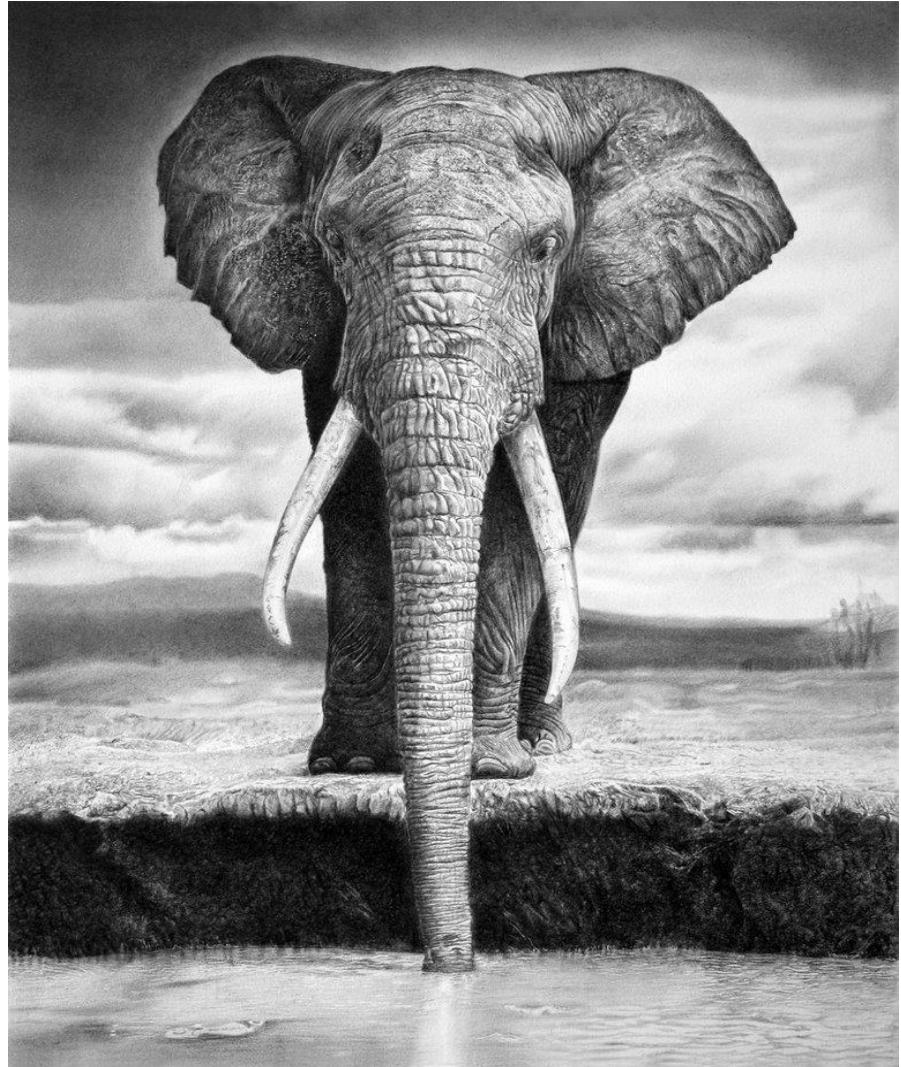


FORESTRY COMMISSION



WILDLIFE DIVISION

BRIEF OVERVIEW OF MOLE NATIONAL PARK



Content

Legal framework (Management authority and mandate)

Park management objectives

History, Location, Physical & Biological features

Management systems and Strategies

Park Administration

Law Enforcement

Community Collaboration

Tourism

Infrastructure Development and Maintenance

MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY/MANDATE

WILD ANIMALS PRESERVATION ACT (ACT 43 OF

—
1961:

Mandates the Wildlife Division of the Forestry Commission to establish and manage a network of Protected Areas to conserve representative samples of the country's biodiversity and ecological zones.

