

NOUABALE-NDOKI NATIONAL PARK, DECEMBER 2020



The Park's staff, gathered for the holidays

SUMMARY

- The Park was honored to host a visit by the Minister of Forest Economy, Ms Rosalie Matondo, and her delegation, to the Park's HQ in Bomassa. During her visit, the Minister gained a better understanding of the challenges faced by biodiversity conservation and met with civil society in Bomassa.
- The Minister of Planning, Statistics and Regional Integration, and acting Minister of Transport, Civil and Marine Aviation, Ms Ebouka-Babackas, also stayed in Bomassa for a family visit, and took the time to discover and observe the animals of Wali Bai.
- We have learned with great sadness the passing of the President of the Elders of Linganga-Makao, Mr. Amadou Diop, on December 22nd 2020. Our thoughts are with his family.

CONSERVATION AND BIODIVERSITY

NNNP arrests:



* in red, suspects transferred to local courts

Seizures:



Illegally killed elephants:

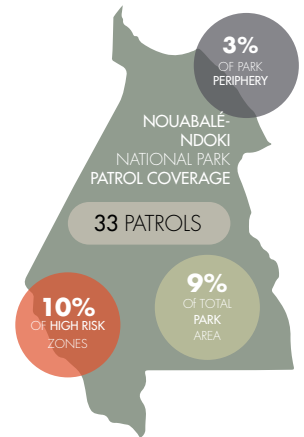
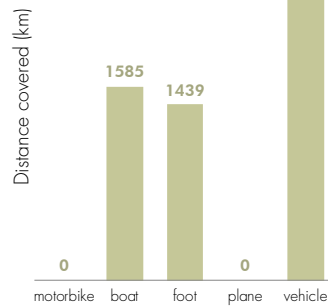


*red indicates carcasses found within the park boundaries

Hunting camp monitoring:

13 camps visited **11** camps destroyed

Patrol effort:



Operations & Information Fusion Centre: The control room was visited by Ms Rosalie Matondo and her delegation. Working sessions took place with the new airplane pilot.

TWO DRC CITIZENS HAVE BEEN ARRESTED AND TRANSFERRED TO A COURT IN OUESSO FOR CAPTURING GREY PARROTS.

INFRASTRUCTURE CONSTRUCTION

- Wali Bai's mirador has been renovated.
- Foundations were built to accommodate the upcoming delivery of 4 new fuel tanks.
- A handwashing station has been connected to the water system at the entry of Bomassa's base.

AVIATION PROGRAM



Surveillance flights: 0
Logistic flights: 0

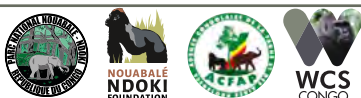
The new pilot arrived in Kabo. He embarked on an inventory of the equipment, a thorough check-up of the plane and started with administrative paperwork.

PHOTO OF THE MONTH



©R.Malonga/WCS

The Women's Association for Biodiversity in Bomassa welcomed the Minister of Forest Economy





©W.Safou Makaya/WCS

The new mirador in Wali Bai will allow visitors to observe wildlife more safely.



©S. Brogan/WCS

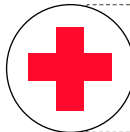
Gorilla Jeanne is feeding on termites and teaching her newborn, Kale.



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The inauguration of the new Linganga-Makao well, in the presence of the Sous-Préfet of Dongou.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT



Bomassa's health center took care of 170 people. Makao's health center took care of 91.

134 ♀ 127 ♂

* including 58 indigenous



Sixteen scholarships have been distributed in Makao and Bomassa for 11 students in middle school, 3 in high school and 2 at university.

7 ♀ 9 ♂



Ten seniors have received their pensions, 5 in Makao and 5 in Bomassa.

6 ♀ 4 ♂

* including 5 indigenous

- About 30 hand washing stations have been set up in Bomassa to promote good hygiene practice facing COVID-19 epidemics.

- The new well in Linganga-Makao has been inaugurated in the presence of the Sous-Préfet of Dongou, who called upon the people to take good care of it.

- Bomassa village is getting bigger! A new neighborhood is under construction. As of now, the land has been levelled and new roads have been created thanks to CIB. The Village Development Fund was used to reward the youth who prepared the land.

RESEARCH AND MONITORING

Elephant Listening Project (ELP):

ELP team members enjoyed their annual holidays during December.

Wildlife Health Program (WHP):

Five small monkeys (cercopithecus and colobus) are currently at Bomassa's rehabilitation center. Their health and release is a major challenge and will require an update in our veterinary protocols.

NNNP
RESEARCH
SITES



Mondika: Metetele and Kingo groups interacted this month. Both males performed strutting displays 5 meters from each other. Kingo charged Metetele more than once. The encounter ended with Metetele leaving.



Mbeli Bai Study: Eighteen gorilla groups and seven solitary silverbacks visited the Bai during 67 visits. Seventy-nine elephants were recorded during 208 visits. Eleven buffaloes and nine sitatungas visited 48 and 80 times, respectively.



Goulougo Triangle Ape Project: Juvenile male, Kao, detected a Horned viper (*Bitis nasicornis*) in the leaf litter. After several minutes of chest beating from a safe distance, Kao took a detour around the snake. He was soon followed by the group, unharmed.

TOURISM

A total of 13 visitors have been welcomed (2 staff and 11 collaborators). Number of nights: Bomassa: 28.



ECOTOURISM DEVELOPMENT

The Congo Conservation Company – the Park's tourism partners – have signed a six-year investment agreement with the RoC Government in which they reaffirm their long-term commitment to developing tourism in NNNP.

MEDIA

[Read on our blog the story of Nestor Massembo, tracker in Mbeli Bai who was part of the megatranssect, 20 years ago.](#)

