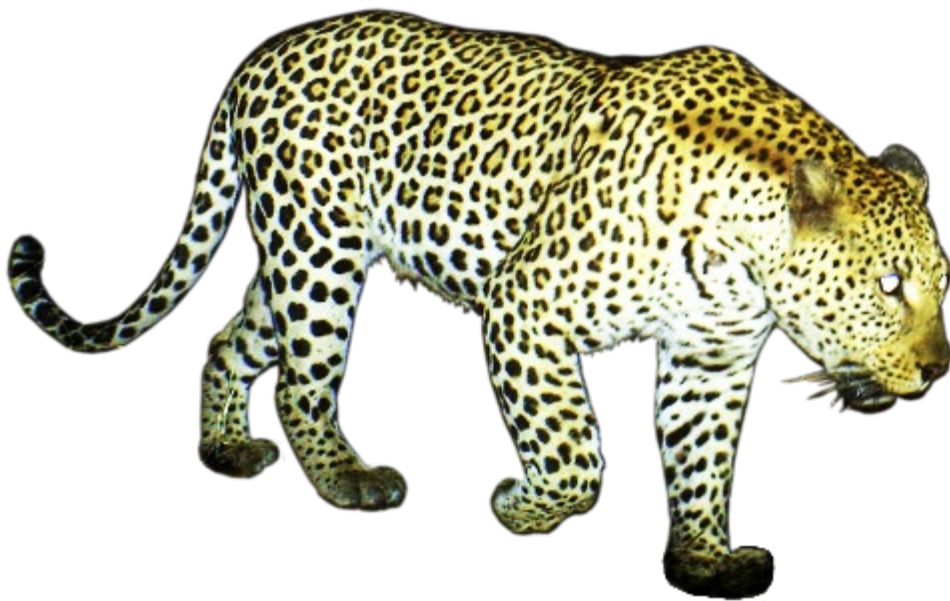


# DAPU Second Period 2022

## Charlton McCallum Safaris

20<sup>th</sup> September 2022



### Tale of the Tape - 9 years

Number of snares	Poachers Dogs shot	Meat Poachers convicted	Elephant poachers convicted.	Weapons retrieved (incl. traditional weapons)	US\$ Rewards paid	Total DAPU Cost
10 627	106	222	23	202	\$55 556	\$995 766

Dear Friends,

The second period of 2022 brought with it some staffing disruptions. However, we came out of it more motivated and better organized! A group of the DAPU staff decided to strike in May 2022, this was a first for us. Their concerns were in fact reasonable and had more to do with the inflationary environment and monthly struggles than anything else and we readily agreed to all of them.

As a new monitoring tool, we deployed Garmin InReach units. The rangers carry them with each patrol which effectively acts as a time book. No daily patrol logs registered, no pay!

We have continued to document and report everything as faithfully and accurately as possible and thank you all for your support and interest in DAPU.

