

Policy for National Parks and Wildlife In Zambia

Zambia Wildlife Authority
Private Bag 1
CHILANGA
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FOREWORD

Wildlife is a renewable resource. It has unique economic properties that support a massive growing global tourism industry, based on the consumptive and non-consumptive use of the resource. The advantage of a wildlife industry is that it promotes the conservation of biological diversity, which is essential for continued human adaptation in a world of increasing resource scarcity and changing economic forces. In addition, wildlife management is often more profitable than alternative uses of the land, given appropriate institutions that permit it to realize its inherent economic advantage.

Acknowledging that tourism is largely based on wildlife and protected areas the government of Zambia recognizes the high economic, socio-cultural and biological values of national parks and the wildlife resource, a major resource base in the development of tourism which is the second economic sector after agriculture. It is determined to exploit their marketability for the benefit of the resource and the people of Zambia, especially those people who share the land with the wildlife resource.

Accepting that the natural flora and fauna of Africa requires special management techniques, government will adopt a management agenda that is ecologically and economically sound for the resource, and is equitable under the socio-economic conditions prevailing in Zambia. This agenda will guide all elements in the wildlife sector and is fundamental to a coordinated wildlife industry.

Hon. Michael Kaingu, MP
Minister of Tourism, Environment and Natural Resources

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Glossary

Abbreviations and symbols for the purpose of this policy.

<u>AWP</u>	<u>Annual Work Plans</u>
<u>CBNRM</u>	<u>Community-Based Natural Resources Management</u>
CITES	Convention on International Trade of Endangered Species of Wild <u>Fauna and Flora</u>
<u>CRB</u>	<u>Community Resources Board</u>
DCA	Department of Civil Aviation
GMA	Game Management Area
GMP	General Management Plan
GRZ	Government of the Republic of Zambia
HRDP	Human Resources Development Plan
IIU	Intelligence and Investigations Unit
IUCN	The World Conservation Union
NGO	Non Governmental Organisation
NHCC	National Heritage Conservation Commission
PA	Protected Area
<u>PAPD</u>	<u>Protected Areas Planning Department</u>
<u>PPP</u>	<u>Public-Private Partnership</u>
UNESCO	United Nations Education, Scientific and Cultural Organisation
WCPA	IUCN's World Commission for Protected Areas
ZAWA	Zambia Wildlife Authority

Definitions Game Management Plan

Means a document that sets forth the basic management and development philosophy for a protected area and provides the strategies for addressing problems and achieving identified management objectives over a specified period of time. Two types of strategies are emphasized in any protected area general management plan:

- Those required to protect and manage natural resources, and
- Those required to provide for sustainable resource utilization.

Game Management Area

Means a protected area managed primarily for the sustainable utilization of wildlife, through consumptive and non-consumptive tourism concessions, but may also permit other activities such as human settlements, agriculture, forestry, mining etc.

Investor

Means any person or persons permitted to use a particular area of land and all or most of the renewable resources in the Game Management Area for commercial purpose under lease agreement from ZAWA.

Local community

Means the residents who by virtue of their rights to land held under customary land tenure system co-manage and derive benefits from the sustainable utilization of resources within a Game Management Area.

National Parks

Means natural areas of land declared so by law for the purpose of protecting the integrity of one or more ecosystems for present and future generations to exclude exploitation or occupation inimical to the purposes of designation of the area, and to provide a foundation for spiritual, scientific, educational, recreational and visitor opportunities, all of which must be environmentally and culturally compatible (IUCN – WCPA).

Open Areas

Means an area other than a national park, game management area, or sanctuary where wild animals are naturally found.

Private Wildlife Estate

Means an area set aside for the purpose of keeping and managing wildlife by individuals in the private sector and includes game ranches and reptile farms.

Wildlife

Means all components of the ecosystems in national parks (including all archeological and historical sites) and all wild animals and their habitats outside national parks.

Wildlife estate

Means national parks, bird sanctuaries, wildlife sanctuaries, game management areas (GMAs) and any other area devoted to wildlife and managed by public institutions.

Wildlife sanctuary

Means an area set aside and managed to ensure the natural conditions necessary to protect nationally significant species, groups of species, biotic communities or physical features of the environment where these may require specific human manipulation for their perpetuation.

Chapter 1 Background to the wildlife policy

1.1 INTRODUCTION

Government, in recognizing the integral part wildlife plays in the sustainable development of the country, accepts responsibility for conserving all wildlife, including those species that may sometimes be in conflict with human interests, and to ensure that these assets are never squandered for any short term human gain or any purpose that does not conform with the principle of environmentally sustainable development.

Within this context it is recognized that many lesser species can be conserved only by protecting the entire ecosystems in which they occur; that certain rare or endangered species may require special measures for their protection including legal protection wherever they occur; and that species that have detrimental effects on legitimate human interests or on the integrity of ecosystems may need to be controlled under particular circumstances.

Wildlife conservation in this country is governed by the [Zambia Wildlife Act No.](#) which allows the President to declare certain areas of the country as national parks, GMAs [and Partnership Conservation Areas](#) and it forms the core of the wildlife estate.

1.2 ROLE OF WILDLIFE IN NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Wildlife as a renewable resource has inherent economic attributes that support a growing national tourism industry which has capacity to generate revenue, create employment opportunities and contribute towards poverty reduction in line with the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs).

Acknowledging that tourism is largely based on wildlife and protected areas the government recognizes the high economic, socio-cultural and biological values of national parks and the wildlife resource, a major resource base in the development of tourism which is the second as economic sector after agriculture. It is determined to exploit their marketability for the benefit of the resource and the

people of Zambia, especially those people who share the land with the wildlife resource.

1.3 Wildlife Resource Development

Recognizing that wildlife and national parks are the basis of nature-based tourism in Zambia and that tourism is an efficient means of marketing wildlife, but that for this to be possible it is dependent upon the maintenance of pristine and natural values of these areas, the ZAWA will seek to encourage tourism without permitting it to erode the resources on which it is based.

This would be achieved through drawing up a comprehensive Tourism Plan for the whole country which will guide the preparation of GMPs for national parks, and which would in turn determine in detail:

- The nature and extent of the tourism to be permitted in any national park, in particular the activities in which visitors may participate, and the numbers of people to be permitted to participate, in any given activity at any given time anywhere in a national park;
- The extent of any physical developments to be provided for visitor use and the standards and type of construction, and
- Standards for any services to be offered, by either the ZAWA or the private sector, including any parastatal or any other government agency, and the level of fees to be charged.

