

Dear All

My header is from Nanzhila Safari Lodge, Southern Kafue. Steve and Cindy are having a great season.

It's been a busy 2 months at Nanzhila so far with some great wildlife sightings including Sable, Roan, Eland, Lichtenstein's hartebeest, blue wildebeest, kudu, reedbuck, impala, common duiker, oribi.. as well as some sporadic sightings of lion, cheetah and leopard. One can only be excited to see what the next month holds.. so stay tuned for updates!

ZAMBIA

Conservation Lower Zambezi

Conservation Success: CLZ, in partnership with DNPW facilitated Investigations and Intelligence Unit training for 10 officers last week. Last night, two of the trained officers successfully rescued a live Pangolin and apprehended 3 suspects. The pangolin who we believe to be a young female was successfully released back in to the Lower Zambezi National Park. Well done to the officers involved!













Lady Liuwa Dies

It has been confirmed by African Parks that a legendary lioness fondly known as 'Lady Liuwa', who lived in Liuwa Plain National Park in Zambia, has died of natural causes on August 9th, 2017, just one-day before World Lion Day. African Parks, a conservation NGO which manages national parks and protected areas across Africa, has been managing Liuwa Plain in partnership with the Zambia Department of National Parks and Wildlife (DNPW) and the Barotse Royal Establishment (BRE) since 2003.

Lady Liuwa was an icon, and a symbol of survival and resilience. Due to years of poaching and illegal trophy hunting, lions were completely eradicated from Liuwa Plain in the 1990's, except for one lioness – Lady Liuwa. Her presence was first confirmed in 2002 and since then she roamed the plains for years as the sole survivor in the park. With no lions to be found, she looked to humans for companionship. Her extraordinary story of survival, as well as how African Parks helped give her a pride of her own, became one of the most moving wildlife films ever produced.

"Lady Liuwa was a truly exceptional lioness, so much so that it is impossible to do justice to her in words" said Peter Fearnhead, CEO of African Parks. "Oftentimes she would lie just five meters away from our camp-fire in the middle of the park. When it came time to go to bed, she would follow, walking parallel to the path and then fall asleep in front of one of our tents. In the mornings, we would find her in a tree, just watching but never threatening us. After years of being solitary, and after several reintroductions and careful management, we were finally able to unite her with her own kind. While her passing saddens us all, she leaves behind a legacy of survival in the small but growing pride in Liuwa Plain".

The efforts to find Lady Liuwa her own family were not without setbacks. After five years of waiting for lions to return to Liuwa from the larger landscape, and after securing the park through improved law enforcement and working with local communities, African Parks reintroduced a male lion in 2008 to join Lady. Sadly, he died during the translocation process. A year later, two more males were reintroduced, both of whom mated with Lady Liuwa but she never produced any cubs, almost certainly because of her infertility. Two young lionesses were then reintroduced in 2011.

However, in 2012 one of the females was killed by a poacher's snare and the other, Sepo, fled towards the Angolan boundary. In a dramatic rescue mission, Sepo was darted, flown back to the park by helicopter and placed in a boma for safety along with Lady Liuwa to encourage Sepo to bond with Lady, critical for the young lioness' survival. And this time it worked. After two months, they were released back into the park, and were inseparable from that point forward. Sepo produced her first litter of cubs shortly thereafter.

The growing pride suffered another setback when the two males left the park and entered Angola. One was shot and killed by villagers, but the other made it safely back to Liuwa on his own, where he became the resident male. African Parks in collaboration with the Zambia Carnivore Programme (ZCP), DNPW and Mushingashi Conservancy reintroduced another male lion in September 2016 to help grow the pride and increase genetic integrity. The newly translocated male and the resident male were placed in a boma for two months to undergo the bonding process and then were successfully released into the park to join with the females. While the males were in the enclosure, Lady Liuwa and Sepo would visit them, sleeping just outside of it at night, and staying just a short distance from it during the day. On November 15th 2016 it was confirmed that Sepo had produced another two new cubs, sired by the resident male. While Lady Liuwa could not have cubs of her own, she was seen helping to raise Sepo's numerous litters over the years, and it was clear that finally Lady Liuwa had a pride of her own.

