeholder capacity for long-term conservation.

A systematic camera trap survey was conducted from 22 November 2025 to 14 March 2026 across a 6 × 5 km quadrat centred around the two recent confirmed detection sites within ACA by the Centre for Biodiversity Conservation Research (CBCR) in 2024. Thirty Solaris solar-powered camera traps were deployed at approximately 1 km intervals across 30 sampling stations. However, three traps were stolen and two failed to capture resulting in 25 traps generating an estimated 2,850 trap-nights of effort across three habitat types (secondary forest (28 stations), one riparian and one marshy station). Standardised vegetation assessments were conducted at all 30 stations.

The survey documented **35 unique vertebrate species** (24 mammals, 10 birds, 1 reptile) from 1,249 total detection events and 475 individual sightings. Critically, the white-naped mangabey was confirmed at **11 of the 25 sampling stations (44% naïve occupancy)**, generating 21 independent detection events and a sum of 73 individual sightings, across several days, a substantially higher detection rate than any previous survey at ACA. Eight species of conservation interest were recorded, including the Critically Endangered forest elephant *(Loxodonta cyclotis)*, the Endangered white-bellied pangolin *(Phataginus tricuspis)*, and the Vulnerable Lowe's monkey *(Cercopithecus lowei)*, confirming the exceptional biodiversity importance of the study area.

Evidence of poaching was recorded at four stations (13.3%), and habitat conditions recorded during survey were as follows; (mean canopy cover: 65.2%; mean canopy height: 9.4 m; elevation range: 77–127 m). These findings provide the first quantitative baseline for further occupancy modelling, habitat suitability mapping, and evaluation of ACA as a candidate receptor site for potential conservation translocation of captive bred *C. lunulatus*, consistent with WAPCA and Forestry Commission strategies.

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1. INTRODUCTION

The white-naped mangabey *(Cercocebus lunulatus)* is a primate species endemic to the Upper Guinea forests of West Africa, currently listed as Endangered on the IUCN Red List of Threatened Species (Dempsey et al., 2020). The species persists in small, increasingly isolated forest patches across southern Ghana, Côte d'Ivoire, and south-western Burkina Faso (McGraw, 1998; Suter & Koné, 2006). The main threats include severe habitat fragmentation from deforestation and agricultural encroachment, direct hunting for bushmeat and the illegal pet trade, and escalating human disturbance within remaining forest patches (Ghana Environment, 2022).

Ankasa Conservation Area (ACA) is a protected complex of lowland rainforest in Ghana's Western Region and is recognised as one of the species' last significant strongholds in Ghana (Gatti, 2010; Koné et al., 2013). Despite this recognition, quantitative data on mangabey population size, density, distribution, and habitat use within ACA remain critically scarce. The most recent systematic survey, conducted by the Centre for Biodiversity Conservation Research in 2024 using 36 camera traps, yielded only two confirmed detections of *C. lunulatus*, an outcome that reflects both the species' natural elusiveness and the challenges of detecting it within dense forest (Amponsah, pers. comm.). Although, it is worth noting mangabeys were not the primary focus of that study. This data gap is especially urgent given that the West African Primate Conservation Action (WAPCA) and Ghana's Forestry Commission have identified ACA as a candidate receptor site for potential conservation translocation of mangabeys from ex-situ populations as part of broader species recovery planning.

This project was designed to address these knowledge gaps through a targeted, systematic camera trap survey combined with rigorous habitat assessment at all sampling stations. Initiated with funding from the Mohamed bin Zayed Species Conservation Fund and in collaboration with WAPCA. Fieldwork commenced on 22 November 2025 and continued through 14 March 2026. The survey quadrat was deliberately centred on the two known CBCR detection locations within ACA to maximise the probability of confirming continued mangabey presence and characterising the ecological conditions supporting the population.

This final report documents project activities and results from January to March 2026, after the retrieval of traps. The results presented here constitute the first quantitative estimate of mangabey detection rates and occupancy within ACA's study grid and deliver a comprehensive baseline biodiversity inventory including new camera trap records of multiple threatened species.

2. PROJECT OBJECTIVES

The project was guided by five main objectives, to:

- Conduct targeted camera trapping around the specific locations within ACA where CBCR detected white-naped mangabeys in 2024, to confirm continued presence and refine understanding of their local distribution.
- Evaluate the habitat characteristics (forest structure, food availability, human disturbance) within the confirmed areas to determine suitability for sustaining the existing mangabey group(s) and potential future populations.
- Assess whether confirmed sites within ACA meet the ecological requirements to serve as a potential recipient area for the conservation translocation of individuals from captivity, aligning with WAPCA's objectives and the Forestry Commission's strategy.
- Test non-invasive methods for genetic material collection to establish baseline data for future monitoring and population management.
- Strengthen collaboration with ACA management, WAPCA, and local communities to ensure alignment with ongoing conservation efforts, build local stewardship, and prepare ground support for potential translocation activities.

