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REVIEWER'S REPORT

Manuscript No.: IJAR-57945

Title: Conservation status of endangered wildlife: the case of the pangolin in a community forest and two classified forests in the Tonkpi region, Western CÔTE D'IVOIRE.

Recommendation:

- Accept as it is
- Accept after minor revision.....**
- Accept after major revision
- Do not accept (*Reasons below*)

Rating	Excel.	Good	Fair	Poor
Originality		x		
Techn. Quality		x		
Clarity		x		
Significance		x		

Reviewer's ID: JPR-171

Detailed Reviewer's Report

This study assesses the conservation status of pangolins in three forests of western Côte d'Ivoire, identifying two species (*Phataginus tetradactyla* and *P. tricuspis*) and documenting threats. The topic is important and the field data are valuable. However, a few minor issues require attention. First, the manuscript contains inconsistent figure numbering (e.g., Figure 1 appears twice on pages 4 and 5; Figure 14 is cited but not clearly referenced). Second, the English language needs light editing (e.g., "foot prospecting" should be "foot surveys"; "philodota" should be "Pholidota"). Third, the discussion of habitat preferences would benefit from referencing the known ecology of both species (e.g., *P. tetradactyla* is semi-arboreal and associated with watercourses, which aligns with the Cavally River observations). Fourth, the conclusion repeats results without synthesising conservation implications; a brief statement on priority actions would strengthen it. Fifth, several references are incomplete or have formatting errors (e.g., "Bhandari & Chalise, 2014" missing journal). These corrections do not require new data collection. With these revisions, the paper will be acceptable.