



This month new recruits arrived in the field in Chad and Niger. This has made it possible to strengthen the effective protection of the relict populations of the emblematic species of the Binder-Léré Reserve in Chad and to further involve the populations in Niger through the organisation of the Management Advisory Committee and the laying of the cornerstone of the Reserve's Head Quarters.



HIGHLIGHTS

Ceremony organised for the laying of the cornerstone of the Termit HQ, with the head of the Borno-Termit community representative, Goukouli Adamani, the Institutional Director of the RNNTT, Abdoulaye Harouna, the Director of the reserve Fred Dumont, and other local representatives.

The Termit Advisory Management Committee brought together the stakeholders of the reserve (communities, authorities, private sector). On this occasion, the community development officer (photo), explained the new boundaries of the reserve.

The Ministry of Water and Forests has officially confirmed the provision of 43 new agents to the Termit Tin-Toumma Reserve, for which they will work full-time. We are very happy to welcome these new forces.

Presentation of the anti-poaching strategy to the authorities (Governor, Prefects, GFF) of the Binder-Léré Reserve (Chad) and launch of training for GFF agents by our Law Enforcement expert (Daniel, on photo) and Jean-Luc Jamin (special Law Enforcement advisor).

PROGRESS PER SITE

TERMIT TIN-TOUMMA NATIONAL RESERVE

MANAGEMENT & INFRASTRUCTURE

- The new Director of the reserve Fred Dumont took up his duties in Niger on 12 November.
- A new anti-poaching manager is recruited: Mansour Mato.
- With the water tower, solar panels, pump and water supply already installed, the construction of the HQ of the Reserve was launched with a cornerstone laying ceremony together with the communities.
- The closing workshop of the Support Project for the Sustainable Management of Sahelo-Saharan Protected Areas Niger Chad (PAGAPS) demonstrated the achievements of this project over 5 years with EU and AFD support to the Sahara Conservation Fund and Noé in both countries.

LAW ENFORCEMENT

- The Ministry of the Environment, Urban Hygiene and Sustainable Development has made 43 new Forestry agents available to the reserve. This is very good news that has been eagerly awaited.
- A total of 150 man-days of patrols have been carried out, in close collaboration with the Regional Environment Directorate in Zinder and the Departmental Directorates of Tesker and Tānout.

BIODIVERSITY CONSERVATION

- The release of the 2 Dorcas gazelles was carried out following their life capture from the hands of poachers.
- Operations against bushfires are continuing with the Tesker County Directorate, controlled by the deputy director of the reserve.

COMMUNITIES & SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

- The Advisory Management Committee took place, as planned, on 25 and 26 November. Most of the expected participants were present, including the heads of community groups. The 2021 work plan was discussed and amended.
- A total of 170 man-days of community patrols were carried out in order to support security, intelligence and sensitisation of the population.

FOCUS ON AN ENDANGERED SPECIES

GAZELLE DAMA (Nanger dama)

The dama gazelle (Nanger dama) is the largest african gazelle species that has become rare and endangered. It is considered Critically Endangered (CR) by the IUCN. The geographical distribution of these gazelles is now almost exclusively Sahelian, an area where they take refuge in the face of increasing human pressure. Within the reserve, small isolated groups are concentrated in the Termit Massif.

During the wet season they move to pastures and plateaus, but migrate to open grasslands during the dry season.

Because of its beauty, this species is Niger's national symbol and the emblem of the national football team.



BINDER-LÉRÉ WILDLIFE RESERVE

MANAGEMENT & INFRASTRUCTURE

- The bill to create the Zah So National Park (PNZS) has arrived at the Secretary General of the Government for submission to the Council of Ministers.
- The office and guesthouse in Binder is functional (electricity, plumbing, furniture) and fully equipped, ready to welcome our field teams and coordinate our activities.
- A partnership is currently being set up with the Association Volète Nubienne (AVN) to develop an eco-construction sector in Binder-Léré (training young people, promoting Voïte Nubienne housing, development, construction of collective buildings and infrastructure for the future PNZS, etc.).
- The Coordinator position of the Binder-Léré Programme in Chad has been advertised, with as start date, January 2021.