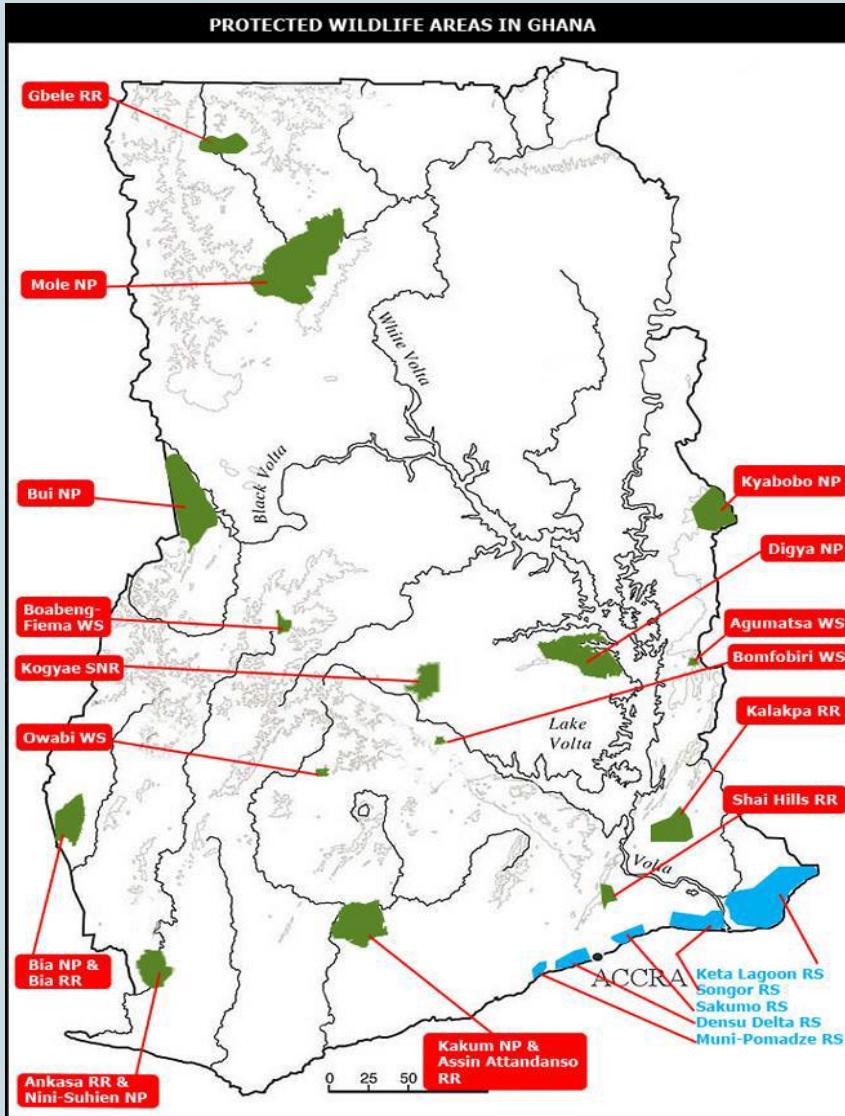
Mole National Park of the Wildlife Division falls under the Ministry of Lands and Natural Resources.



PARK'S MAIN OBJECTIVES

- 
- A photograph showing a group of antelopes, likely elands, grazing in a park. They are standing on dry, brownish ground with a small pool of water to the left. In the background, there is a dense forest of green trees under a clear blue sky.
1. Protect and maintain the ecological integrity of the Park from negative boundary alterations, inappropriate development or exploitation.
 2. Secure, restore and maintain features/values and ecological processes in the national park.
 3. Provide opportunities for research to improve knowledge and understanding of Mole and its ecosystem.
 4. Improve and maintain Mole as a prime park for recreation and tourism with private sector participation.
 5. Ensure effective stakeholders participation in park management.
 6. Promote education and public awareness on Mole and its role in maintaining environmental stability

