

NOUABALE-NDOKI NATIONAL PARK SEPTEMBER 2018



A young western lowland gorilla in the Djeke Triangle. ©Kyle de Nobrega

SUMMARY

- o A mixed delegation from ACFAP and the IUCN visited Bomassa for meetings concerning the development of sustainable financing mechanisms for protected areas in the Congo Basin.
- o Visit to Bomassa by a large delegation led by General OSSELE, Director of Operations for Congolese Armed Forces, accompanied by the Commander of the Military Zone No. 5, a representative of the National Police Force, a representative of the National Gendarmerie, etc. during a border control mission.
- o The park bid farewell to Nicholas Radford, Head of Admin & Finance Dept. for the past two-years, and welcomed his replacement Camille Raynaud.
- o Aristide Ngandziami, from the NNNP logistics department, completed a training on Logistics Management for Humanitarian Projects in Dakar, Senegal.

CONSERVATION AND BIODIVERSITY

PNNN arrests:



*five of whom were transferred to the courts.

Seizures:



Illegally killed elephants:

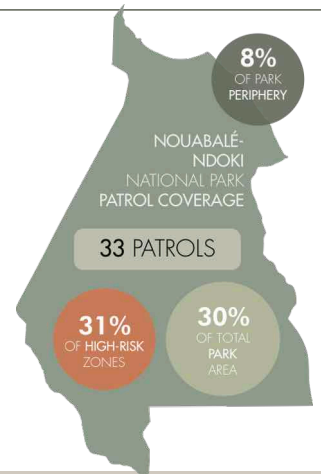
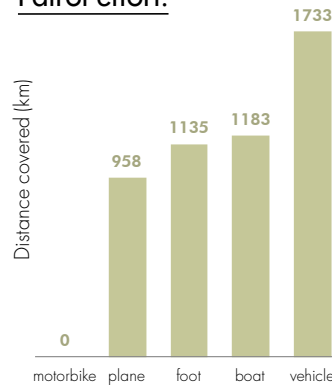


*red indicates carcasses found within the Park boundaries.

Hunting camp monitoring:

40 camp visited **37** camp destroyed

Patrol effort:



Operations & Information Fusion Centre: Consultation with the health care staff of the CIB / Pokola Hospital to improve communication and discuss the medical care voucher system for patients from the Nouabalé Ndoki Foundation. Twelve alerts were reported, of which five were resolved and seven unsolved.

12 ALERTS RECEIVED BY OPERATIONS CENTRE RESULTING IN 5 SUCCESSFUL RESPONSES BY THE ANTI-POACHING FORCE AND THE ARREST OF FOURTEEN PERPETRATORS

WILDLIFE CRIME UNIT

- Launch of weekly WCU Bulletin to improve communication with protected area managers and anti-poaching officers.
- Visit by Emmanuel Basseby from WCS Nigeria to share experience of setting up and managing the WCU

AVIATION PROGRAM



Surveillance flights: 5 (9 h 55 m)
Logistics flights: 9 (12 h 48 m)

- Important maintenance program carried out further raising the safety level of operations. The aviation program's two permanent observers completed a digital photography course and received training on the use of SMART.



PHOTO OF THE MONTH

©Nicholas Radford/WCS

One of the 36 African Grey Parrots that flew free from the Bomassa Wildlife Rehabilitation Centre this month. Read more in our [blog post](#) on the release.





First Aid Training completed by Vincent Theuns with research assistants at Mondika, Mbeli and Goulougo teams.



The WCS Congo Aviation Program Cessna 206 parked at the Kabo airstrip.



A focus group held with the indigenous people of Kabo as part of an ENSAF student's research project.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT



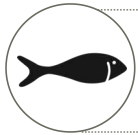
Community meeting to discuss bursaries for students in Makao

27 7
*including 0 indigenous people



The Bomassa health centre treated 49 patients this month

27 22
*including 11 indigenous people



2 meetings held in Makao to raise awareness about the fisheries Mini-charter

0 42
*including 2 indigenous people

- Rehabilitation of classrooms and the office of the Bomassa school to improve conditions for teachers and pupils; and donation of teaching and sports equipment to the Bomassa Primary School.

- Organization of a movement for mothers from 12 households from Bomassa to Kabo for vaccinations and infant health checks at the Kabo health centre.

- Five focus groups and 15 individual interviews completed as part of an ENSAF student's research on indigenous peoples' forest knowledge, traditional practices indigenous and involvement in conservation activities. Thirty-five indigenous people took part in the surveys, 12 in Makao (5 men, 7 women) and 23 in Kabo (13 men, 10 women).

RESEARCH AND MONITORING

Elephant Listening Project (ELP):

Preliminary analysis of the last quarter's data showed that gunshots from the ecoguard training were picked up on acoustic units over 5 km away. This suggests that the 5-km grid should provide more or less complete detection of gunshots.

Wildlife Health Program (WHP): Meeting held with the Bayanga health centre to launch vaccination program for tracker teams working with the habituated gorilla groups in the park. Thirty-six African Grey Parrots successfully released from the Bomassa Rehabilitation Centre.

NNNP RESEARCH SITES



Mondika: Buka and Yamili's 1-year-old infant, Nabone, disappeared overnight. A predator attack is suspected as the following morning the nest site of the group was located in the canopy of a *Gilbertiodendron* tree, and no corpse was found.



Mbeli Bai Study: Nauclea season started with over 60% of Nauclea trees around the Bai carrying fruits, providing plenty opportunities to observe intergroup social interactions that are usually rare (i.e. 7 male-male interactions this month).



Goulougo Triangle Ape Project (GTAP): GTAP Research Assistants Delon (and Espoir from Mondika) worked with Eeva Kuisma (WCS Wildlife Health Technical Advisor) on screening ape faecal samples for parasites.

TOURISM

A total of 22 visitors were received this month (14 Non-WCS Collaborator, 7 WCS, 1 Friends and Family). Number of bed nights: Bomassa: 68, Mondika: 14, Mbeli: 4.



LOGISTICS & INFRASTRUCTURE

Start of wood transportation from Bomassa to Ndoki camp for the rehabilitation of Mbeli Research Camp. Rehabilitation and installation of new furnishings in the ranger barracks in Bomassa village.

NDOKI MEDIA:

Celebrating World Gorilla Day with a post on the park's research projects

