In memory of Bokitsi Bunda
Salonga National Park Guard 1st Class
1958-2015

Recipient of the Abraham Foundation Award, 2011
Salonga National Park, 33,317 Km²
Created 1970 to protect the bonobo and forest elephant
Salonga is the largest, continuous expanse of protected bonobo habitat in the world.
Habitat ideal for forest elephants
Greatest Threat:
Hunting or bushmeat trade

Bonobo and elephant morsels
Institute Congolais pour la Conservation de la Nature (ICCN)
Salonga National Park Guards
2001
Well-armed Poachers, SNP
Estate Research Station & Patrol Post
Estate Patrol Post and Research Station
Fast Forward to 2016: Present Situation
ZSM 2015-2016

Support for Strategic Patrol Posts in the Salonga National Park

Long-Distance Anti-poaching Patrols

Bonobo and Elephant Surveys: Bio-monitoring & Research

Community Outreach

Supported by Central Africa Forest Ecosystem Conservation (CAFEC)
Full support to 2 strategic patrol posts in the park’s interior: Eestate, Lotulo
Estate Patrol Post
&
Research Station
Salary supplements, medical stipends, and research bonuses
Equipment and Food Rations
5 2-Way Radios
5 Solar Power Setup
3 Outboard Motors 8 HP
~ 42 Barrels fuel/yr.
GPS/Navigation
Wildlife Monitoring
Guard Adult Literacy at Etate

Full-time teacher
All guards participate
Eldu wa 14-10-2021

Madam Matina,

Mviti

balabelake ngai mahaba ya bataa yake bazimbi ngai na
mbungo bazile nakaya mka-
ngeli tanga libali ngali ke

ya samedi balala binga

kuchite ma matima ma tango

a nakaya kuna licha liba-
ta ngi khangai izali imama

bilal binga binti ma kaka

mbungo yake mbenelaki yae

ma mbando N.B: natendiki

ya mboci mbele tanga boli

nga talinganaki kama

bolinga ya ngai magali

kakante tili ngai ya

Eddy
2015 Patrol Evaluation: coverage, frequency, results
18 guards
Estate & Lotulo Patrol
Surveillance Area (1600 km²)
85 hunting camps destroyed
41 arrests
(24 arrests during Ebola crisis)
Long Distance Patrols – Watsi Kengo: Pirogues, Fuel, Rations, Bonuses
Voyages up to 300+ Km upriver
~15 guards x 15-20 days
8 Long-Distance Patrols on the Salonga and Yenge River (Fuel, Rations, Field Equipment)
Hunting camps occupied by 10-25 persons
>5000 Metallic Snares Confiscated by Long Distance Patrols
~1 ton bushmeat in one campsite
Dare Dare 2015
Results:
140 Hunting Camps Destroyed
~40 Arrests in one year
Elephant Poachers
Bonobo and Elephant Surveys

Wasti Kengo
and
Mondjoku Sectors
Surveyed ~7,500 km² to date
Watsi Kengo Sector: very rich but heavily poached region
Area analyzed = 4,715 km²

\[ D_{\text{bonobo}} = \frac{68.7 \text{ nest/km}^2}{1.37 \text{ prod/d} \times 78 \text{d}} = 0.643/\text{km}^2 \]

3031 nest-building bonobos (cv 12.8%)
Extrapolate: 4285 adult bonobos for sector (6664 km²)
~1000 bonobos in the Etate surveillance area
~4,285 bonobos Watsi Kengo Sector
Area analyzed = 4,715 km²

\[ D_{\text{elephants}} = \frac{(110.4 \text{ piles/km}^2)}{(19 \text{ piles/d} \times 90 \text{ d longevity})} = 0.065/\text{km}^2 \]

304 elephants (cv = 15%)
Elephants at night in the elephant bai
Yenge River, November 2012

Extrapolate: ~300 elephants for whole sector after corrections
Survey Data BEFORE 2011 Anti-poaching Operation
Survey Data May - Sep 2013

Survey Data 18 Months AFTER Anti-poaching Operation
Survey Data FY 2013 - 2014

**Estate**
- Bonobo nests = 2.2
- Elephant dung = 0.5
- Humans = 0.1 signs/km

**Enc. Rates**

**Mondjoku**
- Bonobo nests = 0.6
- Elephant dung = 0.2
- Human = 0.4 signs/km
Support for schools
4 Primary Schools
(10 Teachers salaries, materials)
2 Adult Literacy Schools

~100 continuing students
90% women
Horticultural Training
2010- 2012
Tompoco/Watsi Market - Guard Rations
$21,000 annual trade
Etate Guard Camp and Field Day
• Near zero poaching levels in the Estate surveillance area

• Discovered a large, continuous bonobo population, ~4,300 bonobos

• Expanded patrols over this area by ~60 times
Elephant Bai on the Yenge
• Gaining control over the Yenge River and Dare Dare
- Salonga National Park, 33,317 km² lowland tropical forest
- Holds >40% world’s bonobo population
- Highest potential for forest elephant recovery in DRC
- Headwaters of Congo River system – its feeding the country
- Salonga merits our continued investment to become a fully functioning park.
Thank you for years of support to the Salonga National Park!
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