3. DESIGN AND METHODS

3.1 Study Area

The study was conducted within Ankasa Conservation Area (ACA), located in the Western Region of Ghana (approximately 2°30'–2°45'W, 5°10'–5°20'N). ACA encompasses a mosaic of lowland tropical rainforest, secondary growth, riparian corridors, and marshy habitat. The 30 camera stations in the present survey ranged in elevation from 77 to 127 m above sea level (mean: 101.1 m ± 12.3 m) and were deployed predominantly in secondary forest (28 stations), with one riparian and one marshy station.

3.2 Camera Trap Survey Design

A 6 × 5 km quadrat (30 km²) was delineated around the two confirmed CBCR detection sites, subdivided into 30 equal grid cells in QGIS. One sampling station was placed at the centroid of each cell, yielding a systematic grid of 30 stations at approximately 1 km spacing, consistent with published data on ranging behaviour in *Cercocebus* species (McGraw et al., 2006). Thirty Solaris Weapon 4K solar-powered camera traps (with four AA battery backup) were mounted on trees at 30–50 cm above ground, oriented northward to minimise solar interference. All units were programmed identically: two still images (1080p) followed by a 30-second video (2040p) per trigger event, with a 15-second post-trigger delay. Walk-tests confirmed functionality at all stations before final deployment.

3.3 Vegetation and Habitat Assessment

At each station, a 10 × 10 m vegetation plot was established centred on the camera tree. Variables quantified included: canopy cover (%), canopy height (m, laser rangefinder), DBH of all trees ≥10 cm, understory density, ground cover (%), litter depth (cm), tree density (stems per 100 m²), dominant tree species, presence of fruiting trees, and anthropogenic disturbance indicators.

