

ZAMBIA

THE IMPACT OF WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT POLICIES ON COMMUNITIES AND CONSERVATION ON GMAs



GAME MANAGEMENT AREAS IN CRISIS

THE IMPACT OF
WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT POLICIES
ON COMMUNITIES AND CONSERVATION



MESSAGE TO POLICY MAKERS



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PRESENTATION OVERVIEW

- Background OF THE NRCF
- Quick overview of GMAs
- Findings
- Policy recommendations

BACKGROUND OF THENRCF

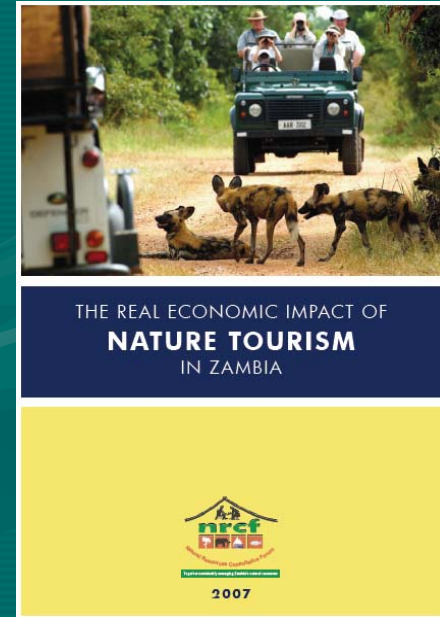
- It is a mechanism for improving citizen participation in the NRM sector
(NRM sectors= forestry, wildlife, fisheries, water, tourism + touches on issues of agric, land, environment, mining, transport and energy)
- It is a consultative and consensus building mechanism to reduce policy conflicts among stakeholders
- It is a stakeholder-driven body aimed at promoting technical appreciation of issues in NRM and information mechanism
- NRCF aims to enrich policy formulation and development process – to reduce NR use conflicts and duplication of efforts

BACKGROUND OF THE NRCF

- NRCF seeks cooperation with membership bodies, interest groups or forums
- NRCF aims to bring together stakeholders in NRM sector in a neutral and influential platform to discuss and seek consensus on policy issues
- NRCF will advise government on emerging and appropriate policy changes and development
- However, it will leave the *strategic role* to MTENR and/or other government institutions

NRCF PUBLICATIONS

- The Real Impact of Nature Tourism in Zambia (launched in June 2008)



NRCF PUBLICATIONS

- The Impact of Wildlife Management Policies on communities and conservation in Game Management Areas in Zambia
- Biannual Newsletter (Reclassification for Effective Management of National Protected Area Systems -Project)



GAME MANAGEMENT AREAS

- Zambia has set large tracts of land in form of GMAs for wildlife management (36 in total).
- Cover 22% of the Zambia territory (Equivalent to 170,000 Km²)
- National Parks and Wildlife policy –enacted-instituted-CBNRM
- **Why GMAs were established:**
 - To act as buffer zones to national parks in order to protect wild animals and their habitats
 - As source of economic development(wildlife based tourism)
 - As source of livelihood and food security

KEY STUDY QUESTIONS

- Are the GMAs playing their intended role?
- To what extent are they fueling economic development?
- To what extent do people living in the GMAs benefiting?

To answer these key Questions

- The study looked at the GMA status from 3 perspectives:
 - **Ecologically:** how wildlife and the habitat is faring
 - **Socially:** looking at the welfare of communities in GMAs
 - **Commercially:** Looking at the business trends in the GMAs

