# CROWS NO MORE! PROJECT

**Annual report, 2025 – Eric Kinoti, Colin Jackson**

## Summary

2025 was a year of real impact for *Crows No More!*. A total of **90,247** House Crows were counted as being controlled in 2025 but we recognise this to be a conservative estimate and in reality the number is more like **120,000**. The project **expanded** from just **north coast** to being given the task of addressing House Crow infestation in **Mombasa**, **South Coast** and along the **Mombasa-Nairobi highway**. The CNM education programme was initiated with the help of KWS visiting schools and other groups to share about challenges of invasive species. The project continued to be **supported 100% from private donors** and is a testimony to how a wide range of stakeholders can come together successfully and make a real difference. The avian rehab programme associated with the Crows No More project showed a 69% percent success in releases from the birds received throughout the year which is highly encouraging.

**100,467**

**Total cumulative number of House Crows killed from mid -2024 to the end of 2025**

## Expansion of strategy

For the whole of 2024 and the first half of 2025 A Rocha limited the work of *Crows No More!* to north coast as agreed in the KWS-led stakeholders meeting in 2024. In July 2025 KWS organised a coast-wide stakeholders meeting hosted by Mombasa Beach Hotel and chaired by the KWS Director General, Prof Kanga. This brought together not only hoteliers, tour operators and other interested parties like South Coast Residents Association, but more importantly the Pest Control and Products Board (PCPB), the body that regulates the poisons and pesticides in Kenya, the county governments in the Coast, national government representatives and various KWS station wardens from the coastal region, along with parastatals like Kenya Airports Authorities (KAA) etc.

At this meeting it was agreed that the already acquired Starlicide poison be handed over by the importer to KWS for safekeeping and distribution at the Coast Conservation Area HQ making it much available to CNM. Furthermore, a new committee was constituted, chaired by Captain Michael Nicholson, who is now the Assistant Director for Wildlife & Community Service at KWS. A Rocha Kenya was gazetted as the implementor of House Crow eradication for both the North and South Coast through the *Crows No More!* project under KWS. This endorsement has thus led to the expansion of the work to so many more sites.

# Crows No More – Crow Control

2025 started by adding a new location, Takaungu, to our areas of operation and more came on board in quick succession. At the end of 2024 we were operating in five locations (Lamu, Malindi, Watamu, Kilifi and Vipingo) and by the end of 2025 this had increased to 16 (see fig. 1). A key strategy was moving out of the urban centres and more into the rural areas to hit concentrations of crows where they spend most of the day foraging. In 2025, the team recorded a total of **90,247** House Crows taking the poisoned bait and therefore assumed to have been killed. This makes a cumulative total of **100,467** House Crows eliminated since the start of poisoning in 2024. In reality, from careful observation at baiting sites, the number of crows estimated at every poisoning event is significantly under-estimated and the true figure of crows controlled is more likely 120,000+.

## Summary of House Crow control progress by location (listed geographically from north to south):

A total of 833 sites have been used to control the House Crow since the start of the project in mid-2024 involving 1,851 poisoning events. Control work began in Watamu, as that is where A Rocha is based, but was quickly expanded to Malindi, Kilifi and Vipingo. The map shows where poisoning has now taken place. Through 2025, the number of sites increased and thus the impact as well.

