

MANA POOLS NATIONAL PARK, SAPI & CHEWORE SAFARI AREAS WORLD HERITAGE PROPERTY



STATE OF CONSERVATION REPORT

November 2024

PROPERTY DETAILS

State Party:	Zimbabwe
Name of Property:	Mana Pools National Park, Sapi and Chewore Safari Areas World Heritage Site
Property identification number:	(N0. 302)
Reporting period:	2022 - 2024
Submission Date:	November 2024

ABOUT THE WORLD HERITAGE PROPERTY

Mana Pools National Park, Sapi and Chewore Safari Areas World Heritage Property was designated as a Natural Property on the World Heritage List in 1984, meeting the natural criteria (vii), (xi), and (x). Located in the Mashonaland West Province of Zimbabwe, the property spans 6 766 km², encompassing Mana Pools National Park (2 196 km²), Sapi Safari Area (1 180 km²), and Chewore Safari Area (3 390 km²). These areas are recognized for their intactness and size, crucial for preserving diverse natural processes and the riverine ecosystem. Furthermore, they serve as a significant habitat for endangered bird species, making it an Important Bird Area (IBA). The collective areas form a cohesive conservation unit, ensuring the functionality of ecological processes. Protected by natural barriers such as the Zambezi River to the north and steep escarpments to the south, the property is shielded from environmental threats and alternative land uses. The boundaries are carefully delineated to capture the property's natural and aesthetic values effectively.

Mana Pools National Park, Sapi and Chewore Safari Areas World Heritage Property is renowned for its exceptional geological and geomorphological features, as well as its active land formation processes, all of which contribute to its outstanding universal value. The property boasts a diverse and abundant fauna, with significant populations of large mammals congregating on the flood plain. The mountainous escarpment is dominated by well-grassed *Brachystegia* communities, while the valley floor is home to Mopane woodland with some pockets of Jesse thicket. The property offers a wilderness recreational experience for tourists, with a range of activities available, including the popular unguided walks in the open flood plain. Furthermore, sport hunting in the Chewore Safari Area is strictly regulated through the use of sustainable hunting quotas, and is permitted only from May to October each year. This ensures the conservation of the park's ecological balance while allowing for controlled hunting activities.

1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY OF THE REPORT

This report gives detailed updates on the State of Conservation (SoC) for Mana Pools National Park, Sapi & Chewore Safari Areas World Heritage Property in response to Decision WHC/23/45.COM/7B.Add and highlights the conservation and management efforts by the State Party of Zimbabwe to ensure protection of the Outstanding Universal Value (OUV) of the property over the period 2022-2024. The report outlines the State Party's endeavours to enhance the anti-poaching unit within the WHP, which has been attained through consistent support extended by various conservation partners operating within the landscape such as UNDP GEF 6, the adoption and embracing of new technology including conservation drones, Spatial Monitoring and Reporting Tool (SMART) and digital monitoring system in Chewore Safari Area as a pilot survey through assistance from the African Wildlife Foundation with plans to implement it in other stations across the Mid- Zambezi Valley Landscape, installation of a digital radio system funded by the CITES MIKE and only focusing on the World Heritage Site. In addition, collaborative efforts have always been ongoing with the State Party of Zambia to address illegal activities along the Zambezi River. These efforts involve joint anti-poaching operations as well as the sharing of intelligence and regular cross border meetings.

The long-awaited Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) for the establishment of the Lower Zambezi-Mana Pools Transfrontier Conservation Area (LOZAMAP TFCA) was finally signed on the 26th of May 2023, following technical and high-level consultations between the States Parties of Zimbabwe and Zambia. The LOZAMAP TFCA will serve as a platform for fostering cooperation and collaboration in the conservation and management of transboundary natural resources, including monitoring the movement patterns of collared elephants into Lower Zambezi National Park in Zambia.

Between 2022-2024, the State Party has conducted five (5) comprehensive surveys within the World Heritage Property to assess the population estimates of key species other than the elephants. These surveys specifically focused on the Lion, Leopard, African Wild Dog, Cheetah, and Hippopotamus with the aim of gathering crucial data on their density and distribution within the landscape. The results estimated the densities of lions, leopards and wild dogs to be 2.7/100 km², 6.1/100 km² and 0.9/100 km² respectively. These estimates provide a robust and updated baseline population against which to measure future population surveys and evaluate conservation management interventions of these species. In addition, six (6) surveys (five ground based and one major aerial) have been conducted for elephants and other large herbivores in the Middle-Zambezi Valley Region where the World Heritage Property is located.

