

CROWS NO MORE! PROJECT

Activity Report – Jan 2025, Eric Kinoti, Colin Jackson

Summary

Crows No More started 2025 in high gear. 4,097 were killed in January making a total of **14,316 House Crows** to date. Crow eradication kicked off in Takaungu and we have engaged with Pwani University to help with crow eradication in Kilifi and include some research. Fundraising events were organised in Malindi and Kilifi with over Ksh 500,000 raised for *Crows No More!*. In the bird rehab centre, three interesting patients were received: a Lesser Crested Tern, Lizard Buzzard and a Long-crested Eagle.

447.4 Kg

**Amount of
meat used so
far for
poisoning**

Crows No More!

2025 started by adding a new location to our areas of operation, Takaungu, a fishing town south of Kilifi along Takaungu Creek. With the help of a concerned citizen, Said Omar Athman, who has generously volunteered to pay for a small team to take on the crow control work there working closely with Takaungu Marine and Environmental Conservation CBO which has been doing beach cleaning and village rubbish collection and recycling. Other big news is that the large landfill site for Malindi, Mayungu, is functioning again and will therefore be an excellent attraction for large numbers of crows and an easy site to poison them. Initially, before it was closed, poisoning events could record about 300 crows feeding on the bait, so we hope its opening will enable us to hit these numbers regularly again.



Partnerships. Pwani University was contacted during the month in order to seek more collaboration in terms of crow poisoning (there are large numbers of crows in and around the university) and monitoring through counts at the facility as well as to nurture and educate aspiring birders and environmentalists. Initial response has been good and they seem to have a huge support to the work we do. It has also been excellent to have KWS staff join the team on the ground to help with the actual poisoning events.

Meat used for poisoning after being prepared into small pieces, this enables the crows to feed on them like tablets thus minimizing the risk of them carrying the poisoned bait away and dropping it.



Left: Senior Sergeant Mwana Pili Hamisi from Watamu Marine Park mixing the poison ready to poison. Right: Ziro our field officer putting poisoned baits at a site in Malindi

Location	No of crows killed
Kilifi	1,209
Malindi	1,438
Msabaha	190
Takaungu	230
Vipingo	698
Watamu	332
Total	4,097
Grand Total	14,316

Fundraising and accounting

Funds available for the programme in January were low because in December people had other priorities for spending money (!) and so donations were few. The year therefore opened with a negative balance for the project. We are grateful that in January a total of **Ksh 505,000** was raised; the amount spent was Ksh 492,544. With the negative balance brought forward, however, it means we are still Ksh 119,000 in the red at the start of February. Fundraising organised by the **Malindi Team** (Crispin Sharp, Margaret Bashforth) and **Kilifi team** (Chris Wilson and Cate Nicoll) managed to raise **KSh 264,000** and **Ksh 210,000**. *Thank you all.* We also appreciate all those who contributed individually and continue to do so, it is through this effort that we are able to make progress.

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!

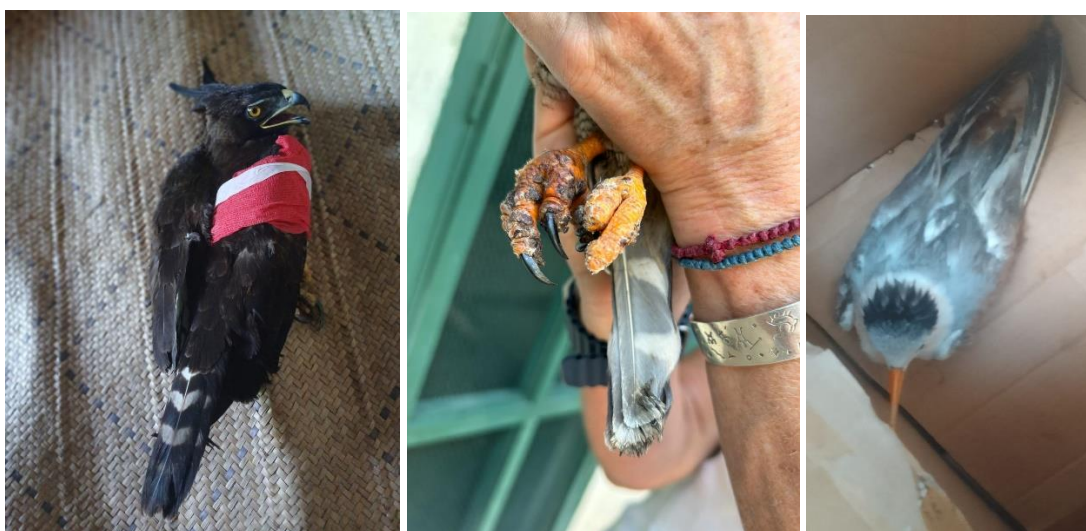


Wild bird Rehabilitation



Roy Bealey holding *Hatari*, the young African Hawk Eagle, during one of the training sessions.

At the bird rescue centre this month, a **Lizard buzzard** was brought in with a highly contagious avian pox virus. Avian pox virus is highly contagious to other birds and can be transmitted through contact, ingestion, or inhalation from contaminated feeders, feed or water, and dust. However, it is not contagious to humans as the virus cannot complete its replication cycle in non-avian species. There was also a Long-crested Eagle that was brought in with injuries that appeared to be from being shot by a catapult. It was taken to Raptor Rehabilitation for the Kenya Bird of Prey Trust in Soysambu for surgery and more specialised treatment. There was also a special guest from the sea, a **Lesser Crested Tern** found along the Watamu Marine Park beach stranded. It had no physical injuries but could not fly through being too weak due to starvation. The Good news is that it is now recovering and feeding well at the bird rescue centre. *Hatari*, the **African Hawk Eagle** is undergoing training to get fit before he can be released back to the wild.



Left: The Long-crested eagle after being strapped with a bandage. Middle: Toes of the Lizard Buzzard with the Avian Pox Virus. Right: Lesser Crested Tern when it arrived at A Rocha Kenya offices.