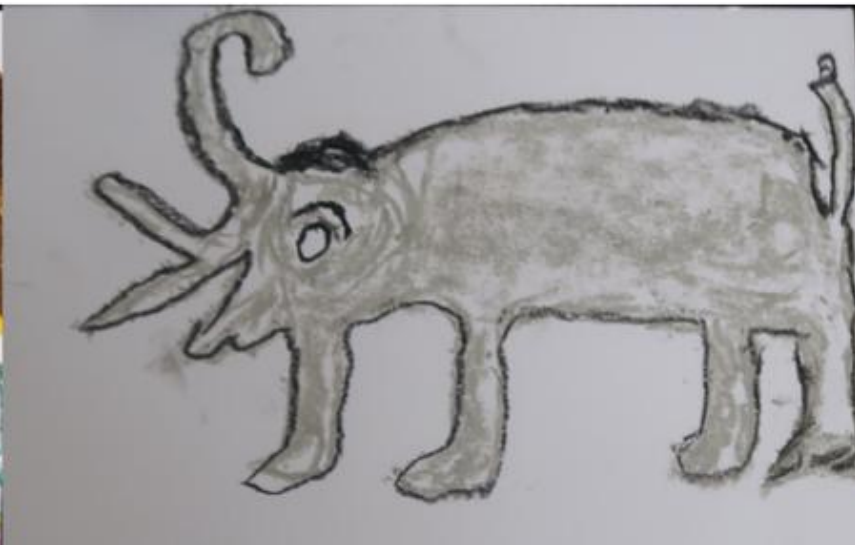
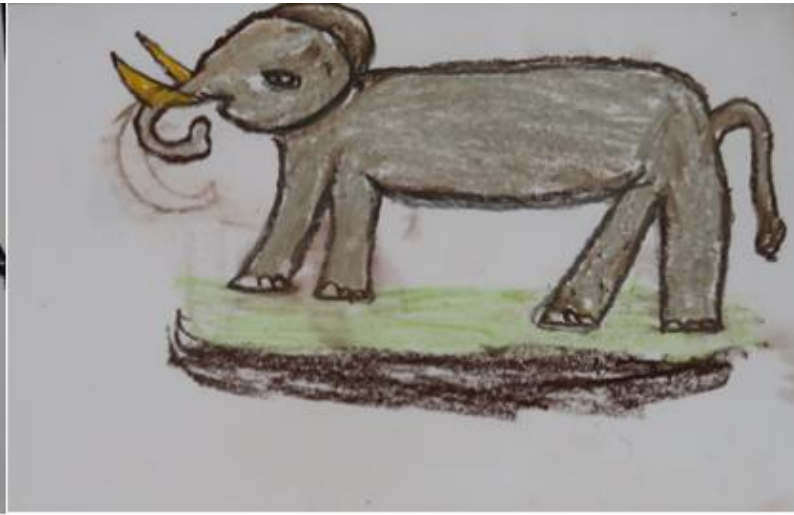