Stay safe,

Myles E. McCallum  
James D. Charlton  
Charles Nondo

Harare, Zimbabwe  
20<sup>th</sup> September 2022

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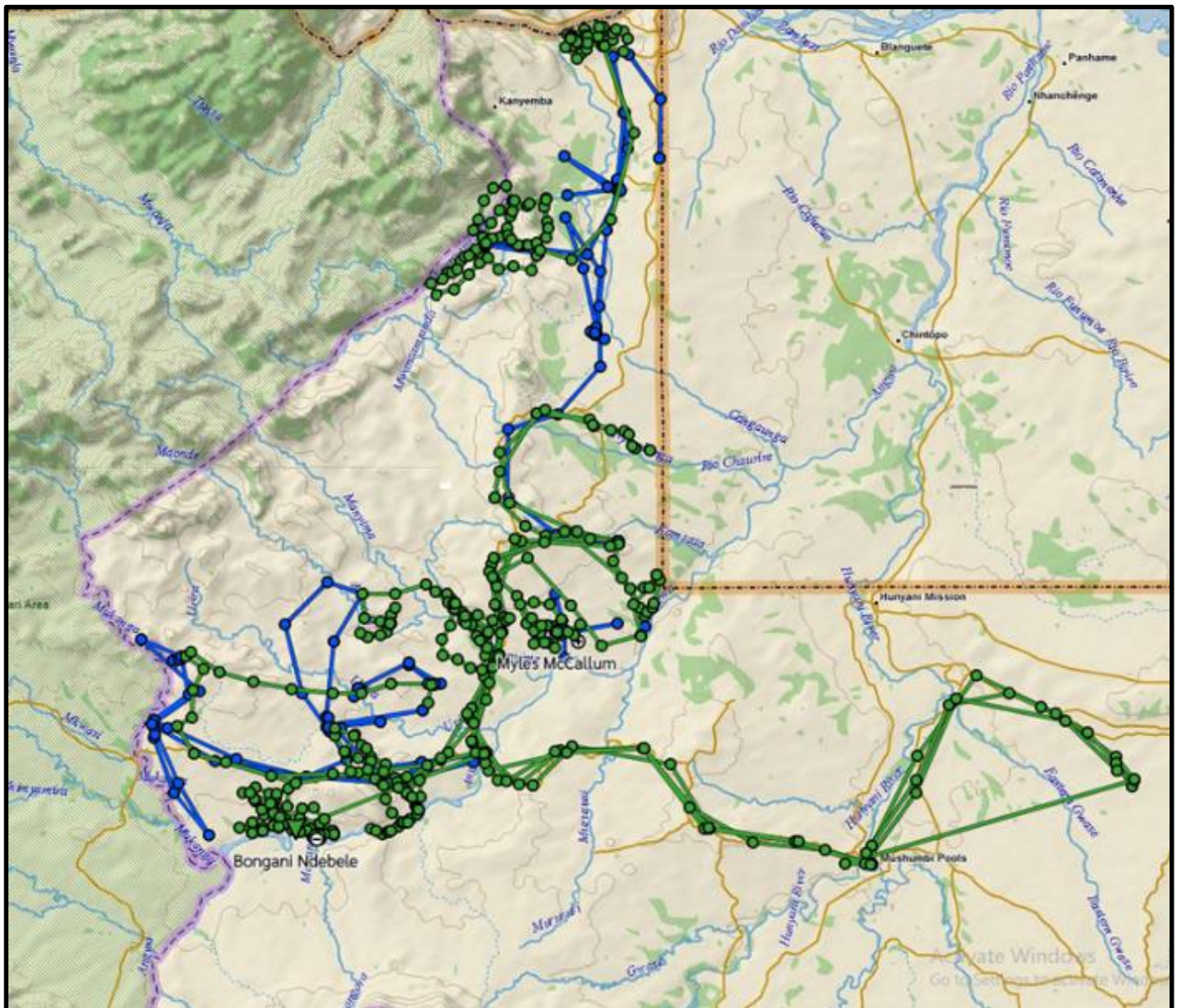
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## 1. Changes to DAPU

Following the partial strike by some DAPU staff in May the following changes have been implemented:

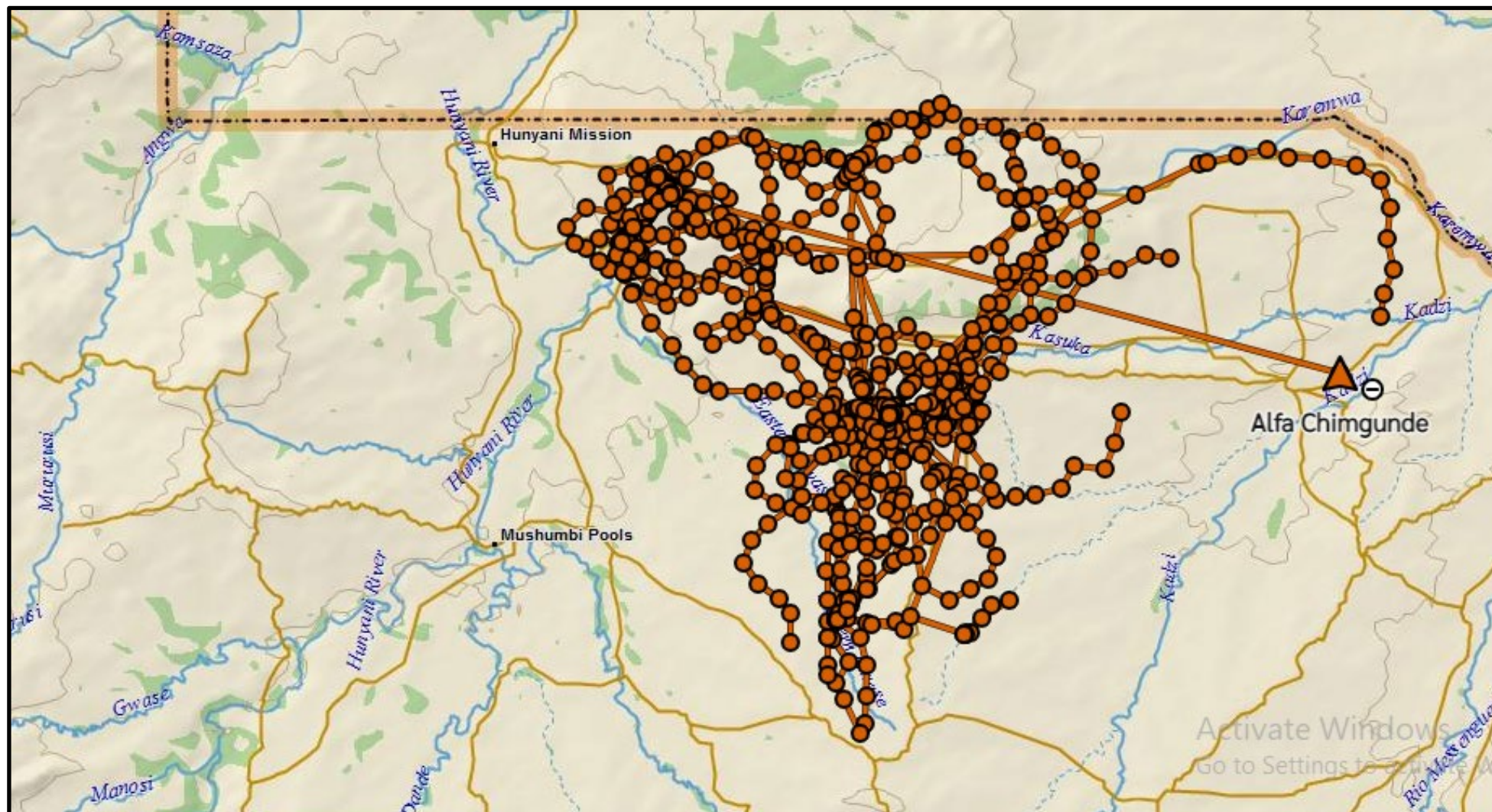
- a. Monthly stipends have been doubled (USD) to ease the effect of inflation and also to catch up a little.
- b. All patrols must submit a patrol track with their Garmin InReach devices daily. This shows where they have been, ground covered and, we get messages about game seen, snares and poaching incidences encountered. No track recorded no pay.

