



Ecosystem conservation and restoration initiatives in Zimbabwe

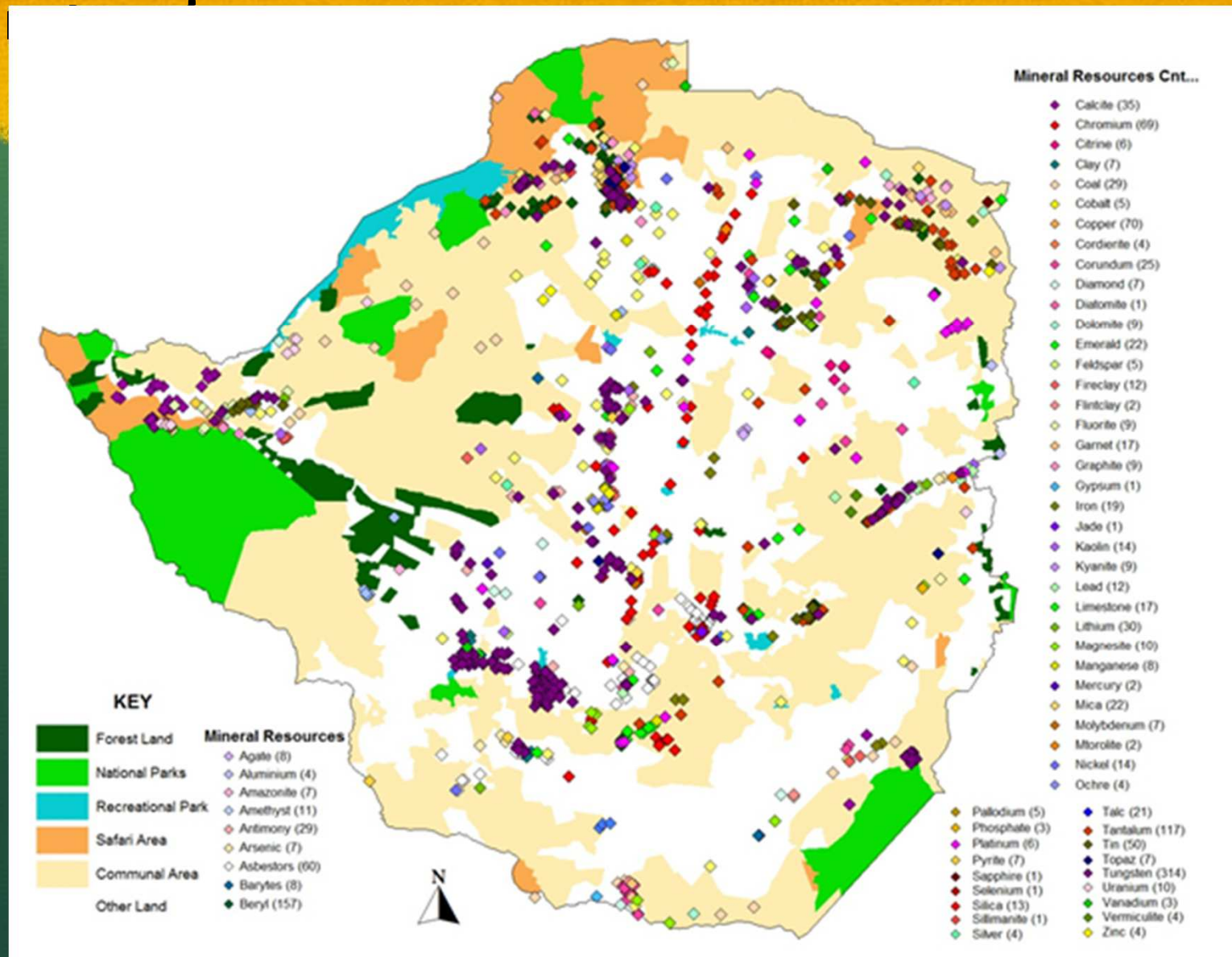
Chip Chirara - Biodiversity Coordinator
Livingstone - 15 May 2014

