



Dzanga Sangha Protected Areas

www.dzanga-sangha.org



Back at the office after Christmas holidays © Nuria Ortega

Newsletter December 2024



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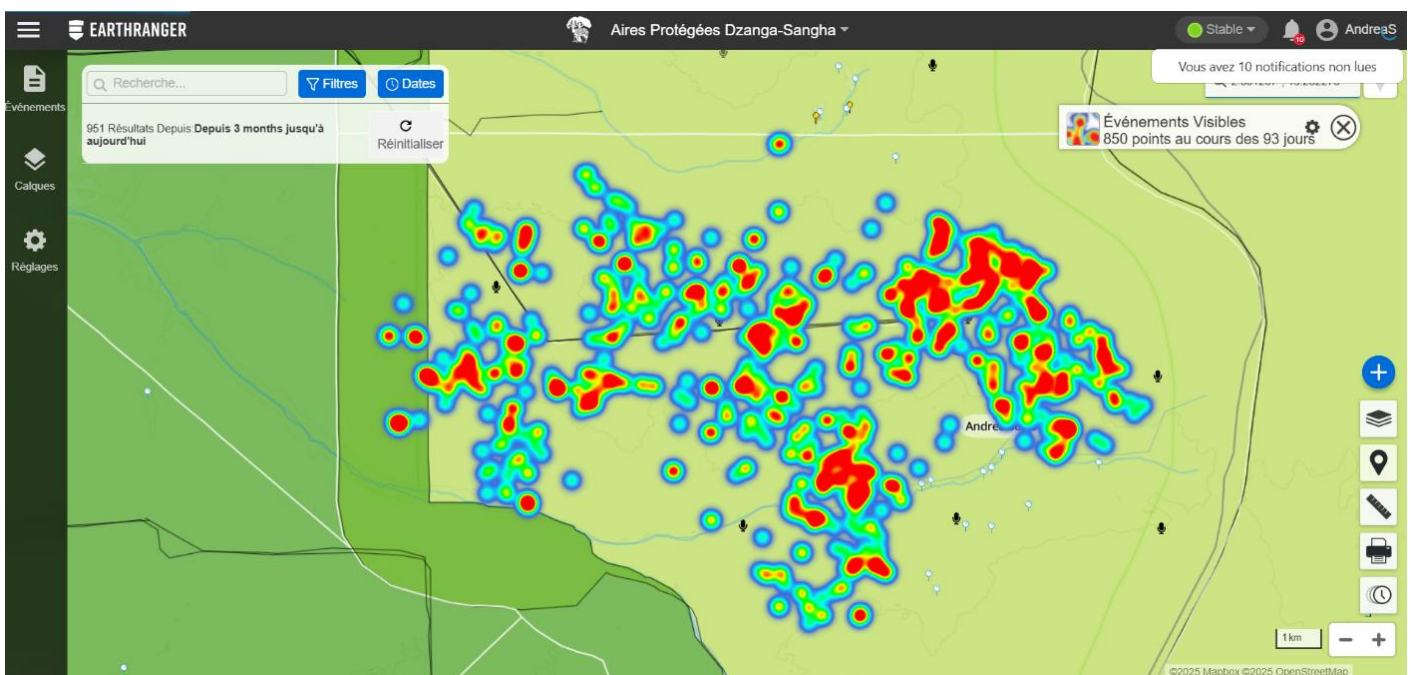
DSPA collaborates with





Since June 2024, the search for new gorilla groups in the Bai-Hokou sector has been reinforced with several groups monitored, including two groups that seem to be very promising for habituation. This prospecting phase is essential because it allows us to evaluate the potential of a group by studying its composition (the number of individuals is estimated by counting the nests), its territory (using GPS tracks during monitoring) and by discovering the character of the silverback who leads the group. During the month of December, we focused our efforts on two groups that have been monitored regularly, increasing the number of days when tracks were not lost and with some very interesting contacts. It seems more certain that our prospecting efforts are bringing results and that we will be able to choose these two groups as our future groups of habituated gorillas.

The first seems to be composed of 8 individuals and we think that some of them come from the Mayele group (deceased in 2022). The presence of already habituated individuals in the group could allow again an accelerated habituation process, as was the case with the Limo group. The second group is composed of at least 12 individuals, with some nest counts that suggest a minimum of 14 individuals. The number of gorillas make this a very interesting group to follow.



Gorilla movements in the last months



This month we have been able to observe three newborns visiting the clearing. Perdita III, with an estimated age of 38 years, Jane II, with an estimated aged of 41 years and Harpy associated (yes, that's her name), with an estimated age of 49 years, have come to the bai to present their new offspring to society.



