

A photograph of several chimpanzees in a tree. The tree is heavily laden with clusters of small, round, yellow-green fruits. The chimpanzees are dark-furred and are seen in various poses, some sitting and some reaching for the fruit. The background is filled with green leaves and branches, suggesting a dense forest environment.

**Health Monitoring Program free
ranging Chimpanzees**

**Budongo Conservation Field Station
(BCFS)**

**Caroline Asiimwe
Vet/Conservation Coordinator**

Contents of discussion

- BCFS background
- Threats to Chimpanzee survival in their Natural habitat
- Chimpanzee health monitoring program (Importance, why it was started, how its done and challenges met)

Budongo Conservation Field Station (BCFS)

- Located in the heart of Budongo Forest

Objectives



• Research
& Monitoring

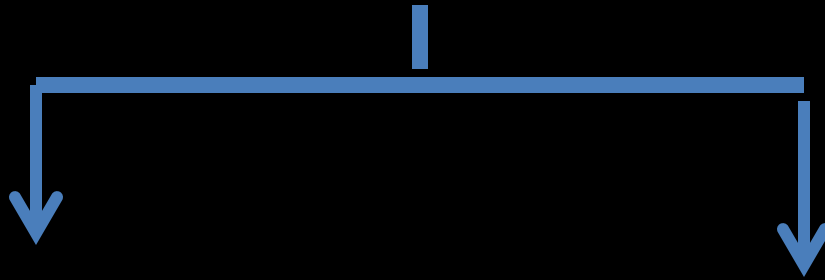
Conservation

Training

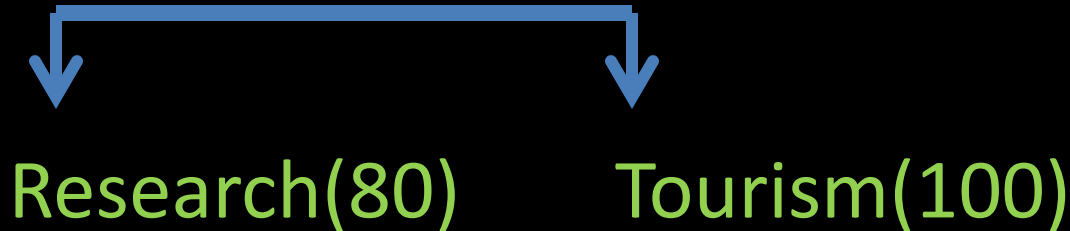
• www.budongo.org

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- Chimpanzees are endangered
- Budongo has the second largest number of chimpanzees in Uganda
- 640 chimpanzees in budongo forest