Lady Liuwa's exact age is unknown, but it is believed she was 17 years old, an extraordinary feat for a wild lion hunting and surviving on her own, and is a testament to the collaborative protection she was afforded by African Parks, the DNPW, ZCP and the BRE. Her remains along with her VHF collar were found yesterday. There was no sign of human

activity and it is believed she died of natural causes.

"It's incredibly rare for a lion to live to such an old age and to die from natural causes" said Matthew Becker, CEO of ZCP. "Lions are incredibly threatened across their range given the levels of poaching, conflict killing and habitat loss and fragmentation that is occurring across the continent. Her survival and that of her growing pride signifies what can happen when people come together to help protect and restore a species - Lady's story is one of hope and possibility".





Earlier this morning, Southern Cross Motors General Manager Anthony Voorhout handed over a JEEP 8 vehicle to the Special Anti-Poaching Unit-SAPU of the Department of National Parks & Wildlife-DNPW for use in anti-poaching operations in the Kafue National Park. The DNPW team led by Principal Warden Lusizi was on hand to receive the donation. The handover ceremony was facilitated by Game Rangers International led by Sport Beattie, GRI CEO. Thanks to Southern Cross Motors for this amazing gesture to support the work of DNPW and GRI in Kafue National Park. Southern Cross Motors have also offered on-going service and maintenance for the donated vehicle. Another win for wildlife conservation efforts in Zambia.



GRI - Elephant Orphanage Project Introducing Mkaliva...

Young female elephant rescued by community members, the Elephant Orphanage Project and Department of National Parks and Wildlife in South Luangwa National Park.

On the 8th of August 2017, the Elephant Orphanage Project (EOP) received a call on the Orphan Hotline that villagers in the Kavalamanja area of South Luangwa National Park had captured and restrained a small female elephant calf. There had been reports of recent poaching in the area, and the orphan may have been a result of this. She was a dehydrated and frightened female approximately 1 year 10 months old - separated from her mother would have created unimaginable distress. She sustained some injuries while the villagers were trying so hard to save her life. She was relocated to a temporary holding facility and offered Lectade (essential rehydration fluids).

She was treated in situ with assistance from vet Dr Jackson Katampi from the Department of National Parks and Wildlife (DNPW). She was monitored for a few days while her condition was assessed for travel. On the 11th of August she was transported to the Lilayi Elephant Nursery. This was a difficult journey and her energy levels "crashed" on a few occasions, forcing the team to stop to allow the vet to administer treatment on the road. Her first few nights at the nursery were

extremely challenging with multiple energy level crashes, needing 24/7 support in the stables. This involved all efforts to bring her core temperature up, including blankets, hot water bottles and a heat lamp while administering IV fluids. Now the priority is slowly increasing her milk feed so her energy levels do not crash dangerously low but without causing too much stress on her fragile digestive system; a fine and delicate balance! The wounds she sustained while the community bravely saved her life have also been routinely cleaned and covered in various treatments and fly repellent (hence her multi-coloured appearance in some of the photos!).

The community support and spirit during this rescue was evident and we will continue to motivate this but also educate regarding capture techniques and reducing early stress. The name "Mkaliva" was chosen as it signifies the unity of the three villages that make up the Kavalamanja district, and also for us, the coming together of the community as a whole, DNPW and the EOP team in saving this young fragile life.

The team would like to thank those who assisted, especially Gregory Phiri, Patrick Matewere, and Ben Tembo and members of the DNPW including Warden Phiri and Philip Kamuzyu. The area where Mkaliva was rescued from has poaching challenges (especially from the neighbouring Mozambique and Zimbabwe) and therefore was classed by EOP's Orphaned Elephant Awareness Campaign (OEAC) as an 'orphan hotspot'. Since focusing attention there, people have really been on the 'look out' with two rescues (Kakaro and Kasewe) coming from the same area last year as well as a number of calls.

The team would also like to extend a special thanks to EOP's technical consultant, Liz O'Brien, who has supported us from the UK, providing invaluable advice at any hour! Also thanks to Andy Skillen who donated two heat lamps, which have been invaluable for bringing Mkaliva's core temperature up quickly and maintaining it. We'd also like to thank Kelly Dorsey and Dottidoodles Art Club for donating blankets which also contributed to maintaining her temperature at this critical time!