LAW ENFORCEMENT

- Anti-poaching activities (LAB) were launched with the arrival of our LAB Expert (Daniel Bost) in Chad and the preparation of training modules and courses for field agents.
- A support mission by our special Law Enforcement advisor (Jean Luc Jamin) and the Head of Prosecution & Development led to meetings with the Commander of the Wildlife and Forest Guard (GFF), Colonel Itno, the Governor, the Prefects, the decentralised services of Environment and Wildlife and the GFF agents to present our Law Enforcement (LE) expert, the training programme and the LE strategy and do an inventory. The training course will start next month.
- A vehicle has been dispatched to the Reserve to be based at Binder to support the LE system.
- Two Law Enforcement teams are already on permanent patrol.
- Transport of conservation and protection equipment for the Reserve has been carried out: cameras traps, binoculars, inreach GPS, chargers, walkie-talkies, batteries, etc. This will allow to improve the working and safety conditions of the field officers and to increase our knowledge of the wildlife of the reserve.
- Individual monitoring equipment for the field agents is currently being transported to Chad.
- The aerial surveillance programme covered 2,870 km in 20 hours this month, making it possible to locate 2 fishing camps at Gauthiot Falls, 4 herds of cattle and 4 nomadic camps inside the reserve.

BIODIVERSITY CONSERVATION

- Preparations for the collaring operation of 4 elephants in the Reserve, scheduled for January 2021, are underway with the authorisation of the Ministry of the Environment and Fisheries, and the purchase of the collars in South Africa and the anaesthesia gun in Europe.
- Aerial overflights of the Reserve have made it possible to locate the elephant herd towards the north of the Reserve, near the border with Cameroon. This herd travels back and forth between the two countries, and the collars will allow us to better understand their behaviour.

CONKOUATI-DOULI NATIONAL PARK

Following the invitation sent by the Congolese government, a mission is planned from 18 to 24 December to meet with the government and make progress on the details of the partnership agreement for the management of the Conkouati-Douli National Park.

FOCUS ON A TEAM MEMBER

ABDOULAYE HAROUNA




Born in Niger, Abdoulaye Harouna is a specialist in protected areas and ornithologist. After working with the Department of Wildlife in Niger, via GEF / UNEP, Dutch Montagu's Harrier Foundation, Sahara Conservation Fund and WWF, in 2013, Abdoulaye joined Noé. He is now the Institutional director of the Termit and Tin-Toumma Reserve in Niger.


He effectively coordinates relations with national and local authorities ensuring smooth operations on the ground.

"Noé has a very innovative approach: reconciling conservation and local development (pastoral wells, vaccination of livestock, etc.). The people of the community feel really involved, and have become the eyes and ears of the reserve. In fact, it is most often thanks to their information that our agents stop the poachers! So I hope that in 10 years time we will be able to see the threatened fauna grow, see dama gazelles again in the plains, from where they had to flee to take refuge in the flanks of the Termit massif. Moreover, every time we invite the authorities into the reserve, all the faunas, usually very discreet, appears. The last time 6 ministers were able to see dama gazelles and Nubian bustards, a real parade! It pleasantly surprises me each time".

ARRIVALS & DEPARTURES



Youssouf Ouassou GABZA is the new driver in Chad for Parc de Noé. Youssouf is an experienced driver who had previously worked as a driver for the Prime Minister.

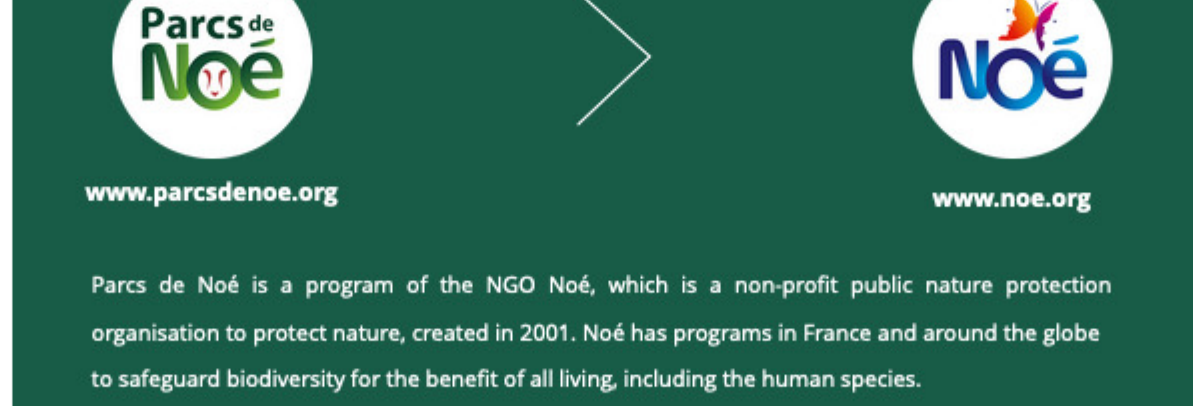


Mato Mansour came to reinforce our team in the Termit and Tin-Toumma Reserve as head of the anti-poaching department. A native of the Zinder region, Mansour graduated in Zinder as an Engineer from the Water and Forests Academy.



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Parcs de Noé is a program of the NGO Noé, which is a non-profit public nature protection organisation to protect nature, created in 2001. Noé has programs in France and around the globe to safeguard biodiversity for the benefit of all living, including the human species.