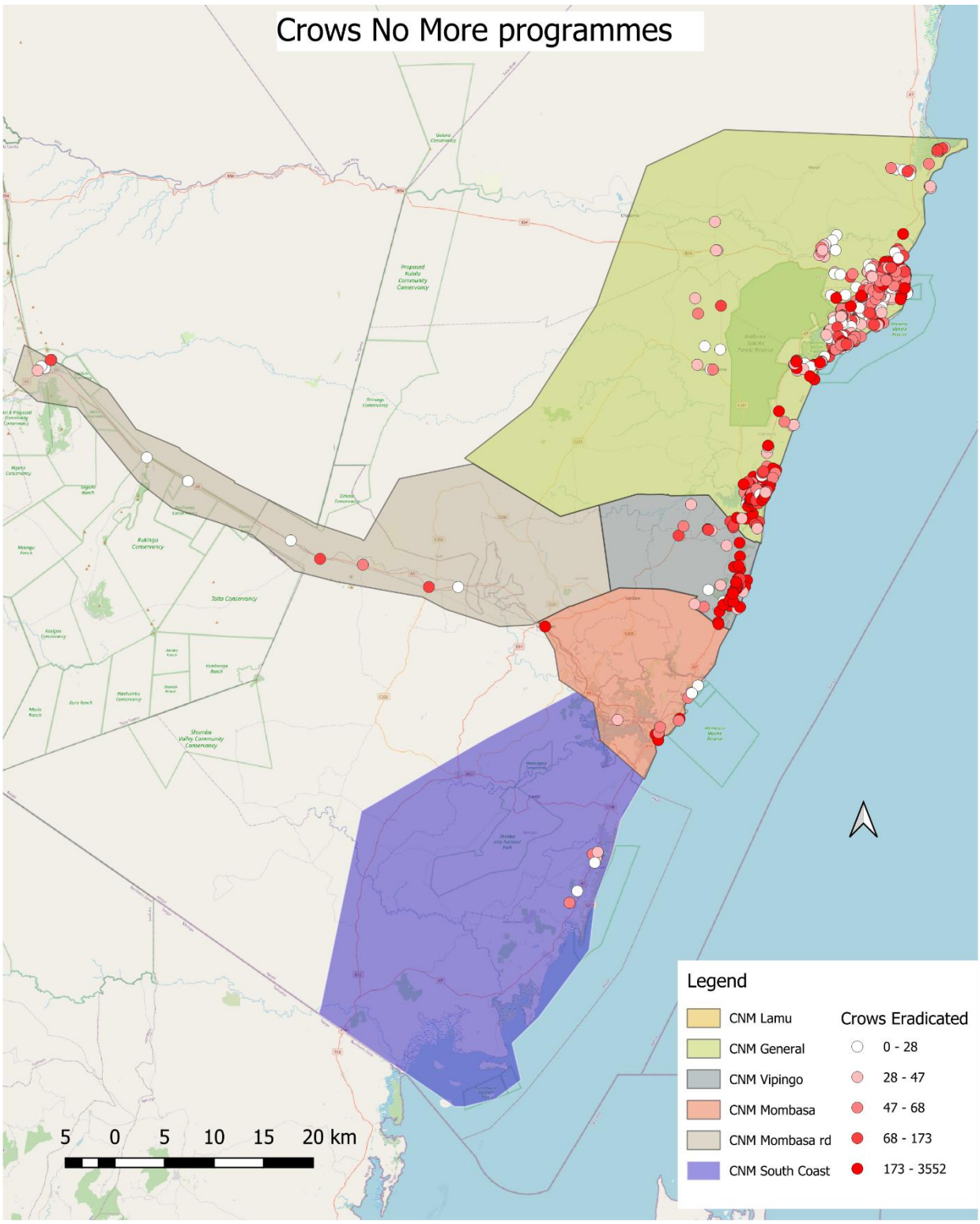



*Figure 1: Map of House Crow poisoning sites during 2025, Kenya coast; Lamu has also done some poisoning but GPS coordinates have not been collected for the actual site.*

## Lamu

***Controlling since* :** End of 2024
***Team*:** 2; Famau Shukri and Issa under Eric's oversight
***Estimated House Crow population at start*:** c.500
***Total controlled*:** 243/243(2025 total /Total since start of project)- *data available from 2025*
***No of control events***:48
***Approx kgs of bait used for poisoning***: 24
***Funded by***: Lamu residents

The Lamu residents have been amazingly active in raising their own funds to cover costs of the crow control in Lamu. A significant amount (c.Ksh 500,000) was given to the central CNM fund which has been greatly appreciated, recognising that no House Crow population is isolated and independent from others up and down the coast. Given the relatively low number of House Crows, they have really focused on hitting the birds and reducing the menace before it gets seriously out of hand. There have been some challenges in Eric overseeing ground staff from a distance, but these are being addressed and there is real hope for eradicating them from here entirely.

## Malindi

***Controlling since*:** July 2024
***Team***: 5: Ziro, Mwalimu, Antony and Emmanuel, led by Bruce, John and Crispin with oversight from Eric.
***Estimated House Crow population at start*:** c.33,000
***Total controlled*:** 26,483 / 30,142 (2025 total / Total since start of project)
***No of control events in 2025***: 603
***Approx kgs of bait used for poisoning*:** 1,008 kgs
***Funded by***: Residents have supported some staff directly and bait supplied by hotels incl Ocean Sports, but otherwise all costs paid from CNM central fund.

This is a huge location that was one of the original two that A Rocha worked on under Tony Archer in the early 2000s. By 2005, there were only .c30 House Crows in Malindi but by 2024 they had increased to over 33,000 (as per the roost count carried out by A Rocha). The team here has been incredibly dedicated and consistent and the Malindi residents and businesses have been active in both donating funds as well as flagging concentrations of crows to be controlled and thus assisting the focus of the work. A motorbike donated by John Kithinji has made a significant difference to the work and enabled a lot of 'guerilla control' work to take place (see below for explanation). As a result, a remarkable 26,483 crows have been recorded as being controlled. In reality, this is probably more like 35,000, demonstrating how the roost counts are a clear underestimation of the actual number of crows present.

The Malindi programme is a superb example of people working together for the common good, with a significant amount of bait being provided by Ocean Sports in Watamu (c. 300kg of bait per month that has been used for both prebaiting and poisoning). Alex

Hunter, Deborah Goodhart, David Hopkins, Roz Radford, Dennis Fitzpatrick and Ann Robertson have employed between them two full-time workers for a year.

A major challenge in Malindi in 2024 was the closing down of the main landfill site at Mayungu. It meant rubbish was dumped anywhere and everywhere in a tsunami of fly-tipping and thus all the crows spread out far and wide. Thankfully in 2025 the landfill site was reopened after six months of closure meaning crows once more concentrated at Mayungu again and allowed for more focussed control efforts.

## Watamu (incl. Matsangoni, Gede north to Msabaha)

***Controlling since*:** July 2024
***Team*:** 1: Tune with oversight from Eric (with 3 months of an extra hand, Bashora, focused on Gede).
***Estimated House Crow population at start***: c.12,000 (roost near police station)
***Total controlled*:** 14,897 / 16,809 (2025 total / Total since start of project)
***No control events in 2025*:** 324
***Approx kgs of bait used for poisoning*:** 417 kgs
***Funded by***: CNM central fund

Watamu is where the control started and remains a key site for control. In 2005 the total crow population was just five birds. Again, we see the estimate of 12,000 from the roost count was an underestimate – though there has been a breeding season since that and therefore more birds added to the population.

We are grateful to Ocean Sports for providing bait and donating a motorbike for the field officer in Watamu to use. This was a big milestone as now the field officer could cover more ground, thus increasing our efficiency. Also, thanks to Turtle Bay Beach Club, Medina Palms, Garoda, Temple Point Hotel, Watamu Beach Cottages and Hemingways for believing in us and putting up the initial funding in late 2023 that enabled us to get *Crows No More!* off the ground.