Chapter 2 Wildlife policies
Zambia Wildlife Authority

Vision

To achieve excellence in the management of wildlife resources.

Mission Statement

To conserve Zambia's wildlife resources for biodiversity and socio-economic enhancement

2.1 RESPONSIBILITY FOR WILDLIFE

The ZAWA, a body corporate established under the Zambia Wildlife Act, will provide technical advice, on which government will ensure the protection of its natural endowment is effected. The ZAWA shall implement such policy for the protection, management and use of resources in National parks, the management of wildlife outside National Parks for the benefit of local communities and the development of the entire wildlife industry.

Outside National Parks, ZAWA will promote the CRBs, other institutions and landholders to conserve and use the resource wisely and maximize the returns from doing so, because it is in their economic interest to do so. This will benefit not only the landholders but

through them, their communities and the nation and the nation.

Government recognizes the intrinsic strength of the **CBNRM** philosophy, whereby local people and other landholders, including the State, are accepted as the best custodians of the wildlife and other renewable resources on their land. This philosophy rests on the principle that wildlife has inherent economic advantages over other uses of the land, particularly in agriculturally marginal regions of the country, and that realization of this potential can be a powerful incentive to conserve and use the resource in a sustainable way.

Legislation **is periodically** reviewed to ensure that it provides for proper protection, management and use of the wildlife estate; to promote sound ecologically and socio-economically based conservation that incorporate free market principle and ensures the equitable distribution of the benefits earned by wildlife; and to facilitate an ethical and durable wildlife industry.

Without prejudice to the overall authority of ZAWA the Minister may, for the local communities outside National Parks, set up **CRBs** for the purpose of enhancing management and sustainable use of wildlife resources. This privilege will be in terms of an agreement with the ZAWA and may be revoked for failure to adhere to the terms of the agreement, memorandum of understanding, or a management plans.

As ZAWA will be responsible for implementing government policy on wildlife, it will be made as financially self-supporting as possible. Recognizing that Government cannot abrogate its responsibilities for protecting and managing the country's natural resource base, it will be incumbent upon it to appropriate adequate financial resources to ZAWA.

The funds of ZAWA will essentially consist of moneys:

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- i. Appropriated by the National Assembly of GRZ;
- ii. Commercial ventures conducted by ZAWA
- iii. Earned for any licenses or permits issued or concessions granted;
- iv. Conservation fees in respect of prospecting and mining in National parks and GMAs.
- v. Paid to the ZAWA by way of grants or donations; and
- vi. Vested in, or accrued to, the ZAWA.

In relation to the local communities, the ZAWA Authority shall see to it that the CRBs collect revenues due to them by way of licenses issued, concessions granted and other services rendered, or from the use of wildlife resources in their areas, and that such revenues are paid into a fund.

Management of all National Parks will be effected through an approved general management plan prepared through an interactive planning process which includes stakeholders, local community and other parties according to inter-nationally accepted norms.

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2.2 NATIONAL PARKS

Government has created National Parks whose management has been delegated to the ZAWA.

Objectives and purpose of National Parks

National Parks exist to:

- a) Protect wild ecosystem and the biodiversity contained in them, with special emphasis on the conservation of the large mammals and their habitats and the protection to both living and non-living objects of scientific, prehistoric and aesthetic interest;
- b) Conserve water catchments;
- c) Provide opportunities for the advancement of scientific knowledge and public education, with particular emphasis on the effects that man has had on the environment; and to provide for human benefit through:
- d) Encouraging public use related to the enjoyment and appreciation of then natural values contained in the parks;
- e) Providing animals and other seed stocks to repopulate understocked protected areas of the country; and
- f) Generation of economic activity, both within the parks and in surrounding areas, to enhance rural socio-economic development.

Management of National Parks

a) General

The management of a National Park involves protecting and managing large, ecologically complex areas influenced by an array of ecological and socio-economic forces inside and outside the National Park. For this reason the ZAWA will adopt a structured adaptive management strategy progressing, as required, from the general to the particular and based on monitoring key biological and socio-economic parameters.

b) General Management Plan

Each National Park will be managed in terms of a GMP, which will:

- 1) Define the area of the National Park and how it is to be protected,
- 2) Define the objectives for managing the biological system, set the limits of permissible change so as to preserve biological diversity, and describe the parameters to be monitored and how this will be done, and
- 3) Develop a management zone scheme for the park where the park is divided into zones for different permissible uses, Block Tourism Concession and set limits of acceptable use for each zone and the nature of physical developments to be permitted to support such use and protection of resources.

Preparation of GMPs will adopt the standard format determined by the ZAWA.

c) Prospecting and mining

The right to prospect or mine in a National Park shall be exercised only subject to the terms and conditions stipulated in Zambia Wildlife Act No. and which shall require:

- 1) minimal disturbance of the natural environment during prospecting, and the restoration of any disturbance that is agreed to by the Minister at the prospector's cost and to the satisfaction of the ZAWA;
- 2) mining shall be permitted in the National Park according to a park's GMP and only if it is in the national interest and is justified economically, bearing in mind all environment costs.

- 3) a mining right shall not be granted in a National Park until an independent environmental impact assessment is carried out by a qualified assessor recognized by the ZAWA.

2.3 Prospecting, Mining and logging rights in GMAs

May be granted only after an environmental impact assessment is carried out and approved by ZAWA.

2.2.1 Systems plan

The ZAWA shall study and monitor areas with a view to determine if they are nationally significant, and if so, whether they have potential for inclusion in the national park system using the Gap Analysis. On the other hand ZAWA will develop a country's System Plan the will provide:

- 1) a comprehensive national statement of the objectives, rationale, definitions, and future directions for the evolving network of national parks;
- 2) an assessment of the viability of the existing system and the completeness in covering the different biomes and ecological zones represented in the country;
- 3) a systematic procedure that identifies additional areas most suitable for meeting national conservation objectives;
- 4) a clear statement of national priorities, and a plan of action for achieving the national conservation objectives.