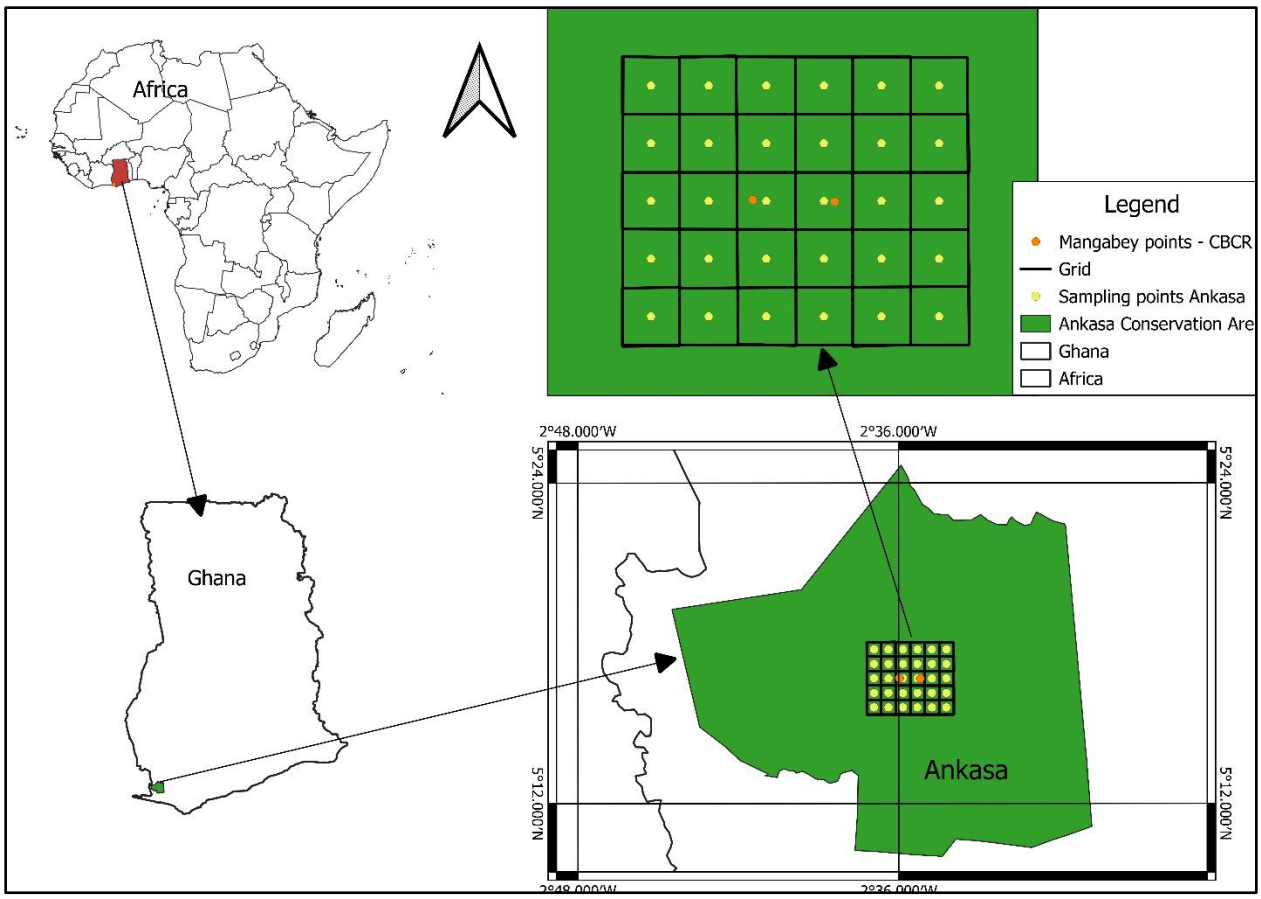

Figure 1: Map of study area showing Africa, Ghana and the Ankasa Conservation Area with the study grid and the 30 sampling points around two Centre for Biodiversity Conservation Research observation points.

3.4 Non-Invasive Genetic Sampling

Opportunistic collection of *C. lunulatus* faecal samples was attempted in the survey period, with an ethanol preservation and silica-gel drying protocol in place. Hair traps were deployed using groundnut-baited transparent bottles with double-sided adhesive tape on the interior rim to snag hair from foraging animals, each monitored by a dedicated Apeman camera trap.

3.5 Data Analysis

Detection data were compiled to derive species richness, detection frequency, individual count, and station occupancy for each species. Naïve occupancy for the white-naped mangabey was estimated as the proportion of stations yielding at least one detection. A Relative Abundance Index (RAI) was calculated as detections per 100 trap-nights. Habitat variables were summarised descriptively, and the spatial distribution of mangabey detections was examined.

4. STUDY TIMELINE

DATE	ACTIVITY	DURATION
November 2025	Stakeholder meetings (ACA management, Amokwaw chief), team lodging and logistics	1 month
22–30 November 2025	Camera trap deployment and vegetation data collection at all 30 stations	~8 days
Nov 2025 – Mar 2026	Active camera trap survey, dry season monitoring, ongoing field security checks	4 months
9-14 March 2026	Camera trap retrieval and SD card data extraction	1 week
April 2026	Species identification, data entry, analysis.	1 month
May – June 2026	Report write-up and submission to MBZ	2 months
June – August 2026	Manuscript write-up and submission to peer-reviewed journal	3 months

5. ACTIVITIES UNDERTAKEN

5.1 Stakeholder Engagement and Community Coordination

Before the survey, formal consultations were held with ACA management and the Chief of the Amokwaw community. ACA management assigned dedicated wildlife rangers to accompany the field team, contributing both safety support and local ecological expertise. The Amokwaw chief was briefed on the project's objectives and he assured the project team he would inform community members not to interfere with deployed cameras, a concern arising from the previous CBCR survey. This engagement was instrumental in securing field access and largely safeguarding the equipment throughout the monitoring period.

5.2 Camera Trap Deployment (November 2025)

All 30 Solaris camera traps were successfully deployed between 22 and 30 November 2025. The project team were assisted by wildlife rangers from Forestry Commission. After the initial deployment of five traps for by the two teams, the Forestry Commission rangers deployed the remaining 25 traps. Camera height was standardised at 30–50 cm above ground, all units-oriented northward, and batteries and solar panels fully charged before deployment. Functionality was confirmed at every station via walk-tests. The deployment covered an estimated 2,850 trap-nights of survey effort before retrieval on 14 March 2026.

5.3 Vegetation and Habitat Data Collection

Standardised vegetation surveys were completed at all 30 stations at the time of camera deployment. Mean canopy cover across all stations was 65.2% (range: 30–80%), mean canopy height was 9.4 m (range: 6.8–14.8 m), and mean tree DBH was 50.7 cm. Mean ground cover was 69.2%. We present here only observations, made during deployment of the camera traps. Fruiting trees were recorded at only 2 of 30 stations, and understory across most sites was characterised by small-tree secondary regrowth. Further research has to be done on this topic, as there are videos of mangabeys feeding on some plants. Going forward we could incorporate a botanist to assist with identification.

