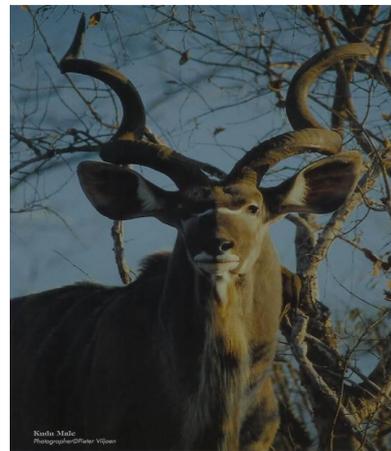
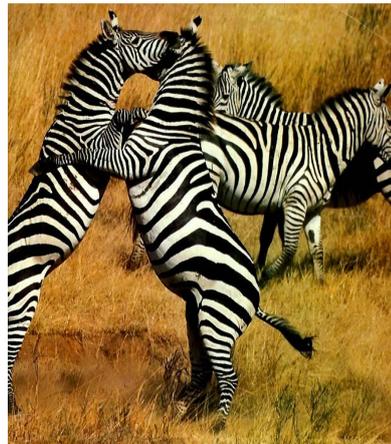




MANAGEMENT GUIDELINES FOR PRIVATE WILDLIFE ESTATES IN ZAMBIA



Zambia Wildlife Authority

CITATION

Management Guidelines for Private Wildlife Estates in Zambia

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APPROVAL PAGE

The Zambia Wildlife Authority Board of Directors approved the Management Guidelines for Private Wildlife Estates in Zambia.



.....
Board Chairman
Zambia Wildlife Authority Board of Directors

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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The staff of ZAWA put in a lot of effort in facilitating the workshop in a professional manner. Members of the internal review committee are thanked for an exceptional job in balancing the needs of technocrats and non-technocrats without compromising the meaning and primary objectives of conserving biodiversity while permitting sustainable income generation through tourism.

Special thanks go to the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) under the Environmental Protection and Natural Resources Programme for providing funds for hosting the National Consultative Workshop and printing of this document.

ACRONYMS

CITES	-	Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Flora and Fauna
DG	-	Director General of Zambia Wildlife Authority
GMA	-	Game Management Area
NP	-	National Park
PAs	-	Protected Areas
SI	-	Statutory Instrument
WPAZ	-	Wildlife Producers Association of Zambia
ZAWA	-	Zambia Wildlife Authority

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FOREWORD

The Government of the Republic of Zambia, through its Wildlife Agency, the Zambia Wildlife Authority (ZAWA), recognises the importance of Private Sector investment and Local Community participation in the conservation and sustainable utilisation of our biodiversity through *ex situ* programmes. Wildlife Ranching and Farming operations as a form of *ex situ* conservation strategy are critical in providing back up support *inter alia*:

- securing threatened and endangered species of wildlife;
- lessening detrimental effects of harvesting by taking off pressure from the wild populations;
- providing seed bank for wildlife specimens for restocking depleted Protected Areas;
- as a source of revenue, employment, food security; and
- enhancing the economic value of wildlife species, as the pricing of wildlife products by the private sector is relatively market oriented.

In view of the foregoing, ZAWA realised that sound management guidelines were fundamental in promoting the establishment and expansion of ranching and farming operations as an important component in development of wildlife-based tourism. This document provides the framework to guide and promote the establishment and expansion of Private Wildlife Estates as an alternative economic land use option, particularly in drier ecological zones where the natural weather patterns pose a challenge on conventional forms of agriculture.

It is hoped that these Management Guidelines will stimulate interest in the general public to invest in Private Wildlife Estates as a way of supporting Government's Policy of Developing Tourism and Conservation of Biodiversity.

I now wish to take this opportunity to launch these Guidelines to facilitate the establishment, expansion and growth of Private Wildlife Estates and in particular Game Ranching and Farming Operations for the promotion of tourism and conservation of biodiversity.