This rescue was challenging in terms of transport - struggling to keep her warm enough on a 10-hour journey in winter, all while trying to reduce stress. This further highlights the need for EOP to have it own dedicated climate controlled rescue trailer to give these vulnerable orphans the best shot at life. The Elephant Orphanage Project is part of Game Rangers International, Zambia













Zambia Weekly

The Zambia Weekly has closed. I often used the information from the Zambia Weekly and I am sad that it has gone. Running a media business in Zambia is very tough. I know all about it. But apart from the problems of business, the fact that the Zambia Weekly website was also hacked led to serious costs and frustration.

I would just like to thank Camilla for all those years of hard work and information.

New Railway Line

Daily Mail

THE pre-feasibility study for a US\$250 million railway line from Mumbwa to Kafue that will be mainly used to transport iron ore to Universal Mining and Chemical Industries Limited (UMCIL) will soon start. UMCIL, a subsidiary of Trade Kings, will next month start operations of a multi-million dollar iron mine in Nampundwe and also Nambala Resource in Mumbwa that will feed the UMCIL plant in Kafue.

This follows President Lungu's launch of a direct reduction iron (DRI) plant at the mine last year. In an interview on Friday, UMCIL/Trade Kings civil engineer Ernest Mande said the railway line, which will be used for the transportation of iron-ore, is projected to be about 150 kilometres and will be completed by 2019 It will run from UMCIL's Nambala Resource in Mumbwa to Kafue plant, where the iron will be processed. ...

G: This line to transport iron ore is an brilliant idea. It will keep so many trucks off our roads. If only we could do something with the train service in the rest of the country. We see all the trucks carting copper belting along the roads to the border at Vic Falls. Our border is an eyesore and are roads are dangerous to drive. Surely the lines from the Copperbelt can be repaired so that the copper can be transported by rail. These trucks are destroying the roads which are meant to be for the use of the travelling public.









Bhejane Trust

Some good news on the anti-poaching front! The ZRP Victoria Falls have arrested Namatani Ndlovu, a notorious poacher who is a kingpin in the poaching syndicate operating between Victoria Falls and Dete. He still has a pending cyanide case with the Victoria Falls Magistrate Court for poisoning 10 elephants in the Zambezi National Park in 2014! He was arrested by a ZRP patrol, who saw a vehicle in the bush in the Victoria Falls area, became suspicious and monitored it. They saw Ndlovu get out and hide a tusk in the bush, and while he was getting a second tusk out they moved in and arrested him. He is remanded in custody until 31st August for trial. Well done to two alert ZRP details!!

Painted Dog Conservation

The tragic death of the iconic alpha female of the Nyamandhlovu pack, Socks, has affected us and worse to come was the loss of her entire litter of pups. The unfortunate loss of two generations of dogs is due probably to the nemesis and ancient enemy, hyenas. Socks was tracked and found with torn ears, deep bite marks to her legs and torso, near Caterpillar pan as she was joining the pack in hunting. She had denned near Dopi during the first week of June. The Nyamandhlovu pack lost the whole litter in 2015 and during the 2016 had several pups with fractured limps as the pack was comprised of only three adult dogs, struggling to feed and defend so many pups. Thembile lost a leg and is doing well at the rehabilitation centre.

Browny and Ring and the rest of the pack, eleven painted dogs in the pack are ok and have been seen hunting and trudging on despite the loss of Socks. She had littered 32 pups for her eight years and was the daughter of Vusile and

Themba of the Sicele pack. Vusile was tragically killed by a

In the spirit of Eyespot, Nat and Socks, the painted dog species are born to persevere against all odds, the only norm is adversities, snares, cars, hyenas, lions, humans, climate change and disease. The pack led by Browny Alpha male has moved on, already venturing out of the park towards Malindi. Socks did her part for the species, we will monitor and advise how the pack holds on after Socks.



