TEMBE ELEPHANT PARK

KwaZulu-Natal
South Africa

Protected Area Management Plan:
Public Participation Report
2014

Prepared by
Ezemvelo KwaZulu-Natal Wildlife Protected Area Management Planning Unit
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1. STAKEHOLDER CONSULTATION PROCESS

Tembe Elephant Park (TEP) was originally declared in 1983 on Tembe communal lands under the leadership of the Tembe Traditional Authority, to protect the lives and property of the Tembe people from injury or damage from elephants. The Park largely encapsulates the area roamed by the last free ranging elephant in KwaZulu-Natal. Its history with regard to conservation in South Africa is significant, although the reasons behind the original proclamation was not primarily for conservation; it was to ensure the safety of the local communities from elephant.

The Park is a core conservation area forming part of the Ezemvelo KZN Wildlife protected area network and the Combined Lubombo Conservancy-Goba and Usuthu-Tembe-Futi TFCA (previously the Usuthu-Tembe-Futi TFCA). Within the KwaZulu-Natal Province, the Park is situated in the umKhanyakude District Municipality (DC 27) area and within the umHlabuyalingana Local Municipality (KZ 271).

The Park covers an area of 30 013 ha and is situated on the northern border of the KwaZulu-Natal Province of the Republic of South Africa, on the border with Mozambique, approximately 500 km north-northeast of Durban. Tembe Elephant Park lies approximately 22 km west (in a straight line) of the town of KwaNgwanase and 15 km east of the town of Ndumo.

Its northern boundary is the international border with Mozambique, the eastern boundary borders on community wards, the southern boundary is along the main tar road from Jozini to KwaNgwanase, and the west is bordered by a district road which runs from the tar road to the Mozambique border. The park falls within the Tembe Tribal Area. Although no major rivers flow through the park, sections of the park is recognised as a National Freshwater Ecosystem Priority with a series of priority wetlands (the Muzi swamps).

TEP contribute to the protection of an ecologically viable representative portion of Sand Forest, the Maputaland Wooded Grassland and its associated biodiversity such as the rare Suni. The Park also contributes to the protection of endangered, rare and endemic species specific to elements of the IUCN’s Maputaland Centre for Plant Endemism.

Public consultation has been undertaken through a series of meetings and discussions with key stakeholders culminating in two key stakeholder workshops, held on the 26th of November 2013 and 25th of February 2014. Furthermore, the draft management plan has been made available for public review and comment prior to its finalisation. This process has ensured a great deal of valuable input into the development of the management plan, the outcomes of which have been incorporated into it.

1.1 The Context of Stakeholder Consultation

In terms of Section 39(3) of the Protected Areas Act, consultation is required with municipalities, other organs of state, local communities and other affected parties, which have an interest in the area, when compiling a management plan for a protected area. Furthermore, the input and support of key stakeholders is considered vitally important in the management of protected areas and in the implementation of many of the actions set
out in their management plans. For this reason a comprehensive public participation process has been undertaken in preparing the management plan for Tembe Elephant Park.

1.2 Approach and Objectives of the Consultation Process

The approach to consultation in preparing the management plan for Tembe Elephant Park has been to target communities in the area around the reserve together with municipalities, relevant government authorities and other key stakeholders. The process has been targeted at key representatives of stakeholder groups in an effort to enable meaningful input in the development of the management plan. The objectives of the public consultation process have been to:

- Ensure that the communities around the reserve are aware of its importance and the conservation imperatives that formed the basis for its proclamation.
- Discuss and agree on the values of Tembe Elephant Park in order to come to a common understanding of why it is important and should be protected.
- Canvas aspirations, issues, concerns and conflicts associated with the reserve that must be resolved through the management plan.
- Provide additional information that is required by individual stakeholders and to request input and pertinent information that may aid the process and the management of the reserve from stakeholders.

The list of participants who have been consulted and who have attended meetings as part of the public consultation process is attached in Appendix A.

1.3 Consultation Process

The public stakeholder consultation commenced in November 2013 when the stakeholder workshop was advertised in the Illanga, Isoleswe, Mercury, The Witness and Zululand Observer. See Appendix B for the minutes of the stakeholder meeting, Appendix C for scanned copies of the adverts, Appendix D for the Background document and Appendix F for scanned copies of the attendance registers. The stakeholder workshop took place at the Tembe Elephant Park conference centre on 26 November 2013, due to unsatisfactory representation an additional meeting was scheduled for 25 February 2014 at the same venue.

Groups that were invited included the Tembe land owners, district and local municipalities, neighbours, neighbouring communities and non-governmental conservation organisations. See Appendix B for the attendance registers and minutes of the meetings.

The draft protected area management plan was made available to public review for a period of three weeks. The draft plan was advertised in the Illanga, Isoleswe, Mercury, Witness and Zululand Observer on 24 and 25 October 2014. All stakeholders who attended the stakeholder workshop were informed either through e-mail, telephonically or through verbal messages to the various communities by the Community Conservation Officer.
Hard copies of the documents were made available at the uMkhanyakude District and uMhlabuyalingana Local Municipality as well as at the park gates.

Closing dates for comments was 31 May 2014 and the document was available for review for four weeks.

This process and the overall process for the development of the protected area management plan are summarised in Table 1.1 below.

Table 1.1 Summary of the protected area management plan development process.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Activity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>12 November 2013</td>
<td>1st Management meeting and Site visit of Tembe Elephant Park.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>28 January 2014</td>
<td>Adverts for stakeholder workshop sent to known stakeholders via e-mail.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24 October 2013</td>
<td>Advert for stakeholder workshop in Isolezwe.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24 October 2013</td>
<td>Advert for stakeholder workshop in The Mercury.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 April and 24 January 2014</td>
<td>Additional meetings with Municipalities, TFCA stakeholders and Peace Park Foundation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 June 2014</td>
<td>Advert sent to known stakeholders via e-mail for public comment.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8 June 2014</td>
<td>Advert for public comment in Isolezwe newspaper.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6 June 2014</td>
<td>Advert for public comment in Zululand Observer.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 June 2014</td>
<td>Advert for public comment in The Mercury.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 June 2014</td>
<td>Advert for public comment in the Weekend Witness.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30 June 2014</td>
<td>Public comment closes.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>July 2014</td>
<td>Consideration of public comment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>December 2014</td>
<td>Submit final document to Ezemvelo KZN Wildlife committees for approval.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
2. **KEY FINDINGS OF THE STAKEHOLDER CONSULTATION PROCESS**

The table below summarizes the key findings of the stakeholder consultation process in the six key performance areas.

**Table 2.1 Summary of Key findings of the Stakeholder Consultation Process.**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Key performance area</th>
<th>Issue that must be addressed</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Legal compliance and law enforcement | ▪ Poaching and illegal resource use  
▪ Cross border issues including law enforcement and immigration  
▪ Crime in region (Contraband, illegal immigrants, hijackings outside the Park) |
| Stakeholder engagement | ▪ Recruitment from the local communities who have the local knowledge and distribution of those job opportunities between the different community groups.  
▪ Training and capacitating local communities  
▪ Poor relationships with local communities  
▪ Lack of clarity of the roles and functions of government structures (Ingonyama Trust, isivunco etc.) |
| Buffer zone protection and regional management | ▪ Inappropriate land use in areas surrounding the protected area which includes potential pressures from fracking, Eskom power lines and other inappropriate developments.  
▪ TFCA – expansion opportunities (Links with other Protected Areas)  
▪ Park expansion opportunities (partnership with communities) (Also outside of TFCA)  
▪ Potential threats to the sense of place / wildness from inappropriate development encroaching on the park.  
▪ There is currently a strong Tembe brand and this should be maintained through partnerships and marketing efforts.  
▪ Relative small size of the park. |
| Eco-cultural tourism development | ▪ Cross border issues in terms of access and eco-cultural tourism  
▪ Environmental education and awareness opportunities in terms of the roll-out of the TUT programme in Tembe.  
▪ In developing the eco-cultural tourism potential of TEP, care should be taken not to lose the wilderness experience / non-commercial character of the park in the process.  
▪ Capitalise on the well-established tourist route by linking eco-cultural tourism initiatives in the park with regional tourism initiatives.  
▪ Care should be taken not to detract from the visitor experience by having too many people / vehicles in the park. |
| Conservation management | ▪ Human/Wildlife conflict  
▪ Water poor area (this includes problems with potable water). This could be addressed through potential park expansion to the west to the Pongolo River and floodplains; this would include some of the biggest pans on the Futu.  
▪ Fire management – arson fires and controlled fires  
▪ Management of important species including Elephant, Suni, Lions and Rhino.  
▪ Diseases of game and domestic animals  
▪ Redline is a threat to expansion (threat to southern expansion). TEP is in a surveillance zone for Foot and Mouth disease. |
Operational management

- Opportunity for revival of historical and cultural bonds across the border
- Protection of all cultural heritage sites including living heritage values.
- Lack of human resources
- Limited financial resources
- Maintenance of both tourism and management infrastructure

These issues will be addressed through a range of strategic outcomes including:

- Assess and update where necessary the status of all legal documents, MoU’s, MOA’s, lease agreements and other agreements.
- Ensure that there is adequate law enforcement within the TEP.
- Implement the outcome of the land claim settlement process, the settlement agreement and co-management agreement.
- Maintain cross border security through regular engagement with security stakeholders.
- Constructive community involvement in the TEP’s management through an effectively functioning liaison forum.
- Promote an understanding of the TEP values, importance and ecosystem goods and services.
- Keep the Tembe Community safe from elephants and lions (TEP was proclaimed to keep people safe from elephants).
- Ensure participation of members of the Tembe people and stakeholders through integrated, shared, co-operative working relationships.
- Provide economic (financial and other) benefits to the Tembe people from sustainable resource (consumptive and non-consumptive) use in TEP, including promotion of eco-cultural tourism.
- Co-operative partnerships in development and conservation programmes so as to maximise funding opportunities from commercial stakeholders will be pursued.
- Ensure effective communication and collaboration between relevant government departments and structures.
- Determination of the buffer zone requirements around the Tembe Elephant Park.
- Play an anchor role in local, regional, national and international development initiatives through joint management agreements so as to promote the formation of a consolidated conservation area.
## 3. COMMENTS RECEIVED DURING REVIEW OF THE DRAFT MANAGEMENT PLAN

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Comments received from</th>
<th>Comments</th>
<th>Response</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Paul Bewsher PO Box 12743 Stellenbosch 7613 Tel 021 880 5100 <a href="mailto:paul@ppf.org.za">paul@ppf.org.za</a></td>
<td>We would like to congratulate the EKZNW planning unit on a well formulated document and the effort to align the IMP with the TFCA initiative - it is a golden treat throughout the document.</td>
<td>Noted.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### 1.1 Purpose of the Plan
It is suggested that specific reference should be made to the following TFCA documents and the alignment of the IMP to these as one of the ‘purposes’ of the IMP:
- The LTFCA Protocols
- TFCA Integrated Development Plan (IDP)
- Joint Operational Strategy (JOS).

### 1.4 The Values of TEP
Should the land ownership situation not feature here more prominently?
This is an ideal opportunity to recognise the restitution agreement, and clarify the difference between the owners of the land and the affected neighbouring communities.