- Habituated Non-habituated



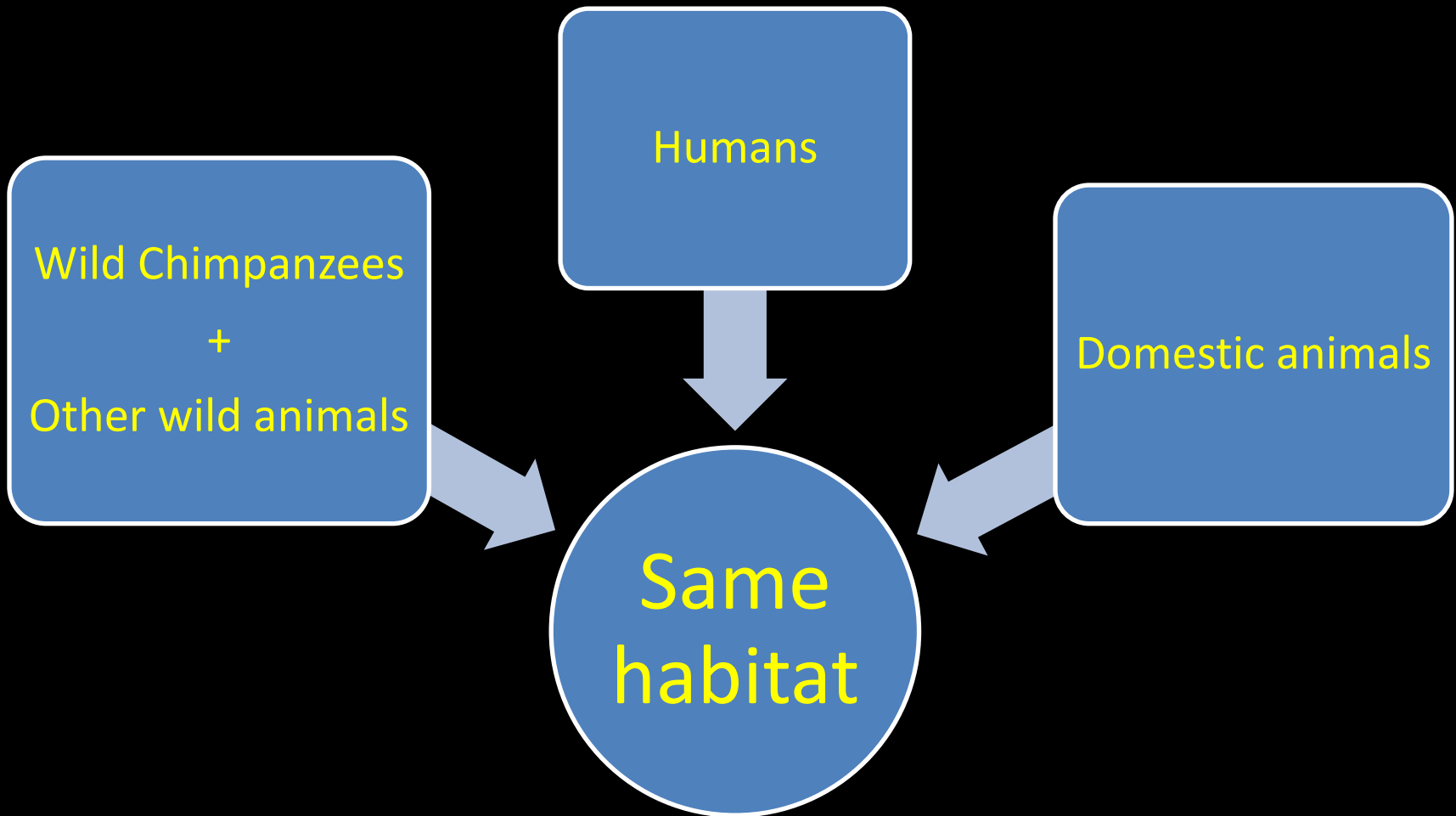
Major threats to Chimpanzee survival in the wild

- Habitat loss (Encroachment)
- Poaching/hunting
- Diseases (infectious and non infectious)

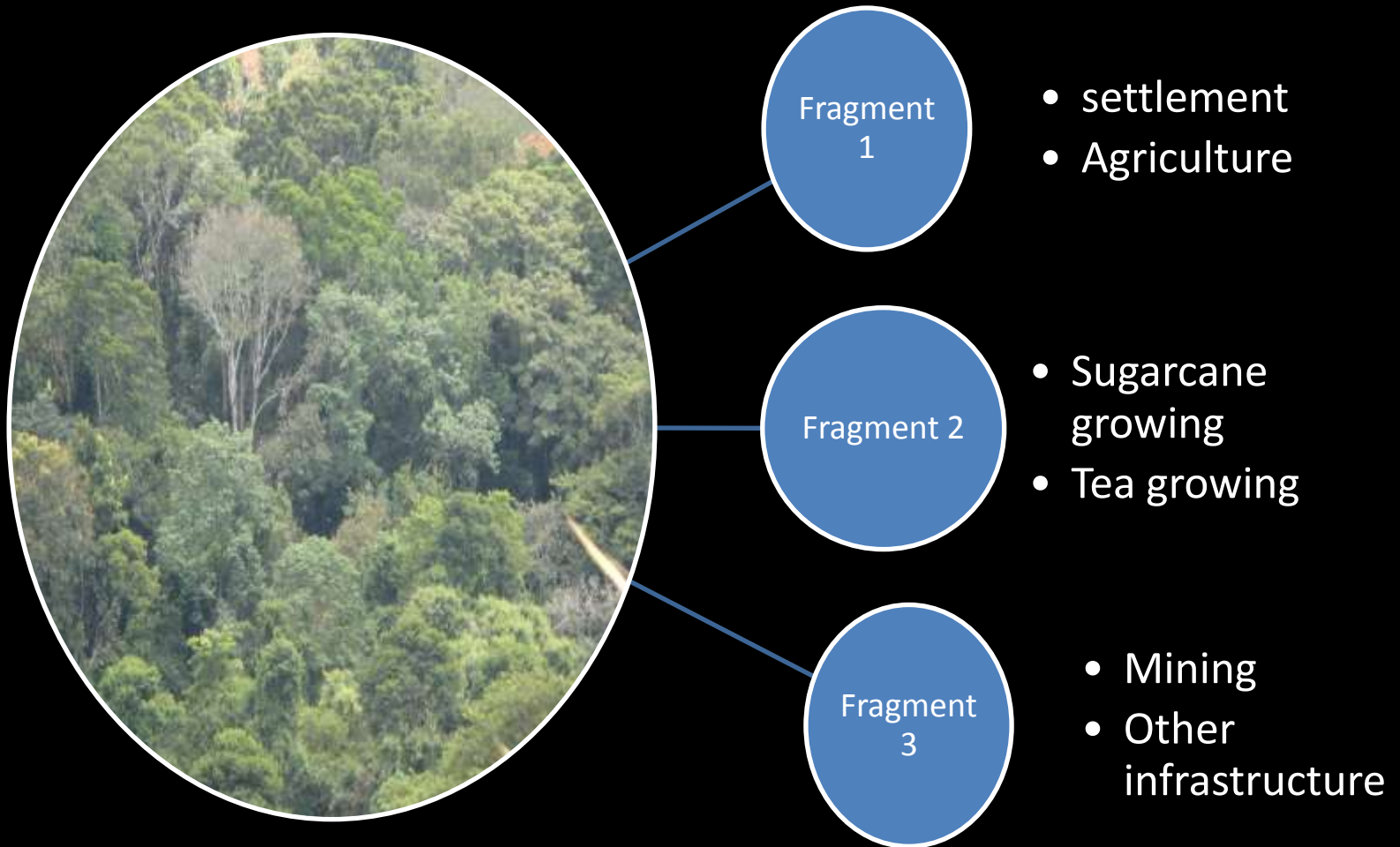
Chimpanzee health Monitoring Program (CHMP)

