



Initiatives for Biodiversity and Ecosystem Restoration in Malawi: A Case of Majete Wildlife Reserve



Initiatives for Biodiversity and Ecosystem Restoration in Malawi: A Case of Majete Wildlife Reserve

CBD Workshop-Livingstone, Zambia 12-16 May 2014

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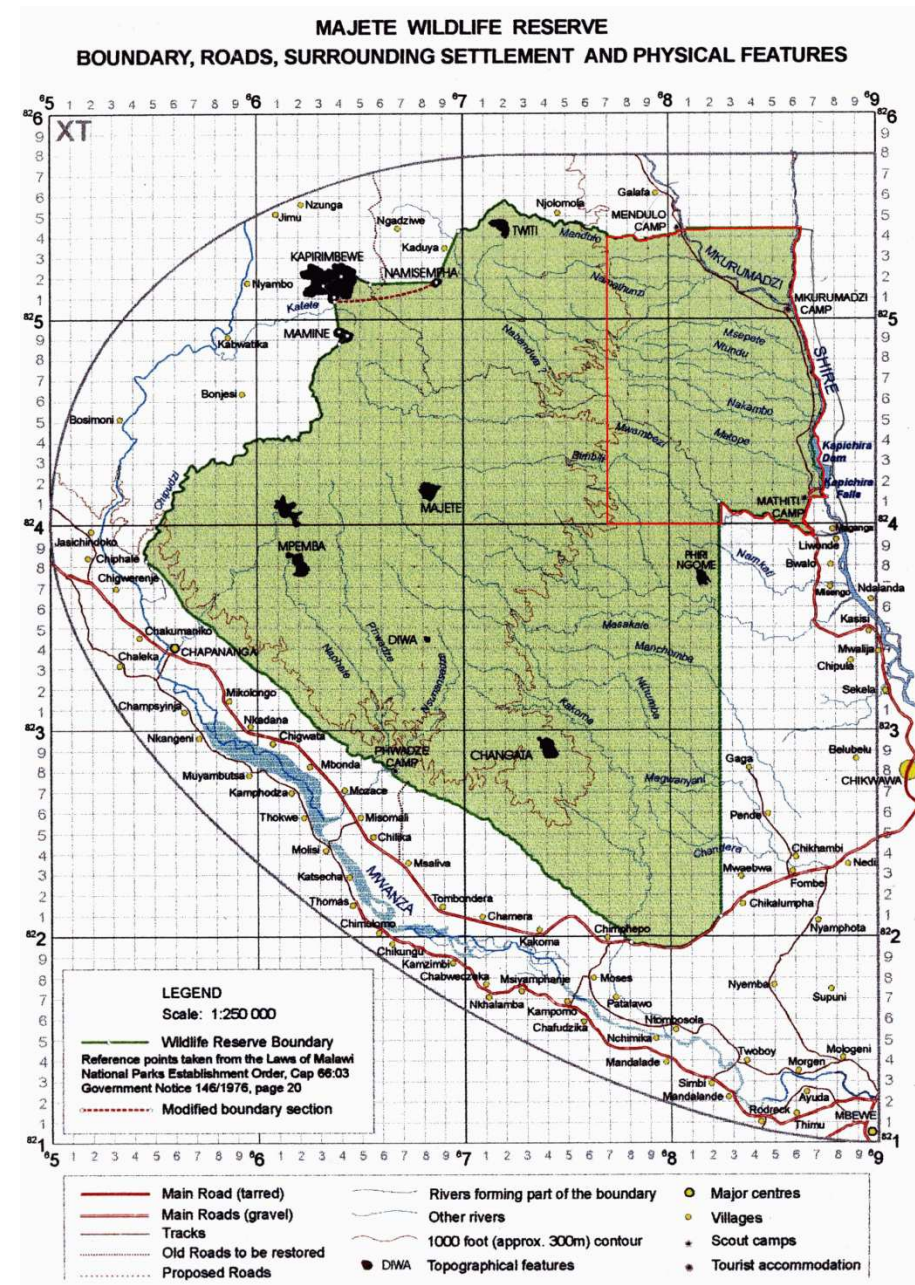
Malawi

Information

- Based in the Lower Shire near Chikwawa with the Shire River as its Eastern boundary
- Majete was proclaimed a Game Reserve in 1955 and gazetted in 1976.



