SUMMARY

- The Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS), the Congo Conservation Company (CCC) and the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), in partnership with the Congolese Government, are launching a new four-year program to develop ecotourism in Nouabalé-Ndoki National Park. You will now find a section dedicated to this program on page 2 of the monthly newsletter.

- As part of the response to the coronavirus pandemic, the Foundation for the Tri-National Sangha (FTNS) made additional emergency funds available to the TNS protected areas officialized by an amendment to the PTAB 2020 validated by the FNN Board of Directors and which integrates two new activities related to specific actions against the spread of Covid-19.

CONSERVATION AND BIODIVERSITY

**Seizures:**

- 23
- 60 kg
- 326
- 141
- 1935 kg

**Patrol effort:**

- Distance covered [km]:
  - 11
  - 1225
  - 1625
  - 0
  - 2729

**Illegally killed elephants:**

- *red indicates carcasses found within the park boundaries

- Hunting camp monitoring:
  - 27 camps visited
  - 26 camps destroyed

- *in red, suspects transferred to local courts

Anti-poaching Development and Support: Distribution of face masks to rangers and guards. New operational measures for anti-poaching operations were introduced during the COVID-19 lockdown.

ARREST OF A SUSPECT AND SEIZURE OF 60 KG OF ELEPHANT MEAT, IVORY AND TWO AUTOMATIC WEAPONS TO THE SOUTH OF THE PARK.

WILDLIFE CRIME UNIT

- Reports of 24 wildlife trafficking / poaching network activities.

- Identification of 5 traffickers/poachers not yet listed in the database.

AVIATION PROGRAM

- Surveillance flights: 0
- Logistics flights: 0

The situation remains unchanged for the Aviation Program. The arrival of the new WCS-Congo pilot is delayed due to the Covid-19 pandemic and the closure of RoC’s borders.
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

A census showed that Bomassa has 873 residents and Makao 943, growth rates of 21% and 8%, respectively, compared to 2017.

The Bomassa Health Centre received 148 patients, the Makao Centre received 47.

Provision of handwashing stations.

- Makao Primary School has undergone major renovations, including the installation of new latrines, bringing the number of classrooms now available to four.

- Installation of two new handwashing stations in Bomassa, followed by awareness raising in the community to support Covid-19 control strategies.

RESEARCH AND MONITORING

Elephant Listening Project (ELP):

While the team are confined in Brazzaville, 50 acoustic units are still functional in the field.

Wildlife Health Program (WHP):

The two parrots seized by USLAB Tala- Tala are still receiving care at the WCS- Ouesso office pending their transfer to the Bomassa Rehabilitation Centre.

TOURISM

This month’s tourist visits were cancelled due to the risks posed by Covid-19.

Over the next four years the new program will aim to develop the Park’s first professionally managed tourism concession, construct two new ecododges to welcome visitors, create new tourism products and deliver hospitality training to people living around the Park.

ECOTOURISM DEVELOPMENT

NDOKI MEDIA:

How NNLP is facing the Covid-19 crisis