We note your comment and refer you to Page 12, Section 2.2.2 – Co-management of Tembe Elephant Park. The Park Planning Committee addressed the issue of ownership of land by the community in this section and do not want to overcrowd the values of the Park with this issue that has already been addressed in another section. Although the committees recognised the importance and rights of the landowners; it is also a priority to establish relationships and where possible create benefits for neighbouring communities who might not be landowners per
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Section</th>
<th>Notes</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.5 Planning Approach (1.5.3 Collaboration and transparency) Perhaps mention participation by the TFCA stakeholders (international) more prominently?</td>
<td>Noted, see additional paragraph under Page 9, Section 1.5.4 - Collaboration and transparency. Stakeholders consulted included local, provincial and international stakeholders through the TFCA programme, including the Peace Parks Foundation and Mozambique stakeholders.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.1.1 Land Tenure, Claims and Co-management (p13) Perhaps be a bit more specific regarding 'community co-ownership and benefits' in relation to Tembe Safari Lodge? The &quot;rights&quot; to tourism developments, or at least the uncertainties surrounding these could be addressed here. Even if this just highlights the concerns and the need for interventions to clarify these issues.</td>
<td>See Page 12, Section 2.2.2 Land Tenure, Claims and Co-management Ownership and benefits of the community in terms of Tembe Safari Lodge. Are discussed in this section, furthermore the co-management agreement in Appendix D contain the framework for community beneficiation.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.1.2 Local agreements, leases, servitude arrangements and separation of authority functions – with specific reference to future concessions (page 15) The role of state agencies such as the Ingonyama Trust and isiVuno needs to be clarified in order to unlock the tourism potential of the park.</td>
<td>See Page 15, Section 2.2.4 - Local Agreements, leases, servitude arrangements and separation of authority functions. The role of state agencies, specifically the Ingonyama Trust and isiVuno needs to be clarified as a matter of urgency in relation to tourism development in TEP. See Page 42, Table 5 under Section 2.10 - Summary of management issues, challenges and opportunities. Lack of clarity of the roles and functions of government structures and specifically the Ingonyama Trust and isiVuno.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Paragraph</td>
<td>Notes</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>p.20 - 2nd last and last paragraph - revisit these paragraphs as some of the statements relating to the TFCA are outdated. The IC could help you here.</td>
<td>Noted. See Page 16 to 20, Section 2.4 – The regional and local planning context for Tembe Elephant Park.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.3 The policy framework guiding the management of Tembe Elephant Park Although the section on The History of the Lubombo Transfrontier Conservation and Resource Area mentions the various international agreements, should there not perhaps be a reference here as well to the international / regional policy framework including the TFCA Protocols and the relevant SADC protocols relating to e.g. shared water courses and on wildlife conservation and law enforcement?</td>
<td>Noted and incorporated. See Page 15, Section 2.3.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Figure 2.3 – with the drafting of the IDP we were advised by Ms Hanekom that the Bekhabantu CCA does not exist - this map may thus require a revisit.</td>
<td>Noted, after consideration this map was removed as there are similar maps in terms of the TFCA and priority biodiversity areas in the plan.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.9.3 Funding levels (also relevant to Table 6.10) Perhaps refer to the funding opportunities that could be garnered via the TFCA initiative? The TFCA IDP addresses sustainable financing and support for implementation of PA plans.</td>
<td>Noted and incorporated. See Page 133, Appendix H.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Strategic Management Framework Should the objectives of the TFCA not also be mentioned here – not necessarily be listed as such but perhaps just the essence highlighted?</td>
<td>Noted and incorporated. See Page 44 , Section 3.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Provide strategic context to the management framework.

Table 6.2 Framework for buffer zone protection and regional management
Revisit reference to TFCA structures – i.e. Task Group, Working Groups and specifically the relevant core area Park Management Committee (see TFCA IDP and JOS).
(Check throughout document reference to UTF TFCA vs the new combined TFCA.)

Table 6.3 Framework for eco-cultural tourism
Also see comment relating to 2.1.2 – the legal and institutional encumbrances relating to unlocking the ecotourism potential of the park require attention in anticipation of preparing a Concept Development Plan.
Potential exists, yet is encumbered by the lack of clarity regarding general tourism development within Tembe. Perhaps the lessons learnt within iSimangaliso that faced similar problems could be drawn on.

6.6 Conservation Management
The Joint Operational Strategy will be included as
| **Nonhle Mnqayi (Led and Tourism Manager)** | **Umhlabuyalingana Municipality.**  
nonhlemt@gmail.com  
bukhosinise@gmail.com | **Additional items that require attention, given the JOS, are (1) groundwater management (in addition to wetlands) – actually a holistic approach to water resources management (2) Transboundary Animal Disease (TAD) surveillance.** | **an Appendix in the management plan, in order to prevent the document from becoming cumbersome. See Page 142, Appendix J.** |
<table>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Pg 14 (2.1.2) excludes umhlabuyalingana from the list of local state institutions that the TEP should have arrangements with. Inside the park, there are some recognized operating businesses e.g accommodation that should comply with the trading regulations (specifically, business licensing), which the local govt has a mandate to perform in accordance with the business licensing actn 71 of 1991 section (6).</strong></td>
<td><strong>Noted and corrected. See Page 14, Section 2.2.4.</strong></td>
<td><strong>Pg 47 (2.8 socio economic context) please make provisions of the appropriate percentage or no.of jobs creates specially for the surrounding citizens. This should be in line with the park’s natural and cultural values which further influence natural, cultural, and eco-tourism performance of the park and respond to un employment rate of umhlabuyalingana area as indicated in the municipal IDP</strong></td>
<td><strong>Even though the park employment should facilitate employment from the community, the numbers are not stipulated as it will change throughout the span of the management plan and will depend on opportunities, skills required etc.</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Pg 49 (paragraph 3 from the top) to specify on when was the Tourism Development plan approved and how does the TEP aligns its functions with the plan in mention; and</strong></td>
<td><strong>The Protected Area Management Plan deals with Eco-cultural tourism at a strategic level. After the completion of a feasibility study the Concept Development Plan will be developed and this would align to the regional tourism initiatives and the TFCA tourism strategies (this would include the tourism plan).</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Pg 153 (11 Roles of Co mangment committee). Please clarify whether the committee in mention has an approved guideline document eg constitution that clearly sets out measurable targets that are in line with the TEP annual plan.

Please see Appendix D Page 107 in the management plan for the role and functions of the co-management committee.
### LIST OF STAKEHOLDERS WHO HAVE PARTICIPATED IN OR BEEN INVITED TO PARTICIPATE IN THE PREPARATION OF THE PROTECTED AREA MANAGEMENT PLAN FOR TEMBE ELEPHANT PARK

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ORGANISATION</th>
<th>NAME/ SURNAME</th>
<th>CONTACT NUMBER 1</th>
<th>CONTACT NUMBER 2</th>
<th>E-MAIL ADDRESS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>NCAMI KHUMALO</td>
<td>EZEMVELO</td>
<td>033 845 1438</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>T MZULWINI</td>
<td>EZEMVELO</td>
<td>082093147</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>NANDI THOBELA</td>
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<td>033239189</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>PM TEMBE</td>
<td>EZEMVELO</td>
<td>0822568816</td>
<td><a href="mailto:tembem@tiscali.co.za">tembem@tiscali.co.za</a></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LESEHO SELLO</td>
<td>TFCA NATIONAL COORDINATOR</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><a href="mailto:Leseho.Sello@up.ac.za">Leseho.Sello@up.ac.za</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>RICHARD SCHUTTE</td>
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<tr>
<td>ANNIE VAN DE VENTER-RADFORD</td>
<td>AMAFA</td>
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<tr>
<td>ROELIE KLOPPERS</td>
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<td>CHRIS GALLIERS</td>
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<td></td>
<td><a href="mailto:chrisgalliers@gameranger.co.za">chrisgalliers@gameranger.co.za</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>MARGARET</td>
<td>WESSA</td>
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<td><a href="mailto:margaret@burgerip.co.za">margaret@burgerip.co.za</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>PAUL PHELAN</td>
<td>PAUL PHELAN SAFARIS</td>
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<tr>
<td>PATRICK LANDER</td>
<td>ATTORNEY</td>
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<td><a href="mailto:secretary@patricklander.co.za">secretary@patricklander.co.za</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SS MKWANASI</td>
<td>DEDT</td>
<td>0832749353</td>
<td></td>
<td><a href="mailto:mkhwanasis@kznded.gov.za">mkhwanasis@kznded.gov.za</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>MJ MTHEMBU</td>
<td>CO-MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE</td>
<td>0833741300</td>
<td></td>
<td><a href="mailto:joelmuzie@gmail.com">joelmuzie@gmail.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B TEMBE</td>
<td>NDUNA MFAKULOOLOKA</td>
<td>0823933357</td>
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<tr>
<td>MS NHLABATTSI</td>
<td>CO-MANAGEMENT EMFLWEN</td>
<td>0714459827</td>
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<tr>
<td>DP MDLULI</td>
<td>TRUST E TEMBE</td>
<td>0795745981</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>GOODMAN MKUKUZI</td>
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<td>0791867558</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>NN NGUMENYA</td>
<td>TRUST</td>
<td>0713086406</td>
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<tr>
<td>M TEMBE</td>
<td>TEMBE TRUST</td>
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<td>B MPANZA</td>
<td>TEMBE TRUST</td>
<td>0793130847</td>
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<td>MD KHUMALO</td>
<td>CO-MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE</td>
<td>0761611781</td>
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<td>0721954655</td>
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<tr>
<td>DENYSE Fogg (MIKE)</td>
<td>DESTINY EXPLORATIONS</td>
<td>0829314892</td>
<td>0837776172</td>
<td><a href="mailto:mikefogg47@yahoo.com">mikefogg47@yahoo.com</a>; <a href="mailto:denysefogg@yahoo.com">denysefogg@yahoo.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JOHN NGWENYA</td>
<td>COM</td>
<td>0797094121</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
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Diwali Festival back on track

KAMEYA CHINAMPA

IN Zululand, Diwali is celebrated in most Hindu homes with lights, poppadoms and delicious sweets and snacks. The annual Zululand Diwali Festival, which started last week, is back on track for 1 and 2 November, as confirmed by Rhana Naidoo, PRO of the Zululand Diwali Committee.

With a lineup of exciting free entertainment and Bhangra, one will surely enjoy every moment of the festivities planned.

A pledge of R50 000 by local businesses to support the Diwali Committee services reached the highest sponsor’s figure. First of all, Hindu Daniel Mthunzi, who also donated a whopping R50 000 towards the festival.

Thanks goes out to the wonderful support of the private and corporate sector, who noted the plight of the committee and came to our rescue, offering the local community the delights of nation culture on home ground and making this year’s event close to the heart.

The generous sponsors responded to an article that was published in the Zululand Observer, so a big thank you to the ZO for publishing our story,” said Naidoo.

Family Care needs info

RICHARDS Bay Family Care seek information about the father of two children, Khanyilele Mbambo (born 7 June 2004 and Sivhelethu M%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%baba, born 29 September 2002) from Melmoth.

According to the organisation’s records, the father’s name is Zhake Mbabazi.

Anyone with information can contact social worker, Pendaro Dunahle on 033 7892640.

Municipal workers on the march

LARRY BENTLEY

MThohirane municipal workers marched to the municipal offices in Melmoth on Monday to present a memorandum highlighting their grievances.

