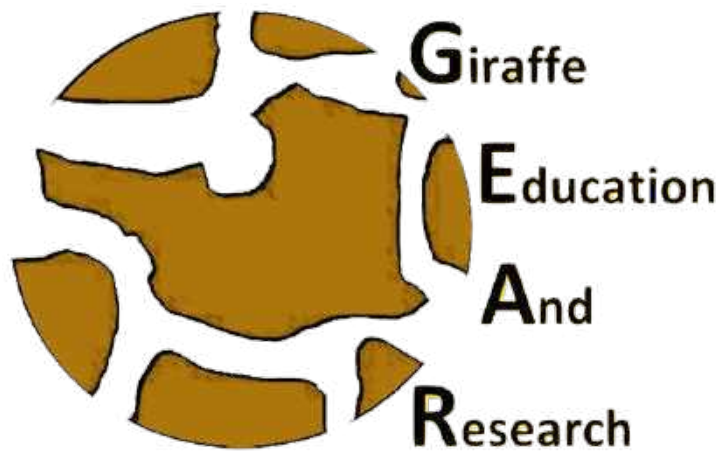


# **Giraffe Education And Research (GEAR) Lake Mburo National Park**



**Second Quarter Report**

**2020**

**Supported by**



As the Covid-19 pandemic continues to spread throughout the world and also within Uganda, GEAR’s operations continue to be restricted. Despite the lockdown measures we still managed to achieve some of our objectives during this quarter.

### Research & Monitoring

After discussions and negotiation with the Uganda Wildlife Authority (UWA) park management at Lake Mbuoro National Park (NP) we managed to resume our monitoring activities in May. We were very eager to get into the park and catch up with giraffe as we knew there had been some births. Since the lockdown started, five calves were born! This means that the giraffe population at Lake Mbuoro NP as doubled from the initially introduced 15 giraffe in 2015 and now stands at a total of 30 individuals. What a fantastic conservation success for the critically endangered Nubian giraffe. We expect this trend to continue as we await the delivery of more calves.

*Table 1. Summary of giraffe births as of July 2020*

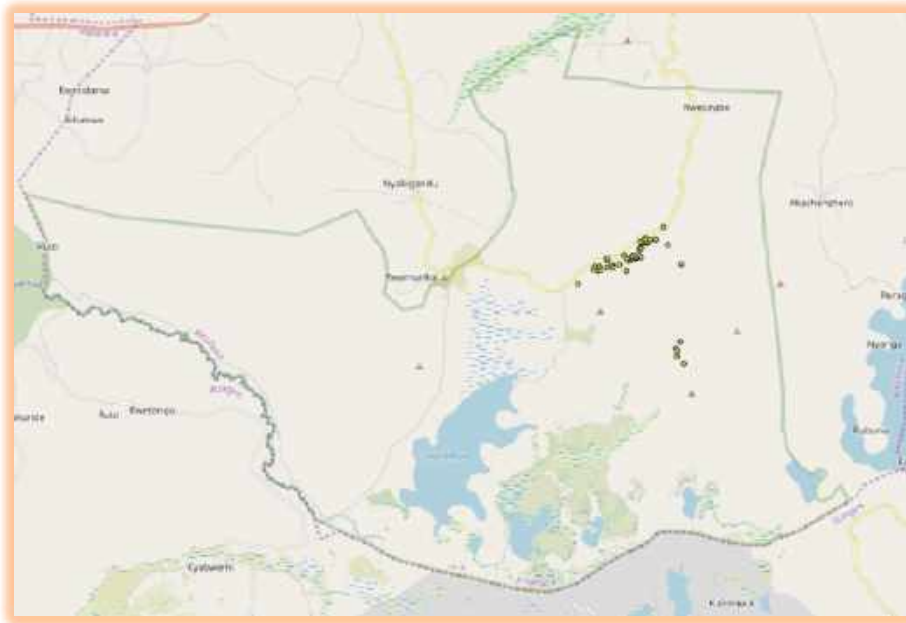
Giraffe Name	1st Round of Births	2nd Round of Births
Morse	April 2018	November 2019
Marion	June 2018	April 2020
Juliana	July 2018	
Ru	August 2018	April 2020
Suni	August 2018	
Batgirl	August 2018	April 2020
Nicky	September 2018	
Mystery	January 2019	
Irish	March 2019	
Valentine	No calf	June 2020
Caroline	No pregnancy	



Left: Valentine’s calf



Right: Ru’s calf.



**Figure 1.** The giraffe still strongly favour zebra/acacia track with occasional sightings on research track.

## Education

As the pandemic continues, it looks more and more likely that schools will not return this year. This means that we will not be able to conduct our scheduled school trips this year. However, we are in discussion with the UWA community conservation team to determine alternative ways to implement effective education projects for the year instead.

