



**Limbe**

**Wildlife Centre**

*A collaboration between  
Pandrillus & the Government of  
Cameroon, Ministry of Forests  
and Wildlife MINFOF.*



## COLLABORATION PROPOSAL TO

**“SAVE THE DRILL”**

## FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF A NEW DRILL SATELLITE

### **Background:**

The Limbe Wildlife Centre is a rescue, rehabilitation and release/reintroduction project situated in the South West Province of Cameroon, on the edge of the small fishing town of Limbe, within the Mount Cameroon ecosystem.



Cameroon’s ecosystem has been officially reported as having the second highest levels of biodiversity in Africa. Forest elephant, chimpanzees, drill monkeys, red-eared guenons, and Preuss’s guenons are a few of the endangered species that can be found on the country. However despite this high level of biodiversity this ecosystem suffers from illegal logging and high levels of poaching for the bush meat trade that is currently ravaging West and Central African rainforests. In Cameroon the level of trade in bush meat is especially high and, as more and more animals are hunted and removed from their forest homes, the term of ‘empty forest syndrome’ has been coined to describe many of its forests’ status.

Linked with the bush meat trade is the illegal pet trade, whereby the infant primate species, reptiles and avians are victims of the animal smuggling.

The primate conservation NGO Pandrillus and the Government of Cameroon (GoC) jointly manage the Limbe Wildlife Centre (LWC) in Limbe, Cameroon. In line with Pandrillus policy, the overall aim of LWC is wildlife protection in Cameroon from the major threats of deforestation, hunting and trade in bushmeat and pets. LWC supports this policy through several methods, including supporting law enforcement and education. LWC provides a solution to the housing problem of wild species, after they are seized from criminal traders by customs, police or conservation officials. Citizens also surrender many animals to the centre voluntarily. In receiving these wild animals, LWC supports and encourages the enforcement of wildlife laws in



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Cameroon, as without such support the confiscating agencies would become overwhelmed, as they are not equipped to care for confiscated wildlife. The other approach is to utilize conservation education and public awareness.

Animal welfare and species conservation are Pandrillus' and therefore LWC's top



priorities. We are now discussing with the new Mount Cameroon National Park management and GIZ about future reintroduction of animals in the park, once protection is established and a field site extension of LWC can be created. LWC will continue its primary function to serve as a wildlife centre for animal rescue and rehabilitation. Eventually, we hope many more animals may return to the wild.



Today the centre cares 49 chimpanzees, 16 western lowland gorillas, 1 Cross-River gorilla (the only member of this species in captivity in the world), 98 drills, 16 mandrills, 16 baboons and 13 species of endangered guenon monkeys and 3 species of mangabey monkeys. Over the years the LWC has also received a variety of non-primate species such as blue and bay duikers, Nile and dwarf crocodiles, Gabon vipers, African rock pythons, civet cats, pangolins, African grey parrots and monitor lizards. The LWC is just beginning to develop strategies that will hopefully enable some of the endangered primate populations resident at the LWC to one day be returned to the wild.

LWC, whilst acting as a rescue center and educational resource base, is also involved in active conservation on site, particularly for those animals which do not face immediate release. For the endangered drill species (*Mandrillus leucophaeus*), a captive breeding program was put in place for nearly 20 years in order to bolster species survival; however, with a large increase in the number of orphaned, wild born drills rescued over the last year and a limited enclosure space, the females are now all implanted. Implants typically last for 2-3 years and can be removed at any time, allowing for breeding to begin again once a field site extension is created.

Mount Cameroon is becoming ecologically isolated as a habitat island, this isolation limits the amount of suitable genetical exchange for most of the fauna by restricting movements by man-made and natural physical barriers. Never the less, Drill monkey still exist in small groups in the



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MCNP so the long term conservation efforts of creating a genetically diverse and ethologically well adapted drill group would help the preservation of the species in the national park.

### **The Drill Group**

LWC houses the third biggest captive group of the endangered drill monkey (*Mandrillus leucophaeus* sp.). The other two groups are housed in the Nigerian Pandrillus project, Drill Ranch at Afi Mountain.