Overview of Environmental Policies and Strategies

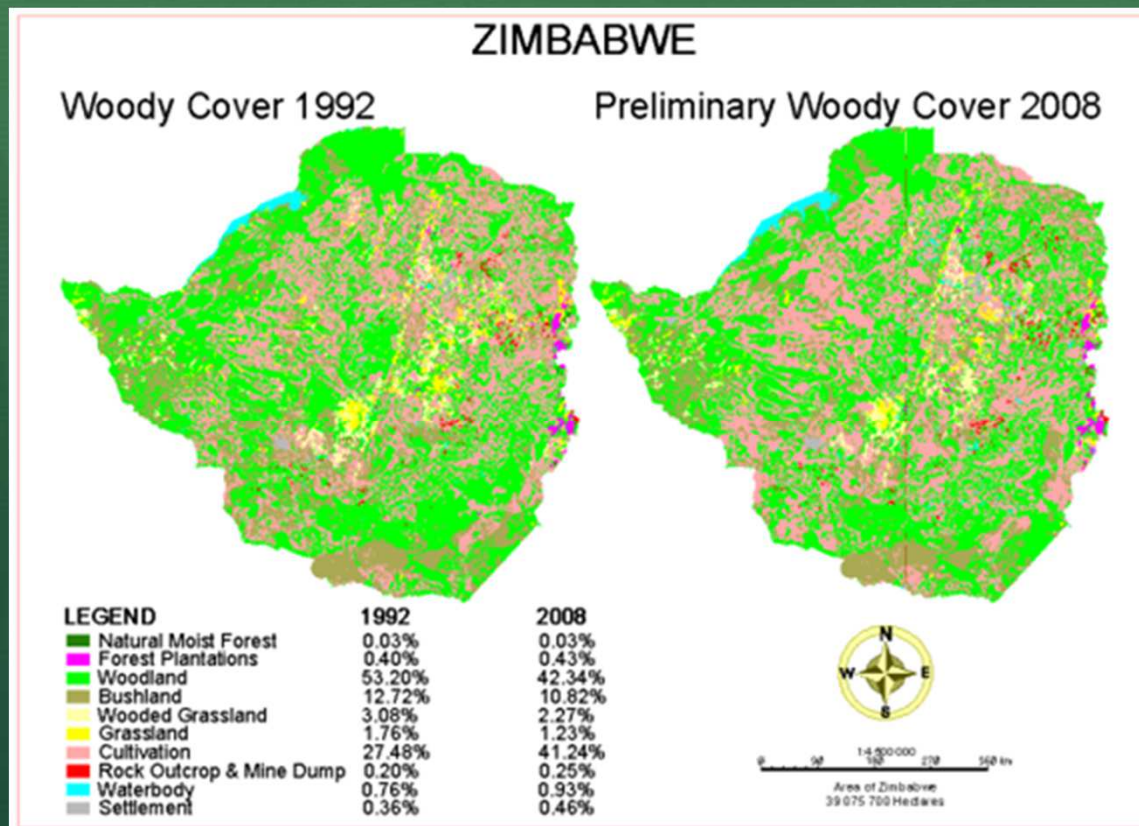
Zimbabwe has fairly policies and strategies to combat biodiversity loss and restore degraded ecosystems

