

# MUSILA, SIMON NGANDA

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## **PERSONAL INFORMATION**

**Date of Birth:** 20<sup>th</sup> September 1974

**Present Mailing Address:** National Museums of Kenya, Mammalogy Section, P.O. BOX 40658, GPO 00100 Nairobi-Kenya. Tel. +254-02-3742131/61-64 ext 2340/2255: Fax +254-02-3741424, 3741049. Cell Phone: 0727-093737; 0788-349227. Email: surnbirds@gmail.com or smusila@museums.or.ke

**Marital Status:** Married

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**Career Objective:** Research biologist in ecology of terrestrial biodiversity (birds and small mammals (bat, rodents and shrews) and wildlife-human interactions issues involving conservation education and exploitation of natural resources for alleviating human poverty in a manner which does not affect biodiversity.

## **ACADEMIC BACKGROUND**

- 2014-to date: PhD candidate in Ecology, University of Nairobi; School of Biological Sciences; project title '*Factors influencing bat community structure and temporal activity patterns in Arabuko-Sokoke Forest, Malindi-Kenya*'
- **2006-2010**-Kenyatta University: Masters in Environmental Studies (Climate change and sustainability). project title '*Bird species richness in three fragmented coastal forests, Kwale District-Kenya*'
- **1994-1998**-Moi University, Chepkoilel Campus (now University of Eldoret), Kenya: BSc. (Second Class Honours (Upper Division) Degree in Wildlife Management.
- **1989-1992**-Kyuso Secondary School: Kenya Certificate of Secondary Education, 89 points out of 120 (B plain).
- **1981-1988**: Murwana Primary School (1981-1988): Kenya Certificate of Primary Education Certificate, 57 points out of 72.

## **PROFESSIONAL COURSES**

1. **April-May 2007**: Disaster preparedness, identification & management for community development- Kenyatta University, Kenya.
2. **March-April 2007**: CBOs and NGOS Institutional management for community development-Kenyatta University, Kenya.
3. **Feb-March 2007**: Project Identification, management, evaluation & monitoring for community development-Kenyatta University, Kenya.
4. **Jan-Feb 2007**: Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA)-Kenyatta University, Kenya.
5. **Sept-Oct 2006**: Participatory Rapid Appraisal (PRA) for community development-Kenyatta University, Kenya.
6. **February 2004**: Certificate in Ms Access database: Institute of Advance Technology, Nairobi.

7. **September 2003:** Certificate in tropical ecology: Tropical Biology Association (TBA), Amani, Tanzania.

### **PROFESSIONAL WORK EXPERIENCE**

**July 2013-to Date:** *Research Scientist, and Head of Mammalogy Section*, at the National Museums of Kenya (NMK). **Main duties include;**

1. Administrative duties (daily running of the section, staff attendance, performance contracts, appraisal of staff)
2. Research on ecology, taxonomy and distribution of small mammals (rodents, bats and shrews).
3. Public education on identification of mammals species
4. Fund-raising for research, educational and exhibition development work.
5. Training students from colleges on preservation techniques of mammal specimens, research methodologies and compilation of scientific reports.

### **PUBLICATIONS-published papers and popular articles**

Research gate: [https://www.researchgate.net/profile/Simon\\_Musila2](https://www.researchgate.net/profile/Simon_Musila2),