Our drill group has consists of 99 individuals, from which 33 are wild born. With up to 18 wild matriline, the group has an extended wild drill male representation composed of 15 individuals, making it one of the most genetically diverse groups in captivity.

The breeding with species conservation purposes has been a complete success, recently reaching a fourth generation.



### **Recent Rescues**

In the last year, we have rescued 5 wild-born drills who were orphaned by the illegal bushmeat trade:

*Ossing* arrived on 25 January 2013 at 6 months old after her mother was killed. She was being held illegally, chained to a concrete wall in a village, by a man who was hoping to sell her in the pet trade. Today, she lives in our infant drill group with friends Whisky and Mundongo.

*Nde* arrived on 01 February 2013 after being orphaned by the bushmeat trade. He was originally brought to Ape Action Africa, who was lacking space, and then transferred to LWC to join our drill group. He was very underweight, and as a 5-year old male, had some difficulty integrating into the group, but today is doing better.



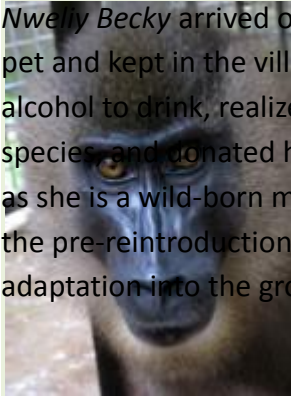
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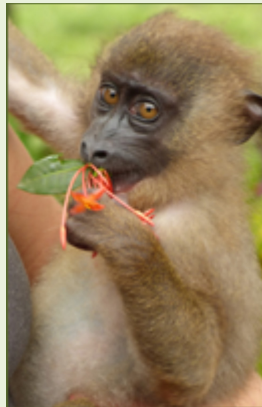
*Nwelly Becky* arrived on 22 April 2013. Orphaned as an infant, she was illegally purchased as a pet and kept in the village for 7 years. Her owner, who commonly took her to bars and gave her alcohol to drink, realized that he was against the law by holding an individual of this Class "A" species, and donated her to LWC. Today Becky lives in the drill group and is not yet implanted, as she is a wild-born mature female whose representation can add greatly to the genetic pool of the pre-reintroduction group. By the other hand, the chances of a prompt and successful adaptation into the group of an adult female are highly linked to her reproductive capacity.



*Whisky* arrived on 7 July 2013 at 6 months old in poor condition. Held in Ossing village as a pet after her mother, and likely rest of her family, was killed for bushmeat, she was given much alcohol to drink, causing liver damage. After receiving treatment from our veterinary team, she recovered, and now lives with infants Ossing and Mundongo.



*Mundongo* arrived on 12 February 2014 when she was only 4 months old. The hunter, living in Mount Cameroon, killed her mother for bushmeat, and kept the infant for 3 weeks. Knowing that this was illegal, he informed the ecoguards working in the area, who arranged for her to be transported to LWC. Upon arrival, she was very distressed, and has 3 damaged ribs, likely caused by trauma during the death of her mother. With much care from our veterinary and quarantine teams, she has already improved and now lives with infants Ossing and Whisky.



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### **Objective: A Third Drill Satellite**

The drill enclosure which is located in the eastern part of the centre, in front of the island chimpanzee group, has an approximated extension of 300m<sup>2</sup> surrounded by a new electrical fence financed by Save the drill. The enclosure currently has two 6x3x3 m. roofed satellites. They are divided into two rooms each and the four rooms have independent access to water.



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These satellites are extremely important, as they are routinely used for small hospitalizations, small surgeries, captures, special feeding, and containment of the dominant individuals when work in the outdoor space is being done, etc. Unless a hospitalized animal is inside, they are normally open to provide the drills with the freedom to go in and out as they please and the so much needed

shadow this species naturally has under the canopy. The drills particularly spend time in the satellites during the hottest parts of the day in dry season and as shelter from the hard rains of rainy season.

