

# News from Boundou

Newsletter of the Boundou Community Nature Reserve

Written by the CORENA – Association of the Boundou CNR

*Before the rain*

## Editorial

by Saïdou Kane, President of the rural Council of Sinthiou Fissa

We will never stop saying that the Boundou CNR is an important project for the population of Boundou. It's making its mark little by little in the Region, and beyond. The work is long, but the first results are here : the first litres of honey are today for sale, about fifteen guinea-fowls farms have been started, the boundaries of the reserve are now marked and the eco-guards will soon be trained and equipped.

I will participate in July, with my colleagues Presidents of the rural councils of the CNR, the Regional Council and the ARD to a mission in France. This mission, which I have wanted to realize since the last steering committee, will permit us to better organize the actions of the reserve, improve its functioning and have a real exchange with our partners at North.

Of course, the rural community of Sinthiou Fissa only concerns a small area and one village... but not any because Belly Djimbara is closed to a dam whose ecological importance justifies its integration in the CNR. This dam, built 2 years ago as the one of Koussan, has been visited by PAPIL, a project which today is interested in participating in its rehabilitation. Hope is here !



## Signs of the CNR

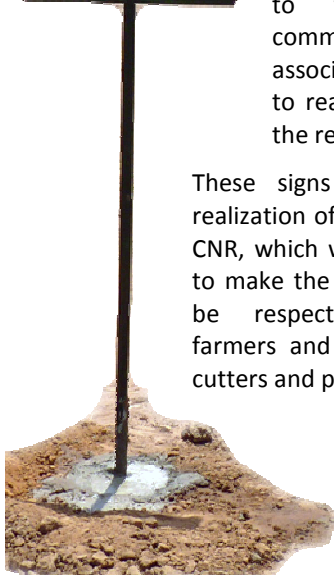
If the CNR has really existed on the papers for 2 years, only those who are living the project from inside know the precise boundaries on the field. Today, the outline of the 120 000 ha of the CNR is finally marked out with fine green and yellow signs, at the colours and the logo of the CNR !

This is during a mission lead by the Regional Inspectorate of Water and Forests of Tambacounda and the ARD, with the support of the FFEM, that the 440 signs were placed

every 500m, along the way marking the boundaries at North, and crossing the bush at South up to the Falémé. Long and hard work to which the 4 vigilance committees and eco-guards were associated with, a means for them to really define the boundaries of the reserve.

These signs are a new step in the realization of the preservation plan of the CNR, which will permit to the eco-guards to make the local code of good practices be respected, against transhumant farmers and from outlying villages, tree cutters and poachers.

*The 1st post put at Koussan, in the presence of the chief of the sector of Water and Forests of Goudiry and the PCR of Koussan*



\* French Funds for the worldwide Environment

## But where is Lella ?

*In April, Elsa walked 240 km, searching for signs of the presence of the red-fronted gazelle in the réserve...*

In the middle of the dry season, the period that is not the most favorable to watch mammals. Strong heat and lack of water... some animals still have left the area while others are hidden and are waiting for the right moment to go out. This is the case of our red-fronted gazelle (*Gazella rufifrons*), or Lella, whose signs of presence have been seen in every area of the CNR, thanks to the tenacity of Elsa Jullien (see letter n°7) and to the sharpened eye of the 4 eco-guards chosen for this study.

Five gazelles have been observed, but from very very far away... running away at the first sign of human presence. A timid behaviour proving the strong pressure of poaching on this species for generations. Some encouraging results for this first study, which could really help this gazelle in being finally recognized as a threatened species.



*Faeces and footprints of *Gazella rufifrons*, transects of April*

## The CNR in numbers

**440** The number of boundary post of the CNR placed in 2011

**100** The number of litres of honey collected by Limbam Boundou in May 2011

**18** The number of henhouses built in the CNR

## « Limousines » in Boundou

During its last mission in the CNR in May, the PNR of Millevaches in Limousin brought in its luggage a particular gift for our poultry farmers of Boundou... 300 hen eggs of hen of Limousine breed (among others) meant to test the breeding of pure races in the reserve and improve the local race.

Far from wanting to eradicate the local race or introduce a new exotic one, this operation aims at bringing an alternative to the use of imported hybrids flooding the market, without any local traits and producing bad descendants....



After having been kept in a incubator at Tambacounda, the eggs hatched giving 117 chicks, in good health and with a surprising energy ! At 2 months, they will be transferred to the 3 “multiplying” poultry farms at Koussan, Sansanding and Gonguedji, some isolated areas which will hopefully provide soon some beautiful roosters of Limousin to the farmers of the area... or even to the fishermen of the Falémé !

## In the villages ...

### RC OF TOUMBOURA

■ End of the construction work of the classroom of Goundafa

*Partner : PNDL*

■ Start of the construction work of the solar pump at Didé Gassama

*Partner : UEMOA*

■ Start of the Local Plan of Development of Toumboura

*Partner : PNDL*

## Limbam Boundou : training and honey collection 2011

*From 15 to 25 May, 3 training sessions of the beekeepers took place in the Boundou CNR, with the technical support of professional beekeepers from Isère and Sénégal.*

Since last year, the beekeepers of the Boundou CNR and their trade union Limbam Boundou have come a long way, backed by the Syndicat Apicole Dauphinois (Isère), the FFEM and USAID-Wula Nafaa. From 25 beekeepers and 25 hives, they are today 140 beekeepers and 85 hives.

This year, the goal of the training was to bring up to the same level the new beekeepers equipped with hives and to strengthen the capacities of the first trained ones, in particular by guiding them for their first honey collection.

We still need to perfect techniques and improve the facilities, the honey collection 2011 is really promising and encourage us to continue our efforts. Of the 15 colonized hives in 2010, 100 L of honey has been collected and packaged for sale. So take note, the honey from Boundou is here... and there won't be enough for all !

## Soon...



### 16 july to 2 august

Mission PCR/CRT/ARD in Isère and in the PNR of Millevaches

### 16 july to 15 august

Course of Adeline Basty (TK) on the architectural heritage of the CNR

### 19 to 29 july / 20 to 28 august

Participation of representatives of Nature Clubs of the CNR to the international meeting FCPN in Benin (July) and in Isère (August).

*The honey of Oumar SAO of Koussan, 10L collected in only one Kenyan beehive !*



### Boundou Community Nature Reserve

A project of the rural communities of **Dougué, Koussan, Sinthiou Fissa and Toumboura**, and of the **Group of communal interests of Bakel**.

*In the framework of the partnership ISÈRE-TAMBACOUNDA, with the support of the ARD, the technical departments, projects and programs of the Region, and the support of the FFEM, the AFD and the CF-UICN.*



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#### PNNK

Parc National du Niokolo Koba

INSPECTION d'Académie de Tambacounda



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