



Post-Fire Regeneration in Nyungwe National Park, Rwanda

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for the Wildlife Conservation Society



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Post-Fire Regeneration in Nyungwe National Park, Rwanda: Striving to make regeneration interventions appear natural



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Overview of Work Completed

| | |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------|
| Number of new sites..... | 4 (<i>Kitabi, Umugote, Gasare, Mubuga</i>) |
| Number of new plots in those four sites (average size 500 m ²)..... | 42 |
| Number of new plots in Kitabi..... | 21 |
| Number of new plots in Umugote..... | 10 |
| Number of new plots in Gasare..... | 6 |
| Number of new plots in Mubuga | 6 |
| Number of person-days of locally hired daily workers | 267 |
| Daily workers employed from..... | <i>Kitabi (159 person-days) and Banda (208 person-days)</i> |
| Daily pay for daily workers..... | 700 Frw |
| Total area of sites established in 2007 (area of hillsides calculated by GIS) | 495,000 m ² |
| Total area of new post-fire regeneration implementation plots (established 2007)..... | 21,500 m ² |
| Total area of post-fire regeneration implementation plots in Umugote (2003-2006)..... | 9,000 m ² |
| Total area of post-fire regeneration research plots (2001-2004)..... | 12,150 m ² |

Background

Not all fire is bad. Small wildfires started from lightning strikes likely play an important role in creation of forest gaps. However, wildfires have spread through large areas of Nyungwe National Park, killing the majority of trees over vast hillsides. Based on remote sensing and GIS analyses completed in 2004, approximately 12% of Nyungwe National Park has been affected by wildfire in previous years¹. Much of that area burned in wildfires in 1997, an exceptionally dry year.

Initial colonizers of burned areas include the fern species *Pteridium aquilinum* (L.) Kuhn, which subsequently become the most dominant herbaceous species in burned areas². These ferns colonize new areas by germinating from light, air-borne spores. And once established, ferns can re-sprout from existing rhizomes in the soil. These ferns grow very rapidly and densely, reducing the natural regeneration of tree species.

Results of multiple-year research within Nyungwe National Park have illustrated that routinely cutting the ferns significantly increases the number of regenerating trees, tree height, and (in lower slopes) tree species, thereby accelerating forest regeneration¹. Although tree regeneration is occurring in the areas previously burned in wildfire, regeneration is not uniform; some areas are still void of regenerating trees even after more than 10 years post-fire.

In addition to the research plots, implementation plots were established in 2003 and ferns were removed every 3 months for 3 years. The unnatural appearance of the regenerating trees in these plots (5 x 100 m horizontal lines; see below) has prompted changes in the way new implementation plots are established in the forest. How can we accelerate forest regeneration in burned areas visible from roads and trails, and make it appear natural?



Picture taken of implementation plots in November 2004, immediately after cutting treatment. Today, regenerating trees retain the horizontal lines on the hillsides even though cutting has stopped.

¹ For complete information, please see Weber, W., M. Masozera, and A. B. Masozera (eds). 2005. Biodiversity Conservation in Rwanda: Collected Works of the Protected Areas Biodiversity Project 2004-2005. Ministry of Lands, Environment, Water, Forestry, and Mines. Funded by the Global Environment Facility and compiled by Wildlife Conservation Society. 398 p.

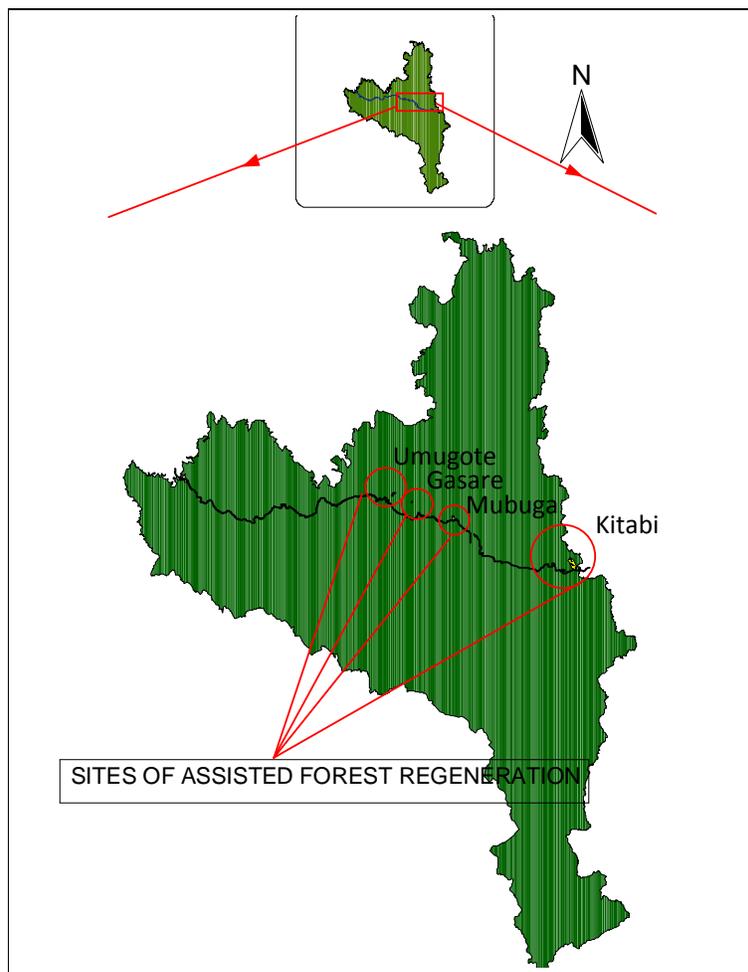
² Plumptre, A.J., Masozera, M., McNeilage, A., Ewango, C., Kaplin, B., and Liengola, I. 2002. Biodiversity surveys of the Nyungwe Forest in South West Rwanda. WCS Working Paper Series No. 19.

Objective

The objective of this work was to establish additional post-fire regeneration plots in Nyungwe National Park in a way that aesthetically blends with the natural landscape.