Google scholar: <https://scholar.google.com/citations?user=1vLiNOIAAAAJ&hl=en>

1. **Musila, S.**, Gichuli, N., Castro-Arellano, I. and Rainho, I. (2019). Composition and diversity of bat assemblages at Arabuko-Sokoke Forest and the adjacent farmlands, Kenya. *Mamalia* (in press-being reviewed for publication).
2. **Musila, S.**, Webala, P. W., Syingi, R., Zuhura, A. and Rydell, J. 2019. Kenya's bat roosts need protection-urgently. African Conservation Telegraph (ACT) (in press-being reviewed for publication).
3. **Musila, S. 2019.** The world of bats in and around Arabuko-Sokoke Forest (ASF), Gede-Kenya. Nature East Africa (in press-being reviewed for publication).
4. **Musila S**, Syingi R, Zuhura A, Webala P, Patterson B, Rathbun G, Gichuki N (2019). A Collection of different species of small mammals in Arabuko-Sokoke Forest and adjacent farmlands in Gede, Kilifi County, Kenya. National Museums of Kenya. Occurrence dataset <https://doi.org/10.15468/grwtis> accessed via GBIF.org on 2019-06-10.
5. **Musila, Simon** & Bogdanowicz, Wieslaw & Syingi, Robert & Zuhura, Aziza & Chylarecki, Przemysław & Rydell, Jens. 2019. No lunar phobia in insectivorous bats in Kenya. *Mammalian Biology*. 95. 10.1016/j.mambio.2019.03.002.
6. **Simon Musila**, Zhong-Zheng Chen, Quan Li, Richard Yego, Bin Zhang, Kenneth Onditi1, Immaculate Muthoni, Shui-Wang He, Samson Omondi, James Mathenge, Esther N. Kioko, Xue-Long Jiang. 2019. Diversity and distribution patterns of non-volant small mammals along different elevation gradients on Mt. Kenya, Kenya. *Zoological Research* 40(1): 53–60

7. **Simon Musila**, Robert Syingi, Nathan Gichuki, Ivan Castro-Arellano. 2018. Bat activity in the interior of Arabuko-Sokoke Forest and adjacent farmlands in Kenya. *Journal of Bat Research & Conservation*. Volume 11 (1) 2018.
8. **Simon Musila**, Pavol Prokop & Nathan Gichuki .2018. Knowledge and Perceptions of, and Attitudes to, Bats by People Living around Arabuko-Sokoke Forest, Malindi Kenya, *Anthrozoös*, 31:2, 247-262, DOI: 10.1080/08927936.2018.1434065
9. **Musila S.** Syingi R, Zuhura A, Gichuki N. 2018. Distribution and abundance of different bat species in the interior of Arabuko-Sokoke Forest and adjacent farmlands in Gede, Kilifi County, Kenya. Version 1.2. National Museums of Kenya. Occurrence dataset <https://doi.org/10.15468/zeckpx> accessed via GBIF.org on 2019-02-22.
10. **Musila S.** Syingi R, Zuhura A, Gichuki N .2019. Distribution of bat roosts in the interior of Arabuko-Sokoke Forest and adjacent farmlands in Gede, Kilifi County, Kenya. National Museums of Kenya. Occurrence dataset <https://doi.org/10.15468/t4hsxy> accessed via GBIF.org on 2019-03-16.
11. **Musila S.** Syingi R, Gichuki N, Castro-Arellano I .2018. Tree characteristics and vegetation structure in the interior of Arabuko-Sokoke Forest and adjacent farmlands in Gede, Kilifi County, Kenya. Version 1.2. National Museums of Kenya. Occurrence dataset <https://doi.org/10.15468/klaqrt>.
12. **Simon Musila**, Ara Monadjem, Paul W. Webala, Bruce D. Patterson, Rainer Hutterer, Yvonne A. De Jong, Thomas M. Butynski, Geoffrey Mwangi, Zhong-Zheng Chen, Xue-Long Jiang. 2018. An annotated checklist of mammals of Kenya. *Zoological Research* 40(1): 1–50. DOI: 10.24272/j.issn.2095-8137.2018.059.
13. HW Jackson C, Ochieng J, **Musila S.** Navarro R, Kanga E, Jackson C H, Monda L .2018. A Checklist of the Mammals of Arabuko-Sokoke Forest, Kenya, 2018. A Rocha Kenya. Checklist dataset <https://doi.org/10.15468/gn9igx> accessed via GBIF.org on 2018-10-04.
14. Margaret M. Wambua, **Simon Musila**, George W. Eshiamwata, Hillary K. Koros, Gilbert O. Obwoyere .2016. Distribution And Population Status Of *Cercopithecus Mitis* And *Colobus Guereza* In South Nandi Forest, Kenya And A Comparison With Other Forests
15. Otieno, S. Mwinami, T., Ngala, M., Oduor, S., Ng'weno, N., **Musila, S.** and Kimwele, C. (2016). Avifauna of Boni-Dodori National Reserves, Lamu and Garissa Counties, Kenya. *Scopus* 36(2): 1–16.
16. **Musila, S.** (2011). *Baobab: a keystone species for biodiversity and livelihoods*. *Tree news* 22 (2): 2.
17. **Musila, S.** (2011). *Loss of biodiversity in World Heritage Cultural Sites (Kayas) in Kenya*. Lambert Academic Publishing House. Saarbrücken, German.