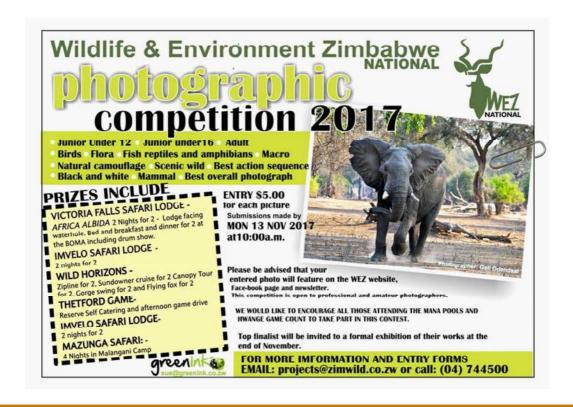












BOTSWANA

Skydive Botawana Daily News

Sowa Town — The Makgadikgadi Epic has grown local tourism since its inception in 2014, says Botswana Tourism Organisation (BTO) marketing manager, Jillian Blackbeared.



Briefing the media after the event on Saturday, Blackbeard said it was the first time the event was held in Sowa town under the host of Botswana Ash.

She explained that the change of venue was as a result of flooding at Nata Sanctuary which had been the host in past editions.

She added that Sowa town did not disappoint as additional activities such as boat cruises had proved to be among the favourites for revellers.

This year's even had 70 skydivers as compared to the previous 12, including local ones.

She said they were considering relocating the event permanently to Sowa because of the unique features that added to the activities of the event. She, however, said it would be after further consultation.

In addition, she stated that the arrangement to have a local trust benefiting from the activities still stood, and that the Nata Bird Sanctuary Trust made of Maposa, Manxotae, Nata and Sepako would continue to benefit from the income generated.

At last year's event, Blackbeard explained that the trust received cash injection of P150 000.

She furthermore stated that through such tourism events,

they were not only looking at diversifying their products, but



also looking to boost the economy so that locals could benefit by getting the returns of having such events.

Bush 24: Kudu Fight to the Death!!

2 big kudu males fight to the death close to Abu camp in the Okavango! This is an absolutely amazing series of photographs captured by friend and work colleague, Rex

'Unbelievable.." 2 male kudu fought to death. It's very rare to find the two of males dead at the same time. Usually it's one killing the other then there is a winner.1st time in my life I saw this. It appeared on the scene like the bottom bull died first after the spine broke then the top winner's horns were still locked on the loser's. Eventually the winner died too because he couldn't free himself out. None of them won the females they were fighting for. Okavango Delta-Abu Camp.'



NAMIBIA

Stricter Measures Await Wildlife Criminals New Era

The drafting of the revised national policy on human/wildlife conflict management has been finalised. However, the policy needs to be endorsed by the minister of environment and tourism and submitted to Cabinet for approval. Environment and Tourism Minister Pohamba Shifeta revealed this yesterday when he addressed communal farmers from Onamatanga in Omusati Region.

The review of the policy started in September last year with a public consultation conducted in all the 14 regions and concluded with a national workshop held in March this year. It was realised there were gaps and challenges in managing human/wildlife conflict and new initiatives and innovative ideas were needed to put in place a policy framework to prevent and mitigate human-wildlife conflict.

In the revised policy the ministry is also reviewing the current payment made under the human-wildlife conflict self-reliance scheme. The scheme is meant to offset losses caused by wildlife animals to farmers and communities and is not necessarily a compensation scheme. The national policy has been revised to address and manage human-wildlife conflict to recognise the rights and development needs of local communities. Shifeta also reminded communal farmers about the Nature Conservation Ordinance Act No. 4 of 1975 which has also been amended to provide for heavier and stiffer penalties for wildlife crime. The new act is now called Nature Conservation Amendment Act No. 3 of 2017. The sentence in the current revised law for killing rhino or elephant is N\$25 million or 25 years' imprisonment or both.

For killing a lion which is a protected species the sentence is N\$500,000 or five years' imprisonment or both.

Shifeta says the ministry is serious about wildlife crime prevention and law enforcement and communities should stop involving themselves in illegal hunting of wildlife.

"Rhinos and elephants and other wild animals have an economic value and are a significant contribution to the country's GDP"

He warned especially young people to stop being used in syndicates of illegal hunting of wildlife, thereby putting their lives and those of their families at risk.

Human/wildlife conflict remains a challenge that requires striking a balance between conservation priorities and people living with wildlife, he added. Shifeta says the environment ministry will put in place stricter measures to protect wildlife and minimise illegal hunting.