Finally, the State Party adopted the General Management Plan for the World Heritage Property for 2023-2032, which is in compliance with the Operational Guidelines for the 1972 World Heritage Convention. The plan highlights the need to: strengthen law enforcement in the Protected Areas (PA) to curb illegal wildlife harvesting and trafficking; increase collaborative efforts with other partners and communities within the landscape; continuously carry out research and monitoring to inform management and guide decision making and; continue efforts towards the preservation of the Outstanding Universal Values (OUV) of the site, with the possibility of reintroducing the Black Rhino in Mana Pools and/ or Sapi Safari Area among other issues. The Management Plan will serve as a valuable management tool towards the conservation and sustainable management of Mana Pools National Park, Sapi and Chewore Safari Areas World Heritage Property and will guide the present and future conservation efforts and sustainable development in order to ensure the protection of the property's OUV for generations to come.

2. RESPONSE TO THE DECISION OF THE WORLD HERITAGE COMMITTEE

1. **Having examined Document WHC/23/45.COM/7B.Add,**
2. **Recalling Decisions 38 COM 7B.97, 40 COM 7B.84 and 44 COM 7B.178, adopted at its 38th (Doha, 2014), 40th (Istanbul/UNESCO, 2016) and extended 44th (Fuzhou/online, 2021) sessions respectively,**

Paragraph 3: Welcomes the continued strengthening of anti-poaching measures, including joint operations with the State Party of Zambia, and with support from technical and financial partners

The State Party of Zimbabwe in collaboration with the State Party of Zambia engages in planned and ad hoc joint law enforcement operations along the Zambezi and adjacent areas (Protected Areas and Game Management Areas). These efforts are further strengthened by collaborations in the intelligence led operations by intelligence units from both State Parties. There is staunch communication and cross border informer networks that create a seamless execution of operations against illegal wildlife harvesting and trafficking across the international boundary, Zambezi River. A fully constituted international Joint Operations Command (JOC) fully meets at regular and ad hoc times to strengthen anti - poaching and joint operations. This collaborative approach allows for the pooling of resources and expertise from both parties, ultimately leading to more effective measures in combating poaching and ensuring the protection of wildlife along the Zambezi River. Such joint initiatives serve as a testament to the commitment of both parties to address the pressing issue of poaching, and exemplify the benefits of regional cooperation in tackling transnational wildlife crime.

In addition, consistent support extended by various conservation partners operating within the landscape has played a pivotal role in bolstering anti-poaching efforts in the Middle-Zambezi Region, notably through the provision of essential resources such as anti-poaching vehicles, fuels, and assistance with road maintenance to improve the road network. The collaborative efforts between the State Party and its conservation partners have significantly contributed to the conservation of Zimbabwe's rich biodiversity and the protection of its precious wildlife.

The GEF 6 project, (2019 - 2024) “Zambezi Valley Biodiversity Project” was meant to curb illegal wildlife harvesting and trade at the same time enhancing community adaptation,

resilience and mitigation capacity to the effects of global warming and climate change. The project was centred in the Mid Zambezi Valley Landscape in both Protected Areas (PAs) and communal areas (CAMPFIRE areas and Wildlife Conservancies). Key PAs include the World Heritage Site (Mana – Sapi - Chewore) and Hurungwe, Charara, Doma and Dande Safari Areas. Over US\$12 million was contributed by UNDP and through co-financing the Environmental Management Agency, Forestry Commission and the Zimbabwe Parks and Wildlife Management Authority made contributions around US\$52 million. Other players included Tashinga Initiative, African Wildlife Foundation and HHK. Key projects have been the,

- i. development of PA management plans for the World Heritage Site and other PAs including the 3 Districts Hurungwe RDC, Mbire RDC and Muzarabani RDC,
- ii. Digitalization of the radio system to strengthen anti - poaching in the World Heritage Site and other buffering PAs,
- iii. Trainings on fire management, invasive species management, DNA sequencing among others in the World Heritage Site and other buffering PAs,
- iv. Purchasing of patrol rations for rangers to strengthen law enforcement in the World Heritage Site and other buffering PAs,
- v. Conducting of a landscape aerial survey to determine species numbers and distribution in the World Heritage Site and other buffering PAs,
- vi. Construction of 3 picket posts (Madzikita, Gota-gota and Chimwe) to strengthen law enforcement World Heritage Site and other buffering PAs,
- vii. Purchase of 14 land cruisers, tractors, hay bailers, fire beaters, fire blowers, drones, boats, fuel, patrol equipment, office furniture, laptops, printers and accessories to strengthen the coordination of law enforcement, fire management and community work World Heritage Site and other buffering PAs,