18. **Musila, S.** & Mbau, J. (2010). Willing allies for bats of Kenya. *Bats* **28** (3): 8-9.
19. Adhola, T. Barasa, F., Ngari, A., Mulwa, R., Madindou, I., Kanga, E., Njehia, S., Ndongye, J., Machekele, J., **Musila, S.**, Wanyiri, M. and Buckley, P., (eds). (2010). *Important Bird Areas (IBAs) Status and Trends Report 2009* Nature Kenya, Nairobi.
20. Odino, M., Ogada, D. and **Musila, S.** (2008). Furadan killing birds on a large scale in Bunyala Rice Fields, Western Kenya. *Kenya Birds* **11** (2), 50-55.
21. **Musila, S.** (2006). Challenge of Fieldwork. *Kenya Bird* **11** (2), 34.
22. **Musila, S.**, Wanyoike, W. and Muchai, M. (2006). *A sixteen year (1991-2006) trend in waterfowl populations at Lake Nakuru National Park, Kenya.* in Proceedings of the First Scientific Conference of the National Museums of Kenya (D.V. Wasonga, C. Lange, P. A. Malaki & P. Kamau eds) pp 71-76.
23. **Musila, S.** , Wanyoike, W., Mwangi, G. and Muchai, M. (2006). Waterbird monitoring programme in Kenya, summary of July 2004-July 2006 census results. *Kenya Bird*, **11** (2), 20-30.
24. **Musila, S.** (2006). Distribution and Population Status of Chapin's Flycatcher *Muscicapa Lendu* in Kakamega Forest, Kenya. *African Bird Club* Vol. **13** (2): 162-167.
25. Barasa, F., Madindou, I., Mulwa, R., Kanyanya, E., Ngari, A., Kanga, E., Njehia, S., Ndongye, P., Siele, J., Machekele, J., **Musila, S.**, Wanyiri, M. and Buckley, P., (eds). (2006). *Important Bird Areas (IBAs) Status and Trends Report 2005*. Unpublished Report. Nairobi: Nature Kenya.
26. **Musila, S.**, Ngweno, F., Matiku, P., Bennun, L., Kanyanya, E., Mulwa, R., Mwema, M., Kiragu, A., Siele, J., Musina, J., Buckley, P., Machekele, J. and Njihia, S. (eds) (2005). *Important Bird Areas (IBAs) Status and Trends Report 2005*. Unpublished Report. Nairobi: Nature Kenya.
27. **Musila, S.** (2004). *Local people contributing to science.* Nature East Africa Vol. 34 Issue 1 (2004) ISSN 0734-7387.
28. **Musila, S.** & others (2003). Comparative studies on the structure of an upland streams ecosystems in Amani, East Usambara Mts-Tanzania. *Freshwater Forum Journal* **21**: 162-170.

#### **FIELD RESEARCH EXPERIENCE-mammals surveys**

- **BATS EIA CONSULTANCY:** 11-15<sup>th</sup> February 2019. Bats surveys at Chania and Prunus proposed wind farm sites, at Kajiado County and Ngong Hills. A consultancy

for Kenya Sandrose EIA ltd. **My roles:** Team Leader in logistics planning; conducting bats surveys and compilation of EIA reports.