In the meantime, we manage to deliver the printed information flyers to the UWA headquarters and the education centre at Lake Mburo NP. These materials are ready for distribution once students are able to visit the park again.

To increase community engagement, we also aired our second radio chat show on 30 June 2020 with the participation of GEAR researcher Natamba Jotham and UWA Warden of Research & Monitoring Kirumira Dorothy. The team crammed into a small temporary room as the radio studios were under renovation. Despite the cramped circumstances and the difficulty of getting airtime due to looming elections, the show was another success and well received by the audience.



## Appendix 1: Summary of Data Collected

Date	Observers	Herd Size	ID's	GPS-Lat	GPS-Long
02-Jan-20	Jotham, Catherine	7	Morse, Leiden, Mystery, Irish, Bernard, Juliana Kule	-0.5877067	31.0001733
06-Jan-20	Jotham, Fred	12	Morse, Juliana, Irish, Leiden Kule, Rocket, Bernard, Mystery and 4 calves	-0.5876317	30.99885
09-Jan-20	Michael, Jotham	13	Mystery, Ru, Nicky, Juliana, Suni, Rocket, Irish, Valentine, Bernard, Leiden, Morse, Caroline, Kule.	-0.5870033	31.00191
13-Jan-20	Catherine, Jotham	19	Juliana, Nicky, Rocket, Leiden, Bernard, Caroline, Valentine, Marion, Suni, Ru, Mystery and 8 calves.	-0.59318	30.9966067
17-Jan-20	Juliet, Jotham	13	Mystery, Marion, Juliana, Irish, Valentine, Bernard, Rocket, and 6 calves.	-0.5909633	30.9978517
20-Jan-20	Michael, Jotham	25	Kule, Ru, Irish, Caroline, Morse, Leiden, Nicky, Juliana, Suni, Valentine, Marion, Bernard, Rocket, Batgirl, Mystery and 10 calves.	-0.5867533	31.0039133
23-Jan-20	Michael, Jotham	11	Kule, Suni, Bernard, Nicky, Mystery and 6 calves.	-0.596795	30.986675
03-Feb-20	Fred, Jotham	9	Bernard, Irish, Mystery, Caroline, Morse and 4 calves.	-0.5825133	31.0063067
03-Feb-20	Fred, Jotham	13	Valentine, Nicky, Batgirl, Suni, Ru, Juliana, Marion, and 6 calves.	-0.595995	30.9877783
06-Feb-20	Catherine, Jotham	12	Marion, Bernard, Mystery, Irish, Suni. And 7 calves	-0.5957217	30.9907933
06-Feb-20	Catherine, Jotham	6	Suni and 5 calves	-0.593665	30.9864467

10-Feb-20	Michael, Jotham	14	Marion, Ru , Mystery, Nicky, Rocket, Kule, Bernard, Valentine and 6 calves.	-0.5929767	30.9967717
13-Feb-20	Catherine, Jotham	8	Irish, Batgirl, Kule, Caroline, Rocket, Marion, Bernard and calf.	-0.6312683	31.0139333
13-Feb-20	Catherine, Jotham	9	Valentine, Juliana, Morse, Mystery and 5 calves	-0.5871167	30.9995833
17-Feb-20	Arthur , Jotham	7	Valentine, Morse, Mystery and 4 calves	-0.5877467	31.0005567
17-Feb-20	Arthur, Jotham	14	Caroline, Suni, Batgirl, Ru, Irish, Marion, Rocket, Bernard and 6 calves.	-0.631255	31.0138417
24-Feb-20	Catherine, Jotham	9	Valentine, Marion, Caroline, Kule, Bernard, Irish, Juliana, Suni, Nicky	-0.5962733	30.9819483
02-Mar-20	Michael Jotham	2	Kule and Leiden	-0.5959267	31.013
02-Mar-20	Michael Jotham	6	Mystery, Morse and 4 calves	-0.5937183	30.9951483
05-Mar-20	Fred, Jotham	15	Leiden, Bernard, Kule, Rocket, Juliana, Caroline, Marion, Suni, Morse, Irish and 5 calves	-0.5862483	31.0002517
05-Mar-20	Fred, Jotham	5	Mystery and 4 calves	-0.6025483	30.9759933
24-Mar-20	Lindah, Jotham	6	Leiden, Bernard, Kule, Juliana, Suni, Valentine.	-0.5926933	30.9925617
24-Mar-20	Lindah, Jotham	14	Leiden, Kule, Irish, Suni, Caroline, Valentine, Marion, Bernard, Nicky, Batgirl, Juliana and 3 calves.	-0.5981917	30.9933083
22-May-20	Jotham Alindah,	18	Kule, Marion, Morse ,Caroline, Leiden, Irish, Juliana, Batgirl and 10 calves.	-0.5945733	30.9940117
27-May-20	Nelson, Jotham	6	Bernard, Leiden, Mystery, Nicky, Juliana, Irish	-0.6233833	31.0124317
27-May-20	Nelson, Jotham	7	Kule, Ru, Marion Batgirl and 3 calves.	-0.5979417	30.9833283
27-May-20	Nelson, Jotham	6	Caroline, Suni, Morse and 3 calves	-0.5886067	31.0081917