These grievances related mostly to salaries and included their unhappiness with large salaries being paid to the senior management of the municipality. More than 50 workers participated in the protest.

The sky’s the limit

TRACY GOVENDER

AFTER a two-week journey in obtaining hisrecapitulative licence, Gert Smith finally took to the skies for his first long distance trip from Johannesburg to Newcastle on a De Havilland Canada DHC-1A Beaver.

Flying has been my lifelong dream and this journey has been a wonderful experience,” he said.

The flight took four hours and safely brought Smith into the cockpit was wife Helen, son Francois and close friends and colleagues. All smiles for Gert Smith (centre) with wife Helen and instructor Matthew Zawadzki after his first long distance journey in his gyrocopter. When asked where they are from, he excitedly explained that he plans to travel far and wide, flying to various parts of Africa, including northern Botswana and Namibia.

To advertise in the Zululand Observer please phone 033 7990500

ZULULAND OBSERVER NEWS 23 OCTOBER 2013

APPENDIX B

SCANS OF THE ADVERTISEMENTS FOR THE PUBLIC MEETING AND PUBLIC REVIEW OF THE DRAFT MANAGEMENT PLAN

TEMBE ELEPHANT PARK

PROTECTED AREA MANAGEMENT PLAN – PUBLIC PARTICIPATION REPORT

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**PUBLIC NOTICE**

Application for sponsorship: 2013 Mayor’s Awards for excellence

The eThekwini Municipality urges institutions to sponsor the 2013 Mayor’s Awards for Excellence in Achievement to be held at the International Convention Centre (ICC) on Friday, 13 November 2013 at 18h30. In one of the following ways:

- **Buying a table which seats 10 guests of your choice at R1 000.00 per table** (the cost includes dinners, drinks, and parking at the ICC).
- **Offering prizes to the winners** (supporting community-based enterprises).
- **In-kind sponsorship towards the cost of the event** (tickets, entertainment, photos, technical requirements etc). The Mayor’s Awards for Excellence in Achievement is an annual event that focuses on six categories, namely: Tourism, Water, and Waste Management; Community Development; and Sport and Recreation.

It is our intention to acknowledge initiatives drawn from organisations and schools, community-based organisations, non-governmental organisations and individuals that contribute towards improving the lives of the citizens of Durban. Press releases are to be emailed to PR@mtown.gov.za. For more information contact: Sha Abu-Qwaab, Tel: 031-312 2283, Fax: 031-312 2169, Email: sha.abu-qwaab@mtown.gov.za.

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**World**

**VATICAN TAKES ACTION**

**‘Bling bishop’ suspended**

Vatican City

The Vatican has suspended Bishop Leonardo Sandri, who heads the Vatican City State’s bank, the Fondazione Centocelle, following allegations of financial mismanagement and corruption.

The suspension comes after an internal investigation by the bank, which found evidence of “considerable irregularities” in its accounts.

The Vatican State has been under pressure to improve its financial management after several scandals involving the bank and other institutions.

**Royals gather for Prince George christening**

Crippled pons tar’s mercy plea

Syria releases first batch of hostages in three-way swap

**Island state’s hopes for elections**

APNAMIDIOVIIA S mathematics may be an easier subject to teach but have you ever thought about teaching it to your cats? This is exactly what one professor at the University of Pretoria has been doing for the past year.

Professor Dr. Hans van der Merwe, who teaches mathematics at the University of Pretoria, has developed a special curriculum for his cat, Sultan, that includes lessons on vectors, matrices, and calculus.

The professor claims that Sultan is a natural for the subject, and that the cat is able to understand complex mathematical concepts.

Meanwhile, in other news, a new study has found that cats are able to understand human speech better than previously thought.

The study, which was conducted by researchers at the University of California, Berkeley, found that cats are able to recognize and respond to human speech in ways that were previously thought to be exclusive to humans.

The study also found that cats are able to use language to communicate with each other, and that they are able to understand the meaning of words.

**Take a trip to the edge of space – in a balloon**

Washington: balloonists are set to take off from New Mexico to break the world record for the highest altitude ever reached in a balloon.

The team, led by Dr. Robert Bowers, plans to launch a 50-meter high balloon to an altitude of 100,000 feet (30,000 meters) and set a new world record for the highest altitude achieved by a manned balloon.

The team is working on an altitude of 100,000 feet, which is currently held by the North American Aerospace Defense Command. The goal is to break the current record of 97,925 feet (29,843 meters) set by the United States Air Force in 2013.

The team has already tested the balloon at 40,000 feet and plans to conduct further tests before the final launch.

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**TEMPE ELEPHANT PARK**

**PROTECTED AREA MANAGEMENT PLAN – PUBLIC PARTICIPATION REPORT**

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TEMBE ELEPHANT PARK
PROTECTED AREA MANAGEMENT PLAN – PUBLIC PARTICIPATION REPORT

22
BACKGROUND INFORMATION DOCUMENT CIRCULATED PRIOR TO THE PUBLIC STAKEHOLDER WORKSHOP

TEMBE ELEPHANT PARK

REVIEW OF THE PROTECTED AREA MANAGEMENT PLAN

Key management issues
A review of ecological, cultural and social issues and management of the nature reserve has revealed the following issues that need to be addressed in the management plan:

- Development and implementation of co-management agreements between Ezemvelo and claimant landowners.
- Expansion opportunities through the TPCA.
- Maintenance of good relationships with stakeholders.
- Develop and implement a phased fence repair and maintenance programme as a matter of priority to ensure the ongoing safety of the neighbouring communities, tourists and staff.
- Develop and implement a disease management protocol.
- Develop and implement a management plan for the Sand forest.
- Management of threatened and protected species in the park including the implementation of the Elephant management plan and the development of a Suni management plan.
- Assessment and management of Cultural heritage within Tembe Elephant Park.
- Control of alien invasive species in TEP.
- Operational management interventions include sufficient human and financial resources and well maintained infrastructure to support management activities.
- Management of Eco-cultural Tourism linked to the regional tourism initiatives. This includes the development of a Concept Development Plan for the park.
- Implementation of Environmental Education and Awareness programmes through partnerships with external stakeholders.
- Interventions relating to security in the park including access, illegal natural resource use and poaching.
- Appropriate planning alignment between the park and the surrounding area which should be recognised through the Integrated Development Plan (IDP) and Spatial Development Framework (SDF) of the relevant municipalities.

The abovementioned issues are by no means the only issues to be addressed and consultation with stakeholders would allow for further discussions of interventions required.

Stakeholder consultation process
One of Ezemvelo KZN Wildlife’s principles in preparing protected area management plans is collaboration and transparency. Stakeholders will be canvassed and their inputs will be facilitated in the development of the plan.

A stakeholder workshop has been advertised and will be held on 26 November 2013 at the Tembe Elephant Park Conference Centre (10.00). The vision, objectives and management issues that need to be addressed in the plan will be discussed.

Once the draft protected area management plan has been prepared, it will be made available for public review and comment prior to its finalisation and submission to the KwaZulu-Natal Nature Conservation Board, and MEC.

If you or your organisation would like to participate in this process or would like any further information, please contact:

Magdi Goosen (033) 845 1469
Magdi.Goosen@kznwildlife.com
COPIES OF STANDARD INVITATIONS SENT TO KNOWN STAKEHOLDERS FOR THE PUBLIC STAKEHOLDER WORKSHOP

STAKEHOLDER WORKSHOP
TENBIE ELEPHANT PARK
PROTECTED AREA MANAGEMENT PLAN

A background document will be available one week prior to the workshop on the Ezemvelo website at www.kznwildlife.com (Pathway is "Conservation" > "Public comment" > "East Region"). Should you be unable to attend the workshop, comments on each document will be welcomed by 13 January 2014. Should you be attending the meeting, please register through the contact details below by 11 November 2013. Contact: Magela Gosen, tel: (033) 846-1499 or e-mail: magela.gosen@kznwildlife.com

UMHLANGANO WOKUCOBELANA NGOLWAZI WABABAMIQHAZA
TENBIE ELEPHANT PARK
KENETH STAINBANK NATURE RESERVE
NORTH PARK NATURE RESERVE
BLUFF NATURE RESERVE

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MINUTES OF THE PUBLIC STAKEHOLDER WORKSHOP

Tembe Elephant Park
Stakeholder Workshop
26 November 2013
Tembe Conference Centre

Minutes

Agenda

1. Opening and welcome
2. Purpose of the meeting
3. Why PAMPS
4. The management planning process
5. Management plan structure
6. Tembe Elephant Park - in a nutshell
7. Values
8. Vision
9. Objectives
10. SWOT
11. Management issues
12. Way forward
13. Closure

1. Opening and welcome

Magda Goosen welcomed everyone present and invited everyone to participate freely in the meeting. It was confirmed by the members that translation into isiZulu will be required and that that Thembane Msulwini will do the translation. Everyone was given the opportunity to introduce themselves and state who they represent.

2. Purpose of the meeting

A brief explanation was given that Ezemvelo adopted a new user friendly management plan format that is now aligned to the provincial and national norms and standards for protected area management plan. Due to the change in format the process we are following are similar than for the development of a new plan. The purpose of the meeting is to source stakeholder input into the review of the TEP.

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management plan. Firstly to determine if the values, vision and objectives as per the previous plan are still valid or need to be adapted. Secondly to identify key issues that we need to address in the management plan and discussions of the various management interventions required to address these issues. In summary the main purpose is to meet with stakeholders, open channels of communication to allow for further consultation. This will provide the basis from where the plan can be developed.

A question was raised in terms of the timeframes for this project and it was indicated that it takes approximately 3 - 4 months to develop the plan and another 4 - 6 months to allow for approval by various Ezemvelo committees. It was indicated that we follow the EIA guidelines for public consultation which stipulates for example that you cannot consult during the Christmas period and those guidelines also affect the timeframes of the project.

Another request was made that the biodiversity issues be separated from the tourism/business issues going forward so that those stakeholders who are only interested in the tourism component do not need to be present for other discussions. It was indicated that the plan cannot be separated but the concern was acknowledged that some of the stakeholders would only want to be involved into in certain components of the plan. Richard Penn-Sawyers indicated that we have to address the business economic and tourism component extensively. It was agreed that we would move forward with the day’s meeting which will include fairly broad strategies on both tourism and conservation and if there is a need for a more specific meeting on any component we could look at it in the way forward.

3. Why PAMPS

- Compliance with the National Environmental Management: Protected Areas Act (No.57 of 2003).
- Strategic tool for management
- Motivations for budgets and indicators that the budget is spent correctly.
- Build accountability into the management
- Ensure protection of values and the purpose for which it was established are protected.

4. The management planning process

It was explained that the management planning process consisted of three main steps including a Situational analysis, Preparation of a draft management plan and finalisation and adoption of the management plan. Because of the change in format the process we are following will be similar to the development of a new plan. In terms of the Situational Analysis we start gathering information and id key issues relating to the plan. During the preparation of the draft management plan we develop a vision and objectives and management interventions. The plan is then published for public review for a period of 3 – 4 weeks. After considering the public comment, facilitating the last changes to the plan and responding to public comment
the plan is then submitted for final approval. The approval process includes internal Ezemvelo committees and finally the MEC.

