

DRILL INFO

Issue 17, January 2014

Dear members, dear friends of the drill,

the news from Nigeria are not good and massive setbacks delayed the release of the drills at Afi Mountain again.

But these events have only quite actively look forward in the new year in which we will pursue for the preservation of this fascinating monkey species – with your help!

All a happy and healthy year 2014!

With best wishes the editorial

News from Nigeria

Sure, this year was one of the most difficult for Liza Gadsby and Peter Jenkins.

In addition to various personal failures due to pregnancies and diseases there were massive problems with the transmitter collars. They should be tested for the long planned reintroduction project to track some drills later and to be able to locate. Especially the high humidity in the protected area of the Afi Mountain seems to be a big problem for the technology of the devices. Almost all transmitter failed and had to be returned to the repair to the manufacturer at Sweden. Also the contract with the manufacturer had no way to suspend payments in the event of failure of the transmitter.



Flooded roads a few kilometers from the camp in Afi Mountain

Unfortunately this meant that monthly costs incurred and had to be paid by Save the Drill although the transmitter could not be used. This contract was dissolved now by Liza Gadsby. It will show to what extent the Swedish manufacturer can solve the problems and whether to for a different company in the future.

2012 however, by far the largest problems emerged in consequence of an environmental disaster, the Drill Ranch in Calabar as well as related to the enclosure in Afi Mountain. Extreme rainfalls led to rivers overflow their banks appeared that roads, bridges and villages were flooded or washed away. Trees overturned or sank into the mud. More trees which at times were in the water probably die subsequently. The photos which we received subsequently from Liza Gadsby give an insight into the scale of the disaster.



Reconstruction of a bridge organized and paid by Pandrillus

Unfortunately not only direct floods and destructions posed a problem. Some villages where normally the fruits and vegetables are bought could no longer be achieved. The staff of Pandrillus had to travel longer distances to buy feed. This resulted in higher costs, more time needed to be invested and the food was even more expensive. This also had negative consequences for the villagers. They had lost in part their homes, fields and water sources and also no more connection to other villages and towns. Pandrillus has many ways open spaces, built at own expense bridges and roads and thus helped the villagers to new sources of income. There was only little support from the Government.



The team of the zookeeper of Stuttgarter Wilhelma is advertising for the drill and collect donation

After Save the Drill had getting a call for help by Liza many donors in Germany gave money. So last year the staff of Stuttgarter Wilhelma collected € 3.500 at the zoo which they donated to Nigeria with the help of Save the Drill.

Overall 2013 our association has issued € 9.959 for the drills in Nigeria. €9.500 were

took as cash for the elimination of the environmental damage at Calabar an Afi Mountain.



*Enclosure for drills in Afi Mountain – Group 6
(from left to right: drill male, drill female, Chris Ryen and Peter Jenkins)*

After the storm the drills were easily able to rely the enclosures. Luckily they didn't and the fence could be temporarily repaired. A new construction of the fence is still active among other things with money that our members have donated.

Thank you very much for this!

Dr. Heike Weber

Annual general meeting in Hannover

The "winter garden" was the perfect place of meeting for the 9th AGM, 7 September 2013. On behalf of 21 members Kathrin Paulsen thanked Klaus Müller-Schilling (curator at Zoo Hannover) for this meeting room and the drinks.

Friendly way he offered a tour of the construction site of the new chimpanzee complex "Kibongo" following the AGM.

The formalities of the AGM took place in the morning. The Chairwoman reported on activities in Cameroon and Nigeria. The Treasurer informed about the distribution of the funds. The examiners of the office (Carlo Rinke also in behalf of Dr. Antje Hermanns) stated a proper accounting. The discharge of the Executive Board was unanimously.