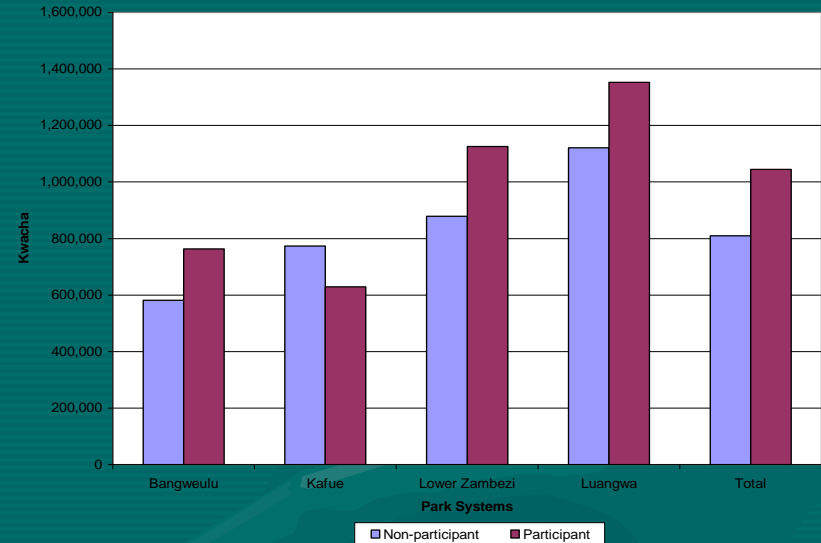
COMMUNITY WELFARE

- Welfare survey Oct. 2006
 - 14 GMAs and 3 control areas
 - 2,649 households
 - Survey by Central Statistical Office
 - Analysis by consultant from University of Zambia

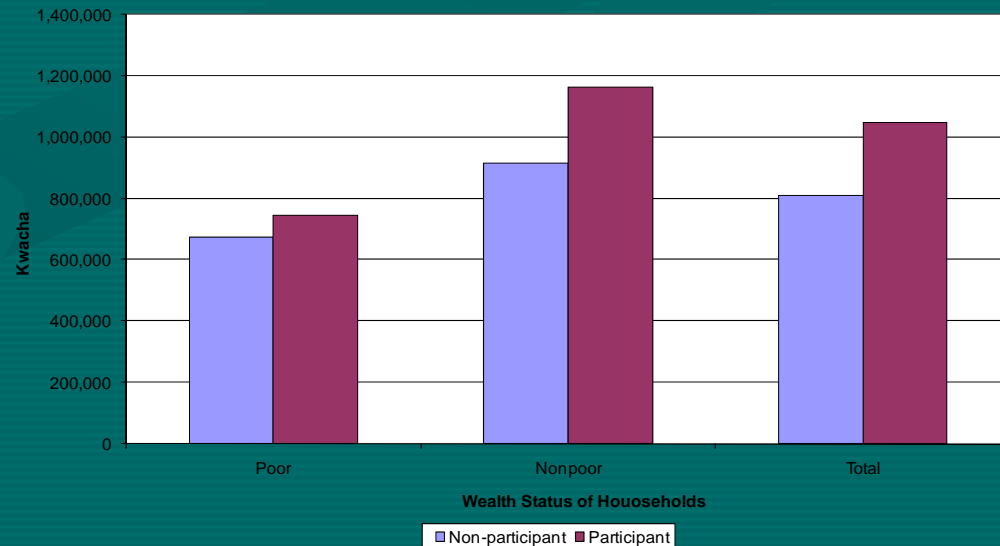
COMMUNITY WELFARE

- A 2006 Impact Study of Nature Based tourism found that on average HHs in GMAs gain from living in GMAs
- But benefits are accrued to households that are relatively already well off
- The elite capture is supported by audit reports of CRBs in the KNP system; larger proportion (allowances, acco, meetings)