One of the community members then indicated that they were confused as the purpose for them coming to the meeting was not to hear about the process of the review of the TEP management plan. He indicated that they came with the purpose to hear about the 20 million that was promised to the Bhukubantu and Mbangwen that was provided by the government which will be used to facilitate job creation and job opportunities. He indicated that the meeting that they find themselves in was not what they came here for. The facilitator then asked if they have seen the invitation and advertisement for the meeting that clearly stipulated the purpose of the meeting. It was also indicated that they are welcome to raise issues and that those issues would be given through to the relevant departments/units for a response. It was also respectfully emphasised that the unit that deals with projects is a separate unit in the organisation. Tom Mahamba then recommended to the community members that they should contribute to the meeting as per the purpose that was explained to them. The community continued to raise concerns that their main question has not been answered. The community then indicated that they understand.

Mr Lander, attorney representing the community indicated that the point was discussed and it was felt at the time that it was a separate issue from the current meeting and that he would in time take it up with the Department. This will still take place through the relevant channels. It was emphasised that this was an opportunity for the community who has a huge stake in the TEP to give input into the management of the park. It was then clarified that Mr Lander has been appointed by the committee that represent 3000 to 4000 community members to represent them.

Peter Coulon raised the question if we had enough representation at the meeting from the various community groups and raised a concern that there were only a handful of people present and raised the question if we should carry on with the process in the absence of other stakeholders. It was indicated that we follow the EIA guidelines for public consultation and that the process was widely advertised in various regional and local newspapers in both English and isiZulu. Newspapers included Zululand Observer, Ilanga, Isaleso, The Witness and Mercury. We also looked at the previous stakeholder list included in the previous management plan, although most of these contact details were out-dated as well as the stakeholder list from the recently developed Sileza management plan. It was indicated that the day’s meeting should still continue and that a follow up meeting should be held in the new year, specifically because municipalities and other community groups were not present. Additional meetings will be considered after assessment of the representation through the attendance register. The concern from the community was that there were no leaders in the meeting from the communities. The issue was also raised why the Community Conservation Officer who would be able to answer most of these questions were not at the meeting. It was indicated that Mandla was invited to the meeting. It was emphasised that today’s meeting is an information
sharing and information gathering meeting and that no management decisions were going to take place. It was recommended that we move forward with the agenda but that the communities are given the assurance that their issue would be incorporated at the appropriate time. Another concern that was raised is that there is no tourism plan and when funding is sourced for eco-tourism development nothing happens because there is no plan.

It was indicated by Tembe lodge representative that this was excluded from the previous management plan. This referred not only to tourism inside but also outside the protected area boundaries. This could be facilitated through the Trans Frontier Conservation programme. It would be further discussed as part of the management issues later on in the day.

The community raised the issue of the 20X project again and they asked the question why they should stay in the meeting if the project will not be discussed. There was a request for the community to allow us to move forward with the stakeholder workshop while there enquiry will be directed to the correct channels. It was emphasised that they are part and parcel of this consultation process. Richard Penn-Sawyers then enquired as to how they were informed of the meeting and the purpose of the meeting. It was then indicated that the community is welcome to stay in the meeting and participate if they should feel that they want to.

The community indicated that they are happy to be informed about the process and that they appreciate that they are part of the process where maybe in the past they have been excluded.

The provincial Transfrontier Conservation Coordinator raised the issue of traditional leadership and the fact that TEP is different from other protected areas in terms of purpose. He raised a question that if we continue with the meeting the traditional leadership could feel that we have discussed management issues without including them. He also raised a concern that some of the members of the community that are present might be in a compromised position if they are discussing management issues without being mandated by their leadership to do so. He indicated that as community members there are matters that you can discuss and there are matters that you can’t discuss. It was indicated again that it is unfortunate that the Community Conservation officer is not here to guide us.

Richard Penn-Sawyers indicated that there used to be a Local Board but that is not functional currently. He also indicated that there is a Co-management Committee and an isINduna’s Committee. Richard then indicated that that echoes that we do not have inclusive stakeholders at the meeting, he indicated that we are going through a process and if need be and we feel as part of this process we have not consulted with all stakeholders we would then ensure that we do so taking the process forward. It was also clearly stated that no one was left out of the process intentionally and if we become aware that someone has been left out we will facilitate further consultation with them.
The community again raised the issue that they have not been mandated by their superiors to take part in these discussions. The national Coordinator for the Transfrontier Conservation programme indicated that we understand where they are coming from and that we respect their sentiment that they do not have a mandate. However this meeting does not in her view need the mandate as it is an awareness and information gathering meeting. Even though the 20K project is not directly linked to this process it is still important that they do not feel that they wasted their time. This was a platform where they did raise the issue and it can now be taken back to the responsible department. This meeting includes information sharing and when we all get back we will know something that we did not know before. When there is a second call for the next stakeholder participation hopefully the stakeholder participation will be broader. She also indicated that they should understand that we are in the same position as them and they should not feel that other stakeholders have the upper hand but the meeting should move forward in the spirit of equality.

A concern was raised that the community could listen but not participate. This was not agreed to as this was a public meeting and whoever felt they wanted to comment could do so. There was agreement that there should not be any pressure on the community to comment but if they choose to they are welcome to participate.

Catharine Hanekom then indicated that the understanding should be there that we did invite the municipalities and we did invite the Traditional Authorities. We are very much dependant on the people who arrive on the day.

The ecologist from the Maputaland Special Reserve indicated that the preparation of management plan process previously did not include a proper consultation process. But as lessons have been learnt over the years we recognised that we are making conservation areas islands where people who need the natural resources and who could make some space for us to manage those resources were not part and parcel of the process. It was only in the late 80’s consultation as part of the process. The history might have been to avoid people but we have learnt some lessons and realised that best practice is a more inclusive and participatory process. We are therefore more than happy to have the community in the meeting, respecting the leadership that was invited but for specific reasons could not attend the meeting.

5. Management plan structure

The new format for the management plan and its main components was explained as well as how it fits into the annual plan of operation and how we implement adaptive management through the implementation and monitoring of the management plan. The three components of the new management plan were discussed. A question was raised by the National Coordinator of the Transfrontier Conservation Area if this was not where we are going to discuss the changes recommended to for example the vision of the park. It was indicated that this section only indicates the structure of the plan for contextual purposes and that the vision and other changes will be discussed under the relevant agenda items.
6. **Tembe Elephant Park - in a nutshell**

Most people at the meeting were familiar with background of the TEP and this was therefore not discussed.

7. **Values**

It was explained that values are the remarkable attributes that exemplify the area and is largely the reason for its existence. Values are important in planning and management, as they are the aspects of the place that must be protected.

The following values were extracted from the previous plan and are still considered valid:

- One of three original elephant populations in SA
- Largest population of Suni in SA
- Conserve elements of IUCN recognised Maputaland Centre of Plant Endemism (and associated animals)
- Diverse butterflies and other insects
- TEP is a core protected area within the Maputaland Centre of Plant Endemism, the Usuthu-Tembe-Futi Transfrontier Conservation Area and the greater Maputaland-Pondoland-Albany system (internationally recognised – Conservation International “hotspot”); and
- Unique birdlife associated with “Centre for Endemism” endemics and Eastern Coastal Bird area

An anecdotal comment was raised that we may be one of four original elephant populations if you consider the Knysna elephants. It was indicated though that the Knysna population formed part of the Addo population and therefore we are one of three original elephant populations.

- Relationship between people and the environment (isifonyo fishing, wild fruit utilisation (manula festivals, palm wine, monkey oranges etc.) and the importance of fish.
- The unique Thonga culture and customs (Ndau spirit possession, importance of mother’s brother, settlement rules)
- Thonga language.
- Border identities and character (Thonga, Swazi, Zulu).
- Frontier life style of the local people – kin on both sides of the border, trade across borders, border markets etc.
- The history of the various Traditional Authorities in the area.
- The settlement history of the area.
- The influx of refugees during the Zulu Wars (1815) and later during the Mozambican War (1975-1992) and the influence it has had on local customs.
- The political history – splitting of a nation (international boundary line – MacMahon Award).
- The history of conservation and the role the region has played.
- Recognition of conservation as viable and sustainable land use option.
- Wilderness nature of area.
- Part of a larger TFCA eco-cultural tourism development area.
- Unique biodiversity assets as part of guest experience.
- Big five area.
- Investment opportunities for local entrepreneurs.
- Important role in eco-cultural tourism development both within South Africa and Mozambique.
- Employment opportunities

- Keep people safe from elephants and lions.
- Serve an important role for conservation and regional economic empowerment through partnership agreements.
- Key stakeholder in planning initiatives with Transfrontier Conservation Area (TFCA), District and Local Municipalities, Amafa, private and communal initiatives.
- Economic benefit flow to Tembe people from sustainable resource (consumptive and non-consumptive) use.
- Integrated planning and resource utilisation.
- Catalyst for biodiversity conservation, cultural heritage management and ecotourism development to form part of a consolidated conservation area.

The community raised the issue of how they could interact with the management team in terms of the running of the reserve. They also indicated that they are not seeing any benefits to the community from the Tembe Elephant Park. They indicated that they are the committee elected by the community to represent them and they would like to enquire about the level of partnership and cooperation with the reserve.

It was indicated that as part of the management planning mechanisms are established to facilitate consultation with community. TEP has various democratically elected structures where meetings do take place with community representatives including the Co-management Committee (land claimants) and the isiNduna Committee. Richard Penn-Sawyers indicated that even though the Local Board is not currently operational it is about to become re-established again. Regular meetings with the other two committees are held (three monthly). Richard indicated that the isiNduna Committee should be the one that gives feedback to the community about TEP.

Richard then responded to the question of benefits and indicated that the number one benefit is employment. In terms of the local economy there are money coming into the area and people are able to sell craft in the sides of the road. TEP bring tourist into the area and that stimulates the local economy. There are also further opportunities in terms of tourism potential in the area. He also indicated that we also give out bursaries every year to the youth particularly in the Bhekabantu and
Mbangweni communities and they are send away for further studies. Another tremendous benefit is the education and awareness programme aimed mainly at the youth.

The community apologised for raising the question of the 20K project as it has disrupted the meeting. They then asked how long the specific managers were responsible for the management of TEP and it was indicated that they were fairly new to these positions. They indicated that the reason for asking the question is that this is fairly new to them hearing about these benefits. They indicated that if the managers have been in these positions for a long time they would have asked the question about what has been happening all this time. Richard Penn-Sawyers explained that one of the reasons for a management plan is to ensure consistency and continuity when there are changes in management and staff.

The community again appreciated the opportunity even though they felt that certain people have been omitted. The community then stated that the community is competing for employment at the lodge and that that is their only source of employment. The community then appealed for the opening of a new lodge or the expansion of the existing lodge to facilitate more employment. The meeting noted the comment.

The owner of Tembe Lodge indicated that the land claim process in Tembe was flawed. The claimants who claimed the full extent of the park never owned the whole park but only the southern section. The other community groups were therefore excluded from that process. The Ingonyama Trust put a stop to the land claim process. He indicated that the best represented forum is the isNdune’s meeting. He requested a review of the land claims committee and indicated that he do not think it is legitimate. Richard indicated that that is under review at the moment. Tembe Lodge representative indicated that a letter has been written to the Ingonyama Trust to query the legitimacy of the claim of the people of the south. He also indicate that employment numbers in terms of tourism is very low and compared to Madikwe in NW that employs approximately 1500 people from the communities.

The chair person noted the need to re-evaluate the representation in some of the committees.