As you can see in the image below, there were 1,150km of patrols in Dande North from May to August 2022 - the hot spots are being intensively patrolled.





**Dande East 944km of patrols May – August**



## 2. The “hunting season”

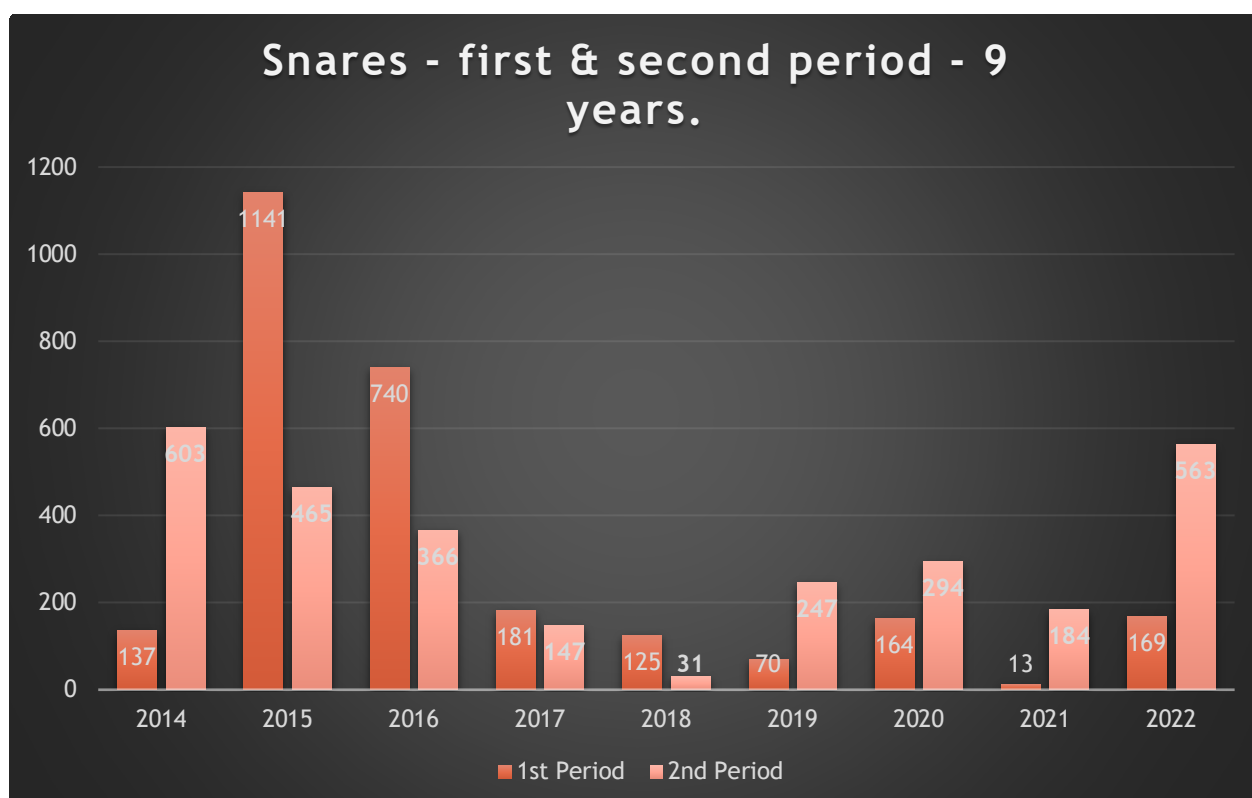
The hunting season is always the most relaxing time for DAPU, for two good reasons:

