

FICHE DESCRIPTIVE DU DOCUMENT

* Mots clés-matière : Grues - Sénégal - Populations - Gestion

* Résumé en Français : Caractéristiques des populations de Grues couronnées au cours de l'année et sur plus de 15 ans

seen together in December 1992.

Figure 2 shows the monthly number of groups encountered and mean group size during the period 1990-91. Black Crowned Cranes wander in small parties during the breeding season (from September to December/January) and gather in larger flocks during the dry season. At that time, rice fields have been harvested and cranes are often seen on these

understand this beautiful species in Senegal. Regular crane observations were initiated only recently after the Conference on Black Crowned Cranes and their Wetland Habitats in West and Central Africa, held in Kano, Nigeria in February, 1992. In the future, we hope to determine the exact status of the cranes in Senegal.

fields especially after they have been plowed (Birane Faye *pers. comm.*).

BREEDING

Evidence of breeding is very difficult to obtain for Black Crowned Cranes, but in Djoudj National Park, young birds have been found in late November and early December in different years. Some nests have also been found: one at the end of 1985 and one in early January 1993. Unfortunately, this last nest failed when the eggs were eaten by some animal.

CONCLUSION

These very few data expose the need for more work to

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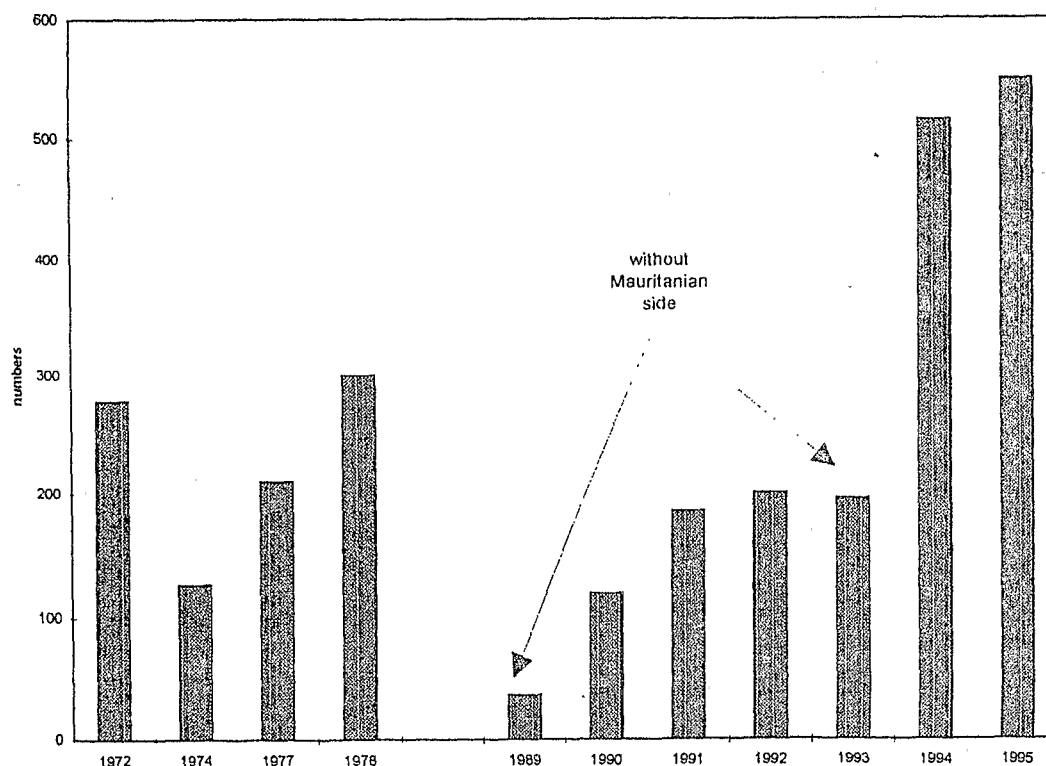


Figure 1. Total number of Black Crowned Cranes observed in the Senegal Delta during January censuses. Cranes were not censused on the Mauritanian side of the Delta during period 1989-93.

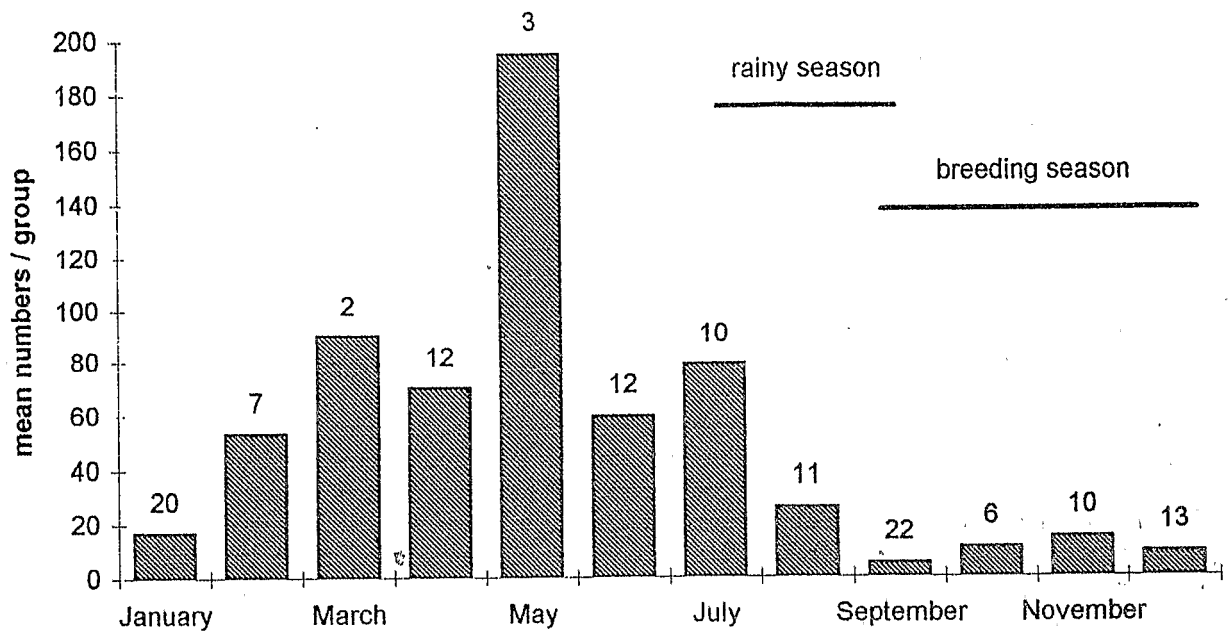


Figure 2. Mean size of groups and number of groups encountered per month during the years 1991 and 1992.