Site Selection

New implementation plots were established at four sites in Nyungwe National Park- Kitabi, Umugote, Gasare, and Mubuga (see below). Potential sites were identified and prioritized by a four-person team (Amy Vedder, Felix Mulindahabi, Eraste Nzakizwanayo, and Anna Behm Masozera) on September 12, 2007. Sites were prioritized using two key criteria: lack of visible forest regeneration and their visibility and accessibility from the main road. In addition, the opportunity to extend initial work to contiguous hillsides was a secondary criterion.



Plot Establishment

At each site, plots were established in varying shapes and sizes to blend to the natural contours and conditions in the forest. Plots are used because it is unrealistic and unnecessary to clear entire hillsides. Plots, essentially “islands” of regeneration, shade out adjacent ferns, and over time dominate the hillside. The use of plots also minimizes any potential erosion or disruption of the soil.

Different shapes were explored, but the following guidelines were maintained:

- 1) Select areas with few or no regenerating trees were visible.
- 2) Select areas visible from the main road.
- 3) Choose a shape and orientation that blends with the natural landscape.
- 4) Choose a shape and orientation that will minimize potential erosion.

Plots were demarcated by a team of 6 people in advance of the cutting crew. After the plan for each plot was agreed on, daily workers would cut the outline of the plot in two directions, each team followed by a recorder who would measure the length and guide the direction of the workers.



Demarcated plot in Kitabi.

Once plots were demarcated, cutting crews (each crew led by PCFN staff member) cut the ferns within the plots with machetes, and then moved them downhill and outside of the plot. Existing trees were protected throughout this process and 2-5 cm of detritus was left to protect the soil.



PCFN research staff member, Jean Baptiste, removing cut ferns with daily works at the Kitabi site.

BRIEFING OF DAILY WORKERS – The key to proper establishment of post-fire regeneration plots

Why are we doing this?

“Intact forests provide us with benefits. As a whole, they provide us with protection from landslides, clean water, clean air, and a moderate climate among other things. Fire in Nyungwe National Park has not been a good thing for the forest. Many of the trees have died, and the only thing growing well is ferns. These ferns dominate and do not allow young trees to grow. Our plan is to remove the ferns (and ferns only) periodically to giving any existing trees or tree seeds the chance to grow. The goal is to speed up the return of a forest in this area, to provide us with more benefits. **We won't be planting any trees in these plots.** That is why it is important to protect any trees that are there already. Are there any questions?”

Do:

- Cut all the ferns and other herbaceous plants.
- Move the cut ferns downhill and outside of the plot.
- Watch out for and protect any small trees.
- Leave 2-4 cm of detritus (dead plant material) on top of the soil for protection.
- Ask questions at any time.

Don't:

- Cut any trees small, medium, or large.
- Cut or dig into the soil.
- Leave too much detritus that any existing tree seeds cannot germinate and penetrate.



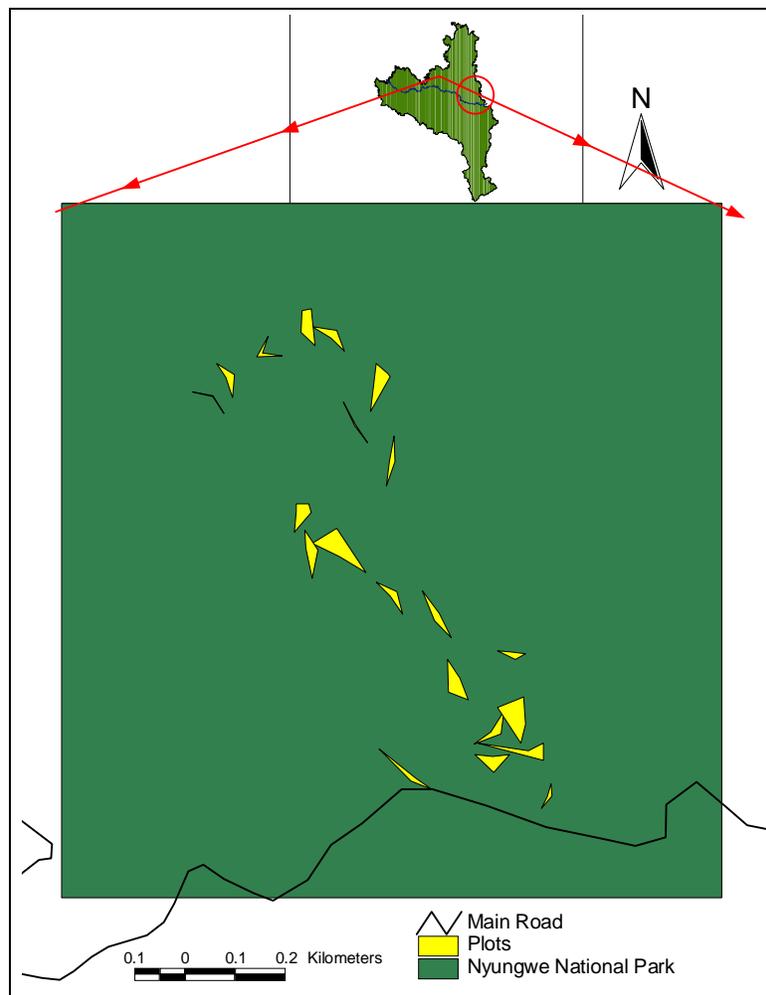
Plot in Kitabi immediately after cutting treatment.

KITABI

Kitabi was selected with the highest priority for post-fire regeneration. These hills offer some of the first impressions of the forest to visitors; the hills are visible immediately upon entering the park along the main road. This site is visible from both directions on the main road.