The System Plan will be used:

- guide research personnel, conservation organizations and international institutions in their fieldwork, public information, funding, and other support activities;
- develop a strategy for funding the priority activities identified in the plan

- assist governments and others in making choices about investments in protected areas;
- present those choices to politicians, administrators, NGOs and development assistance agencies.

2.2.2 Criteria for national Significance

For an area to be eligible for inclusion or consideration to be included as a part of the national park system, an area must

- 1) possess nationally significant natural or cultural resources
- 2) be a suitable and feasible addition to the system, and
- 3) require direct management as a National Park instead of alternative protection by other land administering agencies or the private sector using the Gap Analysis method.

These criteria are designed to ensure that the national park system includes only outstanding examples of Zambia's natural and cultural resources values as:

- 1) an outstanding example of a particular type of resource;
- 2) it possesses exceptional value or quality in illustrating or interpreting the natural or cultural resources of Zambia's heritage;
- 3) it protects water and soil resources critical to maintaining ecological integrity and to support the subsistence need of local communities;
- 4) it offers superlative opportunities for public benefit, enjoyment, or for scientific study;
- 5) it retains a high degree of integrity as a true, accurate, and relatively unspoiled example of the resource.

Examples of natural resource will include one or combination of the following:

- 1) An outstanding site that illustrates the characteristics of landform or biotic area that is still widespread.
- 2) A rare remnant natural landscape, marine resources, or biotic area or type that was once widespread but is now vanishing due to human settlement and development.
- 3) A landform or biotic area that has always been extremely uncommon in the region or country.
- 4) A site possessing exceptional diversity of ecological components (species, communities, habitats)
- 5) A site containing biotic species or communities whose natural distribution at that location makes them unusual (a relatively large population at the limit of its range, or an isolated population)
- 6) A site harbouring a concentrated population of rare plant or animal species, particularly one officially recognized as threatened or endangered.
- 7) A critical refuge necessary for the continued survival of a species.
- 8) An area with outstanding scenic qualities, such as dramatic topographic features, unusual contrasts in landforms or vegetation, spectacular views, or other special landscape features.
- 9) A site that is an invaluable ecological or geological benchmark due to an extensive and long-term record of research and scientific discovery.
- 10) An area that serves as a watershed for surrounding communities

2.2.3 Suitability and feasibility An area will be considered suitable for addition to the national park system if it represents a natural resource type that is not adequately represented in the national parks system. Adequacy of representation will be determined on a case-by-case basis by comparing the proposed addition to other units in the national parks system, considering differences or similarities in the character, quality, quantity, or combination of resources and opportunities for human benefit and enjoyment.

To be feasible as a new unit of the national park system, an area must be of sufficient size and appropriate configuration, considering natural systems to ensure long-term protection of resource and to accommodate human benefit and enjoyment, and it must have potential for efficient administration at a reasonable cost. Important feasibility factors include land ownership, acquisition costs, threats to the resource, and staff or development requirements.

2.2.3 **Additional Protected Area categories**

New General Management Planning will be conducted through ZAWA to assist the government degree and kind of actions that may be necessary for the management and protection of areas considered to have important resources with potential for addition to the national parks system.

The **PAPD**, a unit within ZAWA, will be responsible for all aspects of new park planning and will conduct a literature search, do the necessary field work, contact knowledge professionals, organizations, government agencies, and communities to ensure that there is adequate information to permit an assessment of the quality of the resources of the study areas. The information gathered will be used to determine the significance of the area's resources, the degree of existing protection and whether the area merits further evaluation and development of management strategies by ZAWA.

The outcome from such survey will describe the area's natural, scenic, geological and ecological resources; present land ownership, existing and proposed land uses and their effect on the resources. And existing provisions for protection of the resources, if any, including regulation and existing management. The report will form an important input to be used in the Gap Analysis during the development of a country's systems plan that will provide:

- 1) Identification and evaluation of regional land uses, plans, legal framework, and trends that affect the study area's significant resources;
- 2) A description of the area's resources and their significance and present landownership;
- 3) An assessment of existing and proposed land uses and their effect on the resources;
- 4) A description of the extent to which the area is protected by regulation and a description of the status, source and content of any existing plans for the protection of the area;
- 5) Assessment of reasonable alternatives for the management, protection and use of the area including maintaining the status quo;
- 6) Suggestions about what types of uses should be permitted, prohibited, or allowed subject to certain conditions;
- 7) Identification of alternative boundaries wherever practicable;
- 8) An analysis of the economic, social, cultural, and environmental impacts of the alternatives and no action.

2.2.5 Gazetting of PAs

All future Gazetting Proclamations for new PAs (National Parks and GMAs) will, as a minimum contain the following:

- 1) An official name designation
 - 2) A short concise narrative that describes the area's national significance, identifying those most important natural, cultural, archeological and other resources and values that qualify this area for inclusion into the wildlife estate of the country.
 - 3) A precise legal survey description of the boundary.
-

National Parks planning and processes

The increasing exploitation of natural resources requires that efforts be put in place which would allow sustainable utilization without compromising the long-term survival of protected areas.

This would be achieved through a 2-tiered planning process developed by PAPD, which would include.

- the gathering and analysis of data
- an assessment of existing conditions and future trends
- the identification of problems and issues
- the identification of exceptional resource values
- reaffirmation of the parks purpose and significance
- the preparation of management objectives that describes the parks desired future
- the evaluation of alternative actions
- the selection of a preferred proposal and an environmental assessment of the preferred proposal and alternatives

2.2.6 Public participation of Planning

Throughout any planning process, local community and the general public at the national, provincial and district levels will be given opportunity to voice concerns about planning and management of the parks. Opportunities for public participation will vary but may include one or a combination of public workshops and meetings, informal work sessions on particular issues, and public review and comment on draft

2.2.7 General Management Plans

GMPs will be prepared, implemented, and periodically revised or updated for every park in the wildlife estate. Each Warden in charge of the park will implement the approved GMP that lays out a management concept for the park;

establishes a role for the park within the context of regional trends and plans for conservation, access, economic development, local community and other regional issues; and identifies actions to resolve problems and achieve park management objectives. Guided by the mission statement for ZAWA, all GMPs will set out the bigger picture for the park and all other plans will be consistent with the direction established in these plans.