5.4 Non-Invasive Genetic Sampling

Non-invasive genetic sampling was initiated. Only one hair trap station (of four planned) was deployed due to field equipment failure; no hair samples were captured during the monitoring period. These results, while disappointing, have allowed refinement of collection protocols for future attempts.

5.5 Camera Trap Retrieval and Data Processing (March 2026)

Out of the 30 cameras, 27 were retrieved on by 14 March 2026; three could not be recovered as they were missing, and two of the recovered units had failed to capture any images. Although, the wildlife rangers keep watch and patrol the forest, there are a significant number of hunters and poachers that roam the forest too. The three traps missing could have been taken by hunters. The wildlife rangers retrieved all 27 traps from the field.

Systematic image and video review was subsequently conducted using a standardised data entry protocol capturing: date, station ID, species (common and scientific name), taxonomic group, detection frequency, individual count, and IUCN conservation status. Detection events selected for submission to the MBZCF video archive were cross-referenced with the detection database.

5.6 Community Education Planning

Although the project had an education campaign, the funds were depleted and hence we were forced to abandon the education until further funds are obtained to expand the research and conduct a proper dissemination of results and conservation campaign in the Amokwaw and surrounding communities. Additionally, the requirement to share the results to Forestry Commission in person could not be completed due to depleted funds.

6. PROJECT OUTCOMES

6.1 Confirmation of White-naped Mangabey Presence

The most significant outcome of the project is the confirmed, multi-station presence of the white-naped mangabey within the study grid. The species was detected at **11 of the 25 sampling stations (44% naïve occupancy)**, yielding **21 independent detection events** and a count of **73 individual sightings**. This success of this project was dependent on the prior information from the previous CBCR survey (2 detections, 36 cameras, 2024).

The most detection concentrations were at stations AE4 (five events, up to 10 individuals) and AE3 (four events, up to 15 individuals), suggesting a regularly used core activity area in the central portion of the grid. Large group sightings, including 15 individuals recorded at both AD4 and AE3, are consistent with the typical multi-male, multi-female group structure reported for *Cercocebus* species (McGraw et al., 2006), and indicate the presence of at least one stable resident group within or adjacent to the survey quadrat.

The Relative Abundance Index (RAI) for the white-naped mangabey across all 25 functional stations was approximately 0.74 detections per 100 trap-nights, low as expected for a naturally elusive species with large home ranges, but a meaningful improvement on the knowledge of the species.