## Kilifi (incl. Chumani, Tezo Mavueni, Kaloleni, Mariakani)

***Controlling since*:** August 2024
***Team*:** Charles and Cate (volunteering), led by Kelvin with oversight from Eric.
***Estimated House Crow population at start*:** c.19,000 (Kilifi town only)
***Total controlled*:** 28,061/ 31,381(2025 total / Total since start of project)
***No control events in 2025*:** 281
***Approx kgs of bait used for poisoning*:** 729 kgs
***Funded by***: CNM central fund

Getting hold of sufficient bait for the control work is one of the key bottlenecks in effective crow control. In Kilifi, the bait has been generously supplied by Kilifi Plantations Limited, who have also donated a motorbike that has enabled us to go from Mavueni to Chumani to cover that area. Cate Waterer, a very enthusiastic volunteer, has been pivotal in raising funds from Kilifi hotels/businesses and residents for *Crows No More!* as well as assisting the field officers with baiting around Kilifi and in Chumani and Mavueni. She and Kelvin

further carried out two crow eradication expeditions along the Mombasa Road to Voi in her own car, which kicked off the control programme in Voi. This latter work on the Mombasa-Nairobi highway is generously funded by AFEW (see below).

## Takaungu

***Controlling since**:* January 2025
***Team***: 1 lead, Ali Koi, under Kelvin's oversight;
***Estimated House Crow population at start*:** 3,000
***Total controlled***: 1,443 / 1,443 (2025 total / Total since start of project)
***No of control events*:** 20
***Approx kgs of bait used for poisoning*:** 61kgs
***Funded by*:** CNM central fund

Takaungu is a small fishing town south of Kilifi along the Takaungu Creek. A concerned citizen, Said Omar Athman, generously paid for a field officer, Ali Koi, to take on the crow control work in Takaungu. Ali has worked closely with the Takaungu Marine and Environmental Conservation CBO, which has otherwise been doing beach cleaning and village rubbish collection and recycling. Ali's work has been overseen by Kelvin in Kilifi and has been consistent throughout the year.

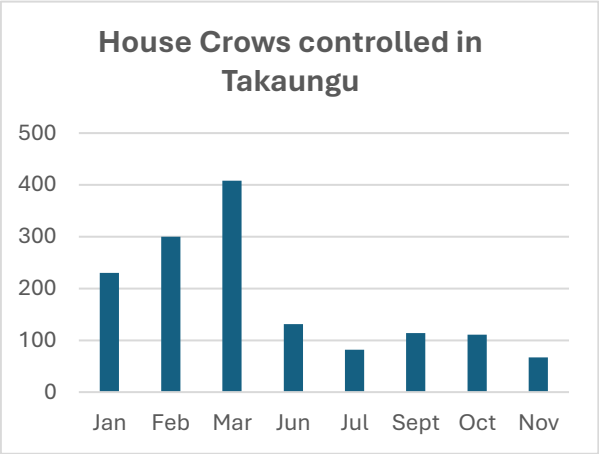



*Fig. 2: No. of crows eliminated in Takaungu by month*

***Left**: Dead Crows from the first poisoning event in Takaungu.* ***Right:*** *Kelvin (grey shirt), Ali Koi (white & black shirt) pose for a picture with Omar Said and his father*

## Vipingo (incl. Shariani, Vipingo Ridge, Kijipwa)

***Controlling since***: August 2024
***Team*:** 3: Patrick Changawa, led by Chris Everard and Joanna Hewitt-Stubb, with oversight from Eric.
***Estimated House Crow population at start*:** c.5,000 (Vipingo shopping centre roost only)
***Total controlled*:** 14,249 / 16,247 (2025 total / Total since start of project)
***No of control events in 2025***: 156
***Approx kgs of bait used for poisoning*:** 302 kgs
***Funded by*:** Vipingo Ridge residents and CNM central fund.

The Vipingo crow control has been highly successful. The Vipingo Ridge residents had already been controlling crow numbers by paying to have nests and eggs destroyed but changed to poisoning overseen by CNM and have had a huge impact. The Vipingo slaughterhouse has been like a honey pot to bees, attracting large numbers of crows daily. This has meant the Vipingo CNM team have been able to seriously hammer crow numbers and no doubt has had an impact in reducing crows from quite a wide area around there, which would be attracted to feed at the slaughterhouse and animal hide drying site.

Vipingo residents have fully funded the operation here, which has eased our operations and has been ably headed by Chris Everard, now an Honorary Warden with KWS. Additionally, they have been engaging the local community to collect garbage and ensure Vipingo and Shariani are clean to avoid reinfestation of crows. Before the poisoning, the Vipingo nest & egg destruction had been very impressive: **17,893 eggs**, **10,810 nests** and **1,505 chicks** eliminated, and **1,044 sacks** of garbage collected!

An extremely notable result of the Vipingo House Crow control has been the hard evidence of the return of some highly special birds – Hooded Vultures. The photos below show the House Crows on the left feeding around the drying skins in early 2025 and on the right in the same site in January 2026, not a single crow but instead Black Kites and Hooded Vultures. This is *clear* evidence that the programme is succeeding and of the hard work done by the Vipingo team.

