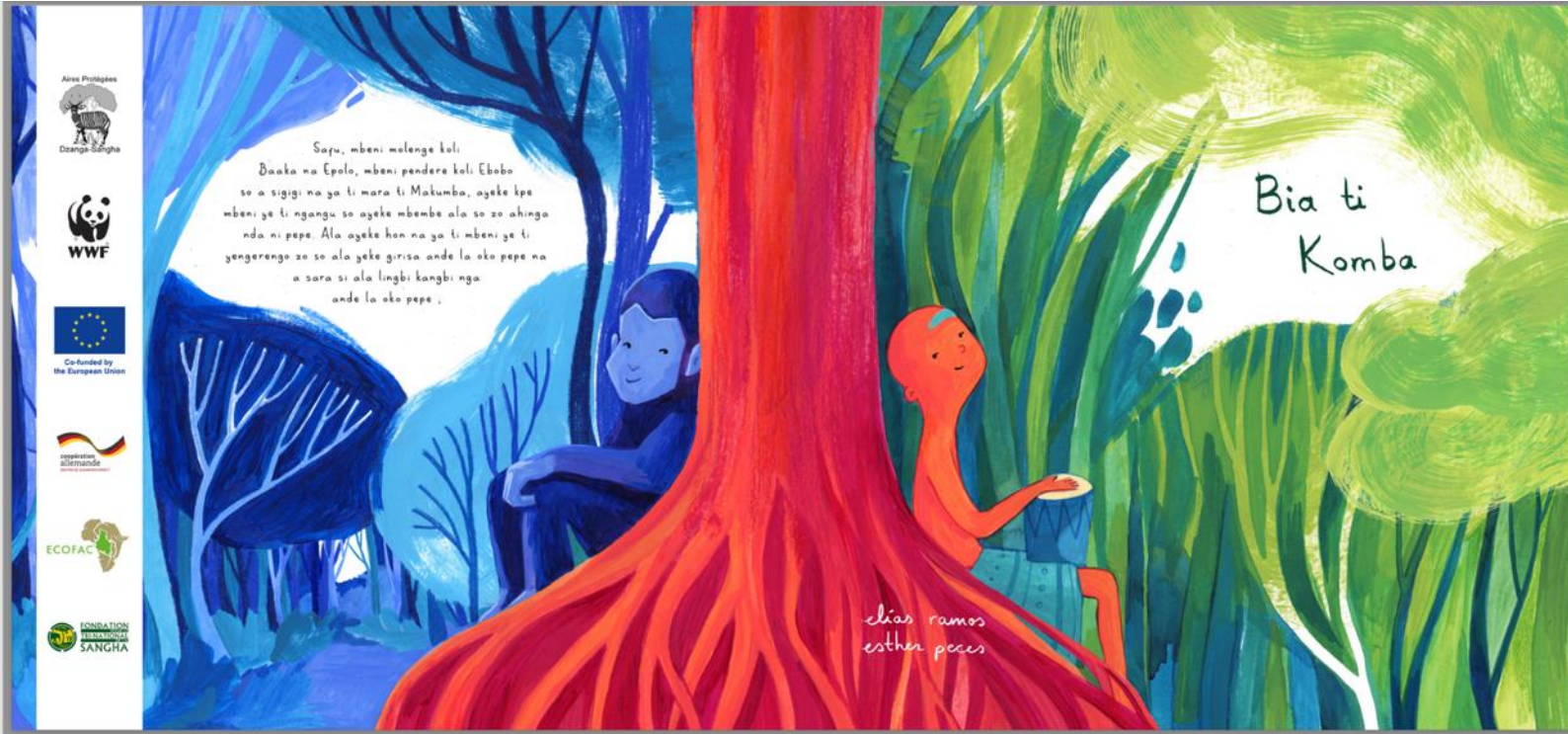




Dzanga Sangha Protected Areas

www.dzanga-sangha.org



A new book for the children

Newsletter September 2023

DSPA receives funds from



Wildlife

A new female elephant has joined the “triplets” of the clearing. In 2021, Anemone II was observed with a pair of twins. A few months later, she began to visit the bai, not with two, but with three little females of more or less the same age. Dzanga Bai researchers assume that the third female was adopted by Anemone II at some point in 2022. The addition of the newest offspring, makes this group one of the most attractive sightings in the clearing, and often several members of Anemone II's family gather at the same time for a large family reunion. For Anemone II, the newborn is offspring number 10, making her a successful mother, who takes great care of her offspring.



