

Project of Independent Observer in Support of Forest Law Enforcement in Cameroon

**Approved by the Ministry of the
Environment and Forestry**

Report of the Independent Observer

No. 067En

Central Control Unit – Independent Observer Joint Mission

Title	FMU 09 003, 09 004a, 09 005a
Location	Djoum and Mintom Sub-Division, Dja and Lobo Division, South Province
Mission date	23 April 2003
Company	LOREMA (Title holder) SFID (Partner)

Independent Observer Team (Global Witness):

*Mr Reiner Tegtmeyer, Project Director
Mr Serge C. Moukouri, Technical Assistant
Mr Tangyie Ché Célestine, Driver*

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1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Independent Observer (Global Witness) accompanied a team of the Central Control Unit (CCU) on the 23rd of April 2003 during a control mission in forest concession No. 1032 located in the Dja and Lobo Division.

Forest Management Units (FMU) 09 003, 09 004a and 09 005 constitute Forestry Concession No. 1032 granted to the company Location Réparation de Matériel du Génie Civil (LOREMA). The Société Forestière et Industrielle de la Doumé (SFID) has been sub-contracted to conduct forestry exploitation activities of Annual Standing Volume (ASV) No.03 of the LOREMA concession.

Inability to access ASV No.03 due to the poor condition of its access road prevented the mission from accomplishing its work in the field.

Consequently, **the Independent Observer recommends** the deployment of a new control mission in the above-mentioned Annual Standing Volume in order to complete the work initiated during the mission addressed in this report.

2. RESOURCES USED

- 1 Toyota Hilux Pick Up
- 1 Photo camera
- 1 Digital camera
- 2 GPS
- 1 Laptop

3. COMPOSITION OF THE MISSION

The mission consisted of Mrs Essono Danièle and Mr Mamene Pierre Marcel, agents of the Central Control Unit (CCU); Mr Afene Obam James, Senior staff at the Forestry Department; Mr Issola Dipanda, Head of the Provincial Control Brigade of the South; the Head of Forestry Section of Dja and Lobo; the Head of the local Forestry Post of Djoum, as well as Mssrs Reiner Tegtmeyer and Serge C. Moukouri of the technical team of the Independent Observer.

4. CONTRAINTES

The CCU unilaterally planned the field mission. The Independent Observer was only informed of the different stages of the mission as they were undertaken. Consequently, the Independent Observer was not able to prepare fully for the mission.

5. MISSION'S FINDINGS

5.1 Case summary

The LOREMA enterprise is the title holder of Forestry Concession No. 1032, as indicated in the provisional convention of the 20th of October 2000. This Forestry Concession which covers a surface area of 138,652 hectares includes three Forest Management Units, namely FMU 09 003, 09 004a and 09 005a. The company LOREMA signed a sub-contract with the Société Forestière et Industrielle de la Doumé (SFID) to conduct extraction operations of Forestry Concession No. 1032. . The LOREMA enterprise is operating under the provisions of Annual Standing Volume No.03 for the current 2002-2003 fiscal year.

5.2 Mission's observations

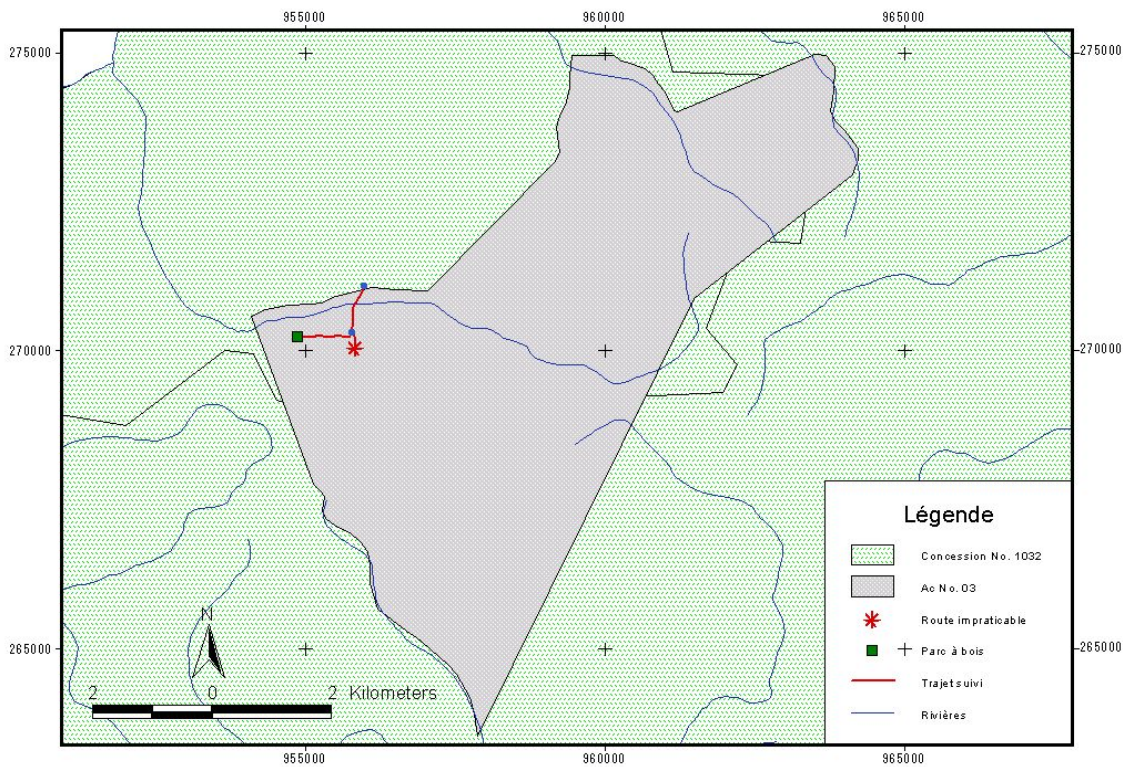
a) Inaccessibility of ASV No.03

The only access to the ASV No.03 site was obstructed by a large and deep body of water which made it impossible to cross even by motorcycle (see photo and map below). Consequently, the mission could not accomplish its objectives.

Photo: Access to ASV No.03



Map: Track covered in ASV No.03



6. CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

The poor condition of the access road to the ASV No.03 site prevented the mission from accomplishing its objectives.

Consequently, **the Independent Observer recommends** the deployment of a new control mission in the above-mentioned Annual Standing Volume in order to complete the work initiated during the mission addressed in this report.