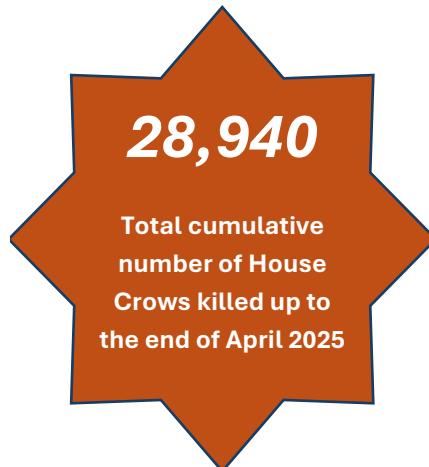


CROWS NO MORE! PROJECT

Activity Report – April 2025, Eric Kinoti, Colin Jackson

Summary

Baiting and poisoning has continued unabated in April. The month also started with the exploration of Mombasa as the team scouted for feeding and roosting sites with a view to do counts and plan for possible expansion to this area. We are grateful for the donation of a motorbike from Ocean Sports hotel for Watamu / Gede. Our Kilifi team visited Wesa and Tezo to rally for support and start poisoning there. On the rehab this month, we received a barn owl with an injured wing, probably from a catapult injury from the Vipingo area.



Crows No More!!

At the request of KWS, the Crows No More team went to Mombasa to explore looking for feeding sites and roosting sites and do some counts. A total of 47 sites were visited and surveyed. These sites form key starting points where poisonings and the collection of corpses will happen, the biggest and most key site being the Mwakirunge dumpsite in Kisauni. We are grateful for the support from Sarova Whitesands, Travelers Inn Mombasa, Stanley Hotel, Surfside Villas & Sam Ikwae for lunches, accommodation and transport.

Over the month, we have noticed an influx of new populations of crows into areas where they have already been killed. It would appear that crows that would feed outside of town have now come to the town feeding sites. This is a good indication that *Crows No More!* has made some impact on the population and will help in reducing the overall population.

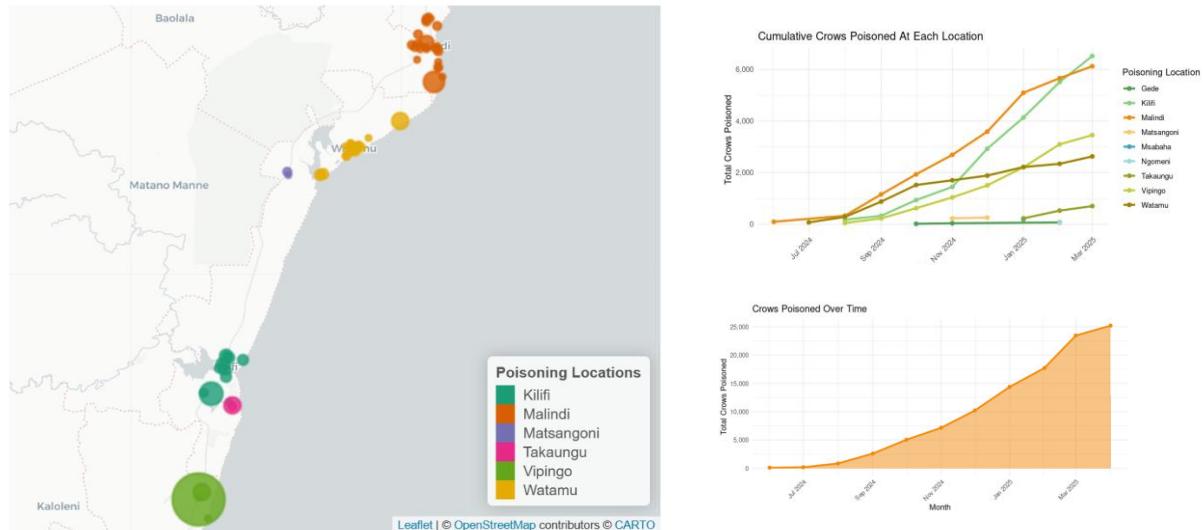
We are grateful to Ocean Sports for donating a motorbike to *Crows No More!*. This is a huge step towards the team's mobility as we focus on the crows outside the market areas. We have already poisoned the Jacaranda Beach landing sites, and the numbers are quite good. Landing sites are key places where the crows have been feeding there naturally.



Tune, our field officer in Watamu, on the new motorbike from Ocean Sports.

The *Crows No More!* dashboard is fully functional and we hope many readers have appreciated using it. It is accessible via the link below. This link helps one log in and check the progress of the project and even zoom in to a particular location. The size of the circle represents the number of House Crows killed at the site. Thus, the bigger the circle the larger the number of crows killed – you can see the Vipingo slaughter house is doing really well!

Click on this link: <https://arochakenya.shinyapps.io/crownomoredashboard/>



Left: Map showing locations where poisoning has been done, the circle size indicates the number of crows killed at that point. On the website you can zoom in to see more detail of where specific poisoning sites are located. **Top right:** Graph showing progress of locations. **Bottom right:** Cumulative poisoning results for total project

The CNM Kilifi team visited Wesa beach and attended a beach clean-up. Kelvin and Cate talked with the local chief and were welcomed to start baiting there. Prebaiting is done by Wesa Beach House and poisoning has started and will be done at least twice a week.



