

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

# DRILL INFO

Issue No. 4 July 2007



„Duchess“ in Nigeria © Pieter Levelink

**Dear members, dear friends of the drill,**

In this issue we'd like to inform you about drills living in the wilderness, we would like to take this opportunity to introduce you to the "Bioko" Island where the highly endangered "Bioko Drill" (*Mandrillus leucophaeus poensis*) lives in decreasing numbers. Read more about it on the next pages.

Enjoy reading your Drill info!

Your editorial team

## Bioko

Besides the Cross river State in Nigeria and Cameroon the island Bioko is one of the last resorts of the drill.

The island is located in the Atlantic Ocean approximately 32km off the coast of Cameroon. Politically it belongs to Equatorial Guinea.

Bioko is of volcanic origin and reaches a high of 3000m. Surface area covers about 2000m<sup>2</sup> and the population counts about 100.000 people who mostly live in the northern part of the island in and around the capital city Malabo.

Humans first arrived on Bioko Island roughly 3000 years ago when people from Bantu-tribes migrated from mainland Africa. In 1469 the Portuguese discovered the island (under the leadership of Fernando Po) and colonized it. Under this leadership Bioko produced large amounts of cocoa, bananas and other fruits until 1969. After achieving independence from Spain a 10-year dictatorship under Macias Nguema followed. In this time the whole economy was ruined and the island was transformed into one of the poorest places in Africa which it is still today.

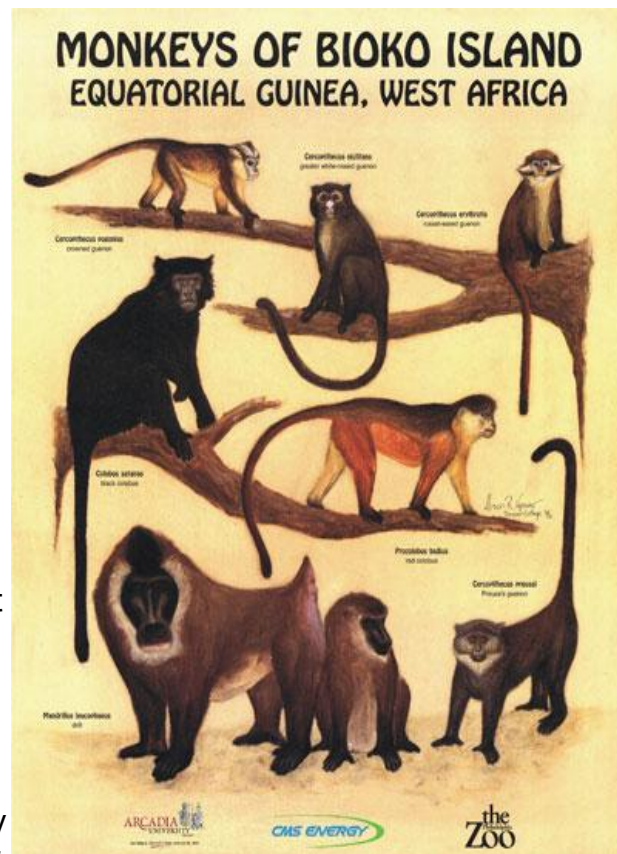
The mainly catholic population consists of immigrants, descendents of freed slaves or kidnapped Africans from diverse colonies (British, Spanish, and Portuguese). The language "Bubi" was named after the migrated Bantutribe.

Bioko has a unique beauty and a high biodiversity of different animals and plants.

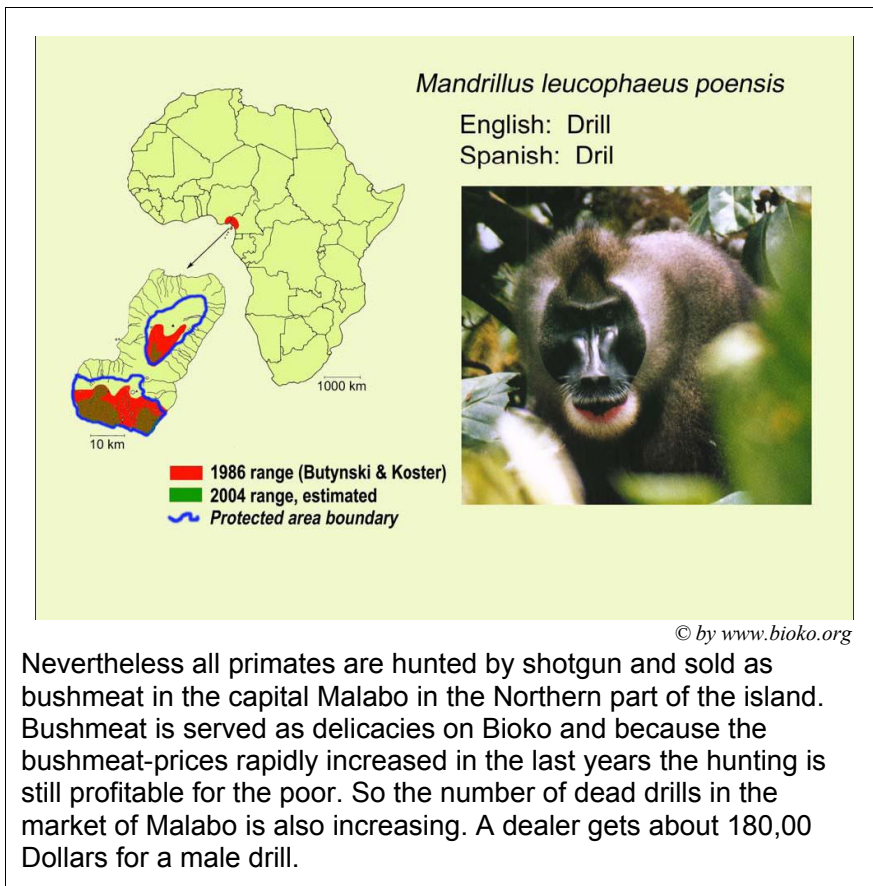
It is home to Africa's greatest concentration of endangered primates. There are subspecies of Guenons (Preuss's, Crowned, Red-Eared and Putty Nose) and Colobus monkeys (Black and Red) living on the island.