28-May-20	Fred, Jotham	19	Kule, Morse, Juliana, Mystery, Irish, Caroline, Suni, Leiden, Nicky, and 10 calves.	-0.5898183	30.99872
28-May-20	Fred, Jotham	8	Rocket, Bernard, Marion, Ru, Batgirl, and 3 calves.	-0.59359	30.9953767
02-Jun-20	Micheal, Jotham	24	Bernard, Rocket, Leiden, Morse, Ru, Batgirl, Irish, Nicky, Mystery, Suni, Juliana and 13 calves.	-0.5927567	30.99541
03-Jun-20	Catherine, Jotham	26	Kule, Bernard , Caroline, Suni, Ru, Marion, Batgirl, Mystery, Morse, Leiden, Juliana, Irish, Nicky and 13 calves.	-0.5927617	30.9953533
09-Jun-20	Catherine, Jotham	20	Morse, Marion, Ru, Batgirl, Mystery, Nicky, Irish, Suni, Caroline, Leiden, Bernard, Kule and 8 calves.	-0.59778	30.9843933
11-Jun-20	Micheal, Jotham	6	Valentine, Rocket, Nicky and 3 calves	-0.6286333	31.0111983

## Appendix II: Activity Budget Summaries

**Month:** January

**Observer:** Jotham, Juliet, Michael, Catherine, Fred

**Hour:** 7-8am 8-9am 9-10am 10-11am 11-12pm 12-1pm 1-2pm 2-3pm 3-4pm 4-5pm 5-6pm 6-7pm

**Activity**

Feeding				24	147	261	312	191	25			
Resting				6	63	233	219	96	14			
Ruminating				21	110	205	196	166	23			
Walking				15	68	110	162	112	15			
Grooming				7	38	62	58	41	4			
Sexual Behaviour				2	22	24	23	24	4			
Excretion				5	31	39	36	23	1			
Vigilance				5	58	89	95	48	11			
Interaction				0	27	28	22	14	0			
Drinking				4	16	7	6	5	0			
Other				0	0	0	0	0	0			
Total	0	0	0	89	580	1058	1129	720	97	0	0	0

**Month:** March

**Observer:** Jotham, Fred, Michael

**Hour:** 7-8am 8-9am 9-10am 10-11am 11-12pm 12-1pm 1-2pm 2-3pm 3-4pm 4-5pm 5-6pm 6-7pm

**Activity**

Feeding					12	4	88	3				
Resting					19	14	14	0				
Ruminating					8	6	59	17				
Walking					3	3	63	4				
Grooming					6	2	24	1				
Sexual Behaviour					0	0	18	2				
Excretion					1	1	19	1				
Vigilance					5	3	23	2				
Interaction					0	0	10	0				
Drinking					0	0	6	0				
Other					0	0	0	0				
<b>Total</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>54</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>324</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>