KITABI Site Statistics

| | |
|----------------------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Total Area of the Site (calculated with GIS) | 369,000 m ² |
| Aspect of Site | Plots face from East to South |
| Total Number of Plots | 21 |
| Total Area of Plots | 10,000 m ² |
| Total Person-Days of Hired Workers | 159 |
| Hired Workers From | Kitabi |
| Dates | September 17-22 |





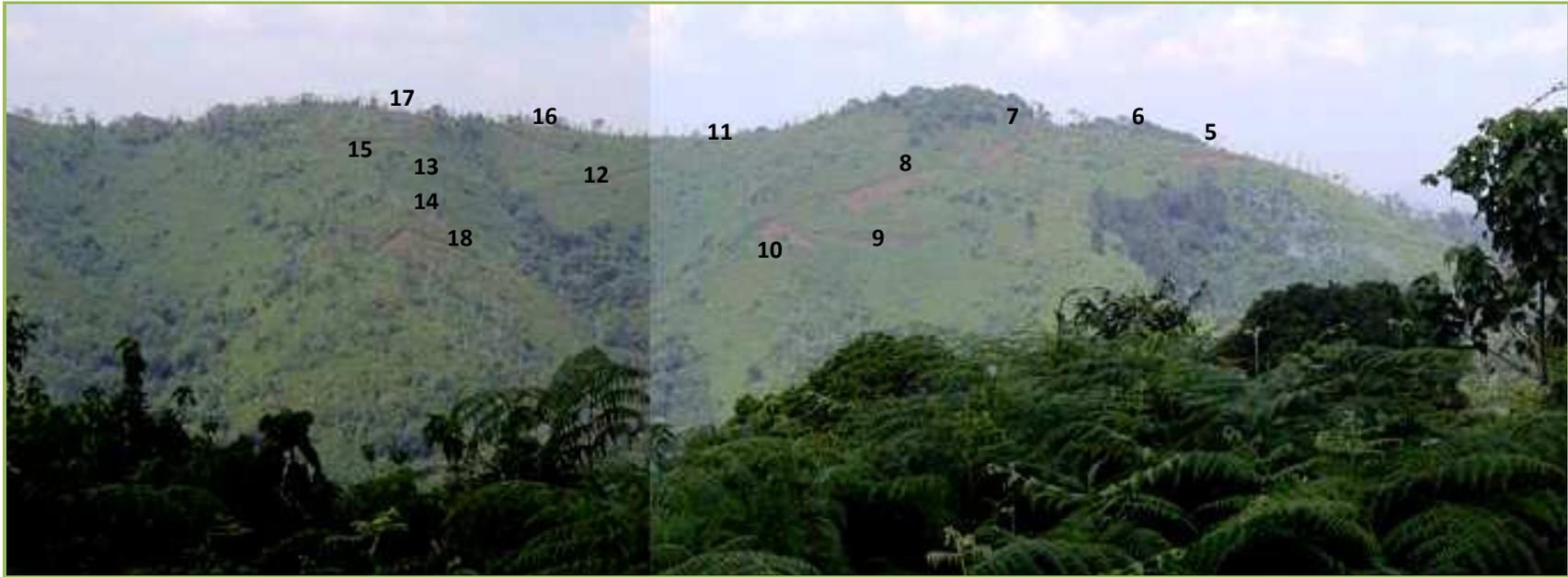
Initial view of regeneration plots as you enter the forest from Kitabi.



Continuing down the road, an additional regeneration plot is visible.



Further down the road (but looking back the way you've come), more plots are visible.



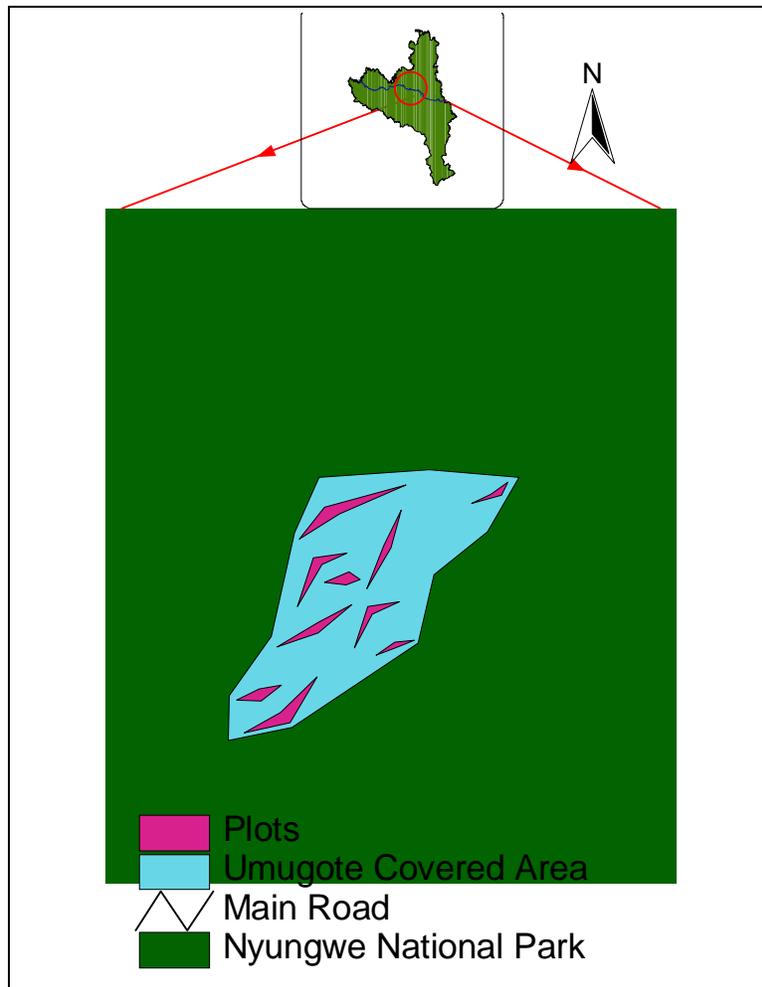
From the main road, it is possible to see most of the Kitabi site, traveling from both directions. This was the most challenging site aesthetically, because the vast hillsides are directly visible from the main road.

UMUGOTE

The site selected at Umugote is adjacent to previous implementation plots. The hillside is very visible from the main road and from a pull-off area. This area is also visible several times from the main road as you approach from the east.

