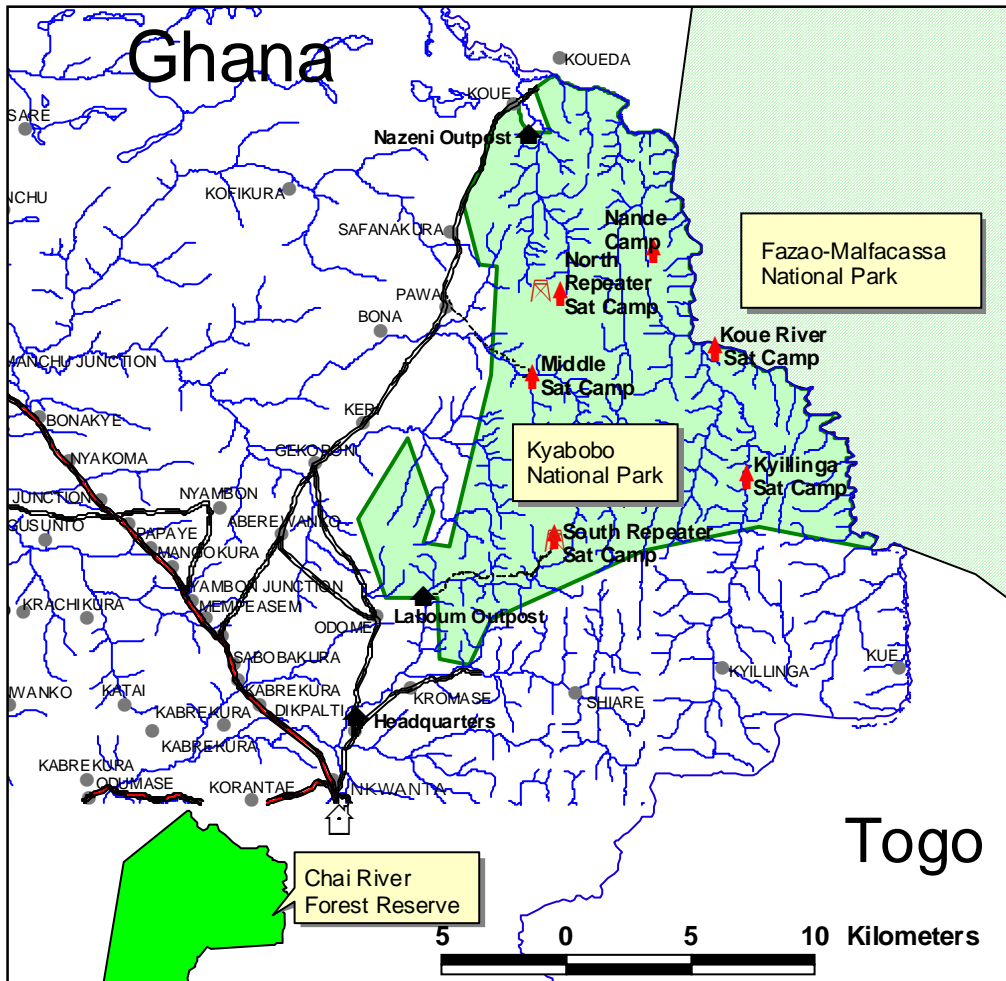


KYABOBO NATIONAL PARK

Map :



Source: 2005-2010 management plan.

Size of the PA : 24 000 ha

IUCN category: II

International label: none

Protected area's values

Type of values	Protected area's values
Biodiversity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Unique mountain ecosystem in Ghana Endemic species : <i>Kyabobo laurensis</i> butterfly
Landscape	mixture of forest (about 60%) and savanna (about 40%)

Cultural values	Sacred sites
Economical values	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Climate change mitigation and control at local, regional and global levels • Protection of the sources of main rivers bringing water to surrounding populations

Main pressures

- **Poaching** focuses on small antelopes and is dedicated to bush meat trade.
- **Bush fires** are used by local communities for hunting, agriculture or beekeeping purposes. There is currently uncontrolled early burning of almost all of the savanna areas of the park.
- **Non ligneous forest products harvesting:** As the park is not yet formally gazetted and the people have not yet been compensated, there is still a lot of gathering in the park. Currently people are harvesting thatching grass, chewing sticks, Marantaceae leaves, poles, shea nuts and the valuable Gile nut which is used for oil.