8. Vision

The previous vision statement:

To realise sustained benefits to the Tembe people through sound resource management by maintaining the ecological integrity and cultural values of TEP, while conserving the Sand Forest, associated biodiversity and Tembe elephants, through:
• ecological partnerships based on land,
• sustainable tourism, and
• environmental education,

appropriate to the character and inherent values of the Park.

It was indicated that Richard would like to see eco-tourism coming out stronger in the main part of the vision.

The Tembe Lodge representative indicated that during the development of the previous management plan a number of private meetings were held and that there was unhappiness with the consultant. He indicated that eco-tourism was taken out of the previous management plan and handed to the TFCA coordinator (Dr Kloppers) to be taken forward. This has not happened with the consequence that there is no tourism plan. He indicated that at these meetings there was a consensus that the eco-tourism job creation target would be 500. This has not been included as a target in the previous management plan. They were given the assurance at these meetings that the TFCA coordinator will be responsible for the tourism plan. He indicated that there were a lot of unhappiness because of this and the fact when funding comes there is no plan for it. He indicated that it was agreed in the vision of the previous management plan that the tourism job creation target was 500 people. This would be implemented over time. He also indicated that in 2010 President Zuma set a tourism job creation target for the country, if we take that KwaTembe is one % of South Africa between 2010 and 2020 we need to create from the sea to the mountain 2000 jobs but we have got no plan. It was recognised that this would not all be inside the protected area but in the region. It was indicated that these targets are set for the TFCA area and not Tembe in isolation.

The meeting noted the request for a stronger eco-tourism focus in the vision and the need for a tourism plan integrated with regional tourism. There is also a need for a Concept Development plan that will guide both tourism and management activities in the park and this needs to be integrated with regional tourism initiatives including TFCA and municipal initiatives. Richard indicated that if we get the TFCA initiative right there is huge opportunities for eco-tourism in the area. The question was raised by the national TFCA coordinator why the CDP was not part of the development of the management plan. It was indicated that this is currently been discussed by the relevant steercom. Richard indicated from experience it is better to have a general management plan with specific subsidiary plans underneath it as required.

The Tembe Lodge representative indicated that no one chooses to be a subsistence farmer and that pressures on resources would fall away if you provide eco-tourism opportunities.
9. Objectives

MO 1:
Conservation of key biodiversity features, biophysical processes, landscapes, abiotic, cultural, historical, archaeological and paleontological resources.

MO 2:
The formation of functional partnerships to integrate the TEP with regional development plans and the Usuthu-Tembe-Futi Transfrontier Conservation Area initiatives, and other initiatives which underwrite the vision of TEP.

MO 3:
The provision of socio-economic benefits (benefit flow) to the Park’s neighbours and to contribute to the local economy and the efforts of conservation in a sustainable manner based on sound business principles (EKZNW Business Plan).

MO 4:
The provision of eco-cultural tourism business opportunities in the natural and cultural environment based within the influence sphere of TEP.

It was indicated that these were equally weighted. It was clarified that the flow of benefits includes all neighbouring communities and not only land claimants. A question was raised by the national coordinator for TFCA if MO2 include functional government structures and it was indicated that that is the case. It was indicated that in the new plan there will be an objective for each key performance area. Once these draft objectives have been developed they would be circulated for further discussion.

The Tembe lodge representative indicated in terms of the objectives that the ratio of attraction between eco-tourism and cultural attractions is 95 to 5 %. Cultural is a small component but still important for branding and should be seen as complimentary.

10. SWOT

Strengths:
1. Conservation
2. Big Ivory genetic pool
3. Sense of place
4. Big Five area
5. Wilderness experience
6. Non-commercial character of the park
7. Big population of Suni
8. Endemic plants
9. Low crime area (inside the park)
10. Rich invertebrate population
11. Well established tourism route (Also an opportunity)
12. Strong Tembe Brand
13. Clean area surrounding and in the park
14. Tourism hospitality and staff of Tembe well trained
15. Educated staff?
16. Location close to Nhulilo and other protected area
17. Not too many people and traffic in the park

Weaknesses:
1. Lack of human resources
2. Limited financial resources
3. Poaching
4. Location far away from main tourism centres
5. Cross border issues including immigration, law enforcement and tourism access (Also an opportunity)
6. The park is too small
7. Not a good relationship between management and the communities (opportunities)
8. Water poor area (include problems with potable water) – opportunity to expand the park to the west to the Pongolo River and floodplains (Biggest pans on the Futi are outside the park)

Opportunity:
1. TFCA – expansion opportunities (Links with other Protected Areas)
2. Relationship with community
3. Revival of historic and cultural bonds across the border
4. Environmental education and awareness (roll out TUT program to Tembe)
5. Park expansion opportunities (partnership with communities) (Also outside of TFCA)
6. If more rangers are employed from the local communities – these people know poachers and area well

Threats:
1. Fracking (potential threat)
2. Eskom power lines through park (one of proposed routes for line through the Makatini Flats)
3. Lack of clarity of government structures – roles and functions (Ingonyama trust, isiVuna etc)
4. Malaria area
5. Human/Wildlife Conflict
6. Fire (Arson)
7. Diseases of game and domestic cattle
8. Crime in region (Contraband, illegal immigrants, hijackings outside the Park)
9. Redline is a threat to expansion (threat to southern expansion) TEP is in a surveillance zone for Foot and Mouth disease
The following questions/comments were raised by the community:

- How do the community get the opportunity in Ezemvelo KZN Wildlife
- This could stimulate voluntary work
- What happen when a lion get out of the park and destroy cattle

Richard Penn Sawyers responded in terms of opportunities to say that between Nduvu and Tembe Ezemvelo have 100 rhino ambassadors. (One opportunity)
He also indicated that there is a process to claim compensation for damage/loss due to human/wildlife conflict. This process allows for claims for animals that were introduced and not for example leopard that still occurs naturally. If a claim is confirmed an Ezemvelo staff member will go out to make sure it is a lion that killed the animal and not a dog. It was decided that the human animal conflict/advice/discussions could take place outside of this meeting and Richard indicated his willingness to assist.

The community again appreciated the opportunity to be enlightened about certain things in TEP and they also want to find out what they can report back to the community about the meeting. He indicated that even though there is some employment there are other people that are still left behind. This is because people have been taken spread across the different Nduvas. Richard indicated that the opportunities were equally distributed between the 15 Nduvas.

11. Management issues

1. Training of community
2. Human/Wildlife conflict
3. Distribution of job opportunities
4. Lack of economic growth in the region – rooted in the fact that one industry is regulated by another. The example was given by the Tembe Lodge representative that you get conservationist (with no track record of business success) that have to deal with the economic and tourism side of things. He also indicated that authority is also a problem and they are suing iSiVuna and Ingonyama Trust and these parties are not present at the stakeholder meeting. He indicated that we need to have competent assistance in economic planning. Peter Coulson indicated that tourism and conservation in Ezemvelo has been split because you need a totally different set of skills for the two areas.
5. Intention for a Tourism Development plan and IDP for TFCA in process where we could link in and regional and corridor issues. (Between December and March) The Tembe Lodge representative indicated that we should look at tourism in the park in a catalytic way as an example for the bigger development outside the park. Richard indicated that partnership with the community is crucial for this. The provincial coordinator for TFCA indicated that he is of the opinion that business tourism is a sensitive subject and that a
meeting should be arranged to deal with this in depth. The Tembe Lodge representative indicated that these things require urgent attention and that there should be short and medium term plans to address this issue. Richard indicated that the management plan is important but that the Concept Development Plan is also crucial. (Subsidiary plan to management plan)

6. Poverty

12. Way forward

The process was explained and also the provisional time frames as well as how people can further participate in the process. It is recognised that and additional stakeholder meeting is required. The meeting will not be advertised again in newspapers but the management team will assist us to reach all stakeholders. Tom indicated that he will serve as a point of contact with community.

Mr P Landers made the following statement on behalf of the community:

Mr Landers indicated that much of what he was going to say has already been said. He indicated that the two major concerns from the community is lack of employment and poverty. He indicated that in this sea of poverty there is some island which is profitable.

He indicated that the Tembe lodge employs approximately 40 people at annually and approximate amount of R 2 000 000 is filtered down to the community from tips and income, which is a massive addition to the economy. This money is used to buy things that most people take for granted (e.g. food, school fees etc.).

The community wants to place on the future agenda and for serious consideration by the Board the expanding of the number of lodges. To use the same words it is exponential. For every lodge that is run successfully you get R 2 000 000 going to the community. He emphasised that the key word is “successfully”, you cannot just hand it to tenderpreneurs, to put up a lodge and run a successful business is hard work. You need to have people who know what they do to run it. It appears to be the one sure fire way where money will filter down to the people. It is not a hand out or a government tax hand out, it is hard work that’s done and they get rewarded for their hard work and decency through tips and other means. The request is therefore made that this issue be placed on the agenda and that serious thought be given to expanding the number of lodges.

13. Closure

Everyone was thanked for participating in the meeting.
Tembe Elephant Park
Second Stakeholder Workshop
25 February 2014

Agenda

1. Opening & Welcome
2. Purpose of the Protected Area Management Plan
3. The management planning process
4. Review of the Values of TEP
5. Review of the Vision of TEP
6. Review of the Objectives of TEP
7. SWOT analysis
8. General
9. Way forward
1. Opening & Welcome
The chairperson welcomed everyone present and gave everyone opportunity for introductions. It was indicated that translation will take place throughout the meeting and that everyone should feel free to contribute to the meeting as the purpose of the meeting was to get input from stakeholders into the review of the protected area management plan. The agenda was then explained and confirmed.

2. Purpose of the Protected Area Management Plan
- Compliance with the National Environmental Management: Protected Areas Act (No.57 of 2003).
- Strategic tool for management
- Motivations for budgets and indicators that the budget is spent correctly.
- Build accountability into the management
- Ensure protection of values and the purpose for which it was established are protected.

3. The management planning process
It was firstly explained that even though the management plan exist and this is a review process, we follow the same step than for the development of a new management plan. The reason for this is that Ezemvelo developed norms and standards for the development of management plan in line with the national norms and standards. During this process the format used for the management plan has changed substantially from previous plans and therefore we go through a similar process as for a new plan. The 3 steps of the management planning process were explained. From the situational analysis where info is gathered and key issues are identified. To the preparation of the draft management plan where the vision and objectives are drafted and management interventions developed in order to address the issues that we identified. The draft plan is then made available for public review. The final management plan is developed after consideration of all comments received during the public consultation period and the plan is submitted for public review.

It was explained that the plan will be published for public review through provincial and local newspapers, hard copies where required will be made available in various locations as stipulated in the newspaper and stakeholders will be informed about where they could view the document.

4. Review of the Values of TEP
It was explained that values are those remarkable attributes that exemplify an area and are largely the reason that it has been proclaimed as a protected area. They are
important in planning and management, as they are the aspects of the place that must be protected.

Natural values:

- One of three original elephant populations in SA
- Largest population of Suni in SA
- Conserve elements of IUCN recognised Maputaland Centre of Plant Endemism (and associated animals)
- Diverse butterflies and other insects
- TEP is a core protected area within the Maputaland Centre of Plant Endemism, the Usuthu-Tembe-Futi Transfrontier Conservation Area and the greater Maputaland-Pondoland-Albany system (internationally recognised — Conservation “hotspot”); and
- Unique birdlife associated with “Centre for Endemism” endemics and Eastern Coastal Bird Area

It was debated whether the sand forest should be highlighted as a natural value due to its importance. It was agreed that the sand forest value was encapsulated in the value where elements of the Maputaland Centre of Endemism (and associated animals).

