



Dear partners,

During this quarter, WCS Congo's Wildlife Health Program (WHP) continued its work on zoonotic disease prevention, wildlife health surveillance, community engagement, and capacity building, under the One Health approach.

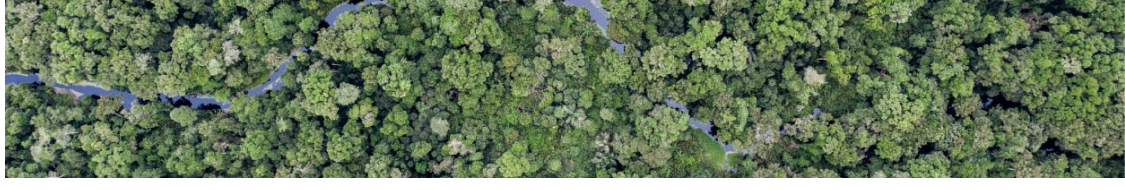
Wildlife health surveillance continued this quarter through the investigation of wildlife mortalities and the analysis of samples. These activities contribute to the early detection of pathogens, including those responsible for Ebola virus disease, helping to reduce the risk of transmission to human populations.

Community engagement and capacity building remained central to our activities, with awareness-raising activities among communities, including Indigenous Peoples, on zoonotic disease prevention and the One Health approach. Activities also included training ecoguards in wildlife health surveillance and biosecurity.

Happy reading!

Anna Preis

One Health Program Manager  
Wildlife Conservation Society, Congo Programme – Brazzaville



## SUMMARY IN FIGURES



## GOVERNANCE AND COLLABORATION



### Health Emergency Prevention and Coordination

During the quarter, WCS's WHP participated in meetings of the Health and Development Technical and Financial Partners (PTFs), organized by the WHO Country Office. These meetings focused on the re-emergence of cholera in the Republic of Congo and preparedness in response to the evolving outbreak of Bundibugyo virus disease in eastern DRC.

WCS also participated in a meeting on the cholera outbreak in Sangha Department and provided primers to the National Public Health Laboratory (LNSP) to strengthen diagnostic capacity for viral hemorrhagic fevers. It also contributed One Health technical expertise to the development of the Pandemic Fund proposal.