1. Context : from where are we starting ?

Legal status and date of establishment

Kyabobo is not yet formally gazetted but has been established by the Executive Instrument No 20 of 16/09/1993 which provides for the acquisition of the land for a National Park and describes a boundary. Since then there have been many changes. The current boundary has been fixed since Sept 1999, and there will be no further adjustment. The boundary is known by the communities and respected. A Site Advisory Board came to Kyabobo and inspected and approved the boundary. They forwarded the documents to the Land Commission.

Land owner: State

Management institution

Wildlife Division department of the Forestry Commission is responsible for the management of Kyabobo national park.

On-going projects

There is no on-going project in Kyabobo anymore but several ones have been implemented in a recent past:

- The wildlife conservation project financed by the Dutch cooperation (€ 3 million, 7 years long, closed in 2008) supported the infrastructures and equipment development of Kyabobo and management planning drafting and implementation.
- Another conservation project was implemented by British volunteers until 1999. It focused on fringe communities livelihood enhancement (by promoting beekeeping activities) and on small mammals surveys implementation.

Neighboring stakeholders

- Private sector:

There is no private enterprise located close to Kyabobo.

- Communities:

Most of the land in the park belongs to the Akyode people by customary rights. They are a Guan speaking group whose ancestors were hunters and small scale farmers. The Akyode people are numerically and historically still the dominant group in the area. The remainder of the land belongs to the Challa tribe. Other tribes include the Konkomba, Adele, Ewe and Kotokoli.

- Associations and NGOs:

Ghana Education Project is working on education issues in the district schools and they also deal with environmental subjects with the support of PA staff.

Protected area boundary demarcation

The boundary is 97.3 km long and the southern boundary has already been moved three times at the request of the Shiare and Kyillinga people. The Park has not yet been formally gazetted and this needs to happen before the boundary demarcation can be completed. The boundary is known and mostly respected by the communities but less than 10 km of pillaring has been done.

Protected area regulation

As Ghanaian PA regulations are detailed in the Wildlife Reserves Regulations. But even if Kyabobo is not formally established, PA staff applies the Wildlife Reserves regulation. This regulation precises that hunting, animal or plant capture, fires, and pollution are prohibited in the PA.

The 2005-2010 MP also mentions that it might be possible that some parts of the park may eventually be subject to Memoranda of Understanding with local communities. These MoUs would enable some controlled use of natural resources in some areas. The limits of these areas should be specified (exactly) in the MoUs. Practically no MOUs have been established with fringe communities.

2. Planning : where do we want to be how will we get there ?

Management plan objectives

The main objective of the management plan is the protection of the unique biodiversity of the only protected mountain ecosystem in Ghana.

Protected area design

The previous management plan stated that no zoning was necessary during the lifetime of this plan, as there were no reason to manage any part of the park differently from any other. (p 30 MP). This management option is still running.

Management plan

The previous management plan has been drafted in 2005 and was available until 2010. A new MP is under development.

Regular work plan

An operational work plan is being drafted each year to detail the necessary budget to implement it. The funding that is really obtained is lower so that only priority activities regarding the park manager are implemented.

Monitoring and evaluation

The previous management plan (outdated since 2010) didn't mention any indicators that estimate the success of management actions undertaken.

3. Inputs : what do we need ?

Human resource

Permanent staff includes 46 persons: a park manager, a tourism officer, a law enforcement officer, a community officer and an accountant, 20 rangers, 6 tour guides, 5 maintenance team, a administrative staff and a driver.

Research

There is no research taking place in Kyabobo at present. Some previous research activities carried out by independent researchers focused on insects and butterflies identifications.

Financial resource

In 2011, the annual budget allocated by the Wildlife Division represented 25 000 Cedis (salary excluded).

4. Management processes : how do we go about it ?

Natural resource management

- Fire management: to prevent ecosystem burning by early savanna bush fires the previous MP stated that burning should be patchy and each savanna patch should be burnt about three times in five years.
- Alien plant species: *Chromolaena odorata* is located in the valleys in areas of farm-bush. The previous MP stated that this plant invasion should be controlled by fire management.
- Ecological monitoring is done during law enforcement patrols. KyaMIS is the "Kyabobo Management Information System" and it is based on Arcview software. Practically PA staff uses the HUGO method to analyze the ecological data collected.