Lüderitz Marine Research

Breaking News... 7 right whales in the bay:

A busy Sunday for us, and the main headline is not the (dis)Grace escape back to Zim... For us it is that at least 7 adult right whales were displaying inshore around Dias Point and Shearwater bay, from before lunch to sunset.... (as is well known... "see a whale a day, keeps the doctor away..." so I should be ok for the week! :-))... Impressive spectacle!





From the Gondwana Collection

How did the whales in Walvisbay become endangered?

They are powerful and gentle, inquisitive and wise, compassionate and social. Nevertheless whales have been hunted worldwide for centuries because of the many products that they provide: food, oil, gelatine, soap and basic ingredients for cosmetics and medicines. Whaling stations were also set up on the South West African coast, the first one in Walvis Bay in 1912 and another one the following year at Sturmvogelbucht near Lüderitz. The latter was in operation for two years only.





The whaling station in Walvis Bay. It was completely destroyed by a fire on 31 May 1950. (Source: Namibia Scientific Society)

Walvis Bay was in fact established because of the large pods of whales that were once a common feature along this coast. Portuguese seafarers back in the 16th century called the bay Bahia das Bahleas (the Bay of Whales). The cold Benguela Current is rich in plankton and other nutrients and thus makes the South Atlantic an ideal feeding ground for whales. In 1726 the Dutch West India Company sent commercial whalers to the South West African coast. American, French and Norwegian whalers followed from 1780 onward and hunted Southern Right and Humpback whales to such an extent that both species were on the verge of extinction early last century.

Whale bones are loaded onto railway trucks. (Source: National Archives)







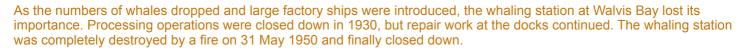


The most extensive whaling took place in the coastal waters of southern Africa. With the exception of Antarctica the largest number of whales worldwide was caught around the tip of Africa. Between 1908 and 1930 a shocking 73,500 whales were killed – twice as many off the Atlantic coast than off the Indian Ocean coast.

A whale in front of the whaling station in Walvis Bay. (Source: National Archives)

Two whaling companies operated in the "Bay of Whales" in 1912. The Walfish Bay Whaling Company Ltd ran a whaling station while the Durban Whaling Company Ltd operated a factory ship. A total of 527 whales were caught during the 1912 whaling season and another 508, though mostly smaller ones, the following year. For the first time some thought was given to the protection of this endangered species, but the First World War broke out before any steps

could be taken. Whaling was resumed in 1923 and 296 whales were caught.



During the 1930s the League of Nations made first attempts to limit whaling, but with not much success. In 1948, some of the largest whaling nations refused to sign the International Convention for the Regulation of Whaling (ICRW) and still refuse to do so today. From the 1960s onwards many whale species were added to the Red List of Endangered Species. This has led to the gradual recovery of endangered whale populations.

A blue whale is pulled ashore via the slipway for processing. (Source: National Archives)

These days whales are occasionally spotted again off the Walvis Bay coast, in particular Humpback and Southern Right whales that come to the area between July and November to calve and to mate. Sometimes a whale beaches and causes great excitement. The giants of the oceans are back!



Sikunga Fish Guards

The last two weeks was a very busy time for the fish guards. When the river level goes down the netting increases all over the Zambezi. They are patroling around the clock and confiscated over 30km of nets and 3 macoros. Thank you to the Namibian police who worked with them. Great job guys and well done!!!





Kwando Carnivore Project

I cannot thank the team from Ministry of Environment and Tourism enough for their effort and time spent on collaring lions in the Zambezi Region. Piet Beytell from Scientific Services immobilised two dispersal-aged males, one in Mudumu and one in Nkasa Rupara national parks. The lions were collared by Piet and Matambo Singwangwa who is based in Mudumu. Back up was provided by Hans Swaartbooi and Manfred Uirab also from Scientific Services in Windhoek. We are now able to monitor the movements of four young adult males to see how they navigate through this human and cattle dominated landscape. We are looking forward to a greater understanding of the role of these male lions in the KAZA landscape. We also hope to identify additional conservation challenges that if addressed will improve connectivity for lions through the Zambezi Region of Namibia.