Together with these monkeys the Bioko Drill (*Mandrillus leucophaeus poensis*) shares the island. This subspecies of the drill is smaller and has a broader body and skull.

Once drills lived in diffuse groups from the shores (where they also eat sea turtle eggs) to the peaks of the volcanoes. They gathered in large multigroup hordes numbering in the hundreds. But latest recordings counted about 60 to 100 animals on the whole island. The animals mainly live on the uninhabited southern part of the island in two protected areas (Gran Caldera and the Southern Highland Reserve).



Monkeys of Bioko island.  
© by [www.bioko.org](http://www.bioko.org)



The organisation Bioko Biodiversity Protection Program (BBPP) fights against the poaching and the profitable bushmeat-trading since 1998. They try to give alternative income possibilities to the people by information (awareness meetings?) and supporting the ecotourism. The BBPP has seven unarmed wildlife patrol teams to protect the Reserves. They are the only protection for wildlife on Bioko island because the government of Equatorial Guinea still hasn't taken any measurements for the protection of the last animals of these rare species. The BBPP hopes

to persuade the government to institute meaningful controls and laws to curtail the commercial bushmeat trade.

The organisations do much more than protecting the endangered species they try - like Pandrillus in Nigeria - to inform the indigenous people to carry the responsibility for their ecosystem and to safe it for the future.

If you'd like to know more about Bioko and its drills visit the homepage of BBPP on [www.bioko.org](http://www.bioko.org).

## Annual General Meeting

We'd like to invite all members to this year's AGM. It will take place at the Zoo Nordhorn on the 29<sup>th</sup> of September 2007.

The Zoo Nordhorn is highly involved in supporting the drills. Even though the zoo is not keeping drills they hosted our foundation - meeting in January 2004.

We were also able to register our society "Save the drill" in Nordhorn.

We hope for a large participation — and of course we also welcome non-members.

## T-shirts:

In the last months "Save the Drill" was present at two congresses. Members of the committee were able to exhibit our new info boards and hold speeches about our project at the Annual General Meeting of the German Zookeeper Association in Bochum and at the ZGAP meeting in Cologne. After selling the last "old" shirts we are happy to present the new shirts. Which are now on sale!



You can choose between girly shirts (S-XL in red and green) and men's shirts (S-XL in grey and light brown). Each shirt costs 15 Euro. The proceeds go directly to Nigeria to the drill protection.

## Donations:

We'd like to thank all donors for sending us medical first aid boxes which are needed urgently at Pandrillus. They will be shipped to Pandrillus as soon as possible.

We would also like to thank: Roland Wolf, Dortmund; Tierschutzverein Dortmund; Doktor Stock, Lingen; Förderverein Vogelpark Marlow e.V.; Eduard Stirnberg, Tierpark und Fossilium Bochum; Anke Völker Zabka und Helge Zabka, Neubrandenburg; Dr. Lottelore Ebeling, Hannover; Mechthild Erdmann und M.Busch, Marbach sowie Herrn Dr. Drüwa, Tierpark Neumünster

For their vital donations

We thank the company Visionconnect for the continuous support of our homepage and the provision the whole transfer-volume.

## Members:

We are happy to welcome our new members:

Dr. Wolfram Petzl, Kranzberg; Amanda Spillmann, Wallisellen/Schweiz;  
Ulrich Beinker, Algermissen; Antje Lembke, Hannover; Karen Wagner, Hannover;  
Dennis Höllner, Hannover; Daniela Wüest, Zürich/Schweiz

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