***Left**: Crows feeding at a skin drying site where the slaughterhouse spreads their skins to dry. **Right**: Kites and Vultures feeding on the same site with no crows in sight.*

## Mombasa

***Controlling since***: November 2025
***Team*:** Ali, David, Samuel, Masuud, Omar, Munene Wycleffe, Mohamed with oversight from Eric.
***Estimated House Crow population at start***: c.100,000
***Total controlled*:** 826/826 *(2025 total / Total since start of project)*
***No control events in 2025***: 12 events
***Approx kgs of bait used for poisoning***: 12 kgs
***Funded by*:** A Rocha Kenya & core CNM Fund, with a pledge to refund it by MTC.

After the July stakeholders meeting and CNM being requested to start work beyond just the north coast, preparations were made to start poisoning in Mombasa and this got going toward the end of the year. Sam Ikwae, chairman of Mombasa Tourism Council, rallied hotels along the Shanzu – Nyali stretch of coastline who started pre-baiting with hotel staff, and we did the first poisonings in November. This early work was funded by generous individuals in Nyali who donated to the core CNM Fund and thus enabled us to make a start on the Mombasa crow population. Others have also kindly paid for youths to do pre-baiting for us as well as provided bait for both pre-baiting and poisoning.

In December, MTC organised a fundraising at Fort Jesus and raised a pledge of Ksh 2 million which, once honoured, will all the start of a full-scale operation. Mombasa is a major hotspot for the crows and therefore will require a huge effort to be able to tackle it. If not dealt with severely, it will prove to be a source of House Crows to re-invade areas to the north and south where they have been cleared. It is therefore critical that funds are raised to address this. It will mean needing to employ six to ten field officers for at least a year as well as additional help from volunteers. But, as demonstrated on north coast, it is very possible to achieve if everyone pulls together.

## Mombasa road (from Maji ya Chumvi, Samburu, Taru, Mackinnon Road, Maungu to Voi)

***Controlling since***: November 2025
***Team*:** 10 volunteers; Benard, Fatuma, Josephine, Jane, Modi, Joshua, Darius, led by Lilian, Tiju and Chris with oversight from Eric.
***Estimated House Crow population at start***: est.6,000 (along the section of road described)
***Total controlled*:** 943 / 943 *(2025 total / Total since start of project)*
***No control events in 2025***: 27
***Approx kgs of bait used for poisoning***: 24 kgs
***Funded by*:** AFEW

Cate and Kelvin, based in Kilifi, were aware of the crows infesting the urban centres along the Mombasa road from previous trips to Voi and volunteered to visit each centre, estimate crow numbers and carry out some 'guerilla poisoning'. This was highly successful and provided a good idea of the size of the crow population as well as managing to what would have definitely been well over 1,000 crows (the count of crows taking poison is known to be

an underestimate by probably 30-50%). Furthermore, their visit to Voi catalysed what became a highly motivated voluntary CNM team by the end of the year.

## South Coast (incl. South Likoni, Ukunda, Diani, Msambweni to Lunga Lunga)

***Controlling since*:** November 2025
***Team*:** 1: George Mokaya of South Coast Residents Assoc (SCRA) volunteering with 1 employee with oversight from Eric.
***Estimated House Crow population at start*:** c150,000
***Total controlled***: 224 / 224 (2025 total / Total since start of project)
***No control events in 2025***: 7
***Approx kgs of bait used for poisoning***: 7 kgs
***Funded by***: SCRA and CNM central fund

South Coast is going to be another major challenge in addressing the House Crow problem, given the number and spread of them. However, there has been cry for focused control work by many people and with some funds raised by SCRA George Mokaya has been overseeing the ground team while providing bait and co-ordination with Eric's input for poisoning. Once sufficient funds have been raised, we plan to have a full team on the ground to be able to run things more easily and effectively.

## Additional *Crows No More!* control work

| Location | Sum of Total crows killed |
|---|---|
| Lamu | 243 |
| Ngomeni | 1,695 |
| Malindi | 26,144 |
| Msabaha | 1,318 |
| Watamu | 14,952 |
| Gede | 1,517 |
| Matsangoni | 1,078 |
| Kilifi | 25,740 |
| Mavueni | 463 |
| Takaungu | 1,443 |
| Vipingo | 13,356 |
| Mariakani | 305 |
| Mombasa | 826 |
| Mombasa rd | 771 |
| Voi | 172 |
| Diani | 224 |
| **Total** | **90,247** |

With a generous donation from the Turkana Basin Global Sustainable Development Goals Institute, a school that visited A Rocha Kenya in January and were impressed with the work, the project extended the pre-baiting and poisoning to include Gede for an intensive two months of work. This was because hundreds of crows were observed flying towards Gede from the Watamu roost early in the morning, continuing past Gede to the farmlands and villages beyond. The result was 338 killed and a clear overall reduction in their numbers.

Early in the year we were contacted by an Italian firm, San Marco, to help get rid of crows roosting in their property in Ngomeni north of Malindi. After four months of baiting and poisoning, a total of **1,695** House Crows were eliminated.

In February 2025, KWS tasked CNM to carry out a count in Mombasa, funded by Mombasa Tourism Council, hoteliers and the Tour Operators Association, at the main roost sites of Mombasa Sports Club, Uhuru Gardens and Makadara. This led to a survey of 47 sites in Mombasa and four roost sites on Mombasa Island and ultimately formed the basis for the poisoning carried out in early November and December at Makadara and Fort Jesus where **826** House Crows were killed.

## *Crows No More!* Team

A very notable feature of the CNM project has been the incredible team that we have had to implement the work. If we include all those who have volunteered to count crows at the roosts and volunteer bird atlassers, well over 80 people have contributed to the success of the project, the vast majority of these entirely voluntarily. This is an amazing demonstration of how such a project *can* work and make a real difference. Each person involved has made a difference and helped ensure that our local birds and wildlife have started to recover from the destruction wrought by the House Crow and, as the organising institution, we as A Rocha are very grateful for each person who has played a part.