UMUGOTE Site Statistics

| | |
|----------------------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Total Area of the Site (calculated with GIS) | 55,000 m ² |
| Aspect of Site | Plots face Southeast (150°) |
| Total Number of Plots | 10 |
| Total Area of Plots | 5,000 m ² |
| Total Person-Days of Hired Workers | 50 |
| Hired Workers From | Banda |
| Dates | September 24-26 |





Umugote regeneration site. Implementation plots established in 2003 are circled on the left in purple and new regeneration sites established in 2007 are circled on the right in orange.



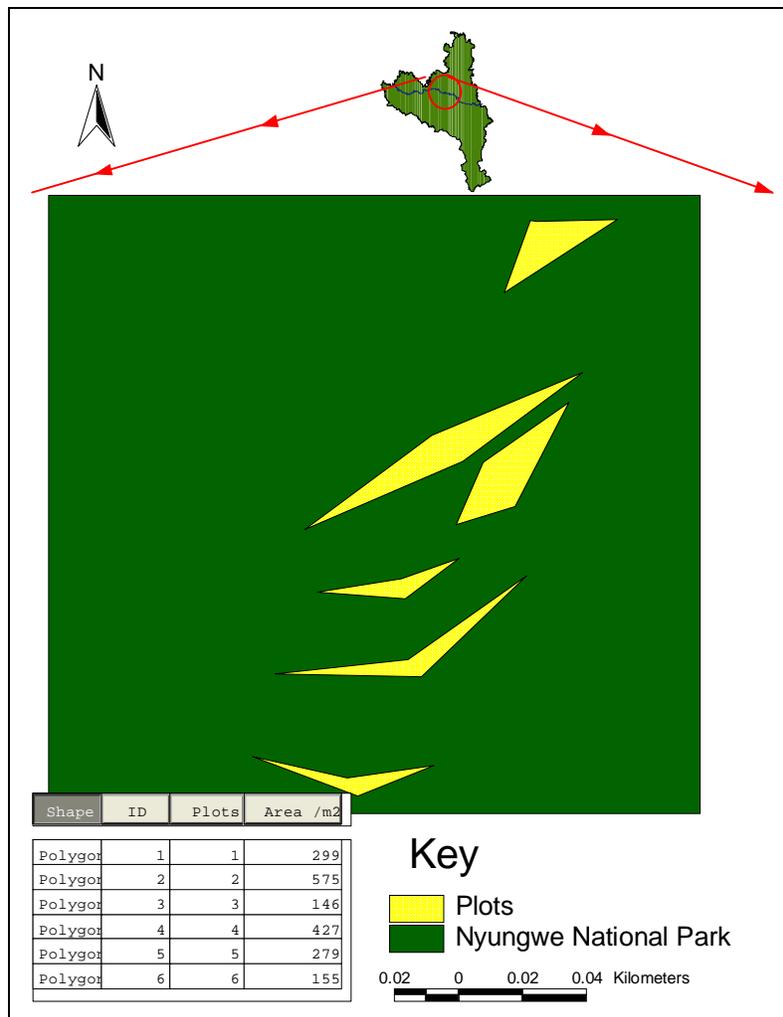
View of plots established at Umugote Site in September 2007.

GASARE

The site selected at Gasare is not far from Research Site C. The site is very visible as you approach from the east and descend down a large hill.

GASARE Site Statistics

| | |
|----------------------------------------------|-------------------------|
| Total Area of the Site (calculated with GIS) | 14,000 m ² |
| Aspect of Site | Plots face North (360°) |
| Total Number of Plots | 6 |
| Total Area of Plots | 2,500 m ² |
| Total Person-Days of Hired Workers | 29 |
| Hired Workers From | Banda |
| Dates | October 16-17 |





Gasare site as seen from the main road, approaching from the east.



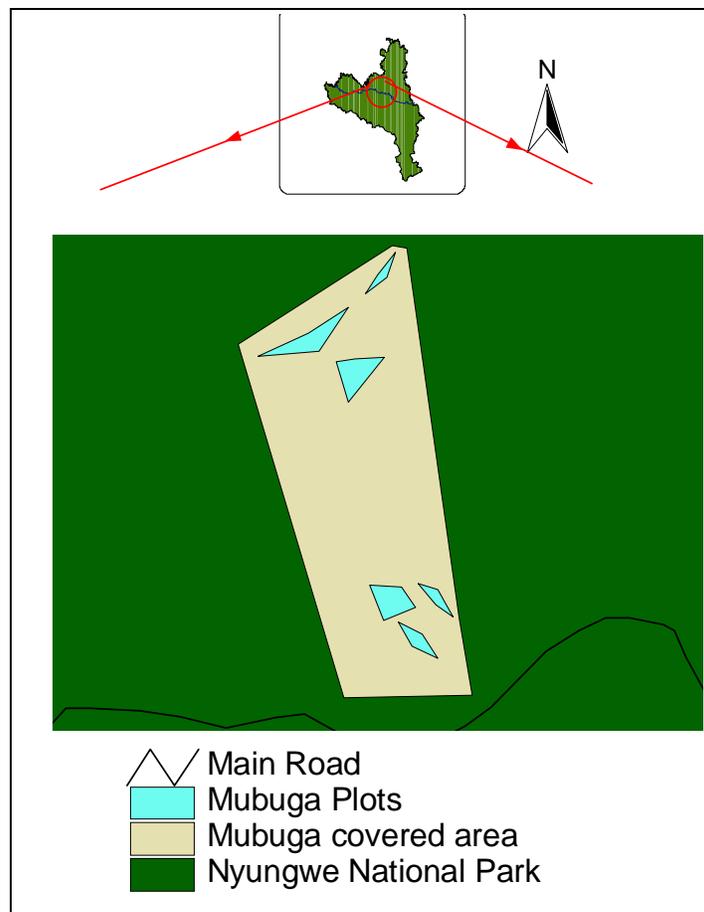
Placement of six plots at Gasare site.

