

DRILL INFO

Rettet
DEN DRILL
save the drill
...mehr als Artenschutz!

Issue 9, December 2009

Dear members, dear friends of the Drill,

In this issue we'd like to introduce you to the work of Dr. Ainare Idoiaga. She is working in the function of Senior Wildlife Veterinarian and Technical Advisor at Pandrillus, responsible for Reintroduction program for Drill monkeys.

We want to inform you about a great donation from the Zoo in Stuttgart, called "Wilhelma". Finally we want to present our new executive committee members, which are voted at our last Annual general meeting at "Tierpark Olderdissen", near Bielefeld.
Enjoy reading it.
Your editorial team



Ainare Idoiaga

A short review about Ainare's work:

Ainare Idoiaga is working as a Veterinarian for the Pandrillus Ranch DRILL REHAB & BREEDING CENTER (Cross River State, Nigeria) since October 2006. She is responsible for the health of up to 350 Drill monkeys, 28 chimpanzees, other native avian, ungulate and reptile species.

One of her first projects was the VETERINARY PROGRAM FOR DRILL RELEASE PROJECT IN AFI MOUNTAIN WILDLIFE SANCTUARY (AMWS), Cross River State, Nigeria started in January 2007. This veterinary program which among other things contains the veterinary protocol for the reintroduction program, has a size of 54 pages and is based on the international guidelines of the International Zoo Veterinary Group (IZVG).

This text includes the Quarantine procedures (already compiled by the IZVG) as well as an exhaustive risk assessment and the pre-release plus release protocols and a guideline for the post-release monitoring.

Objectives of the Veterinary Program

- Eliminate the risk of disease transfer to the local Wildlife and Human populations at AMWS.
- Reduce the stress-related vulnerability to infections and minimize the possibility of failure of the reintroduction because of diseases. Identify and reduce subclinical and clinical stress factors.
- Use of the medical sanitary record as a monitoring of Ecosystem Health. These observation results in a unique database which allows to observe the Ecologic changes and anthropogenic effects on Wildlife Health.
- Create Health-test methods for future release projects (especially Cercopithecidae).

Methods of the Veterinary Program

- Risk assessment and hazard analyses: Identification of those endemic pathogens which already can be found in the release site of Drills and other primates.
- Development of quarantine procedures and screening of relevant diseases.
- Performance of pre-release and post-release health monitoring.

The pre-release health screening started on May 10th 2008 including the following concerns:

- Releasable Drills belong to an already established cohesive group to minimize the post release dispersion.
- Drills should be genetically well represented in the Drill Ranch population.
- Releasable animals have to be free of parasites and other contagious diseases.
- In order to get as much information as possible a closely controlled post release monitoring is advisable.

Diagnostic Samples taken before release:

- General: Physical examination, body weight, biometry records, dental examination and record of any physical special feature remarks by external study.
- Feces: enteroparasites studies and DNA.
- Fresh feces: direct in situ observation of parasites, sedimentation and concentration techniques.
- Fecal Swab: culture for enterobacteria and sensitivity (resistance study)
- Blood Sample
 - Blood smear for blood parasites (in situ)
 - EDTA (3 ml) whole blood: FBC (full blood count), Hcto/PCV, TP (total protein), ESR (Erythrocyte sedimentation rate), Hepatitis B and C, HIV/SIV etc.
 - Serum/Plasma (7ml of whole blood for serum extraction which will be stored in three different serum tubes): kidney function, liver function, serology for diseases of concern and serum for DNA bank.
 - RNA later (1ml blood+1ml RNA later): paternity studies, DNA
 - Filter paper (some drops)
- Oral Swab: Immunochromatography for Streptococcus A (in situ)
- Vaccination/Immunisation: Tetanus
- Identification:
 - Tattoo, DRBC# (inner thigh)
 - Pictures
 - Microchip
 - Hair collection in 90° alcohol filled Eppendorff tubes for future DNA testing
- Broad spectrum antibiotics and multivitamin treatment for subclinical stress related immunocompromise.

Until July 2009 a group of 56 Drill monkeys were already tested for reintroduction. All of them were releasable.

