

## MONITORING, PROJECT ADMINISTRATION, REPORTING, MARKETING AND DOCUMENTARY MAKING

Monitoring is another vital tool for protected area management and it is important that it is done effectively.

Deciding what to monitor is a very important step, and should be relevant to the problems facing the area and its particular environment. Although there is a fine line dividing monitoring from research, this project will focus on monitoring.

Monitoring usually takes two forms: ecological monitoring and management monitoring. These are described briefly below:

### Ecological Monitoring

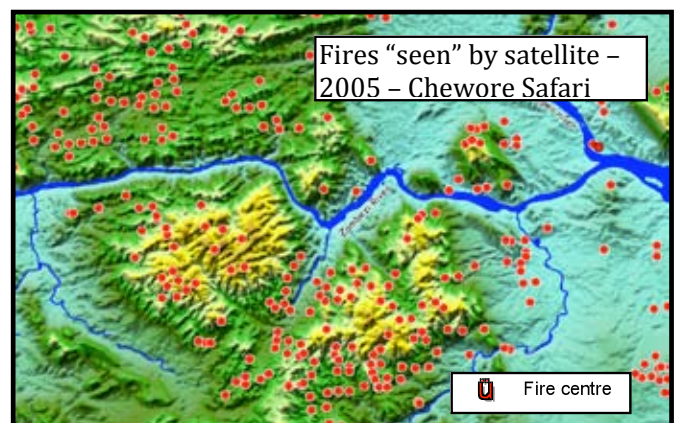
At its very basic level, it involves rainfall records, water levels, river flows, pan seasonality. At a more intensive level it involves wildlife surveys, vegetation cover, fires and fire scars.



### Management Monitoring

This will involve patrol effort and patrol success, poaching incidents (both wildlife and vegetation), problem animals, livestock incursions. Central to a coordinated monitoring effort is a functional and accurate GIS. The planning and initialisation section details the steps needed to ensure that this GIS is in place. Once this is achieved then collection of patrol related data can be superimposed on the baseline data. This will graphically represent patrol effort, poaching arrests, poached and killed animals, snares, water and other environmental parameters.

Monitoring is linked into the wildlife protection assistance and training. Using a uniform system, Rangers will collect data once they have received training in the use of the essential specialised equipment, such as GPS and Cameras. This project will also establish a simple monitoring system using pen and paper, similar to one being used in Namibia (MOMS). This system has the advantage of empowering people in the field with their own data, rather than continually feeding it further up the information chain. This empowerment brings with it enthusiasm for the data collection and analysis. The project will engage ecologists to act as advisors to establish and maintain this system.



**Efficient administration and reporting play a key role in the success of a Project.**

The Tashinga Initiative will be the sole implementation agency. The Tashinga Initiative will also serve as the conduit between any donor agency and the Parks and Wildlife Management Authority in all matters relevant to this Project. The Tashinga Initiative prides itself on highly effective implementation and follow-up, particularly in key areas such as regular contact and communication with the field personnel. Field trips are regarded as vital, as proven in all previous work undertaken by the Project Director of The Tashinga Initiative. In the conservation arena, implementation agencies are often accused of having little or no idea of conditions in the field through a lack of such visits. The budget reflects the importance attached to this task.

The project will be run from a very small office in Harare, with open channels of communication between it and PWMA Headquarters, and where the flow of updated funding implementation information to PWMA Directorate already is in place. The office will be equipped with essential infrastructure such as computers, printers, telephone/fax, photocopier, recharge facilities, power backup and inverter system, and satellite communications system.

Reporting and documentation flow between The Tashinga Initiative Project and any donor or donor agencies is seen as being paramount. Apart from the more formal communication channels, this Project seeks also to document its activities on film and video. These materials will be used to produce documentaries of a high standard to meet that required by Discovery, Animal Planet, ESPN, NatGeoWild for example. These will also be used as part of the reporting, marketing and media information procedure. PWMA will be able to effectively use these products as tools for further support towards the conservation of its national estate.

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