Another hallmark feature of the project has been that while we have a lot of people take part, in reality the actual baiting and poisoning has been done by very small teams of only one to three people for each location. This has meant that the cost of the project has been kept down and the whole thing has been much more feasible. The only thing that caused costs to be higher is that the crows are so spread out still that we have had to employ multiple teams, albeit small ones. As the crow numbers decline, the number of teams will reduce and the consequently the cost as well.

In mid-2025 all the field officers involved in the project at that time met at Gede Forest Station (thanks to KEFRI for providing the venue) to share feedback and to strategise going forwards. This was a great morale booster for the team and very good to allow the different smaller teams to connect, share successes and challenges and figure out together how to overcome them.

## *Crows No More!* Education Programme

*Sgt MwanaPili from KWS Watamu with the students during a school visit.*

Schools are an excellent place to pass on a conservation message and inspire future generations in ways to avoid such an environmental disaster by preventing an alien species from spreading. Given the public face of the project, it was also important to explain to people as widely as possible about why the elimination of a pest species is necessary and how the House Crow in particular has impacted biodiversity, economy and hume health and welfare.

In Watamu, the CNM team, together with KWS Watamu Marine Park officers, visited three schools around Watamu to help spread the message. Education also consisted of visiting the communities through area chiefs and local elders who helped spread the information.

## CNM assets donations

***Left**: Motorbike donated by Kilifi Plantation Limited.* ***Right**: The New CMN car funded by AFEW.*

We hugely appreciate Kilifi Plantation Limited, Ocean Sport Watamu and John Kithinji, who donated motorbikes to ease transportation in Kilifi for the field officers. Also, through a grant from AFEW / the Giraffe Centre, the CNM team acquired a vehicle. This has been instrumenal in supplying poison up and down the coast to the teams in each location and allowing Eric to give input and oversight where needed. Asanteni sana

***Right:** Tune, our field officer in Watamu, after receiving his motorbike donated by Ocean Sport.* ***Left:** Ziro, our field officer in Malindi, with the motorbike donated by John Kithinji.*

## Publications

It has been good to share the on-going impact of the project with the wider world. Throughout the year, we have therefore had quite a bit of media attention. Below are the links to videos, blogs and articles that are available on the internet.

**Videos**

1. NTV Kenya - https://ntvkenya.co.ke/arts-lifestyle/the-feathered-conquerers/
2. Youtube - https://www.youtube.com/shorts/EW6G_ZK6GIE

**Blogs**

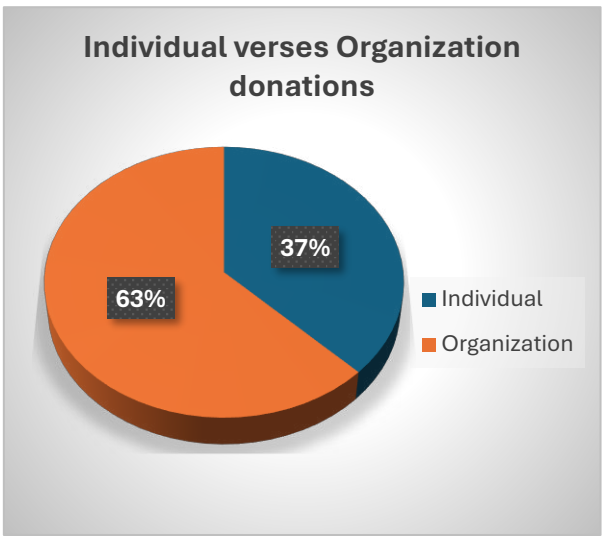
1. Kenya News Agency : https://www.kenyanews.go.ke/mombasa-unveils-programme-to-eradicate-invasive-crows/
2. CNM dashboard - https://arochakenya.shinyapps.io/crownomoreview/
3. Mongabay - https://news.mongabay.com/2025/02/kenya-revives-poisoning-campaign-to-curb-invasive-indian-house-crows/
4. Daily Nation - https://nation.africa/kenya/counties/mombasa/why-coast-hoteliers-wish-for-a-crow-free-christmas-5291450
5. Top News Kenya - https://topnews.ke/rights-lobby-wants-poisoning-of-crows-stopped-over-claims-of-violation-of-birds-rights/
6. The Star - https://www.the-star.co.ke/counties/coast/2025-12-20-lobby-threatens-suit-over-killing-of-crows-in-mombasa
7. Taifa Leo - https://taifaleo.nation.co.ke/tag/mratibu-wa-mradi-wa-crows-no-more/

# Fundraising and Accounting

We have been constantly encouraged and impressed by the amazing goodwill and coming together of so many stakeholders up and down the coast to raise the funds necessary to run *Crows No More!* Over 2025, we managed to raise a total of **Ksh 4,070,634** from donations. Of course, with several teams of field officers baiting full time and poisoning regularly, there are significant costs to be covered. THANK YOU, therefore, to all who have donated, and especially to those who have committed to monthly contributions, which are instrumental in implementing such a project. A list of all those who have contributed is given in the appendices at the end of this report.

A special 'thank you' to those who made specific efforts to raise funds for the project, in particular Vivien Wallis, a talented artist from Malindi, painted a series of paintings of crows which were exhibited at the 1-Off Gallery, Rosslyn, Nairobi in September and where many were sold and Ksh 150,000 donated to *Crows No More!*. Thank you, Vivien! (there are still some left which can be bought – please get in touch if you're interested).

