

NORMALISED SYSTEM OF CIVIL SOCIETY INDEPENDENT FOREST MONITORING - SNOIE

SUMMARY OF INDEPENDENT FOREST MONITORING - CAMEROON

[Reports produced in November – December 2018]

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Logging beyond the boundaries of the communal forest and the non-respect of technical logging standards by the Abong Mbang council in its permit, are offenses observed during Independant Forest Monitoring (IFM) mission by the organisation *Projet d'Appui à l'élevage et de Préservation de la biodiversité en périphérie des aires protégées au Cameroun (PAPEL)*. Just as the latter, the organisation *Ecosystème et Développement (ECODEV)* also observed during an IFM mission in November 2018, alleged illegal logging, carried out in the forest of the national domain (FDN) in the Savane 3 hamlet of the Donga village - (Yoko Sub-Division, Mbam and Kim Division, Centre region). The two IFM missions by the two organisations were conducted following the Normalised System of Civil Society Independent Forest Monitoring (SNOIE).

The IFM missions were carried out with the financial support of the project "Voix des citoyens pour le changement: observation forestière dans le Bassin du Congo" (CV4C project), implemented with the financial support of the European Union (EU) and partners. The two IFM reports were submitted to the Ministry of Forestry and Wildlife (MINFOF) and its regional delegations (Centre and East), in February 2019. As at now, no action by MINFOF is known.

The summary of IFM reports produced through SNOIE procedures are discussed below.

1. SUMMARY REPORT OF IFM MISSION OF ILLEGAL LOGGING IN THE DONGA VILLAGE, SAVANE 3 HAMLET NEIGHBOURHOOD AND SURROUNDINGS, CENTRE REGION.

Fact(s): Alleged illegal logging in the forest of the national domain (FDN) around Donga- Savane 3 Hamlet (Yoko Sub-Division, Centre Region).

Locality: Yoko Sub-Division, Mbam and Kim Division, Centre Region - Cameroon

Date of submission/addressee(s): 5 February 2019, Regional Delegate of Forestry and Wildlife-Centre (DRFoF-Centre)

Recommendations: At the end of this IFM mission, ECODEV essentially recommends that the Ministry of Forestry and Wildlife should send a forest control mission in the Yoko Sub-Division specifically in the Savane 3 Hamlet and Njeke 2, to ascertain the veracity of these allegations, and control the illegal logging site in the FDN. The purpose of this is to take appropriate measures to ensure the respect of the laws in force.

Actions of the authority: None that is known

Authors(s) of report: Ecosystème et Développement (ECODEV)

Ref. of report: 001/RO-SNOIE/ECODEV/112018

Summary of report: Following a verbal denunciation on 1 November 2018 alleging that illegal logging was being practiced by an unnamed Vietnamese company and represented by a certain Djibril Moussa (Phone No. 690047839), the association *Ecosystèmes et Développement* (ECODEV) went to the Yoko Sub-Division from 20 to 24 November 2018, notably in the Savane 3 hamlet of the Donga village for observation and proper documentation.

Before the visit to this area, additional information (identity of the exploiter, species specified) was gathered from the whistleblower to assess the pertinence of the action to be conducted.

On the field, the mission team observed the following facts in the forest of the national domain (FDN) near the Donga-savane 3 hamlet (Yoko Sub-Division):



- Twenty five (25) stumps of various species including twenty (20) of Doussié (*Afzeliabipindensis*), four (04) stumps of Ayous (*Triplochytonscleroxylon*) and one (01) of Bilinga (*Nauclea diderrichii*) with no mark of the logger;
- Two parks: one (01) located by the roadside and containing two (02) logs of Doussié, with a volume of **3.5734 m³**. One of the two logs marked with an unidentified licence in the list of licences granted or operational of the 2017 and 2018, that is **08 10 213**.
- Three (03) huge deposits of sawn timber, including two (02) containing Ayous planks with a volume of 08.85 m³ and 06.45 m³ respectively. There was also one (01) containing Bilinga planks with a volume of 05.83 m³.
- Another park where the log of Doussié was abandoned by the logger was sawn, and on the debris was the mark of the logger, that is GEF; 10213; 8904; 18. The alleged illegal logging having been done in forests of the national domain, it is punished by Law No 94/01 of 20 January 1994 on the forest, wildlife, and fisheries regime in Article 157.

The marks found on the log of wood suggest that there is a fraudulent use of an exploitation licence, and this is punished by **Article 158** of the 1994 forest law. Despite the intervention of the local forestry administration to put an end to this activity, a new unidentified logger started his activities in the area mapped out by the mission.

Download report.

http://oiecameroun.org/images/documents/Rapport_Mission-ECODEV_Donga_Savane_3_et_environs_112018.pdf

2. SUMMARY REPORT OF THE OBSERVTAION MISSION OF ALLEGED ILLEGAL LOGGING AROUND THE OBOUL 1 VILLAGE, EAST REGION

Fact(s): Logging beyond the boundary of the communal forest and the no-respect of technical logging standards by the Abong Mbang council in its permit.

Locality: Abong-Mbang Sub-Division, Upper-Nyong Division, East Region

Date of submission/addresses(s): 5 February 2019, Regional Delegate of Forestry and Wildlife - East (DRFoF-East)

Recommendations: At the end of the mission, PAPEL recommends that the Minister of Forestry and Wildlife should send a control mission to the Abong Mbang communal forest and punish the logger, owner of the said licence in accordance with the forest regulation in force.

Actions of the Authority: None that is known

Author(s) of report: Projet d'Appui à l'élevage et de Préservation de la biodiversité en périphérie des aires protégées au Cameroun (PAPEL),

Ref. of report: Ref: 014/RO-SNOIE/PAPEL/122018

Summary of report: Within the framework of real time community monitoring of forests initiated by the association *Forêts et Développement Rural* (FODER) and its partners, PAPEL received information from two (2) representatives of the Oboul 1 village alleging illegal logging beyond the boundary of the Abong Mbang

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communal forest. According to these informants, STBC, logging partner of the Abong Mbang council is highly involved.

To strengthen the monitoring of legality in forestry operations in this area, PAPEL sent an external independent observation mission from 4 to 8 December 2018 to check and document these allegations around the Oboul 1 village located in the Abong Mbang Sub-Division.

The methodology included documentary review (consultation of instruments and regulations governing the forest sector in Cameroon, the consultation of the list of valid title deeds in the said Sub-Division, the consultation of the interactive forest atlas to better prepare the mission); discussions with members of the community of the Oboul 1 village and the direct observation of the activities on the sites.

At the end of this mission, the following was observed:

- Fifteen (15) stumps of various species identified including Ayous, Tiama, Iantandza, Movingui and Nkanang/Lotofa) amongst which one (01) bore marks identified inside the communal forest of Abong Mbang (licence 1405), and five (05) beyond the external boundaries of the communal forest;
- Five (05) un-hauled logs of the species mentioned above with a total volume of 80.757 m³ near their stumps and felled beyond the boundaries of the licence;
- The absence of openings and materialisation of external boundaries of licence 1405 and the forest of the national domain in the Oboul 1 area covered by the mission;
- Marks on a stump of Ayous where we could read the indications on the number of the licence, the DF 10 and the felling date, within the boundaries of licence 1405.

Download report.

http://oiecameroun.org/images/documents/Rapport mission-SNOIE PAPEL Oboul-1 122018.pdf

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