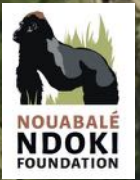


NOUABALE-NDOKI NATIONAL PARK, JUNE 2020



The adult female Kenga with her baby Yabole at Mondika. ©I.Singono/WCS

SUMMARY

o Despite the Covid-19 pandemic and the national restrictions in place to protect health, significant progress has been made on many ongoing Park projects, including at the craft market, the restaurant at the base of the Park base, and on staff housing in Bomassa and Makao.

o Work has been carried out jointly with the Makao community to formalize the boundaries of the Park's base in Makao. The process of officially documenting and agreeing the Park's use of the base is underway.

CONSERVATION AND BIODIVERSITY

NNNP arrests:

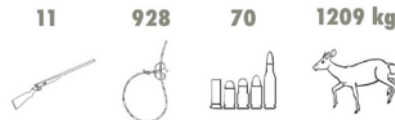


*in red, suspects transferred to local courts

Hunting camp monitoring:

38 camps visited **35** camps destroyed

Seizures:

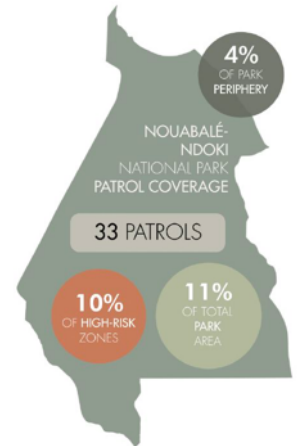
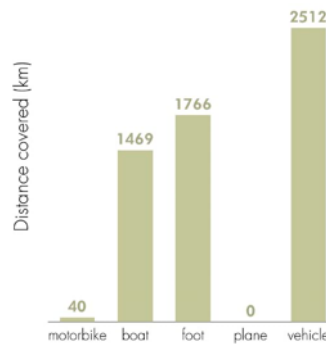


Illegally killed elephants:



*red indicates carcasses found within the park boundaries

Patrol effort:



Operations & Information Fusion Centre: A working session with the PROGEPP SMART Focal Point focused on technical capacity building in cartography, and more specifically the QGIS software. Refresher training of several eco-guard units in communication protocols.

FOR THE THIRD MONTH IN A ROW, OVER A TON OF BUSHMEAT WAS SEIZED. THESE SEIZURES ARE MOSTLY MADE IN THE NORTHERN PERIPHERY OF THE PARK.

INFRASTRUCTURE CONSTRUCTION

- Renovation work on the central communal area of the Park HQ has been completed.

- The CIB 'Maison Bois' team is continuing the construction of the new restaurant at the Park HQ.

- The construction of the handicraft market in the village of Bomassa is nearing completion.

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



©S.Brogan/WCS

Risa catching sweat bees as she waits for her mother, Theresa, to wake up from her afternoon siesta.



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©WCS

The oldest known female elephant in Mbeli Bai was observed with a still unknown calf, probably 2 months old.



©A.Loubounda/WCS

Raising awareness on social distancing measures among religious leaders in Bomassa.



©A.Loubounda/WCS

Training workshop for Bomassa and Makao restaurant owners at the Sapelli Hotel.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT



Payment of the 3rd schooling term of the 2019-20 school year for the 12 scholarship pupils supported by the Park.

6 Bomassa
6 Makao



The Bomassa Health Center has received 140 patients. The Makao centre registered 55 patients.

99 96
*including 23 indigenous



Reopening of the school in Bomassa exclusively for children in examination classes, especially Grade 2.

18 candidates

- Second training session for Bomassa and Makao restaurant owners at the CIB Sapelli Hotel in Pokola, organized to build their capacity to implement community-based tourism activities.

- Working session with religious leaders in Bomassa on the lifting of restrictions on gatherings at places of worship. Sanitation Kits (hand-washing equipment, hydro-alcoholic gels, boxes of gloves, etc.) were given to them and awareness was raised on social distancing measures.

- Preparation of the community campsite for the forthcoming construction of two platforms that will accommodate safari tents as part of a joint NNNP-CIB-Bomassa Community project.

RESEARCH AND MONITORING

Elephant Listening Project (ELP) :

An in-depth analysis of the spatial and temporal distribution of the shots recorded by the acoustic recorders is under way. Confined to Brazzaville, ELP researchers have conducted analyses on the distribution of elephant vocalisations recorded in the study site.

Wildlife Health Program (WHP):

A young duiker with a black dorsal stripe was recovered by PROGEPP and welcomed at the Rehabilitation Centre. The monitoring of the parrots at the Bomassa Rehabilitation Centre is done regularly by the WCS veterinarian.

NNNP
RESEARCH
SITES



Mondika: Metetele's group was observed a few meters from Mondika camp. This is the first time the group has been seen so close to camp since the habituation started. They spent about 3 hours around the camp fence.



Mbeli Bai Study : The oldest female elephant known to the Mbeli Bai Study (MBS) is approximately 50 years of age and was observed with a 2-month old baby, her sixth offspring since 2005.



Goulougo Triangle Ape Project (GTAP) : The habituation of Makassa, the second male in Loya's group, has progressed. A subadult male from the Moto community, Oz, was found dead. The cause of death is unclear, samples were taken for analysis.

TOURISM

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



ECOTOURISM DEVELOPMENT

A short television program – including interviews with Congolese Government Ministers, the US Ambassador, and WCS technicians – is being developed with the US Embassy to promote the launch of ecotourism to Nouabalé-Ndoki.

NDOKI MEDIA:

[Watch beautiful images of Mondika and Mbeli on the natural history series of Our Planet, now available on YouTube](#)