- Is it important to Monitor the health Of chimpanzees in their Natural Habitat?
- Why it was started at BCFS?
- How is it being done?
- What challenges are met during the process?

Sharing of habitat by different species



Habitat fragmentation



Effects of Forest Fragmentation

- Increases the area of contact with outside communities

- Increases Inbreeding



- Poor health

Reduced vigor

Habituation for research and tourism

- Increases disease transmission
- Eliminates fear of humans



Hunters, crop raiding, attacking humans

A group of Sonso chimps from mango
raiding in a near by community



Sites with habituated Chimps for Research and Tourism in Uganda

SITE	NUMBER OF CHIMPS	PURPOSE
SONSO	80	RESEARCH
WAIBIRA	?	RESEARCH
KANIYO PABIDI	100	TOURISM
KASOKWA	16	RESEARCH
KANYAWARA	50	RESEARCH
KANYANCHU	120	TOURISM
NGOGO	150	RESEARCH
SEBITOLI	80-100	RESEARCH/TOURISM
SEMULIKI	60	RESEARCH/TOURISM
KALINZU S-GROUP	25	TOURISM
KALINZU M-GROUP	70-80	RESEARCH

Cases of suspected disease transmission from people to primates

Disease	Species	Location	Reference
Scabies	Mountain gorillas, <i>Gorilla gorilla beringei</i>	Bwindi Impenetrable National Park, Uganda	Graczyk <i>et al.</i> 2001, Kalema-Zikusoka <i>et al.</i> 2002
	Chimpanzees	Gombe National Park	Pusey 1998
Measles	Mountain gorillas	Parc de Volcans, Rwanda	Hastings <i>et al.</i> 1991
Intestinal parasites	Baboons, <i>Papio cynocephalus anubis</i>	Gombe National Park	Murray <i>et al.</i> 2000
	Mountain gorillas	Parc de Volcans	Sleeman <i>et al.</i> 2000
Polio	Chimpanzees, <i>Pan troglodytes</i>	Gombe National Park, Tanzania	Goodall 1971
		Beni, Democratic Republic of Congo	Kortlandt 1996

What Sparked off the need for CHMP?

- Case study of Duane



Goals of Chimpanzee Health Monitoring program

- Implementation of a standardized national Chimp health monitoring protocol;
- Establishment of veterinary laboratory facilities for effective disease diagnosis;
- Offering training facilities for wildlife veterinarians with an aim of building a cadre of chimpanzee health experts;
- Promoting primary health care among forest edge communities around chimpanzee habitat areas.

How is Chimp Health Monitoring being done?

