



FINIMA NATURE PARK

MONTHLY REPORT

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INTRODUCTION

The Finima Nature Park (FNP) is a freshwater swamp forest lying along Nigeria's southern coastal area of Bonny Island, River State. FNP is divided into the Eastern and Western blocks. The park is for conservation, recreation and research in flora, fauna and cultural heritage of Bonny Island. It is approximately 1000 hectares, with a core area of about 700 hectares and buffer zone of about 300 hectares.

Banked at the south by The Atlantic Ocean, FNP is an important biosphere reserve and an eco-tourist destination. The park is home to a wide variety of ecosystems and forms of wildlife including endangered species of African Grey Parrot (*Psittacus erithacus*). The diversity of FNP is a good representation of the Niger Delta ecology, which affords a unique opportunity for research and educational activities.

Nigeria LNG Limited in recognition of the unchecked increase in industrial activities on Bonny Island is bound to increase pressure on most aspects of community life, and further put pressure on the fragile ecosystem, through increased exploitation of natural resources. To this end, NLNG has established in 1999 a Nature Reserve (FNP) to ensure that some of the environmental adverse effect of the people and companies' activities are curtailed and also conserve areas of the Island in their natural state as much as possible. This is in recognition of the importance of the fauna and flora, the sacrifices of the Finima people in particular and the Bonny people in general, and their aspiration and commitment to maintain and preserve their culture and heritage.

It is also part of NLNG's firm recognition and contribution to the national and global conservation objectives consistent with Rio Agenda 21, the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands and the contribution towards achieving the global Aichi Biodiversity Target of the Convention on Biological Diversity.

The FNP is presently being managed by a Park Management Consultant – The Nigerian Conservation Foundation (NCF). However, the long-term management goal is to incorporate a Board of Trustee drawn from the host community into the management and governance process of the Park through a participatory approach. This is a deliberate effort at ensuring that the community participates in the process and also takes ownership of the park for sustainability

SOME OF THE ACTIVITIES CONDUCTED IN JUNE, 2020

- Perimeter Patrol and Biodiversity Survey
- Community Tree Planting
- Maintenance of Park Facilities
- Commemoration of World Environment Day

PERIMETER ANTI-POACHING PATROL AND BIODIVERSITY SURVEYS: BIODIVERSITY SURVEYS AND MONITORING:

The regular biodiversity surveys and biological monitoring were carried out this month using both direct and indirect monitoring techniques. Diverse species of fauna were sighted during these surveys among which were insects, amphibians, reptiles, birds and mammals. Some of the species sighted are Great Egret (*Egretta alba*), Long-tailed Cormorant (*Phalacrocorax africanus*), Lizard Buzzard (*Kaupifalco monogrammicus*), Western Reef Heron (*Egretta gularis*) and Mona Monkey (*Cercopithecus mona*) among others. A representation of this is included in the monthly species checklist attached to this report.



Fig. 1, 2, 3 & 4 Show pictures of the Great Egret, Long-tailed Cormorant, Lizard Buzzard and Western Reef Heron



Fig. 5, 6, 7 & 8 Show pictures of Green Tree Snake, Emerald Snake, Nile Crocodile and Mona Monkey



Fig. 9, 10, 11 & 12 Show pictures of the Woodland Kingfisher, White-faced Whistling Ducks, Nile Crocodile and Mona Monkey



Fig. 13, 14, 15 & 16 Show pictures of the Officers during the anti-poaching patrol

TREE PLANTING AND REFORESTATION:

The tree planting exercise continued during this reporting month. The planting exercise has covered 25 schools comprising of Primary schools, Junior secondary schools, Senior secondary schools and private schools with planting space within their school premises. Several communities - Abalamabie, Abraham-Hart, Oguede, Coconut Estate, Lighthouse, amongst others have been covered. A total of 2100 tree seedlings have been planted, while the exercise will continue in July and other months.



Fig. 17, 18, 19 & 20 - Show pictures of tree planting by students in various schools



Fig. 21, 22, 23 & 24 Show pictures of Bonny Youth Federation Chairman, BECC Representative and other community members during the planting



Fig. 25, 26, 27 & 28 Show pictures of tree planting exercise in Bonny & Finima communities



Fig. 29, 30, 31 & 32 - Show pictures of the Red Mangrove planted with more than 98% surviving rate

ECOTOURISM:

In compliance with the social distancing and movement restriction directive to prevent the spread of Corona virus, the Park was officially closed to the public. The restriction has been in place from Monday, 23rd March till date. The impact of this and the current local down of Bonny Local Government Area is that number of visitors/tourists to the park has been severely limited – especially for the reporting month.



