



RECOFOR: Regulation of Deer for the Conservation of Forests

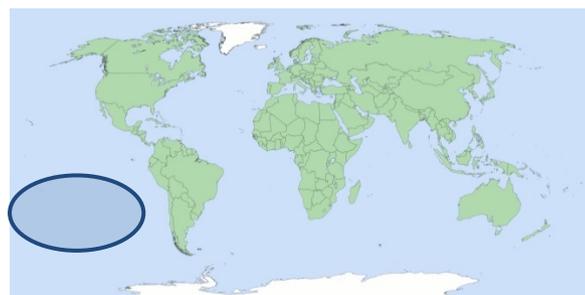
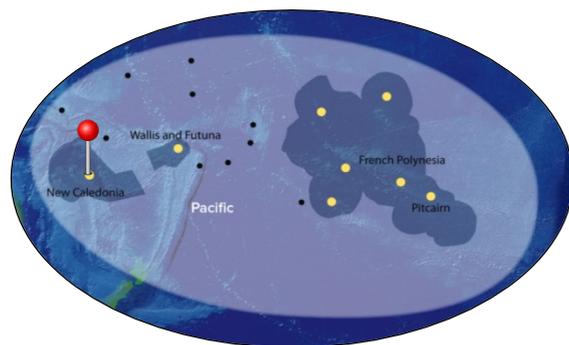
Targeted territory: New Caledonia

Total project budget: 49,999.96 Euros

BEST 2.0 grant awarded: 49,999.96 Euros

Duration: February 2018 – January 2019 (12 months)

Lead organisation: Association pour la Conservation en Cogestion du Mont Panié DAYU BIIK



Background:

At the scale of New Caledonia there is insufficiently regulation and therefore overpopulation of the Rusa deer, an invasive species that causes considerable damage in priority areas for nature conservation: destruction of the undergrowth, including impacts on forest regeneration, soil degradation and indirect effects on coral reefs and rivers, as well as the associated ecosystem services.

Mount Panié Wildlife Reserve (RNS) is located within a key biodiversity area and a priority area for regulating deer defined in the New Caledonia invasive species strategy of the 'massif' of Panié. Near the Mount Panié RNS very large deer populations are concentrated in steep savannahs away from the usual tribal hunting areas. Several herds of twenty deer can be observed, with phenomena of

permanent reinvasion of the reserve despite efforts to regulate them by the reserve manager. Deer control efforts within the Mount Panié reserve have reduced the damage but too much time is spent eliminating the many deer that are constantly arriving from nearby and largely unregulated and overcrowded savannahs. As part of the ICONE project, in December 2013, a helicopter control test was carried out on Mount Panié, successfully demonstrating the efficiency and effectiveness of this technique, which has been adopted for the Country strategy.

Description of the Project:

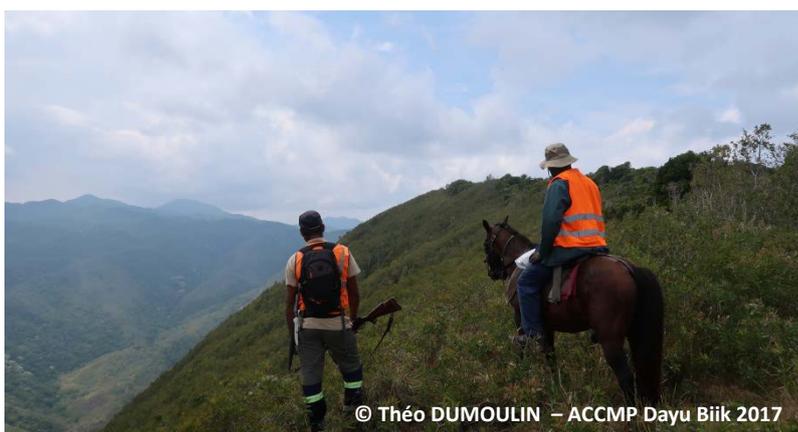
Dayu Biik wants to renew a helicopter cruise control campaign in 2018. The activities that will be implemented include:

- Consultation with the local population regarding areas to be regulated by helicopter.
- Technical meetings with partners (helicopter company, DoC-NZ shooter and Civil Aviation Directorate).
- Field markings prior to the control campaign.
- Implementation of the helicopter control cruise.
- Collecting data during the control campaign.
- Producing a report of the campaign and preparation of a poster/kakemono.
- Restoration with the local population.
- Communication.

Intended results:

The project aims to improve the overall effectiveness and efficiency of the Mont Panié deer regulation program. The expected results include:

- A regulated area of about 4000 hectares, with a significant reduction in the deer population.
- Strengthening New Caledonia's skills and capacities on this innovative and effective technique.



CONTACT

Léon RAZAFINDRAKOTO

ACCMP DAYU BIIK

directeur.dayubiik@lagoon.nc