- **MAMMAL EIA CONSULTANCY:** 25-26<sup>th</sup> January 2019. Large and medium sized mammal surveys at Chania proposed wind farm site, at Kajiado County. A consultancy for Kenya Sandrose EIA ltd. **My roles:** Team Leader in data collection and compilation of EIA reports.
- **BATS EIA CONSULTANCY:** November 2018. Bats surveys at Chania and Prunus proposed wind farm sites, at Kajiado County and Ngong Hills. A consultancy for Kenya Sandrose EIA ltd. **My roles:** Team Leader in logistics planning; conducting bats surveys and compilation of EIA reports.
- **MAMMALS INVENTORY CONSULTANCY:** 8<sup>th</sup>-14<sup>th</sup> October 2018: Mammal surveys (Dry season survey) at Kitenden Corridor, Amboseli, Narok-Kenya. A consultancy for Kenya Wildlife Service and International Fund for Animal Welfare. **My Roles-**Team Leader in logistics planning (for researchers also undertaking surveys in birds, invertebrates, plants and mammals). For mammal group involved in conducting mammal surveys and compilation of final reports.
- **Rodents and shrew surveys:** 28<sup>th</sup> August-15<sup>th</sup> September 2018-Surveys in different forest sites at Mau Forest, Yala Swamp and Kakamega Forest (Buyangu Fragment), Kenya. **My Roles-**Group Team Leader in logistics planning (for researchers also undertaking surveys in birds, invertebrates, mammals and bones). For mammal group involved in conducting mammal surveys and compilation of final reports.
- **MAMMALS INVENTORY CONSULTANCY:** April 2018: Mammal surveys (Wet season sampling) at Kitenden Corridor, Amboseli, Narok-Kenya. A consultancy for Kenya Wildlife Service and International Fund for Animal Welfare. **My Roles-**Team Leader in logistics planning (for researchers also undertaking surveys in birds, invertebrates, plants and mammals). For mammal group involved in conducting mammal surveys and compilation of final reports.
- **MAMMALS SURVEY CONSULTANCY:** 20<sup>th</sup> February-5<sup>th</sup> March 2018: Mammal surveys at Ndula-Kengen Power station, Thika, Kenya. A consultancy for Kenya Electricity Generation Company. **Roles-**Team leader for mammal surveys, data collection, specimens preparation and preparation of the final report.
- **MAMMALS SURVEY CONSULTANCY:** 20<sup>th</sup> February-5<sup>th</sup> March 2018: Mammal surveys in Oloolua Forest, Narok, Kenya. An EIA Standard Gauge Railway and Kenya Railways consultancy. **My Roles-**Team leader for mammal surveys, data collection, specimens preparation and preparation of the final report.
- **Rodent surveys:** 20<sup>th</sup> January-15<sup>th</sup> February 2018-Rodent surveys in different forest sites in Loita Hills, Narok, Kenya. **My Roles-**Group Team Leader in logistics planning (for researchers also undertaking surveys in birds, invertebrates, mammals and bones). For mammal group involved in conducting mammal surveys and compilation of final reports.

- **MAMMALS BATS AND RODENTS CONSULTANCY**: 25<sup>th</sup> January-8<sup>th</sup> February 2017: Field for bats and surveys in Lokichoggio, Lotikipi Plains-Turkana County. Turkana County and Kenya Wildlife Service consultancy work. **My Roles**-Team Leader in logistics planning; conducting mammal surveys and compilation of final reports.
- **Bat, Insects, Vegetation and Socioeconomic Surveys: November 2014-November 2016** (*ten trips each of 25 days fieldwork*): Fieldwork for my PhD study on bat communities in the interior of Arabuko-Sokoke Forest and surrounding farmlands in Gede-Malindi, Kenya. **My roles**: Team Leader including planning trip logistics, selection of sites to trap bats, setting mist-nets, trapping and extraction of bats from nets, identification and processing of biometric information from bats and repair of broken nets. Count of passes of bats using heterodyne detector in the farmlands and forest interior. As well as insects, vegetation and bat socioeconomic studies. Data analysis and submission of progress report to the University of Nairobi, School of Biological Sciences.
- **Rodents and Shrews Surveys: 3<sup>rd</sup>-22<sup>nd</sup> September 2016**: Rodents and bat surveys to Tsavo East National Park and Chyulu Hills National Park, with Kunming Institute of Zoology (KIZ), China. **My roles**-National Museums of Kenya (NMK)-Mammal Group Team Leader in logistics planning; conducting mammal surveys, their identification and compilation of final reports to NMK and KIZ.
- **Taxidermy Training: 28<sup>th</sup> October 2016**: with colleagues from Field Museums of Natural History, USA, and Tropical Biology Alumni trained 15 participants on: Specimen collection/labelling of small mammals, taxidermy (preparation of museums specimens), digitization of museums specimens. **My roles**-were trapping rodents, their identification and training on listed areas.
- **Taxidermy and Research Training: 15<sup>th</sup>-25<sup>th</sup> August 2016**: with partners from University Of Wyoming, Mpala Research Centre, Smithsonian institution; trained 10 biology students on a short course on field methods in mammalogy which covered: Live trapping and abundance estimation of small mammals, bats, and mesocarnivores, Museum specimen preparation, body and skull measurements and identification, Camera trapping and occupancy modeling, Distance sampling, Estimation of species diversity, Disease screening from biological samples and Scientific writing and "thinking like a biologist" **My roles**-were field logistical planning, rodents and bat trapping and identification, and museum specimens preparations.
- **MAMMALS INVENTORY CONSULTANCY: May 2016**: Kitui County Government consultancy: Inventory of mammals in Mutomo Hill Plant Sanctuary. **My roles**: Team Leader in logistics planning; conducting mammal surveys and compilation of final reports.
- **BATS WIND EIA CONSULTANCY**: April 2015-April 2016: Bat and rodents surveys in Njuruta, Kisima and Ndunyurima villages in Buuri Constituency-Buuri District, in Isiolo-Ruiru/Meru area for the proposed wind turbines installation by