2.2.8.1 Data base

Sufficient information for formulating proposals, evaluating potential environmental impacts, and making informed decisions will be made available and collated prior to initiating a GMP. Each park, with assistance from the **PAPD** and Wildlife Research Unit of ZAWA, will develop, gather, store, analyze, and update information about park resources, regional demographic and socio-economic trends, maps, aerial photographs, and satellite imagery relevant to planning and management.

The **PAPD** will work to ensure that information-gathering projects needed for any park planning are scheduled to begin and are funded in good time before the park planning process is initiated. However, planning for protected areas should not be delayed due to lack of information but should proceed even with limited available information, if it is necessary to say important resources from being decimated or over utilized. In some instances, however, it may be necessary to prepare a GMP based on limited available information and then identify data gaps and information priorities in the plan.

2.2.8.2 Planning team

Without exception, General Management Planning will be conducted by an interdisciplinary team of planning professionals, park managers, staff scientists and research specialists, Field/Wardens will have the major

responsibility of actively participating in all aspects of the plan's preparation. All planning teams for protected areas in the wildlife estate will be lead by PAPD of ZAWA.

On the other hand, PAPD will be responsible for facilitating the planning process and for writing the draft document, overseeing its review, and finalizing the GMP.

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- 2.2.8.3 Scope of the General Management Plans** The preparation of all GMPs will be guided by the PAPD's planning process and format, where every such plan will include:
- 1) A statement of park significance and purpose;
 - 2) An analysis of issues and problems;
 - 3) A description of exceptional resources and values;
 - 4) A proposal that includes
 - A management zoning scheme with specific actions and determination of "limits of acceptable use" and interrelated proposals for resource protection and management;
 - Boundary and land protection recommendations;
 - Cooperation with associated local and district interests;
 - Visitor experience, use and interpretation;
 - Accessibility for disabled visitors;
 - Park operations;
 - A general indication of location, size, capacity, and function of physical development; **and**
 - An environmental assessment of proposals.
- A plan implementation schedule and cost estimates will also be included.

-
- 2.2.8.4 Approval, amendment and revoking of National Parks General Management Plan** The PAPD and Wardens in charge will present the draft GMP to ZAWA top management for comments and input, then present to ZAWA

Board for approval. Once a management plan has been approved, revocation of this approval will be done only by the ZAWA Board. Requests for management plan amendments or revisions will be made by Field Wardens or PAPD and presented to the ZAWA top management for approval by the ZAWA Board. Ratification of all the GMPs shall be done by the Minister of Tourism, Environment and Natural Resources.

2.2.8.5 Annual Work Plan

Each park will prepare an Annual Work Plan (AWP) with assistance and review by PAPD. The AWP will provide specific action recommendations that will ensure the effective day-to-day operations of the park.

This plan will also serve as budget submission outlining the activities that will be accomplished that year to implement the General Management Plan's recommendation.

The AWP will compile information about the park's purpose, the nature and significance of its resources, the existing uses of its lands and waters, its regional context and adjacent considerations, the administrative requirements for its management, the influences on park resources and the experience of park visitors, and non recreational use by local communities.

2.3 NATURAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT

2.3.1 Basic management guidelines

Management of natural systems will be based on a park's management zones as established in approved GMPs

2.3.2 Wildlife research

ZAWA will encourage and support research primarily directed at addressing management concerns. However,

academic and pure research done in collaboration with other institutions and individuals will be encouraged as long as it is cost effective and in agreement with ZAWA overall objectives.

2.3.3 Planning for natural Resources management

The wildlife Research and the Planning of ZAWA will prepare and periodically update a resources management plan for each PA in the form of detailed plans, separate from, but consistent with, the approved GMPs. These plans will identify, define, and programme the monitoring, inventory research and enforcement activities required to perpetuate PAs natural resources and natural processes in order to achieve the purpose and objectives, and regulate the use and utilization of PAs resources.

2.3.3.1 Relationship to planning and Management

All PA research needs will be discussed in the PAs GMP and documented in each detailed resources management Plan. Research will be conducted to further achieve PAs objectives as developed in the general management planning documents.

Research activities will:

- 1) Provide a sound basis for policy and GMPs reviews;
 - 2) Develop effective strategies to avoid or minimize adverse impacts on resources, local communities and visitors;
 - 3) Determine causes of resources management problems;
 - 4) Develop methods to restore damaged resources;
 - 5) Provide further insight and understanding of ecosystems and document their components, conditions, and significance.
-

- 2.3.3.2 Publication of research data** The results of all scientific activities conducted in the National Parks and GMAs will be made available in multiple copies (no less than 10 copies to ZAWA, the scientific community, and the public through both technical publications and public media. Information on the locations of threatened and endangered or extremely fragile natural resources or those subject to vandalism and poaching will not be included in reports for public distribution.
-

- 2.3.4 Special designations**
- 2.3.4.1 Biosphere reserves** Individual PAs ecosystems that are components of regional ecosystems believed to be internationally significant examples of one of the world's natural regions may be nominated for inscription as biosphere reserves. The guidance for the international biosphere reserve programme is provided by the United Nations Education, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO). Such international designation as biosphere reserves will not alter the purposes for which the PAs were established, but will enhance their management requirements. Once an area is designated as a biosphere reserve site, ZAWA will recognize the designation in all public information leaflets and signage.
-

- 2.3.4.2 World Heritage Sites** Natural areas in the country that possess outstanding universal value and qualify to be nominated as part of the world's natural heritage sites will be nominated to the World Heritage List. Once an area is inscribed as a world heritage site by the World Heritage Commission of IUCN, ZAWA will recognize the designation in public information, and work with international agencies to access funding available for the protection of such sites.
-

2.3.5 Biological resources

2.3.5.1 Protection of **indigenous wildlife**

ZAWA will seek to perpetuate the native wildlife (indigenous to Zambia) as part of the natural ecosystems of the PAs under its jurisdiction. Management emphasis in all National Parks will on minimizing undesirable human impacts on natural wildlife population dynamics. Native wildlife populations will be protected against **illegal** harvest, destruction, harassment, or harm through human use. Individual animals within a population will be:

- 1) Removed or destroyed if necessary for human Safety and health;
- 2) removed or destroyed if part of a National Parks research project described in an approved resource management plan or is part of research being conducted by others who have been issued special licenses;
- 3) removed and relocated to restore native populations in depleted national parks or GMAs without diminishing the viability of the populations from which the animals are taken.