Most policies and strategies have the environment/ biodiversity mainstreamed

Minerals of Zimbabwe and the protected areas



Land Cover changes between 1992 & 2008

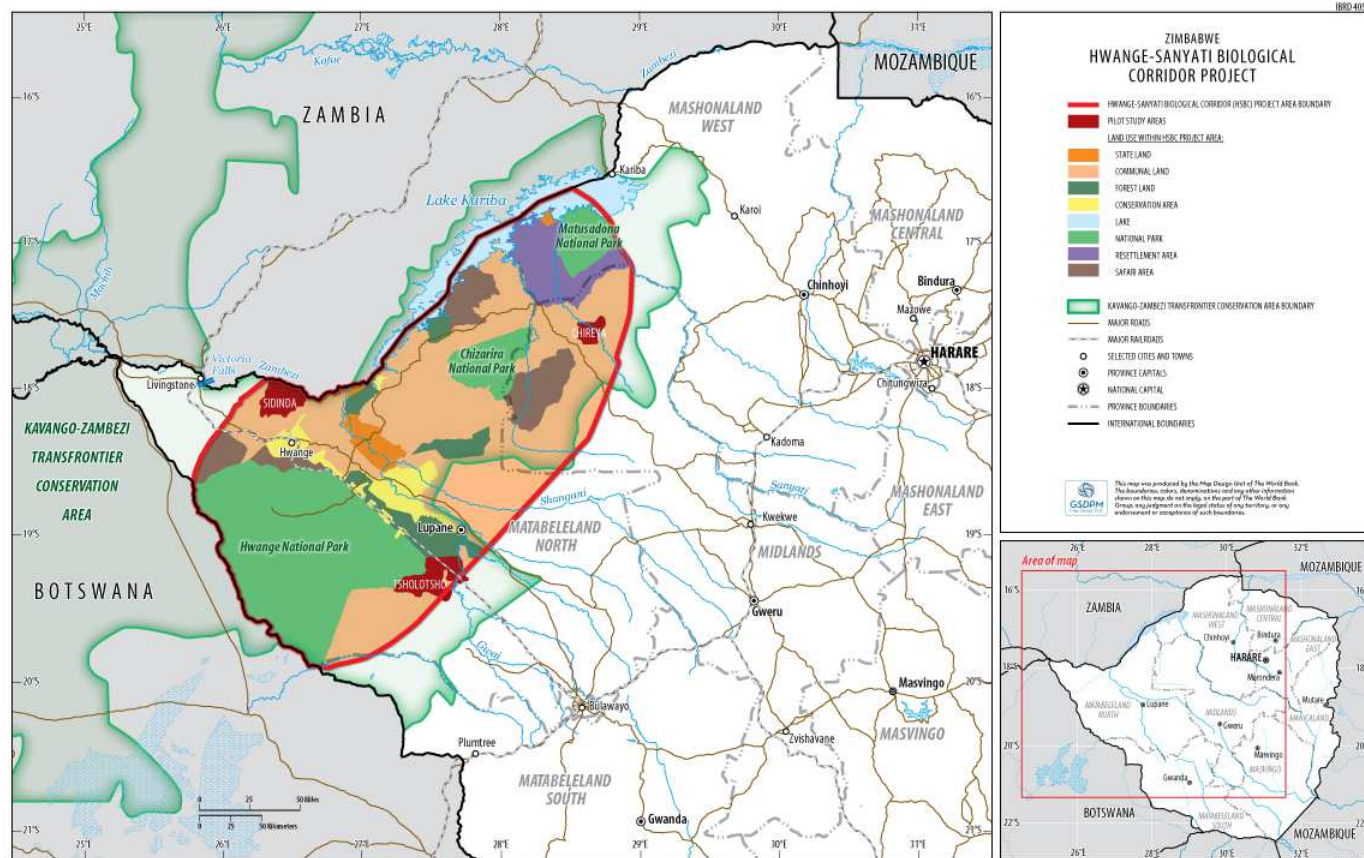


POLICY & ITS GOAL	OBJECTIVES (specially addressing environmental issues)	STRATEGIES (specially addressing environmental issues)
NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY AND STRATEGIES (2009)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To avoid irreversible environmental damage, maintain essential environmental processes and preserve the broad spectrum of biological diversity to sustain the long-term ability of natural resources to meet the basic needs of people, enhance food security, reduce poverty and improve the standard of living of Zimbabweans through long-term economic growth and the creation of employment. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Integrate environment in all development policies, programmes and management plans • Have in place a sound Environmental Information System (EIS) • Human resource and technical capacity development to be able to identify, assess, evaluate and respond to the possible impacts of development on environmental structure and functioning. • Research and monitoring to assess the effectiveness of measures implemented.
NATIONAL ENERGY POLICY	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To promote the optimal supply and utilisation of energy, for socio-economic development in a safe, sustainable and environmentally friendly manner. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Observe environmental regulations in all power-sector projects. • Ensure environmentally friendly exploitation methods. • Increase usage of and investment in renewable energy. • Develop incentives for investment in renewable energy, e.g. subsidies and tax concessions. • Support the Forestry Commission to increase the tree-planting rate from 10 million to 20 million trees per year by 2015 and to promote rural fencing using live trees. • Support end-user-focused research, and awareness and education programmes, to increase the efficiency of wood fuel use. • Improve collaboration with stakeholders to enforce existing and proposed regulations against the destruction of natural forests, e.g. the requirement for tobacco growers and rural commercial institutions who make heavy use of wood fuel to establish and maintain woodlots, penalties for the unauthorised cutting of trees, etc. • Promote the use of alternative heating and cooking fuels such as coal, solar and biogas in rural households and institutions (boarding schools and hospitals) and in rural commercial applications such as bakeries, brick moulding and tobacco curing.

