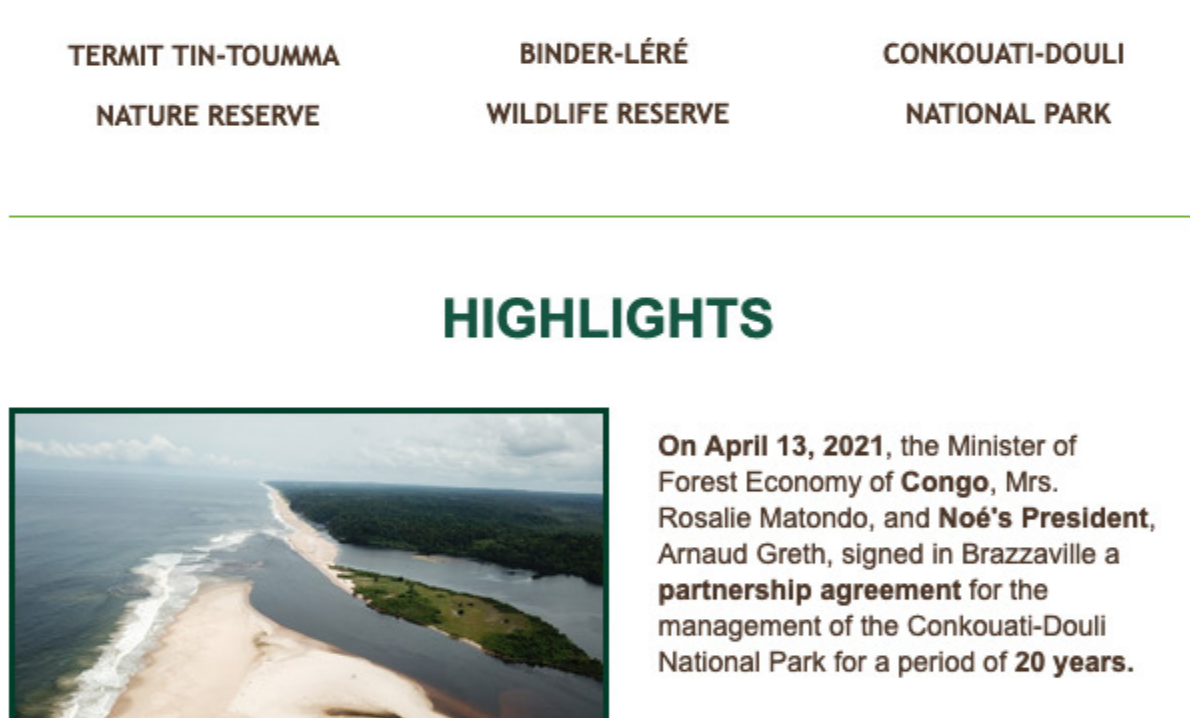




ENGAGING IN
A NEW PARK
IN CONGO!



NIGER
TERMIT TIN-TOUMMA
NATURE RESERVE

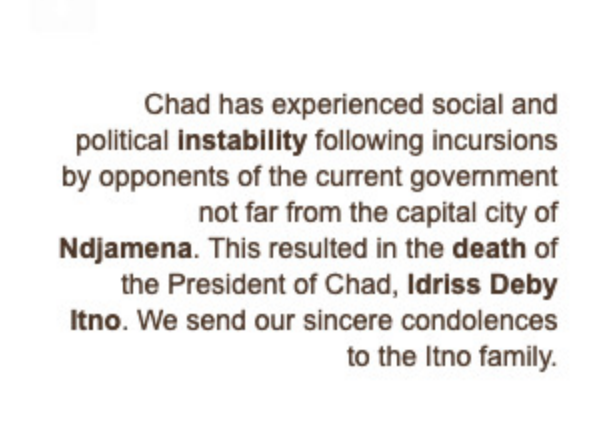
CHAD
BINDER-LÈRE
WILDLIFE RESERVE

CONGO
CONKOUATI-DOULI
NATIONAL PARK

HIGHLIGHTS



On April 13, 2021, the Minister of Forest Economy of Congo, Mrs. Rosalie Matoro, and Noé's President, Armand Gresh, signed in Brazzaville a partnership agreement for the management of the Konkouati-Douli National Park for a period of 20 years.