- Behavioural data, noticeable clinical signs collected by veterinarians, field assistants and Researchers
- Non-invasive sampling and monitoring of infectious diseases (research group, newly habituated and Ecotourism group)
- Basic laboratory analysis e.g. parasitology
- Training of veterinary interns

How chimp Health Monitoring is being done cont'n.....

- Emergency response to injuries (both human and non-human caused)
- Snare patrol program
- Necropsies of all deceased animals
- Conservation Education

Heath data collected

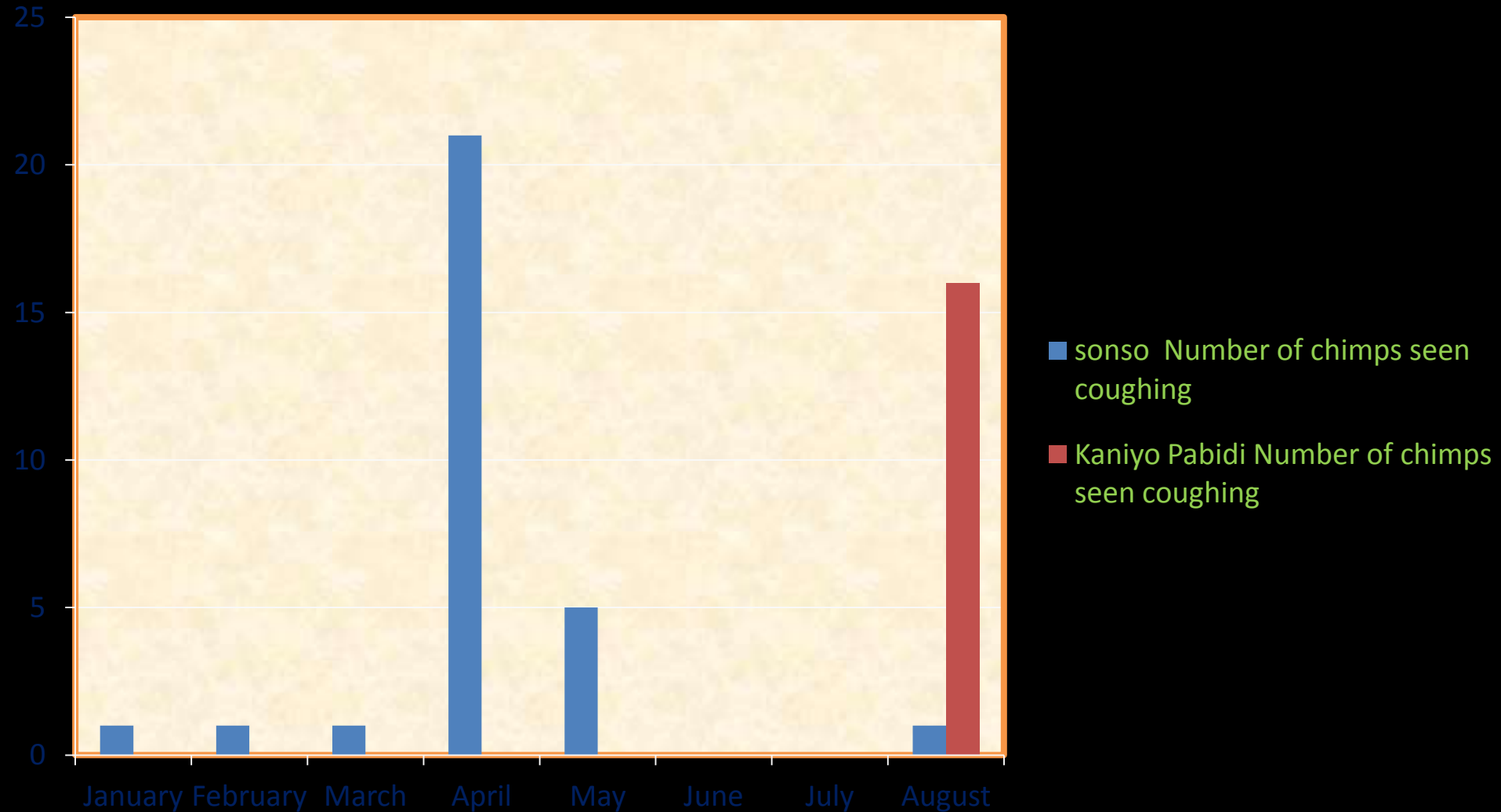
- Simplified data sheet

- x-seen
- C-cough
- S-snare
- D-diarrhea
- E-estrous



Chimp code	DATE	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
NK		x	xD	xD	x		x	x	x		x	
NT		xs	xs	xs	xs	xs		xs	xs	xs	xs	
NB		x	x		xc				xc	x	x	
NG		xe	xe	xe		xe	xe	x	x	x	x	

e.g. Comparison of cough data between Sonso(63) and Kaniyo Pabidi(72) communities