<p>ZIMBABWE NATIONAL POPULATION POLICY (October 1998)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Creation of enabling conditions for sustainable use of natural resources and growth in tourism. • Sustainable use of resources and their preservation for future generations 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase awareness on sustainable development, conservation of natural resources and environmental management. • Ensure sound management of natural resources and the environment to promote sustainable use natural resources 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enforce regulations that ensure proper use of natural resources. • Enhance community participation in the sustainable utilisation of natural resources. • Advocate for changes in the present land tenure system and intensify sound land use plans in order to curb environmental problems. • Develop a national water policy and promote proper management of water resources. • Enhance sound management of forests, veldts, wild life and protected areas. • Intensify awareness campaigns on management of agricultural chemicals, energy production and use, air pollution, noise pollution and working environment. • Advocate for alternative sources of energy to reduce dependence on firewood for fuel. • Make environmental impact assessment mandatory for any project before it is approved. • Introduction of an integrated environmental and natural resources management. • Educate the population on the need to conserve the environment and involve them in its management. • Avoid over utilisation of resources and ensure that future generations also enjoy the benefits of the available natural resources.
<p>ZIMBABWE NATIONAL GENDER POLICY (2013-2017)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To eradicate gender discrimination and inequalities in all spheres of life and development. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To increase gender responsiveness of the environment and natural resources management strategies and in climate change adaptation and mitigation initiatives. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conduct a review of current environment and natural resources management policies and strategies and audit for gender considerations, identify gaps, recommend advocate for the incorporation of gender perspectives. • Support initiatives that aim to actualise the constitutional environmental rights • Conduct research to collect gender segregated data that highlight environment challenges and climate change induced inequalities among women and men, and recommend gender responsive strategies. • Build the capacity of state and non state development agencies in gender mainstreaming in environment and climate change policies, programmes and national environmental action plans. • Contribute to the development and regular reviews of the National Climate Change Policy and Response Strategy, the National Biodiversity Strategy and other related national strategies ensuring they adequately incorporate gender considerations. • Support interventions aimed at increased participation of both females and males in the sustainable utilisation of natural resources for economic benefits including opportunities for carbon trading. • Ensure national level strategies for climate induced disaster management and risk reduction and coping mechanisms are gender responsive.

WATER RESOURCES POLICY & STRATEGY (2013)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To promote the sustainable, efficient and integrated utilization of water resources for the benefit of all Zimbabweans 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promote equal access to water for all • Promote stakeholder participation and involvement in decision making for water sector • Promote integrates approach to land and water management • Promote the utilization of water resources in an economically efficient manner • Put in place strategies that will promote the production of accurate water data on water use and demand for both surface and ground water • Promote private sector financing in water sector as well as improve opportunities for self financing and amelioration of public sector financing • Promote integration of sector and regional water policies
LAND REFORM POLICY (The Integrated Conservation Plan for the Fast Track Land Reform Program)	To impart environmental awareness and develop a culture of resource management in resettled areas.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Integrated land use planning for new schemes where resettlement has not yet occurred • Promoting micro-catchments management including woodland management • Collection of baseline information for production of natural resources inventory maps which are vital for monitoring purposes • Formation of conservation committees • Agro-forestry in newly settled areas • Need to take advantage of economic and ecological attributes of wildlife production in parts of the country prone to drought. • Need for provision of financial resources and technical support for constructing conservation works and rehabilitation of degraded areas
WILDLIFE BASED LAND REFORM POLICY	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To maximize the livelihood options for resettled farmers particularly those living in areas where crop production has limited potential by ensuring g profitable, equitable and sustainable use of wildlife and other resources. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure more equitable access by the majority of Zimbabweans to land and wildlife resources and to the business opportunities that stem from these resources; • Maintain a proportion of land outside protected areas under wildlife production • Promoting a diversity of land uses through wildlife production and to develop and implement appropriate institutional arrangements from wildlife based land reform.
FOREST BASED LAND REFORM POLICY (Draft)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To ensure forestry is taken as a viable land use option 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maintaining areas designated for forestry plantations