Fig. 33, 34, 35 & 36 Show pictures of tourist that visited during this month prior to the total lockdown on the Island

OUTREACH & ENGAGEMENT:

Conservation club activities has been put on hold due to Corona Virus pandemic which has necessitated the closure of all schools till further notice. However, the outreach and engagement team created a Facebook group (Finima Nature Park Outreach and Engagement Platform) as a medium to enlighten/engage the public on environmental issues.



Fig. 37, 38, 39 & 40 Show pictures of the screenshots of post from the Finima Nature Park Outreach and Engagement Platform

WORLD ENVIRONMENT DAY: The World Environment Day (WED) was commemorated during this reporting month with the theme **“Biodiversity, Time for Nature”**. World Environment Day is commemorated on 5th of June every year as a vehicle for encouraging awareness and action to protect our environment. WED has become a global platform for public outreach, with more than 143 countries participating through environmental campaign and rally, organizing plays, quiz competition, planting of trees etc.

Finima Nature Park commemorated the day with commemorative tree planting exercise at RA Golf Course by the senior management of NLNG led by the General Manager Production – Engr. Adeleye Falade; planting at the children playground – led by RA Ladies Executives and finally at the Secretariat of Bonny Local Government by top officials of the Local Government.



Fig. 41, 42, 43 & 44 Show pictures of the tree planting exercise by NLNG Mgt & RA Ladies Exco - to commemorate World Environment Day, 2020



Fig. 45, 46, 47 & 48 Show pictures of the Bonny Local Government Executives during the tree planting exercise to commemorate World Environment Day, 2020

A webinar was organized to enlighten the NLNG staff and their families on the importance of Biodiversity and what can be done to make a difference with over 150 persons in attendance. The lecture was facilitated by Dr, Sam Ivande, a renowned Ornithologist from A.P. Leventis Ornithological Institute, University of Jos.

A similar webinar session was organized for the general public and lots of people signed into the program from different countries. Lectures were delivered by Miss Grace Alawa of Rivers State University, Mr. Peter Rowland of Kiel University, Germany and Dr. Joseph Onoja, Director of Technical Programme (NCF), and Professor Paul Ajah of Faculty of Oceanography, University of Calabar.

MAINTENANCE OF PARK FACILITIES:

Tidiness of the boardwalk and other Park facilities were carried out during the month i.e. sweeping of the trail, clearing and cutting of tree branches that fell along the board walk, cleaning of the drainage and sand filling of the playground etc. Also, maintenance work on the Agaja Nature Trail was carried out during this reporting month



Fig. 49, 50, 51 & 52 Show pictures of the Officers during the Housekeeping



Fig. 53, 54, 55 & 56 Show pictures of the Officers during the maintenance of Agaja Trial

OTHER ISSUES:

HSE: No incident was recorded during this reporting month.

HSE day awareness session/Family Size Unit meeting was held via Zoom with the family head, Mrs. Oluwatoyin Adebayo, who reminded all to ensure adherence to all safety precautions on social distancing, regular hand washing and use of face masks. And anyone showing any sign of sickness should seek medical help.

The presentation featured different scenarios on the HSE Day 2020 Theme - **Human Performance: Our People! The Solution!** for a deeper understanding by family members