A similar question was raised in terms of highlighting rhino as an important species for the sake of branding. The Conservation Manager indicated that in terms of branding the park is known as an elephant park.

A question was raised about the potential opportunity to introduce animals that may be threatened; the example was given of the wild dog introductions that were made into Tembe. It was indicated that Tembe is part of a Meta population management strategy for certain threatened species. It was explained that if any of these threatened species such as wild dogs negatively impact on for example Suni which is a priority species for Tembe, they would have to adapt management in favour of the priority species for Tembe. There is a hierarchy in terms of biodiversity objectives for the park and this need to be considered with any management decisions.

Cultural Heritage values:

- Relationship between people and the environment (isifonyo fishing, wild fruit utilisation (marula festivals, palm wine, monkey oranges etc.) and the importance of fish.
- The unique Thonga culture and customs (Ndau spirit possession, importance of mother’s brother, settlement rules.)
- Thonga language
- Border identities and character (Thonga, Swazi, Zulu).
- Frontier life style of the local people – kin on both sides of the border, trade across borders, border markets etc.
The history of the various Traditional Authorities in the area.
The settlement history of the area.
The influx of refugees during the Zulu Wars (1815) and later during the Mozambican War (1975-1992) and the influence it has had on local customs.
The political history – splitting of a nation (International boundary line – McMahon Award).
The history of conservation and the role the region has played.

We need to add fish kraals under these values as this also a tourist attraction and part of living heritage. Integrate the ways in which people are using natural resources in the wetland systems including isifonyo and fishkraals. Tourism and these living heritage activities could be linked. Also include monkey oranges.

A comment was also made that the people in the area do not choose to do subsistence living but they do so because of a lack of jobs, poverty etc.

The community also raised the area in the park that was under the old Nduna should also be recognised as a cultural value. It was indicated that some of these sites have been recorded in the theses that R Kloppers did.

Socio-economic values:
- Recognition of conservation as viable and sustainable land use option.
- Wilderness nature of area.
- Part of a larger TFCA eco-cultural tourism development area. Unique biodiversity assets as part of guest experience.
- Big five area
- Investment opportunities for local entrepreneurs.
- Important role in eco-cultural tourism development both within South Africa and Mozambique.
- Employment opportunities

A question was raised about where the tourism development detailed will be unpacked. It was indicated that the principles for tourism development as well as the zonation would be dealt with in the management plan; the details regarding the tourism development will be unpacked in the Concept development plan. (Subsidiary plan to the management plan) The financial component in the management plan includes an approximate costing and will be expanded and linked to the annual plan of operation in order to develop protected area budgets.

Partnership values:
- Keep people safe from elephants and lions.
• Serve an important role for conservation and regional economic empowerment through partnership agreements.
• Key stakeholder in planning initiatives with Transfrontier Conservation Area (TFCA), District and Local Municipalities, Amafa, private and communal initiatives.
• Economic benefit flow to Tembe people from sustainable resource use.
• Integrated planning and resource utilisation.
• Catalyst for biodiversity conservation, cultural heritage management and ecotourism development to form part of a consolidated conservation area.

5. Review of the Vision of TEP

To realise sustained benefits to the Tembe people through sound resource management by maintaining the ecological integrity and cultural values of TEP, while conserving the Sand Forest, associated biodiversity and Tembe elephants, through:

- ecological partnerships based on land,
- sustainable tourism, and
- environmental education,

appropriate to the character and inherent values of the Park.

The community indicated that they would like to see opportunities created and benefits to the community and would like to see this come across in the vision. They also supported the highlighting of environmental education in the vision. They also indicated that there should in future be a sense of ownership as well as more involvement in the management of the park. That will ensure that the community cannot blame anyone when something goes wrong because they are fully integrated partners. They also indicated that they want to be the responsible for things such as deciding on the commercialization of the park. It was emphasised that this could only happen through an effective partnership. The uMkanyakude municipality indicated that we see Tembe Elephant Park as an economic asset but that we have encourage participation in order to realize job creation and other objectives. It was indicated that since elephants and sand forests were highlighted in the vision they should also be highlighted under the natural values. There was no consensus in terms of this as some people felt that biodiversity contains all the natural features and that we do not need to list them. Others felt strongly that we should list the main features and specifically sand forest and elephants and Suni. Ernest indicated that in the previous workshops with the development of the previous plans the number of jobs to be created was set at 500 and that number was left out of the management plan. Similarly there was agreement on the tourism side and that was left out of the management plan. He indicated that in 2011 President Zuma set a national tourism job target and according to Ernest that works out to 1000 jobs for Tembe. He raised the question whether the management plan needs to be in harmony with government policy and goals. He feels that the private sector
community owned operator in the park do not get the support to implement these government goals. Ernest indicated that he feels that he would like to see a specific target for job creation in the management plan. It was indicated that that could not be done before we have looked at which activities could be sustainable in the TEP and for the moment we need to highlight the need for this exercise. Job creation was highlighted and the main concern from the community and private sectors.

6. Review of the Objectives of TEP

Legal compliance and law enforcement

*Comply with and enforce legislation pertaining to the protection, development and management of TEP.*

Stakeholder engagement

The provision of socio-economic benefits (benefit flow) to the Park's neighbours and to contribute to the local economy and the efforts of conservation in a sustainable manner based on sound business principles. (MO3)

*Enable and maintain effective stakeholder relations through communication and collaboration.*

Buffer zone protection and regional management

The formation of functional partnerships to integrate the TEP with regional development plans and the Usuthu-Tembe-Futti Transfrontier Conservation Area initiatives, and other initiatives which underwrite the vision of TEP. (MO2)

*Protect the biodiversity and cultural assets of TEP by promoting compatible land-use and activities in areas surrounding the nature reserve.*

Eco-cultural tourism

The provision of eco-cultural tourism business opportunities in the natural and cultural environment based within the influence sphere of TEP. (MO4)

*Maintain sustainable eco-cultural tourism in TEP to provide a high quality visitor experience whilst promoting the natural and cultural values of the reserve.*

It was requested that job creation opportunities be added to the above objective.

Cultural heritage management

Ensure the protection and public appreciation of all cultural and heritage resources within the Park in accordance with statutory regulations.

Conservation management

Conservation of key biodiversity features, biophysical processes, landscapes and abiotic features.

*Protect the ecological integrity of TEP through active interventions based on principles of adaptive management.*

Operations management
Provide adequate human resources, equipment, infrastructure and funding to enable the effective protection, development and management of TEP.

It was highlighted that the park should generate funds for itself and its neighbours and should therefore include benefit sharing. Conservation should pay for itself in the end to be sustainable.

It was also indicated that the management structure of the park should also be reviewed in order to see if it is sufficient to implement the management plan. The communities indicated that they would want to be more involved in the decision making process and especially in terms of commercial activities in the park.

7. SWOT analysis

Strengths

- Conservation
- Big ivory genetic pool
- Sense of place
- Big Five area
- Wilderness experience
- Non-commercial character of the park – The wilderness experience needs to be maintained. That does not exclude commercial operations but can be managed in terms of operations in the park and keeping the appearance of wilderness.
- Big population of Suni and association with Sand forest
- Endemic plants
- Low crime area (inside the park)
- Rich invertebrate population
- Well established tourism route (Also an opportunity). This was disputed and it was indicated that the route was created by Tembe and that there is not a well-established route. The East 3 route (R22) is potentially something that Tembe could link into it and benefit from regional tourism initiatives.
- Thembari indicated that Tembe are not included in East 3 route. These opportunities need to be investigated.
- Strong Tembe Brand
- Clean area surrounding and in the park
- Tourism hospitality and staff of Tembe well trained
- Staff capacity
- Location close to Ndumo and other protected areas
- Not too many people and traffic in the park
- Tourism hospitality and staff of Tembe well trained
- Staff capacity
- Location close to Ndumo and other protected areas
- Not too many people and traffic in the park
- The TFCA Conservation Area and the opportunities that goes with it.
Weaknesses

- Lack of human resources. Vacancies over the past couple of years have not been filled.
- Limited financial resources. One of the stakeholders felt that there is a lack of will to implement tourism in TEP.
- Lack of sense of ownership because of access issues
- Poaching
- Location far away from main tourism centres. (This is actually a strength if you look at the guest profiles)
- Cross border issues including immigration, law enforcement and tourism access (Also an opportunity)
- The park is too small
- Not a good relationship between management and the communities (opportunities). There are various community forums and there is a need to look and agree with communities the way forward in terms of communication channels with communities.
- Water poor area (include problems with potable water) – opportunity to expand the park to the west to the Pongola River and floodplains (Biggest pans on the Futi are outside the park)

Opportunities

- TFCA – expansion opportunities (Links with other Protected Areas)
- Relationship with community
- Revival of historical and cultural bonds across the border
- Environmental education and awareness (roll out TUT program to Tembe)
- Park expansion opportunities (partnership with communities) (Also outside of TFCA)
- If more rangers are employed from the local communities – these people know poachers and area well.
- Sustainable job opportunities need to be created.
- Park expansion could lead to more tourism opportunities.

Threats

- Fracking (potential threat)
- Eskom power lines through park (one of proposed routes for line through the Makatini Flats)
- Lack of clarity of government structures - roles and functions (Ingonyama trust, isiVuna etc)
- Malaria area
- Human/Wildlife Conflict
- Fire (Arson)
- Diseases of game and domestic cattle
- Crime in region (Contraband, illegal immigrants, hijackings outside the Park)
- Redline is a threat to expansion (threat to southern expansion), TEP is in a surveillance zone for Foot and Mouth disease.
The community stated that they need an agreement with management to have consistency even if there is change in staff. The management plan could provide this consistency. The relationship with communities is currently fragmented and changes over time. The importance of communication between the management and the community need to be strengthened and it is important that the promises or commitments that are made are fulfilled.

Way forward

It was explained that after the stakeholder workshop, the draft plan would be developed and made available for public review. The public will be allowed 21 days to submit written comments on the draft plan. The comments would then be considered for incorporation into the plan and a response prepared. Info on where to find the draft plan would be advertised in local and provincial papers and communicated through the Community conservation officer. A question was raised about who would monitor the implementation of the management plan and the accountability aspect that is facilitated through the management plan was discussed and how it link into the annual plan of operation.
## ATTENDANCE REGISTER OF THE PUBLIC STAKEHOLDER WORKSHOP

**ATTENDANCE REGISTER**
**TEMBE ELEPHANT PARK STAKEHOLDER WORKSHOP**
**26th November 2013 – 10:00am**

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## TEMBE ELEPHANT PARK
### REVIEW OF PROTECTED AREA MANAGEMENT PLAN
#### STAKEHOLDER WORKSHOP
##### 25 February 2014

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# ATTENDANCE REGISTER

**Peace Parks Foundation Meeting**  
1st April 2014

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**TENBE ELEPHANT PARK**  
**PROTECTED AREA MANAGEMENT PLAN – PUBLIC PARTICIPATION REPORT**  
53
Tembe Elephant Park
Management Plan Review
24 January 2014

Why PAMPS
• Compliance with the National Environmental Management: Protected Areas Act (No.57 of 2003).
• Strategic tool for management
• Motivations for budgets and indicators that the budget is spent correctly.
• Build accountability into the management
• Ensure protection of values and the purpose for which it was established are protected.

