

## **Gorilla Project Activities in Bwindi - 2011**

### **Max Planck Institute for Evolutionary Anthropology**

**-Ongoing Long-Term Research with Kyagurilo Group.** Continual behavioral and ecological data collection since 1998. Lead by Martha Robbins. Research assistant – Agnes Farkes.

**-Habituation of Oruzogo and Kahunje Gorilla Groups.** (Peter Kabano). In collaboration with Uganda Wildlife Authority, assist with the habituation of these groups for tourism, measure changes in gorilla behavior to provide a quantitative assessment of habituation process, identify and name all group members for demographic database.

**-Conservation Education for Primary Schools.** (Emily Turinawe & Agnes Farkes). Provide conservation education to two local schools on a monthly basis. (see detailed report).

**-Feeding Competition and Female Social Relationships in Bwindi Mountain Gorillas.** PhD project (Edward Wright). The main goals of this project are to examine the competitive regime of gorillas through measures of food intake and aggressive interactions.

**-Behavioral Variants in Gorillas.** (Martha Robbins) Compilation of behaviors that may be socially learned and indicative of social traditions or 'culture' in gorillas for comparison with Karisoke Research Center in Rwanda and 2 field sites for western gorillas in Central African Republic.

**-Bwindi Mountain Gorilla Census.** Scheduled for September-October 2011. This will provide an update on the size of the entire population since the last census in 2006. We will incorporate genetic analysis. From March 2011, we have been conducting a 'pre-census' that will enable us to more accurately estimate the population. This project is done in collaboration with Uganda Wildlife Authority and the International Gorilla Conservation Program.

**-'Gorillas Across Africa' Meeting.** June 27 – 30, 2011. In collaboration with the North Carolina Zoo, we are hosting a meeting to bring together early professional conservationists and researchers from 7 African countries. The meeting will consist of presentations and discussions from 40 participants.

**-Demographic Database of Habituated Gorillas in Bwindi.** (Peter Kabano) In collaboration with UWA, working closely with the rangers and guides who monitor all the habituated groups to ensure that they can properly identify all the gorillas and report any demographic changes (births, deaths, transfers) for inclusion in the long-term demographic database. This provides crucial information for evaluation of population dynamics.