

Wildlife Conservation Co- existence with Oil & Gas Mining: A case study from Murchison Falls National Park (Uganda)

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**Oil & gas first reported in
Albertine Region in 1925
Past regimes ignored it**

Current regime : interested in mining it. Is it ready? If not ready, leave it. In Uganda, it is in Lakes (Albert ,Edward) & PAs!!!

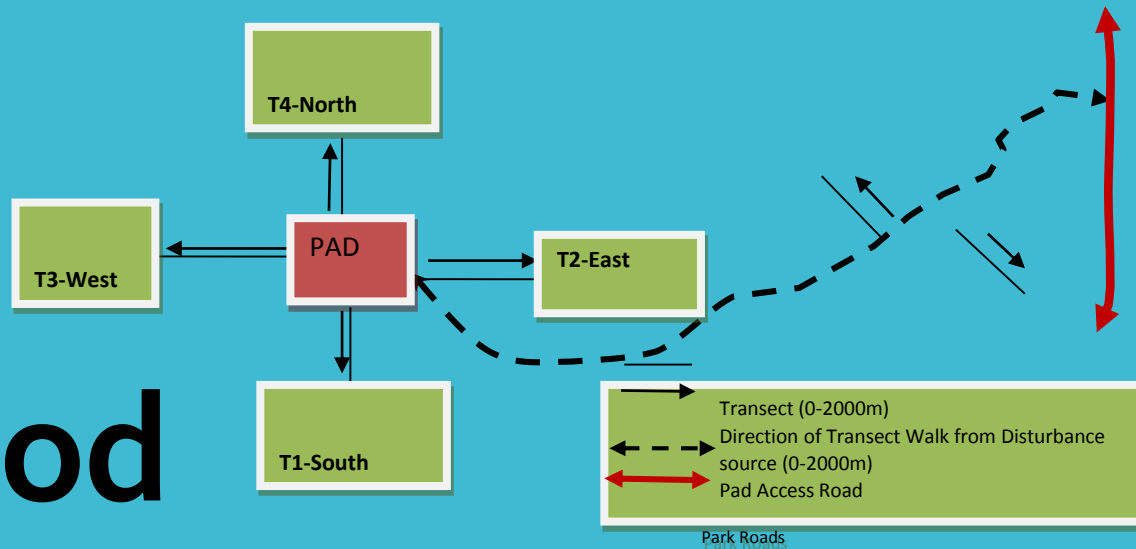
Study Area: MFNP

Largest NP (3,893 km²)