Perdita III with her newborn © ELP pour le Yang Center/WWF.






Jane II with her newborn © ELP pour le Yang Center/WWF



Harpy assoc with her newborn © ELP pour le Yang Center/WWF

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.

<i>Species</i>	<i>Minimum</i>	<i>Average</i>	<i>Maximum</i>
	69	112	197
	0	1	14
	0	5	10



Antipoaching

We celebrated a meeting with the civil and military authorities of the area, as well as with representatives of the civil society, to announce the plans of recruitment of new guards for the DS. The process has been explained in detail to reinforce transparency and make it possible for everyone interested to participate in the selection test.



Participants at the meeting © Gervais Faustin Sana

37 regular patrols were conducted involving 75 rangers. In total 1.556 rangers/days. 2.047 km were traveled on foot.

This resulted in the seizure of 10 manufactured 12-gauge firearms, and 17 homemade firearms.

1.974 metal snares were dismantled.

2 elephants were killed

5 suspects were judged for hunting in the National Park, killing protected species (pottos and pangolins) and illegal and illegal use of homemade firearms and were convicted in imprisonment ranging from one to three years.

Community Conservation

We had a tripartite meeting (beneficiary students, host families and DSPA) to evaluate the project to subsidize the studies of 28 Baaka children in the village of Salo. Although there are certain difficulties, in general the conclusions of the meeting were positive and the project will continue.

After the meeting we carried out an awareness campaign to attract more children to participate in this project.



The director of Belemboke school talking with the Baaka Children © Rogatien Massamba

We have begun the construction of new community granaries in the Baaka villages.



Barn under construction in Kundapapaye © Frederic Ndoubabe



As every year, the DSPA participated in the celebration of the Independence Day festival in Bayanga.



Some of the DSPA participants to the Independence Day parade. © Christian Bassoum

The DSPA, in close collaboration with the Bayanga Secondary Hospital (HSB), organized a vast awareness campaign on STDs/AIDS. The team consisted of two doctors (Dr. Julien from HSB and Dr. Colombe from DSPA), one nurse, one laboratory technician, one midwife, two nursing assistants in collaboration with traditional and administrative authorities, the staff of both health facilities and the mobilizers (action leaders).



Sensibilization team working at the Bayanga high school © Dr Julien Semdouto



Furthermore, the DSPA doctor has resumed her work, also in collaboration with the authorities of the public hospital of Bayanga, and this month they have carried out 403 consultations, 158 HIV tests, 13 surgical interventions, 17 ultrasounds and one blood transfusion.



Saving lives © Amandine Tombou

Main DSPA Health Data Number of patients	
Structure	Number of patients
Monasao Health Post	301
Belemboke Health Post	526
Unité Mobile	403
Total	1.230



Park Administration

Georg and Lynn Fronja, who had already visited DS and donated funds, visited us again and after seeing our work, decided to get more involved in the conservation of the area. This has forced us to change again the logo page of the newsletter, but we are really happy to do it.

In addition to this, we continue to receive some funds from people who visit DS and want to help, each according to their possibilities.

After more than three years of delay, first caused by the worldwide outbreak of Covid and afterwards due to the lack of equipment consequence of the pandemic, we finally started the construction of the solar energy plant that will provide electricity to the village of Bayanga. We hope that before the end of the year the power plant will be finished and the village fully electrified.



The works of the new solar central has finally started © Nuria Ortega



Tourism and Marketing

Due to the loss of the three habituated gorilla groups in 2023 and 2024, we thought that the number of tourists would decline this year. But on the contrary, visitors have continued coming reaching a number of 704 in 2024.

We also continue to receive new tour operators who are including DS in their offers. We are sure that the number of tourists will continue to increase in the coming years.



Tourists at day © Luis Arranz



and night © Nuria Ortega



During 2024 we got 3,005 new followers in the social media, which proves an increase in interest of tourists. At the beginning of 2025 we are at 4,480 followers. 104 stories were published, and 14 publications and 118 contents shared for tourists.

dzanga.sangha

97 publicaciones 4480 seguidores 276 seguidos

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 Parque nacional
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www.dzanga-sangha.org y 1 más

Panel para profesionales
 21,1 mil visualizaciones en los últimos 30 días.

Editar Compartir Correo electró...

A grid of 30 images showcasing the park's biodiversity and management. The images include:

- Close-up portraits of gorillas.
- Elephants in their natural habitat.
- Rangers in uniform, including one holding a 'BEST FIELD RANGER' award certificate for Modiki Claver.
- Visitors and rangers interacting in the field.
- Scenic views of the park's lush greenery and water bodies.
- People in traditional attire.
- Signage for the park.



Arrivals and departures

- *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.*