Participation in VAGs and CRBs in GMAs

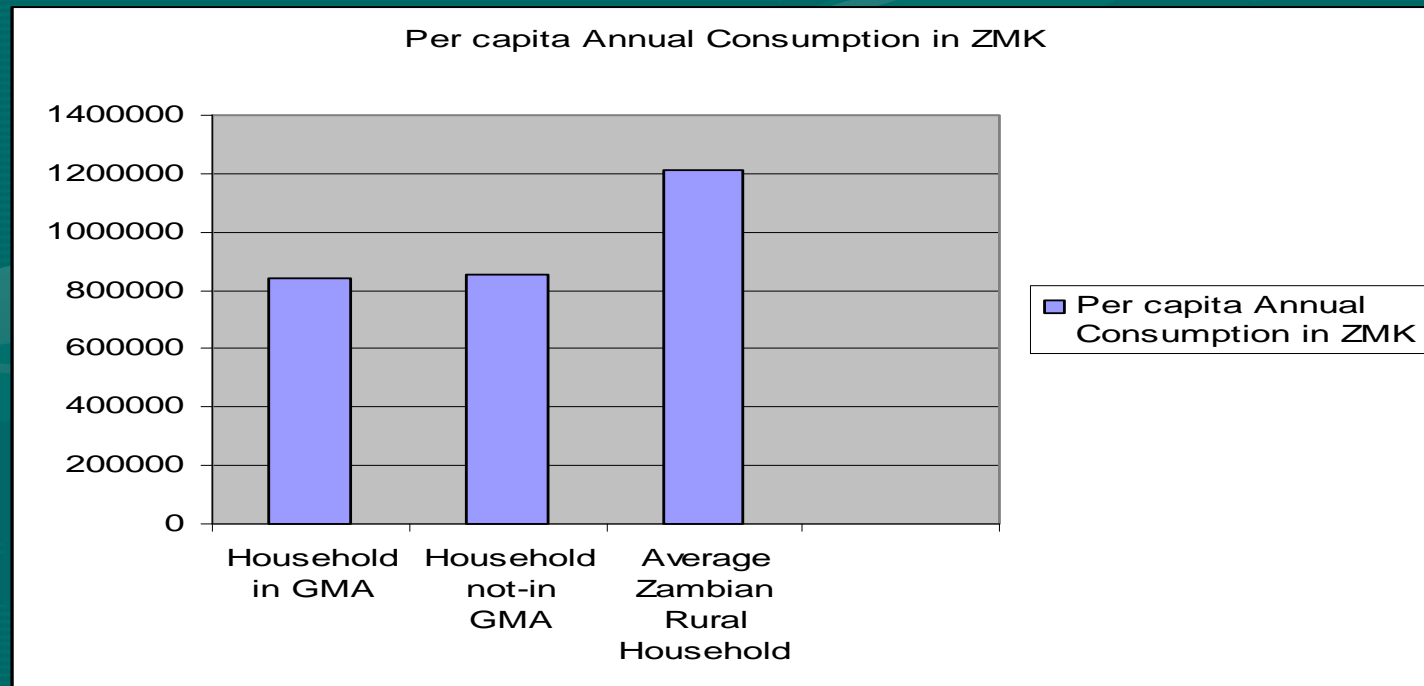


Average per capita consumption expenditure: Unconditional



COMMUNITY WELFARE

- *sociological performance of GMAs*: The study portrays that communities in GMAs are characterised by high poverty levels. The study reveals that the annual PCC of communities **in GMAs** (K839,000) and **non GMAs** (K850,000). When compared to other rural communities, the welfare in GMAs is 30% lower than national rural average, except in Luangwa valley and Bangweulu. **Monthly per capita expenditure** is estimated at ZMK71,000 compared to ZMK112,000 for rural areas generally and ZMK244,000 for urban areas (LCMS, 2006).



COMMERCIAL PERFORMANCE

Revenues:

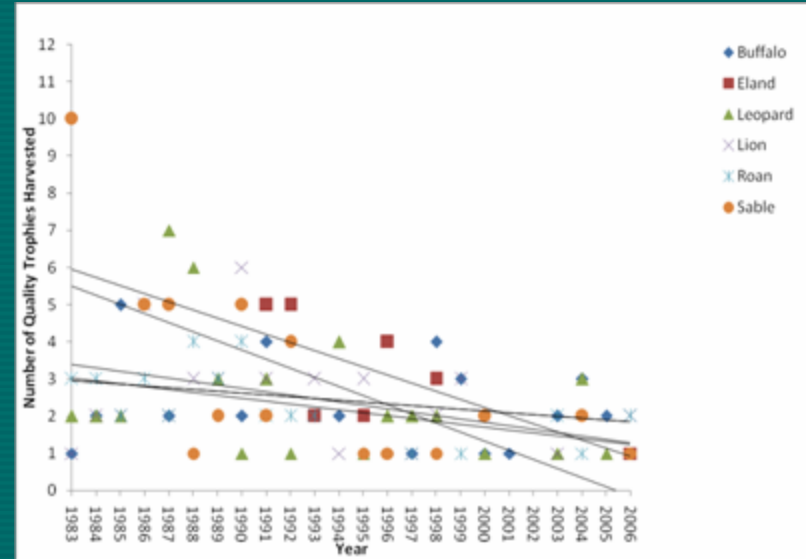
- Consequently, the hunting revenues disbursed by ZAWA to CRBs have declined since 2004. Incomes fell by K170 million in 2005 (from K3,836,419,397 to K3,665,535,264) and
- K50 million in 2006 (K3,617,228,394).