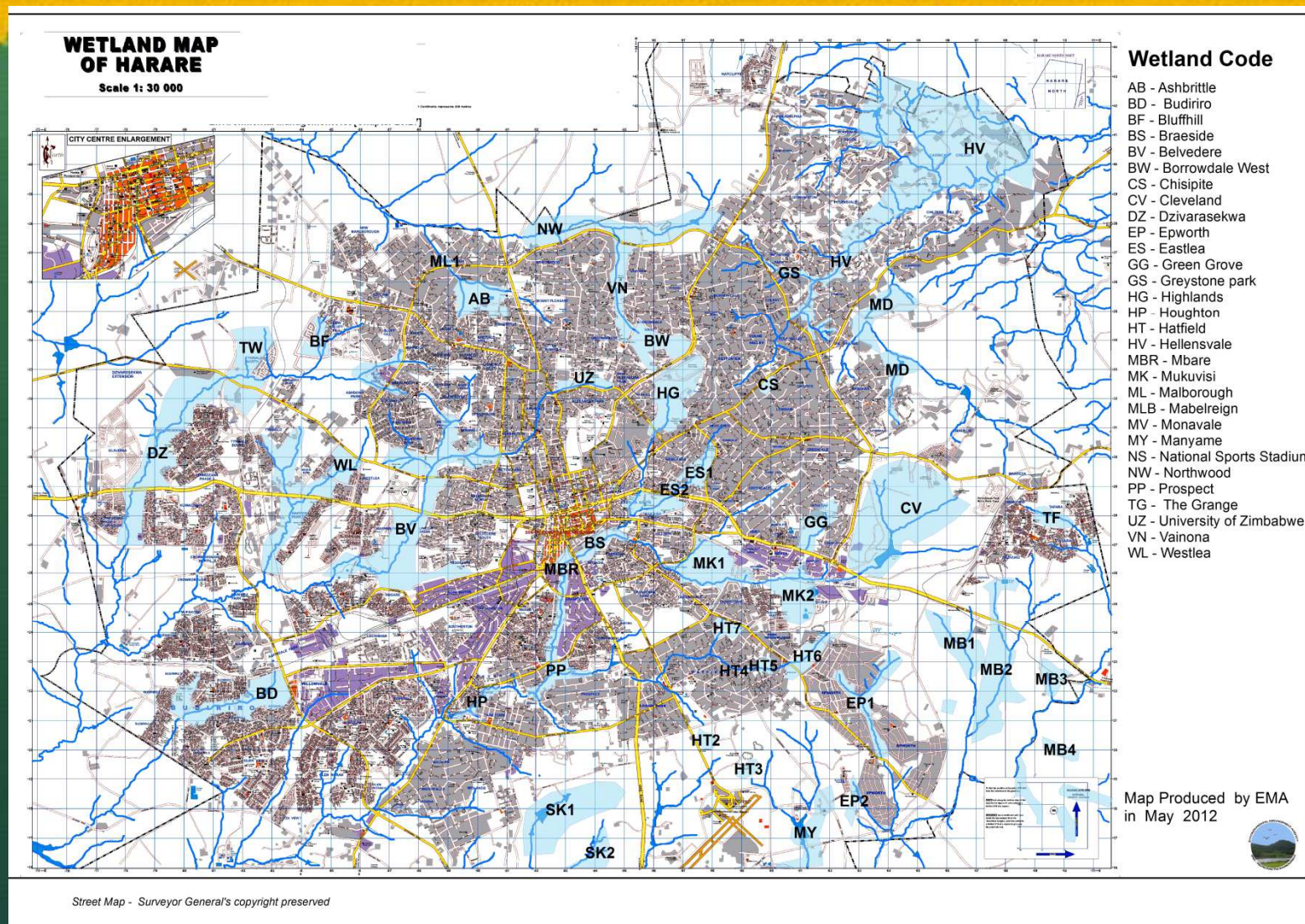
Hwange Sanyati Biological Corridor



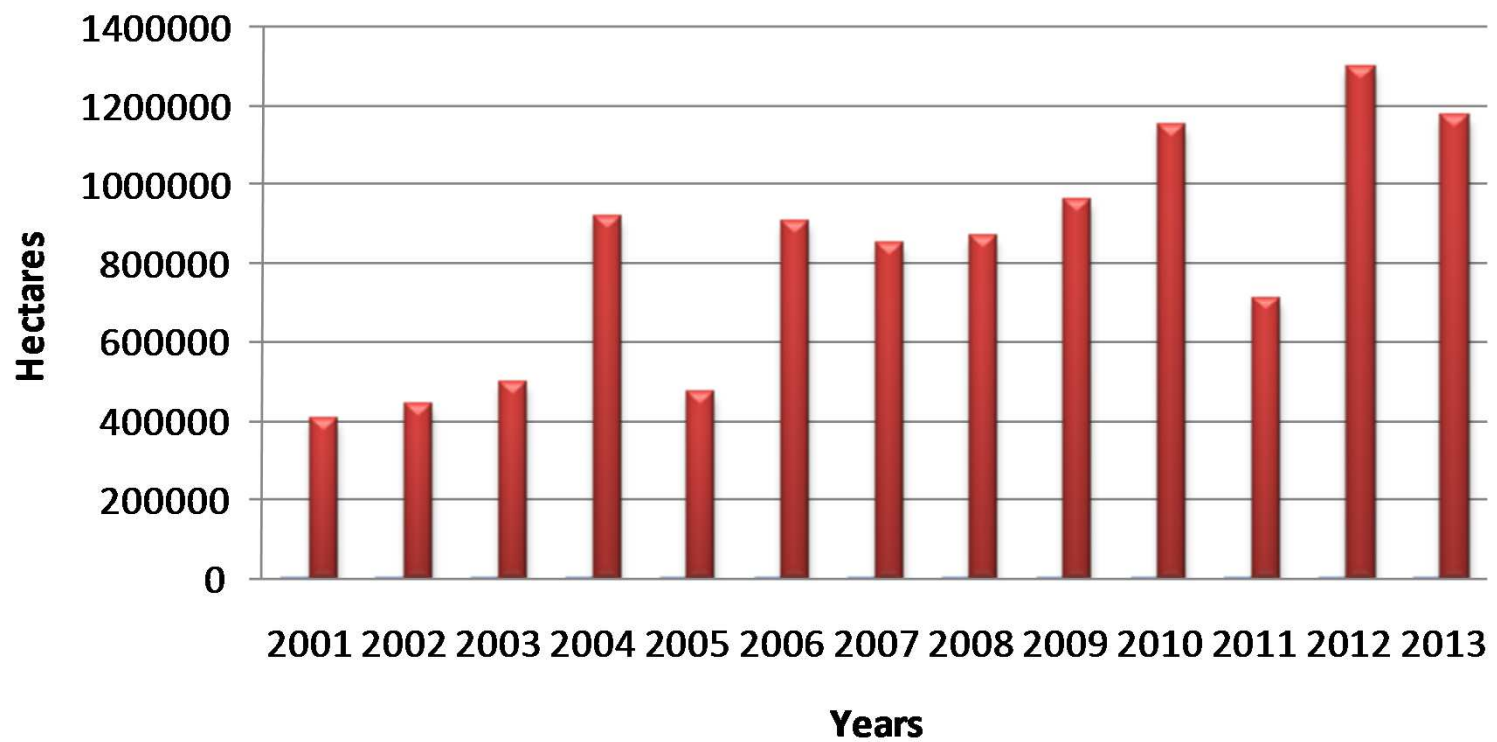
Wetlands

- Ramsar – Zim has 5 Ramsar sites
- All Harare wetlands protected
- Wetlands Taskforce set up
- Songore wetland – show pic