A €290k grant was signed with the European Union-funded program supporting the concerted management of Protected Areas and Fragile Ecosystems in Chad (APFE) in order to support the surveillance and monitoring of wildlife in the Binder-Lère Wildlife Reserve in Chad.



An 8-day field mission, led by a team of 13 agents, monitored nesting sites of the Lappet-faced vulture in the Termit massif of the Termit and Tin-Toumma Reserve in Niger. A total of 60 nesting sites were located, which is 10 more than last year.

Chad has experienced social and political instability following incursions by opponents of the current government not far from the capital city of Ndjamena. This resulted in the death of the President of Chad, Idriss Deby Itno. We send our sincere condolences to the Itno family.

PROGRESS PER SITE

TERMIT TIN-TOUMMA NATURE RESERVE

MANAGEMENT AND INFRASTRUCTURE

- The construction of the new camp is progressing, and an additional contract for the solar electrification of an important part of the camp has been signed.
- InReach GPS devices have been acquired, allowing, in addition to the usual functions of a GPS, the tracking of teams in the field from the future operations room, as well as the exchange of messages in areas where there is no mobile telephone network coverage.

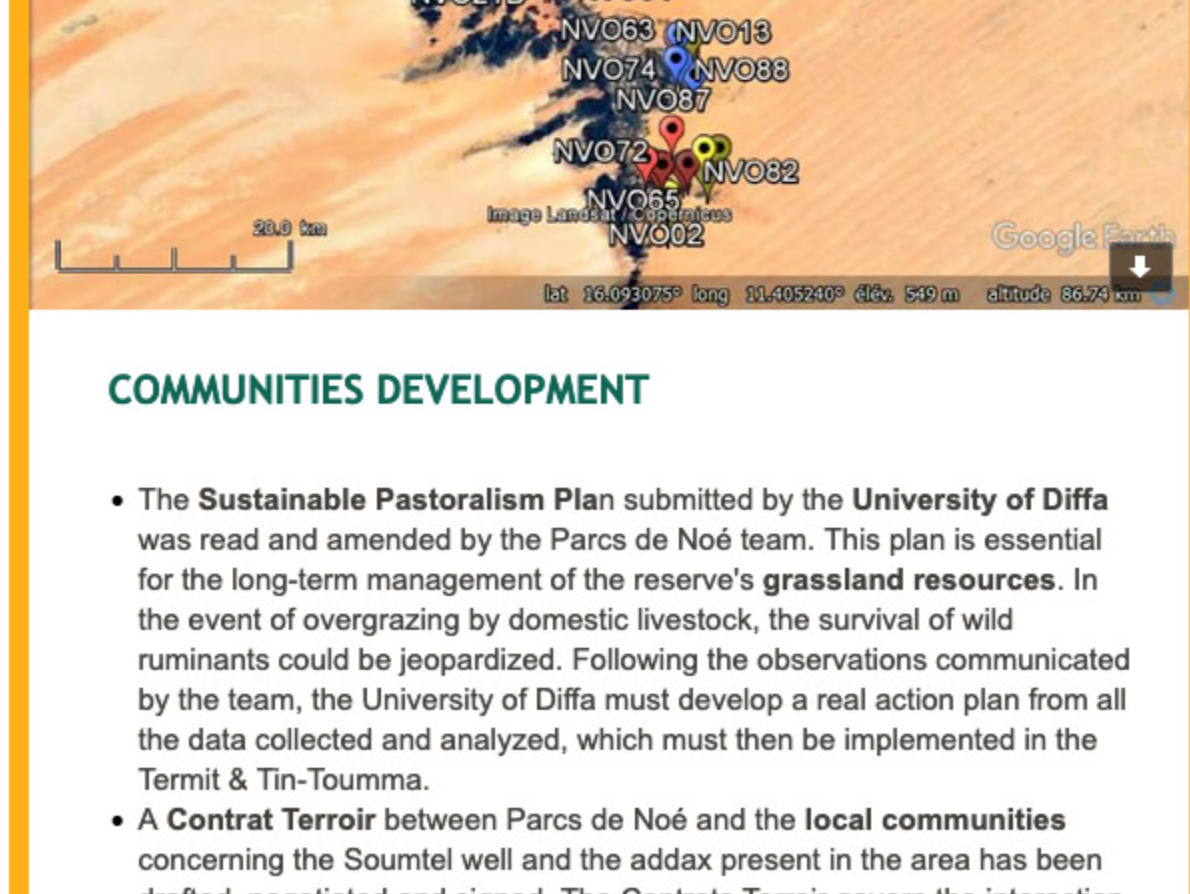
LAW ENFORCEMENT

- A patrol program was adopted with the Direction Régionale des Eaux & Forêts de Zinder for 2021 for the southern periphery of the reserve. A total of 1920 man-days of patrols are being planned by the end of 2021.
- 320 man-days of patrol were carried out by the teams of the Regional Directorate of Zinder, the Departmental Directorate of Tanout and the Departmental Directorate of Tesker in the southern periphery of the Reserve.
- 95 man-days of patrol were carried out in the reserve.

BIODIVERSITY CONSERVATION

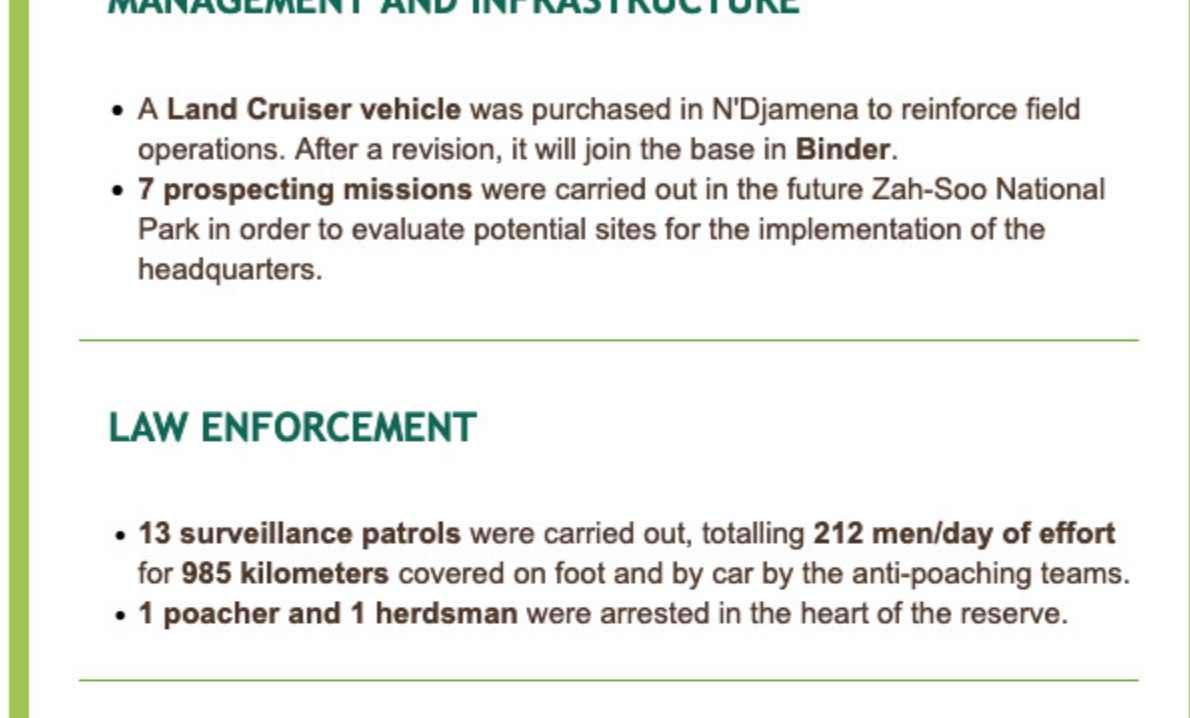
- A mission of 8 days was conducted by 13 people to identify the active nests of Lappet-faced vultures in the Termit massif. The exhaustive visit of all the existing nests allowed us to establish a total of 60 nests, 10 more than last year, as well as the observation of 53 individuals, which leads us to draw a positive conclusion of the evolution of the population this year.
- The team worked on the legal and financial framework for the reintroduction of red-necked ostriches in the reserve.

