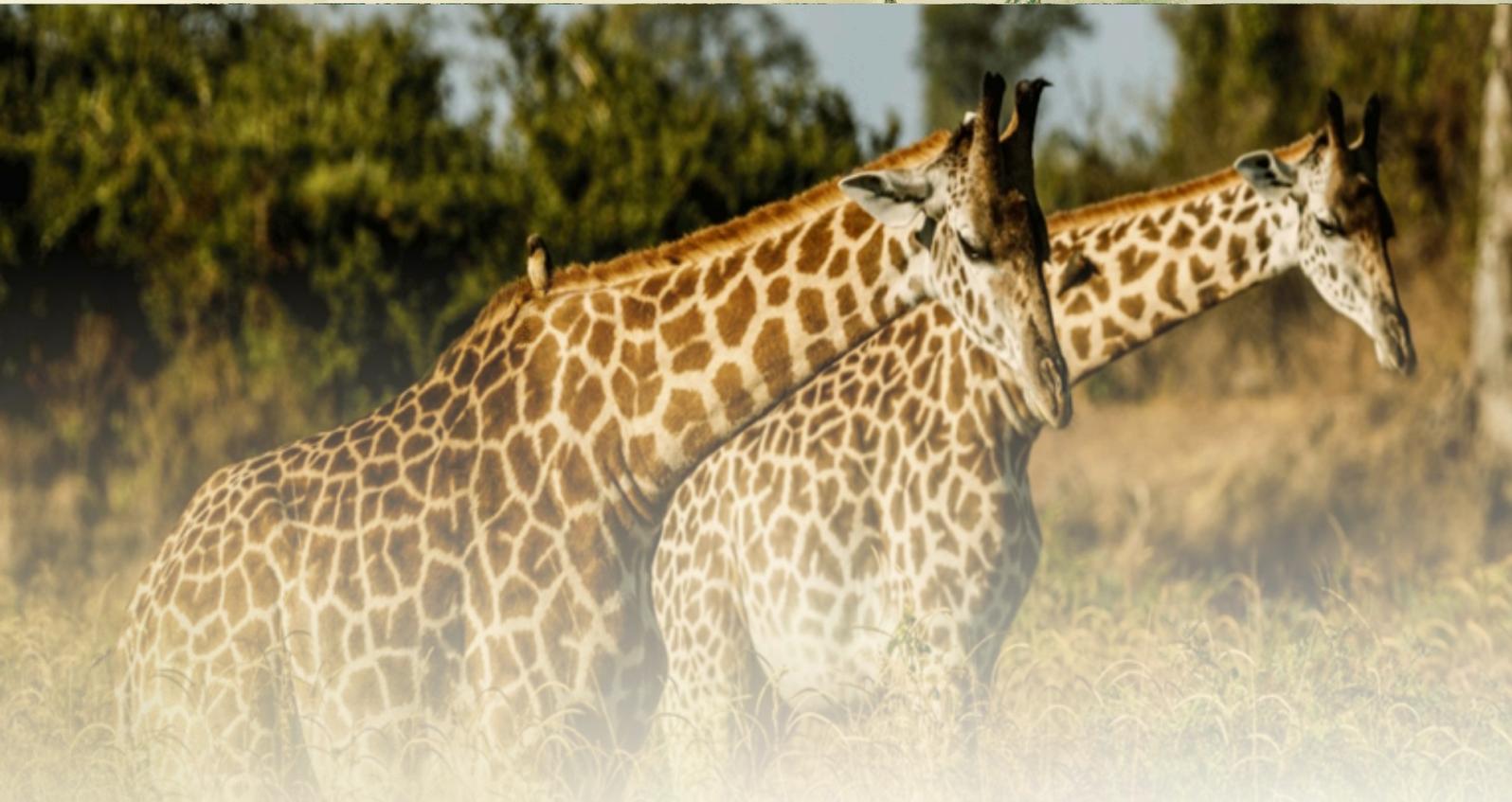
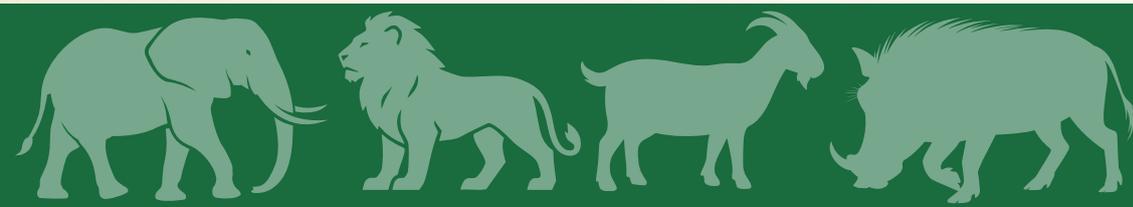


