

Dear All

A regular visitor to my garden. He often sits in one of my bird baths for half an hour surveying the scene.

LIVINGSTONE



BAOBAB TRAIL RUN





Another Bridge Down
Mwebantu

ZAMBIA

The Great North road has been completely cut-off by flash-floods at Lifune Stream, Danger Hill area 25 kilometres from Mpika town going up north.

RDA Communications and Corporate Affairs Director Masuzyo Ndhlovu said an Armco culvert between Mpika and Chinsali in Muchinga Province whose trench is approximately 25 metres wide and 12 metres deep has been washed-away. ...



Mpika

We've no Power to stop hippo culling, says Tourism PS
News Diggers

Ministry of Tourism and Arts Permanent Secretary, Rev Howard Sikwela says the planned hippo culling exercise on the Luangwa Valley of Eastern Province slated for May this year, will proceed because his Ministry has no powers at this stage to overrule that decision.

And US Ambassador to Zambia Daniel Foote says government's move to start hippo culling will make it impossible to attract American visits as most of the tourists will opt to go to other countries. ...

Rev Sikwela said his Ministry had no powers at this stage to overrule the decision on the planned hippo culling due to contractual obligations. ...



Kariba Dam Capacity Drops To 43%. Power Generation Threatened

Pindula

The generation of adequate power in Zimbabwe is threatened as Kariba Dam's water capacity dropped from 85% in October to a current 43%. This has mainly been caused by reduced inflows from the Zambezi River that feeds it.

G: It was predicted that this year would be a drought, or thereabouts, so the Zambezi River Authority (ZRA) must have taken this into consideration. It is the ZRA which allocates the amount of water which can be used by Zambia and Zimbabwe to pass through the turbines at the dam wall to produce electricity. I really hope that we have not been exporting too much power ... and surely this shows us that we cannot rely on rainfall to produce our electricity and that we need to diversify.

ZIMBABWE

Victoria Falls Wildlife Trust

Over the last two weeks, our laboratory technician and CEO have been on a training course in Eastern Zambia for Wildlife Crime Scene Investigations. We would like to thank the amazing team from TRACE and NFI for being great instructors. Huge thanks to the EU, USAID, and PPL for generously funding this course.



PUMPING LEGS FOR WATER 2019

To enter visit
www.wezmat.org
 Closing date for entries:
 31st May 2019
 Enter soon as numbers are limited
 25th - 27th July

WILDLIFE & ENVIRONMENT TRUST
 THE HwANGE ADVENTURE

The money raised from Pumping Legs for Water has ensured that Hwange National Park and its wildlife have been provided with much needed tanks, solar panels, tools, fuel, spare parts and borehole pumps, so guaranteeing the continuity of this vital commodity.

Hunting ban in Botswana should be lifted says government committee, and elephants culled Africa Geographic

A report submitted by a Botswana government sub-committee has proposed that the ban on hunting should be lifted and the hunting industry grown, that elephants should be culled and the meat processed, some animal migration routes closed and human-wildlife conflict strategies implemented.

The report was officially handed over to President Mokgweetsi Masisi at a briefing on Thursday. The sub-committee, made up of seven cabinet ministers and one junior minister, have been consulting with researchers and hunters as well as attending weeks of public hearings on the elephant hunting ban, which was introduced in 2014 by the previous administration.

The report and its recommendations will now be debated by the President and the cabinet, before becoming law.



MAUN
Easter Wellness Day

Activities For The Day Includes;

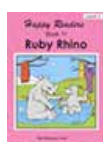
- + Walk
- + High Low
- + Kick & Jab
- + Zumba
- + Fun Class
- + Tag of War
- + Sack Race
- + Egg Race
- + Orange Race

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for children of Africa



NELS MOTORS
Vehicle
Workshop

John Grobler

Got word that there's another overloaded truck of illicitly harvested rosewood and teak hiding out in Otjiwarongo this morning. This truck is also clearly overloaded - so why is NaTIS Otjiwarongo not making sure every truck gets weighed, as they are required to do?

