



AERIAL SUPPORT TO PROTECT CHAD'S ELEPHANTS

MONTHLY REPORT SEPTEMBER 2018

Background

Wings for Conservation is a non-profit Foundation based in the Netherlands.

Chad is a country in Central Africa. Over the past two decades, thousands of elephants were killed by poachers, drastically reducing numbers to less than 1,000 elephants today.

In July 2017, we signed an agreement with the Chadian Government to work in partnership with the Ministry of Environment and provide aerial support to increase the protection of the elephant populations. Our aircraft arrived in Chad in April 2018 to start the project.

The aircraft is a very cost effective tool to cover large areas in little time and offers excellent visibility over the landscape. It helps to identify threats to elephants and collect information that is provided to ground teams to stop and prevent poaching.

Summary

During the month of September, the aircraft continued to be deployed in the southwest of Chad carrying out surveillance missions.

The aircraft flew a total of 30.1 hours, covering a distance of 4220 kilometers, with an average speed of 140 km/h.

Elephant herds were spotted from the aircraft on several occasions, most hiding under trees and thick vegetation. This made them much harder to find from the aircraft and also made it difficult to make accurate counts.

As in previous months, most of the elephants were in close proximity to camps of nomadic herders and their cattle.

No elephant carcasses were found during the month.



Partners

Our work is only made possible thanks to the generous support of private donors and partner corporations and organizations, some of which are listed here. We are grateful for their support.



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