1. Our hunters out in the field are force multipliers for DAPU – being highly motivated and mobile they get into the most inaccessible areas regularly.
2. We get accurate unvarnished feedback from our hunters on the true state of the poaching and general health of the biodiversity of concessions.

The 2022 season has been a very good one for us – numerous hunters spread out from April to the end of October means that for a solid 7 month’s things are genuinely “under control”!

## 3. Snaring and General poaching second period 2022

The results have been what we have come to expect following previous years trends. As water becomes scarcer, the game more concentrated, a few local folks will take the opportunity to go snaring. The locals are “in between jobs” as it were – as they have harvested their crops and are sitting around idle waiting for the rain to plant the next crops. The higher snaring will carry on until after Christmas. In this period, we have collected 563 snares, which is the second highest in 9 years (after 2014 when we collected 603 snares). In 2022 poor crops, high inflation, increased hunter presence and more accountability with patrols, thanks to InReach, are all contributing factors to more snares being picked up.



### **The 10,000<sup>th</sup> snare competition**

Buzz and I felt that reaching the 10,000-snare mark was a worthy landmark indeed so we decided to run the 10,000<sup>th</sup> snare competition with a winners cash prize of US\$500.00. It was won by a patrol in the East! As an aside had we counted the snares lifted in 2010, 2011, 2012 and 2013 I am sure we would be on 15,000 by now.

The next milestone we believe will be the 250<sup>th</sup> poacher arrested and convicted (we are on 222 so this may be sooner than one thinks).

**Opping Investments Pvt Ltd T/A**



Tel: +263 4 499536 HOP 0259. Email: [hunting@cmsafaris.com](mailto:hunting@cmsafaris.com) Website: [www.cmsafaris.com](http://www.cmsafaris.com)

TO: Alfa Chimgunde  
Dande East DAPU.

27<sup>th</sup> June 2022

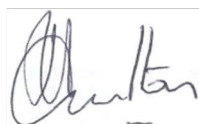
**Reference: 10,000<sup>th</sup> snare award.**

Dear Alfa,

It is with great pleasure that we announce that Muneyi, Nyamamba and Mateka, successfully lifted DAPU's ten thousandth snare on the 5<sup>th</sup> of May 2022 at Kawayuwayu, locstat S16\*151898 /E30\*767665.

As discussed, the reward for achieving this milestone is US\$500. Please pass on the cash to them with our hearty congratulations.