To carry out the poisoning over the year, the expenses incurred were **Ksh 4,623,398**, meaning we have spent c.**Ksh 46,000** per month *over and above* the funds raised; this has had to be absorbed by A Rocha.




For Malindi / Watamu / Kilifi / Vipingo our monthly running budget at full pace has worked out at Ksh c.450,000. This includes five full time core staff and four part-time support staff, transport costs and admin and overheads. As we have been tasked to take on the rest of the coast and clear the House Crows from major sites such as Mombasa, Mariakani etc, clearly the cost is going to increase. In fact each region ('Mombasa', South Coast, Mariakani/Kaloleni) will have a budget similar to north coast to be fully effective. This is going to be our challenge going forward. The fundraising from the businesses and individuals of north coast has been seriously impressive – and the impact has been significantly noticeable in the visible reduction in crow numbers. We hope that the same can be achieved from the hotels and individuals in Mombasa, Mtwapa, South Coast and around Voi.

On top of the donations received from many generous individuals, hotels and businesses, we are very grateful to the African Fund for Endangered Wildlife (AFEW, better known as the Giraffe Centre) for the grant of Ksh 5.5 million that will be sent in three instalments. This is a game changer for the project and has allowed us to purchase a Probox for the overall project, binoculars for several field officers and to otherwise cover the costs needed for crow control in the areas where it will be harder to raise funds but where it is critical we eradicate the crows – notably away from tourism areas such as Mariakani, Kaloleni and along the Nairobi-Mombasa road.

*One of the paintings sold by Viven Wallis at the one-off Gallery in September- October 2025*

## Additional support in kind

We have also received very significant support in kind – notably staff being offered food and accommodation during our trips to poison all over the coast in 2025, fuel donations, and of course vast amounts of bait for pre-baiting and poisoning the crows. This is also coupled by numerous volunteers who have donated their time, expertise and resources and we would like to recognize them. Without them we would be a long way from where we have managed to reach – *thank you!*

| Name | Comment |
|---|---|
| Bruce Buckland | Volunteering almost full time with the Malindi team |
| Cate Waterer | Volunteer with the Kilifi team |
| Chris Everald | Spearheads the Vipingo team . |
| Chris Wilson | Offers bait, donated a motorbike, fuel and financial support. |
| Crispin Sharp | Volunteered with the Malindi team and sponsored two team members |
| George Mokaya | Spearheading Diani team. |
| Joanna Hewitt- Stubbs | Volunteer with the Vipingo team. |
| John Kithinji | Donated a motorbike for Malindi |
| Kinsch Stanislaus | Offered accommodation and sustenance while in Diani. |
| Dr Mwenda Mbaka | Great support in veterinary expertise & overall support |
| Dr Sam Ikwae | Fundraising and stakeholder engagements in Mombasa |
| Said Omar Athman | Employed a field officer for Takaungu |
| Sarova White Sands | Have offered accommodation and subsistence when poisoning in Mombasa |
| Vivien Wallis | Raised funds for CNM through Paintings. ( Ksh 150,000) |

## Discussion and looking forward

A highly significant output of the *Crows No More!* Project has been the incredible collaboration between a wide range of stakeholders and concerned parties. Linking arms to stand against the common challenge of the invasive House Crow we have been able to demonstrate how working together is very possible and very effective. While the job in hand is large, this cooperation gives real hope for being able to actually succeed in getting crow numbers down to an insignificant number.

In the last quarter of 2025, we started engaging with stakeholders in Mombasa, South Coast and Voi regarding crow control and did some initial poisoning before the end of the year. 2026 will be the year that we expand to hopefully all the other sections of the coast with the poisoning and really hit the crow numbers and bring them down. A key strategy is to hit the crows that have moved up the Mombasa-Nairobi highway and get them before they reach Nairobi where rubbish abounds in plenty and it would be very difficult to get rid of them. The one bottle-neck for this happening is the raising of the necessary funds. AFEW's grant is going to make a huge difference but we will still need significant funding from residents, businesses, hotels and government if we are going to be fully successful. If you are able to contribute or encourage anyone else to contribute, please do so!