Below: Location of the nests of oricou vultures (a species classified as endangered according to the IUCN red list) in the Massif de Termit, inside the reserve, and counted during this month's mission.



COMMUNITIES DEVELOPMENT

- The Sustainable Pastoralism Plan submitted by the University of Diffa was read and amended by the Parc de Noé team. This plan is essential for the long-term management of the reserve's grassland resources. In the event of overgrazing by domestic livestock, the survival of wild ruminants could be jeopardized. Following the observations communicated by the team, the University of Diffa must develop a real action plan from all the data collected and analyzed, which must then be implemented in the Termit & Tin-Toumma.
- A Contrat Terroir between Parc de Noé and the local communities concerning the Soumali well and the addax present in the area has been drafted, negotiated and signed. The Contrat Terroir governs the interaction between Noé's assistance to the communities in the reserve and the efforts of these same communities to safeguard biodiversity. There are now 13 active Contrats Terroir on the reserve.
- Funding for the rehabilitation of the Tesker borehole has been approved. Work is scheduled to begin on May 3 and be completed by May 23, 2021. This rehabilitation will allow the population of Tesker to have access to drinking water, which has become problematic due to the malfunctioning of the well.



Above: African wolf (canis lupus lupaster) photographed this month by one of the camera traps in the Termit and Tin-Toumma Nature Reserve in Niger.

BINDER LÈRE WILDLIFE RESERVE

MANAGEMENT AND INFRASTRUCTURE

- A Land Cruiser vehicle was purchased in NDjamena to reinforce field operations. After a revision, it will join the base in Binder.
- 7 prospecting missions were carried out in the future Zah-Soo National Park in order to evaluate potential sites for the implementation of the headquarters.

LAW ENFORCEMENT

- 13 surveillance patrols were carried out, totalling 212 men/day of effort for 985 kilometers covered on foot and by car by the anti-poaching teams.
- 1 poacher and 1 herdsman were arrested in the heart of the reserve.

BIODIVERSITY CONSERVATION

- The draft law for the creation of the Zah Soo National Park has been submitted to the concerned Ministers of the Government of Chad for validation.
- Installation of 8 new camera traps within the boundaries of the future national park.
- New species were identified and confirmed, including jackal, aardvark and panther.
- The 4 collared elephants roam the reserve. The main herd remains near the Mayo-Kabbi River in the center, taking advantage of the surrounding gallery forests. The two solitary males remain mainly in the north, close to the Cameroonian border and the plantations of local communities, increasing the risk of human-elephant conflicts.

Below: AW7 Tracker software, allowing the Binder-Lère Wildlife Reserve team to locate at any time the 4 elephants equipped with GPS collars (image: the blue square icons indicate the elephants, the red line the reserve boundary, the white line the national border).



COMMUNITIES DEVELOPMENT

- The data-collection phase of the gender study was completed in April. The production of the report and recommendations is underway with the Chadian expert.