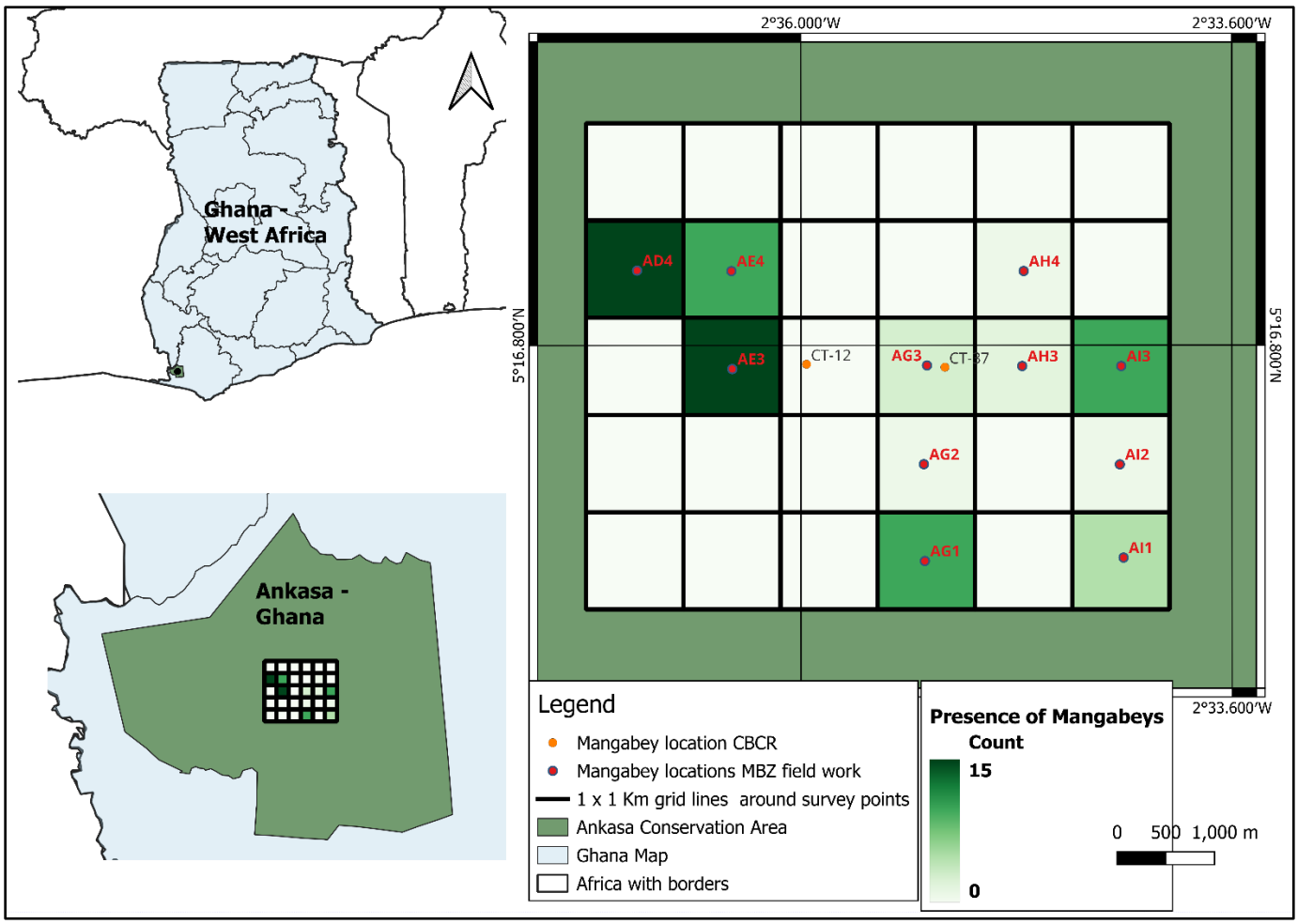

Figure 2: Map of Ankasa showing gradient of grid cells where mangabeys were detected during the study, generated with QGIS.

6.2 Biodiversity: Species Richness and Detection Summary

The survey detected **35 unique vertebrate species** across 24 mammals, 10 birds, and one reptile, from 1,249 total detection events representing 475 individual sightings. The five most frequently detected species were the African giant pouched rat *(Cricetomys emini*; 362 detections, 21 stations), Maxwell's duiker *(Philantomba maxwellii*; 213 detections, 23 stations), fire-footed rope squirrel *(Funisciurus pyrropus*; 155 detections, 19 stations), African brush-tailed porcupine *(Atherurus africanus*; 117 detections, 16 stations), and bay duiker *(Cephalophus dorsalis*; 92 detections, 15 stations). These nocturnal and diurnal small-to-medium mammals dominated the detection record across nearly all habitat types and transects.

6.3 Conservation-Priority Species

Eight species of conservation interest were recorded, as follows:

Common Name	Scientific Name	IUCN Status	Detections	Stations
Forest elephant	*Loxodonta cyclotis*	**CR – Critically Endangered**	1	1
White-naped mangabey	*Cercocebus lunulatus*	**EN – Endangered**	21	11
White-bellied pangolin	*Phataginus tricuspis*	**EN – Endangered**	7	4
Lowe's monkey	*Cercopithecus lowei*	**VU – Vulnerable**	18	8
White-breasted Guinea fowl	*Agelastes meleagrides*	**VU – Vulnerable**	1	1
Bongo	*Tragelaphus eurycerus*	**NT – Near Threatened**	2	1
Eastern lesser spot-nosed monkey	*Cercopithecus petaurista ssp. petaurista*	**NT – Near Threatened**	3	2
Green-tailed bristlebill	*Bleda eximius*	**NT – Near Threatened**	3	3

6.4 Human Disturbance

Evidence of poaching was recorded at four of the 30 stations (13.3%): AD5 (hunting cartridges and poaching trails), AE5, AH1, and AH2 (hunting trails). These stations are distributed across the northern, central, and eastern portions of the survey grid, indicating that poaching pressure is not restricted to the periphery of the protected area. The co-occurrence of poaching evidence with areas of mangabey activity, particularly the AE transect, warrants close attention in future threat assessments and enforcement planning.

