

Review of: "Stakeholders' Perception of Socioecological Factors Influencing Forest Elephant Crop Depredation in Gabon, Central Africa"

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Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.

The study addresses the escalating conflict between forest elephants and villagers in Gabon, jeopardizing both livelihoods and conservation efforts. Unlike previous mitigation strategies focusing on crop protection, the research emphasizes the need to simultaneously address broader villager and elephant needs. Through interviews with villagers and conservation professionals, the study identifies socioecological drivers leading to five landscape dynamics and five proximal problem types, ultimately resulting in crop depredation incidents. The findings highlight the importance of understanding diverse perspectives to build trust and implement effective interventions.

The methodology is clear and well presented.

The results were well presented.

The paper can be accepted in its current state.