**Month:** May

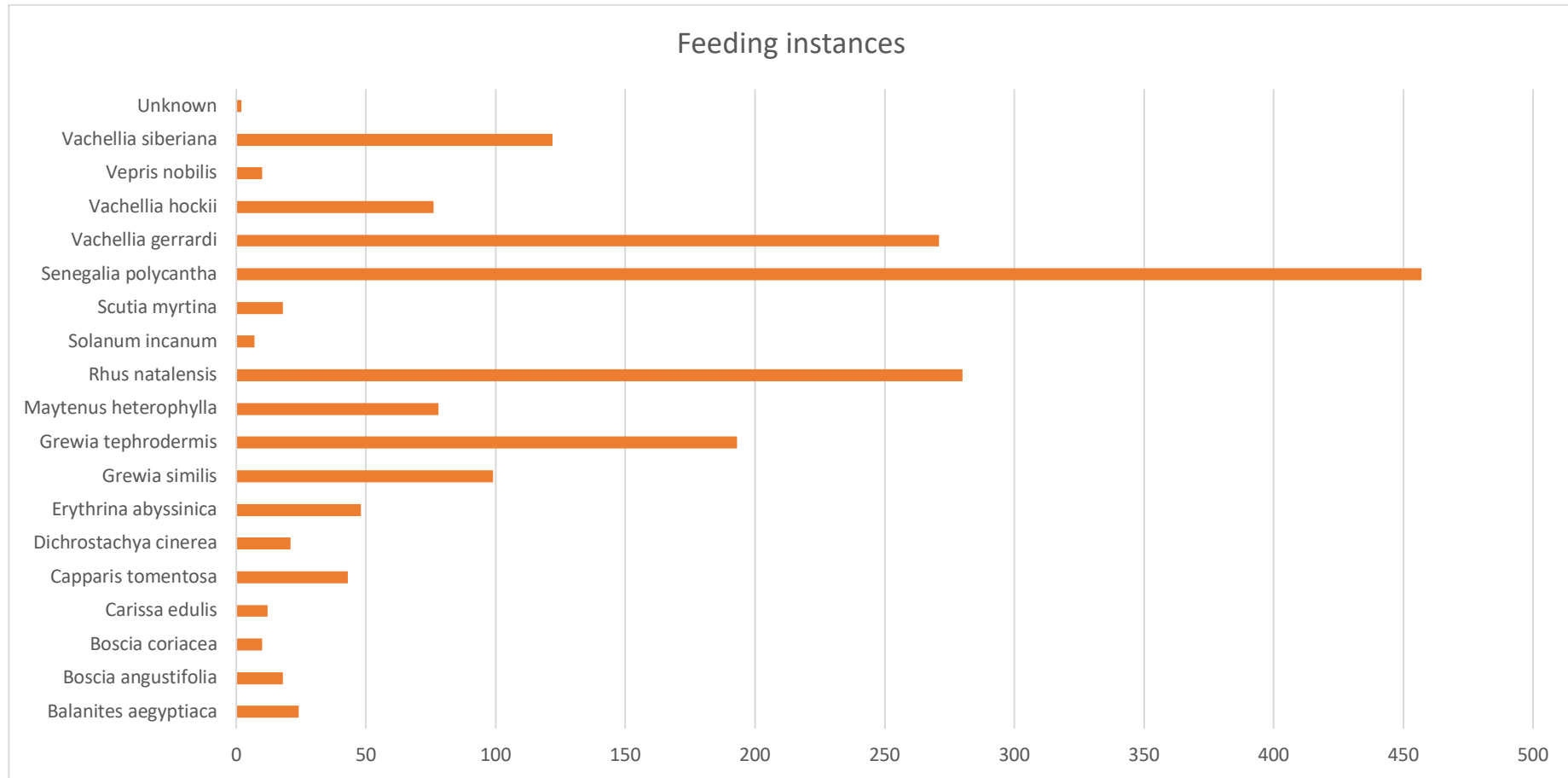
**Observer:** Jotham, Fred, Nelson, Lindah

**Hour:** 7-8am 8-9am 9-10am 10-11am 11-12pm 12-1pm 1-2pm 2-3pm 3-4pm 4-5pm 5-6pm 6-7pm

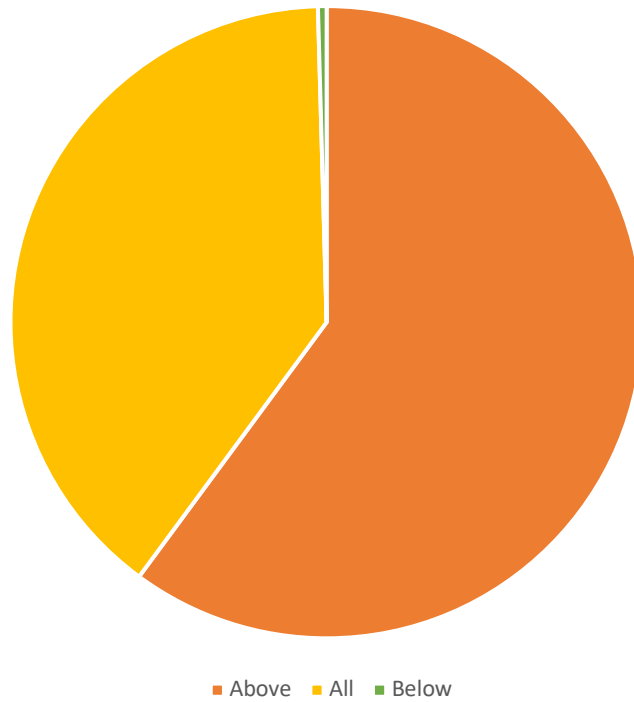
**Activity**

Feeding					36	76	107	50				
Resting					41	52	86	38				
Ruminating					60	73	112	44				
Walking					43	67	64	32				
Grooming					15	26	41	18				
Sexual Behaviour					8	12	38	10				
Excretion					6	16	15	11				
Vigilance					27	42	37	18				
Interaction					4	4	4	0				
Drinking					1	1	4	0				
Other					7	0	0	0				
<b>Total</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>248</b>	<b>369</b>	<b>508</b>	<b>221</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

## Appendix III: Diet Data



### Browsing Height



Browsing instances:  
Above 1.6m  
Below 1.6m  
At all heights

*This report was compiled in partnership with and supported by:*