Paragraph 4: Appreciates the collaboration between the States Parties of Zambia and Zimbabwe to strengthen transboundary conservation and encourages again the States Parties to finalize the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) for the establishment of the Lower Zambezi-Mana Pools National Parks Trans-Frontier Conservation Area (TFCA);

The long-awaited Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) for the establishment of the Lower Zambezi-Mana Pools National Parks Transfrontier Conservation Area (LOZAMAP TFCA) was finally signed on the 26th of May 2023. This significant milestone marked a crucial step towards the increased protection of the property's OUV, sustainable use, and enhancement of

the natural and cultural heritage resources. The LOZAMAP TFCA will serve as a platform for fostering cooperation and collaboration in the conservation and management of transboundary natural resources, with the aim of contributing to biodiversity conservation, community welfare, and socioeconomic development. The State Party of Zimbabwe is confident that the implementation of this MoU will pave the way for meaningful and impactful initiatives that will benefit both present and future generations.

Paragraph 5: Welcomes the gradual decline in elephant poaching following the strengthening of anti-poaching measures, and noting that some elephants are crossing the Zambezi River into Zambia, requests the State Party to ensure a coordinated approach with the State Party of Zambia for the effective transboundary protection and management of elephants;

The State Party of Zimbabwe is committed to continuously work to combat elephant poaching within the region and the country at large. The implementation of enhanced anti-poaching measures has been carried out through collaboration with conservation partners in the landscape, the adoption of technology including conservation drones, Spatial Monitoring and Reporting Tool (SMART) and digital monitoring system in Chewore Safari Area. These measures have strengthened the anti-poaching system and has resulted in a significant reduction in the illegal killing of elephants and other species in the landscape. The decreased elephant poaching shows evidence that law enforcement strategies within the region have been deterrent enough (Ngorima et al., 2022).

The movement patterns of collared elephants in the landscape have revealed a notable trend of elephant moving into Lower Zambezi in Zambia. The real time fixes from collared herds have indicated that there is some significant movement of the elephants from Save into Zambia and back. This movement pattern underscores the significance of the established LOZAMAP TFCA as a crucial platform for enhancing the coordination of research and monitoring efforts between Zimbabwe and Zambia. Therefore, the TFCA will serve as a valuable mechanism for strengthening the existing collaborative activities aimed at gaining further insights into the behaviour and movements of elephants in the LOZAMAP. This coordinated approach will not only facilitate a more comprehensive understanding of elephant dynamics but also support informed decision-making for the transboundary conservation and management of these iconic species.

In its efforts to strengthen anti- poaching, ZimParks have entered into a co-management agreement with the Peace Parks Foundation (PPF) in May 2023, which focusses more on law enforcement (radio system, staff accommodation and morale), tourism development (infrastructure and activities), infrastructure development (roads both security and tourism, crossings, signage, housing, offices and workshops) among other issues. This co – management agreement shall be having a 25 - year lifespan with over US\$ 20 million capital and recurrent costs investment. This year alone budgets, resource mobilization, site visits, stakeholder consultations and assessments have commenced for all the infrastructure (staff housing, radio system, roads, river crossings and culverts, offices and workshops). For the GMPE vehicle the Director who spearheads all the activities shall be engaged/ employed.

Paragraph 6: Regrets that no update has been provided on the status of other key species that constitute the Outstanding Universal Value (OUV) of the property and also requests the State Party to continue surveys and to submit the results to the World Heritage Centre once available;

Five comprehensive surveys have been carried out within the World Heritage Property to assess the populations of key species other than elephants. These surveys specifically focused on the Lion, Leopard, African Wild Dog, Cheetah, and Hippopotamus. The aim of these surveys was to gather crucial data on the distribution and abundance of these important species within the landscape. The densities of lions, leopards and wild dogs were estimated to be 2.7/100 km², 6.1/100 km² and 0.9/100 km² respectively. These estimates provide the first robust baseline population estimates for these species against which to measure future population surveys and evaluate conservation management interventions and investment.