The control of wildlife populations will be effected if so desired for ecosystem maintenance and ZAWA shall institute management measures which may include live trapping for translocation elsewhere, systematic and/or routine culling for game meat. Tourist and local hunting as a means to control populations will be allowed only on lands in the GMAs after obtaining appropriate permission and licenses. **Importation of exotic species for release into the wild is prohibited. Such species will only be allowed in fenced areas.**

2.3.5.2 Landscape and plants ZAWA will perpetuate native plant life as part of natural ecosystems. Landscapes and plants may be manipulated only when necessary to achieve approved management objectives as defined in an approved plan. Use of exotic plants in all national parks will be prohibited.

In any zone, landscapes and plants may be manipulated to maintain habitats for threatened or endangered species. However, in zones identified for a natural preservation emphasis, only native plants may be used if additional plantings are done, and manipulation of existing plants will be carried out in a manner designed to restore or enhance the functioning of the plant and animal community of which the endangered species is part.

2.3.5.3 Threatened or Endangered species

ZAWA will, consistent with CITES to which Zambia is signatory, identify, promote the conservation of, and take immediate actions to intervene for the protection of, all threatened or endangered species or wild fauna and flora. Active management programs will be conducted as necessary to perpetuate the natural distribution and abundance of threatened or endangered species and the ecosystems on which they depend.

2.3.5.4 Pest management Pests are animals or plant populations that interfere with the purposes of, or are a source of a pandemic that may wipe out, native species of plants or animals. However, many fungi, insects, rodents, disease causing micro-organisms and other species that may be perceived as pests, are **indigenous** plants and animals existing under natural conditions and are an integral part of the ecosystem. Control of native pests will be considered desirable only if done:

- 1) To prevent the loss of the host or host-dependent species will be considered ecosystem;
- 2) To prevent outbreaks of the pest from spreading to other plant communities, or animal populations outside the PA;
- 3) To conserve threatened, endangered, or unique plant species or communities;
- 4) To ensure human safety

2.3.5.4 Pesticide storage in PAs All pesticide storage and disposals in any PA will be Accomplished in a way that does not endanger natural resources and human health and will be controlled by the appropriate Environmental Laws and Regulations.

2.3.6 Fires

2.3.6.1 Fire management Fire is a powerful phenomenon and has been instrumental in the development of the present vegetative cover of any PA in the country. Fire management programmes will be designated around resource management objectives and implemented in the various management zones in a National Park or Game Management area. In this regard each PA will monitor all fires with sufficient documentation to indicate the significance of fire in achieving specified management and fire objective, and assess all its effects on natural ecosystem processes.

2.3.8.2.1 Wildlife prevention and Suppression

Active fire-prevention will be conducted in fire-prone PAs ZAWA will work with adjacent landowners to prevent human-caused wildfires and their potential adverse impacts on human life, facilities, or natural resources.

2.3.7 Water resources

2.3.6.1 Water quantity and quality

All PAs will seek to perpetuate surface and ground waters as an integral components of park aquatic and terrestrial ecosystem. National Parks water, either surface water or groundwater, will be withdrawn for consumptive use only where such withdrawal is absolutely necessary for the use and management of the PA, and when it is scientifically proven that it will not significantly alter natural processes and ecosystems.

All water withdrawn for domestic use will be returned to the PA watershed system once it has been treated to a degree that assures there will be no impairment of natural resources.

2.3.7.2 Wetlands and Floodplains

Any modification of wetlands and floodplains will be avoided wherever possible and subject to the conditions and regulations established under the Environmental Council of Zambia. Through the Wetland programme, each PA will:

- 1) Inventory wetlands and those floodplains subject to local community and public use;
- 2) identify high-hazard flood areas and take actions to limit risks to people and property; and
- 3) inventory existing structures, facilities and programmes that involve the use of floodplains and wetlands and prepare plans for protection and sustainable use of resources from the affected floodplains and wetlands.
- 4) Designating RAMSAR Sites on those areas that meet the requirements

2.3.8 Geological resources All geological features in any PA will be protected. In cooperation with other agencies like the NHCC, fragile geological features will be monitored to determine if measures will be needed to prevent or stop human-caused damage.

2.3.8.1 Management of geological resources

ZAWA will manage special geological features and perpetuate their atmospheric, geologic, biologic, ecologic and cultural resource values. Natural drainage patterns, airflows and indigenous plant and animal communities will be protected in their natural condition.

2.3.8.2.1 Soil resource management

ZAWA will actively seek to understand and preserve the

soil resources for all PAs under its jurisdiction and prevent, to the extent possible, the unnatural erosion, physical removal, or contamination of the soil, or its contamination of the other resources.

Management actions will be taken to mitigate adverse or potentially irreversible impacts on soils caused by heavy use around major PA attractions and facilities.

2.4.1 Visitor use

To the extent possible, ZAWA will encourage people to visit national parks and to pursue inspirational, educational and appropriate recreational activities related to the resources found in these environments by paying appropriate fees and using designated entry points. Visitors will be given appropriate information to encourage safe and lawful use of the national parks and to minimize any resulting adverse environmental impacts.

The levels and types of recreational use will be determined through these policies and the management zoning scheme in each park's general management plan. ZAWA will manage visitor use and whenever necessary regulate the amount, type, time and place of all visitor activities based on a determination by the Field Officers and Park Warden that such measures are consistent with the policies, and park's General Management Plan. These measures will be taken only when desirable and needed either to prevent derogation of the values which the area was established to preserve, or to minimize visitor use conflicts.

Tools for managing recreational tourist activities will include general or specific regulations; permit, licences and reservation systems; and local restrictions, public use limits, closures, and other designations implemented by ZAWA when appropriate.

2.4.2 Recreational activities ZAWA will encourage only those recreational activities that are:

- Consistent with the purposes and significance of the area;

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- Consistent with the protection of the resources
- Compatible with other visitor uses

The most important recreational activities that may be allowed in National Parks are sight seeing, game viewing from vehicles, canoeing, sport fishing, walking safaris, photography, mountain hiking, camping, picnicking, sight seeing from boats, mountain and rock climbing; and game viewing from hot-air balloons, elephant and horsebacks in selected national parks

The following other recreational and adventure tourist activities will be allowed only at Victoria Falls in Mosi-oa-tunya and Lusenga National Park; bungi jumping, hang gliding, commercial sightseeing over-flight and water rafting, only to the extent that such activities do not cause adverse impacts to the environment and other users.