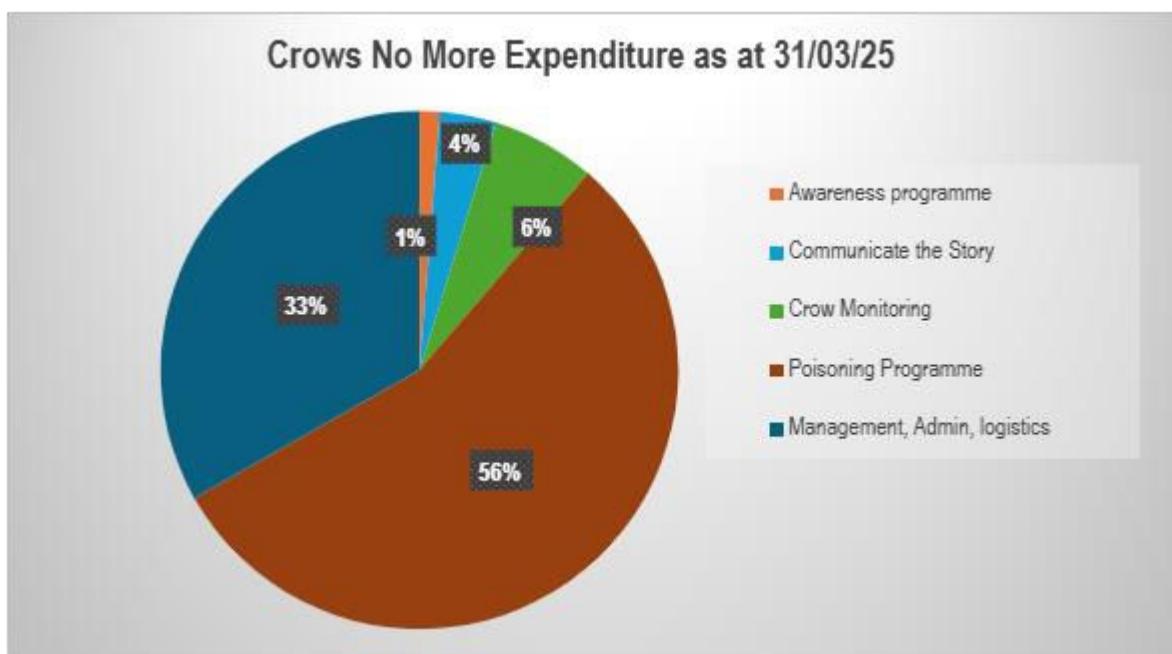
Left: Kelvin with Cate during the Wesa beach cleanup. Right: They met with the area chief, Mr. Lawrence Maitha, and were given the go-ahead to work on Wesa and Tezo.

Fundraising and accounting

April Fundraising and March expenditure

As always, we are very grateful to our supporters, who have continued to have confidence in *Crows No More!*. In April, we raised a total of **KSH 337,310**. THANK YOU! However, the reality of the cost of the crow eradication is that we actually need Ksh c.490,000 per month for the basic regular costs if we are to do it as widely and effectively as possible. We are therefore currently working at beyond our means and will have to cut back significantly unless we can obtain sufficient funding. We have a grant lined up from a donor but there are tax issues which, until sorted, means they cannot send us the funds. In the meantime, we are relying on the awesome support from all those who have donated to date – and any others who can be encouraged to join us.

The pie chart of expenditure below is for March.



A total of **Ksh 362,500** was donated in March but an expenditure of **Ksh 535,263** was incurred. We are therefore running at a loss and closed the month with a deficit of **KSh172,763**. We now have a cumulative deficit of **KSH 513,335** as at of 31st of March 2025.

For June we are going to have to significantly reduce the team size and activities to match the funding we are receiving. We have been greatly appreciative of the donations received to date – unfortunately, the cost of the exercise is such that it absorbs one-off donations immediately. The best kind of support is the regular, committed donations that a number of hotels and some individuals make. If we could get another 30-40 individuals and 10-15 hotels or businesses to commit to between Ksh 2,000 and Ksh 10,000 per month, it would allow the poisoning to really move ahead.

CAN YOU HELP?

Help us Get Rid of the Crows – **donate:**

All funds are handled by [A Rocha Kenya](#)

1) Direct Mpesa donations can be received by A Rocha Kenya:

Paybill: 303030 (ABSA bank)

Acc: 0121008254

IMPORTANT: Please send the M-pesa sms confirmation to the project coordinator, Eric Kinoti **+254 718 422487** so we can track all income.

Better still set up a **standing order** direct debit with **M-Ratiba** is an add-on for M-Pesa. With M-Ratiba you can set up a **standing order direct donation** to any given account. Read more here <https://www.safaricom.co.ke/media-center-landing/frequently-asked-questions/m-pesa-ratiba>

2) Bank details for direct / online donations to Crows No More! project:

Bank Name: Absa Bank Kenya

Branch Name: Malindi

Account Name: A Rocha Kenya Mwamba Centre

Account Number: 0121008254

Please make sure that you include a reference for 'Crows No More'

Please also have proof of payment emailed to accounts.kenya@arocha.org and crowsnomore@arocha.org so that we can keep track of all donations.

THANK YOU for your support!



Wild Bird Rehabilitation

At the Watamu Bird Rehab this month, a Barn Owl with a deep wound on the right wing was received. The Villagers said it was being harassed by crows but genuinely, that looks more like a catapult wound. The bone was broken and required surgery, which was performed and is now in recovery.

While no-one owned up to shooting it with a catapult or throwing a stone at it, this continues to highlight that there is still a lot of human-raptor conflict and mostly with the owls which are highly associated with a lot of myths and superstition. This fortunate owl is now in the safety of the rehab and recovering. Whether it will fly again, we'll have to see how well the wing mends.

Barn Owls belong to the genus *Tyto* which is the most widely distributed genus of owls in the world. They are medium-sized owls with large heads and characteristic heart-shaped faces. They have long, strong legs with powerful talons. They are also remarkable in how utterly silently they can fly (watch [this amazing BBC experiment](#) demonstrating this).



The barn Owl when it was being received from the villagers.