The elected group for reintroduction, GROUP 1, is composed by 98 individuals. All of them have to be tested before they are released to check their health status and their adaptability for the reintroduction. The tracker group has also to be trained for post release health survey. The Drills should be closely monitored by a veterinarian in the first stage (months) of release.

“Save the Drill” support Ainare for half a year, with 500,00 Euro by month.

YOUR membership and donations make it possible!

Her work is assured until January 2010.

With this project the way to the Afi mountains for the Drills move closer step by step.



Group 1 in “pole position”

Annual general meeting (AMG) of the society “Save the Drill” in the animal park of Bielefeld/ Olderdissen on October 30th 2009

In 2009 the AMG took place in the animal park of Olderdissen in Bielefeld. The manager of the Zoo School Dr. Antje Fischer, who is also a member of the University of Bielefeld, made the Zoo School available as location for the general meeting.

It has to be noted that also the director of the animal park, Mr. Volker Brekenkamp, would have had hosted the society and therefore is involved in prospective scheduling of AMGs.

The annual general meeting began with a round tour guided by Markus Hinker (Animal Inspector of the park in Olderdissen and foundation member of the the society “Save the Drill”) through the animal park Olderdissen which has a lot of big and small animalic treasures. This wonderful experience was emphasized from the magnificent autumn weather. Although this animal park hasn’t got an external fence like it is used in the most other zoos, it accomodates one of the most favorite european wildlife assemblies in Germany. Even it is highlighted through the colorful landscape of the Teutoburger Wald/ North Rhine-Westphalia. After this interesting and inspiring walk, we have had the lunch at the restaurant Meierhof inside the park. Following the annual general meeting, which took place in the Zoo School, was conducted in a pleasant atmosphere.

The meeting started with a review of the cash report with discharge of the treasurer and the board.

After this procedure the participants could listen to an interesting presentation from Kathrin Paulsen about the “Limbe Wildlife Center” and the way of life in Cameroon. In her presentation she reported of the experience she had made while working with the Drills and the great apes for some weeks. The pictures showed in an impressive way, what it means to care and breed the animals in Cameroon and what animal trading and destruction of the environment look like. This showed another time the danger for the Drills but also the supporting measures which are implemented for the animals.

Finally a new board was elected. Tony Kershaw resigned his position as board chairman for private reasons. The new members who were voted onto the board are:

Board chairman:	Kathrin Paulsen (Hanover)
Vice chairman:	Tony Kershaw (Hamburg)
Treasurer:	Dr. Heike Weber (Nordhorn)
Secretary:	Dr. Anne Fallner- Ahrens (Bielefeld)
Committee Members:	Carsten Zehrer (Munich)
	Peter Engel (Hanover)
Advisor of Committee:	Dennis Höller (Hanover)

Visitors of the Wilhelma (Stuttgart Zoo) donated 2500 € for the Drills

During the last two years it was able to collect around 2500 € in the "Save the Drill"-donation cans from the visitors of the Wilhelma.

"Save the Drill" add another 500 € to altogether 3000 €. With this money it is possible to support the important work of Ainare Idoiaga who prepares the Drills for the reintroduction in Nigeria.

Another value will benefit the work of the American biologist Kathy Wood, who had explored the aptitude of the biotope structure for the reintroduction. She reported on the results in October 2009 during her visit of the Wilhelma. Thereby she received the money as representative of PANDRILLUS and gave the thanks to everyone.



Dr. Marianne Holtkötter (Vice-Director of the Wilhelma), Kathy Wood (Photo: Wilhelma)

Short news around the Drill

Saarbrücken:

- On August 18th 2009 the 11-year-old "Antonia" gave birth to a female baby Drill called "Nala"

Hanover:

- On September 6th 2009 the 17-year-old "Liza" gave birth to a male baby Drill again. His name is "Tizi" (pronounced "Tisi").

Everyone is growing quite well.

We thank the following people for their donations:

Mrs. Dr. Lottelore Ebeling
Mr. Dr. Veh
Mr. Dr. Dintelmann

We are happy to welcome our new members:

Grischa Bialkowski
Verena Behringer
Benedikt Knüppe

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