All the best

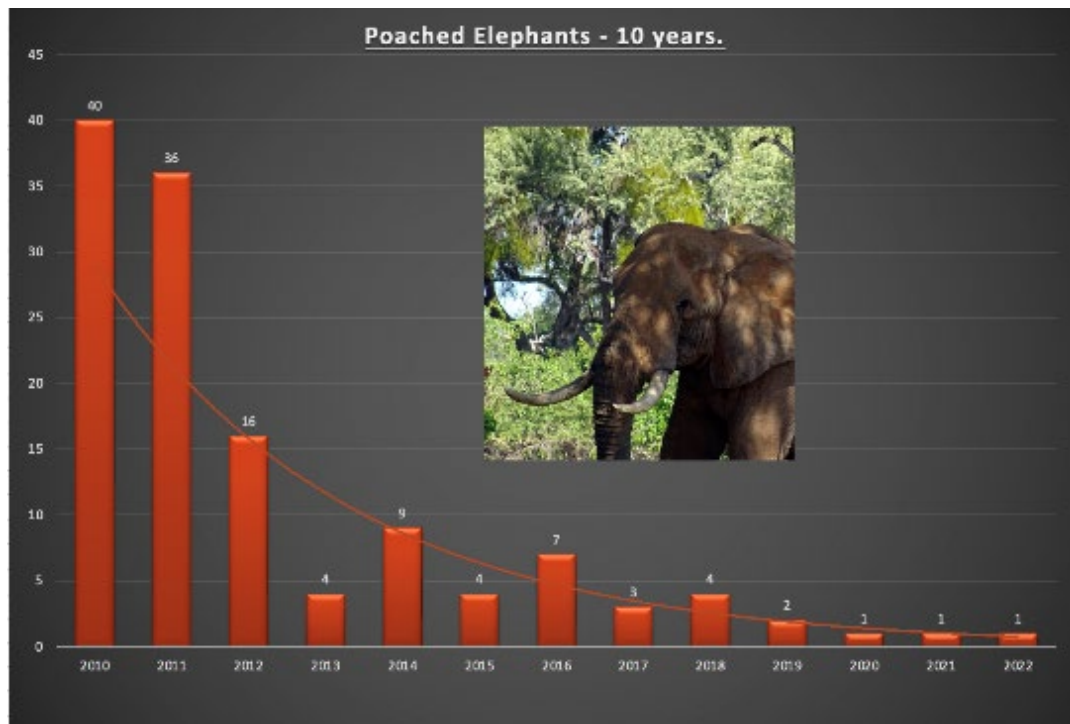


Buzz and Myles



#### 4. Elephant poaching

One young bull carcass was found near Irira villages by National Parks, but they recovered the ivory. He was most likely a crop raider shot in the fields and left to wander off and die. The fact that we consistently find the ivory in the carcasses is a signal that these are revenge killings, but the perpetrators are not prepared to take the risk of being found in possession of ivory.



A group of bulls moving behind some huts



## 5. **Mining**

### a. **Gold Panning**

High global gold prices combined with massive local unemployment (90%) has created a perfect storm with respect to illegal gold mining. Panning itself is damaging environmentally but it comes along with poaching, general crime and a whole host of other undesirable activities. So far, we have continued to be relatively lucky in that the panning has been on the periphery of our areas not inside them as yet. The Angwa river, which is our Southern border, sadly seems to be the target of most activities. A Chinese /local company has three excavators on site very close to the Angwa Bridge and they are engaged in alluvial mining.

We have more recently found evidence of panning along the Maunde and Mukanga rivers within the Dande Safari Area. Thankfully it appears that the panners were unsuccessful as all diggings were very small and abandoned. We also found two shafts and a small camp near the Maunde river – the miners were arrested but unfortunately not charged and were released. The first rains will cover it all up. It seems the gold gets washed out of the Zambezi valley escarpment in the fast flood water, then as soon as the rivers flatten and water slows down, it drops out of the water and gets trapped in the rapids. Thus, the rivers with rapids closest to the escarpment are richer in gold.

We have managed to control the panning so far but worry for the future. It is a fast-changing landscape that has been added to the DAPU to deal with list!



Gold panning along the Angwa





Illegal Miners camp, Maunde river



**b. Oil and Gas Exploration – Invictus Energy** <https://www.invictusenergy.com>

Dande East falls under the Australian firm “Invictus Energy Limited’s” special grant. Geographically the southern eastern portion of “the East” is on the Western edge of their area of interest. Invictus completed their Seismic work in 2021, and now have mobilized a Romanian drill rig which is currently onsite. They started drilling 24<sup>th</sup> September 2022 and expect to have completed that work in 6 weeks or so. Obviously a lot will depend on whether Invictus are successful or not as to what the future will look like for the East. Thankfully, the Mukuyu drill site is +10km from the core area. According to Invictus the chances of success sit at 15%.

## **6. Agriculture**

The Government of Zimbabwe has embarked on various ambitious initiatives in “Kanyemba” which is in the North of Dande (on the Zambezi River). Apart from some re-zoning, they are hoping to set up a sizable irrigation scheme using water from the Zambezi River. Bush/ land clearance has been completed for this with about 1500 ha cleared. This is still fortunately mostly in areas close to the villages that were not really wildlife areas. Once again, all that we can really do is stay engaged to mitigate the long-term disturbance as best we can and if possible, search for some common ground! If the scheme stays as it is, whilst sad, will not really affect us too much at all.

## **7. Charcoal production**

Charcoal production is new to Dande and to Zimbabwe in general (although very common in Mozambique, Zambia, Tanzania, and Kenya). People will burn down thousands of mopane trees in just days, make charcoal, bag it and smuggle it to Harare for sale. Luckily our authorities are quite supportive in our efforts to stop it and we had good success in 2020, and to date have had no charcoal making activities within or core areas in 2021 or 2022. It must be said that there are charcoal making rackets within the district – just not inside our areas of interest.