Maralal Energy, Nairobi-Kenya. **My roles:** Team Leader in logistics planning; conducting bats surveys and compilation of final reports.

- **BATS WIND EIA CONSULTANCY: October 2015:** Bat pilot surveys in Baragoi-Tuum, Samburu County, Kenya for the proposed wind turbines installation in Baragoi-Tuum, by Maralal Energy, Nairobi-Kenya. **My roles:** Team Leader in logistics planning; conducting bats surveys and compilation of final reports.
- **Bat surveys: March 2014:** Bat surveys in Arabuko-Sokoke Forest, surrounding farmlands and caves, as well as in mangroves forest in Mida Creek. **My roles included:** Team Leader including planning trip logistics, selection of site to trap bats, setting mistnets, trapping and extraction of bats from nets, identification and processing of biometric information from bats and repair of broken nets.
- **Bird Surveys: November 2013:** Bird surveys in Meru National Park, Meru-Kenya. **My roles included;** Team Leader in planning logistical issues of the expedition; Field surveys inside and outside Meru National Park using assistances and identification guides and; Preparation of field report to the financier Murera Eco-Springs Lodge.
- **Birds and Mammals Surveys: October 2013:** Biodiversity (bird & mammals) of Boni-Dodori National Reserve, Lamu-Kenya. **My roles included;** Team leader in planning logistical issues of the expedition; Field surveys in Boni-Dodori National Reserve, using assistances and identification guides and; Assistance of teams to prepare field report to Conservation Leadership Program.
- **Mammal Surveys: September 2013:** Faunal survey of Lotikipi in NW Kenya, Lowdar-Turkana. **My roles included;** Team Leader in mammal field surveys in Boni-Dodori National Reserve, using assistances and identification guides and; Preparation of field report to Turkana County.
- **BATS WIND EIA CONSULTANCY: 15<sup>th</sup>-21<sup>st</sup> September 2012:** Biodiversity surveys (birds and mammals (rodents and bats) for proposed wind turbines installation in Mpeketoni Town, North coast, by Electrawinds. **My roles:** Team Leader in logistics planning; conducting surveys and compilation of reports.
- **Bat Socioeconomic surveys: 12<sup>th</sup>-20<sup>th</sup> September 2012:** Conducting socio-economic surveys on Straw-coloured fruit bat *Eidolon helvum* Mbale-Western Kenya. **My Roles-**Team leader in designing questionnaires; logistical planning; training local interviews in data collection; conducting interviews; organising data collection; data analysis and report writing.
- **Small mammals and Bird Surveys: 11<sup>th</sup>-24<sup>th</sup> July 2012:** Conducting mammals and birds surveys in Kaiti Watershed (Nthangu, Kitondo, Makongo & Makuli Forests). **My Roles-**Team leader for mammal and bird taxonomic groups, organising data collection, data analysis and report writing to ERMIS AFRICA and PAFRI NGOs.
- **Bat Conservation Education: 20<sup>th</sup>-25<sup>th</sup> February 2012:** Conducting bat (Straw-coloured Fruit Bat *Eidolon helvum*) education awareness among learners in primary and secondary schools, in Mbale-Western Kenya.