Dzanga Sangha Protected Areas

www.dzanga-sangha.org



Elephants drawn by the school children of the DSPA

Newsletter October 2024



DSPA receives funds from



Co-funded by
the European Union



FONDATION
POUR LE
TRI-NATIONAL
DZANGA
SANGHA



K Lisa Yang



DSPA collaborates with





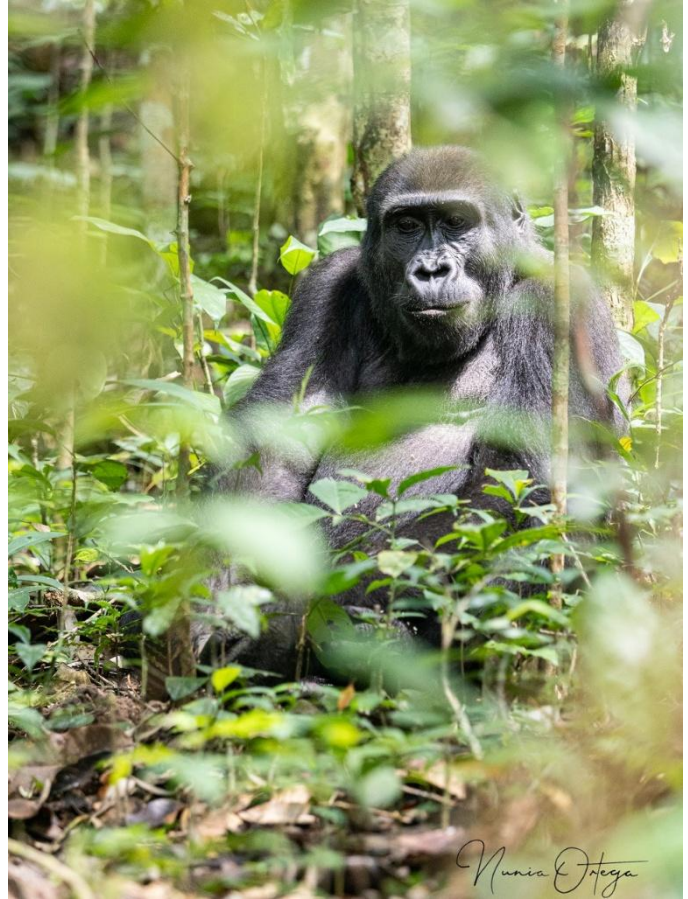
Wildlife



We confirm the presence of 11 regularly observed individuals in the Limo gorilla group: the silverback Limo, the females Indolia, Wusa, Mpokapoka and Payo from the Mata group, the female Mopatapata from the Makumba group (which she left in 2006) and another female currently being identified. All individuals are on different levels of habituation. Indolia, Wusa, Mpokapoka and the unnamed female all have babies. The group is contacted on a regular basis, and continuing like this means that next year we might be able to open the group to tourism.



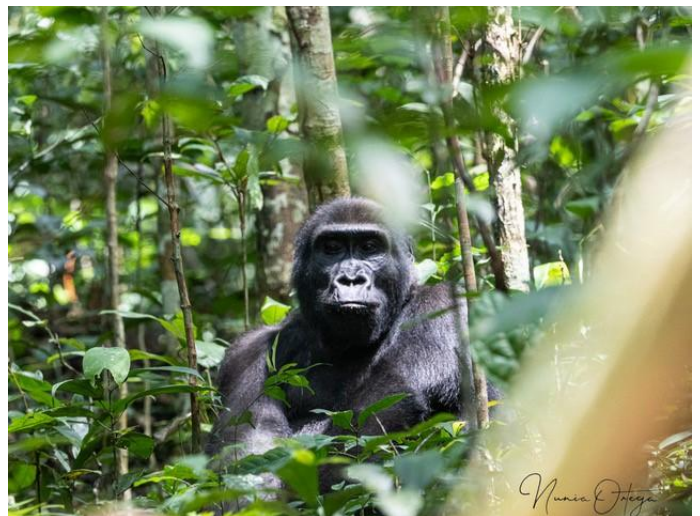
Indolia © Nuria Ortega



Wusa © Nuria Ortega



Mpokapoka © Nuria Ortega



Payo © Nuria Ortega



STE V is an adult female born around 1976, reidentified in 2022 and who visits the clearing often. Until recently she had always been seen with an intact tail, but in October, after spending several months in the forest, she arrived to the clearing missing a piece of her tail. In forest elephants, a cut tail can be a consequence of an injury caused by vegetation, an attack or an infection.



STE V with her intact tail at Dzanga Bai in July 2024© ELP for the Yang Center /WWF.



STE V with a cut tail in October 2024© ELP for the Yang Center/WWF.



This month we had two newborns at Dzanga Bai. The adult female named Creusa (49 years of age) had been seen showing signs of pregnancy in July 2024. Three months later (October 23rd, 2024) she returned to the clearing with her newborn, a little male.



Creusa's newborn at Dzanga Bai ©ELP for the Yang Center/WWF.

On October 3rd an adult female from the buffalo group that often frequents the bai came with a newborn.



Newborn buffalo at the bai © ELP for the Yang Center/WWF.



A recent scientific publication, titled “Vocal Consensus Building for Collective Departures in Wild Western Gorillas”, received wide media coverage. This study is the result of 11 months of work with the three former gorilla groups of the APDS, carried out in 2021 by Larissa Nellissen. This publication highlights the research actions carried out in the APDS in collaboration with our partner, the Natural History Museum of Paris.

<https://royalsocietypublishing.org/doi/10.1098/rspb.2024.0597>

Europe 1 EN DIRECT PROGRAMMES PRÉSIDENTIELLE AMÉRICAINE

Animaux : les gorilles de l'Ouest «votent» entre eux avant de se décider à partir



La démocratie a vu le jour pendant l'Antiquité, en Grèce. Et dans le monde animal aussi, la démocratie aurait toujours existé dans les forêts tropicales en Afrique centrale. Le gorille n'est pas un mâle dominant qui décide tout, tout seul. Les gorilles ont mis en place un système de vote, selon une étude.

Louise Salié / Crédit photo : GUILAUME SOUVANT / AFP - 09/25, le 25 octobre 2024

Éthologie. Les gorilles de l'Ouest votent pour prendre des décisions collectives

Une étude bouleverse l'idée que, chez les grands singes, c'est le mâle dominant qui décide pour tout le groupe. Chez les gorilles de l'Ouest, en République centrafricaine, chaque individu a voix au chapitre, notamment quand il s'agit de lever le camp.

