

Grey Crowned Crane Conservation

a successful case study at Lake Ol'Bolossat, Kenya.



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Cranes Conservation Volunteers (CCV) - is a registered community-Based organization in Kenya focusing conservation of threatened wildlife using the endangered Grey Crowned Crane as a flagship Species.

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Lake Ol' Bolossat

- Located in Kenya, Nyandarua County on the north-western slopes on Nyandarua/Abadare ranges, asl 2300m
- Area covered by water is aprx 43km square
- Was designated as iba/kba in 2008
- Surrounding community main economic activities - small-scale farming and livestock keeping,

Cranes of the world



- There are 15 Species of Cranes globally
- Four are African endemic – Grey & black crowned Cranes, Blue and Wattled Cranes
- 13 of them are classified as an endangered Species on the IUCN red list

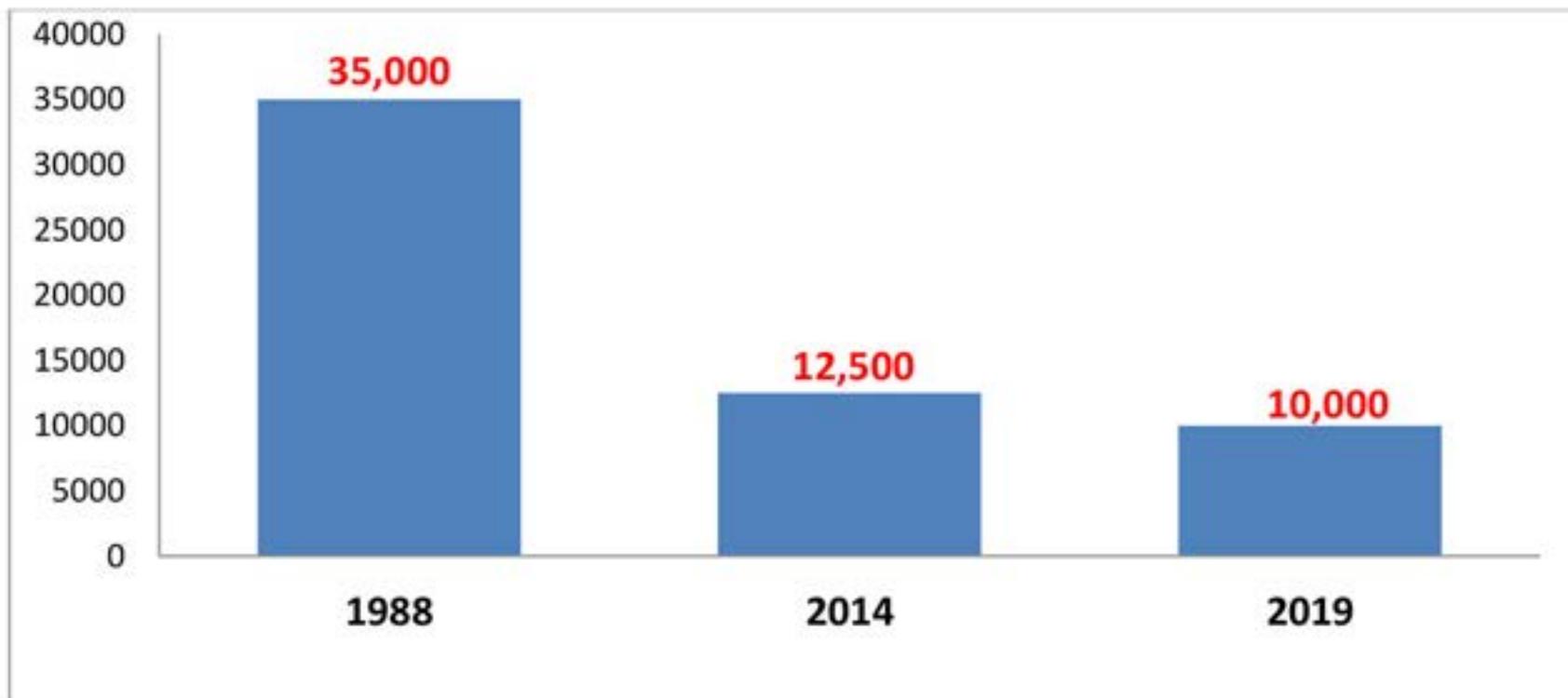
The Grey Crowned Crane



- Is and African endemic
- Found in East Africa and southern African countries
- Kenya has the Largest population of 45% of global population
- Listed as the fastest declining Crane Species
- A decline of over 80% for the Last 45 years ago
- Listed **endangered** in the iucn red data of the threatened Species

A decline of up to 80% of the endangered Grey Crowned Crane has been recorded globally. Kenya hosts the largest population of 45%.