COMMERCIAL PERFORMANCE

Table: Trends in No. of quality trophies harvested (1983 – 2006)

– Trophy quality

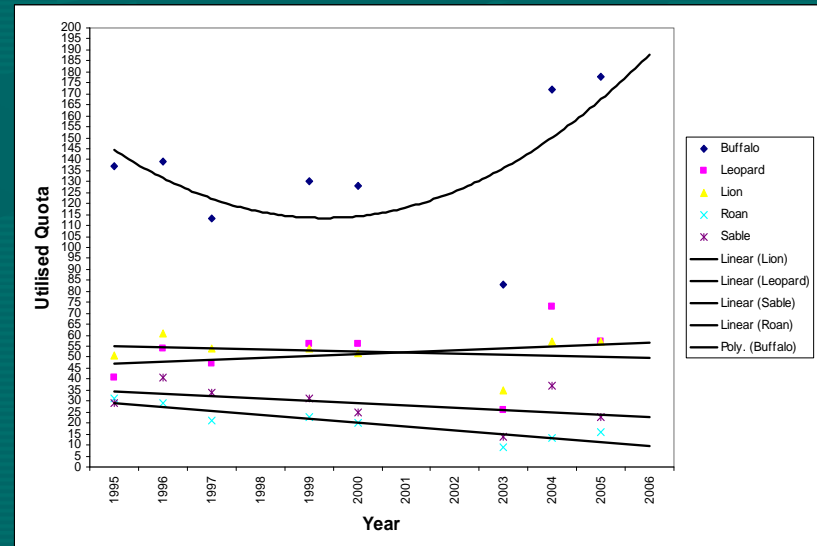
Declining trends of trophy quality have been manifested for major species such as lion, leopard, sable, roan and buffalo



Quota utilization

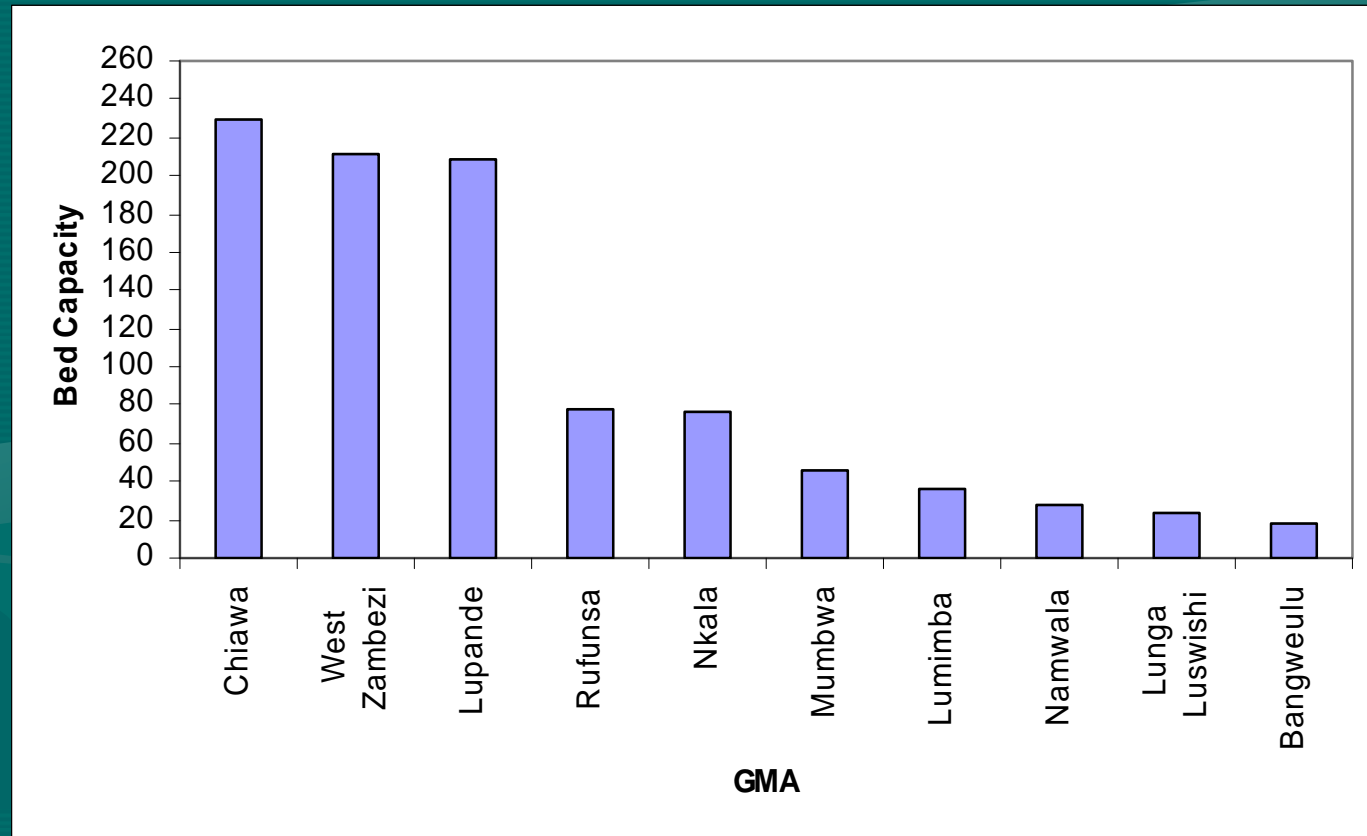
(1995-2005)