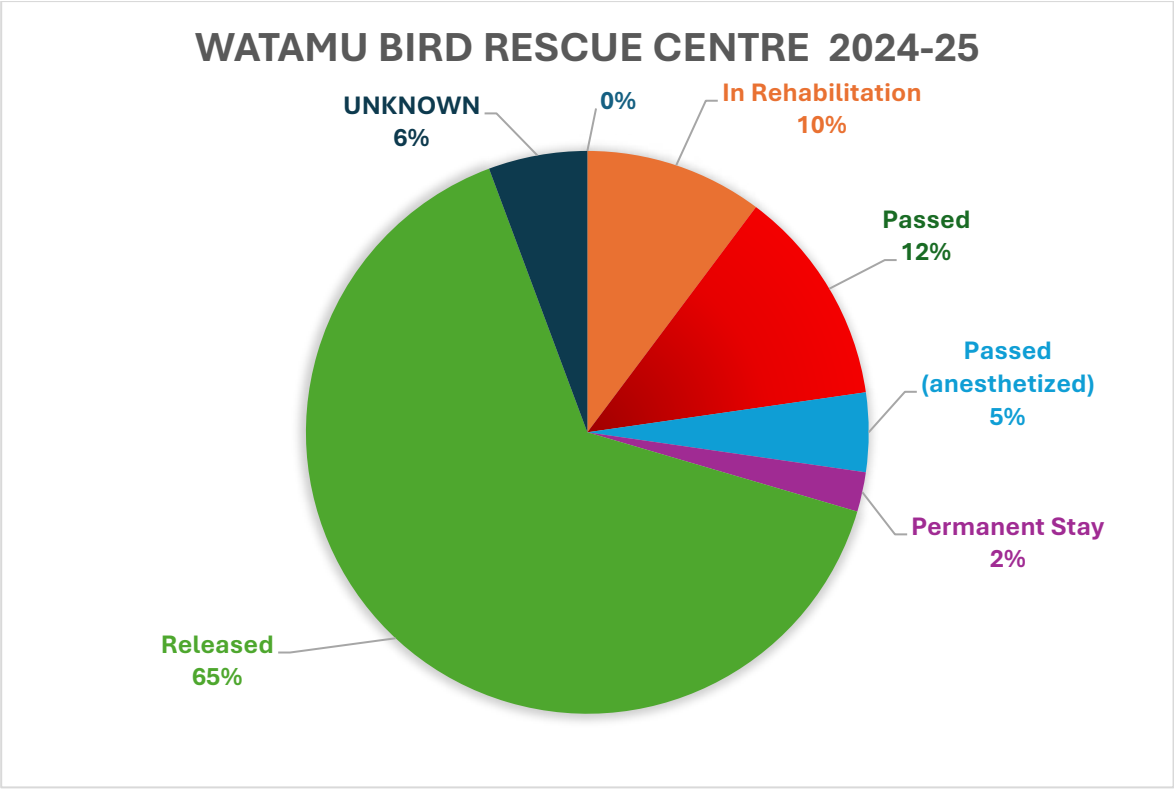
We are grateful to KWS for their underpinning of the project and leadership. Without this, the work would not be possible.

## Wild Bird Rehabilitation

Raptors are a group of birds that have been very hard hit by persecution by the House Crow. As such the starting of a raptor rehabilitation centre in Watamu made sense to be connected to the House Crow control programme. Eric, the CNM coordinator, also helps with handling the injured raptors which are brought in.

In 2025 the centre successfully rehabilitated and released 57 birds back into the wild. This, coupled with our *Crows No More!* mission, ensures that the rehabilitated birds get back to a less Crow-infested environment. The Southern White-faced Owls formed the largest number of rescued birds with 25 being this species of the total 88 birds received since the start of the rehab in 2024. Most of the other have been raptors but there have also been a handful of seabirds such as terns and even Kenya's 3rd ever Long-tailed Skua in February 2025 which was successfully rehabilitated and released back to the sea.

Among the interesting rescues was Africa's largest owl, a Verreaux's Eagle Owl; these are an enormous, greyish owl with dark stripes framing the face. It has a pale, horn-coloured bill and large, dark eyes that are set off by weird and diagnostic fleshy-pink eyelids. It occurs from arid savanna to riverine forest and prefers areas with some tall trees for breeding and roosting. Its call, a deep guttural grunting "unngh-unngh", is diagnostic.




*Analysis of birds rehabilitated at the Watamu Bird Rescue Centre from 2024*

# Appendix 1

## Crows No More! Project accounts: 2025

### A Rocha Kenya

**January-December, 2025**

| Details | CNM donations | AFEW Grant | NK poison grant | Total | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Income** | | | | | |
| Grants | | 2,750,000 | | 2,750,000 | AFEW grant is primarily for Mombasa Road, Kaloleni, Mariakani |
| Restricted Donations | - 4,070,634 | | 472,884 | 4,543,518 | NatureKenya funds are the balance from Starlicide grant & purchase in 2024. |
| **Total for Income** | **4,070,634** | **2,750,000** | **472,884** | **7,293,518** | |
| **Expenses** | | | | | |
| Accommodation - Fieldwork | 3,566 | 12,147 | | 15,713 | |
| Communication Expenses | 36,443 | | | 36,443 | |
| Vehicle usage charge | 554,648 | | | 554,648 | 9,244 kms driven @60/- per km for car |
| Licenses & Permits | 11,107 | | | 11,107 | |
| Mileage Reimbursement | 127,207 | 33,005 | | 160,212 | For use of volunteers cars - e.g. Malindi, Kilifi |
| Motor vehicle purchase | - | 1,533,790 | | 1,533,790 | Probox incl insurance |
| Travel expenses | 208,754 | | | 208,754 | Bajajis for field officers, flights for fundraising Nbi; Dr Mbaka to July stakeholders meeting |
| Repairs and Maintenance | 27,466 | | | 27,466 | direct repairs of motorbikes, bicycles where mileage not being paid. |
| Minor equipment | 20,976 | | | 20,976 | buckets, gloves etc |
| Starlicide import charges | 20,393 | | 221,200 | 241,593 | |
| Shipping and delivery expense | 1,545 | | | 1,545 | |
| Office 365 subscription | 6,000 | | | 6,000 | |
| Stationery and printing | 67,181 | | | 67,181 | |
| Subsistence costs | 16,933 | 16,180 | | 33,113 | lunches out etc. |
| Casual wages (crow corpse collection) | 147,125 | 1,013 | | 148,138 | |
| Wage expenses | 3,232,211 | 108,000 | | 3,340,211 | 6 full time, 1 for 3 mnths, 6 contributing |
| Bank charges | 3,374 | | | 3,374 | |
| Contribution to admin & overhead costs | 137,404 | 41,250 | | 178,654 | |
| Mobile Transaction Charges | 1,065 | | | 1,065 | |
| **Total for Expenses** | **4,623,398** | **1,745,385** | **221,200** | **6,589,983** | |
| **Balance at 31 Dec 2025** | **(552,764)** | **1,004,615** | **251,684** | **703,536** | |