SOURCE : Courrier international Lecture 1 min. Publié le 25 octobre 2024 à 13h32



Les plus lus

- Enquête. La génération Z n'a plus les moyens de vivre aux États-Unis
- Présidentielle américaine 2024. Donald Trump revendique une victoire "jamais vue" dans le pays
- Présidentielle. Les électeurs de Trump vont regretter de ne pas avoir pris ses menaces au sérieux
- Politique. Présidentielle américaine : quand aura-t-on les résultats des États clés ?

THE ROYAL SOCIETY Fellows Events Journals Current topics Grants Medals and prizes About us News and resources

Should I stay or should I go? Vocal consensus determines departures in western gorillas

3 minute read 23 October 2024

Lara Nellissen, from the Muséum National d'Histoire Naturelle in Paris and the University of Neuchâtel, tells us about her research published in a new *Proceedings B* paper, a study that investigated decision making by vocal interactions in the highly intelligent western gorillas of the Central African Republic.

Authors: Ms Lara Nellissen, Doctoral student at the Muséum...

Tags: Proceedings B, Gorilla, Animal Behaviour, Communication, Vocalisation

Share: X, Facebook, LinkedIn

Le Point

Politique International Débats Économie Culture Style Services Événements

Ces gorilles qui « votent » pour décider de leurs déplacements entre eux

Il a beau être incontestablement plus grand et plus fort, le gorille de l'Ouest dominant partage son pouvoir de décision avec l'ensemble de son clan, y compris les femelles.

Par Chloé Durand-Parenti
Publié le 24/10/2024 à 07h40



Chez les gorilles des plaines de l'Ouest vivant dans les denses forêts tropicales de la République centrafricaine, on a longtemps cru que le mâle dominant dirigeait seul son groupe.



This study has had wide media coverage in print media, radio and television. These are some of the links.

<https://www.letemps.ch/sciences/chez-les-gorilles-de-l-ouest-aussi-on-vote-democratiquement?srsId=AfmBOophFLgobpwQfSZ3shck29XRGDbcl8Nx7T3P5gZ2eO6nvqAAYRcH>

<https://www.lefigaro.fr/sciences/les-gorilles-votent-de-maniere-democratique-avec-des-grognements-20241030>

<https://www.geo.fr/animaux/les-troupes-de-gorilles-de-l-ouest-se-deplacent-en-votant-222784>

https://www.lepoint.fr/eureka/comment-certains-gorilles-votent-entre-eux-avant-de-se-deplacer-en-groupe-24-10-2024-2573533_4706.php#11

<https://royalsociety.org/blog/2024/10/should-i-stay-or-should-i-go-vocal-consensus-determines-departures-in-western-gorillas/>

https://www.liberation.fr/international/afrique/les-grands-singes-de-centrafrique-votent-avant-de-se-deplacer-revele-une-etude-20241023_QAI7BITORJAWJJC3JI5NSPKSNY/

<https://www.sudouest.fr/sciences-et-technologie/les-gorilles-de-l-ouest-n-obeissent-pas-a-un-unique-male-mais-votent-sur-des-projets-communs-21878102.php>




https://www.courrierinternational.com/article/ethologie-les-gorilles-de-l-ouest-votent-pour-prendre-des-decisions-collectives_223826

<https://www.france24.com/fr/info-en-continu/20241023-les-gorilles-de-l-ouest-se-d%C3%A9placent-apr%C3%A8s-une-sort-de-vote>

<https://www.lematin.ch/story/zoologie-les-gorilles-de-l-ouest-votent-avant-de-se-deplacer-103206881>

<https://www.rtb.be/article/afrique-les-gorilles-de-l-ouest-se-deplacent-apres-une-sort-de-vote-11453575>

Dzanga Bai data collected in collaboration with the Elephant Listening Project: presence of mammals at the clearing based on the number of individuals counted every 30 minutes from 11:00 to 16:30 each day of the month.

Species	Minimum	Average	Maximum
	45	87	155
	0	5	9
	0	1	31



Antipoaching

In the past months, we observed an increase in the number of elephants killed by poaching. Following an investigation in the area, we discovered a network that was supplying war weapons to the population to kill elephants. The members of this network have been arrested and brought to justice. This month, we have not found any elephant carcasses.

As part of the capacity building of our field teams, a leadership training dedicated to Team Leaders and Assistants began in October. This program aims to develop the leadership, team management and decision-making skills of 14 Rangers. This training is provided by our long-term partner Chengeta Wildlife.



Training new team leaders © Stef de Bethune

32 regular patrols were conducted involving 80 rangers. In total 1.277 rangers/days. 1.750 km were traveled on foot.

This resulted in the seizure of 12 manufactured 12-gauge firearms, and 8 homemade firearms.

56 kg of illegal wild meat were seized, and 3.186 metal snares were dismantled.