Under the direction of Dennis Höller the elections were carried out quickly and unanimously. The entire Board of Directors agreed to the re-election. Thus, the new Board of Directors is:

1. Chairman: Kathrin Paulsen (Zookeeper; Hannover Zoo)
 2. Chairman: Dr. Verena Behringer (Biologist; Max Planck Institut Leipzig)
- Treasurer: Dr. Heike Weber (Veterinarian and curator; Tierpark Nordhorn)
Secretary: Dr. Anne Fallner-Ahrens (Biologist, Bezirksregierung Detmold)

The auditors, Dr. Antje Hermanns and Carlo Rinke, were unanimously re-elected.

In the program in the afternoon there were 6 posts:

Carsten Zehrer, who keeps the stud book for the drill in Munich-Zoo Hellabrunn, reported on the drill stock in human hand – a historical retrospective focusing on the Zoo Hannover. The pictures with the historic enclosures for monkeys woke up many memories.

In the 2nd lecture, Tanja Wolf reported about drills in the Pretoria Zoo and the complicated exchange of 4 young drill males from Zoo Hannover and a new male for breeding.

Kathrin Paulsen reported about the drill stock in the conservation stations in Cameroon and Nigeria. In addition Carsten Zehrer reported by the contact with Liza Gadsby and Dr. Heike Weber reported about problems in importing the drills to Europe.

In the 4th lecture of Gaby Büscherfeld was the subject the destruction of the rain forest as a result of the plantation construction.

The two final presentations were about the current situations in Nigeria (Behringer / Weber) and Cameroon (Paulsen / Fallner-Ahrens).



Interesting lectures at the meeting

Then the curator, Klaus Müller-Schilling, led into the forest house and through the impressive construction site of the new chimpanzee complex.

In the grounds of the drills (during the construction period for visitors not accessible) Kathrin Paulsen showed proudly the first offspring of the new drill male "N'Guru" with the youngest female of the group "Katara".

After this successful conference we are looking forward to the next AGM to mark the 10th anniversary of Save the Drill in the Animal Park Nordhorn, 13th / 14th September 2014.

Frank-Dieter Busch

Liza as guest at the EAZA-meeting in Edinburgh

The EAZA Annual Conference is held annually in September. This event, 2012 in Edinburgh, Scotland, is focusing the exchange between the members of EAZA (European Association of Zoos and Aquaria).

There are many different events such as special workshops, meetings of the Taxon Advisory Groups (TAG) and also meetings of individual breeding programs.

Thanks to the support of EAZA also Liza could participate this year for 2 days. She reported about Pandrillus in the public meeting "Old World Monkey – TAG". This includes all current breeding programs such as EEP and ESB and monitoring for the old world monkeys (including the drills). Liza showed impressive pictures of the natural disaster in Nigeria and thanked for the help at Save the Drill.

In the afternoon at the first day held a closed meeting of Drills – EEP attend by members of EAZA, the Old World Monkey – TAG Carsten Zehrer (EEP-Coordinator), curators from the zoos which have drills and also Liza Gadsby. The meeting was the desire of Liza to be able to discuss collaborations

between the Zoos in Europe, EAZA and Pandrillus to future. Also pleasing way Liza made the proposal to share a certain number of drills between Europe and Nigeria. That would very help to improve the genetic bandwidth in the EEP. In addition Liza reported that there are no problems with subadult males in the groups. She said that no male-groups exist in the field. That's why males in the zoos must not be separated.

It is so important to create bigger and better structured enclosure in zoos in which a large group of drills (with some adult or subadult males) can live. In the medium term a European Park has signaled to want to build such enclosure (indoor and outdoor).

In conclusion Liza's visit at the EAZA-meeting was a good opportunity to discuss the problems but also the opportunities for future cooperation and to lead the way.