Any recreational activity not listed as approved in these management policies will not be allowed in any park. Moreover, if ZAWA makes an evaluation and finds that any recreational activity meets on or more of the following criteria, it will be prohibited in national parks.

- Inconsistency with the philosophy of the National Parks system as defined by IUCN's WCPA;
- High profile forms of recreation that tend to focus visitor and user attention on the event rather than imparting a deeper appreciation and understanding of the resources and significance of the park;
- Have or are suspected to have, unacceptable impacts on park resources or natural processes, and affect the integrity of the ecosystem;
- Have unacceptable impacts on visitor use, due to interference or conflict with other visitor use activities; and,
- Place an unacceptable level of burden on park management to administer and manage in terms of health and safety of the users themselves or ZAWA.

ZAWA in conjunction with Local communities in any GMA will consider appropriate recreational activities as a source of

revenue. ZAWA will provide the required technical information for carrying out those tourist activities.

2.4.3 Visitor safety Saving of human life within any ZAWA estate will take precedence over all other management actions, and ZAWA will work with all investors in National Parks and GMAs to make sure that visitors and employees are provided as a safe and healthful environment. Nevertheless, National Park visitors assume a certain degree of risk and responsibility for their own safety when visiting natural areas with wild animals.

2.4.4 Emergency medical Services ZAWA and investors in National Parks will endeavour to provide appropriate emergency medical services for persons that may get sick or injured.

2.4.5 Fees ZAWA will have a fair and organized system of collecting fees, and a GMP will determine the specific type of fee collection system needed and make this public prior to its implementation.

2.4.6 Aircraft use Noise resulting from over-flights has the potential to adversely affect park resources and values, such as sensitive wildlife species and the natural quiet of National Park settings, and to interfere with the enjoyment by other visitors. ZAWA will work with other state organs to ensure that air-space above National Parks is properly controlled and to prevent, eliminate, or minimize the derogation to park resources and values associated with overflight activities. The limit of flight height in National Parks will be strictly enforced to ensure that there is no commercial sightseeing overflight operations unless determined as appropriate in a General Management Plan. Flights in and out of any National Park would be through designated airstrips approved by DCA and would be limited to flights needed to support or carry out

emergency operations or essential management, administration, and research activities in cases when there are no practical alternatives or when alternative methods would be unreasonable considering such factors as safety, effects on resources and visitor experience, availability of personnel and equipment, impacts on other administrative activities, and overall cost effectiveness. To the extent practicable, flights will be planned and scheduled to consolidate flights and to avoid or minimize impacts on park resources and values and visitor enjoyment.

Commercial flights will be encouraged to land in designated improved airstrips outside the National Parks boundaries and in the GMAs where ZAWA and local communities can get revenue from the landing fees.

2.4.7 Commercial motion Picture and still Photography

The making of commercial motion pictures, television productions or still photographs involving the use of casts, setting, or crews will be allowed in parks only pursuant to the terms and conditions of permit issued by ZAWA. Appropriate performance bond and liability insurance requirements will be imposed by ZAWA prior to permit approval. Professional photography of all types will be subject to user fees established by ZAWA.

2.5 HUMAN RESOURCES MANAGEMENT

ZAWA shall develop a Human Resources Development Plan (HRDP) which addresses matters pertaining to staff skills, recruitment, attitudes and practices related to duties and functions of ZAWA. This HRDP will ensure that Staff of ZAWA are disciplined and promote the ZAWA image in a positive way. It shall be the policy of ZAWA to encourage the development of expertise within the department, in keeping with the varied and holistic approach of park management, in keeping with the varied and holistic approach of park management. ZAWA shall seek to develop cadres of skilled staff and deploy these areas where their specific skills would be practiced with greatest effect and the best result for ZAWA.

Recruitment and employment

ZAWA will maintain a recruitment and employment programme that will offer employment only to suitable candidates regardless of gender, ethnic group or religion.

2.6 ETHICS

2.6.1 Involvement of ZAWA personnel or Board members in wildlife regulated businesses

ZAWA employees or ZAWA Board members may be owners, partners, corporate officers, or managers of any business conducting commercial services in a National Park, GMA and open areas, or may have a financial interest in such a company or activities regulated by ZAWA provided that they declare interest .

2.6.2 Fund raising and Philanthropy

ZAWA employees nor any member of the ZAWA will neither knowingly solicits nor accept gifts from concessionaires or their principles or beneficial owners, nor permit others to do so on their behalf, when such gifts may involve a conflict of interest or an appearance of conflict, or when a gift is to be used for a service to, or on behalf of, a concessionaire.

2.7 WILDLIFE OUTSIDE NATIONAL PARKS

Government has created Game Management Areas whose management has been delegated to the ZAWA for the conservation biological diversity and the sustainable utilization of the wildlife resources contained in them. Each GMA will be managed according to a GMP, which will determine:

- a) How the wildlife is to be used for consumptive and non-consumptive utilisation;
- b) How the resources is to be managed and how the use is to be organized, in particular, how abuses of the resource are

to be controlled and how quotes for consumptive uses of the wildlife are to be set, subject to the approval of the ZAWA;

- c) How products, including those associated with the non-consumptive use of the resource, are to be marketed; and;
- d) In the case of communally held resources, how the decision relating to the apportionment of benefits with the CRBs will be decided.

As a general rule the ZAWA will favour and encourage those actions that:

- Without compromising the effectiveness of resource conservation, are cost effective with regard to the expenditure on management in relation to the benefits generated;
- Divide large wildlife management areas into smaller units for the sake of apportioning benefits earned from wildlife; and
- Ensure any settlement is in conformity to the provisions of a General Management Plan.

Wildlife in **Open** areas will be protected as provided for in the Zambia Wildlife Act.

2.7.1 Private Sector **Participation**

2.7.1.1 Private Wildlife Estates

ZAWA recognizes the important role of private participation in wildlife conservation and management. ZAWA may grant permission under conditions and when appropriate fees have been paid for private sector to establish private wildlife estates. The applicant will be required to apply to ZAWA who will provide a standard application from providing the necessary information and requirements to be fulfilled. A detailed study of the proposed area will be initiated, and a report produced to select committee of ZAWA, which would provide recommendation for decisions to be made. The

owner would be required to sign a Contract Agreement with ZAWA after paying a fee.