MUBUGA

The site located near kilometer marker 74, is not far from Research Site A. This site showed little sign of natural regeneration and the hillside is visible from the road from both directions.

MUBUGA Site Statistics

| | |
|----------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------|
| Total Area of the Site (calculated with GIS) | 57,000 m ² |
| Aspect of Site | Over two hills, the plots face North (290- 330°) |
| Total Number of Plots | 6 |
| Total Area of Plots | 3,500 m ² |
| Total Person-Days of Hired Workers | 29 |
| Hired Workers From | Banda |
| Dates | October 17 and 19 |





Initial view of plots at Mubuga site, approaching from the east.



Three plots closest to the road at Mubuga site.



Additional three plots located on adjacent hillside at Mubuga.

Brief Assessment of Regeneration Potential of New Sites

Although no data was recorded on the number of existing trees within plots established in 2007, the following observations were made. The majority of the already existing regenerating trees in the plots established in Kitabi, Umugote, Gasare, and Mubuga were *Macaranga* or *Polyscias*. We purposefully placed plots with little or no visible tree regeneration, although every plot contained at least one small seedling. Plots should be monitored with each cutting to assess the rate of regeneration in the plots. With each year that passes under fern cover, it is likely that the viability of the existing seed bank is reduced.

Over the first year, new seedlings generating from seeds should start to appear. And as data from the research plots indicated, additional tree species should start to grow within the plots toward the end of the third year. It is the assumption that this influx of additional species coincides with increased visitation to the sites by birds, bats, and other seed dispersers.

Lessons Learned

The Challenges

Initially it would seem that creating plots of varying shapes and sizes would be an easy task- straight lines are not only not necessary, but undesirable. However, in demarcation and creation of implementation plots, avoiding straight lines is actually a challenge.

Even if you succeed in demarcating a plot with curved and varying edges, due to slope, it may end up looking quite straight from the road. And in addition, when the workers go to cut the ferns in the plot, the plot edges become straight as they roll the cut ferns down the hill and outside of the plot.

It is not easy to locate yourself on a hillside in reference to the main road. Ferns grow dense and tall in the burned areas, obscuring views. In addition, rain, mist, and fog are regularly present in Nyungwe National Park, especially during the rainy season.

Although you can have a plan based on what the site looks like from the main road, it is impossible to judge the contours, valleys, existing regeneration, and scale until you are actually on the hillside.

The Strategy

We found that taking a picture of the potential site and printing it before demarcating the plots was very useful. Also, before entering the site, we would also locate reference points (particular trees or other features) to help us orient ourselves once we were within the burned area. We would also identify features that we could work with or extend through the development of plots, for example creating “finger” extensions from a valley (see Kitabi plot 12). If possible, having a “lookout” person on the main road in radio communication with the team could help make the plot placement more precise.



Once in the burned area, it is sometimes difficult to orient yourself on a hillside in relation to the main road due to rain, mist, or fog in addition to the height and density of surrounding ferns.

It is suggested that during subsequent cuttings of the plots, emphasis should be to accentuate the curved and variable borders of each plot.

Varying Plot Size and Shape

When establishing the Kitabi site, we initially kept all the plot size the same, roughly 500 m². However, we realized that the plots appeared more natural when the plot sizes were adjusted as well as the shape. For the subsequent sites at Umugote, Gasare, and Mubuga the plot sizes were alternated between a large plot of 750 m² and a small plot of 250 m².

Rainy Season Establishment of Plots

Establishing regeneration areas may be best timed during the rainy season. Although the rain, mist, and fog makes working in the burned area more difficult and less pleasant, the overcast skies may help any existing trees adapt to the abrupt change in environment. From fern cover to overcast skies is likely more easy to cope with than fern cover to sunny skies.

Acknowledgements

This report represents the ideas and work of many people, not limited to Eraste Nzakizwanayo, Felix Mulindahabi, Bill Weber, Amy Vedder, Raphael Mpayana , the entire PCFN research staff, and the workers from Kitabi and Banda.

