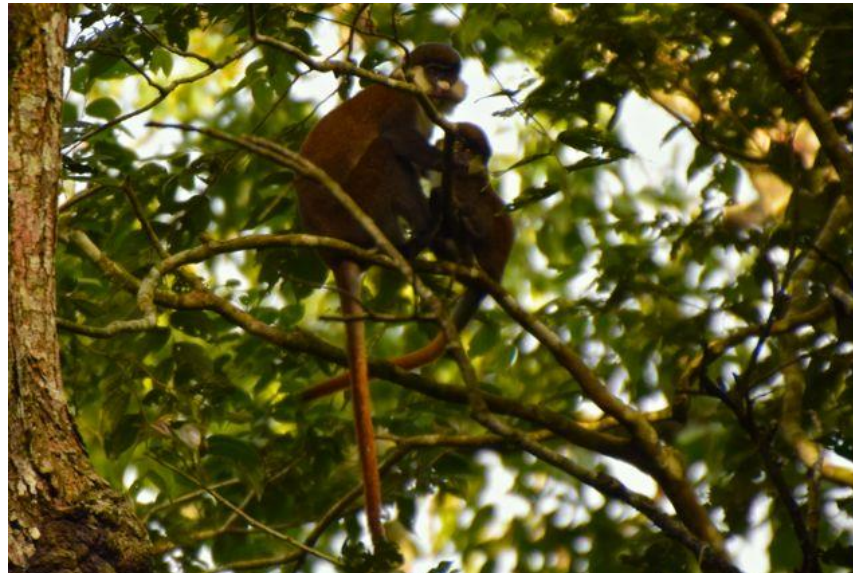




SUMMER 2015 UPDATE



*Red Tail Monkeys in
Kibale National Park*

Upcoming Events:

- July 2015 - Private fundraising parties in New Jersey and Philadelphia - thank you to our generous hosts!
- October 11, 2015 - Wildlife Conservation Network Expo, San Francisco, CA
- October 12-16, 2015 - Project Manager Margaret Kemigisa & Directors presenting at ZACC conference, Denver, CO
- October 13, 2015 - Art, Apes & Harmony fundraiser, hosted by the Infinite Monkey Theorem in Denver, CO
- Like us on Facebook for updates about events in the USA and activities in Uganda: [facebook.com/pages/New-Nature-Foundation/298231283680409](https://www.facebook.com/pages/New-Nature-Foundation/298231283680409))

Please contact NNF directors at info@newnaturefoundation.org to find out more about the events or to learn about how you can host your own special party to help raise much needed funds for the work!

Staff Updates: Life After NNF

John Fred Baguma Araali was with the New Nature Foundation for 2 ½ years, originally serving as a security guard but soon promoted to the eco-briquette staff. He is a hard worker, and we loved having him on board, but were also thrilled when he was recently hired as a Field Assistant for the Kibale Chimpanzee Project. The ultimate goal for all our staff and volunteers is to develop skills and gain knowledge that can help them and their families in the future while having a positive impact on Kibale's animals and global conservation. While with NNF, John did everything from hand-pounding banana peels to setting up movie screens to promoting briquettes and maintaining machinery. He is a man of many talents! John told NNF he is very appreciative of the skills gained in communication and interacting with community members, which made the interview process for his new job much easier. He also spoke fondly of his time at the Science Centers reading about the animal kingdom, and the video shows, which taught him a lot about chimpanzee behavior. Through these activities, his interest in the vocation of conservation deepened. According to John, the most exciting part of working as a researcher and following chimpanzees thought their day is the honor of observing all the unique behaviors he'd been reading about in books for the past several years. We wish John the best of luck and hope he will still visit when he can!



Rose Tusiime Akiiki, 25, worked with the eco-briquette project for one year before being hired as a Uganda Wildlife Authority Ranger in Murchison Falls National Park. Working with NNF was Rose's first job and great experience for her current role protecting wildlife from poachers and helping to safeguard the savannah home of elephants, leopards, giraffes and more. Rose says being able to speak about eco-briquettes and wood conservation was very useful during her interview process, and she was much more comfortable speaking about animals than the other applicants (some of whom were crying during the interview because it was so tough!) The availability of educational materials and opportunities provided by NNF was key for both of these staff members as they moved forward in this challenging profession. Rose works in the Law Enforcement department, and says her favorite part of the job is carrying the gun. She and her team catch poachers on each patrol – several each week. Her message to poachers is “do not come to the park, do not kill the animals, and, most importantly, understand that the park is a benefit to us all - protect it!”