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Board Chairman
Zambia Wildlife Authority Board of Directors

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Hunting of various types of wildlife was the basic human way of life for our ancestors for centuries until the advent of agriculture. With the introduction and expansion of agriculture and increase in human population, wildlife was slowly displaced from most of its range and now many species are only found in Protected Areas where poaching is a challenge due to high levels of poverty in surrounding local communities. This has led to indiscriminate exploitation of many wildlife species.

ZAWA realized that many species of wildlife were undermined by the generally low value placed on them by the Zambian Public due to the limited utilization options. In order to change this negative public perception that game was simply a cheap source of bush meat, ZAWA and its predecessor National Parks and Wildlife Service (NPWS) realised that it needed to work with partners such as the Private Sector to change this negative attitude. This led to the establishment of the initial ranching operations about two decades ago. The private sectors' participation in the conservation of this valuable natural resource through *ex situ* conservation programmes has finally proved to be feasible in realising this vision.

The current challenges of disease out breaks such as Foot and mouth Disease being faced by the livestock sector has yet opened another window of opportunity for Zambians to turn to game ranching as an appropriate alternative option to livestock farming. Citizens are challenged to take advantage of the exceptional range of values offered by wildlife species *inter alia*; ecological, aesthetic, economic and resistance to disease, which gives wildlife a comparative advantage over livestock. While livestock provides meat and hides, wild animals can be utilized for ornamental purposes, game viewing, venison production and trophy/sport hunting. This further makes ranching a suitable land use option to conventional agriculture particularly in drier ecological zones.

The interest in Game Ranching in Zambia has steadily risen over the last decade. This increasing level of enthusiasm by the Zambian society in Game Ranching prompted ZAWA to prepare Management Guidelines for Private Wildlife Estates. This document provides a regulatory framework and guidance upon which the establishment and expansion and improved management of game ranching operations will be anchored.

1.0 INTRODUCTION

ZAWA recognised that Private Wildlife Estates play a critical role in biodiversity conservation and enhancement of economic value of Zambia's wildlife. Therefore, wildlife ranching and farming should be properly promoted and regulated in order to enhance conservation and utilization of wildlife on private and customary land and enhance economic gain to the investors. It is ZAWA's view that animals on such properties could assist in restocking depleted Protected Areas.

To this effect, ZAWA embarked on an ambitious programme to develop Management Guidelines for Private Wildlife Estates. The guidelines are intended to promote and regulate all wildlife ranching and farming operations in Zambia. The guidelines support the establishment of wildlife ranching and farming operations particularly by local communities by providing the professional and technical support services and animals for restocking such operations at an economic fee and, where necessary enter into partnerships. It is on this basis that ZAWA formulated the Management Guidelines to promote the industry and contribute to the economic growth of the national economy through tourism and conservation of biodiversity.

2.0 BACKGROUND

Game ranching in Zambia is a relatively new enterprise, which started about two decades ago, in the drier ecological zones I and II and mainly along the line of rail. In the last ten years, particularly after the liberalization of the economy, there has been an increase in the number of wildlife ranching and farming operations. By June 2005, there were 70 Game Ranches at different levels of development. This signifies a noteworthy shift in the mindsets of many people who previously treated wildlife as a mere source of bush meat. Many people now recognize that trade in live animals and animal skins, and other trophies and non-consumptive utilisation of game have become a rewarding business.

Animal production from domestic stock are facing tremendous challenges of disease out breaks and fisheries resources have been depleted in many water bodies. As a consequence of this, increasing human populations may face declining protein supply from domesticated livestock and fisheries, which are supposed to be the main source of animal protein. Game ranching can be used to supplement livestock farming in meeting the protein needs of the population in Zambia through venison production.

With the increasing acceptance of bush meat in most families' diets, commercial exploitation of wild animals for meat is highly justified.

3.0 OBJECTIVES

- 3.1 To strengthen the existing legal framework.
- 3.2 To classify and/or categorise Private Wildlife Estates.
- 3.3 To encourage local communities to participate in the establishment and Management of Private Wildlife Estates.
- 3.4 To empower indigenous Zambians to participate in the establishment and Management of Private Wildlife Estates

- 3.5 To provide a framework to guide Ecological Assessments.
- 3.6 To implement Framework for Partnerships; ZAWA and the Private Sector and Local Communities.

