

Project Update: October 2017

Between April and June 2017, we conducted a fieldwork in Mwana forest in Itombwe Mountains of DR Congo to survey gorilla populations. We located a total of 138 gorilla nests from eight nest sites, comprising 31 fresh nests, 68 recent nests, 28 old nests and 11 rotting nests. At each nest site, nests were counted and dung size measurements were made (see photo), along with noting the presence of silver hairs, to establish the age-sex composition of the group. The study has been able to confirm the presence and distribution of gorillas in Mwana forest. At this point, we cannot provide an estimate of the number of gorillas in the area. An analysis of the data is continuing and we hope to provide further information in the near future. However, the Mwana forest remains at very high risk of human disturbances. So, we believe that these preliminary results could help to improve management and conservation of gorillas found there.



Our team collecting data on a nest site in the Mwana forest'. © Felix Fazili from GH.