Entering Dzanga Bai, in line as usual, Anemone II with her large and growing family of females. © ELP for the Yang Center/WWF



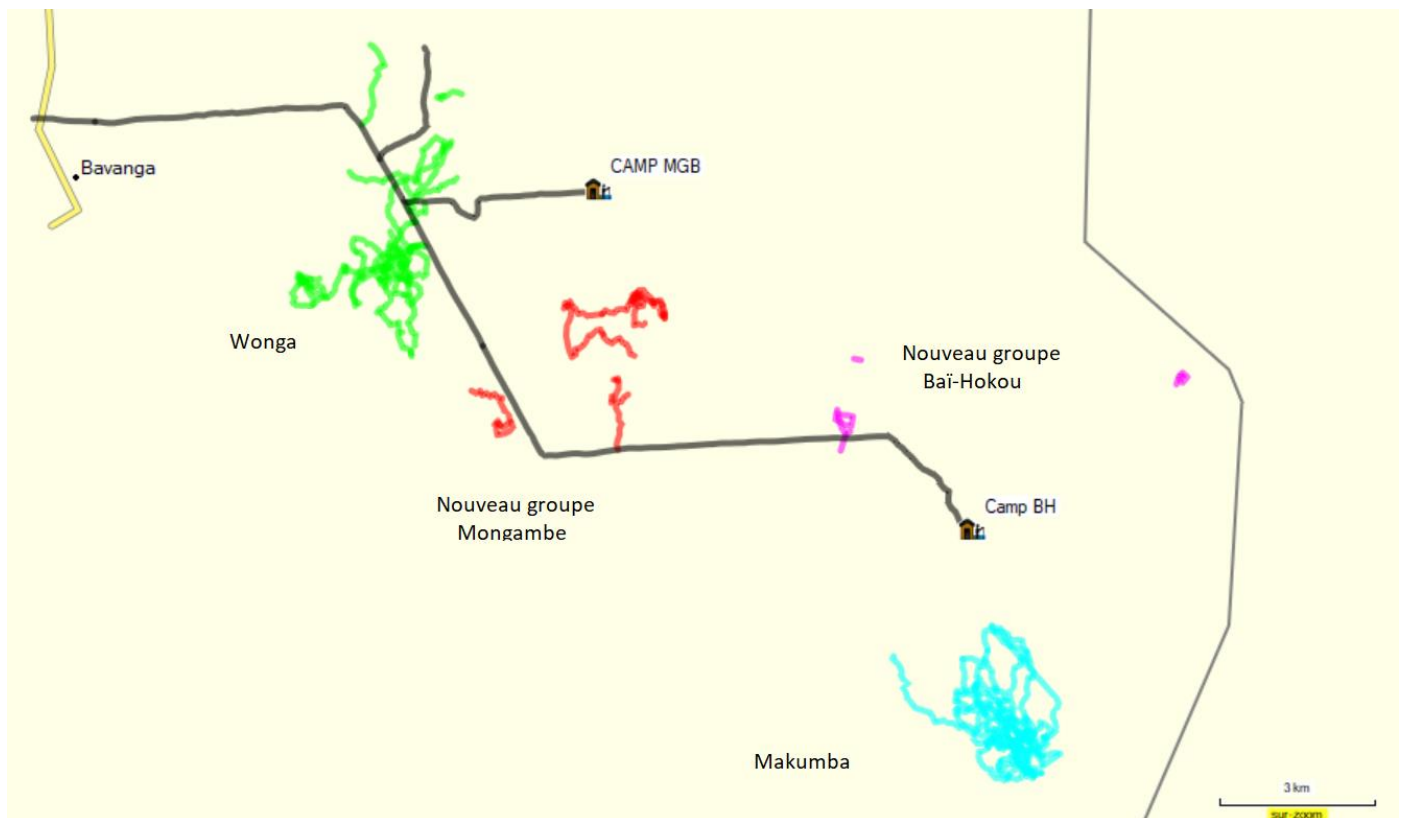
Visiting Dzanga Bai for the first time. © ELP for the Yang Center / WWF



After several long contacts with the new group under habituation close to the Mongambe camp, we can finally conclude that the silver back is not Mopangu (Mayele's son), as we first thought. His identity remains unknown, but his particular behavior indicates that he is familiar with human presence, and we think that it could be an older son of Mayele.




We discovered that other members of the Mayele family are close to this male, maybe being part of the same group. We have already identified male Lungu, and we are quite sure to have observed female Duma with her offspring Kenga as well. Our habituation team maintains the effort to better understand the group composition and evaluates the possibility of future movements within this gorilla family.

The only sure fact nowadays, is that Lungu has become an elegant adult male.



Movement of the different groups of gorillas

Dzanga bai data: based on the number counted every 30 minutes between 11:00 to 16:30 each day of the month (in collaboration with the Elephant Listening Project).