Declining trends of utilisation have ALSO been manifested in these major species



COMMERCIAL PERFORMANCE

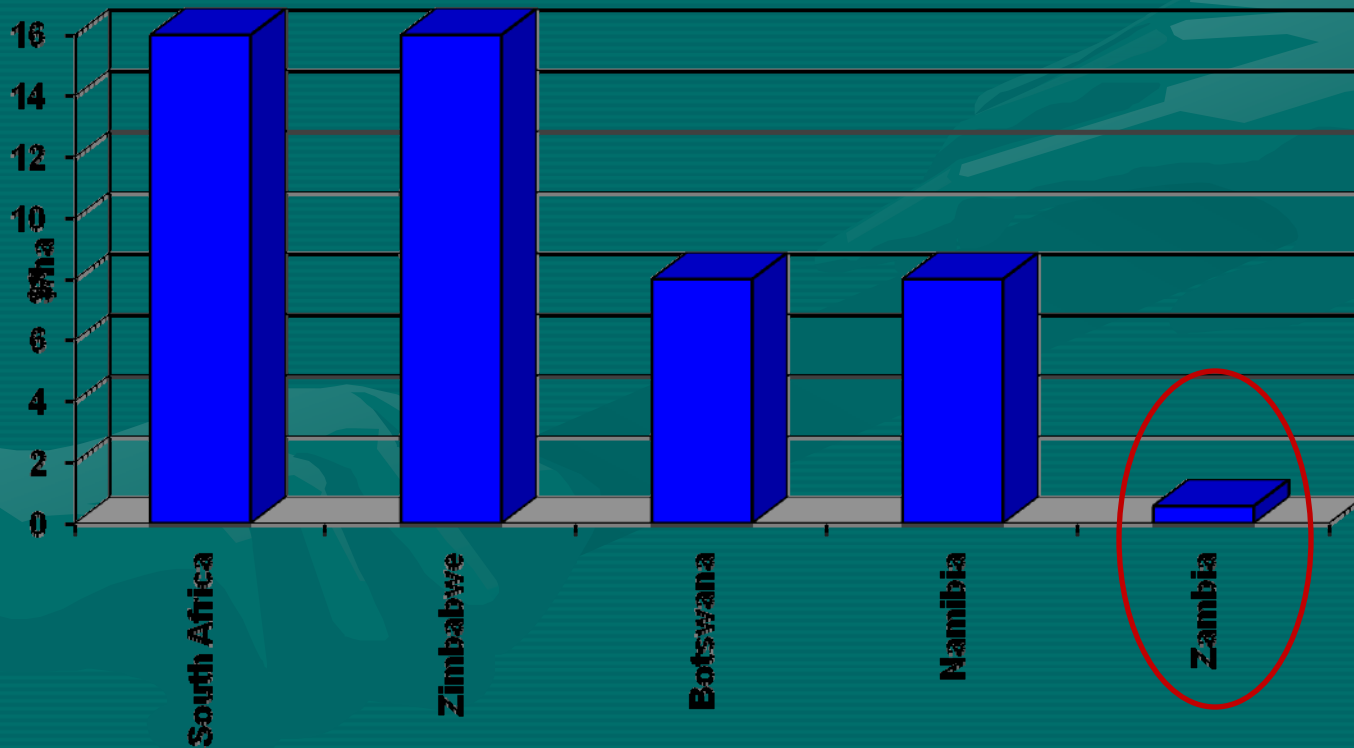
- Regarding non consumptive tourism, only 3 GMAs have developed to a meaningful magnitude