6.5 Habitat Suitability

As stated, we present here only, the habitat metrics recorded. The results do not necessarily support that the study area broadly supports mangabey, however this is valuable baseline information to work with. Further habitat composition research could be implemented. Mean canopy cover of 65.2% and mean tree DBH of 50.7 cm indicate a secondary forest with a structurally complex canopy. The mean canopy height of 9.4m is within the range associated with semi-terrestrial *Cercocebus* activity, consistent with the genus's use of both forest floor and lower canopy strata (McGraw et al., 2006). Elephant signs and direct detections at multiple stations also confirm that the forest retains large-bodied fauna, a further indicator of habitat integrity. However, the very low

fruiting tree density at the time of survey which was the dry season (two of 30 stations) may reflect seasonal variation and warrants assessment during the wet season.

6.6 Partnerships and Institutional Outcomes

The collaboration with WAPCA proved transformative: WAPCA contributed ten additional Solaris camera traps, 2842.27 US dollars in co-funding, and provided direct technical oversight through Nuria Badiella and Andrea Dempsey. Sustained engagement with ACA management and Wildlife Division rangers secured safe, uninterrupted field access across the four-month survey. These partnerships have established a solid institutional foundation for continued research, monitoring, and conservation action within ACA, and for the WAPCA team's future interactions with the Forestry Commission regarding conservation translocation planning.

7. CHALLENGES ENCOUNTERED

7.1 Rarity and Elusiveness of the Target Species

Despite the improved detection rate, 14 of 25 stations (56%) yielded no mangabey detections across the four-month survey. This reflects the species' rarity, moderately large home ranges, and sensitivity to human disturbance. Reliable estimation of population size from these data will require formal occupancy modelling with imperfect detection corrections.

7.2 Logistical Constraints in Dense Forest

Dense secondary forest and difficult terrain significantly slowed both deployment and retrieval operations. Navigation between stations proved difficult, hence the project team trained the Ankasa park rangers to deploy and retrieve all the traps due to the terrain conditions.

7.3 Genetic Sampling Failure

No faecal samples attributable to *C. lunulatus* were recovered during the deployment of traps. Equipment failure limited hair trap deployment to one functional station, and no hair samples were obtained. The failure to collect genetic material means that non-invasive population genetics could not be pursued during this phase, though protocols have been refined for future attempts.

7.4 Poaching and Camera Security

Active poaching evidence was documented at four stations, including spent cartridges and established hunting trails within the survey grid. Three of the cameras were lost presumably due to hunters noticing it and believing they have been recorded.

7.5 Limited Fruiting Tree Availability

Only two of 30 stations had fruiting trees at the time of habitat assessment. Fruit availability is a primary driver of primate distribution and movement, and the low fruiting tree density during the dry season may have constrained the spatial distribution of mangabey detections. Repeat surveys during the wet season would help separate seasonal effects from underlying habitat quality. We would also look to bring on board a botanist to help with tree identification and some of the mangabeys were foraging on plants.

8. EXPENSES

The approved MBZCF disbursement of USD 5,000 converted to 51,451.77 Ghana cedis at the time of transfer. WAPCA Ghana provided a further 2842.27 US dollars in co-funding. The summary below reflects expenditure categories. Full itemised receipts are held by the grantee and available on request.

A detailed Excel of expenses have been submitted as a separate attachment to MBZ.

9. FUTURE WORKS

The data and partnerships developed through this project provide a strong platform for a series of follow-on conservation and research activities:

- Habitat suitability mapping: Vegetation and disturbance data will be integrated with occupancy model outputs in GIS to produce a habitat suitability map for *C. lunulatus* across the wider ACA landscape, identifying high-priority areas for population persistence and potential translocation.
- Peer-reviewed publication: A manuscript documenting the biodiversity survey, mangabey detection rates, and habitat associations is targeted for write-up by June–August 2026, the first quantitative camera trap study of *C. lunulatus* in ACA.
- Expanded genetic sampling: A second field phase will revise the methodology to deploy a larger network of hair trap stations across the mangabey detection zones identified in this survey, aiming to collect non-invasive genetic material for group size estimation, population structure analysis, and connectivity assessment.
- Community education delivery: Educational posters and outreach materials incorporating camera trap images and video of the mangabeys and other wildlife will be distributed to communities and schools around ACA in the next phase of the project provided we secure the funding, building local awareness and stewardship.
- Conservation Translocation feasibility input: Findings on mangabey presence, group structure, habitat suitability, and disturbance pressures will be formally submitted to WAPCA and the Forestry Commission as evidence informing the assessment of ACA as a candidate receptor site for conservation translocation of *C. lunulatus*.

10. ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

The project team is deeply grateful to the **Mohamed bin Zayed Species Conservation Fund** and the **Global Environment Fund** for the grant that made this work possible. Sincere thanks are extended to **WAPCA Ghana**, particularly Nuria Badiella and Andrea Dempsey, for their technical guidance, equipment contribution, co-funding, and unwavering field support. We are grateful to the management and staff of **Ankasa Conservation Area** and the **Wildlife Division of Forestry Commission of Ghana** for granting access to the study area and for assigning experienced rangers whose expertise was indispensable in the field. The rangers were crucial in the deployment and retrieval of all traps. The cooperation of the **CBCR** who shared data with us and to the **Amokwaw community and its chief** is sincerely appreciated. Finally, this project would not have been possible without the tireless dedication of field grantees Joseph Kwasi Afrifa and Samuel Tamekloe, and all who contributed to camera trap deployment, habitat surveys, and data collection.

11. TEAM MEMBERS AND ROLES

Name	Affiliation	Role
Joseph Kobina Daniels	Principal Investigator	Project coordination, survey design, data analysis, reporting, and stakeholder liaison.
Joseph Kwasi Afrifa	MBZCF Field Grantee	Camera trap deployment and, habitat data collection, species identification of five sites. Assisted training of staff on data collection.
Samuel Tamekloe	MBZCF Field Grantee	Camera trap deployment and, habitat data collection, species identification of five sites. Assisted training of staff on data collection.
Nuria Badiella	WAPCA Ghana	Technical supervision of field activities, equipment coordination, alignment with WAPCA conservation priorities. Survey design and training of staff on data collection.
Andrea Dempsey	WAPCA Ghana	Technical oversight, species identification support, strategic guidance on translocation planning.
ACA Park Rangers	Ghana Wildlife Division / ACA	Deployment and retrieval of all camera traps, providing field safety and navigation, forest access guidance.
Francis Miezah	Ankasa – Tano Community Resource Management Area	Camera trap deployment support, vegetation survey assistance, faecal and hair sample searching.
Kofi Amponsah	CBCR	Sharing of previous captions, input in survey design.

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13. APPENDICES

Appendix 1. Complete Species List — Camera Trap Survey, Ankasa Conservation Area, November 2025 – March 2026

#	Common Name	Scientific Name	Group	IUCN Status	Detections	Stations
1	Forest Elephant	*Loxodonta cyclotis*	Mammal	CR	1	1
2	White-naped Mangabey	*Cercocebus lunulatus*	Mammal	EN	21	11
3	White-bellied Pangolin	*Phataginus tricuspis*	Mammal	EN	7	4
4	Lowe's Monkey	*Cercopithecus lowei*	Mammal	VU	18	8
5	White-breasted Guinea Fowl	*Agelastes meleagrides*	Bird	VU	1	1
6	Bongo	*Tragelaphus eurycerus*	Mammal	NT	2	1
7	Lesser Spot-Nosed Monkey	*Cercopithecus petaurista*	Mammal	NT	3	2
8	Green-tailed Bristlebill	*Bleda eximius*	Bird	NT	3	3
9	Bay Duiker	*Cephalophus dorsalis*	Mammal	LC	92	15
10	Black Duiker	*Cephalophus niger*	Mammal	LC	4	4
11	Maxwell's Duiker	*Philantomba maxwellii*	Mammal	LC	213	23
12	Bushbuck	*Tragelaphus scriptus*	Mammal	LC	1	1
13	Red River Hog	*Potamochoerus porcus*	Mammal	LC	24	11
14	African Civet	*Civettictis civetta*	Mammal	LC	13	11
15	Common Kusimanse	*Crossarchus obscurus*	Mammal	LC	34	9
16	Honey Badger	*Mellivora capensis*	Mammal	LC	1	1
17	King Genet	*Genetta poensis*	Mammal	LC	15	8