2.7.1.2 Public-Private Partnership

The ZAWA may co-manage National Parks, Wildlife and Bird sanctuaries, GMAs or other protected areas with the private sector and/or non-profit organizations.

2.7.1.1 Veterinary requirements

All veterinary laws and regulations will be implemented and observed by the private sector in managing and running wildlife in private wildlife estates. In drawing up management plans for the private wildlife estates, ZAWA will take into consideration the potential role that wildlife has in the epidemiology of animal diseases with respect to public health.

2.8 LAW ENFORCEMENT

2.8.1 Objective

The principal objective of law enforcement in National Parks and Game Management Areas is to ensure conservation of the environment and prevention of all illegal activities. ZAWA will ensure that the Law Enforcement unit will provide maximum possible protection to all living and non-living resources, and both tangible and intangible resource values, as well as providing security to visitors, employees, and their properties.

2.8.2 Wildlife Police Officers

In order to ensure total protection against illegal use of the resources in National Parks, there will be employed law enforcement officers called Wildlife Police officers. These employees will be of a paramilitary type and will be governed by the paramilitary disciplinary code of conduct.

2.8.2.1 Function

The function of the Wildlife Police Officers will be to protect and preserve the natural resources within National Parks against unlawful human acts, and to provide general enforcement of the provisions of the Zambia Wildlife Act.

2.8.2.2 Personnel and equipment

The optimum level of personnel and equipment of the Wildlife Police Officers in any National Park will be determined by each Park's GMP or the operations strategy as the case may be. GMPs or operations strategy will determine the number of personnel, various grades and ranks, firearms, and all other necessary equipment to ensure that the Wildlife Police Officers are well equipped and can be rapidly deployed to problem areas and effectively control poaching.

2.8.2.3 Immunity

Wildlife Police Officers will not be subject to any actions, liability, claims or demand if they were acting in bonafide exercise of powers conferred by Zambia Wildlife Act for the purpose of carrying out their duties according to the provisions of the Act.

2.8.2.4 Discipline, training and motivation

The ZAWA will ensure that all Wildlife Police Officers are highly disciplined, well trained, well paid, suitably equipped, and adequately motivated to maintain high morale and standards in combating poaching and other illegal activities.

2.8.3 Close cooperation with State agencies

Close cooperation will be maintained between ZAWA and the Police, judiciary, and other relevant government departments and parastatal organization organizations responsible for state security in sharing information useful in the conservation and management of protected areas and wildlife resources.

2.9 LOCAL COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION IN CONSERVATION

Local communities residing in chiefdoms and geographic areas which are contiguous to any wildlife estate or any open area will be encouraged and assisted to apply and register as CRBs with the ZAWA. Management of all CRBs established for the purpose of enhancing management and sustainable use of wildlife resources outside National Parks will be done through a democratically elected representation of the local community themselves, but day to day operations of any CRB will be through a secretariat. The chief of the area will be the patron of such CRB. ZAWA will cooperate with all registered CRBs and provide the technical input that will assist CRBs to develop management strategies. It will be the responsibility of ZAWA to work with all registered CRBs in the preparation of general management plans using a participatory planning process and format developed by the Authority and adopted to meet local condition requirements. All meetings of any CRB will be conducted in a democratic way, decision reached through consensus, and minutes of all their transactions and deliberations recorded. **Other** government and non-governmental technical departments represented in the areas where there is a registered CRB, may be called to a meeting to provide the appropriate technical input that will assist CRBs make informed decisions about the rational and sustainable utilization of natural resources in their area.

The ZAWA and CRBs shall share profits from revenues and benefits accruing from the sustainable utilization of the natural resources in the area. The share of profits for the CRBs from the revenues generated would be ploughed back into the CRB and assist in socio-economic development of the local communities in the chiefdom. The levels and type of such use will be determined in a GMP. The revenues in respect of licenses issued, concessions granted, use wildlife and any other services rendered in any CRB will be deposited in a fund. This fund will be controlled by the CRB according to proper accounting to proper accounting practices, and

proper books of accounts will be required to submit to ZAWA a report of its activities and audited financial statements during any financial year.

All registered CRBs will be manned by properly qualified secretariats employed on conditions and terms of service as determined by the respective CRBs.

2.10 CULTURAL RESOURCES

The wildlife estate contains many identified and unidentified cultural resources, some of which are of national and international significance. The ZAWA will **conserve** and foster the appreciation of the cultural resources in all National Parks and Game Management Areas as integral and important components of the ecosystems. This appreciation will be highlighted in appropriate programmes, research, protection and interpretive materials for individual parks and GMAs. With assistance of expertise from the National Heritage Conservation Commission (NHCC) and other institutions, cultural resources of each park and surrounding CRBs will be identified and their significance classified as part of the protected areas information base.

This information will then be used in a preparation of general management plans and to formulate proposals for development, maintenance and interpretation of such sites. Ritual use of contemporary sites will be allowed only within the context of overall resources protection. However, information regarding the location, nature and cultural context of archeological, historic and ethnographic resources inside National Parks will be confidential to protect them from theft or vandalism.

2.1.1 PALAEOLOGIC RESOURCES

ZAWA will endeavour to make sure that palaeontologic resources, both organic and mineralized remains in body or trace form, are protected, preserved and managed according to NHCC prescriptions for scientific research and public enjoyment as provided for a PA management plan.