Human caused injuries- interventions done (~8 chimps rescued since 2008)



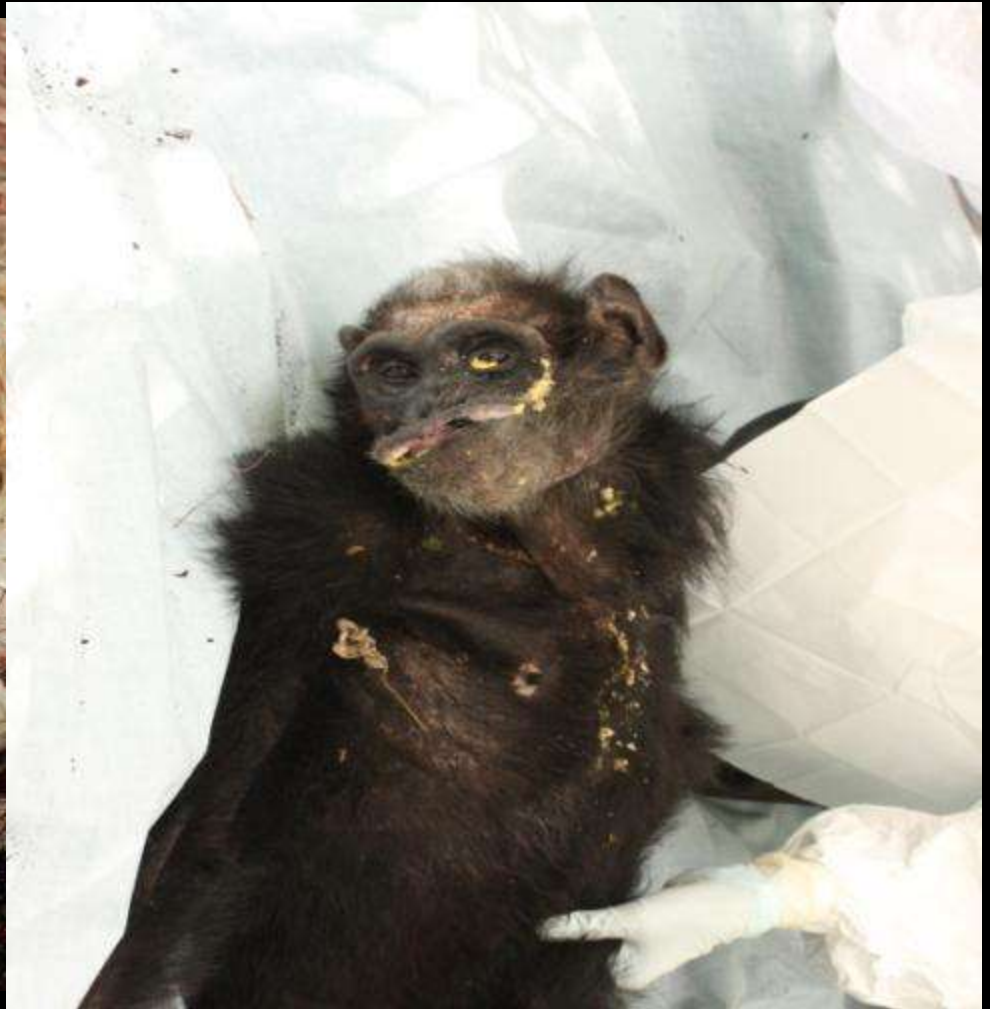
Injuries caused by snares



Non-human caused injuries/ illnesses ??- interventions.



Autopsies...



Snare Removal Program

- Why was it started?
- In 2008, more than 100 snares were recovered per day.
- In 2011, < 10 snares are recovered per day



Conservation Education Program Goat Project Program; why it was started?

