

BIOMASS OF TERRESTRIAL MAMMALS IN THE MOUKALABA-DOUDOU NATIONAL PARK, GABON

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Moukalaba Doudou National Park (MDNP), located in southwestern Gabon, is one of the sites where chimpanzees and gorillas live in high density. In order to make effective management plan for great ape conservation in MDNP, better understanding on local ecosystem is needed. Especially, it is essential to evaluate the biodiversity of the park. Thus, we conduct a study to evaluate the abundance, distribution and seasonal movement of chimpanzees, gorillas and other sympatric large mammal species such as elephants, monkeys, ungulates, etc in the area of about 512km². We will use the methodology which is usually used in the monitoring of terrestrial mammals in other study sites, i.e. Line transects method and reconnaissance progresses or recces. Through this survey, we will be able to have the density and biomass estimation, distribution and movement of large mammals and the evaluation of the biodiversity permitting to create data bases on the animals in MDNP.

Keywords: Moukalaba-Doudou, biomass, inventory, biodiversity.