FOCUS ON AN ENDANGERED SPECIES

LAPPET-FACED VULTURE (Torgos tracheliotos)

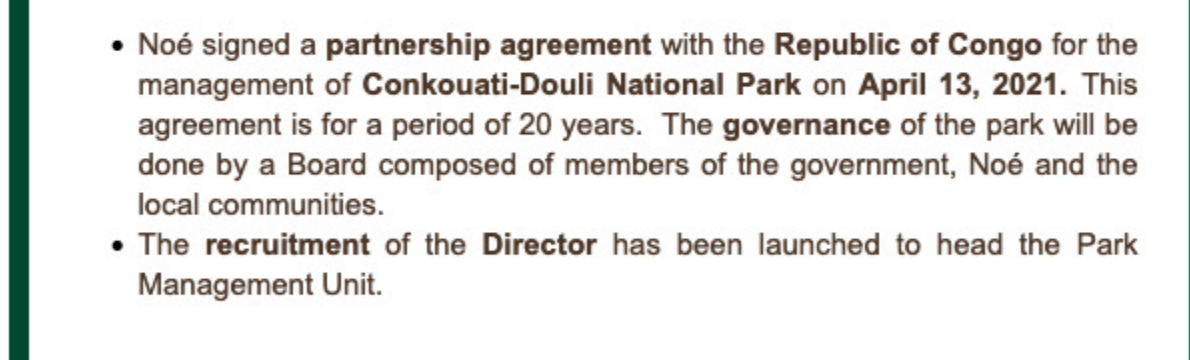


The Lappet-faced Vulture or Nabian Vulture is a species of vultures of the Accipitridae family. Its head and neck are bare and pink. With an average wingspan of 2.50 m to 2.80 m, its weight is generally between 5.4 and 6.4 kg. The life expectancy of the oricou is 30 years in its natural habitat.

The oricou vulture lives alone or in pairs. It is a scavenger that feeds mainly on carcasses. However, it is capable of hunting and killing small animals such as small reptiles or mammals.

The nest, 2 m in diameter, is built on a tree, often an acacia. It is during the dry season that the female lays a single egg. The two parents take it in turns to incubate the eggs for almost 2 months. At birth, the chick is not able to fly, and at least one of the parents stays in the nest for about 4 months. After this period, the young vulture is left alone in the nest but its parents continue to feed it for another 2 months.

The species is found in Africa and the Middle East, living in dry savannahs, and plains, deserts and on the slopes of mountains, as well as in forested areas in East Africa.

