

rectors.

Among the grounds for forensic audit, he cites the recent re-appointment of Mr Charles Owele as the company's managing director despite "questionable competence, management and integrity"

"The company is allegedly operating in technical insolvency and indebtedness, where farmers and suppliers are issued with bad cheques leading to accrued arrears and other liabilities amounting to Sh1.4 billion since 2014," Mr Etyang says in his petition.

He also claims that the firm has been employing haphazard and exploitative sugarcane pricing techniques that end up scaring away farmers.

"The farmers in Nandi and Kisumu counties are not ready for privatisation of the company without any primary re-

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Wildlife agency plans 40km fence to curb Marsabit Forest destruction

BY KARIIE NIOROGI

The Kenya Wildlife Service (KWS) will build a 40-kilometre fence around Marsabit Forest to check destruction of the woodland and reduce human-wildlife conflicts.

KWS says that total cost of the project is Sh72 million with only Sh18 million (enough for 10km) available from the French Development Bank (AFD).

Marsabit Forest is estimated to currently occupy 11,000 hectare (ha) down from over 18,000ha in 1973. The rate of forest degradation is estimated to be

180ha per annum.

Encroachment on the forest has happened as a result of expansion of Marsabit town southwards into the woodlands, increased conversion of the forested areas into farmland outside as well as within the forest reserve and over-grazing by livestock during drought seasons.

"The proposed work will entail construction of a human-wildlife barrier all around the forest reserve estimated at approximately 40 km; in and around the Marsabit Forest Reserve," KWS says in an environmental audit report submitted to the regulator.