- The reserve covers 700 km².
- Vegetation and landscape varies from riverine areas, rocky outcrops, Brachystegia woodland and thicket areas.
- Special features include the Shire river, Kapachila Falls, Hot Springs (Madzi otentha) and the wide variety of vegetation.
- Surrounding community of over 140,000 people



State of reserve in 2002

- Few species of game.
Last Elephants seen
1993
- Poaching was prevalent
and most wildlife
species had become
extinct
- Logging and charcoal
burning was vast
- Scouts had limited
resources
- poor infrastructure,



- There was only 20 km of road network,
- funding was grossly inadequate
- Almost zero tourist revenue
- By 2002, Majete Wildlife Reserve was completely deteriorated
- Obvious need for some urgent restoration program



Malawi Government/APN Relationship



- In the same 2002 African Parks Foundation, entered discussions with DNPW in a bid to restore the Majete Ecosystem
- 2003 Majete was then allocated to African Parks for a 25 year concession agreement under a public/private partnership arrangement



Government & African Parks, Majete's Vision



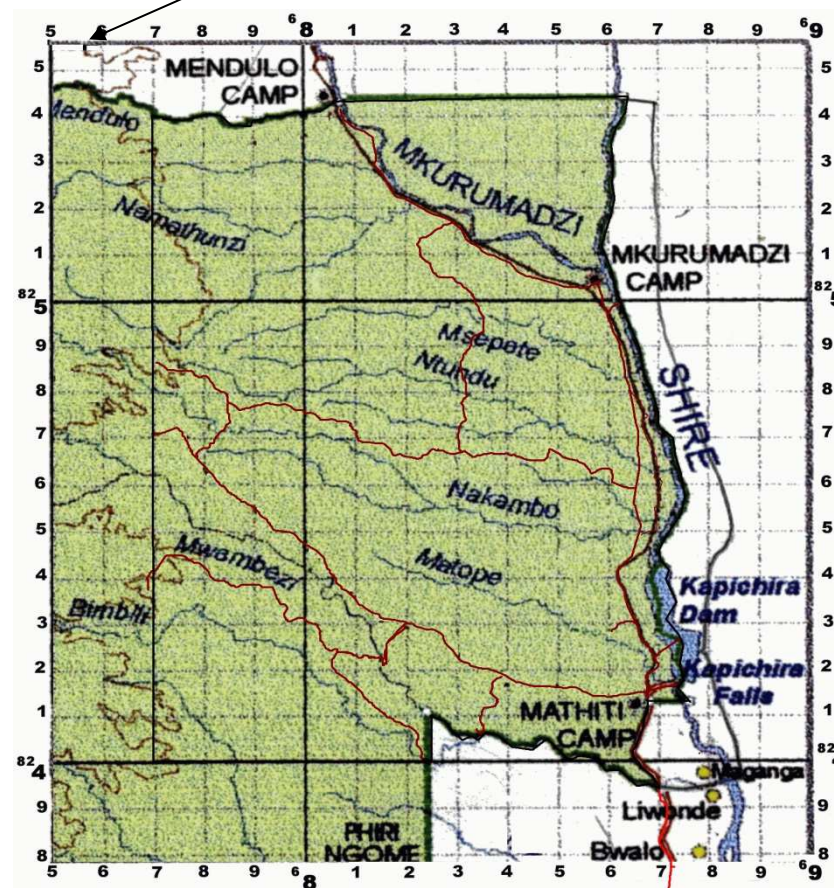
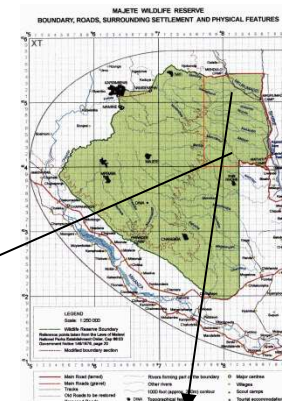
The vision for DNPW and African Parks were then aligned in the contractual agreement for the management of Majete Wildlife Reserve