3.1.1 To Strengthen the Existing Legal Framework

Government recognises that the development of Private Wildlife Estates in the country proceeded without a strong legal and regulatory framework to guide and regulate these operations. This resulted in numerous problems affecting such investments, which may be tied to socio-cultural, political and legal constraints. ZAWA seeks to redress such issues by strengthening the existing legal framework.

Actions

1. Revise Statutory Instrument (SI) No. 66 of 1993 'Authority to Keep Animals in Captivity' to adapt it to contemporary needs with the view of promoting Private Sector investment.
2. Prescribe the administrative procedures for processing applications and issuance of registrations, licences and permits.
3. Enforce the CITES Appendix listing in the utilisation of wildlife on wildlife ranches and farms.
4. Maintain a comprehensive database on all Private Wildlife Estates specifying the biological and economic data.
5. Provide for additional categories of Private Wildlife Estates in the legal framework.

3.2.1 To classify and/or categorise Private Wildlife Estates

ZAWA realises that it is cost-effective to provide for different categories of Private Wildlife Estates with regards to licence fees and policing in general.

Action

1. Prescribe different categories of private wildlife estates and associated secondary and tertiary industries/businesses as; game farm/ranch, Communal-Private Conservancy, Communal Wildlife Conservancy, Crocodile Ranch/Farm, Reptile Park, Serpentarium, Aviary, Zoo, Commercial Premises, Residential Properties, Butcheries, etc.

3.3.1 To encourage local communities to participate in the establishment and Management of Private Wildlife Estates

ZAWA realises that there is need to promote the participation of local communities in the management and ownership of Game ranching and farming operations if the communities were to realise maximum benefits from wildlife.

Actions

1. Conduct awareness campaigns through print and electronic media, seminars and workshops or any other suitable means.
2. Offer incentives to local communities interested in establishing Private Wildlife Estates.

3. Encourage local communities to form community trusts for acquisition of land by local communities to participate in wildlife ranching and farming operations.
4. Encourage communities to lobby for funds from cooperating partners.
5. Sensitise financial and insurance institutions about wildlife ranching and farming operations so that they can provide financial support.

3.4.1 To empower indigenous Zambians to participate in the Establishment and Management of Private Wildlife Estate

Inadequate participation by indigenous Zambians in wildlife ranching and farming operations is a source of concern. Many indigenous Zambians have access to large tracts of land, which can be utilised for the development of ranching operations but do not have the financial capacity to engage in wildlife ranching and farming operations.

Actions

1. Lobby with Government to provide long-term credit facilities at affordable rates to indigenous Zambians keen in participating in Private Wildlife Estate Management.
2. Disseminate information on investment opportunities in Private Wildlife Estates to the public.
3. Encourage indigenous Zambians to build capacity in Private Wildlife Estate Management.
4. Encourage the Zambian public to lobby with Government to offer tax holidays for long-term ranching investments for indigenous Zambians.
5. Promote partnerships in Private Wildlife Estate Management between indigenous Zambians and other investors (non-indigenous and non-Zambians).
6. Establish, maintain and update a database for indigenous Zambians requiring partnerships in Private Wildlife Estate Management.
7. Share information from database on indigenous Zambians with Zambia National Tourist Board, Zambia Investment Centre and Wild Producers Association of Zambia.

3.5.1 To Provide a framework to guide Ecological Assessments

In order to meet the increased demand, which is expected to soar after the implementation of these guidelines, ZAWA needs to provide guidelines for conducting ecological assessments in order to expedite the process of establishing Game farming and ranching operations.

Actions

1. Provide guidelines for conducting ecological assessments.
2. Approve Game Ranch projects only upon recommendation from a feasibility study and inspection of the infrastructures, and presentation of a business plan where necessary.

3.6.1 To provide a Framework for Partnerships (ZAWA and the Private Sector and Local Communities)

ZAWA recognises the need for collective effort in realising the overall goal of conservation and economic diversification.

Actions

1. Enter into strategic partnerships with the private sector and/or local communities (if this is in the interest of enhancing the conservation of endangered or threatened animal species, habitat or ecosystem).
2. Encourage communities to enter into strategic partnerships such as with the private sector and public institutions for ranching.