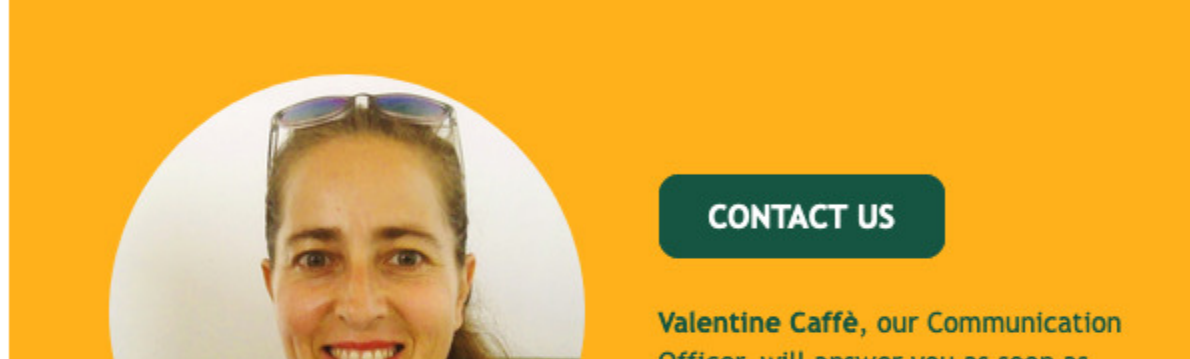
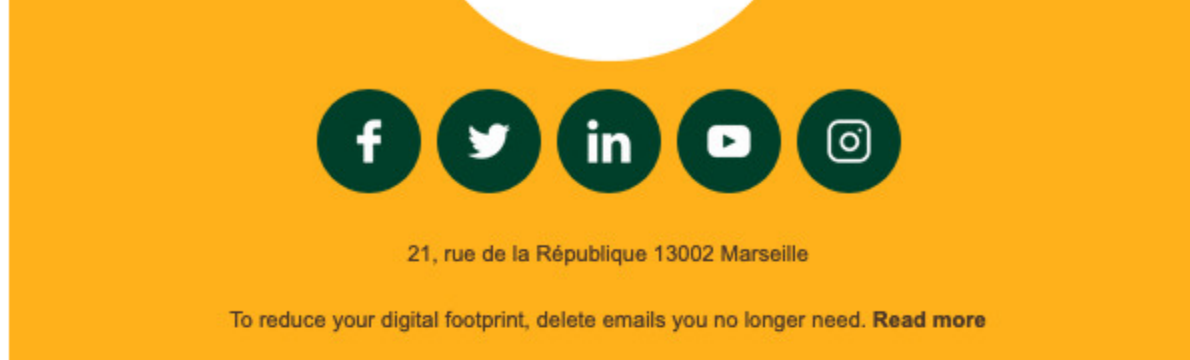


Among the main threats is accidental poisoning by herders in the control of predators. Other major threats to this species are nest predation and reduction of food resources. In West Africa, the reduction in carcasses is due to the overall decrease in wild animals, as domestic animals are less sick due to vaccination. In addition, some carcasses of illegally slaughtered animals are now poisoned to eliminate vultures that indicate the position of poachers by gathering.

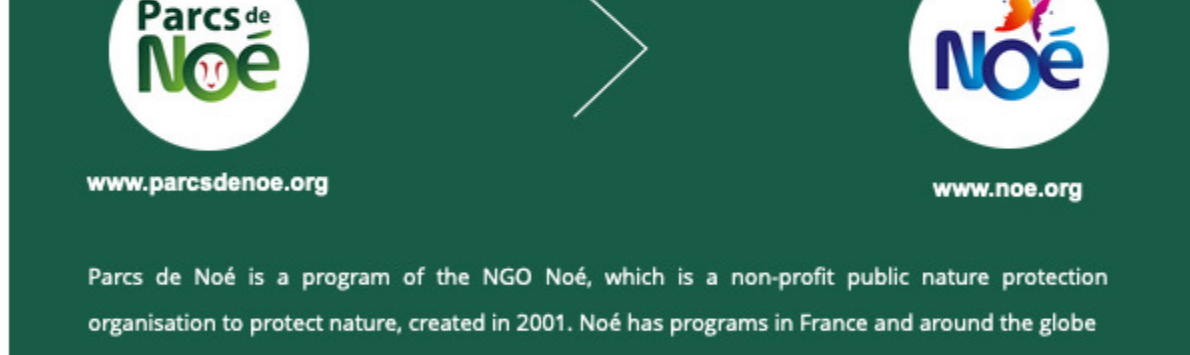
As explained above, an increasing population of the Lappet-faced Vulture is inhabiting the Termit Reserve in Niger. This is good news for this species classified as "endangered" by the IUCN.

CONKOUATI-DOULI NATIONAL PARK

- Noé signed a partnership agreement with the Republic of Congo for the management of Konkouati-Douli National Park on April 13, 2021. This agreement is for a period of 20 years. The governance of the park will be done by a Board composed of members of the government, Noé and the local communities.
- The recruitment of the Director has been launched to head the Park Management Unit.



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CONTACT US
Valentine Caffa, our Communication Officer, will answer you as soon as possible.