18	Marsh Mongoose	*Atilax paludinosus*	Mammal	LC	44	12
19	Pardine Genet	*Genetta pardina*	Mammal	LC	23	9
20	Senegal Bushbaby	*Galago senegalensis*	Mammal	LC	4	2
21	African Brush-tailed Porcupine	*Atherurus africanus*	Rodent	LC	117	16
22	African Giant Pouched Rat	*Cricetomys emini*	Rodent	LC	362	21
23	Fire-footed Rope Squirrel	*Funisciurus pyrropus*	Rodent	LC	155	19
24	Red-legged Sun Squirrel	*Heliosciurus rufobrachium*	Rodent	LC	19	10
25	Slender-tailed Squirrel	*Protoxerus aubinnii*	Rodent	LC	18	5
26	Blue-headed Wood Dove	*Turtur brehmeri*	Bird	LC	4	2
27	Crested Guinea Fowl	*Guttera verreauxi*	Bird	LC	5	2
28	Forest Scrub Robin	*Tychaedon leucosticta*	Bird	LC	2	1
29	Grey-headed Bristlebill	*Bleda canicapillus*	Bird	LC	2	1
30	Grey-throated Rail	*Canirallus oculeus*	Bird	LC	6	3
31	Latham's Forest Francolin	*Peliperdix lathami*	Bird	LC	12	3
32	Nkulengu Rail	*Himantornis haematopus*	Bird	LC	17	8
33	Tambourine Dove	*Turtur tympanistria*	Bird	LC	2	1
34	Western Long-tailed Hornbill	*Horizocerus albocristatus*	Bird	LC	1	1
35	Nile Monitor	*Varanus niloticus stellatus*	Reptile	LC	3	3

Appendix 2. Camera Trap Survey Summary Statistics

Metric	Value
Total sampling stations	30
Survey area	30 km² (6 × 5 km quadrat)
Camera station spacing	~1 km
Habitat types surveyed	Secondary forest (93.3%), Riparian (3.3%), Marshy (3.3%)
Survey period	22 November 2025 – 14 March 2026
Total trap-nights (estimated)	~2,850
Camera trap model	Solaris (solar-powered, 4 × AA backup)
Camera settings	Motion-triggered; 2 × 1080p still + 30 s 2040p video; 15 s delay
Mean elevation (m)	101.1 m (range: 77–127 m)
Mean canopy cover	65.2% (range: 30–80%)
Mean canopy height	9.4 m (range: 6.8–14.8 m)
Mean tree DBH	50.7 cm
Mean ground cover	69.2%
Stations with fruiting trees	2 of 30 (6.7%)
Total species detected	35 (24 mammals inc. rodents, 10 birds, 1 reptile)
Total detection events	1,249
Total individual sightings	475
Threatened species (IUCN)	8 (1 CR, 2 EN, 2 VU, 3 NT)
White-naped mangabey detections	21 events; 73 individuals; 11 stations
Mangabey naïve occupancy	44% (11/25 stations)
Mangabey RAI	0.74 per 100 trap-nights
Stations with poaching evidence	4 (13.3%)

Appendix 3. Pictures of the team from the field

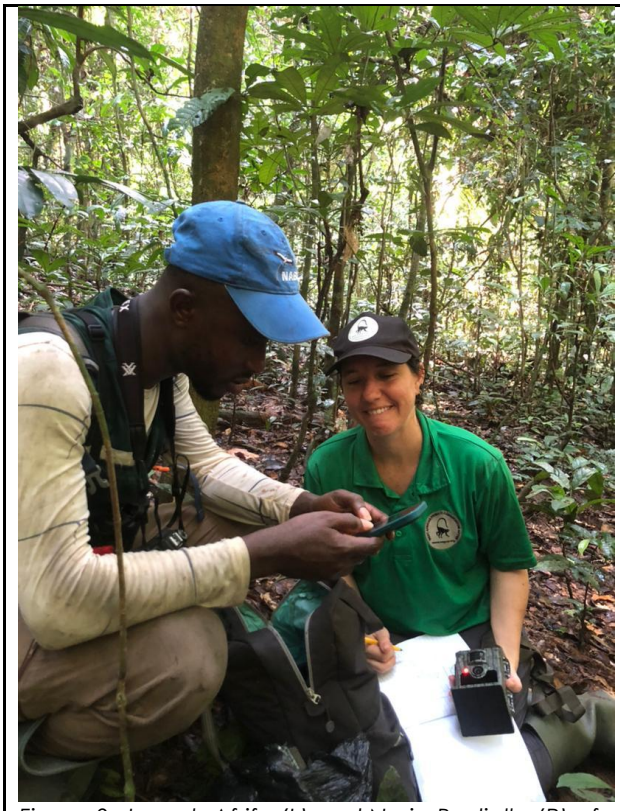

Figure 3: Joseph Afrifa (L) and Nuria Badiella (R) of WAPCA in the field setting-up a Solaris camera trap

Figure 4: Samuel Tamekloe (L) and Nuria (R) in the field.

Figure 5: Three members of the guide and ranger team of Wildlife Division in the background as a Solaris camera trap is deployed at the base of the tree to capture wildlife.

Figure 6: MBZ grantees Samuel and Afrifa with the Wildlife Division team in Ankasa

Figure 7: Typical Forest canopy in Ankasa

THANK YOU