Population trend in Kenya



A survey on GCC status at Lake Ol' Bolossat 2015/2016.

Threats

- Nest failure.
- Juvenile mortality
- Poaching
- Degradation of habitat
- Poisoning
- Delayed conservation policies implementation
- Lack of conservation laws enforcement
- Lack of information





Conservation intervention

1. **Awareness creation** - one-on-one, community workshops, lectures during village meetings, vernacular brochures & posters
2. **Zonation of breeding sites** – meetings with livestock owners at different sites, marking territories

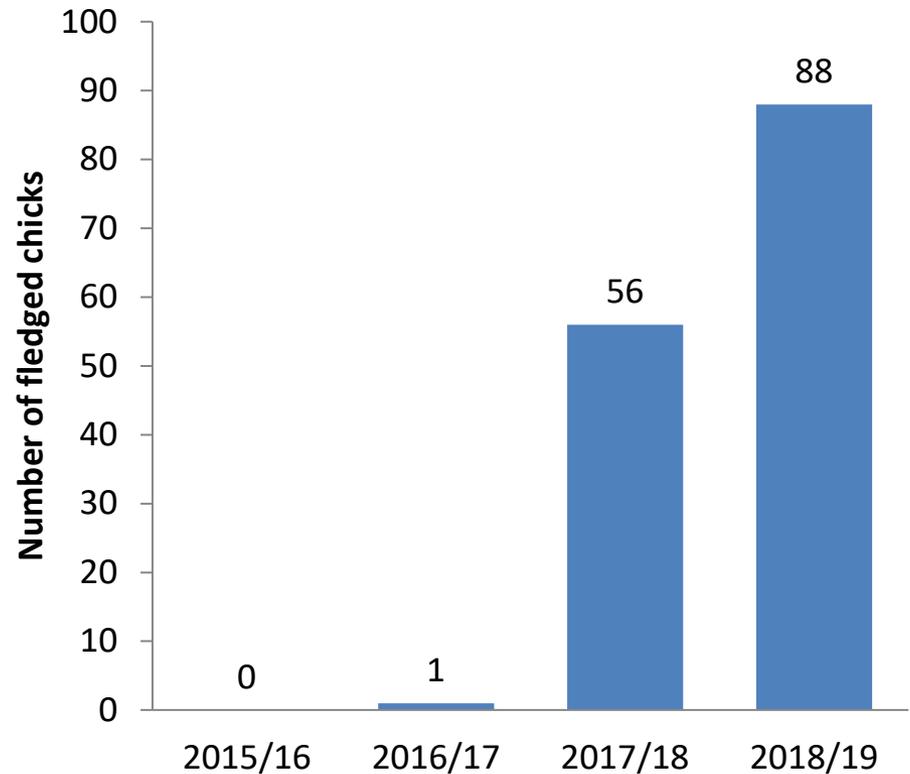


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3. **Monitoring breeding pairs** – nests, chicks progress, breeding pairs custodians (grazers, wetland users, neighboring land owners)
4. **Awareness workshops** – Key people attached to breeding territories (grazers and fishermen) village elders, government agencies.
5. **Alternative live hood for poachers** – skills on poultry farming
6. **Information Sharing/desemination** – grazers, fishermen, law-enforcers.
7. **Formation of Cranes Conservation Volunteers** – to coordinate different applied approaches
8. **GCC scholarship program** – bright but needy students from key Cranes Sites

Achievements

- Discovery and mapping of Key sites for the Cranes – available data
- An informed community about the Grey Crowned Crane call for conservation intervention- reporting to ccv secretariat of an injured Crane, poaching attempts, un-common flocking etc
- Formation of Cranes Conservation Volunteers organisation
- Poachers being transformed to Cranes conservationists – reporting to CCV office of any vital information in regards to threats or sighting
- Increase of chicks fledging success from zero during 2015/2016 breeding season to 84 during 2018/2019 breeding season



Challenge

Community hostility at the beginning due to negative attitude toward wildlife due conflict with hippopotamus

- Crop invasion
- Human fatality
- Livestock attacks
- Unsecure nights

Thank you

