

CROWS NO MORE! PROJECT

Activity Report – December 2024, Eric Kinoti, Colin Jackson

Summary

10,219

The number of
House crows
killed in 2024

As we close 2024 we reflect on the achievements that we have had over the year. After 20 years of trying 2024 is the year *Crows No More!* came into full force and finally some action was taken. December was a short month in terms of the workload versus the timeline but despite that, the team managed to kill **2,776** House Crows meaning a cumulative total of **10,219** House Crows. THANK YOU to all those who have played a role in achieving this success – particularly Ocean Sports & NatureKenya.

Crows No More!!- Poisoning



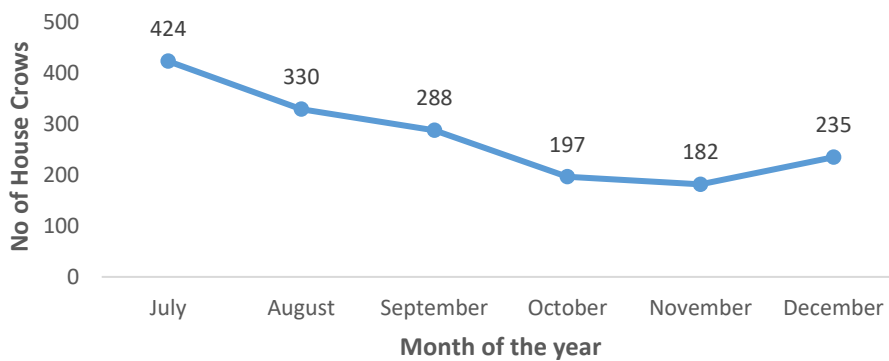
Dead Crows killed in Vipingo

2024 will certainly go down as the most significant year to date in the history of the *Crows No More!* programme. After 20 years of chasing Starlicide, Little Kenya Gardens managed to get the PCPB permit to import it to Kenya. In July we acquired 1.5 kg of the poison that remained from the efficacy testing that Little Kenya Gardens had carried out in 2022. Our first poisoning session was done on the last day of July. Since then, poisoning has been extended to Vipingo, Kilifi, Matsangoni, Watamu and Malindi. This was very productive with a cumulative kill of 10,219 House Crows. So far **141.75 grams** of the poison has been used up.

What next

We aim to cover more ground and are therefore now starting in Takaungu, Ngomeni, and Msabaha. We also aim to train more people on prebaiting so that we can come and poison them. We will also carry out monitoring and evaluation of the programme through quarterly counts. We have been carrying out counts from the rooftop of our offices at Plot 28, Watamu, as the crows pass the centre heading to their roost site in Watamu village from 4:30pm. The data show that there has been a significant decline over the months. Here is a graph below.

Number of House crows counted in the evening passing by A Rocha's offices from July to December 2024



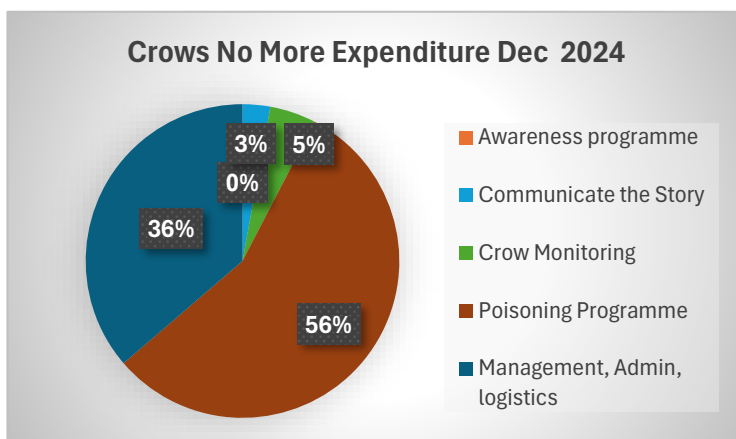
Fundraising

A specific and large **THANK YOU** to all those who have supported the Crows No More! Project thus far. In particular to Ocean Sports Resort and NatureKenya both of which gave significant amounts of funding (Ksh 750,000 and Ksh 1.31 million respectively) for the purchase of Starlicide poison and to all those who are supporting us on a monthly basis which has really helped in being able to do this work:

Alex Hunter	James Taylor	Southern Sky Safaris
Chris Wilson	Lawford's Hotel	Temple Point
Crystal Bay Resort	Medina Palms	Turtle Bay Beach Hotel
Elizabeth Macfie	Ocean Beach Resort	Watamu Cottages
Garoda Resort	Ocean sports	
Hemmingways Watamu	Pauline Kazungu	
Jacaranda Hotel	Sirai Beach	

In December we received Ksh 67,100 in donations from individuals and institutions / companies – THANK YOU again to all those who made these contributions. We started December with Ksh 362,246 in the project account and spent Ksh 560,977 leaving a negative balance of Ksh - 131,631. We seriously need donations as we are now running on a negative. We therefore encourage you to please join us in fundraising through individual donations even as low as Ksh 1,000 to 2,000 monthly. If you are able to persuade your neighbours and friends to similarly support the programme, then we will be able to continue to get rid of the crows. Thank you to all those working to raise funds – in particular there will be a **fundraising event on 30th January** at

the **Malindi Fishing Club** starting at 6 pm. Please write to crowsnomore@arocha.org for more information.



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:

Paybill: 303030 (ABSA bank)

Acc: 0121008254

IMPORTANT: Please send the Mpesa 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

The Raptor Rehab Centre 2024 was the year it was opened in March. From our first patient of the rehab a Southern Banded Snake Eagle to our last patient of the year, a Sooty Tern. We received a total of 62 birds, mainly raptors. It has been interesting that since the doors were opened it has never even a single day been without a patient. This means there was clearly an urgent need for such a facility.

We appreciate the help and support we have received from Kenya Wildlife Service from Watamu Marine Park and Arabuko-Sokoke offices without whose help we could not have been able to give a second chance to these birds.



Senior warden Salim from Arabuko-Sokoke Forest KWS office, during a visit to The Bird Rescue Centre in Watamu with Bea and Roy (holding a Long-crested Eagle).

Raptors are a key group of birds that are affected and impacted negatively by House Crows either directly or indirectly by harassment while flying, destroying nests or affecting the small birds population which are a primary food source for raptors. By supporting CNM it serves a greater good as this is also supporting the conservation of raptors. Eric, the CNM Coordinator, also contributes a few hours a week of his time to the Rehab Centre.

The highlight of the year was receiving a Southern Banded Eagle we named 'Ngala' that had fallen into a septic tank at Gedi Ruins. It had a broken lower mandible, though quite how it had been broken remains a mystery.

He was transferred to Soysambu, Gilgil, to the Kenya Birds of Prey Trust rehab centre and had two operations on the bill by Simon Thomsett who did an incredible job of repairing the bill. Only a matter of weeks later it was ready to be released back into Gedi forest fitted with a GPS for monitoring its movements. So far he is doing great according to GPS co-ordinates information.



'Ngala' before the surgery