Plot Details

| ID | Site | Plot | Easting | Northing | EPE | Shape* | Size (m ²) |
|----|--------|------|---------|----------|-----|-----------|------------------------|
| 1 | Kitabi | 1 | 0766528 | 9720201 | 9 | eye | 500 |
| 2 | Kitabi | 1 | 0766562 | 9720196 | 5 | | |
| 3 | Kitabi | 1 | 0766596 | 9720199 | 12 | | |
| 4 | Kitabi | 1 | 0766565 | 9720167 | 4 | | |
| 5 | Kitabi | 2 | 0766532 | 9720223 | 6 | eye | 500 |
| 6 | Kitabi | 2 | 0766633 | 9720209 | 9 | | |
| 7 | Kitabi | 2 | 0766662 | 9720224 | 14 | | |
| 8 | Kitabi | 2 | 0766663 | 9720193 | 8 | | |
| 9 | Kitabi | 3 | 0766623 | 9720225 | 11 | eye | 500 |
| 10 | Kitabi | 3 | 0766579 | 9720294 | 20 | | |
| 11 | Kitabi | 3 | 0766595 | 9720517 | 10 | | |
| 12 | Kitabi | 3 | 0766627 | 9720263 | 4 | | |
| 13 | Kitabi | 4 | 0766588 | 9720285 | 8 | eye | 500 |
| 14 | Kitabi | 4 | 0766560 | 9720246 | 6 | | |
| 15 | Kitabi | 4 | 0766528 | 9720222 | 6 | | |
| 16 | Kitabi | 4 | 0766580 | 9720242 | 3 | | |
| 17 | Kitabi | 5 | 0766515 | 9720310 | 10 | eye | 500 |
| 18 | Kitabi | 5 | 0766499 | 9720348 | 10 | | |
| 19 | Kitabi | 5 | 0766476 | 9720386 | 7 | | |
| 20 | Kitabi | 5 | 0766478 | 9720324 | 5 | | |
| 21 | Kitabi | 6 | 0766482 | 9720431 | 9 | moon | 500 |
| 22 | Kitabi | 6 | 0766458 | 9720476 | 8 | | |
| 23 | Kitabi | 6 | 0766426 | 9720521 | 12 | | |
| 24 | Kitabi | 6 | 0766451 | 9720464 | 5 | | |
| 25 | Kitabi | 7 | 0766375 | 9720520 | 8 | chevron | 500 |
| 26 | Kitabi | 7 | 0766384 | 9720477 | 8 | | |
| 27 | Kitabi | 7 | 0766362 | 9720514 | 7 | | |
| 28 | Kitabi | 7 | 0766334 | 9720538 | 10 | | |
| 29 | Kitabi | 8 | 0766314 | 9720558 | 7 | trapezoid | 500 |
| 30 | Kitabi | 8 | 0766263 | 9720591 | 20 | | |
| 31 | Kitabi | 8 | 0766209 | 9720614 | 20 | | |
| 32 | Kitabi | 8 | 0766257 | 9720644 | 19 | | |
| 33 | Kitabi | 9 | 0766208 | 9720549 | 10 | moon | 500 |
| 34 | Kitabi | 9 | 0766220 | 9720601 | 12 | | |
| 35 | Kitabi | 9 | 0766193 | 9720641 | 6 | | |
| 36 | Kitabi | 9 | 0766198 | 9720607 | 6 | | |
| 37 | Kitabi | 10 | 0766205 | 9720676 | 5 | chevron | 500 |
| 38 | Kitabi | 10 | 0766175 | 9720639 | 6 | | |
| 39 | Kitabi | 10 | 0766177 | 9720677 | 7 | | |
| 40 | Kitabi | 10 | 0766178 | 9720691 | 5 | | |
| 41 | Kitabi | 10 | 0766200 | 9720691 | 5 | | |
| 42 | Kitabi | 11 | 0766355 | 9720730 | 10 | eye | 500 |
| 43 | Kitabi | 11 | 0766370 | 9720775 | 8 | | |

| | | | | | | | |
|----|--------|----|---------|---------|----|-----------------|-----|
| 44 | Kitabi | 11 | 0766369 | 9720825 | 5 | | |
| 45 | Kitabi | 11 | 0766362 | 9720777 | 5 | | |
| 46 | Kitabi | 12 | 0766317 | 9720813 | 9 | eye | 500 |
| 47 | Kitabi | 12 | 0766293 | 9720847 | 13 | | |
| 48 | Kitabi | 12 | 0766269 | 9720893 | 5 | | |
| 49 | Kitabi | 12 | 0766291 | 9720847 | 12 | | |
| 50 | Kitabi | 13 | 0766148 | 9720984 | 5 | inv. Chevron | 500 |
| 51 | Kitabi | 13 | 0766109 | 9720988 | 4 | | |
| 52 | Kitabi | 13 | 0766123 | 9721023 | 4 | | |
| 53 | Kitabi | 13 | 0766102 | 9720982 | 5 | | |
| 54 | Kitabi | 14 | 0766052 | 9720947 | 4 | chevron | 500 |
| 55 | Kitabi | 14 | 0766050 | 9720908 | 11 | | |
| 56 | Kitabi | 14 | 0766039 | 9720939 | 6 | | |
| 57 | Kitabi | 14 | 0765958 | 9720420 | 6 | | |
| 58 | Kitabi | 15 | 0766214 | 9721007 | 6 | moon | 500 |
| 59 | Kitabi | 15 | 0766186 | 9721034 | 6 | | |
| 60 | Kitabi | 15 | 0766188 | 9721073 | 5 | | |
| 61 | Kitabi | 15 | 0766207 | 9721078 | 8 | | |
| 62 | Kitabi | 16 | 0766354 | 9720953 | 10 | eye | 500 |
| 63 | Kitabi | 16 | 0766334 | 9720970 | 6 | | |
| 64 | Kitabi | 16 | 0766361 | 9720944 | 6 | | |
| 65 | Kitabi | 16 | 0766324 | 9720876 | 7 | | |
| 66 | Kitabi | 17 | 0766254 | 9721032 | 6 | chevron | 500 |
| 67 | Kitabi | 17 | 0766207 | 9721043 | 4 | | |
| 68 | Kitabi | 17 | 0766245 | 9721024 | 5 | | |
| 69 | Kitabi | 17 | 0766270 | 9720996 | 5 | | |
| 70 | Kitabi | 18 | 0765970 | 9720913 | 4 | chevron | 500 |
| 71 | Kitabi | 18 | 0766012 | 9720904 | 5 | | |
| 72 | Kitabi | 18 | 0766034 | 9720871 | 4 | | |
| 73 | Kitabi | 18 | 0766010 | 9720906 | 6 | | |
| 74 | Kitabi | 19 | 0766339 | 9720212 | 7 | moon | 500 |
| 75 | Kitabi | 19 | 0766410 | 9720155 | 11 | | |
| 76 | Kitabi | 19 | 0766404 | 9720150 | 8 | | |
| 77 | Kitabi | 19 | 0766440 | 9720132 | 9 | | |
| 78 | Kitabi | 20 | 0766678 | 9720141 | 7 | eye | 250 |
| 79 | Kitabi | 20 | 0766672 | 9720117 | 6 | | |
| 80 | Kitabi | 20 | 0766679 | 9720118 | 8 | | |
| 81 | Kitabi | 20 | 0766662 | 9720098 | 8 | | |
| 82 | Kitabi | 21 | 0766572 | 9720513 | 7 | eye | 250 |
| 83 | Kitabi | 21 | 0766596 | 9720511 | 6 | | |
| 84 | Kitabi | 21 | 0766609 | 9720498 | 4 | | |
| 85 | Kitabi | 21 | 0766628 | 9720506 | 5 | | |
| 86 | Gasare | 1 | 0752753 | 9725993 | 14 | moon | 250 |
| 87 | Gasare | 1 | 0752728 | 9725993 | 8 | | |
| 88 | Gasare | 1 | 0752726 | 9725993 | 15 | | |