Management Planning Process
Situational Analysis
• Info gathering
• ID key issues
Preparation of Draft Management Plan
• Vision & objectives
• Key performance areas
• Management issues, challenges and opportunities
• Strategic outcomes
• Operational management framework

Finalisation and adoption of Management Plan
• Final Plan draft
• External approval
• Submit to Board and NRE for approval

Why PAMPS
• Why PAMPS
• The management planning process
• Management plan structure
• Values
• Vision
• Objectives
• SWOT
• Management issues
• Way forward
Values

- remarkable attributes
- exemplify an area
- largely the reason that it has been proclaimed as a protected area.

Values are important in planning and management, as they are the aspects of the place that must be protected.

Values

- Biodiversity and natural heritage values
- One of the three original elephant populations in SA
- Largest population of Sivu in SA
- Conserves elements of IUCN recognized Maputaland Centre of Plant Endemism (and associated animals)
- Diverse butterflies and other insects
- TEP is a core protection area within the Maputaland Centre of Plant Endemism, the Usuthu-Maputu-Fiume Transfrontier Conservation Area and the greater Maputaland-Pondoland-Albany system
- Internationally recognized – Conservation International
- "Hotspot" listed
- Unique biodiversity associated with “Centre for Endemism” endemics and Eastern Coastal Bird area.

Values

- Relationship between people and the environment (isinyo fishing, wild fruit utilisation, imvela festivals, palm wine, monkey oranges etc.) and the importance of fish
- The unique Thonga culture and customs (Ntawu spirit possession, importance of mother’s brother, settlement rules)
- Thonga language
- Border identities and character (Thonga, Swazi, Zulu)
- Frontier life style of the local people – kin on both sides of the border, trade across borders, border markets etc.

Values

- The history of the various Traditional Authorities in the area
- The settlement history of the area.
- The influx of refugees during the Zulu Wars (1815) and later during the Boer War (1899-1902) and the influence it has had on local customs.
- The political history - splitting of a nation (international boundary line - Maputo Shores Award)
- The history of conservation and the role the region has played.

Tembe Elephant Park

- in a nutshell

TEP Facts:
- proclaimed 1981
- 1991
- 1999
- 2005
- 2003
- 2010
- 2011

Located on the eastern border of the KwaZulu-Natal Province of the Republic of South Africa, on the border with Mozambique.

Background:
- The TEP is a core conservation area part of the Usuthu-Maputu-Fiume Transfrontier Conservation Area
- TEP is part of a multi-country transfrontier conservation agreement
- TEP is part of the KwaZulu-Natal-Mozambique Ecotourism project.

Management Plan Structure

- Operational Management Framework
  - Administrative framework
  - Management activity
  - Management framework
    - Management targets
    - Monitoring and report
    - Annual plan of operations
    - Management effectiveness review

Values

- Cultural heritage values
- The history of the various Traditional Authorities in the area
- The settlement history of the area.
- The influx of refugees during the Zulu Wars (1815) and later during the Boer War (1899-1902) and the influence it has had on local customs.
- The political history - splitting of a nation (international boundary line - Maputo Shores Award).
- The history of conservation and the role the region has played.
Values

- Recognition of conservation as visible and sustainable land use option.
- Wilderness nature of area.
- Part of a larger TFCA eco-cultural tourism development area.
- Unique biodiversity assets as part of guest experience.
- Big five area.
- Investment opportunities for local entrepreneurs.
- Important role in eco-cultural tourism development both within South Africa and Mozambique.
- Employment opportunities

Values

- Keep people safe from elephants and lions.
- Serve an important role for conservation and regional economic empowerment through partnership agreements.
- Key stakeholder in planning initiatives with Transfrontier Conservation Area (TFCA), District and Local Municipalities, Amadas, private and communal initiatives.
- Economic benefit flow to Tembe people from sustainable resource (consumptive and non-consumptive) use.
- Integrated planning and resource utilisation.
- Catalyst for biodiversity conservation, cultural heritage management and ecotourism development to form part of a consolidated conservation area.

Vision

To realise sustained benefits to the Tembe people through sound resource management by maintaining the ecological integrity and cultural values of TEP, while conserving the Sand Forest, associated biodiversity and tembe elephants, through:

- Ecological partnerships based on land,
- Sustainable tourism, and
- Environmental education,

appropriate to the character and inherent values of the Park.

Mission

A commitment to sustainably utilise, manage and conserve the natural and cultural resources of the Tembe Elephant Park, based on sound environmental principles, that benefit both the visitor and Tembe community in an equitable manner.

Objectives

- MO 1: Conservation of key biodiversity features, biophysical processes, landscape, abiotic, cultural, historical, archaeological and palaeontological resources.
- MO 2: The formation of functional partnerships to integrate the TEP with regional development plans and the Umlondo-Tembe-Fufo-Transfrontier Conservation Area Initiatives, and other initiatives which underwrite the vision of TEP.
- MO 3: The provision of socio-economic benefits (benefit flow) to the Park’s neighbours and to contribute to the local economy and the effort of conservation in a sustainable manner based on sound business principles (ELEPW Business Plan).
- MO 4: The provision of eco-cultural tourism business opportunities in the natural and cultural environment based within the influence sphere of TEP.
Strengths

- Conservation
- Big herbivore gene pool
- Sense of place
- Big Five area
- Wilderness experience
- Non-commercial character of the park
- Big population of taxa
- Endemic plants
- Low crime rate (inside the park)
- Rich biodiversity
- Well-established tourism route (also an opportunity)
- Strong TEBE brand
- Clean area surrounding and in the park
- Tourism hospitality and staff at TEBE well trained
- Staff capacity
- Location close to Molopo and other protected areas
- Not too many people and traffic in the park

Weaknesses

- Lack of human resources
- Limited financial resources
- Fishing
- Location far away from main tourist centres
- Cross-border issues including illegal transport, law enforcement and border access (data opportunity)
- The park is small
- Limited relationship between management and the communities (opportunities)
- Water poor area (include problems with potable water) - opportunity to expand the park to the west (in the Kongolo River floodplains)
- Allergies outside the park

Opportunities

- TCA - exploration opportunities
- Links with other Protected Areas
- Relationship with community
- Renewal of historical and cultural bonds across the border
- Environmental education and awareness outreach (book programs to schools)
- Park expansion opportunities (partnership with communities) (also outside of TCA)
- If more targets are employed from the local communities - these people now lead the area well

Threats

- Fracking - potential threat
- Elephants enter through park (one of proposed routes for line through the mountain range)
- Lack of clarity of government structures - rules and functions
- Economic threats - drought, floods, etc.
- Agriculture
- Human/Wildlife Conflict
- Fire
- Marauding parrots
- Stakes in game and domestic cattle
- Crime in region (Communist, illegal immigration, workshops outside the Park)
- Roadlines is a threat to expansion (clear to southern expansion) TEP is in a surveillance zone for frost and poaching disease

Management Issues

- Buffer Zone and regional management
- Zonation
- Concept Development Plan
- Eco-tourism / Job creation
- Input into planning documents
- Access, marketing, branding

Way forward

- Stakeholder Workshop
- Develop draft plan
- Publish review
- 25 February 2014, TEBE Elephant Park Board Room
Way forward

Consider comments
Develop final plan
Submit plan for approval

Thank You
Purpose of the meeting

- Determine the relevance of values, vision and objectives (as per the previous plan)
- Identify issues that need to be addressed in the management plan and management interventions required

Why PAMPS

- Compliance with the National Environmental Management: Protected Areas Act (No.57 of 2003)
- Strategic tool for management
- Mechanism for budgets and indicators that the budget is spent correctly
- Build accountability into the management
- Ensure protection of values and the purpose for which it was established are protected

Agenda

- Opening and welcome
- Purpose of the meeting
- Why PAMPS
- The management planning process
- Management plan structure
- Values
- Vision
- Objectives
- SWOT
- Management issues
- Way forward
- Closure

Management Planning Process

- Initial scoping
- Prepare draft management plan
- Situational analysis
- Focused scoping
- Incorporate stakeholders
- Draft management plan
- Public review
- Finalisation and adoption of management plan
- Finalised plan
- Operational framework
- Management plan to be enacted and monitored by stakeholders
Management Plan Structure

Establishment of Context
- Introduction
- Description of a problem
- Management issues, challenges, and opportunities

Strategic Management Framework

Values
- Remarkable attributes
- Extends an area
- Largely the reason that it has been proclaimed as a protected area.

Values are important in planning and management, as they are the aspects of the place that must be protected.

Management Plan Structure

Operational Management Framework

Values
- Biodiversity and natural heritage values
- One of three original elephant populations in SA
- Largest population of SA in SA
- Gariep Dam area of SMR (recognised as a special area for elephants and associated animals)
- Diverse bioclimates and other factors
- Home to both protected areas within the International Centred Plant Endemism, the Bioclimatic Tembe-Poti Transition Conservation area and the greater Madikwe Biological Diversity
- Intra-Tropical mountain ranges
- Intra-Tropical mountain ranges
- Intra-Tropical mountain ranges
- Intra-Tropical mountains
- Intra-Tropical mountains
- Intra-Tropical mountains
- Intra-Tropical mountains
Values

Cultural heritage values
- Relationship between people and the environment (lifestyle thinking, ritual that utilisation impacts, traditional beliefs, panther spirit possession, importance of mother's breast, sedentary nature, etc., and the importance of fires.
- The ancient Tembe culture and customs (Westu, spirit possession, importance of mother's breast, sedentary nature, etc., and the importance of fires.
- The Tembe language.
- Territory identification and character (Tembe, Smuts, landscape, etc.).
- Pre-colonial life style of the local people - lives on both sides of the border, trade across borders, border markets, etc.

Values

Cultural heritage values
- The history of various local communities in the area.
- The settlement history of the area.
- The history of refugees during the Zulu Wars (1812) and the Impact of the Mopane War (1875-1892) and the influence it has had on local communities.
- The history of the Tembe people - Mpande - Tembe (tribal identity) - King Tembe.
- The history of conservation and the role the region has played.

Vision

To realise the potential benefits to the Tembe people through sustainable resource management by maintaining the ecological integrity and cultural values of TEP, while conserving the Sand Forest, associated biodiversity and Tembe elephants, through:
- Ecological partnerships based on land, sustainable tourism, and environmental education, appropriate to the character and scale of values of the Park.

Mission

A commitment to sustainably utilise, manage and conserve the natural and cultural resources of the Tembe Elephant Park, based on sound environmental principles, that benefit both the visitor and Tembe community in an equitable manner.
Objectives

NO 1. Conservation of key biodiversity features, biophysical processes, landscapes, ethics, cultural, historical, archaeological and palaeontological resources.

NO 2. The formation of functional partnerships to integrate the "THP" with regional development plans and the Southern Africa-Fund Trustee Conservation Areas initiatives, and other initiatives which underwrite the vision of "THP".

NO 3. The provision of socio-economic benefits derived from the Park's activities and to contribute to the local economy and the efforts of conservation in a sustainable manner, based on sound business principles (SANW Business Plan).

NO 4. The provision of recreational tourism business opportunities in the secured and cultural environment based within the influence sphere of "THP".