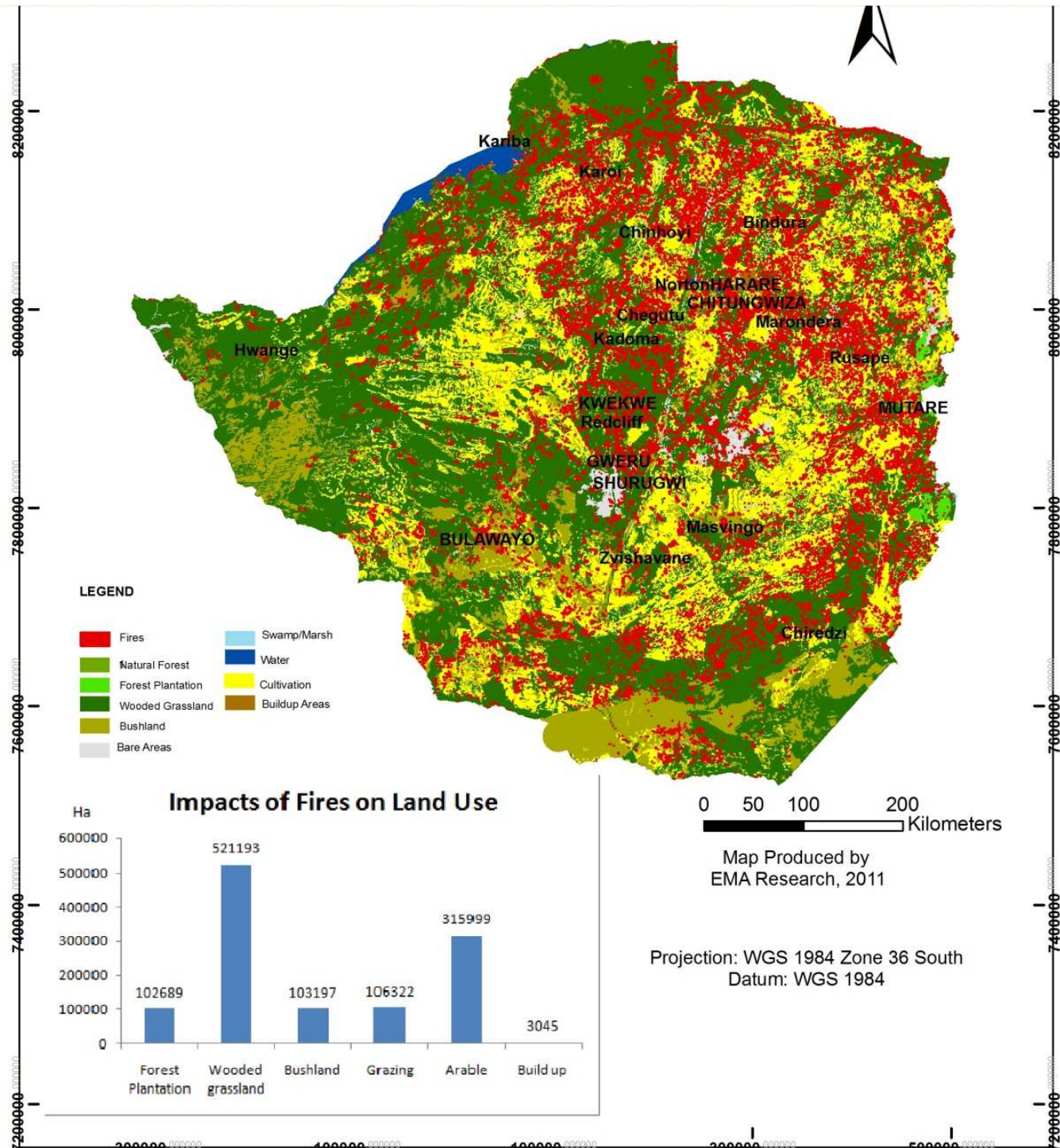
All Harare Wetlands are protected – one of them is a Ramsar site