- **Bat Surveys: 24<sup>th</sup>-31<sup>st</sup> October 2011:** Studying dispersal, estimating populations and threats to Straw-colored fruit bat *Eidolon helvum* in Mbale, Western-Kenya.
- **Bat Surveys and Disease Screening Training: 26<sup>th</sup>-Sept-4<sup>th</sup> October 2011:** Training researchers monitoring spread of diseases from wild mammals (bats & rodents) to humans and Mountain Gorilla on trapping of bats in Rwanda.
- **Bat Survey Training: 14<sup>th</sup>-17<sup>th</sup> September 2011:** Training research interns to conduct pilot surveys to initiate avian research project in Boni-Dodori Forest for project funded by Conservation and Leadership Program.
- **Rodents and Shrew Surveys: 9<sup>th</sup>-28<sup>th</sup> June 2011-** Small mammals (rodents and small carnivores) surveys in Central Kenya (Nyeri Hill-Ihururu)-**Roles-**Team Leader-logistics planners, trapping small mammals and identifications, preservations and preparation of museums specimens.
- **Small mammal surveys: 14<sup>th</sup>-22<sup>nd</sup> August 2010:** Trapping Aardvark and small mammals in Nguni (Kalanga C, Kasiteni, Ukasi). **Roles-**mobilising local hunters to identify Aardvark burrows set and monitor snares and trapping small carnivores using cages.
- **Rodents and Shrew Inventory: 7<sup>th</sup>-22<sup>nd</sup> June 2010:** Small mammal inventory of Mt. Kenya (Naromoru route/transect). **Roles-Team leader** of small mammal team involved in field logistics planning, sampling small mammals and preparation of expedition report.
- **Bat Conservation Education: 18<sup>th</sup>-19<sup>th</sup> May 2010:** Bat education awareness for members of Friends of Fort Jesus at Fort Jesus-Mombasa. **Roles-**preparation and presentation of two PowerPoint talks covering bat biology, ecology and conservation issues about bats.
- **EIA CONSULTANCY: 17<sup>th</sup>-20<sup>th</sup> March 2010:** Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) for mammals in land for a new proposed British Army Training Camp-BATUK in Nanyuki-Laikipia. **Roles-**Collecting information about mammals using direct and indirect methods.
- **Bat Surveys: 5<sup>th</sup>-7<sup>th</sup> December 2009:** Mapping and evaluating the conservation status of bats roosts in the North and Southern coastal strip in Kenya. **Roles-**visiting bat roasts, identifying type of bats in a roost, estimate population size and threats to the bats and their roost sites.
- **Small Mammal Surveys: 15<sup>th</sup>-29<sup>th</sup> October 2009:** Mammal surveys four (Kaya Mrima IBA, Kaya Kinondo, Kaya Jibana & Kaya Bomo) coastal forests in Kenya. **Roles-**preparing bait for rodent trapping, setting and management of Sherman traps for rodent capture; erecting mist-nests for bats capture; Extraction of captured rodents and bats from traps and processing (measuring biometric data, preparation of voucher specimens).
- **EIA CONSULTANCY: 22<sup>ND</sup>-23<sup>RD</sup> AUGUST 2009:** with others ecological profiling of Ensoit Ranch in Masai Mara Game Reserve (Client Sopa Lodges) for preparation



of Environmental Impact Assessment for establishment of tented campsite. **Roles**-biodiversity inventory, identification of tourism opportunities, threats to biodiversity and measures of mitigating them.