COMMERCIAL PERFORMANCE

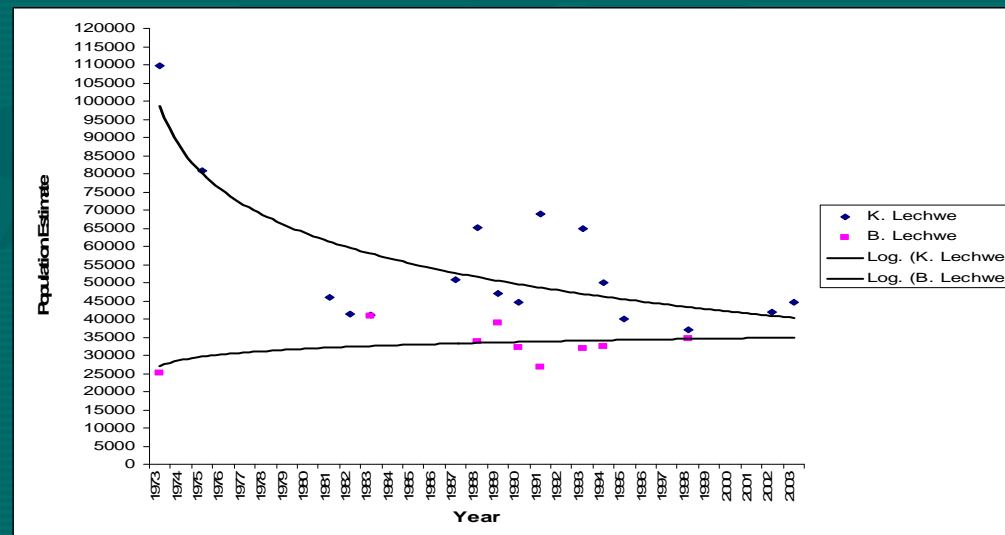
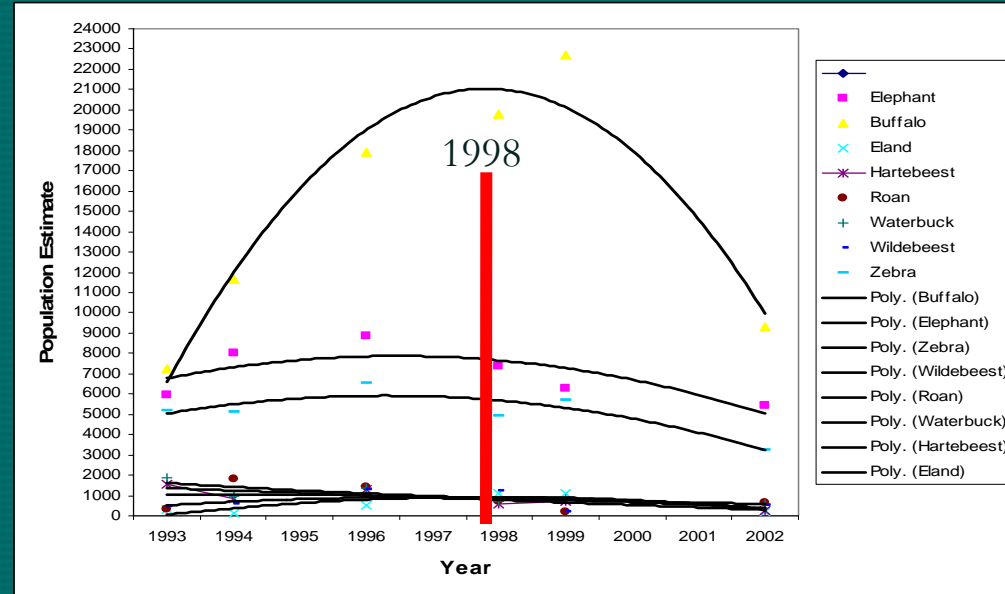
Zambia hunting revenues: is just a fraction of the countries in the sub region

