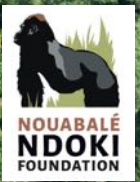


NOUABALE-NDOKI NATIONAL PARK, JANUARY 2019



A sandy bar at the heart of the park. ©JP Sagette/WCS

SUMMARY

- The 9th Nouabale-Ndoki Foundation board meeting was held in Pokola on the 30th of January. The President of the Board and all administrators congratulated the park on the achievements and improvements made over the past year and the 2019 Annual Park Work Plan and Park Budget were adopted with minor comments and modifications.
- Visit by the FTNS Technical Advisor together with an architect to visit the site identified for the construction of the Bomassa Primary school to discuss the project with the Park Management Unit.
- A draft park management plan was submitted to ACFAP. Strategic points were discussed at the 9th Meeting of the Board and will be integrated into the draft document.

CONSERVATION AND BIODIVERSITY

PNNN arrests:



*twelve of whom were transferred to the courts.

Seizures:



Illegally killed elephants:

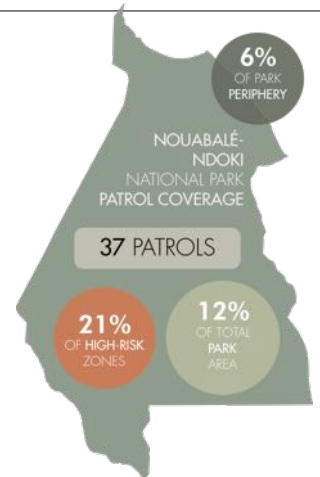
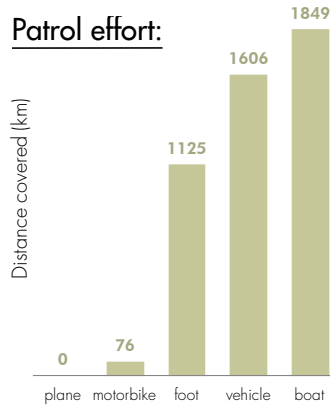


*red indicates carcasses found within the park boundaries.

Hunting camp monitoring:

32 camps visited **29** camps destroyed

Patrol effort:



Operations & Information Fusion Centre: The OIFC helped direct investigations that led to the detention of two AK-47s in the eastern sector along with the arrest of three poachers and one ivory buyer. This was one of 8 alerts received by the Park's Control Room during the month. Over 500 legal statements (paper archives) have been digitalised and archived, which will be of great use to the investigations and judicial teams.

TWELVE WILDLIFE CRIME SUSPECTS WERE TRANSFERRED TO THE COURTS THIS MONTH, INCLUDING AN ALLEGED IVORY-BUYER FROM THE EASTERN SECTOR

PHOTO OF THE MONTH



©Z Labuschagne/WCS

Customized school notebooks were distributed to schoolchildren in Bomassa and Makao. The books also contain messages on pollution and other local environmental issues.

WILDLIFE CRIME UNIT

Convictions:



A meeting was held with the Ouesso court to discuss the follow up on the payment of fines.

AVIATION PROGRAM



Surveillance flights: 0
 Logistics flights: 7 (10 h 45 m)

Repair work, as well as the annual check, were completed on the aircraft in the recently refurbished hangar in Kabo. Surveillance flights will resume in early February.



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©JP Sagette/WCS

The new aircraft hangar, completed in Kabo this month.



©Juan Ortega/WCS

A chimpanzee in the Moto community, studied by the Goulougo Triangle Ape Project team.



©WCS

A sensibilisation meeting on pollution held by the Bomassa Women's association (AFUBB).

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT



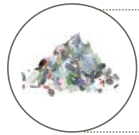
Several screenings of films to raise awareness about tourism development

>100



Awareness raising on pollution & distribution of school exercise books

43 38
*including 4 indigenous people



The monthly community litter sweep was held on the 1st Saturday of January

>50

- The park facilitated a visit by the Pokola Teachers Inspectors to assess the level of teaching and lesson content at the Bomassa Primary School.

- Support for transport of 19 pregnant women, and mothers and babies (15 Bantu and 04 indigenous women) for vaccinations and baby weighing, as well as prenatal consultations in Kabo.

- An amateur theatre company (05 women and 05 men, all Indigenous People) from Bomassa, now known as *Kobabo* performed songs and dance, as well as a play, at the Bomassa Primary School during an awareness raising event on managing pollution organised by AFUBB.

RESEARCH AND MONITORING

Elephant Listening Project (ELP): The team started a mission for the 5th deployment on the acoustics grid.

Phenology: A mission to Mbeli was completed to train the team on phenology trails that have been re-established at the site.

Wildlife Health Program (WHP): The WHP team carried out a mission into the eastern sector of the park, to collect samples, after a ranger unit patrolling the area found several animals that had died from natural causes. Preliminary analyses discard Ebola as the cause of death.

NNNP RESEARCH SITES



Mondika: It is with great sadness that we announce the passing of Louis Niebouka, gorilla tracker at Mondika since 2006, who passed away on the 24th of January.



Mbeli Bai Study: Two gorillas known to the study were seen in the *bai* with newborn infants (both estimated to be <1 week old). A fruiting *Ficus* tree near camp attracted many species, including chimpanzees and monkeys which were observed feeding side by side.



Goulougo Triangle Ape Project (GTAP): Fruiting period of *Zanha golungensis* attracted big groups of chimpanzees together in January, but in general the 'fission' pattern observed in December has continued this month.

TOURISM

A total of 23 visitors were received this month (4 Resident Tourists, 2 Donors, 8 Collaborators, 8 WCS, 1 Friends & Family.
Number of bed nights:
Bomassa: 74, Mondika: 4, Mbeli: 4.



LOGISTICS & INFRASTRUCTURE

Construction of the aircraft hangar in Kabo completed. Rehabilitation work carried out in Mbeli including reconstruction of the tracker house and repairs on several other buildings. Mission to repair the Goulougo solar system completed.

NDOKI MEDIA:

[Blog post](#) on WCS Congo's 2018 highlights.