With such a successful drill breeding program over the last 20 years, as well as with a large increase in the number of orphaned drills rescued over the past year due to extreme habitat destruction (logging roads allow hunters easy access into previously inaccessible areas) and the bushmeat trade, we are in dire need of an additional satellite for the LWC drill group. Without this satellite we have difficulties to use the satellites for hospitalizations and also to have enough indoor space to house all of the adult males when repairs must be made to the outdoor enclosure. In addition, the extreme overuse of these two satellites causes much damage, which results in expensive repairs that must be made regularly.



**Goals:**

The main goal of the current project is to address the dire need for increased indoor satellite space for the world's third largest captive, pre-reintroduction group of drills, currently cared for at Limbe Wildlife Centre, thereby providing:

1. Assistance to confiscating agencies in the prosecution of wildlife crime by continuing to provide space for seized animals
2. A space for integrations of new arrivals into the group after the 90-day quarantine period
3. An area for observation and/or medical treatment of sick animals or those who are having problems in the group
4. Shelter during rainy season and the prevention of illness



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5. Indoor space for animals during necessary outdoor enclosure repairs
6. Vital space for pre-translocation health screens.

### **Methods**

A third satellite, measuring 6x2,5x3 m. would be constructed by LWC's team out of a concrete foundation, galvanized iron mesh walls (painted in anti-rust and outdoor paint) and ceiling, wooden shelving/platforms, and a wooden and zinc roof; these materials will be used in order to ensure that the satellite will be strong and long-lasting.

### **Budget**

#### **Foundation**

Item	Price (CFA)	Amount	Total (CFA)	Total (Euro)
Sand	65,000	1	65,000	99
Gravel	85,000	1	85,000	130
Cement	5,000	10	50,000	76



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Building blocks	500	200	100,000	152
Labour (CFA/day)	5,000	3	15,000	23
Total			<b>315,000</b>	<b>480</b>

### **Ironwork**

6 mm. rod	2,000	170	340,000	518
40x40 pipe	18,000	30	540,000	823
40x40 angle	12,000	9	108,000	165
3.5 mm welding electrodes	11,000	4	44,000	67
2.5 mm welding electrodes	14,000	2	28,000	43
Cutting stone good quality2,000	1,500	10	15,000	23
Antirust paint	10,000	20	200,000	305
Marine paint	10,000	5	50,000	76
Thinner	1,300	20	26,000	40
Welder (CFA/day)	4,000	5	20,000	30
crew (CFA/day)	2,000	2	4,000	6
Total			<b>1,375,000</b>	<b>2,096</b>

### **Roof**

2x6x12 planks	8,000	12	96,000	146
2x3x12 planks	2,000	16	32,000	49
2 m. Zinc sheets	5,000	54	270,000	412
Zinc nails (packet)	5,000	1	5,000	8
Zink nail rubber (packet)	2,000	2	4,000	6
90 mm. nails (packet)	5,200	1	5,200	8
80 mm. nails (packet)	5,000	2	10,000	15



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carpenter (CFA/day)	4,000	3	12,000	18
crew (CFA/day)	2,000	3	6,000	9
6 mm. rod	2,000	1	2,000	3
<b>Total</b>			<b>442,200</b>	<b>674</b>

### **Platforms**

1x12x12 planks	8,500	4	34,000	52
Threaded rod	5,000	1	5,000	8
Nuts	300	34	10,200	16
Washers	200	16	3,200	5
50 mm. flat bar	8,000	1	8,000	12
Transportation of wood (roof and platforms)	20,000	1	20,000	30
carpenter (CFA/day)	4,000	1	4,000	6
<b>Total</b>			<b>84,400</b>	<b>129</b>

### **Bamboo fence**

Bamboo	300	135	40,500	62
2x3x12 planks	2,000	14	28,000	43
Pinning sticks	3,000	9	27,000	41
Saw blades	1,000	2	2,000	3
Transportation	10,000	1	10,000	15
Carpenter (for roof, platforms and fence) (CFA/day)	7,500	10	75,000	114
<b>Total</b>			<b>182,500</b>	<b>278</b>





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**TOTAL** expenditure for the third satellite      **3,657euro**

LWC would like **Save the Drill** to be part of the construction of a new drill satellite to benefit all of the drills at LWC by funding this project.

**Thank you in advance for your support!**

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