Law enforcement

Patrolling around base camps is a daily activity. Some patrols also control larger areas within the park during several days. Patrolling activities focus on area close to the villages. Only 2 poachers have been prosecuted in 2011. And many traps are used by farmers along their crop boundaries which border the PA boundaries.

Resource inventory

The 2005-2010 management plan reported that the most important [data collection] for the next five years, was the monitoring of wildlife distribution and abundance, to see if Law Enforcement and Ground Coverage are working effectively. Another main priority was to establish a vegetation map of the park, as this will be important for fire management.

Management of staff

Law enforcement staff is well trained thanks to the annual training of the Mobile Training Unit of wildlife Division.

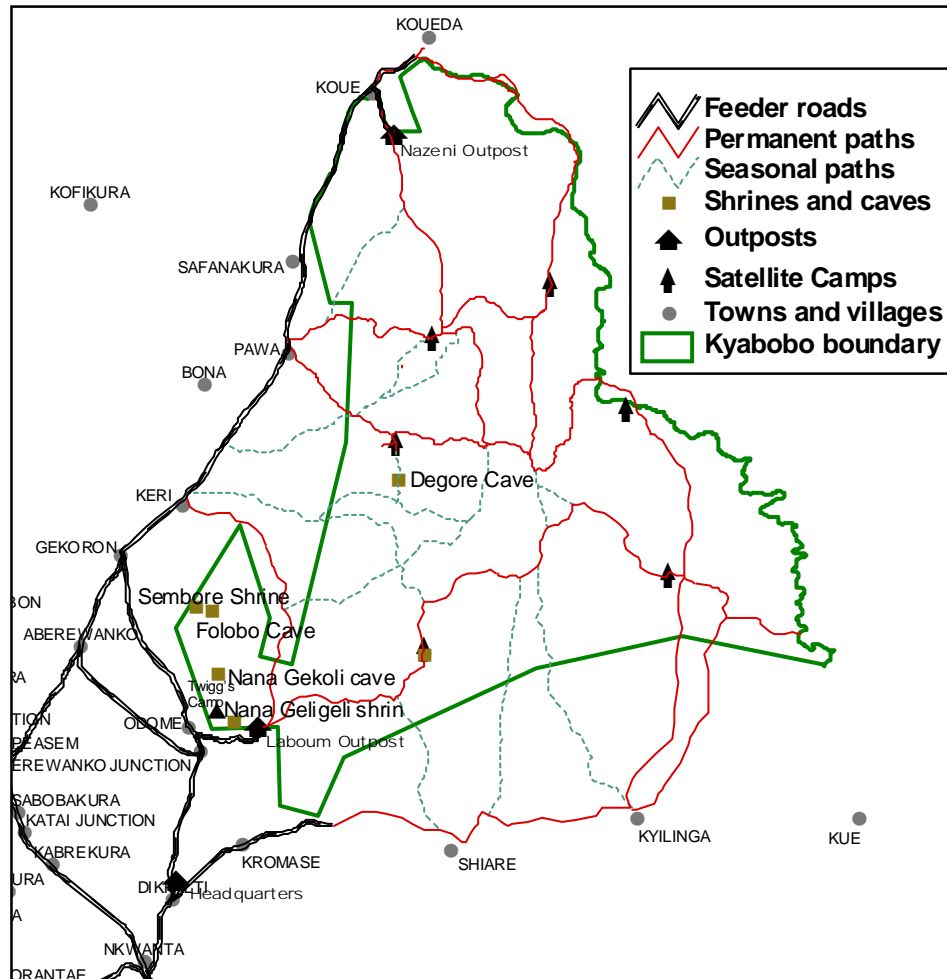
Management of budget

No information on the split of budget to support current activities implementation during the

year.

Infrastructure and equipment

Infrastructures of the park are made up of a head quarter, several wildlife guard outposts and satellite patrol camps. A track network exists but is only practicable by foot. There are no motorable tracks inside the park. Several vehicles and motorbikes are available. Equipments for offices and law enforcement patrolling seem to be sufficient.



Education and awareness

An NGO called Ghana Education project is working with PA staff on environmental education.