4.0 MANAGEMENT CONCERNS

4.1 Location of Private Wildlife Estates

ZAWA realises that there is need to consider the needs of migratory species, local communities and the interests of other stakeholders in approving the location of a PWE. When approving establishments of Private Wildlife Estates, ZAWA will take the necessary steps to prevent potential resource use conflicts that may arise from an inappropriate location of such PWE.

ZAWA shall ensure that :

1. Distances between PAs and PWEs are regulated on a case by case basis.
2. All PWES are fenced off, unless where the assessment recommends against fencing.
3. Disturbance to breeding grounds for most reptiles especially crocodiles by inappropriate location of PWEs is prevented.
4. Crocodile farmers are granted access to the river frontage to collect eggs and capture live specimens.
5. Members of the public especially the local community have access to water and water-based resources such as fish.

4.2 Fencing of Private Wildlife Estates

It is most preferred to have Private Wildlife Estates fenced in a manner that shall hold the specimens in confinement to that particular property, using guidelines provided for under the ecological assessments document, except under circumstances where the ecological assessment recommends against fencing.

4.3 Restrictions on use of Firearms

All properties where fire arms and other shooting devices will be used shall be required to obtain Safari Outfitters' licence and register with the Zambia Police Service with supporting documentation from ZAWA. For the purpose of expediting this process, all ranch owners will be required to obtain Safari Outfitters Licence.

4.4 Safari Hunting on Game Ranches

Safari hunting will be undertaken in the company of a registered and competent professional hunter.

4.5 Game Capture

To minimize disruption of mating and breeding of any given species, game capture operations will be restricted to specific seasons of the year, with the least chances of mortality. Only game capture operations undertaken by game capture companies and

individuals duly registered with ZAWA will be sanctioned. All game capture and translocations will be monitored by ZAWA.

All game capture operations involving chemical immobilisation of the animal(s) shall be done in accordance with the Veterinary legislation. Translocation of game shall be in accordance with veterinary legislations in the country.

4.6 Harvesting of Wildlife Specimens from the Wild

Realizing that wild specimens are a critical input to the establishment and operations of private properties, ZAWA will provide a harvesting quota at a prescribed fee to the different categories of Private Wildlife Estates. Harvesting of such specimens will be under the supervision of ZAWA officials.

Specimens harvested from the wild will be for the purpose of enhancing breeding in captivity and ranching.

4.7 Veterinary Checks and Inspections

Private Wildlife Estates will be required to act in accordance with all veterinary laws and regulations in their operations including trade in wildlife products. In drawing up management plans of their private wildlife estates, ZAWA will take into consideration the role that wildlife and livestock have in the transmission of animal diseases between the two animal groups, and humans.

In the spirit of promoting compliance of veterinary laws and regulations ZAWA shall where necessary lobby for the revision and amendment of specific veterinary legislation that may constrain wildlife production and utilisation including trade.

For public health reasons, the location of any medium-to-large scale private wildlife estate operation from a built up area will be regulated through an assessment on a case-by-case basis.

4.8 Policing and Monitoring Operations of Private Wildlife Estates

To ensure compliance with all wildlife legislation and regulations, ZAWA will undertake regular inspection of PWEs. During the inspection, ZAWA will crosscheck the biological (including condition of habitat) and socio-economic status of the properties. This information will be kept by ZAWA in a computerised database.

For monitoring purposes, private operators shall submit annual returns to ZAWA not later than 15th February each year, specifying all relevant aspects of biological and socio-economic parameters of the previous year.

4.9 Law Enforcement

To promote law enforcement on Private Wildlife Estates the property owners will be conferred the status of Honorary Wildlife Police Officers as prescribed in the Principal Act unless where such individuals do not qualify for such appointment due to infringement of the Zambia Wildlife Act No 12 of 1998 or other relevant laws of the land. In the event that the property owner is not eligible or is a professional hunter, this privilege shall be conferred on the Manager or any other suitable person.