Chapter 3

Institutional and legal Framework

3.1 ROLE OF GOVERNMENT

In accordance with its commitment to improve sustainable human welfare and hence to conserve and use the nation's renewable resources wisely, government will implement a policy for wildlife to:

- i. Maintain the ecological and aesthetic integrity of National Parks as prime samples of the nation's biodiversity and wild ecosystems;
- ii. Provide adequate protection to other major ecological types and species and their habitats which are either not represented or are insufficiently represented in National Parks, through adoption of appropriate land management practices;
- iii. Promote the sustainable use of wildlife and its habitats in accordance with the National Parks and Wildlife Policy for any category or area of land, through adoption of appropriate legal and economic institutions that encourage people to conserve and use the resource correctly, because it is to their advantage and that of their community and the nation for them to do so;
- iv. Promote the value of wildlife in financial terms so that it is able to realize its economic potential and can compete on favourable terms with other uses of the land. In particular to ensure that wildlife not undervalued through inappropriate legal or financial institutions;
- v. Ensure the equitable distribution of benefits from wildlife, by treating wildlife like other renewable resources to maximize the benefits from sustainable use of the resources;
- vi. Ensure the closest possible accountability between the benefits reaped from the resource and the welfare of the resource;
- vii. Promote a viable integrated wildlife industry based on free market principles through appropriate organization, driven by the needs of the industry with particular attention to the

- conservation of the resource on which the industry is based;
- viii. Promote public awareness of wildlife issues and the close relationship between wildlife conservation and the socio-economic climate in which it is practiced;
 - ix. Maintain and enhance government's commitment to problem driven research and monitoring of the ecological and socio-economic parameters influencing sustainable wildlife management and the growth of a viable industry based on it;
 - x. Participate in those international treaties and conventions that are consistent with Zambia's policy for wildlife conservation and use;
 - xi. Develop a cost effective, adaptive legal and administrative institutional framework for managing National Parks and wildlife, which recognizes the special ecological and economic attributes of the resources and the divergence of policy objectives inside and outside National Parks;
 - xii. Draw up plans based on clear policy objectives for the management of the resource, and the development of the industry based on it, for approval by the minister.
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3.1.1 Ministry of Tourism, Environment and Natural Resources

The role of the Ministry of Tourism, Environment and Natural Resources is to advise, to coordinate the functions of the Zambia Wildlife Authority and to legislate on matters pertaining to Wildlife Policy.

3.1.2 Zambia Wildlife Authority

The ZAWA is a scientific professional body mandated to conserve the biodiversity on which continued human adaptability depend; to manage National Parks, and to promote and develop wildlife as a productive, profitable and environmentally friendly land use option of particular significance to rural landholders.

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Because wild animals are such a valuable fugitive resource with special qualities and are prone to illegal abuse, powerful legislation administered by a specialized agency is needed to protect it from illegal activities. The ZAWA is required to implement this legislation throughout the country and is paramilitary organization with powerful statutory powers, special indemnities and the right to bear arms. It will therefore exercise a high degree of discipline and will co-operate fully with other law enforcement agencies of government, from whom it can expect the fullest support in the execution of its duties.

The ZAWA will ensure that its officers are fully trained, commensurate with their duties, and that those holding key managerial positions in the organization hold the required academic qualifications and/or field practical experience.

In addition to the aforesaid, ZAWA will implement all Multilateral Environmental Agreements (MEAs) and Protocols such as the SADC Wildlife Protocol, Lusaka Agreement Taskforce, CITES, Ramsar and others that may be formulated by the International community and ratified by Zambia

Within National Parks **and other sanctuaries** ZAWA will:

- Protect wildlife against illegal use;
- Conserve and manage the ecosystems to preserve biological diversity, their natural qualities and off-set the impacts of modern man. This management will be in terms of a management plan for each National Park and will be based on sufficient monitoring of the key elements in ecosystems;
- Undertake or commission any necessary biological and socio-economic research needed to achieve these objectives and those outlined below;
- Undertake or commission all physical developments, including roads and firebreaks, water installations, buildings and other such structures. All physical developments will be designed to blend with the natural environment and to cause the minimal ecological or visual

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impact and will be in terms of the General Management plan;

- Determine the type and extent to tourism and tourist activities that may be permitted in terms of the General Management plan for National Parks. In terms of this plan the ZAWA may provide a range of tourist facilities or it may lease out the right to provide them to private sector;

In areas outside National Parks (GMAs and open areas), the ZAWA by working together with a registered CRB, will:

- Prevent illegal settlement and grazing by livestock and restrict the number of domestic animals that may be retained or the extent or cultivation that may be practiced within a GMA;
- Promote the conservation of wildlife and the development of an integrated ethical wildlife industry, while maximizing the benefits that can be derived from the resource over the long term;
- Prevent the introduction of exotic plants, including ornamental plants, and exotic animals, including pets, that may spread or in other ways adversely impact on the ecological integrity aesthetic qualities of the wild ecosystem;
- Any commercial activities in any GMA will have to be paid for at appropriate fees to the Fund as provided for in the Zambia Wildlife Act. The ZAWA will develop a pricing mechanism that reflects the true economic value of the wildlife products and services and which will bring about tangible benefits to local communities. To the extent possible, financial opportunities, such as the offer of employment or facility to sell local produce and goods or services, should be provided as an incentive to local communities to participate in conservation and wise use of natural resources.
- Ensure the equitable and efficient allocation of opportunities for Zambian citizens to participate in and benefit from wildlife industry;

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- Prepare regulations needed to co-ordinate and regulate the industry to ensure that local communities derive maximum benefits from the wildlife industry;
- Prepare regulations needed to co-ordinate and regulate the industry to ensure that **ZAWA and** local communities derive maximum benefits from the resources in GMAs
- Regulate trade in wildlife and wildlife products to curb illegal trade and its prejudicial effects on the conservation of the resource and the legal trade in wildlife;
- Facilitate coordinated marketing of wildlife products, including tourism and hunting, using open free market mechanisms to the maximum extent possible, so as to enable wildlife to realize its comparative economic advantage and inhibit undesirable marketing practices, including the emergence of monopolies. This may include the marketing of certain special wildlife products, and the organization of marketing opportunities, such as auctions, in which the local communities and the private sector can participate and benefit;
- Maintain a statistical data base on all wildlife related activities, including tourism and hunting, to guide the **ZAWA and** CRB in the granting of concessions and allocation of hunting quotas and development of the industry;
- Undertake ecological, socio-economic and market research and monitoring in support of the wildlife sector in the GMA, and will co-ordinate the research activities of external researchers, to obviate unnecessary duplication and avoid the loss of useful information;
- Provide services to industry, including public relations, in the setting up of ecologically sustainable and financially profitable wildlife ventures;
- Set standards and issue authorities for wildlife operators, including people capturing and holding live animals, or offering services to the public such as safari outfitters and professional hunters and guides; and
- Encourage the formation of representative associations in the wildlife sector to develop and represent the industry,

without permitting the emergence of undesirable trading practices such as monopolies.

3.2 LEGISLATIVE REFORM

3.2.1 Repeal of existing Legislation

The **Zambia Wildlife Act, No.** has been repealed as of