## **8. Canoe making**

Another seemingly harmless pastime – Mozambiquans contract Zimbabweans to fell huge old pod mahogany trees (*Azelia Quanzensis*), then they, hollow them out into dugout canoes for use on Lake Caborra Bassa (Mozambique). We have one arrest and conviction in 2022 only. Once more these activities are commonplace outside of our core areas of operations.



## **9. Problem Animal Control (Human and Wildlife Conflict)**

DAPU scouts duties include attending to Problem Animal reports (PAC), now more fashionably termed as “Human Wildlife Conflict”. The peak season for PAC is during cropping season from January to the end of May. The three major problem species are elephants, lions and crocodiles. Both elephant and lion are extremely difficult to wean from their bad habits and are notoriously stubborn!

National Parks second rangers to DAPU for all PAC duties. Our goals with Problem Animal Control are:

- a. Protect human life.
- b. Protect property.
- c. IF POSSIBLE, deal with the offending animal by chasing it or them away using non-lethal means.
- d. Last resort is to shoot the animal. However, in cases where life or property is threatened, we do not hesitate.

### **9.1 Elephant**

In general, elephants in 2022 have made quite a nuisance of themselves although as per normal that activity thankfully and predictably did slowdown in May after the harvest. Nothing of consequence to report during the second period 2022.

### **9.2 Lion**

Late in September we received a call at 9:30 am from some frantic villagers in the Irira area. A villager had just been attacked, killed and dragged off by a lioness in broad daylight – they had to listen to his screams literally 100 yards from their houses. I got there with Parks rangers at 11 am, and we were escorted to the scene by one villager. We could clearly see where a major scuffle had taken place, followed by a big blood trail and a drag mark, then a bloody jacket. I followed the drag only 50 yards into a thicket and the old lioness on seeing us growled and promptly charged. We ended up shooting her.

On investigation at the scene – we found the dead and partially eaten villager and noted that the extremely old lioness had been in a snare. She had very worn teeth and was missing one canine. We backtracked and it became obvious that the unfortunate villager had in fact been out checking his snares (set for bushbuck) literally within the village, and the lioness had been caught in one of them – she broke out of the snare attacked and killed him then dragged him off to eat. This lioness was destined to be a maneater. A month or two prior to this and we had in fact received and unsuccessfully reacted to reports of her following children to school.



### 9.3 Buffalo

No reported serious problems to date in 2022. There are always dagga boys hanging around villages as the villages are located on lush riverbanks and also afford a level of protection from lions.

### 9.4 Crocodile

No reports second period 2022.

### 9.5 Hippo

No reports second period 2022.

### 9.6 Snakes

No reports second period 2022

## **10. Netting on the Zambezi**

DAPU continues to contribute 200 liters of petrol per month toward efforts to eliminate illegal fishing in a 50km stretch of the Zambezi River. Generally speaking, illegal netting has been much reduced, and sport anglers and legal netters are reporting better catches which has been a big help to the local economy.

In the big picture the reduction in fish poaching has had a significant effect in reducing game poaching, as the fish poachers were often responsible for the poaching of elephant and other game animals. The diameters of their nets had become noticeably smaller over the years, clearly indicating a seriously depleted fish reserve.

## 11. Goals for 2022

Our main goals for 2022 remain:

- To remain engaged with “legal “mining and exploration companies.
- Try and stop illegal mining.
- Remain engaged with our government with respect to their new agricultural venture in Kanyemba.
- Water projects in “the East” and in the North.

## 12. Water Projects update

As mentioned, the UNDP GEF 6 project has successfully drilled x 3 boreholes in Ward 1 / Dande Safari Area and 1 x borehole in Dande East. The equipping of these boreholes and the pipeline project were tendered, and the tenders have been recently awarded, so we are hoping for some implementation by the contractors soon. One of the two companies have already moved onsite, and I believe by Christmas 2022 they will have finished. The Dande East project is quite sizeable with a big solar pump, 500,000 liter storage tank and 40km of pipelines to be installed to get the water into the core area.

### 2022 Water plans

General Area	Place	Work Description	Yield l/hr.	Implemented by	Completion date
Ward 1	Bongi road	Solar pump to pan and 300m pipeline	5,000 l/hour	UNDP	Year-end 2022
Ward 1	Baobab	Solar pump to pan and 500m pipeline	5,000 l/hour	UNDP	Year-end 2022
Dande Safari Area	Matemba Jesse	Solar pump to pan & 600m pipeline	5,000 l/ hour	UNDP	Year-end 2022
Dande East	Dande East	Pump, tank & 40km pipeline	30,000 l/ hour.	UNDP	Year-end 2022
Dande East	Kabveve	Pipeline extension, 3,000m	6,000 l/hour	CMS & AWF	Complete
Dande East	Mahara Road	Drill borehole, solar equip and pipe 3.5km to pan	4000l/ hour	CMS & AWF	Complete
Dande Safari Area	Palm tree pan	Borehole cleaning/ blowing out.	2,000 l/hour	CMS	Complete

These installations will really get water into the areas of Dande that need it most. Because of random International Borders and human settlement along rivers, often big chunks of wilderness land are left without any natural water for animals. In short, the game’s traditional water points are no longer available to them OR are on the wrong side of an imaginary line (border). The benefits will be:

- Year-round game and water in Dande
- Increased benefits to communities
- Significantly less human wildlife conflict at water points close to villages.