STATUS REPORT



NORTHERN REGION



2025

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ACROYNOMS

ADMADE	Administration Management Design
CBP	Bio-Carbon Partners
CBNRM	Community Based Natural Resource Management
CRB	Community Resources Board
ER-CRBA	Eastern Region Community Resources Board Association
DNPW	Department of National Parks and Wildlife
FZS	Frankfurt Zoological Society
GMA	Game Management Area
HWC	Human Wildlife Conflict
LCFP	Luangwa Conservation Forest Programs
USAID	United States Agency for Information Development
VAG	Village Action Group
WPO	Wildlife Police Officer
WWF	World Wide Fund for Nature

ABOUT THE REGION

Northern region is one of Zambia's four regions, it lies in the Northern part of Zambia and sharing an international boundary with the Democratic Republic of Congo and Tanzania. The Northern region CRB Association is an umbrella organization representing community-based organizations known as Community Resources Board Association.

The region has a passion to conserve biodiversity and other natural resources in the game management area (GMA) and open areas, they aim at improving the performance of the GMAs and open areas for the enhancement of livelihoods through economic opportunities.

WHAT MAKES THE REGION OUTSTANDING?

The region has special and unique features that can be found in the other CRB regions of Zambia, these include; Natural resources, Soil, climate and adequate rainfall assured even during the years when the country faces severe drought. Additionally, the region has a lot of rivers, lakes which can not be compared with any other region in the country, this can allow for all year conservation activities.

The region also has some of the biggest game reserves and rich wildlife resources in Zambia lying on the southern most tip of Zambia is the Nsumbu National Park covering an area of 200 square Kilometers. The Park provides a heaven for Hippo, Crocodile, Flamingo and other water birds. The lake is the great scenery point to watch the variety of bird species, game which includes buffalo, lion, antelope, zebra black rhino and leopards.

Situated on the south western edge of the lake Bangweulu basin is in Kasanka National Park, the Park has diverse vegetation from lush wetland and papyrus swamps to evergreen forest and harbors a great variety of unusual birds and mammals.

Kasanka National Park is managed by the Kasanka Trust and hosts the annual Bat Migration, the best time to visit for the bat migration is October–December. Although you won't see the large cats, you will see hippos as well as different species of antelope like puku, waterbuck, sitatunga and reedbuck.

Millions of fruit bats congregate at Kasanka National Park towards the end of the year in a spectacular display. Migratory birds, apparently from Australia have only one place of migration which is the Bangweulu swamps in Zambia.



Figure 1 : shows the Kasanka National Park Bats Migration

Community Conservation in the region

North Luangwa conservation program has built its conservation success on protected area management strategies, engagement of local communities whose livelihoods and cultures are closely dependent on the natural environment in the management decision to generate pride, capital, social and economic benefits to improve conservation outcomes.

The region engages local communities to help with managing the resources sustainably by empowering the community members with income generating initiatives to improve the livelihood and bring development in the communities and the Communities engagements have greatly helped to prevent illegal activities such as poaching and encroachment in the protected areas.

