

The Native Dogs of the Middle Reach of the Maringa River

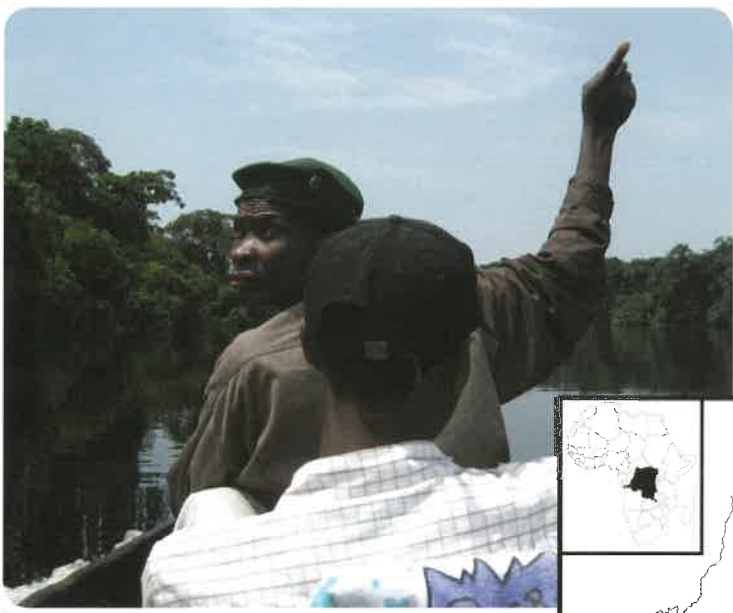
By James E. Johannes

Photos by Kadjos Ikwa

I first met Kadjos Ikwa in Basankusu during my 2010 trip to the Democratic Republic of the Congo. Lisa Saban and Bryan and Laurie Gregory were also on this trip. Kadjos is a Park Guard for the Congolese Institute for the Conservation of Nature (ICCN), equivalent to our National Park Service. We were the first tourists to visit the Lomako Reserve since its official opening at the end of 2009. Kadjos was assigned to help us navigate up the Maringa River as far as Lingunda, the Reserve's headquarters. This is also where Kadjos lives with his family.

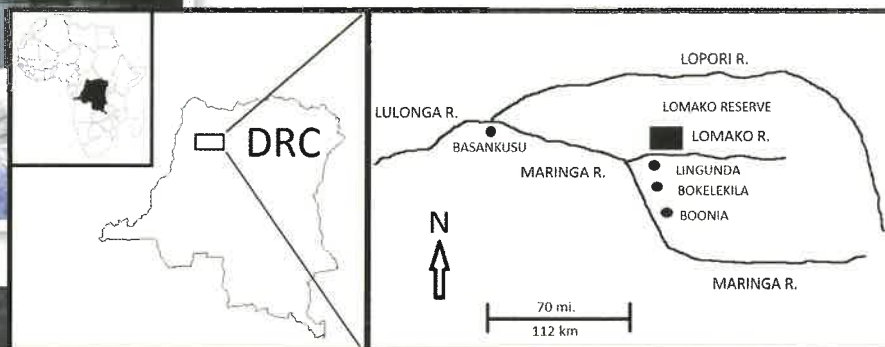
While we were in the Reserve Kadjos went to the village of Bokelekila and got seven puppies. We picked three out of the seven puppies. The next day Kadjos, Bryan and I went down to the village of Bokelekila and picked up two more.

Kadjos keeps in contact with me via the Internet using the Reserve headquarters satellite dish. He is using a camera sent to him by Lisa Saban to take pictures of the dogs in the villages of Bokelekila and Boonia, some of which are shown here.



Left: Kadjos giving the boatman navigational directions

Below: Map of the Maringa and Lopori river basin



Left: Red and white with nice winkles, possibly tri-factored



Below: Red and white with nice tail curl





Left: Tri-colored bitch; she is very thin due to nursing puppies



**Right: Red and white with loose tail curl.
Puppy on right may be a mahogany tri**



Left: Two red and white dogs playing



Right: Red and white