Weaknesses

• Lack of human resources
• Limited financial resources
• Funding
• Location away from major traffic centers
• Cross-border issues including immigration, law enforcement and tourism access (lose an oppurtunity)
• The park is too small
• Lack of participatory business management, and the communities opportunities
• Waste poor area (slum areas problems with possible water) - opportunity to expand the park to the next to the Pongola River and Twelaphaka (biggest) park on the Park are outside the park.

Opportunities

• TCA - expand opportunities (links with other Protected Areas)
• Relationship with community
• Revival of historical and cultural bands across the border
• Environmental education and awareness (roll out TIG program to communities)
• Park expansion opportunities (partnership with communities) (also outside of TCA)
• If income-earners are employed from the local communities - these people wear practices and act well

Strengths

• Conservation
• Big hut genetics pool
• Source of place
• Big Fire area
• Wildlife experience
• High commercial character of the park
• Big population of Suri
• Endemic plants
• Low crime area (inside the park)
• High institutional population
• Well established tourism route (also an opportunity)
• Strong Tembe Brand
• Location close to Maruleng and other protected area
• Not too-white people and traffic in the park

Threats

• Fracking (potential threat)
• Development taken through park (some of proposed routes for the highway)
• Lack of clarity of government structures - roles and functions (department tourism, village, etc
• Outlaw’s area
• Human-Wildlife Conflict
• Disease of game and domestic cattle
• Crime in region (contraband, caffeine, hardwoods,· bootlegging outside the Park)
• Refuse in a threat to expansion (threat to southern expansion) TIG is a surveillance zone for fish and mollusks

2014/09/12

TEMBE ELEPHANT PARK
PROTECTED AREA MANAGEMENT PLAN – PUBLIC PARTICIPATION REPORT

4
Management Issues

- Tinking of community
- Human-Wildlife conflicts
- Implementation of Zoning/Conservation
- Implementation of areas of opportunity
- Implementation of plans and strategies

Way forward

- Consolidate comments
- Develop draft plan
- Publish review

Way forward

- Consider comments
- Develop final plan
- Submit plan for approval

Thank You
Tembe Elephant Park Management Plan Review
25 February 2014

Management Planning Process

Agenda
- Opening & Welcome
- Purpose of the Protected Area Management Plan
- The management planning process
- Review of the Values of TEP
- Review of the Vision of TEP
- Review of the Objectives of TEP
- SWOT analysis
- General
- Way forward

Values
- remarkable attributes
- encompass an area
- largely the reason that it has been proclaimed as a protected area

Values are important in planning and management, as they are the aspects of the place that must be protected.

Purpose of Protected Area Management Plans
- Comply with the National Environmental Management: Protected Areas Act (No.57 of 2003)
- Strategic tool for management
- Motivations for budgets and indicators that the budget is spent correctly
- Build accountability into the management
- Ensure protection of values and the purpose for which it was established are protected.

Natural Values
- One of three original elephant populations in SA
- Largest population of Suri in SA
- Conserves elements of IUCN recognised Mispataland Centre of Plant Endemism (and associated animals)
- Diverse butterflies and other insects
Natural Values (Continue)

- TEP is a core protected area within the Maputaland Centre of Plant Endemism, the Musulu-Tembu-Pumula Transfrontier Conservation Area, and the greater Maputaland-Pondoland-Albany system (internationally recognized as Conservation ‘hotspot’).
- Unique biodiversity associated with “Centre for Endemism” endemics and Eastern Coastal Biome Area.

Cultural Heritage Values (Continue)

- The history of the various Traditional Authorities in the area.
- The settlement history of the area.
- The influx of refugees during the Zulu Wars (1815) and later during the Boer War (1878-1879), and the influence it has had on local customs.

Cultural Heritage Values (Continue)

- Relationship between people and the environment (isimena fishing, wild fruit utilisation: mbaula festivity; palm wine; monkey oranges etc.) and the importance of fish.
- The unique Thonga culture and customs (nkana spirit possession, importance of mother’s brother, settlement rules).

Cultural Heritage Values (Continue)

- The political history – splitting of a nation (International boundary line – Maputaland-Award).
- The history of conservation and the role the region has played.

Cultural Heritage Values (Continue)

- Thonga Language
- Border identities and character (Thonga, Swazi, Zulu)
- Frontier lifestyle of the local people – life on both sides of the border, trade across borders, border markets etc.

Socio-economic Values

- Recognition of conservation as viable and sustainable land use option.
- Wilderness nature of area.
- Part of a larger TFCA eco-cultural tourism development area.
Socio-economic Values (Continue)
- Unique biodiversity as part of guest experience.
- Big five area.
- Investment opportunities for local entrepreneurs.

Partnership Values (Continue)
- Economic benefit flow to Tembe people from sustainable resource use.
- Integrated planning and resource utilisation.
- Catalysing for biodiversity conservation, culture heritage management and ecotourism development to form part of a consolidated conservation area.

Socio-economic Values (Continue)
- Important role in eco-cultural tourism development both within South Africa and Mozambique.
- Employment opportunities.

Vision
To realise sustained benefits to the Tembe people through sound resource management by maintaining the ecological integrity and cultural values of TEP, while conserving the Sand Forest, associated biodiversity and Tembe elephants, through:
- Ecological partnerships based on land.
- Sustainable tourism, and
- Environmental education.

Partner ship Values
- Keep people safe from elephants and lions.
- Serve an important role for conservation and regional economic empowerment through partnership agreements.
- Key stakeholder in planning initiatives with Transfrontier Conservation Area (TFCA), Local and Local Municipalities, Amatu, private and communal initiatives.

Objectives
MO 1: Conservation of key biodiversity features, biophysical processes, landscapes, abiotic, cultural, historical, archaeological and palaeontological resources.
MO 2: The formation of functional partnerships to integrate the TEP within regional development plans and the Ukhulu-Tsaukuba-Transfrontier Conservation Area initiatives and other initiatives which underwrite the vision of TEP.
Objectives (Continue)

MO 3: The provision of socio-economic benefits (benefit flow) to the Park’s neighbours and to contribute to the local economy and the efforts of conservation in a sustainable manner based on sound business principles (Environmental Business Plan).

MO 4: The provision of eco-cultural tourism business opportunities to the natural and cultural environment based within the influence sphere of TEP.

Objectives (Continue)

Key Performance Area: Objective

Cultural heritage management

Ensure the protection and public appreciation of all natural and heritage resources within the Park in accordance with established regulations.

Conservation management

Conservation of key biodiversity sites, biophysical processes, landscapes and cultural heritage.

Protect the ecological integrity of TEP through active involvement in local and national regulations.

Operations management

Provide adequate human resource management, infrastructure and funding to enable the effective protection, development and management of TEP.

Objectives (Continue)

Sub Objectives (Prev. plan)

Biodiversity Objectives

- Conservation of Elements of Mapungubwe /Mapungubwe Park /swapo (Global relevance) including TEP Forests as a unique and important habitat type.
- Conservation of Rand (A Rand Data Book species of regional importance and least for TEP’s biodiversity).
- Conservation of one of the three original elephant populations in South Africa.
- To protect endangered, rare and endemic species indigenous to the area as listed by biodiversity elements as identified by C-Plan and the IUCN Red List Data etc.
- Conserve refuges for specifically named community assemblies not of specified conservation concern in terms of per set targets.
Sub Objectives (Prev. plan)

Cultural Objectives
- Safeguard the cultural, historical, archaeological, paleontological and living heritage of the area.
- Minimize threats to the sense of place (retain the wilderness aesthetic and spiritual character 'value of the area (natural boundaries including visual and auditory) threats to the sense of place (retain the wilderness aesthetic value of the area).
- Foster, support, advise and facilitate shared biodiversity and cultural programmes with the Tembe people.
- Facilitate access to cultural heritage sites (graves, archaeological sites, sites of special activities).

Sub Objectives (Prev. plan)

Business Objectives
- Provide economic (financial and other) benefits to the Tembe people from sustainable resource (consumptive and non-consumptive) use in TEP, including protection of eco-tourism.
- Cooperate partnerships on development and conservation programmes so as to maximize funding opportunities from commercial stakeholders.
- Provide a better education experience by capitalizing on the unique biodiversity assets such as sand forest, elephants, wilderness and birds.
- Maximize the quality of staff tourism interactions.

Sub Objectives (Prev. plan)

Benefit Objectives
- Keeping Tembe Community safe from elephants and lions (TEP was proclaimed for this reason).
- Ensure participation of members of the Tembe people through integrated, shared, co-operative working relationships with the Tembe people.
- Play an anchor role in local, regional, national and international development initiatives through joint management agreements to promote the formation of a consolidated conservation area.

SWOT

Strengths
- Conservation
- Big Ivory genetic pool
- Sense of place
- Big Pine area
- Wilderness experience
- Non-commercial character of the park
- Big population of lion
- Endemic plants

Weaknesses

Opportunities

Threats

Sub Objectives (Prev. plan)

Benefit Objectives
- Participate as Key stakeholder in planning initiatives that specifically refer to the protection of Tembe Protected Area Objectives, specifically the following:
  - Usuthu-Tembe-Full FTECA
  - Local Government (LPW)
  - Amakhala
  - Private and Community Initiatives
  - Ensure the sustainability of resource harvesting.
Strengths (Continue)
- Low crime area (inside the park)
- Rich swamp-site population
- Well established tourism route (Also an opportunity)
- Strong Tembe Brand
- Clean area surrounding and in the park

Weaknesses (Continue)
- The park is too small
- Not a good relationship between management and the communities (opportunities)
- Water-poor area (include problems with potable water) — opportunity to expand the park to the west to the Pongola River and floodplains (biggest pans on the Full are outside the park)

Strengths (Continue)
- Tourism hospitality and staff of Tembe well trained
- Staff capacity
- Location close to Nkomo and other protected areas
- Not too many people and traffic in the park

Opportunities
- TFCA – expansion opportunities (Links with other Protected Areas)
- Relationship with community
- Revival of historical and cultural bonds across the border

Weaknesses
- Lack of human resources
- Limited financial resources
- Poaching
- Location far away from main tourism centres
- Critical lack of revenue generating tourism activities (Also an opportunity)

Opportunities (Continue)
- Environmental education and awareness (roll out TUT program to Tembe)
- Park expansion opportunities (partnership with communities) (Also outside of TFCA)
- If rangers are employed from the local communities – these people know poachers and area well
**Threats**

- Floating (potential threat)
- Electric power lines through park (one of proposed routes for line through the Makamatini Plain)
- Lack of clarity of government structures - roles and functions (Kongonyama Trust, ISV/UCA etc.)
- Malians areas
- Human/Wildlife Conflict

**Way Forward**

- Stakeholder Workshop
- 25 February 16:00, Tembe Elephant Park Board Room
- Develop draft plan
- Publish review

**Threats (Continue)**

- Fire (Arson)
- Diseases of game and domestic cattle
- Crime in region (Contraband, illegal immigrants, poaching outside the Farm)
- Redline is a threat to expansion threat to southern expansion. TEFP is in a surveillance zone for Foot and Mouth disease.

**Way Forward (Continue)**

- Consider comments
- Develop final plan
- Submit plan for approval

**General: Other management issues**

- Buffer Zone and regional management
- Zonation
- Concept Development Plan
- Eco-tourism / Job creation
- Input into planning documents
- Access, marketing, branding

**Thank You!**