Africa's Biodiversity

hotspot & high endemism

Method



2 km from oil well in the 4 directions

Selected species studied

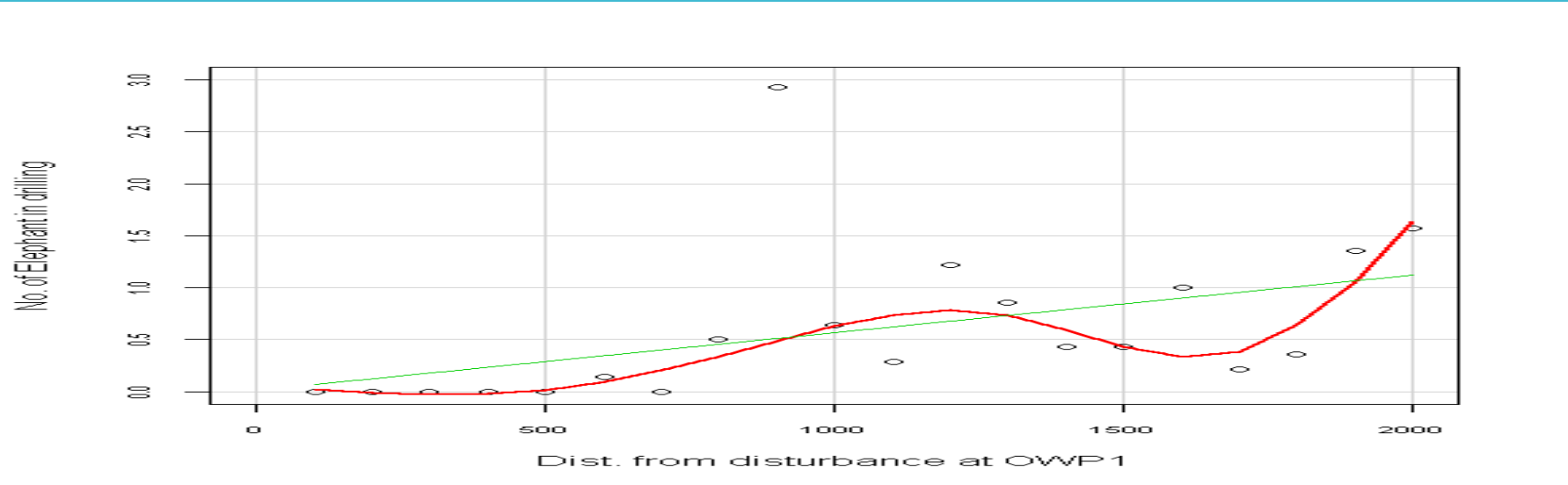
Elephants

Buffaloes

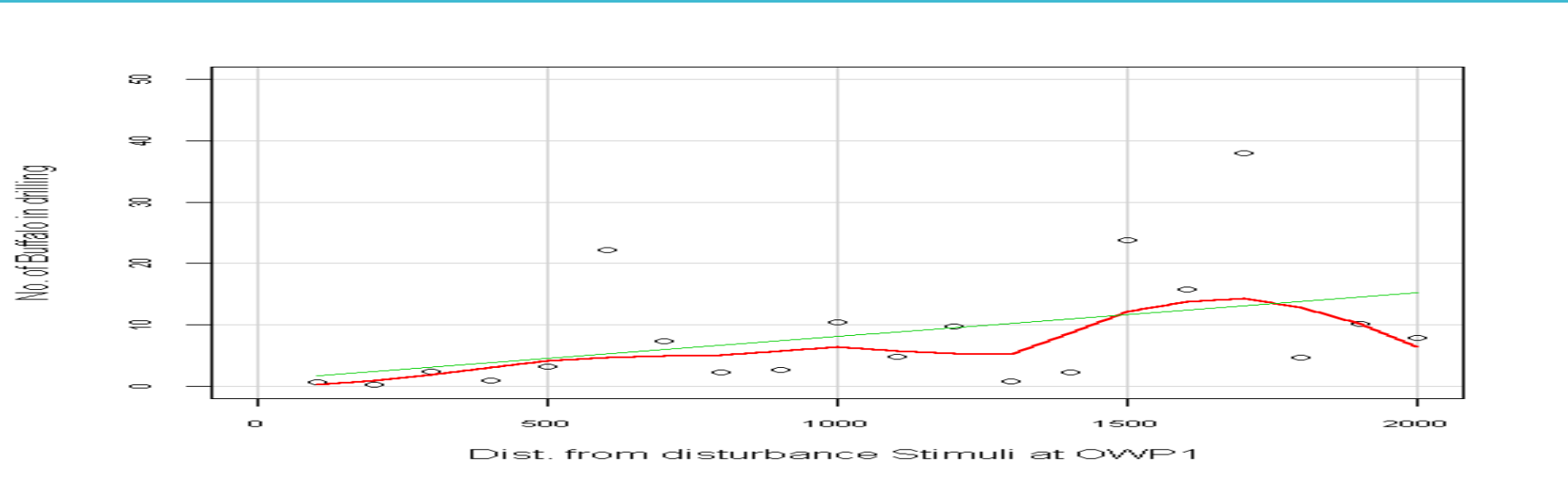
Giraffes

Uganda kobs

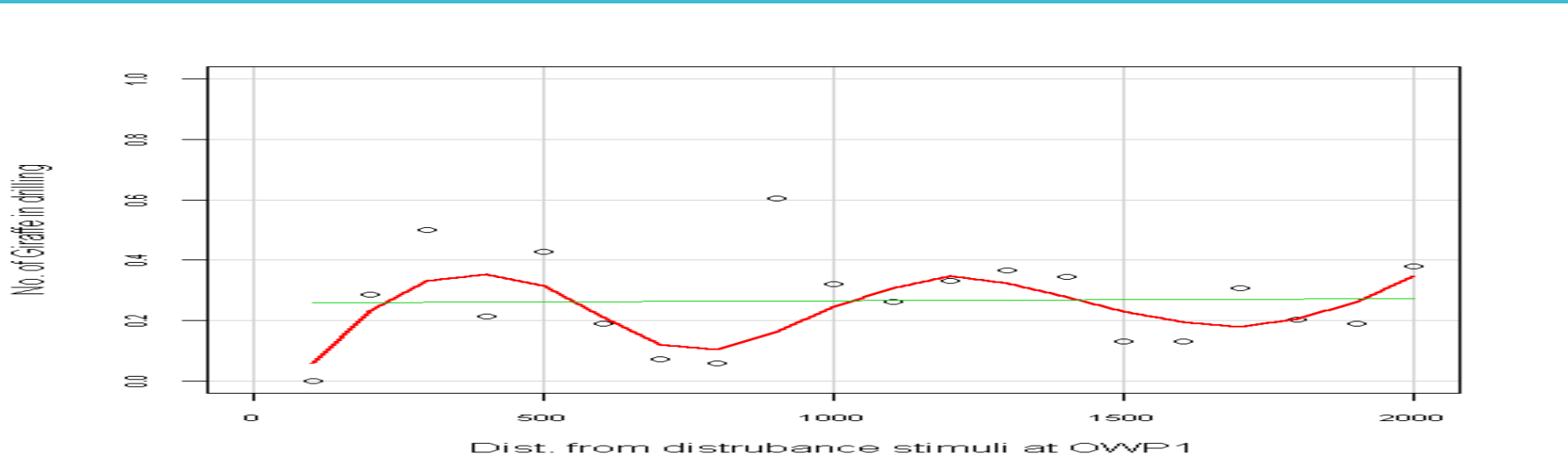
**Elephants & buffaloes
increased with increasing
distance from oil well
Giraffes & Uganda kobs
were indifferent**



Elephants: during drilling

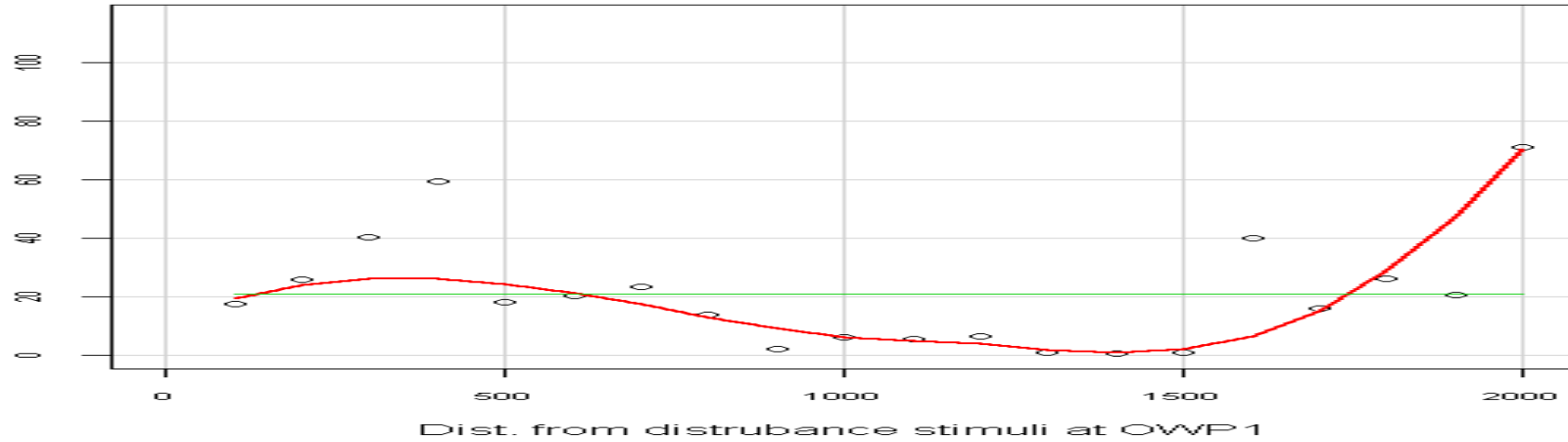


Buffaloes: during drilling



Giraffes during drilling

No. of Uganda Kob in drilling



Uganda kobs during drilling

Discussion

While elephants & buffaloes avoided high disturbance, Giraffes & U.kobs tolerated it

Discussion ctd

**Avoidance: keep away,
will return when
disturbance is less or
stops**

Discussion ctd

**Tolerance: allow,
accept, endure,**

Conclusion

**Wildlife has been co-existing
with unmined oil & gas**

(vertical)

**If to mine (horizontal), good
governance needed**

Conclusions

**Success stories (good governance) known
Not to re-invent the wheel**

Recommendations

1. Formulate public policy that links habitat, wildlife, oil& gas and economy (Norway)

Recommendations

2. Establish a co-operative
mgt strategy btn
government & industry

Recommendations

**3. Govt to listen to key stakeholders + industry
If not, let the oil & gas remain in the ground**



Heaviest land animal in the world



Tallest animal in the world