4.10 Transfer of Ownership of the Estate from one Party to Another

All the transfers of ownership of the wildlife estate from one party to the other shall be done with the approval of ZAWA, who will undertake an inventory of the property before transfer of ownership is granted.

4.11 Change of Land Use

Any change of land use from that initially provided for under the revised SI shall be with the approval of ZAWA.

4.12 Implementation of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora.

ZAWA will exercise its powers as the CITES Management Authority to regulate and control all the activities on private establishments in the country to make such activities CITES-compliant by inspecting and verifying export and import shipments, issuance of export and import permits after verification.

To this effect ZAWA will;

1. Inspect export and import shipments (or by an agent to whom such responsibility may be delegated).
2. Uphold existing CITES Appendix listing in the utilisation of animal species.
3. Authorize the export of animal species on the strength of ZAWA and CITES permits.
4. Prohibit the export of live specimens of species that are endemic to Zambia such as the Kafue and Black lechwe or any other species agreed upon among stakeholders.
5. Prohibit the export of live specimens of species whose population is threatened or endangered.
6. Support the export of specimens that have been bred in captivity unless where such export will not be detrimental to the survival of the species of interest in the wild.

4.13 Import and Export of Live Specimens

Conscious of the ecological and socio-economic threats, which may result from the import, and export of live specimens of wildlife, ZAWA will regulate such activities by:

1. Restricting species that may be imported and exported based on a permit system.
2. Ensuring that animals imported into the country will neither threaten the ecological integrity nor distort the wildlife population and the overall goal of maintenance of biodiversity.
3. Ensuring that all veterinary requirements are complied with.
4. Adhering to all CITES regulations.
5. Ensuring that transportation, care and management whilst in transit comply with the relevant veterinary regulations;
6. Prescribing ports of entry and exit for monitoring purposes;
7. Regulating the importation of exotic species;
8. Where exotic species are permitted, prohibit the release to the wild of such species.
9. Issuing notice from time to time of animal species that cannot be imported in the country due to potential hazards and risks to public health, ecological invasions and genetic contamination and any other reasons that ZAWA will deem appropriate.
10. Complying with the regulations of keeping animals in captivity.

4.15 Animals in Transit

Wildlife entering Zambia in transit to another country will be required to comply with CITES provisions and regulations. Such specimens will not be entitled to other documentation issued by ZAWA unless where such specimens will be resident in the country for a period exceeding seven (7) days from the date of entry.

4.16 Co-ordination with other Stakeholders

4.16.1 Government Agencies

ZAWA recognises the importance of intersectoral co-ordination if the industry is to expand in a judicial manner.

To achieve this, ZAWA will:

1. Establish and strengthen inter-sectoral co-ordination especially with Government line Ministries critical to the expansion of the industry such as Ministry of Lands, Ministry of Agriculture and Co-operatives, Zambia Revenue Authority and the Investment Centre etc.
2. Promote the establishment of appropriate measures and institutional arrangements for improving co-ordination with other stakeholders.
3. Maintain regular liaison, consultations and exchange of information on matters relating to land policy and administration, trade in wildlife products, security and taxation and investment portfolios.

4.17 Wildlife Producers Association of Zambia (WPAZ)

ZAWA shall deal with WPAZ as the case may be. Individual operators not registered with WPAS will not be discriminated against.

4.18 Delegation of Responsibilities to the Private Sector

ZAWA will where necessary delegate the responsibility of ecological studies of private estates, and supervision of game capture to an agent(s) with appropriate skills and experience. The professional fee for the Agent(s) will be the responsibility of the investor(s). Review of the Ecological Assessment Report by ZAWA shall be done at a fee, the Review Fee.

5.0 REVIEW OF THE MANAGEMENT GUIDELINES

The Management guidelines shall undergo regular revisions to adjust to existing conditions. For management purposes the legal framework shall be reviewed every 3 years from the date of approval.

APPENDIX I Drafting, coordinating and review Committees

Internal Reviewers

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Longwe, I.

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September 2003

Venue: Andrews Motel

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Kamweneshe, D.	AWF Kariba Zimbabwe
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Director Forestry	Forestry
Nkowani (PhD)	MTENR Chairman of the meeting
Siame, D.	MTENR
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