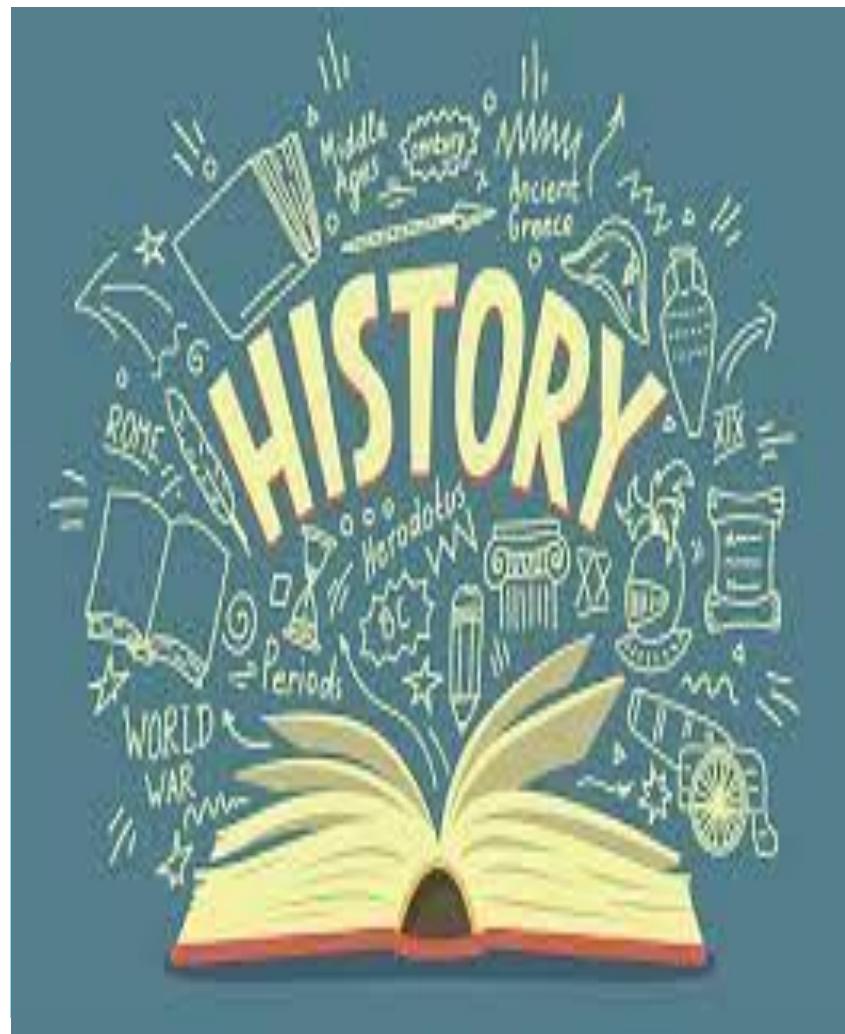
PROTECTED AREA NETWORK (WILDLIFE) IN GHANA



- 7 National park
 - 6 Resource Reserves
 - 2 Wildlife Sanctuaries
 - 1 Strict Nature Reserve
 - 5 Coastal RAMSAR Sites
- Area: 13,489 km² (6.2%)
- PAs established in all ecological zones of Ghana
(Coastal Savannah, Wet Evergreen, Moist Deciduous, Dry deciduous, Transitional & Guinea Savannah)

ESTABLISHMENT OF MOLE NATIONAL PARK

- Located in fairly undisturbed **Guinea Savannah Ecological zone**.
- Largely in the **Northern Region** (Gonjaland), with a small part falling in the **UWR**.
- Spans across five Political Districts i.e. **Wa East, MMD, NG, West Gonja and Sawla-Tuna-Kalba**.
- It covers a land area of **4,577 km²**.



1930: Game Clearance Unit established

1957: Game clearance exercise discontinued

1958: Mole Game Reserve established

1971 : Gazettement as National Park under the Wildlife Reserves Regulation LI 710 of 1971

1992: Last community evacuated from Park

FEATURES OF THE PARK

Flat topography

Elevation ranging between 120 to 490 metres asl.

