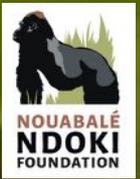


NOUABALE-NDOKI NATIONAL PARK, APRIL 2020



The baby gorilla Kalle in the Goualogo forest ©S.Brogan/WCS

SUMMARY

o 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.

o 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

NNNP arrests:



*in red, suspects transferred to local courts

Hunting camp monitoring:

27 camps visited **26** camps destroyed

Seizures:

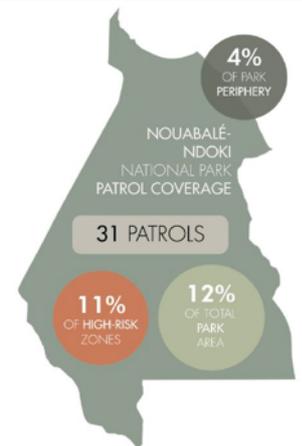
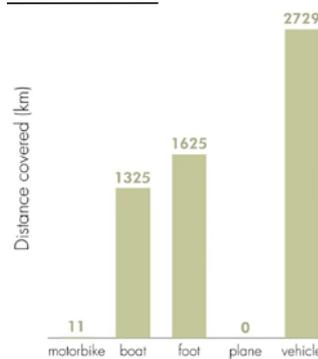


Illegally killed elephants:



*red indicates carcass found within the park boundaries

Patrol effort:



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.

PHOTO OF THE MONTH



The Health Committee of Bomassa is working on an inventory of the products in the community pharmacy. ©P.Bakabana/WCS



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As part of a joint project between the Park, CIB and the Bomassa Village Committee, six public latrines have been installed in Bomassa and Bon-Coin.



Donation of handwashing equipment to the Sub-Prefecture of Kabo District.



One of two new accommodation platforms ready to welcome Park visitors as soon as the containment measures are lifted.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT



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

916 900



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

97 98
*including 33 indigenous



Provision of handwashing stations.

13 Sangha
08 Likouala

- 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.

NNNP
RESEARCH
SITES



Mondika: The Mététele gorilla group has a new member. With this new birth, the group now has 18 individuals, including 7 infants.



Mbeli Bai Study : A young adult bull elephant has returned to the bai. He was first seen in 1998 with his mother. While his mother still visits the bai several times a year, this 21 year old bull elephant is only seen very sporadically.



Goulougo Triangle Ape Project (GTAP) : Loya, the silverback, spent a lot of time alone vocalising as his group followed another silverback, Makassa. Makassa continued to feed in the presence of human observers without apparent concern.

TOURISM

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



ECOTOURISM DEVELOPMENT

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

NDOKI MEDIA:

How NNNP is facing the Covid-19 crisis