REGION ACHIEVEMENTS

Community Development

CRBs in the region have used the income generated from animal fees and other income initiatives to help bring out projects which are benefiting the communities. Below are the listed projects that the region has accomplished;

Capacity building

Women in CRBs/VAG in four Chiefdom (Chikwa, Nabwalya, Chifunda and Mukungule) had a one-week leadership training which was based on women participation in wildlife. The training hold in Mpika with the technical support from ILRG and FZS. Women in this chiefdom have appreciated and know the value of their participation in conservation. conservation

Income generating initiatives

The NR-CRB has various income generating initiatives, for example Mungule CRB has Samala camp site, which was build in 2019 with the financial support from FZS. The camp site generates income which helps the mukungule CRB to pay community scouts and run the CRB office cost.

Some CRBs have managed to build lodges and others have started livestock farming which generates income.

Law enforcement

Zambia wildlife conservation is typically based on law enforcement measures, which are put in place to try halt poaching and illegal wildlife trade. However, Illegal hunting in the NR-region has continued despite corrective measures, so conservation creativities are shifting to a more community-based approach.

The WPO and community scouts has the responsibility to make sure that our Wildlife resources are well managed and protected. The CRB makes sure that their community scouts are well kitted with full uniforms and well renumerated monthly. Department of National Parks is fully supporting the CRB with Training, Equipment and Technical guidance. They work together with the CRB in resolving Human Wildlife Conflicts (HWC) and also to sensitize the communities on anti-poaching activities and their penalties.

THREATS TO THE GMAS PERFORMANCE IN THE REGION

Encroachment

The NR-CRB has various income generating initiatives, for example Mungule CRB has Samala camp site, which was build in 2019 with the financial support from FZS. The camp site generates income which helps the mukungule CRB to pay community scouts and run the CRB office cost.

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Climate Change

Climate change poses major risks to global biodiversity as it affects ecosystems processes and, in the NR-CRB, Climate change impacts were severe as they brought water shortages due to persistent droughts. It has also presented threats to wildlife resources and consequently wildlife-dependent livelihoods in the region. The alterations brought by climate change poses direct and indirect effects on species through reductions in population size and shifts in species distributions.

Changing rainfall patterns increase the dispersal potential of invasive species during the wet season. While some of these new arrivals may be exotic species spreading from naturalised populations, others will be native species that will spread from their current distribution

Human Wildlife Conflict

Human wildlife conflict as the threat to communities living the GMA, and open areas. It's the responsibility for the WPOs and the community scout to protect the area as their are trained to do so. However, communities are using other means to prevent the human wildlife conflict such as, fencing livestock. The region recorded 2 cases of leopard attacking the livestock in Mukungu and Nabwalya

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CHALLENGES FACED BY CRBS

Poverty is clearly a drive-in unsustainable conservation of natural resource use, deforestation and parching as a practice to supplement household income and respond to household food insecurity. The influence to poverty on poaching, particularly for the high value species such as rhino and elephant actually driven by foreign rather than poverty of developing nation. Poaching, illegal hunting for bush meat and habitat loss from deforestation for the faming and charcoal production are the significant threat to region biodiversity

Poor coordination is the major challenge in the region among CRBs, CFMGs and other CBNRM structures, this has affected the implementation of planned activities and problem resolutions are difficult to attain as parties don't want to agree on certain decisions pertaining to the GMAs and other natural resources.

Late disbursement of funds to communities has resulted in poor performance in implementing activities and drawing reports due to inadequate income generation which has continued to led to some CBOs not having revenues as they are fully dependent on carbon or animal fees.

CONCLUSION

BNRM is meant to support local people who reside with the resources, contribute to environment and assist in expanding wildlife economy. Below is a list of some of the things that CBNRM can do;

·Empower local communities

- Promote social and gender equality
- Combat wildlife crime, encroachment and other threats
- Create new business opportunities

PARTNERS IN THE REGION

Northern region acknowledges partners (FZS, African Parks, We-forest and Forestry Department) for making conservation of biodiversity and other natural resources possible in the region.