Income from Hunting In Southern Africa



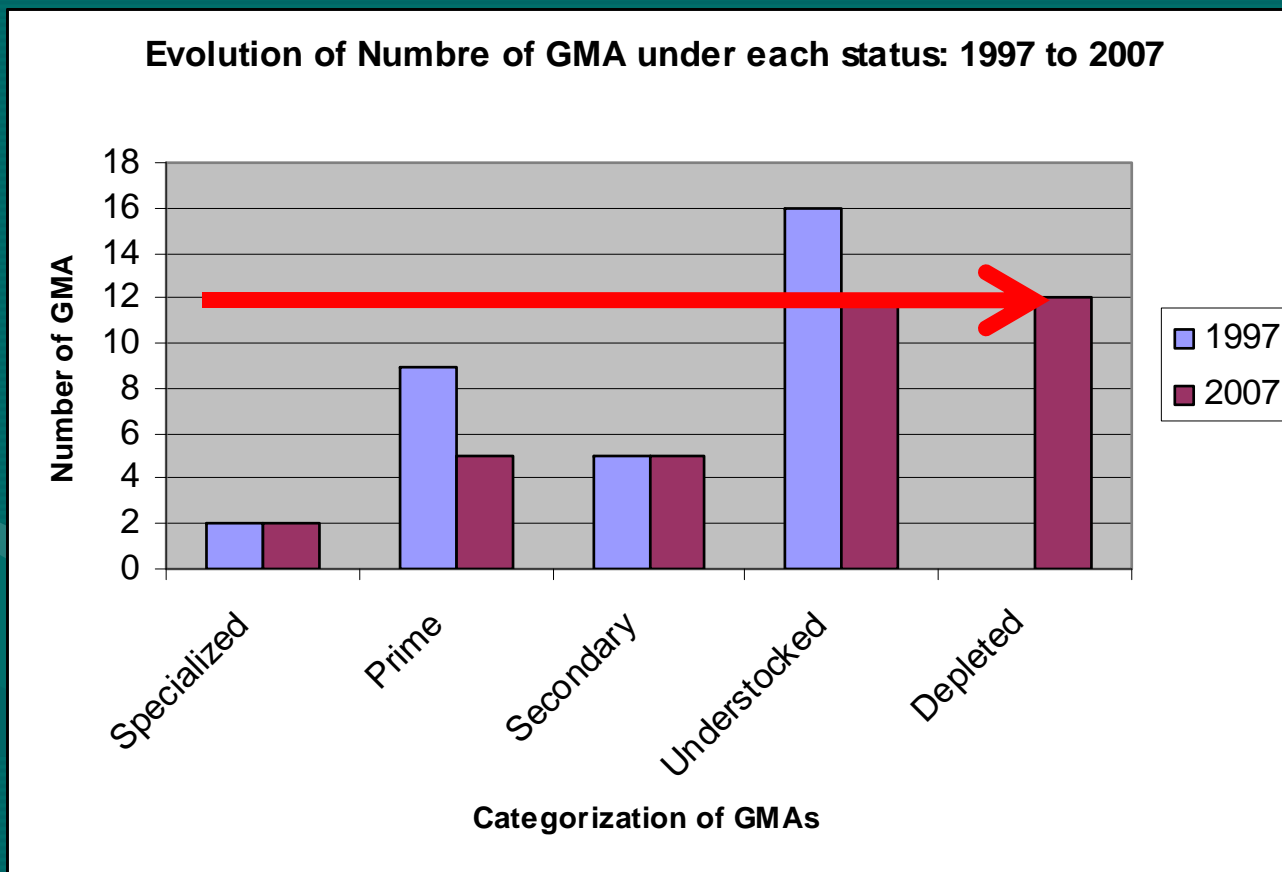
ECOSYSTEM CONSERVATION

- Very little data on wildlife count available (use proxy =)
- After 1998 (Wildlife Act), trends are negative (case of Luangwa SLNP and Lupande GMA)
- Special case of the lechwes



ECOSYSTEM CONSERVATION

- ZAWA has updated the status GMA: the general trend is towards understocked & depleted



ANALYSIS

The analysis of this scenario points to policy failure

- Land transformation is the major threat but the Act does not make it illegal
- Looking after GMAs, in addition to parks, is an over complex task for a single institution like ZAWA
- Current local governance systems are not conducive to proper stewardship of land resources
- Single focus on wildlife instead of on the multiple resource focus misses opportunities
- Current policy does not fit well with other country policies (e.g. decentralization, etc.)

