

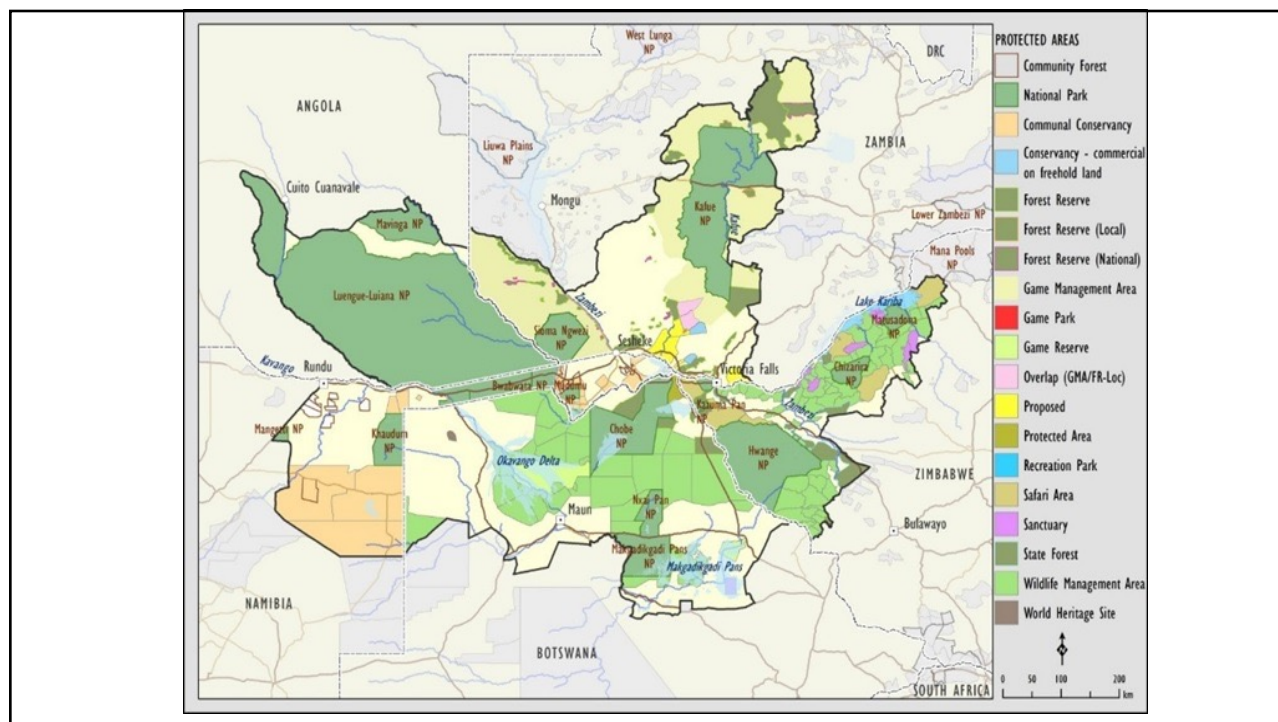


KAZA Animal Health ACTIVITIES UPDATE



Group meeting: 17-19 June 2025
Maun, Botswana
Presentation from the Zambian Team

1



2

EMERGING ISSUES AT HUMAN-LIVESTOCK- WILDLIFE INTERFACE IN THE KAZA LANDSCAPE: July 2024 – June 2025

CONFIRMED OUTBREAKS IN BOTH LIVESTOCK AND WILDLIFE JUNE 2024 TO DATE

i. Anthrax:

- Mosi-Oa-Tunya and Sioma Ngwezi National Parks
- Kazungula and Mwandia Districts

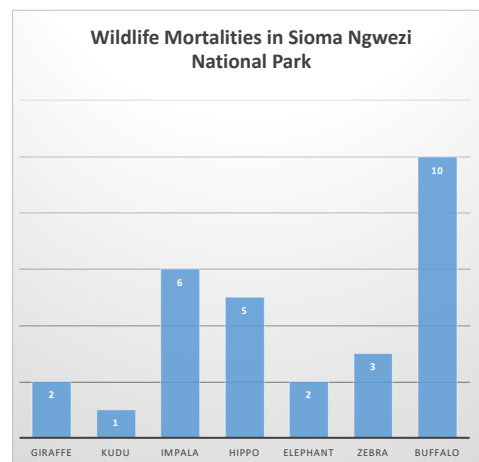
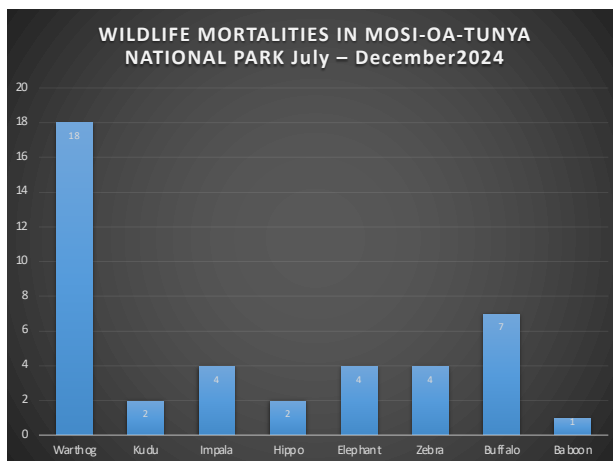
ii. CBPP