Carsten Zehrer (EEP coordinator)



Liza Gadsby

Science Corner

At the meeting of the International Primatology Society, 12th – 17th August 2012, in Cacun (Mexico) J. Owens from the Drexel University and the Bioko Biodiversity Protection Program present a lecture about the differences in the diet of the Bioko drill (*Mandrillus leucophaeus poensis*) depending on the degree of elevation (original: Altitudinal variation in the feeding strategies of the bioko island drill (*Mandrillus leucophaeus poensis*), J. Owens, S. Honarvar and G. Hearn). The authors reported that to the distribution area extends over the entire island of Bioko in Equatorial Guinea.

Due the strong hunting on Gran Caldera the drills only live in Highland Scientific Reserve in the south of the island. Even within these areas the drills are in 2000m above sea level, in the Monsoon forest at the coast and in the mountain forests of Gran Caldera.

The researchers found that the composition of the food is different with the different degrees of elevation. In flat areas the drills eat mostly fruits, at higher altitudes mainly fibres were found in the feces. These differences in the diet affect the size of the group and social behavior.

The abstract is available under:

<https://www.asp.org/ips/ips2012/abstractDisplay.cfm?abstractID=4003&confEventID=4000>

Dr. Verena Behringer

At last

Donation of the Zoo Association Wuppertal (Zoo Verein Wuppertal e. V.) for the drills in Cameroon und Nigeria!

At the Zoo Wuppertal in the monkey house the drills inhabit an enclosure with large grounds. The zoo participates in the European conservation breeding program for this endangered species, however at the time it houses a pure male group.

The Zoo Association Wuppertal supports the zoo in its efforts for the nature and biodiversity. Projects in different regions of the world are financially supported by the Association.

Last Saturday the members of the Zoo Association could find out through a fascinating presentation on one of the supported project. The Chairwoman of Save the Drill, Kathrin Paulsen, and the Treasurer, Dr. Heike Weber, have informed about the efforts for the protection of the drill in Cameroon and Nigeria.



Donation from the Zoo Verein Wuppertal for Save the Drill

Following the presentation, a check was presented by the Zoo Association over €500 on Save the Drill. 2014, even €5000 for protective measures in the protection stations and the habitat of the drills will be provided.

More information about the Zoo Association and the supported projects on the Internet under:

www.zoo-verein-wuppertal.de

Many thanks for this donation!

News from Cameroon

The population of the drill at Limbe Wildlife Centre (LWC) in the south of Cameroon has risen up to a total of 98 drills last year. The reason for this is that more and more drills are seized and delivered to the LWC. There the animals are veterinary supplies and carefully integrated into the group.

We from Save the Drill consider this as a good sign!
It shows that the authorities intervene against this illegal kind of attitude of the drills.
Also by the threat of high fines the trade in the animals loses more and more attractive.

We thank the following people for their donation:

Mr.Dr. Veh, Mr. Frank Dieter Busch, Mrs. Uschi Otto, Mr. Walter Riedel, Mr. And Mrs. Glashoff and the Zoo – Verein Wuppertal e.V.

We are happy to welcome our new members:

Mrs. Ulla Fallner, Mr. Andreas Haeser-Kalthoff, Mrs.Elke Marten, Mrs. Lisa Förster, Mrs. Jenny Marie Tegtmeyer, Mr. Henning Meyer, Dr. Stephanie Winkendick, Mr. Dustin Hoffmann, Dr. Maja Kummrow, Mr. Eike Nöhre, Mr. David Suchar, Mrs. Sandra Evald, Mrs. Sabine Jähnke, Mr. Heinz Weydmann and Mr. Matthias Schmitz

News in brief about the drills:

Hannover: on September 4, the 5 year old „Katara“ gave birth to a male offspring called „Motumba“
Frankfurt: on October 9, the year old „Kumasi“ gave birth to a male offspring.
Barcelona: The 18 years old „Inga“ gave birth to a healthy offspring on September 23.

We want to thank TIERPARK NORDHORN for the support of their association through transfer- and mail costs.
We also want to thank VisionConnect GmbH for their regular support of our homepage and for their provision of the transfer volume.

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