

Liberia
East Nimba Nature Reserve Forest Conservation Project
News from the Field

November 2018
Conservation International

Quarterly refresher training for Frontline Conservationists (FCs)

Two-day refresher training on monitoring using Survey 123 for ArcGIS was held for the 24 Frontline Conservationists (FCs) from the two communities of Yolowee and Gbobayee. The training covered the gathering and compiling of data and took place at the Forestry Development Authority (FDA) Headquarters in Zortapa.



FCs from Yolowee and Gbobayee join FCs from other communities for a photo

FCs conduct patrols

One of the key tenets of Conservation Agreements is compliance monitoring of conservation actions. To this end, a total of 90 forest patrols were conducted, and only one violation of hunting was recorded and reported in the surrounding forest. This violation was reported to the Forestry Development Authority (FDA) so that an investigation could be conducted to ascertain whether a protected species was affected by this hunting violation in the surrounding forest.

Piggery and vegetable production

Another key tenet of Conservation Agreements is support for farming activities that will improve people's livelihood. The number of pigs has fluctuated slightly, with 13 in Gbobayee and 22 in Yolowee for a total of 35. Twenty-six farmers/caretakers have been trained and are subsequently taking better care of the pigs and pigpens. The tables below give the details of piggery.

	Caretakers	Condition of pigpens	No. of piglets	No. of mature pigs	Total pigs in pen
Gbobayee	12	Good sanitary condition	7	6	13
Yolowee	14	Good sanitary condition	16	6	22
Total	26	--	23	12	35



Pigs in Yolowee pigpen



Pigs in Gbobayee pigpen

Work has also continued on vegetable production. The table below shows the situation in the fields.

Community	Size (acres)	Crop planted
Gbobayee	2 acres (0.8 hectares)	Cassava, sweet potatoes, pawpaw
Yolowee	1.5 acres (0.6 hectares)	Cassava, sweet potatoes, pawpaw

The planted cassava is growing well and is expected to mature within the next one or two months. In both communities, the pawpaw seedlings that were planted in the nursery and transplanted to the field withered due to the hot weather. They are being replaced by native varieties. In Yolowee, the potato greens planted are already being used as supplementary pig feed.



Cassava farm in Gbobayee



Cassava farm in Yolowee

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