| | | | | | | | |
|-----|---------|---|---------|---------|----|---------|-----|
| 89 | Gasare | 1 | 0752718 | 9725971 | 11 | | |
| 90 | Gasare | 2 | 0752742 | 9725946 | 8 | eye | 750 |
| 91 | Gasare | 2 | 0752696 | 9725927 | 7 | | |
| 92 | Gasare | 2 | 0752705 | 9725918 | 12 | | |
| 93 | Gasare | 2 | 0752656 | 9725897 | 9 | | |
| 94 | Gasare | 3 | 0752660 | 9725878 | 13 | moon | 250 |
| 95 | Gasare | 3 | 0752686 | 9725882 | 4 | | |
| 96 | Gasare | 3 | 0752687 | 9725876 | 4 | | |
| 97 | Gasare | 3 | 0752704 | 9725888 | 12 | | |
| 98 | Gasare | 4 | 0752738 | 9725936 | 4 | eye | 250 |
| 99 | Gasare | 4 | 0752704 | 9725923 | 7 | | |
| 100 | Gasare | 4 | 0752721 | 9725904 | 6 | | |
| 101 | Gasare | 4 | 0752703 | 9725899 | 6 | | |
| 102 | Gasare | 5 | 0752725 | 9725882 | 4 | eye | 750 |
| 103 | Gasare | 5 | 0752688 | 9725856 | 5 | | |
| 104 | Gasare | 5 | 0752692 | 9725851 | 4 | | |
| 105 | Gasare | 5 | 0752647 | 9725852 | 5 | | |
| 106 | Gasare | 6 | 0752696 | 9725823 | 4 | moon | 250 |
| 107 | Gasare | 6 | 0752669 | 9725819 | 4 | | |
| 108 | Gasare | 6 | 0752672 | 9725814 | 9 | | |
| 109 | Gasare | 6 | 0752640 | 9725826 | 8 | | |
| 110 | Umugote | 1 | 0751057 | 9726449 | 6 | moon | 750 |
| 111 | Umugote | 1 | 0751016 | 9726408 | 5 | | |
| 112 | Umugote | 1 | 0751023 | 9726399 | 5 | | |
| 113 | Umugote | 1 | 0750973 | 9726382 | 5 | | |
| 114 | Umugote | 2 | 0750967 | 9726422 | 8 | eye | 250 |
| 115 | Umugote | 2 | 0750991 | 9726424 | 5 | | |
| 116 | Umugote | 2 | 0751014 | 9726440 | 6 | | |
| 117 | Umugote | 2 | 0750992 | 9726435 | 7 | | |
| 118 | Umugote | 3 | 0751012 | 9726487 | 5 | chevron | 750 |
| 119 | Umugote | 3 | 0751058 | 9726502 | 4 | | |
| 120 | Umugote | 3 | 0751098 | 9726535 | 6 | | |
| 121 | Umugote | 3 | 0751060 | 9726515 | 8 | | |
| 122 | Umugote | 4 | 0751036 | 9726535 | 4 | eye | 250 |
| 123 | Umugote | 4 | 0751063 | 9726584 | 7 | | |
| 124 | Umugote | 4 | 0751092 | 9726596 | 6 | | |
| 125 | Umugote | 4 | 0751055 | 9726591 | 6 | | |
| 126 | Umugote | 5 | 0751038 | 9726613 | 4 | chevron | 750 |
| 127 | Umugote | 5 | 0751068 | 9726651 | 6 | | |
| 128 | Umugote | 5 | 0751163 | 9726678 | 6 | | |
| 129 | Umugote | 5 | 0751084 | 9726643 | 7 | | |
| 130 | Umugote | 6 | 0751157 | 9726649 | 7 | chevron | 750 |
| 131 | Umugote | 6 | 0751137 | 9726605 | 7 | | |
| 132 | Umugote | 6 | 0751145 | 9726604 | 8 | | |
| 133 | Umugote | 6 | 0751117 | 9726556 | 8 | | |
| 134 | Umugote | 7 | 0751156 | 9726538 | 9 | eye | 750 |

| | | | | | | | |
|--------|---------|----|---------|---------|----|---------|-------|
| 135 | Umugote | 7 | 0751118 | 9726534 | 7 | | |
| 136 | Umugote | 7 | 0751123 | 9726524 | 7 | | |
| 137 | Umugote | 7 | 0751103 | 9726486 | 7 | | |
| 138 | Umugote | 8 | 0751173 | 9726494 | 6 | moon | 250 |
| 139 | Umugote | 8 | 0751150 | 9726490 | 6 | | |
| 140 | Umugote | 8 | 0751129 | 9726477 | 5 | | |
| 141 | Umugote | 8 | 0751154 | 9726486 | 5 | | |
| 142 | Umugote | 9 | 0751284 | 9726680 | 8 | eye | 250 |
| 143 | Umugote | 9 | 0751265 | 9726667 | 8 | | |
| 144 | Umugote | 9 | 0751242 | 9726657 | 5 | | |
| 145 | Umugote | 9 | 0751276 | 9726666 | 5 | | |
| 146 | Umugote | 10 | 0751109 | 9726566 | 5 | eye | 250 |
| 147 | Umugote | 10 | 0751096 | 9726574 | 4 | | |
| 148 | Umugote | 10 | 0751067 | 9726562 | 8 | | |
| 149 | Umugote | 10 | 0751093 | 9726560 | 7 | | |
| 150 | Mubuga | 1 | 0756287 | 9724358 | 4 | eye | 750 |
| 151 | Mubuga | 1 | 0756264 | 9724371 | 4 | | |
| 152 | Mubuga | 1 | 0756273 | 9724381 | 5 | | |
| 153 | Mubuga | 1 | 0756250 | 9724394 | 4 | | |
| 154 | Mubuga | 2 | 0756267 | 9724402 | 6 | eye | 250 |
| 155 | Mubuga | 2 | 0756240 | 9724397 | 6 | | |
| 156 | Mubuga | 2 | 0756254 | 9724426 | 6 | | |
| 157 | Mubuga | 2 | 0756224 | 9724427 | 4 | | |
| 158 | Mubuga | 3 | 0756121 | 9724646 | 4 | moon | 750 |
| 159 | Mubuga | 3 | 0756166 | 9724666 | 6 | | |
| 160 | Mubuga | 3 | 0756203 | 9724690 | 6 | | |
| 161 | Mubuga | 3 | 0756177 | 9724652 | 11 | | |
| 162 | Mubuga | 4 | 0756222 | 9724706 | 6 | eye | 750 |
| 163 | Mubuga | 4 | 0756233 | 9724721 | 6 | | |
| 164 | Mubuga | 4 | 0756249 | 9724742 | 8 | | |
| 165 | Mubuga | 4 | 0756239 | 9724721 | 9 | | |
| 166 | Mubuga | 5 | 0756191 | 9724639 | 11 | chevron | 750 |
| 167 | Mubuga | 5 | 0756235 | 9724645 | 7 | | |
| 168 | Mubuga | 5 | 0756209 | 9724641 | 5 | | |
| 169 | Mubuga | 5 | 0756205 | 9724603 | 5 | | |
| 170 | Mubuga | 6 | 0756304 | 9724397 | 5 | eye | 250 |
| 171 | Mubuga | 6 | 0756288 | 9724411 | 4 | | |
| 172 | Mubuga | 6 | 0756272 | 9724429 | 10 | | |
| 173 | Mubuga | 6 | 0756287 | 9724424 | 4 | | |
| TOTAL= | | | | | | | 21000 |