## Notes

- *Monthly shortfall for main CNM programme = **Ksh 46,064***
- *AFEW grant funds mainly restricted to Mombasa Road, Mariakani, Kaloleni control work*

# Appendix 2

*Thanks to each of our donors during 2025:*

BUSINESSES & ORGANISATIONS

AFEW KENYA
Afrisun Limited
Crystal Bay
Delamere Estate
East African Women's League (EAWL)
Ecotec Kenya
Food Movement
Garoda Resort Limited
Hemingway's, Watamu
I Love Watamu
Jacaranda Beach Resort
Jumbo Resort
Kalis LTD
Kilifi Beach Hotel
KIND SNAKE LIMITED
Kitengela Hot Glass Ltd
Kobe Resort
Kivukoni School
Lonno Lounge
Luma PropertiesWatamu
Mombasa Cement
Oasis Beach Mgt Limited
Ocean Sports Resorts
Outram House Seahorse
Palm Garden Boutique
Saltys LTD
SAN MARCO
Severin Hotel Mombasa
Shwari House
Sirai Beach
Sugar House Watamu
Temple Point
The Kasa
Turtle Bay Hotels
Watamu Cottages

INDIVIDUALS
Fabian
Lucy Aisha Karen
Vanessa Strong
Carmichael
Alastair Norton Griffiths
Alessandro Castellini
Alex Hunter
Alex Millar Hunter
Alexia Inge B
Ali
Andrew Bulloch
Andrew Lancaster
Andrew McNaughton Lankaster
Andrew Niel
Ann Clear
Anna Rarity
Anne Robertson
Anne Elizabeth Taylor
Antoinette Douglas
Barlocco B Franco
Beja Hilda
Belinda Walker
Billy Coulson
Billy Norris Bravo
Brian Mwaura
Bruce Buckland
Carla Rosslyn
Carlo Vitulii
Carol Martin
Cate Waterer
Catherine Glenn
Catherine Mary Coulson
Cavanagah John Anthony
Charles Frasher
Charles Horsfall
Charles Norman
Cherryl Andrew
Colombo Silvia
Craig Willis
Crows control program
Damian Davis
David Hewett
David Hopkins
David Percival
Davies Damian
Dickie Dietry
Doris Schaule
Douglas Antoinette
Edward Davis
Elizabeth Macfie
Ellen Waterer
Emil Sterner
Emilie Van Aardt
Emmanuel Sanga
Eric Mwangi Africolt
Erik Van Vliet
Fabian
Farey
Gail Outram
Gail Paul
Gathua
Gordon Hewitt
Gordon Russell Millar
Hannah Balster
Hans Neumann
Harry Fonseca
Hendrik Linneweber
Henry Henly Sangare
Hugo Clark
Hugo Lindsay - Finn
Hugo Needham- Clarke
Ian Rowe
Immaculate Ngina Davies
Isaac Scott
Ivy Kavuu
Ivy Mutiso
James Taylor
James Nokes
Jane Elisabeth
Janet Hurt
Jay David
Jay Macleod
Johaness Renne
John Alexander Hunter
John Cavanagh
John Hunter
John Morley-Kisima
John Muriu
John Njuguna
Johny Dwek
Jon Cavanagh
Julien Pycraft
June Kristina Vetch
Karen Leslie Rowe
Katy Lockhart-Muir
Linda Lorna Camm
Linda Nexito
Linda Susan Pierce
Lucy Aisha Karen
Lucy Cameron
Lucy Holliday
Maike Potgieter
Mainga Warimwe
Maja Riedl
Majik
MargeretChristine Bashforth
Mark Andrew
Mary Kifalu
Mathew Clarke
Neeta Patel
Ness strong
Niels Biering
Nielsen
Oliver Fowler
Omar Omar
Oscar Garashi
Paolo Francescon
Paolo Rodo
Patricia Bosarto
Patricia Davey
Patricia, Taste Italy
Paul Kariuki Ndangang'a
Pauline Kazungu Mhambi
Peter Boatman
Peter Castway
Peter Njiiri
Philip Mason
Philip Waterer

Rahma Sidi
Rajesh Bhalla
Richard Bennett
Robert Caulder
Robert Horner Willcox
Robert William Campbell Horner
Rod and Ann Edmondson
Ronald Franco Kaale
Rory Green
Roy Bealey
Rupert Spicer
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Sharif Athman Said
Sharon Ashley
Sheila Edward
SheilaKate Mure Lockhart
Shirshir Gor
Silvia Coltorti
Simon Young
Sonia Misra
Spicer Rupert Nicholas
Stephanie Gail Elaine OutramStephanie Outram
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Susan Clarke
Susan Mary Hinson
Susan Parkinston
Susie Day
Suzzie Ndiritu
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Toriana Jonathan
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Vanessa Mary Strong
Veronica Galliussi
Veronica Hammond
Victor Akwaba
Vivien Matsher
Wazza's World
Wicky Kapmaso
Willie Kiarie (Njau)
Zorina Kitengela Glass

We are grateful to our major donors for the *Crows No More!* Project in 2025 (>Ksh 100,000 contributions):

AFRICAN FUND for ENDANGERED WILDLIFE (KENYA) GIRAFFE CENTRE

GARODA RESORT

HEMINGWAYS WATAMU

Ocean Sports WATAMU KENYA

TEMPLE POINT WATAMU

TURTLE BAY Kenya's responsible resort

WATAMU BEACH COTTAGES