Earth Day 2015



For Earth Day 2015, NNF endeavored to do as much and talk to as many people as possible. In the trading center that is home to the original Kibale Science Center, established in 2006, local Center groupies helped us clean up the neighborhood and test the environmental knowledge of shopkeepers and families living nearby. The team gathered together a massive amount of waste - about half of which was delivered directly to the eco-briquette team to be turned into cooking fuel. It was an excellent opportunity to once again remind people how much of what they consider waste can be used in the briquettes, and how nearby and easy it is to drop off items for trade. On the other side of Kibale, NNF partner U.N.I.T.E. for the Environment hosted a conservation exposition to celebrate all the work being done around Uganda to save threatened and endangered species and habitats. At the NNF booth, eco-briquettes were cooking throughout the day, books and animal artifacts were available for all to see and touch, and of course environmental trivia was again on hand to provide an exciting and fun way to learn. NNF's booth was crowded the entire day, teaching about primates and Kibale, selling briquettes and celebrating our earth with hundreds of wonderfully enthusiastic conservationists.

The New Nature Foundation is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization

All donations are tax deductible

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Secure, on-line donations via PayPal on our website

Eco-briquettes: Finding and Maintaining a Market

The main concept behind the Kibale Eco Char Initiative is to address the immediate fuel needs of people living around Kibale National Park, in order to better preserve wildlife habitat. However, as with many community conservation programs, it also needs to be financially sustainable in order to continue into the future. In strides toward long-term sustainability, NNF has already succeeded in creating a partnership with McLeod Russel Tea (see the Winter 2015 UPDATE), and has expanded partnerships with Fort Portal's cassava and charcoal sellers, but this is still not enough. NNF staff and volunteers have now introduced the briquettes for sale in a nearby trading center, where people have a bit more money to spend. The team made a memorable entrance with bullhorn, briquettes, a stove, and a fabulous promotional price for first time customers. Some demonstrated how the briquettes cook while others walked door to door to shopkeepers with an offer to try out the briquettes and provide feedback. As expected, people had not heard much about this new technology and were interested but hesitant. The briquettes were put to the test, as the woman pictured right said she would only buy them after testing against the charcoal she was currently using. The briquettes proved their worth, and the NNF team sold out of the product that day! Project manager Margaret Kemigisa returned a week later and received mostly positive feedback and some repeat customers. Hopefully, this small experiment will lead to new connections and more business.



Updating NNF's Four Science Centers

NNF was thrilled to bring seven suitcases full of new items for our Science Centers on the Director's last trip. Thanks to discounted rates offered by Bone Clones, Inc, we purchased replicas of snakes, giraffes, lions, leopards, crocodiles and other species native to Uganda to update the educational displays. People were quite excited by the new additions and immediately began reading up about these new species. Staff taught classes and students sketched drawings of the new additions, as well. Complimenting the artifacts were new books, magazines, and art donated from many generous donors including nearly 10 boxes of educational materials from Zoo New England. Please continue to visit our Amazon wedding registry for donation ideas, and thank you in advance for your continued support!

www.amazon.com/gp/registry/wedding/1M88FJTAH8T5



Welcoming Visitors from Across the Globe!

Australia's Taronga Zoo sent Dr. Jo Day, Research & Conservation Coordinator, to Uganda to see NNF's programs in action. From carrying 50 kilogram bags of cassava peelings to cracking the hard shells of castor oil seeds, teaching at all four Science Centers about Australia and her wildlife, and enduring the both the pleasures and pains of rainforest living, Jo was an excellent help in the field. Taronga Zoo has provided funding for NNF's programs since 2012, and we were thrilled to share the progress we've made since then. We encourage all our supporters to visit Uganda! Please email if you'd like help planning a trip anywhere from volun-tourism to 5-star.



Career Planning Workshops Begin

As NNF becomes more and more a part of the communities where it works, the commitment to protecting Kibale by empowering her human neighbors has only grown stronger. From the beginning, it has been clear that Uganda's extremely high population growth rate (3.2% - one of the highest in the world) is going to continue to be a barrier to conserving wild spaces, as more people demand more fuel. Addressing this issue is not clear-cut, though, for religious, cultural, and political reasons. NNF decided to engage the communities around Kibale in a conversation that addressed planning of all sorts, from careers to the family. The Science Centers offer wonderful venues for these conversations, since people already feel familiar, comfortable, and safe. Offered to teens and young adults, about 40 individuals participated in the first workshop, where questions were posed about skills and interests and how they could be translated into future careers. These ideas were then linked to how planning for a family would affect all other life goals. NNF was able to learn a lot more about what these young adults already know about family planning and, more importantly, what they do not know. We were surprised and encouraged by the large turnout at this first workshop, as well as the willingness to share that was exhibited by participants. We feel there is a lot of promise for continuing the conversation in a way that will benefit both Uganda's people and wildlife. The workshops will continue on the Director's next visit in December.



Thank You!

Arcus Foundation Great Apes Fund*
Chester Zoo*

Columbus Zoo Conservation Fund*
Denver Zoo*

Disney Worldwide Conservation Fund*
Fresno Chaffee Zoo*

Great Ape Film Initiative
Honolulu Zoo*

Idea Wild*

Little Rock AAZK*

Margot Marsh Biodiversity Foundation
McLeod Russel Tea*

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