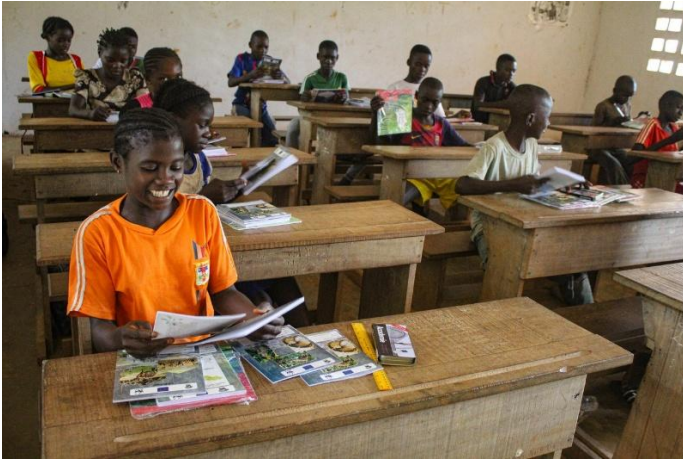
No elephant carcasses were found.

10 suspects of poaching activity were arrested.

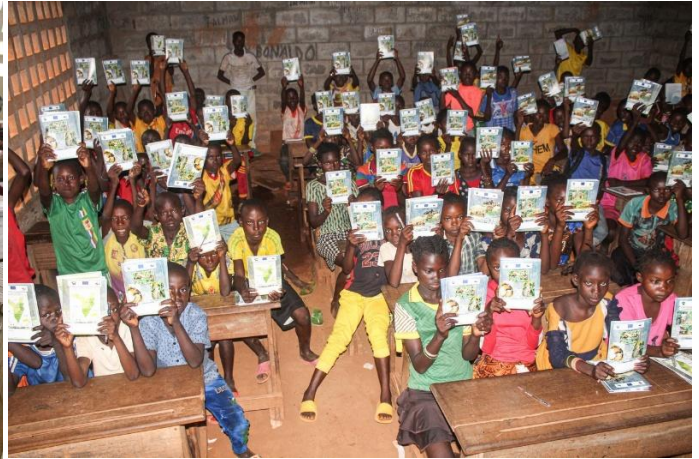


Community Conservation

For this school year (2024-2025), the APDS produced personalized notebooks that are currently being distributed to all students in the 32 schools bordering the APDS, including a middle school and a high school. A major donation of school supplies including the 31,000 personalized APDS notebooks, backpacks, books, slates, pens, academic boxes and other school utensils are currently being distributed to all students of the APDS.



© Amandine Toumbou



School material for the Students in DSPA © Amandine Toumbou



31.000 notebooks are a lot of notebooks © Amandine Toumbou



The Belemboke hospital is fully finished and is ready to receive patients.



Renewed offices © Ariane Bouhenou



Operation room © Ariane Bouhenou



Hospitalization room © Ariane Bouhenou



In collaboration with the Union of Ba'aka Communities (UCB) we organized a campaign for the extraction of jiggers from Ba'aka children. A total of 214 children were treated.

Discussions took place with the administration, the MEFP, Radio Njokou, and Ndimakali to set up an effective strategy to raise awareness for the eradication of this scourge in the Ba'aka environment.



Jiggers is a problem for the BaAka children © Amandine Toumbou



We treated 214 cases © Amandine Toumbou

Main DSPA Health Data Number of patients

Structure	Number of patients
Monasao Health Post	717
Belemboke Health Post	769
Total	1.486



Park Administration

This month, the main change was in the park management. Since October, the new director is Yoann Galeran, who worked at DSPA as a Law Enforcement Advisor for the past 6 years. After 8 years, the former director has stepped down, although he will remain involved for a while in the area to ensure that the transition is as smooth as possible.



Yoann Galeran, new DSPA Director © Nuria Ortega

We have started the construction of two houses that will be made available to the newly recruited staff.



New houses for the new staff © Nuria Ortega

Tourism and Marketing

On October 8th the Day of Tourism was celebrated in Bangui. The stand of APDS was not the only representative but probably the one that attracted the most people.



DSPA stand in Bangui © Lambert Padou



BaAka dancers © Lambert Padou



BaAka handcraft © Lambert Padou



Her Excellency, Ngela Françoise Ramadan Mahata, Tourism Minister © Lambert Padou



A filming team sent by the UNDP was in the APDS to make a documentary about the park and the activities that the program of the United Nations is funding here.



The filming crew sent by the UNDP © Nuria Ortega

Tourists continue to come to APDS even during the rainy season



Traffic jam at the Bayanga harbor © Nuria Ortega

Arrivals and departures



© Nuria Ortega

Arsène Richard Namsene, new barman at Doli Lodge



© Nuria Ortega

Alain Richard Nganafio, new cook at Doli Lodge.

”

- *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.*