- To restore and manage Majete Wildlife Reserve
- To demonstrate biodiversity conservation and sustainable natural resource utilization for the benefit of the people of Malawi
- To transform Majete into a model park for Malawi

What have been the achievements since 2003

Development

- Fencing of a 14,000 ha sanctuary
- Construction of roads from 20km to 250km plus construction of 12 drifts



- Building of heritage Centre and new gate
- Building of senior management staff houses, a Management office and a tented Camp



Heritage centre



Management house



New entrance Gate



Management Office



Thawale tented camp

- Construction scout camps with each camp housing 6 families



Sample of Duplex scout houses

Natural resource management

- Introduction of over 2,559 animals varying from Elephants, rhino, buffalo, zebra, sable, eland, hartebeest, impala, waterbuck, nyala, lion, leopard, warthog etc.
- Research and monitoring of populations
- Annual fire management



Bush fire



Mass capture which included the:

Movement of 70 elephant from Liwonde to Majete

Species	Introduced 2003 - 2012	Current Estimate	Future Introductions	Long Term Target
Leopard	6	9		50
Lion	3	5	2	35
Black Rhino	8	13		60
Elephant	217	280		350
Buffalo	306	1000		1,500
Zebra	174	300		600
Sable	352	700		1,000
Lichtenstein's Hartebeest	59	100		400
Common Waterbuck	402	800		2,000
Eland	77	250		500
Impala	737	1,400		3,000
Nyala	59	150		600
Kudu		270		1,000
Reedbuck		200		400
Common Duiker		150		200

Species	Introduced 2003 - 2012	Current Estimate	Future Introductions	Long Term Target
Sharpe's Grysbok		70		150
Bushbuck		150		400
Klipspringer		Unknown		50
Livingstone's Suni		Unknown		50
Warthog	158	700		1,000
Bushpig	1	100		100
Spotted Hyena		Unknown		60
Hippopotamus		80		100
Total	2,559	6,427		13,605

Baby Black Rhinos in Majete Wildlife Reserve



Law enforcement

- More than 200 arrests
- Confiscation of more than 450 muzzle loaders, 200 gin traps, and numerous snares over the past few years
- Scouts trained in GPS and provided with equipment and transport (motorbikes, land rover and radio contact)



Extension work/community benefits

- Employment of 260 staff
- Scholarship program for 60 students annually
- Drilling of 3 boreholes for communities
- Construction of 2 school blocks and an under 5's health centre. (Both handed over to relevant government departments)



Fire management team



Borehole drilling



Kandeu under 5's clinic

- Promoting arts and crafts
- Assistance with Income generating activities (IGA's) like scone making, rabbit rearing, poultry and beekeeping
- Purchase of maize mill as an IGA



- Constructed Community Campsite



- Assisted CBOs to build a community Rural Library (Ndife Amodzi).

Financial developments

- Local and international Marketing to support finance efforts
- Development and implementation of 'sponsor a game scout' scheme and 'Friends of Majete'
- Implementation of five-year plans for funding individual projects and applying for donor assistance

- Finalised and implementing Majete Wildlife Reserve tourism development plan and this has significantly increased tourism revenue
- Completion of Mkulumadzi Upmarket Lodge through Selling of rights to concessionaire
- Introduction of Tourist programme on Elephant and Rhino translocation



Mkulumadzi Upmarket Lodge

Support from

- African Parks foundation (Holland)
- Stichting Dune foundation (operations)
- US AID (Community and Translocations)
- Prince Bernhard fund for Nature
- Rene Valks (Fence)
- Malawi Government



Thank You For Your Attention

Bye for Now Please!

