



Kelley Bishop (left), Capt. Djigo (2nd left) and Col. Mama Balla Gueye (centre in uniform) inspect the new game fence at Katané

Exotic Wildlife Association

The Exotic Wildlife Association (EWA) is a true Friend of the Sahara. Under the leadership of Executive Director, Charlie Seale, and Board President, Don Tarpey, EWA's membership has grown from 800 to 3700 members. At the same time, EWA has worked diligently to identify ways to further its already substantial commitment to conservation. Were it not for captive breeding programs in both the private sector and in zoos, there would be no scimitar-horned oryx left on the planet, as this species has been extinct in the wild for close to 30 years now. Many of the Sahara's key antelope species thrive in such captive populations and can serve as valuable genetic reservoirs for reintroduction programs. Larry John-

son, chair of the EWA's conservation committee, has been tireless in his efforts to mobilize support for projects like the recently completed infrastructure improvements in the Ferlo National Park, Senegal. In partnership with park authorities and SCF, EWA arranged for the donation, shipment, and installation of much-needed fencing in Ferlo to expand the carrying capacity there for scimitar-horned oryx, dama and dorcas gazelles introduced to this fenced reserve since 2002.

With over 4 km of game fencing donated by the Stay-Tuff Company and tools from Uvalco Supply, SCF's Kelley Bishop travelled to Ferlo to work with park conservator Djigo and colleagues to blaze and fence a

4 km extension to the Katané enclosure, effectively increasing the area under protection by 50%. With the current wet season well underway, the vegetation inside the enclosure is already greening up and will soon be ready for the introduction of antelopes and gazelles.

Thanks to EWA a further 3 km of fencing is on its way to Niger to help develop infrastructure for ostrich conservation. SCF is grateful for the vision and the leadership EWA has shown in looking beyond its own fences for meaningful ways to contribute directly to conservation in the wilds of Africa. EWA's membership can be rightfully proud of the effort its organization has made to ensure a future for wildlife in the Sahara.



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