<i>Species</i>	<i>Minimum</i>	<i>Average</i>	<i>Maximum</i>
	5	91	174
	0	2	33
	0	6	9

Discover the Biodiversity of the DSPA



© Miguel Bellostá

Scientific name *Megaponera analis*

English name: Matabele ant

Taxonomy:
Class : insecta
Order : Hymenoptera
Family : Formicidae
Genus : *Megaponera*
Specie : *M. analis*



Matabele ants or *Pachycondyla analis*, native to sub-Saharan Africa, besiege termite colonies and devour hundreds of termites, enduring the potentially fatal bites of soldiers that are much larger than them.

But what makes matabele ants special, according to what myrmecologist Erik T. Frank discovered in 2017, is that they carry ants that have been injured during an attack back to the nest. And once there, the ants take turns caring for the wounded comrades.

This is the first case in which a non-human animal has been observed systematically caring for its wounded group members, and it has been described in a study published in Proceedings of the Royal Society B.



Antipoaching

Christian Nadet, who has spent 20 years in DSPA, 10 of them as Warden, and is undoubtedly one of the people responsible for DSPA continuing to be the "Place" to see forest elephants, has decided to undertake, as he says, a new adventure, and has left Bayanga.



Last day in DSPA after 20 years © Yoann Galeran

We have received a new car for the law enforcement activities.



© Nuria Ortega

45 regular patrols were conducted. In total 1.823 ranger/days, 2.144km were traveled on foot to cover an area of 2.560 km². This resulted in the seizure of 11 manufactured 12-gauge firearms, and 18 ammunitions. Also 25 kg of meat were seized, and 1.788 metal snares were dismantled.

4 elephant tusks have been recovered.

3 elephant carcasses were found in the park. At least one of them was killed by poachers.

1 person has been arrested and awaits trial.

Conservation Community

We have published a new children's book, that tells a story taking place in DS about the friendship between a Ba'aka boy and a gorilla. The book has been published in English, French, and Sango and has been distributed in the local schools. ©Nuria Ortega



Kanda Safu atene fade na Martina na Bongo ti baa gi ndo na le oko na mbage ti azo ti sarango sana na anyama si ala kangbi nga ya ti tere ti ala ayo si ale ti ngombe so ayeke pika ahon gi na popo ti ala.

Epolo ayeke de ti lo kongo na lo sara si go ti lo ayeke toto ngangu na ya ti adu ti mbeni kota keke, Safu ayeke haka ti lo go ti toro ni, si akukuru ahonde tere ti ala, si ayeke hengia na kota go na ya ti agbako so angoro bara ni.





Main DSPA Health Data Number of patients

Structure	Number of patients
Monasao Health Post	355
Belemboke Health Post	477
Total	832

Park Administration

The medical supplies that the CURE project has donated have finally arrived in Bayanga. It has been almost three years since we started the contact with CURE, but without a doubt it has been worth it. This material, that includes an X-ray machine, unique to the entire region, will also significantly improve the health centers of Monassao and Belemboke.



Arrival of the medical equipment to Bayanga © Nuria Ortega



We'll need some time to organize everything © Nuria Ortega



Tourism and Marketing

Dzanga-Sangha appears in a new National Geographic documentary « Animals Up Close with Bertie Gregory» (formerly Epic Adventures), airing worldwide on Disney+ from Wednesday September 13th on:

Here are the links to the social media coverage:

[//www.facebook.com/NatGeoTV/](https://www.facebook.com/NatGeoTV/)

#AnimalsUpClose | #DisneyPlus | #NatGeo

Instagram: [@DisneyPlus](https://www.instagram.com/DisneyPlus) | [@NatGeoTV](https://www.instagram.com/NatGeoTV) | [@BertieGregory](https://www.instagram.com/BertieGregory)

TikTok: [@DisneyPlus](https://www.tiktok.com/@DisneyPlus) | [NatGeo](https://www.tiktok.com/@NatGeo) | [@BertieGregory](https://www.tiktok.com/@BertieGregory)

Twitter: [@DisneyPlus](https://twitter.com/DisneyPlus) | [NatGeoTV](https://twitter.com/NatGeoTV) | [@BertieGregory](https://twitter.com/BertieGregory)

Facebook: [@DisneyPlus](https://www.facebook.com/DisneyPlus) | [NatGeoTV](https://www.facebook.com/NatGeoTV) | [@BertieGregory](https://www.facebook.com/BertieGregory)

Link to Trailer: https://youtu.be/B_YfTFo4KI





Arrivals and departures



© Marc Pollen

Albert Christian Nadet has left DSPA after more than 20 years working here. All the best in his new life

- *This publication was produced with the financial support of the European Union. Its contents are the sole responsibility of WWF CAR and do not necessarily reflect the views of the European Union.*