

Supplementary Table 1 Threats facing wild edible plants or biodiversity in general mentioned in 23 literature sources and used to guide development of 10 threat categories for both focus group discussions and field plot surveys in Turkana County, Kenya

Number	The threats cited	Reviewed Source
1	Overgrazing, Agricultural land expansion, Over-harvesting, Uncontrolled fire setting, Roads and home construction, Fodder and fuelwood collection	[1]
2	Construction and tools, Grazing, Charcoal, Agricultural expansions, Firewood,	[2]
3	Agricultural land expansion, Over-grazing, Over-harvesting, Uncontrolled fire setting, Fuelwood collection	[3]
4	Habitat conversion due to agricultural expansion, overgrazing, other problems	[4]
5	Agricultural expansion, Overgrazing, Fuelwood collection	[5]
6	Expansion of agriculture, Fire hazards, Overgrazing, Construction of new road, Drought, Collection of firewood and construction materials	[6]
7	Inconsiderate and overexploitation by “outsiders”, Destruction of EWPs by wild animals such as elephants	[7]
8	Overgrazing/over browsing, removal of woody plants for different purposes (e.g. firewood and charcoal production, building and construction, fencing materials etc), Human settlement, Agricultural expansion, Burning forests	[8]

Number	The threats cited	Reviewed Source
9	Agricultural expansion, Fire, Fuelwood collection, Overstocking, overgrazing, Selective harvesting	[9]
10	Agricultural land expansion, Uncontrolled fire setting, Fuelwood collection, Overgrazing, Overharvesting	[10]
11	Land use change (expansion of agriculture land), Developmental activities (road construction and urbanization), Habitat destruction (Timber harvest, Fuelwood collection, and wildfire), Drought, Overharvesting, Overgrazing	[11]
12	Human population pressure, Land use change, Poverty/hunger, Tribal conflicts, Adverse climate change, Overexploitation of resources, Restriction of mobility, Lack of alternative, High livestock population, Expansion of agriculture.	[12]
13	Wildfire, Deliberate burning – mostly to get pasture grasses regenerated and control animal exo-parasites like ticks, Deforestation, Bush clearing	[13]
14	Agriculture, Introducing exotic species, Overgrazing, Construction, Charcoal making, Extended dry seasons	[14]
15	Agricultural land expansion, Lack of culture of planting, Selective harvesting for other use (house construction, farm	[15]

Number	The threats cited	Reviewed Source
	implements, household utensils), Drought/shortage of rainfall, Fuelwood collection, Grazing pasture, Wildfire	
16	Increase in human population, The increasing logging for charcoal and timber, The heavy harvesting of plants (especially bark, roots and stems) for medicinal use, bush fires, all of which they perceive as leading to soil erosion, drought, and hunger	[16]
17	Fuel wood collection, Drought, Selective harvesting, Overstocking/grazing, Agricultural expansion, Fire hazards	[17]
18	Land use change, Direct exploitation, Climate change, Pollution, Others, Wild fires, Pests	[18]
19	Habitat destruction, Land use change, Over-grazing, Overharvesting, Invasive species	[19]
20	Agricultural expansion, Fire, Fuelwood collection, Selective harvesting	[20]
21	Fire, Agricultural expansion, Deforestation, Free grazing, Fuelwood, Herbicides, Construction, Settlement, Other (farm and household tool)	[21]
22	Agricultural expansion, Construction, Fuelwood collection and charcoal making, Overgrazing, Fire	[22]
23	Land clearing, Fire, grazing, wood exploitation, fruits/flowers harvest, leaves harvest, back exploitation,	[23]

Number	The threats cited	Reviewed Source
	charcoal, pests and diseases, drought, ageing, loss soil fertility	

Supplementary Table 2 Indicators derived from the focus group discussions on threats facing priority woody wild edible plants in Turkana County, Kenya. The same indicators were used in field plot surveys except for climate change

Number	Threat category	Threat indicators mentioned by FGD participants
1	Climate change	Severe wilting or drying, <i>Prosopis juliflora</i> , loss of surface water sources, extreme precipitation, extreme wind events, reducing population of WEPs, emergence of non-native invasive species, overabundance of some native species
2	Invasive species	Invasive <i>Prosopis juliflora</i> , emergence of some harmful microbial organisms
3	Overstocking/overgrazing	Scars of browsed seedlings, browsed branches, cutting of branches for feeding livestock, sedentary ranching
4	Selective harvesting/Overharvesting	Cut stems/branches, stumps identifiable as of WEPs, severely debarked stems, digging of roots of WEPs
5	Fuelwood collection/charcoal burning	Active or used charcoal smoking kiln, Cut stems awaiting charcoal burning, people collecting fuel wood, level of charcoal business in the area
6	Agricultural expansion	Ploughed land, crops or remains of crops, cleared land awaiting ploughing
7	Uncontrolled fire	Fire scars on stems/branches/leaves, burnt piece of land, fire from charcoal burning, fire from honey harvesting,
8	Infrastructural development	New developed structures such as institutions and roads, establishing of homesteads
9	Pests and diseases	Signs of pests on the plant such as locusts, signs of pest damage on leaves, signs of fungal or diseased parts of WEPs
10	Others	Squirrel/woodpecker holes on trunks of WEPs, destruction of land following war/battlefield, riverbank erosion, and sedimentation, use of herbicides and pesticides, pollution from touristic activities, opportunistic harvesting of branches by tourists along the roads

Supplementary Table 3 Management options for wild edible plants mentioned in 9 literature sources and used to guide development of management categories for focus group discussions in selected community units within Turkana County, Kenya

Number	Management options cited	Reviewed Source
1	Cultivation and marketing	[1]
2	Home gardens, sacred compounds	[2]
3	Cultivation and marketing	[3]
4	Domestication and cultivation, studying nutritional values, propagation techniques, marketing and value addition	[8]
5	<i>In-situ</i> conservation methods like planting in the form of fences and protected pasture land in different worship areas, and in farm margins	[10]
6	Create awareness of WEPs use by indigenous people, Value indigenous knowledge, Enhance participatory planning and implementation of projects, Alternative livelihoods for local people	[24]
7	Increasing awareness, agroforestry, garden trees	[25]
8	Planting around home gardens, Pruning, Pollarding, Fencing, Protected by culture	[22]
9	Adoption of longer intervals between fires	[23]

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