A comparison of predator population estimates from comparable camera trap surveys undertaken in Mana Pools National Park in 2015 suggest that the lion population in the National Park has remained stable or slightly increased, the leopard population has also remained stable or slightly increased, (Loveridge, 2024). However, the wild dog population density has seen a significant decline. Additionally, only three individual cheetahs were identified across the entire survey area, with the data not enough to conduct an analysis. These results provide valuable insights into the population dynamics of these carnivores within the National Park. However, further in-depth research on the wild dogs and continued monitoring on all the large carnivores will be crucial to understanding the factors influencing these trends.

The results of the 2022 hippopotamus survey revealed notable count of individual hippos along the Zambezi River with 1 769 on the Zambian side and 1 424 on the Zimbabwean side, while the number of hippopotamus pods was higher on the Zimbabwean side at 138 compared to 123 on the Zambian side. The individual hippopotamus density was calculated at 26.60 per square kilometre, with a pod density of 0.45 per square kilometre. The study recorded more hippos, crocodiles and other wildlife species on the Zimbabwean side than on the Zambian side within protected areas. In addition, low numbers of hippo pods were recorded on both sides of the countries in non - protected areas. These findings underscore the importance of continued monitoring and conservation efforts for hippopotamus populations in the region. The citation of the two survey reports are as follows;

1. Loveridge, A.J., Mandisodza-Chikerema, R., Chakuya, J., Ngorima, P., Malunga, A., Munkuli, N., Maidwell, J.E., Seymour-Smith, J.L., Sibanda, A., Macdonald, D.W., Sousa, L.L, Wijers, M. 2024. Final report on large predator camera trap surveys in the Zambezi Valley, Zimbabwe. Wildlife Conservation Research Unit. 31pp.
2. Chakuya J, Mulenga P, Ndebele M, Maimbo H, Malunga A and Kilundo A (2024) Zambia-Zimbabwe 2022 hippopotamus and other species population distribution along Zambezi River, International Journal of Environmental Studies, Volume 81, 2024, Pages 865 – 880.

The State Party of Zimbabwe wishes to formally inform the World Heritage Centre of the recent aerial survey conducted in the Zambezi Valley, Zimbabwe during the dry season (late September to early October 2024). The survey utilized a methodology consistent with previous surveys in 2014 and 2021, ensuring repeatability and technical robustness. This approach was deemed essential to maintain consistency with prior surveys of elephants and other large herbivores in the Zambezi Valley region. Preliminary results indicate an estimated population of 10,412 elephants, with upper and lower 95% confidence limits of $\pm 14.0\%$ (Dunham et al., 2024). A comparison with the 2021 aerial survey by Dunham and Nyaguse (2021) reveals no statistically significant changes in elephant population estimates since 2021. The State Party remains committed to monitoring and preserving the elephant population in the Zambezi Valley region and will continue to provide updates on conservation efforts.

Paragraph 7: Acknowledges the progress made towards the finalization of the General Management Plan and reiterates its request to the State Party to finalize and submit it to the World Heritage Centre;

The State Party of Zimbabwe announces the completion of the General Management Plans for the World Heritage Property (Mana Pools National Park, Sapi and Chewore Safari Areas, 2023). After careful consideration and collaboration, the plans have been finalized and is now being implemented. This significant milestone reflects our commitment to the conservation and sustainable management of this important site. The State Party of Zimbabwe is certain that the Management Plans serve as valuable tools in guiding the present and future conservation efforts to ensure the protection of the property for the current and future generations. Copies of the approved Management Plans for the World Heritage Property were already submitted to the WHC. The State Party of Zimbabwe is confident that with the implementation of these plans, challenges and opportunities facing the World Heritage Property. The co-management partnership between ZimParks and PPF in May 2023 among other key result areas has accorded high priority to the development of the Greater Mana Pools Ecosystem (GMPE). The Management Plan for the GMPE sums and merges the existing Protected Area Management Plans for Mana Pools National Park, Chewore, Sapi and Hurungwe Safari Areas. This planning process shall harmonise all the planning layers in the landscape such as the LOZAMAP Land Use Plan and Landscape Tourism Plan. Work is in progress.

However, there is still need to consider producing a consolidated plan for the World Heritage Site (Mana Pools – Sapi - Chewore) from the approved individual Protected Area specific plans.