BURUNDI

IWACU, Burundi

Burundi: Lack of Determination and Will to Protect Lake Tanganyika, Vice President Says
The Second Vice President, Joseph Butore, alongside other high level government officials carried out a field visit along the shores of Lake Tanganyika to notice the current situation on the pollution of Lake Tanganyika and its biodiversity. He said there is a lack of determination and will to protect Lake Tanganyika

Following different reports and warnings about the pollution of Lake Tanganyika, the Second Vice President and Ministers of Environment, Health, Home Affairs, Energy and Mines have visited the shores of Lake Tanganyika notice the present situation on the pollution of the lake. "It is hard to describe the situation on the shores of Lake Tanganyika as a decision-maker", says Butore.

He says it is time to impose serious measures to protect Lake Tanganyika, its biodiversity and surroundings. Wastes, wastewaters, insecticides from different corners of the capital Bujumbura, uncontrolled constructions are the main causes of pollution of Lake Tanganyika. Offensive odor comes out of the shores of the Lake.

Joseph Butore says all state institutions and environment reforms are available to react efficiently. "Maybe, there is a lack of will and determination to fully protect Lake Tanganyika", says Butore.

Jeroboam Nzikobanyanka, Director General of the Burundian Company in charge of Supplying Water and Electricity (REGIDESO) says Lake Tanganyika is the main reservoir for the company. Regideso takes over 88,000 cubic meters per day and more than 90% of the water supplied to the capital of Bujumbura are from the lake.

He says that if nothing is done immediately to fight against the pollution of Lake Tanganyika, Bujumbura residents will face drinking water related problems. "Pipes used for the abstraction of drinking water are nowadays located at 3,5 km against 800 meters used in 1969," says Nzikobanyanka. ...











African Parks

We are deeply saddened to learn of this tragic news from our friends at Virunga National Park in the DRC where three park rangers were killed, and one is still missing in action. Charles Paluku Syaira, Jonas Paluku Malyani and Pacifique Musubao Fikirini tragically lost their lives following an attack on their position in the northern sector of the park by Mai-Mai militia in the early hours of Monday 14 August 2017. One more ranger is currently missing in action. It is with heavy hearts that we share in their grief and honour their sacrifice.



TANZANIA

PAMS Foundation - Conservation in TanzaniaDar es Salaam, Tanzania

We are heartbroken to share the news that PAMS Foundation co-founder, Wayne Lotter was shot and killed last night in the Masaki District of Dar es Salaam, Tanzania.

Wayne devoted his life to Africa's wildlife, from working as a ranger in his native South Africa as a young man to leading the charge against poaching in Tanzania. Wayne cared deeply about the people and animals that populate this world. In 2009, he teamed up with Krissie Clark and Ally Namangaya to form the PAMS Foundation. Together they worked tirelessly with communities in Tanzania to protect the country's wildlife.

Wayne believed communities were the best protectors of the continent's animals. Through his work with PAMS he helped train thousands of village game scouts in every corner of the country. His ground-breaking work in developing an intelligence-based approach to anti-poaching helped successfully reverse the rampant rates of poaching facing Tanzania.



Wayne's charm, brilliance and eccentric sense of humour gave him the unique ability to make those around him constantly laugh and smile. He died bravely fighting for the cause he was most passionate about.

Wayne leaves behind his wife Inge, daughters Cara Jayne and Tamsin, and parents Vera and Charles Lotter. We all grieve with his family, colleagues and friends. His legacy will continue in our work.

Tanzanian police have launched an investigation into his death.

PAMS Foundation Team



SIERRA LEONE

Mud slide in Sierra Leone

G: What caused the mud slide in Freetown? Climate change? A bit of that, probably. But soil would not have given way had the trees still been there. The trees had been cut for firewood because the people are poor. There are a lot of stories on the Beeb at the moment which state that Africa's population is set to double by 2050. The mind boggles ... Our environment is going to be destroyed unless we do something about population control and employment for the people.

WEATHER

Min Temp	Max Temp
15°C (59)	28°C (82)

Still cold. Jumper still on most of the day.

EXCHANGE RATES

US\$1	K9.00
	P10.20
	Nam\$13.15

Have a good two weeks

Gill