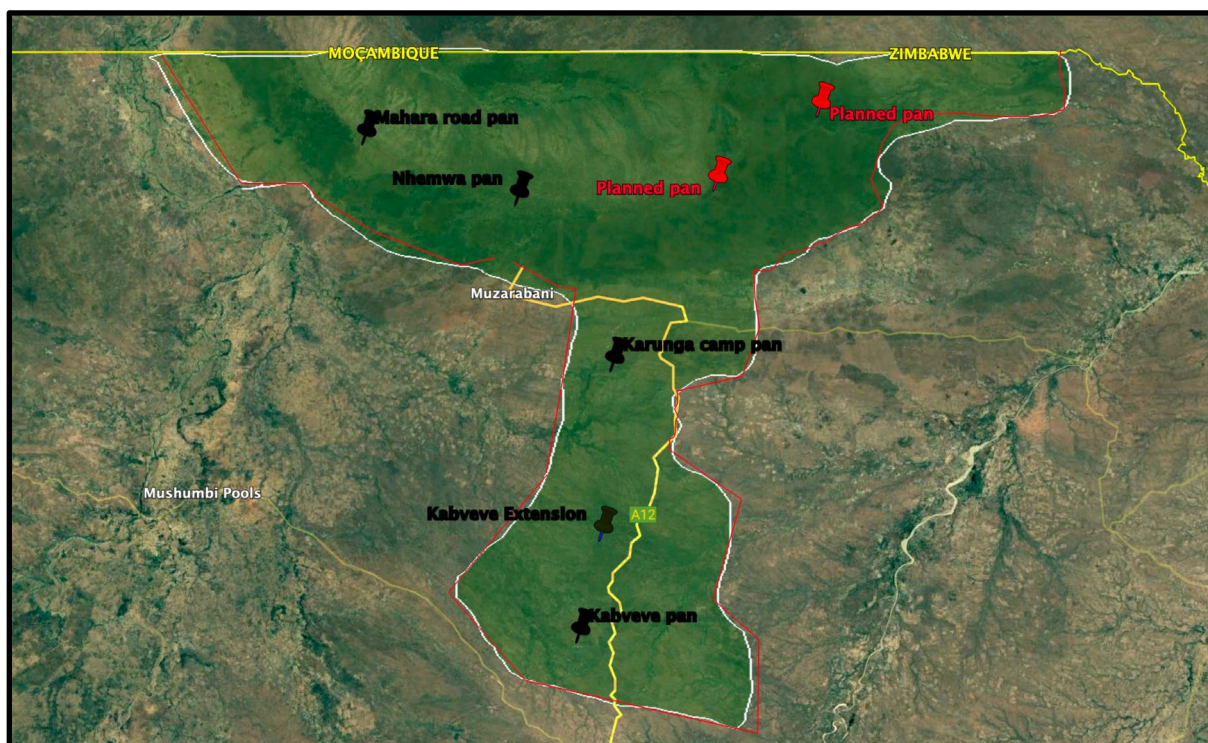


The new (2022) Kabveve Extension used by game already



The new (2022) AWF, Mahara Road pan, Dande East.





Google earth image, Dande East showing permanent solar pans and the two to be completed 2022

### **13. Boundary cut lines**

The boundary lines in Dande East were completed in 2021, and now we simply maintain those lines as roads for which to deploy scouts and to burn against – they have been very useful indeed.

### **14. Collaring elephants**

The Research Unit of Biodiversity (UO/CSIC/PA) from Oviedo University, Spain contacted us about collaring 5 elephants (3 bulls and 2 cows) which is exactly the type of project that we would support. They wish to study the “*Influence of habitat conservation actions on elephant movements and poaching rates in the Lower Zambezi-Mana Pools TFCA*” in Zimbabwe. They have purchased the collars and National Parks have given their blessing, so now we wait for final approval from the Research Authority of Zimbabwe. This will be another fun project that we look forward to sharing details about in subsequent newsletters! All the documents have been submitted and we have been promised answers (permits) by the end of September 2022. With any luck we can have the collars fitted and operational by Christmas 2022.