Paragraph 8: Noting the continued suspension of commercial hunting in the Sapi Safari Area and the northern part of Chewore Safari Area, but recalling that the State Party previously also reported that the suspension applied to the area referred to as the buffer zone, also reiterates its request to the State Party to clarify the status of this area, which has not yet been formally adopted by the Committee;

The suspension of commercial hunting applies to the Sapi Safari Area and the northern part of Chewore Safari Area. Previously, hunting has been conducted in the entirety of the Chewore Safari Area, including Kapirinhengu in the northern Chewore and Mkanga in the southern Chewore. It is important to note that trophy hunting is still being conducted in the buffer zone, in Hurungwe Safari Area and Dande Safari Area. It worth noting that sport hunting is informed by empirical evidence, science based in terms of hunting quota setting and offtake management.

Paragraph 9: Also notes the translocation of 101 elephants to the Sapi Safari Area to increase the population, and further requests the State Party to ensure anti-poaching efforts are sustained or enhanced and continue to be monitored, and that any potential future translocation projects are undertaken in accordance with international best practice including in line with the IUCN guidelines on translocations, to ensure a prior assessment of the suitability and risks before implementation;

The State Party remains committed to its sole responsibility to safeguard and preserve the wildlife in Zimbabwe, including through enhancing efforts to combat poaching in the landscape. Consequently, the State Party is monitoring wildlife translocation projects to bolster anti-poaching initiatives.

Following the translocation of 101 elephants from Save Valley Conservancy to Sapi Safari Area in 2021, 12 elephants were successfully collared using the African Wildlife Tracking collars. This strategic approach serves to strengthen post-translocation monitoring capabilities, thereby ensuring effective surveillance of the translocated elephants within their new habitat. This demonstrates the dedication of the State Party of Zimbabwe to conserve and protect elephants, underscoring Zimbabwe's enduring commitment to the well-being of its precious natural heritage.

It is of paramount important to note that the implementation of all translocation projects necessitates the need for an ecological assessment at both the source and receiving sites. These assessments are crucial in safeguarding the biological integrity of the translocated species and to evaluate the suitability of the receiving habitat area looking at various environmental factors which include but not limited to water source availability and accessibility, vegetation type, security, pest and diseases. The recommendations derived from these assessments are then integrated with the guidelines established by the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) to ensure adherence to international standards. By combining the findings of the ecological assessments with the principles outlined by the IUCN, Zimbabwe strives to guarantee that all translocation activities align with global conservation requirements.

Paragraph 10: While noting that no uncontrolled tourism development has taken place within the property, requests furthermore the State Party ensure that any activity that may have the potential to impact on the OUV of the property, including all proposed tourism infrastructure be subject to an impact assessment in accordance with the new

Guidance and Toolkit for Impact Assessments in a World Heritage Context, prior to taking any decision that is difficult to reverse;

The Zimbabwe Parks and Wildlife Management Authority emphasizes the importance of conducting ecological assessments for all proposed projects or developments, regardless of whether they are within a World Heritage Property or not. These assessments are crucial in ensuring that no adverse impacts on the environment will occur that may bear detrimental consequences to the environment. Any project proposed within a protected area is mandated to undergo an ecological assessment to evaluate its potential effects. Moreover, projects within a World Heritage Property are held to an even higher standard, as they are requested to adhere to the guidance and toolkit for impact assessment in a World Heritage Context. These stringent requirements reflect Zimbabwe's commitment to preserving the ecological integrity of these exceptional areas and safeguarding them for the present and future generations. All stakeholders are urged to fully comply with these ecological assessment procedures to mitigate any potential negative consequences and uphold our collective responsibility towards environmental conservation.

At national level all developments within and outside protected areas are subject to Environmental and Social Impact Assessment (ESIA) that foresees negative environmental, social and economic impacts of proposed projects then try and suggest possible mitigatory measures. The Environmental Management Agency (EMA) in Zimbabwe through the Environmental Management Act (Chapter 20:21) oversees the process involving some robust stakeholder engagement.

Paragraph 11: Notes with significant concern the report that the State Party of Zambia has approved an open cast copper mine in the Lower Zambezi National Park (LZNP) without due consideration of the potential impact on the OUV of the property, reiterates again its concern regarding the potential serious impact of this project on the OUV and urges once again the State Party of Zambia not to proceed with the project;

Paragraph 12: Notes with concern the reported strong possibility that several copper and gold mining operations will be developed in LZNP and Chiawa Game Management Area (CGMA), which adjoin the property separated only by the Zambezi River, and requests with urgency that the State Party of Zambia to provide details of all proposed mining projects in LZNP and CGMA, and to ensure that any potential impacts on the OUV are

assessed in line with the new Guidance and Toolkit for Impact Assessments in a World Heritage Context, prior to taking any decision that would be difficult to reverse;

The above 2 paragraphs are directed to the State Party of Zambia.