*Five shapes were used:

Chevron -



Inverted Chevron -

Eye -



Moon -



Trapezoid (meant to be a tear-drop shape) -



SCOPE OF WORK

Post-fire Regeneration Implementation
Nyungwe National Park
September 14, 2007 (modified September 17, 2007)

Background

Areas burned by wildfire in Nyungwe National Park are rapidly and densely colonized by *Pteridium aquilinum* (L.) Kuhn. ferns. These ferns out-compete tree seedlings for valuable sunlight and nutrients. Results of multiple-year research within Nyungwe National Park have illustrated that routinely cutting the ferns significantly increases the number of regenerating trees, tree height, and (in lower slopes) tree species, thereby accelerating forest regeneration³. Although tree regeneration *is* occurring in the areas previously burned in wildfire, regeneration is not uniform; some areas are still void of regenerating trees even after more than 10 years post-fire.

On September 12, 2007, a four-person team (Amy Vedder, Felix Mulindahabi, Eraste Nzakizwanayo, and Anna Behm Masozera) identified three sites for establishment of implementation plots- Kitabi, Gasare, and Umugote. Sites were prioritized by 2 key criteria: lack of visible forest regeneration and their visibility and accessibility from the main road. In addition, the opportunity to extend initial regeneration work to contiguous hillsides was a secondary criterion.

Overall Plan

These three sites will be assessed and plots designed to maximize regeneration *and* minimize visible plots *and* minimize potential erosion. Plots will be established for treatment every 3 months for 3 years. Plot size (approximately 500m²) is based on an implementation site successfully initiated in 2003 by WCS/PCFN. The Kitabi site will contain 20 plots, and the subsequent two sites will contain 10 plots each.

For establishment of plots at the Kitabi site, it is estimated that a crew of 25 people should be able to cut all plots within four days. A few members of the 25 will mark all plots in advance of the cutting crew. For the subsequent sites, due to the limitations in transportation for the crew and time estimated to reach the site, it is estimated to take two days for a crew of 30 people. If possible, the original 15-member cutting crew will be utilized to facilitate training of the new, larger crews.

³ For complete information on post-fire regeneration research in Nyungwe National Park, please see Weber, W., M. Masozera, and A. B. Masozera (eds). 2005. Biodiversity Conservation in Rwanda: Collected Works of the Protected Areas Biodiversity Project 2004-2005. Ministry of Lands, Environment, Water, Forestry, and Mines. Funded by the Global Environment Facility and compiled by Wildlife Conservation Society. 398 p.

We therefore estimate eight to nine days of total work to initiate a total of 40 plots in the three sites. A six-person PCFN team will train and oversee the cutting crews (42 person-days supervision), and a total of 225 person-days of labor to cut the plots. Crew members will be paid 700-800 Rwandan Francs per day's labor. Truck transportation (and driver) of the crew will be needed for a total of 4 days.

The proposed schedule is as follows:

| | |
|-------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Monday, Sept 17 | Meet with PCFN/ORTPN staff to finalize plans for plot establishment Plot demarcation for initial four plots |
| Tuesday, Sept 18 | Kitabi site |
| Wed, Sept 19 | Kitabi site |
| Thursday, Sept 20 | Kitabi site |
| Friday, Sept 21 | Kitabi site |
| Saturday, Sept 22 | Kitabi site if necessary |
| Monday, Sept 24 | Gasare |
| Tuesday, Sept 25 | Gasare |
| Wed, Sept 26 | Umugote |
| Thursday, Sept 27 | Umugote |

Ferns will again be removed from the plots in December, beginning a cycle of treatment every 3 months for a duration of 3 years.

Specific Responsibilities of the Consultant

Consultant is responsible for designing the layout, orientation, and design of plots at each site. Consultant will work with PCFN/ORTPN research staff to refine the plan and oversee the establishment of plots, with a priority to oversee plot demarcation. GPS information for each site and plot will be taken.

Deliverables

Consultant will produce a brief summary report to document the on-site establishment of plots, with graphic representation of plot design (approx. location, size, orientation, form), to be delivered in printed and electronic format to WCS/PCFN, ORTPN-Nyungwe National Park, and the PAB PMU in Kigali within 3 weeks after work in Nyungwe National Park is complete.

Level of Effort

The consultant will be reimbursed for a maximum of five (5) days. Invoice will be provided with final report.