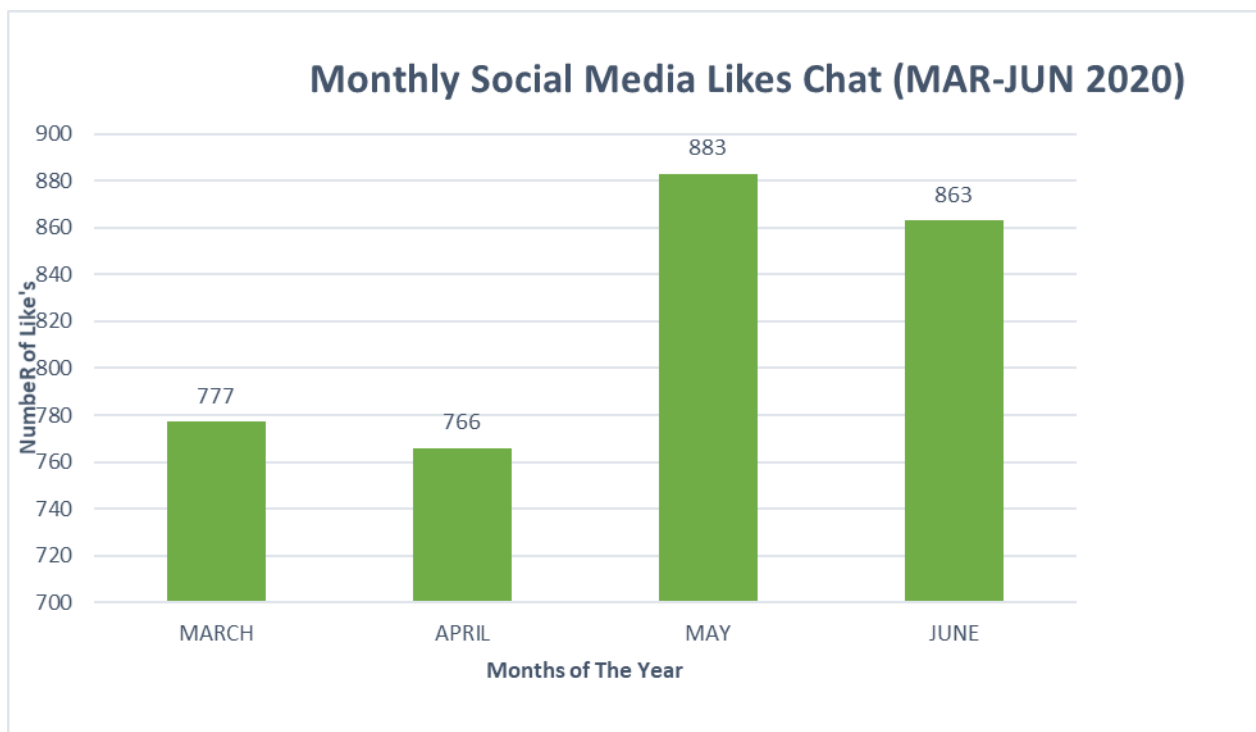
Fig. 57, 58, 59 & 60: Meeting/HSE Day Awareness Session led by FSU 129 Family Head, Mrs. Oluwatoyin Adebayo via Zoom

In June 2020, the Finima Nature Park was selected as the national winner of the prestigious Energy Globe Award. The selection was from more than 2,500 projects aimed at protecting the environment submitted by more than 180 countries to the ENERGY GLOBE AWARD. Details of the award can be found at the Energy Globe Award web site www.energyglobe.info

SOCIAL MEDIA HANDLES:

S/N	FACEBOOK PAGE	FACEBOOK	TWITTER	INSTAGRAM
Posts	23	23	29	22
People Reached / Month	1,630	-	-	3,956
Engagements/Impression	236	-	11,373	4,612
No of comments	-	15	-	5
No of likes/views	93 / 23	183/ 18	175/26	345
Retweets/Share	39	8	49	3
No of Friends/Followers this Month	62	-	19	-
YTD	1,558	5,000	820	1,328

Table 1: Social media activities for the month of June



WEBSITE REPORT

- Updated the design of the website home page
- Update on the front-page slide (Covid-19)
- Updated the news slide
- Updated the frontpage pop-up (Father's Day)

UPDATE ON NUMBER OF VISITORS:

Total number of visitors for the month of June = 43

Total number of visitors from January 2020 till date = 5,885

Week	Date	No. of Visitors	YTD
1	01/06– 07/06	38	5,880
2	08/06 – 14/06	-	5,880
3	15/06 – 21/06	5	5,885
4	22/06 – 28/06	-	5,885
5	29/06 – 30/06	-	5,885

Table 2: Show number of Visitors per week for the month of June

SCHOOL CHART:

Week	Date	No. of School visits	YTD
1	01/06– 07/06	-	91
2	08/06 – 14/06	-	91
3	15/06 – 21/06	-	91
4	22/06 – 28/06	-	91
5	29/06 – 30/06	-	91

Table 3: Total number of school visit for the month of June

LOOK AHEAD FOR THE MONTH OF JULY:

- Intensify perimeter anti-poaching patrol
- Biological Monitoring
- Maintenance of Park Facilities
- Tree Planting in Bonny Communities

FNP SPECIES CHECKLIST AND IUCN STATUS JUNE, 2020

[FNP 2020 species checklist June 2020.xls](#)