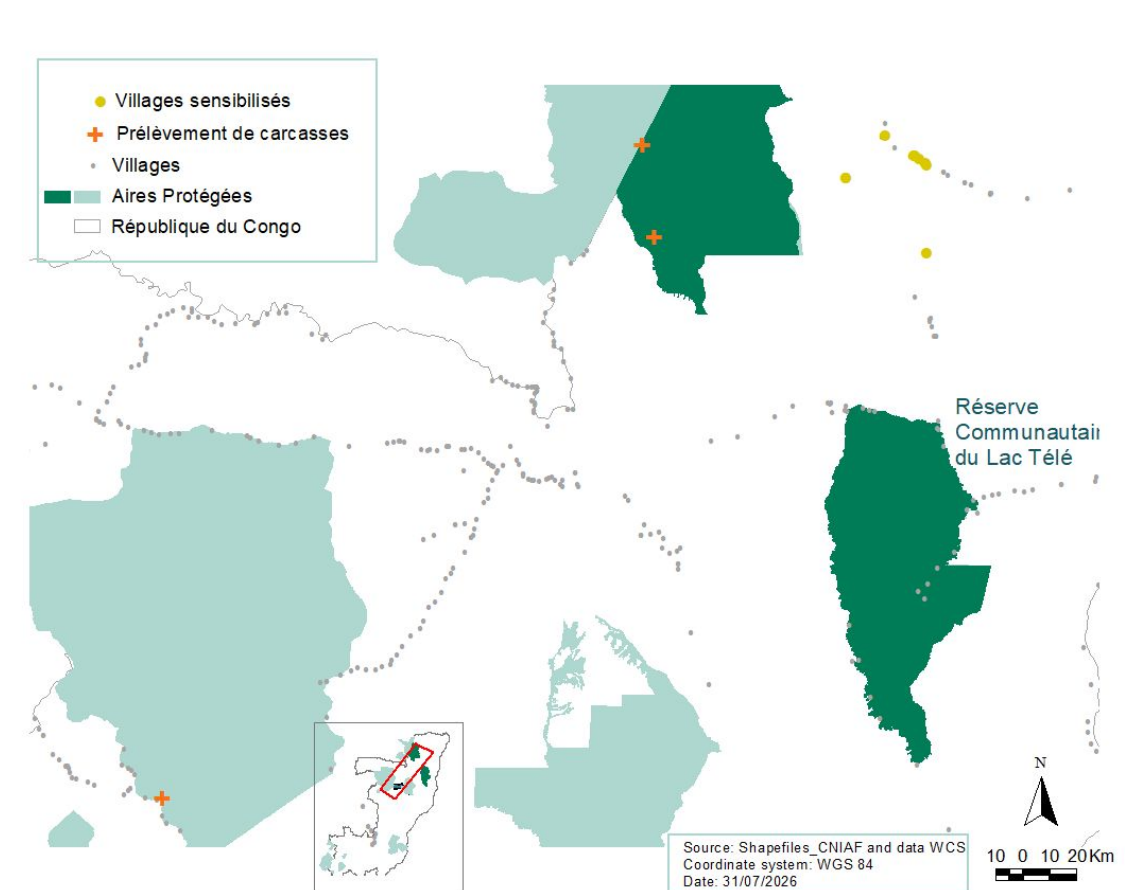
## MONITORING AND RESEARCH

### Wildlife Mortality Surveillance

From May to July 2026, the WHP continued wildlife health surveillance through the investigation of several wildlife mortality events. Three carcasses—one red river hog at Mbeli Bai and two gorillas at Wawa (PNNN) and Lossi (PNOK)—were sampled and analyzed in the field and at the LNSP. Tests for Ebola virus, *Bacillus anthracis*, and Orthopoxviruses, including Mpox virus, were all negative. This surveillance is an upstream prevention measure, enabling early detection of pathogens in wildlife and helping prevent their transmission to human populations.

### PCR Analysis of Fly Samples

Analysis of 261 fly samples collected in the Ndoki-Likouala landscape in 2022/23 was completed in partnership with FCRM and LNSP. *Treponema pallidum* was detected in 2.3% of samples (n=6), while *Bacillus anthracis* and Orthopoxviruses were not detected. These findings contribute to understanding zoonotic pathogens and their implications for wildlife and human health through a One Health approach.



## AWARENESS RAISING AND TRAINING

### Strengthening Wildlife Health Surveillance

To strengthen wildlife health surveillance in the Ndoki-Likouala landscape, the WHP strengthened the capacity of 24 ecoguards from PNNN and PROGEPP Kabo.

They were trained in carcass age estimation and carcass sampling, as well as zoonoses, biosafety, and forest hygiene practices aimed at reducing the risk of disease transmission between wildlife and humans.

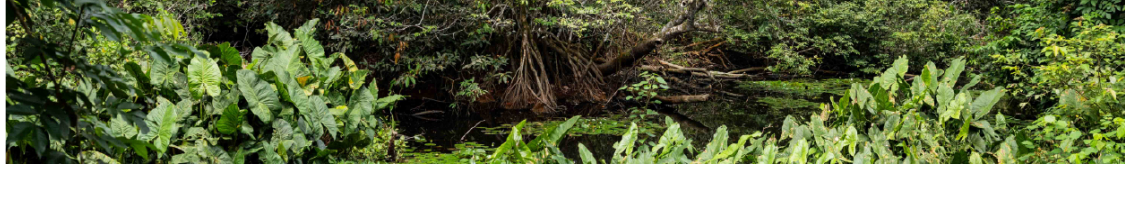
### Raising Community Awareness

In May 2026, the WHP, together with CIB Olam, Groupe Sangha Musique, and a health agent from Sangha Department, raised awareness among 443 people, including 226 Indigenous people, across 10 villages along the Haute-Motaba axis about zoonotic diseases and their prevention. Mpox awareness posters were also distributed for the first time during this mission.

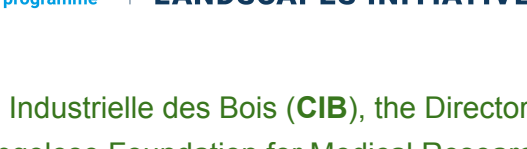
In collaboration with CIB, 31 MP3 players containing One Health awareness messages in 11 villages were distributed through the "OKA" project.

### ALERTE Facilitator Training

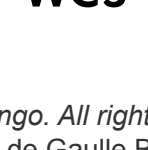
In June 2026, four members of the WHP participated in a facilitator training workshop for the ALERTE serious game, organized under the ZOOSURSY project by CIRAD and WOAHI, in partnership with the Directorate General of Livestock (DGE) and the LNSP. The training strengthened their skills in community-based surveillance and the One Health approach, enabling them to independently facilitate and deploy the game in community awareness activities.



The One Health programme is grateful to all its partners:



The Congolaise Industrielle des Bois (CIB), the Directorate of Livestock (DGE), the Congolese Foundation for Medical Research (FCRM), the Goulougo Triangle Ape Project (CONGO-APES), the Helmholtz Institute for One Health (HIOH), the National Public Health Laboratory (LNSP), the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID) of the U.S. National Institutes of Health (NIH), and the Sustainable Wildlife Management (SWM) Programme



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