

Project Update: January 2016

The bird survey aimed at upgrading information on the population status of the Bannerman's turaco is ongoing in Boyo Division. Boyo is one of the reported ranges of the species (specifically in the Mt Mbam). The survey has been designed to cover the villages: Fundong, Njinikom, Bello and Mbam. The two count groups are now working in Fundong and Bello respectively. Taking altitude and the different vegetation types into consideration, 17 count stations of 200 m radius have been installed in the Fundong and Bello.

Some results:

- Only five out of the 17 count stations recorded the species. Different bird species were however recorded.
- A population of the species has been recorded in Anya Jua in Bello (sub-montane), close to the Mt Mbam.
- The recorded species were closer to a protected plant sanctuary.
- Surprisingly, flocks of two or three were found in small forests closer to community habitats.
- However, forest fires, hunting and deforestation threats on the species still persist.



Mfombo and Confidence at a bird count station in Laikom, Fundong.

Young boy (Forbit), confirms he uses his "catapult" commonly known as "rubber gun" to hunt the Bannerman's turaco in Anya Jua.



Image of the effects of a forest fire on the species habitat. The fire was set by a herdsman in Bellovillage.