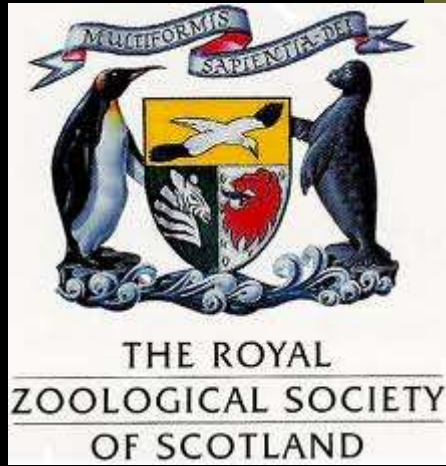


Challenges met during interventions

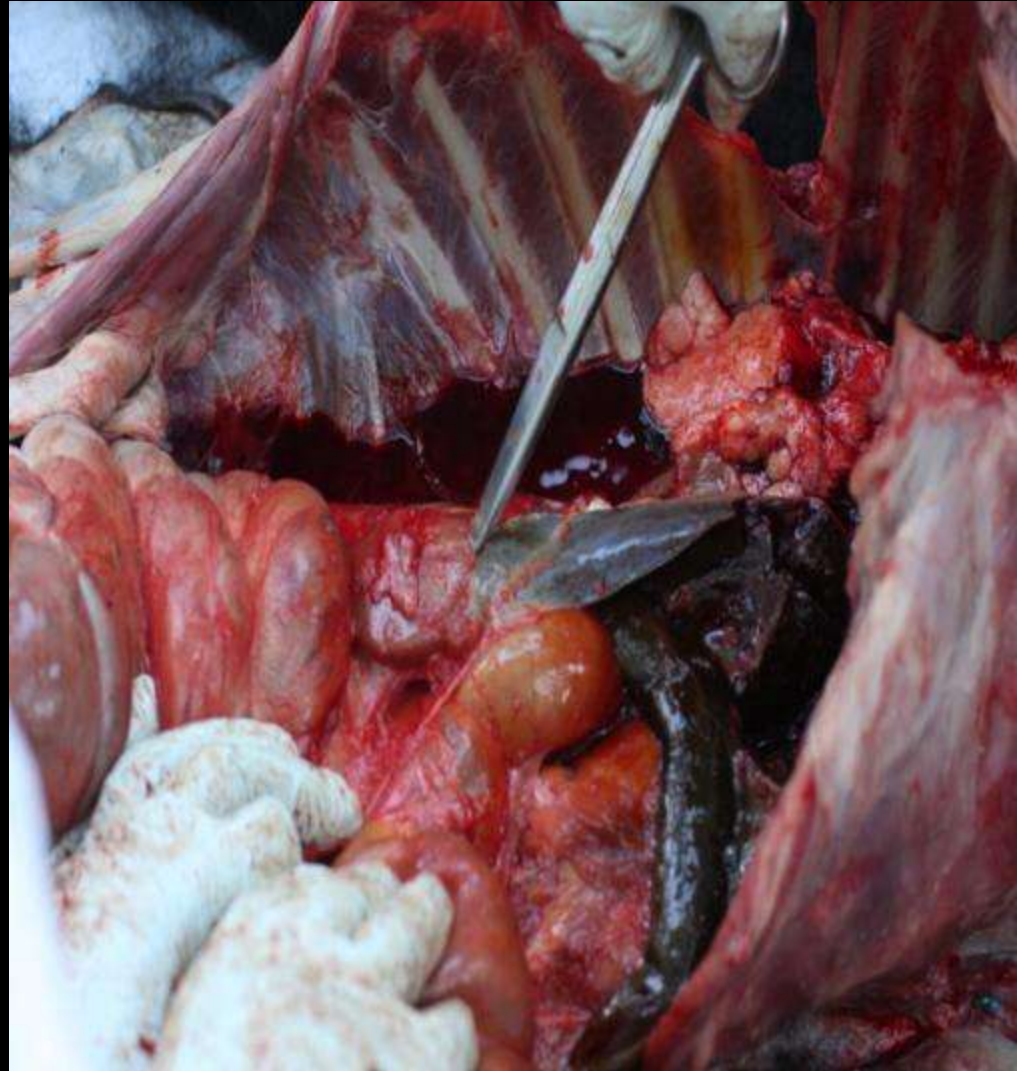


- Darting is not so simple in the wild
- Bad roads
- Heavy rainfall
- Felling trees
- Poisonous reptiles
- Disappearance of chimps from the foraging range

Partners of BCFS in Chimp Health Monitoring and Conservation



Case study; Adult female chimp; sick;
treated with antibiotics-dies after 4 days



Acknowledgement

- BCFS , JGI Uganda and CSWCT
- All chimpanzee sites in Uganda
- The organisers of this program



Thank
You For
listening