Those Forestry officials seen in last pic likely will just shrug and not even notice that all these loads are on the same completely illegal harvesting permit.

Just because there is a permit does not mean it was issued legally and in accordance with the law.

So - all eyes open for this truck, please. I need to know the moment it moves to arrange a welcoming party for them in Walvis Bay.

Thank you again to all parties involved in chasing down Jack Huang and Jose Hou's truck in Walvis Bay: the traffic authorities took seven of their licenses away for being expired or the trailers (mostly belonging to Pretorius's ITC) being dangerously unroadworthy, also issued fines of N\$7,750.00

A drop in the ocean - but at least we're making it difficult to plunder with impunity.



Kwando Carnivore Project

Lion attacks on grazing cattle in the Mudumu Complexes now make up 95% of livestock losses to lion. Upgrading traditional kraals has had a big impact on countering lion-livestock conflict. Tackling the lack of herding of cattle while they are grazing is a huge challenge. We decided to collaborate with IRDNCs Integrated livestock wildlife project. This focuses on moving cattle to different grazing areas in different seasons. They are herded during the days and placed into temporary mobile kraals at night. The first mobile kraal can be seen in the background. This is such an exciting project as the focus is in conserving grazing and improving quality of cattle. The outcome of this is that lion attacks will be prevented due to the constant human presence.



Tanzania approves mass logging project in World Heritage Site Tourism Update

Tanzania will be going ahead with a \$3 billion logging project in the middle of the Selous Game Reserve – a Unesco World Heritage Site, and one of the most iconic wildlife areas in Africa.

Seventeen local companies have been awarded tenders to clear 1 500 square-kilometres of terrain – an estimated 2.6 million trees, to an expected value of \$62 million. The purpose is to make way for the Stiegler's Gorge hydropower project, which will see the construction of the largest dam in Tanzania along the Rufiji River.

Ruaha Carnivore Project

We are deeply saddened to report a mass poisoning incident in the Wildlife Management Area (WMA) just outside Ruaha National Park. We received a 'mortality alert' from one of our collared lions, and the team responded rapidly. When they arrived at the site, they found a devastating scene – six lions (the collared adult female, three sub-adult females and two sub-adult males) had been killed, apparently from poison as they were all found close to a scavenged cattle carcass. This event had additional tragic consequences, with dozens of critically endangered vultures found dead or badly affected. RCP worked closely with colleagues from Wildlife Conservation Society Tanzania Program, the Parks authorities and other local agencies, and they eventually found 74 dead vultures as well as the six lions. Thanks to the skills of the WCS team, four other sick vultures were able to be taken to the Park for treatment. Sadly, one died shortly after arrival but the others are currently doing well.

The authorities are investigating this incident, but it appears as if someone poisoned a carcass after lions attacked cattle. ...



OTHER STUFF

Rovos Rail introduces first east-west African adventure

Tourism Update

In July, Rovos Rail will introduce a new 15-day expedition through Tanzania, Zambia, the Democratic Republic of Congo and Angola.

This will be the first time in history that a passenger train will travel the famous east-to-west copper trail.

Rovos Rail Communications Manager, Brenda Vos-Fitchet says this inaugural voyage sets off on July 16 from Dar es Salaam, and includes a visit to the Selous Reserve; a fly-in two-night safari in the South Luangwa National Park (Zambia); and a city tour of Lubumbashi (DRC). Thereafter it joins the Benguela line for short walking tours detailing Angola's recent history, with the journey ending in Lobito (Angola). The voyage is also available in reverse departing from Lobito on August 2. ...

Peace Parks Foundation

Peace Parks Foundation has been awarded €3 million by the Dutch Postcode Lottery, for the development of conservation activities and the protection of wildlife corridors in the Kavango Zambezi Transfrontier Conservation Area. ...



WEATHER

Min Temp	Max Temp
20°C (68)	34°C (93)

The rain never came ... it has just got hotter ...

EXCHANGE RATES

US\$1	K12.00
	P10.63
	Nam\$14.20

A SMILE



Have a good two weeks

Gill



SAFREA
Southern African Freelancers' Association