### **15. Early burning**

Every year our rule of thumb is to burn relatively aggressively in a patchwork pattern until the end of June and then sit tight and fight any fires after that. This way we achieve some



rotational burning and protect ourselves against those massive late season fires which can and do eat up large areas in just a few days.



DAPU staff on early burning duties June 2022



It seems Kay, Bongi and Alfa's hard work over many seasons did not go unnoticed and we (they!) were given this award for the second year running which really was a proud day for all of us!!!









**16. The Pedza Pasi Primary School –  
Jack and Marjorie Schillinger Foundation**

Over the course of 2022, we had the great pleasure and privilege in renovating the Pedza Pasi Primary school with and on behalf of the Jack and Marjorie Schillinger Foundation. It was genuinely a fun and rewarding project, and student enrolment has jumped up from 300 pupils (ages 5 – 12) to closer to 400. The school also has a full staff compliment for probably the first time ever.



Katzenstein representing the Jack and Marjorie Schillinger Foundation





Welcoming prayer



Kay Macdonald, Dave Katzenstein, and the Head handing out prizes to kids who helped with construction





## **17. We must extend our profound appreciation to:**

### **The African Wildlife Foundation** <https://www.awf.org>

The AWF quietly behind the scenes helps DAPU especially in “the East”. In 2022 we completed the Kabveve pipeline extension of 3.5km funded by AWF, implemented by CM Safaris – looked after by DAPU! The AWF also drilled a successful borehole close the Manyame River, solar equipped it, and commissioned a pipeline 4km into the core area of the East. Both projects really have added value to the area and all of us as well as the communities will enjoy the rewards for years to come.

### **The Dallas Safaris Club Foundation and the Lubbock Chapter of Dallas Safari Club** <https://dscf.org>

DSC Foundation and the Lubbock Chapter have been our single biggest financial and moral supporter for many years now! Mobility is the single biggest challenge for DAPU and the DSCF have provided two land cruisers – one for “the North” and the second in “the East” and both vehicles have literally not stopped since new! They are both tracked daily via satellite so that we can make sure they are used only for the purpose intended.

### **Flying for Wildlife** <http://www.flyingforwildlife.org>

FFW has grown immeasurably in the last couple of years. They now have two of their very own aircraft. All volunteer pilots include Richard Tennant, Hannes Scholtz and Richard Calder. Richard Thornycroft and Edward Whitfield also use their personal aircraft to supplement the fleet when need be!!! All flying is gratis to DAPU – it costs us nothing, and those who understand how expensive aviation is in Africa, will appreciate how significant this is!!!

In 2022, Flying for Wildlife, completed several missions in the early (rainy season). We are hoping that they will help us out in November and December 2022 as:

- a. the visibility will be much improved and
- b. We will have no hunters out if the field.
- c. This is the time of the year that new fields are cleared and charcoal making seems to begin.



**Trackit** (Richard Tennant and Hannes Scholtz of (Flying for Wildlife)

Provide free, real time satellite monitoring of the two DAPU vehicles. This has saved significantly on fuel and vehicle costs and has also helped us become much smarter with servicing and positioning of vehicles!

**Individual donors**

As previously mentioned, we have been truly humbled by all the kind folk who have donated to DAPU! Your generosity knows no bounds, and we will be eternally indebted to you. In thanks for your support, we shall endeavour to keep DAPU up and running to its fullest capabilities. We shall strive at all costs to keep poaching at bay, with the well-being of wildlife foremost in our minds.

Buzz and I simply cannot tell you what a relief all these contributions have been to us. We now go into the third period with enough cash on hand to keep DAPU going strongly for the rest of the year and into 2023.



## **Conservation Force**

We continue to work hand in hand with John and Chrissie Jackson of Conservation Force. John and Chrissie are proud hunters and legends in the fight for our way of life and the wild places that we all love. They work selflessly and endlessly in aid of conservation and to protect the rights of hunters around the world. Thank you, John and Chrissie!

Conservation Force is a registered non – profit 501(c) (3) public foundation.

How to make a Tax-Deductible donation.

Please make a check out to:

Conservation Force

Mail to:

C/O John J. Jackson, III  
3240 S. 1-10 SERVICE ROAD W.  
SUITE 200, METAIRIE,  
LOUISIANA 70001  
USA

Check Ref: DAPU

Conservation Force Contact:

JOHN J. JACKSON, III  
TEL: (504) 837 - 1233  
FAX: (504) 837 – 1145  
Email: jjw-no@att.net  
Website: [www.conservationforce.org](http://www.conservationforce.org)