The Konkori escarpment is the dominant feature.

Major water catchment area.

- Yakalanaa
- Polzen
- Lovi
- Mole

It has diverse habitats (Wooded Savannah, Open grassland, swamps, Gallery forest, Bovals & Rocky hills)



ESCARPMENTS IN THE PARK



WATER BODIES IN THE PARK





FLORA AND FAUNA

- Mole NP is highly rich in biodiversity due to the diverse habitats it has.
- These include;

740 Vascular Plant Species
4 Of Which Are Endemic And 24 Rare.

Over 94 Mammal Species (Including 5 Primates)

Over 300 Bird Species

33 Reptile Species

9 Amphibian Species

FAUNA SPECIES



BIRD SPECIES



MANAGEMENT UNITS



The Park is divided into five units to facilitate its administration and management

- ❖ Park administration
- ❖ Law enforcement and ecological monitoring
- ❖ Community collaboration
- ❖ Tourism
- ❖ Infrastructure & maintenance

1. LAW ENFORCEMENT AND ECOLOGICAL MONITORING UNIT



Four (4) established ranges/ sub-ranges

Patrols, grounds coverage and Intelligence gathering

Arrest and Prosecution of offenders

Ecological monitoring of wildlife (MIST/SMART/
EarthRanger)

Issuance of permits (hunting/bushmeat trade/pet)

Collaboration with security agencies

1. LAW ENFORCEMENT AND ECOLOGICAL MONITORING UNIT



ACTIVITIES UNDERTAKEN BY THE L.E & E.M UNIT

2. COLLABORATIVE RESOURCE MANAGEMENT UNIT



Park and Community Engagements

- Support and develop CREMAs.
- Support and develop conflict management structures with stakeholders (PAMAUs).
- Natural resource-related enterprise development in communities eg. beekeeping, shea processing etc.
- Coordinate problem animal management activities.
- Undertake conservation education: in schools and communities.





ACTIVITIES UNDERTAKEN BY THE CRM UNIT

TOURISM UNIT



Current tourism packages

- Game Viewing: Day/Night. Foot/Vehicle
- Birdwatching
- Hiking
- Eco-Museum & Wildlife exhibition room
- Meeting/Conferencing
- Community tours
 - Larabanga Mystic stone and ancient Mosque
 - Mognori eco-village
 - Wechiau Hippo Sanctuary
 - Damongo scarp hikes

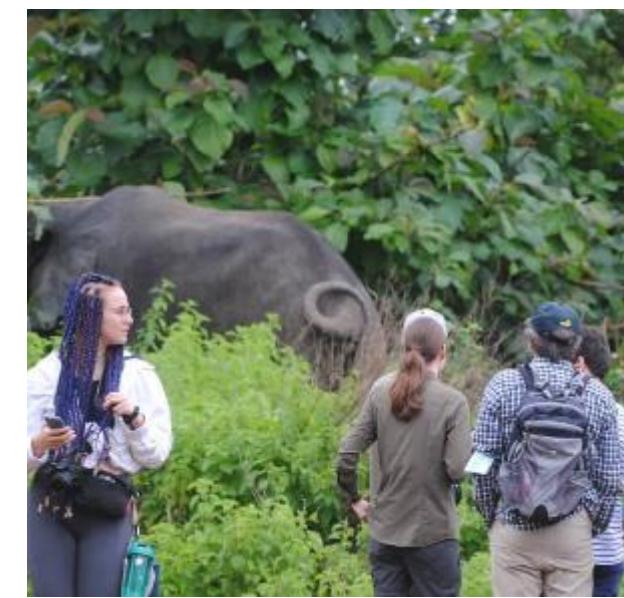
Overnight Accommodation

- Mole Safari Resort (a 34 room / 108 bed 1 star accommodation facility for guests and tourists with restaurant and swimming pool).
- Zaina Eco-Lodge (a 25 room / 2 star luxury hospitality facility with restaurant and pool for upper level clientele.)