Policy Implications using lessons from the region and Zambia

1. Explore partnerships such a public-private-community partnerships:
 - a) The success of PPPs require improvements to existing policies and legal frameworks.
 - b) Legislation== clear incentive framework to stimulate communities to appreciate the obj of PPPs.
 - c) Furthermore, it should provide for a clearer definition of communities' rights to natural resources, =security of tenure should be legally enshrined in the agreements and policies.

Policy Implications using lessons from the region and Zambia

2. *Business-oriented approach.*

- a) Donors will continue to support some activities, BUT such investments are rarely long-term and do not allow methodologies to mature and local capacity to be installed.
- b) Therefore a business-oriented approach should be adopted in order to guarantee continued investments in community development activities.
- c) Local people must be encouraged to engage in businesses. The recently enacted law, the Zambia Citizen's Empowerment Act, is expected to enhance local participation in business.

Policy Implications using lessons from the region and Zambia

3. *Legalized Community Structures.*

- a) Community structures should be registered under the relevant legislation to grant them legal status enabling them to deal with other entities as equal partners and enter into legally binding agreements.
- b) Resource ownership should only be given upon a community showing proof of interest, capacity and the means to assume responsibility for the management of the resources. As such, communities must define their boundaries, membership, roles and responsibilities, produce action plans and define benefit-sharing mechanisms.
- c) Devolved rights should include adequate authority and responsibility for the management, benefit and disposal of resources within agreed frameworks as well as the right to exclude others who are not defined participants.

Policy Implications using lessons from the region and Zambia

4. *Diversification away from wildlife.*
 - a) A new wildlife management policy must address communities' access to other, non-wildlife, natural resources, which the majority of poor households depend upon. This will expand the horizon of opportunities.
 - b) The government has **prioritized the agricultural sector** as a vehicle for reducing rural poverty and is providing incentives for agricultural development. The agricultural expansion however should be implemented in a manner that does not compromise the objectives of the GMAs.

Policy Implications using lessons from the region and Zambia

5. Zoning and reclassification.

- a) The need to diversify economic activities in GMAs calls for new land use approaches.
- b) This may even justify the **reclassification** of some GMAs.
- c) Land use or management plans will have to be implemented to ensure that wildlife habitats are better safeguarded and non-habitat parts of the GMA are released for **alternative** economic activities, which are currently restricted, such as intensive market-oriented livestock and crop production or rearing of small game animals. *Restricting essential economic activities for the sustenance of local people simply worsens the prevailing poverty conditions.*
- d) The economic activities in GMAs should be outlined in integrated *management plans* to ensure that they are compatible with wildlife conservation in the long term.

Policy Implications using lessons from the region and Zambia

6. ZAWA: Position ZAWA as regulator and advisor rather than implementer
 - a) Managing a wildlife estate of 19 national parks and 36 GMAs covering more than 30 percent of the country's territory is overwhelming.
 - b) ZAWA faces challenges in maintaining the national parks. The task given to ZAWA is too ambitious for a single institution unless its function evolves from *hands-on* to **regulatory**
 - c) ZAWA's staff comes from a culture of conservation and wildlife management rather than community development. consequently, ZAWA tends to allocate its resources to the most pressing conservation needs, i.e. surveillance of its national parks.

CONCLUSION

ZAWA, CPs, Local Communities and all other stakeholders are committed to implementation of the Wildlife Act

Despite this effort, Data available shows that, on average, all trends in GMAs are on the decline.

The key conclusion then is that GMAs are not meeting the purpose they were meant for!!!!

CONCLUSION

Lessons from the region and Zambia points to policies and practices that have proven successful

Therefore, there is need to examine the six policy recommendations given herein and a message to policy makers is that..

MESSAGE TO POLICY MAKERS

policy makers are being encouraged to launch a broad-based national review of the management of GMAs with a view to draft a new and forward looking chapter in the upcoming protected area policy

.....End.....

Thank you for your attention....