- **Mammals Inventory: 2<sup>nd</sup>-15<sup>th</sup> May 2009:** Mammal inventory (with others) of Chyulu Hills National Reserve and Tsavo West National Park. **Roles**-preparing bait for trapping of rodents; setting and management of Sherman traps for rodent capture, extraction of captured rodents and processing (measuring biometric data, preparation of voucher specimens) and searching for Barn Owl pellets.
- **Rodent, Bats and Shrew Surveys: 2<sup>nd</sup>-28<sup>th</sup> March 2009:** Mammal inventory of Mt. Kenya (Chogoria & Sirimon Areas). **Roles**-preparing bait for rodent trapping, setting and management of Sherman traps for rodent capture; erecting mist-nests for bats capture; Extraction of captured rodents and bats from traps and processing (measuring biometric data, preparation of voucher specimens).
- **Rodent, Bats and Shrew Surveys: 14<sup>th</sup> -20<sup>th</sup> February 2009:** Mammal inventory of South Nandi Forest IBA. **Roles**-preparing bait for trapping of rodents, setting and management of Sherman traps for rodent capture; erecting mist-nests for bats capture; Extraction of captured rodents from traps and processing (measuring biometric data, preparation of voucher specimens).

#### **FIELD RESEARCH EXPERIENCE-bird surveys**

- **July-October 2009:** *Independent Researcher*: conducting avian surveys in South Nandi Forest Important Bird Area, Kenya. **Roles**: proposal writing, organising fieldwork, collecting the data, analysis, and report preparation to African Bird Club.
- **Oct.2007-March 2008:** *Independent Researcher* conducting ornithological (birds) surveys in three coastal forests in Kenya (Kaya Gandini, Kaya Mtswakara & Mwache Forest Reserve). **Roles**; proposal writing, organising fieldwork, Data collection using Timed Species Counts (TSCs), bird ringing/Banding and vegetation sampling, data analysing and preparation of final MSc. report.
- **November 2004:** *Research fellow* in the survey of Blue Swallows *Hirundo atrocaerulea* in Limpopo province, South Africa. **Roles**: Searching for the birds, nesting and potential nesting sites. Modification of abandoned nests, potential nesting sites and mapping using GPS. Restoration of swallows preferred areas by active removal of invasive plant species.
- **Jan-Feb 2003:** *Independent Researcher*: conducting research on distribution and population status of Chapin`s Flycatchers *Muscicapa lendu* in Kakamega forest. **My Roles**: proposal writing, organising fieldwork, collecting the data, analysis, and report preparation.
- **May 2003:** *Research Assistant* in Grey-capped Social Weaver (GCSW) project in Mpala Ranch-Laikipia: **Roles**: Banding and behavioural observations of colour banded birds and data storage in computer.
- **30<sup>th</sup> Sept. to 3<sup>rd</sup> Oct. 2002:** *Research Assistant* in a Bird Strike project at Jomo Kenyatta International Airport (JKIA). **Roles**: Mist netting and bird banding.

- **August 3<sup>rd</sup>-7<sup>th</sup> 2002:** *Research Assistant* in a survey of Papyrus Yellow Warbler and Winding Cisticola at Lake Kanyaboli. **Roles:** Mist netting, banding and recording biometrics data.
- **July-1997:** *Independent Researcher*, on Microhabitat use of White-browed Sparrow Weavers, *Plocepasser mahali* in Tsavo National Park (TENP) for a Senior Project. **Roles:** proposal writing, fieldwork and reporting.
- **February-1995:** *Trainee* in Out-Door Bushmanship course at Hells gate National Park, skills gained in long distance trekking, marathon, rock climbing and camping Techniques.
- **April-1997:** *Assistant Researcher* during an inventory survey of Saiwa National Park, Kitale: **Roles:** assisted researchers working on 1) investigating the role of dead woods in biodiversity conservation, and 2) snails as indicators of habitat heterogeneity.
- **March-1997:** *Research Assistant:* in a game census organised by Kenya Wildlife Service (KWS) in the central rift region. **Roles:** counting mammals using ground transects.

## **REFEREES**

- **Dr. Ronald Mulwa:** *Senior Research Scientist*, Ornithology Section, National Museums of Kenya, P. O Box 40658, GPO 00100 Nairobi-Kenya. **Tel:** +254-020-3742131/61-64 ext 2243. **Fax:** 3741424, 3741049. **Email:** ronmulwa@yahoo.com
  - **Dr. Judith Mbau:** *Lecturer*, College of Agriculture and Veterinary Sciences Dept. of Land Resource Management, & Agricultural Technology (LARMAT) University of Nairobi, P.o Box 29053-00625, NAIROBI, KENYA. **Email:** jsyombua04@yahoo.com or jmbau@uonbi.ac.ke
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