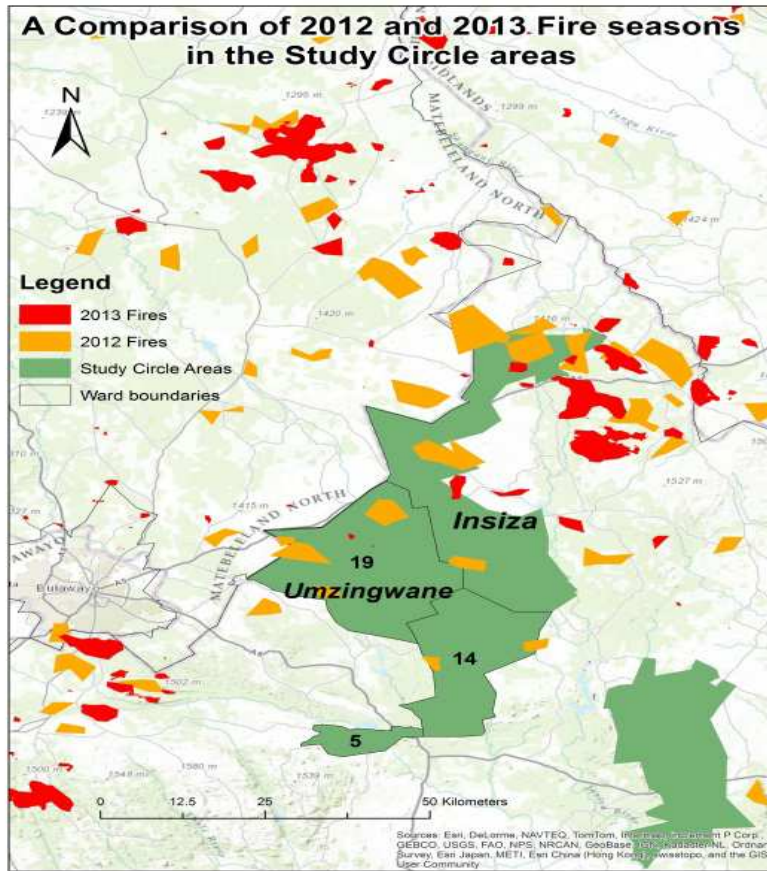


Fire Control

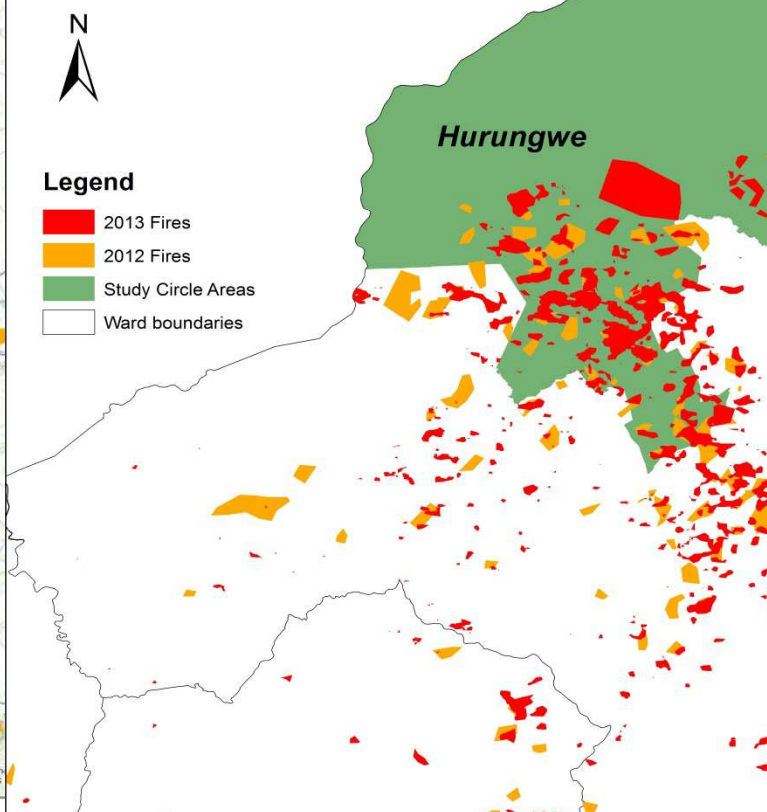


District	Number of study circles	Impact
Chikomba	11	Mobilized community to construct 80 km of fireguards
Marondera	6	Mobilized community to construct 10 km of fire guards.
Goromonzi	10	Mobilized community to construct 40 km of fire guards
Hwedza	18	Mobilized community and construct 87 km of fire guards
Mzingwane Ward 5,19,14	3	Fire management
Insiza Ward 22 ,17 and ward 18	4	Focal person continued to form 6 more study circles
Matobo Ward 24,18 and 25	3	Fire management
Muzabani Ward 13 and 11	2	40% reduction in fire incidences, established firefighting teams in each village
Gutu Ward 1, 7, 32	3	Generally there is a reduction of fire incidences and area burnt for the 4 wards where the training was done. -34 km fireguard constructed
Hurungwe Wards 7,4 and10	3	A 23 kilometres fireguard constructed
Makoni	2	Community members dug ash pits and constructed 15 km fire guards
Chimanimani	1	Formulated a Fire management plan





A Comparison of 2012 and 2013 Fire seasons in the Study Circle areas



Tatenda Siyabonga Zikomo