ACTIVITIES UNDERTAKEN BY THE TOURISM UNIT





1. Human wildlife Conflicts:

- Poaching
- Crop raiding by mostly elephants which results in occasional revenge killings



2. Poor internal Access

- Construct Lovi bridge
- Construct Nyange bridge
- Poor access to range camps through the Park.
- Inadequate tracks and trails for tourism.



3. Lack of funds to maintain staff accommodation and infrastructure

- Rehabilitate/Maintain/Paint buildings at HQ
- Rehabilitate buildings at Range camps
- Rehabilitate Wildlife school and VIP lodge
- Rehabilitate six (6) old camps to serve as TB



- #### 4. Drastic reduction in field staff numbers: This is undermining the security of the park and resources: Efforts, coverage adversely affected



4. Inadequate accommodation for visitors (low cost/budget options).

5.Undeveloped tourism attractions or products for visitors and tourists: (Examples of potential attractions/sites that can be developed e.g. the Kparia and Polzen Waterfalls

6. Under-marketed/publicized
7. Uncompleted and unfurnished Mole museum building

OPPORTUNITIES



Fairly large land size: Accommodate diverse habitats

Legal status: No dispute over ownership

Enjoy support of local people: Politicians, Traditional authorities and locals

Abundance of wildlife; especially species of conservation and touristic interest

Basic facilities/infrastructure available

Enjoy fairly adequate protection and management

High investor interest

Potential to attract funding: Tourism, research

OPPORTUNITIES FOR COLLABORATION



- Research / Surveys
- Lesson Learning through exchange programmes.
- Effective park protection and law enforcement: Logistics, training and operational support for field staff.
- Private investors are welcome to develop and operate tourists facilities: Lodges, Transport services on concession basis, etc.
- Expansion of Road and track infrastructure within the park.
- Interventions aimed at reducing poverty and illiteracy rates in communities fringing the park.
- Relevant training for all categories of staff

Opportunities for collaboration/ way forward for Mole NP



- Construct two critical bridges over Lovi and Mole rivers and associated road construction to open up the park for effective management and eco-tourism development
- Rehabilitate, furnish and operationalize Eco-Museum facility for historical, archaeological, cultural and conservation-related education.
- Collaborate with stakeholders, universities and private sector to complete, develop and operationalize Lovi Research Centre.

Opportunities for collaboration/ way forward for Mole NP



- Engage private sector to develop additional tourism concessions in Mole
- Support development of a sustainable funding source for Mole
- Expand internal access for tourism and law enforcement deployment
- Identify and develop innovative ecotourism facilities and packages within the Park and in fringe communities with ecotourism potential

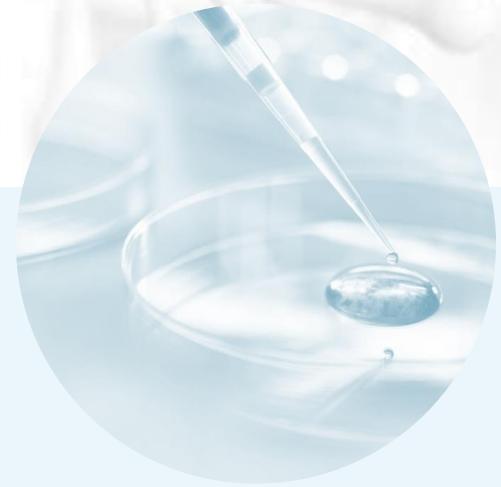
Critical interventions/ way forward (Cont.)

- Introduce technology in wildlife monitoring and surveillance e.g. Drone surveillance.
- Help Enlist MNP as a UNESCO World Heritage Site to enjoy higher recognition and sustainable funding.



QUESTIONS/ COMMENTS/ RECOMMENDATIONS

PATIENCE TETTEHDZI
MOLE NATIONAL PARK



THANK YOU

MOLE NATIONAL PARK