Interactions with the users of the surrounding land (public and private stakeholders)

There is no private stakeholder around the PA. Communities usually respect the PA boundaries but they sometimes overpass the boundaries with their crops. There is no CREMA around Kyabobo. However, the park managers are looking at how to establish CREMAs, starting with the community of Pusupu.

Role of communities regarding to management decisions of the PA

The Kyabobo "PAMAU" is known as the KyamAB and it gives advice to the Park, especially

on management and community outreach issues. The Protected Area Management Advisory Unit (PAMAU) is made up of Wildlife Division, District Assembly and Traditional Authority representatives.

Tourism

About 400 tourists came to visit Kyabobo in 2011.

5. Outputs : what did we do and what products and services were produced ?

Visitor facilities

There are currently no facilities for tourists in or beside the park. It is planned to build a simple tourist camp just north of the Laboum Outpost.

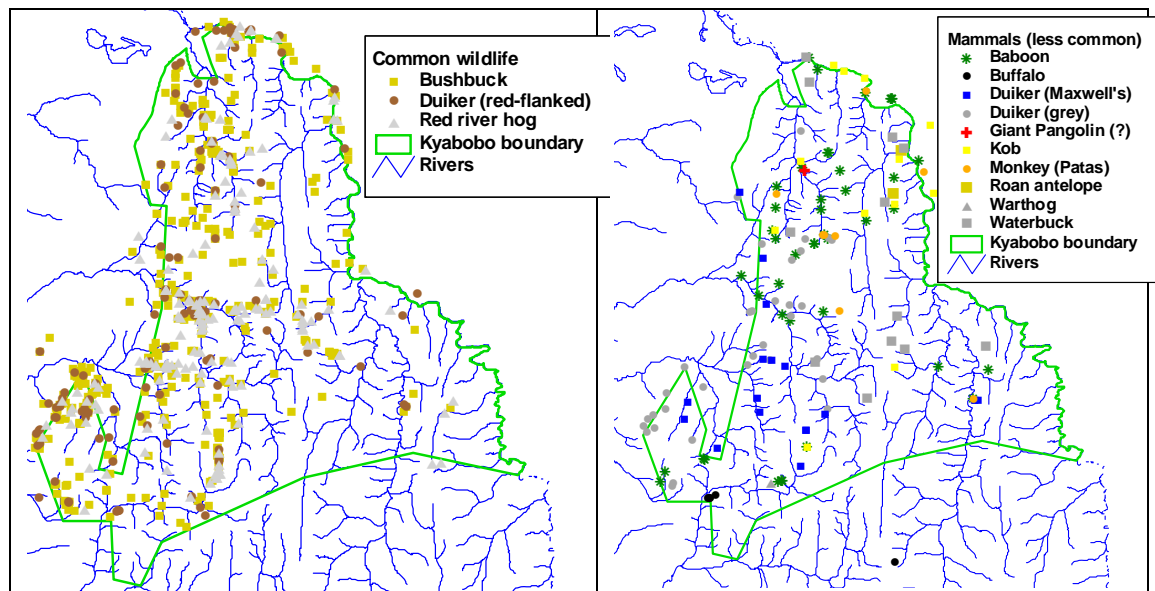
Fees and taxes

The budget gathered thanks to entrance fees represent about 2 000 Cedis per year and it is completely transferred to the Wildlife Division in Accra.

Condition of values

Although there has not been any census of the wildlife of Kyabobo it can safely be stated that the overall numbers of most species are very low and that poaching had been intense.

Some data are now being gathered by the wildlife guards on patrol, using GPS units. This data (which is mostly records of footprints) gives an approximate idea of the distribution of different species.



Although these maps do not estimate the population sizes of different species, it should be possible to use them to track the expansion of wildlife into new areas in the future. Note that bushbuck, red river hog and red-flanked duiker appear to be the most well distributed and abundant species.

Access control

The international boundary between Kyabobo and Fazao-Malfacassa is a river crossed by

many Togolese and Ghanaian people. But the North-West part of the boundary is made up of a road which is well controlled. The other portions of the boundaries are more difficult to control.

Economic benefits for communities

Communities benefit from beekeeping activities (supported by the Women and Development NGO) but they are not allowed to harvest any other natural resources from the park.

PA staff tries to promote guiding tour by communities and home stay in the villages but these experiences didn't succeed yet because most of these people can't read and manage these kinds of activities.

Some people benefit from employment in the PA.