3. Other current conservation issues identified by the State(s) Party(ies) which may have an impact on the property's Outstanding Universal Value

The State Party of Zimbabwe recognizes the Zambezi River bank (lateral) erosion as a significant threat to the integrity and aesthetic value of the World Heritage Site. A significant effect of this erosion is the destruction of habitats along the Zambezi River within Mana Pools National Park, as well as the Sapi and Chewore Safari Areas. The major impact has and is the destruction/ erosion of the tree lining/ riverine vegetation. If the current situation is not addressed promptly, there is concern that some of these trees, which serve as natural habitat for birds in this Important Bird Area (IBA), could be permanently lost. Furthermore, many of these trees play a crucial role in providing ecosystem services, which could be severely disrupted without immediate intervention within the World Heritage Property.

The Mana Pools National Park administration infrastructure/ block were constructed along the riverfront. However, due to the current rate of erosion, the riverbanks have steadily encroached closer to the office infrastructure, creating significant risks for the entire facility and investment. Similarly, Mana Pools National Park features tourist lodges designed to accommodate visitors to this World Heritage Site, but the ongoing stream bank erosion has now jeopardized the structural stability of these lodges. If this issue is not promptly addressed, it could potentially weaken the site's overall integrity. The erosion has advanced alarmingly close to the lodges, raising concerns that the lodges could eventually be swallowed by the Zambezi River. This persistent problem requires immediate action, as it poses serious threats to the core tourism activities of the Site, which depend on the maintenance of healthy ecosystems. For this reason, the State Party of Zimbabwe has submitted an application seeking international assistance amount to US\$30 000.00 (Thirty Thousand United States Dollars Only) for consideration in 2025 from the World Heritage Fund.

4. In conformity with Paragraph 172 of the *Operational Guidelines*, describe any potential major restorations, alterations and/or new construction(s) intended within the property, the buffer zone(s) and/or corridors or other areas, where such developments may affect the Outstanding Universal Value of the property, including authenticity and integrity

In May 2023, ZimParks entered into a co-management agreement with the Peace Parks Foundation (PPF), whose main thrust is on strengthening tourism, enhancing law enforcement

and improving infrastructure, including roads and tracks, signage, crossing points, an airstrip, and accommodation for both tourists and law enforcement staff. However, these improvements are limited to the current development zone as defined by the Mana Pools National Park protected area zonation plan (refer to Mana Pools National Park General Management Plan 2023 - 2033). Furthermore, screening and scoping will be carried out to determine whether these renovations require a full Environmental and Social Impact Assessment (ESIA) or an Environmental Management Plan (EMP), in line with the Section 97 of the Environmental Management Agency (EMA) Act, Chapter 20:27. If the renovations warrant for an EIA or EMP the ZimParks and PPF are fully prepared to comply and doing the needful thoroughly according to the dictates of the EMA and ZimParks Acts.

Internally, ZimParks and PPF Ecologists based at Mana Pools and Marongora HQ shall, according to principle conduct ecological feasibility assessments for the same to determine their potential ecological/ environmental impacts and going a step further to suggest possible mitigatory measures for the foreseen negative impacts of the developments. The outcomes of the ecological feasibility assessment shall feed into the ESIA or EMP.

The current envisaged scope of the project is perceived not to cause any effect on the OUVs and integrity of the property.

5. Public access to the state of conservation report

The State Party of Zimbabwe expresses its willingness to make the 2024 SoC Report on Mana Pools National Park, Sapi and Chewore Safari Areas World Heritage Property available for public access without any reservations.

References

Dunham K, M and Nyaguse G. H (2021) Aerial Survey of Elephants and Other Large Herbivores in the Zambezi Valley (Zimbabwe): 2021, Land Resources International.

Patmore Ngorima, K Mpakairi, Jermiah Chakuya, B Kavhu, T Gara and Henry Ndaimani (2022), Trends in Elephant poaching in the Mid- Zambezi Valley, Zimbabwe (2022) African Journal of Ecology

Mana Pools National Park General Management Plan (2023), Zimbabwe Parks and Wildlife Management Authority,

Hurungwe Safari Area General Management Plan (2023), Zimbabwe Parks and wildlife Management Authority

Chewore Safari Area General Management Plan (2023), Zimbabwe Parks and wildlife Management Authority

Sapi Safari Area General Management Plan (2023), Zimbabwe Parks and wildlife Management Authority