- Mwandia
- Sioma
- Sesheke
- Shangombo

iii. Rabies: wild dog – KNP Mulobezi GMA

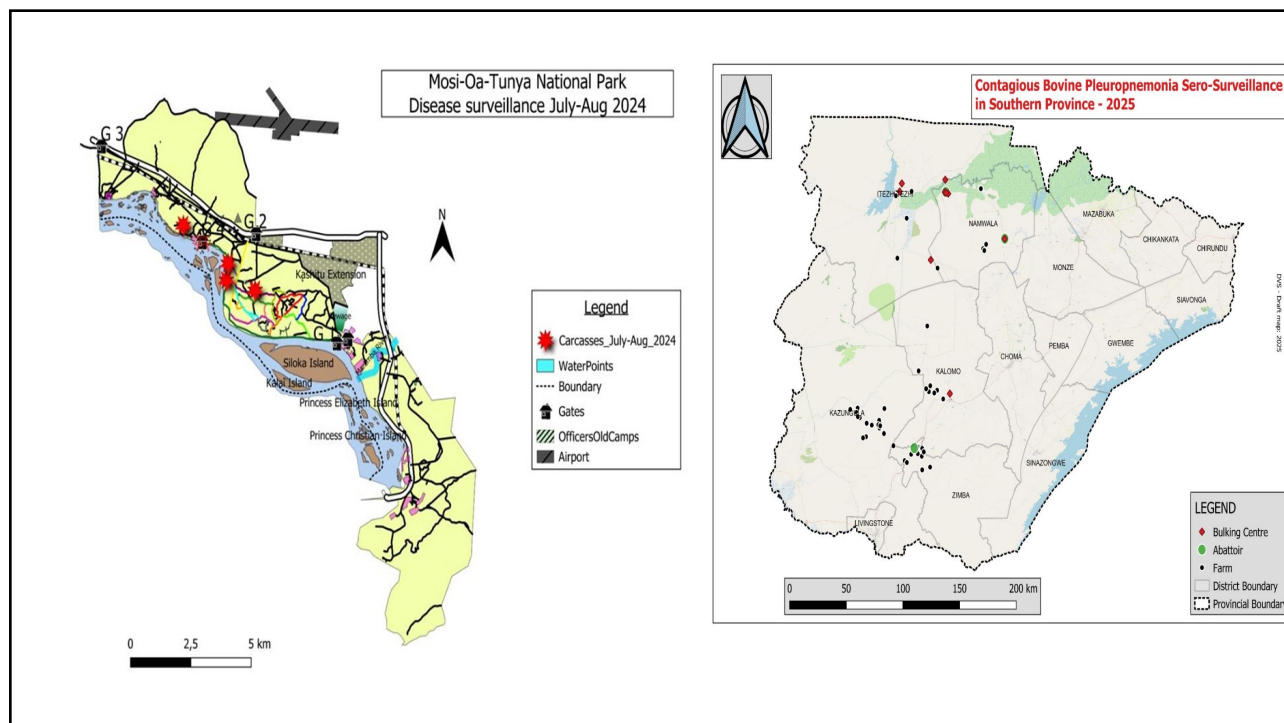
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Wildlife Mortalities



18 confirmed positive anthrax cases

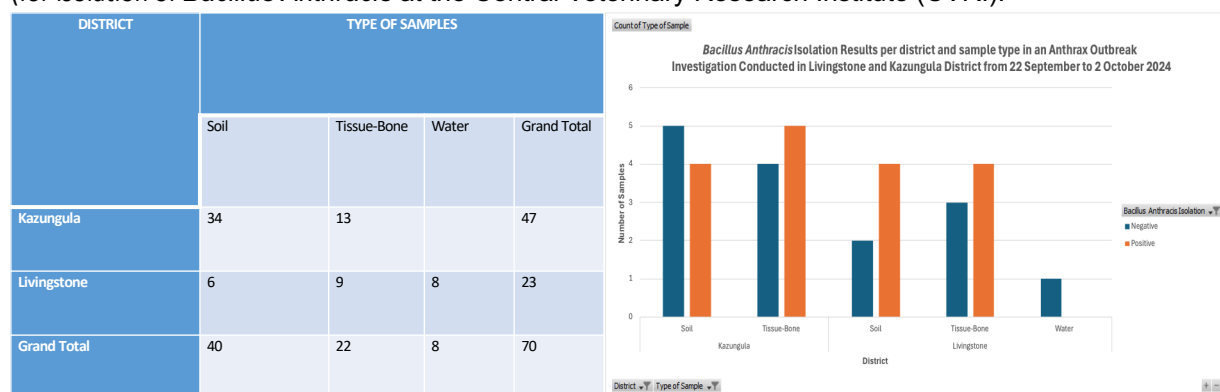
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5

Laboratory Samples

A total of 70 soil, Tissue-bone and water samples were collected from Livingstone (23) and Kazungula (47) districts (for isolation of *Bacillus Anthracis* at the Central Veterinary Research Institute (CVRI).



Of the 70 samples collected, 32 were positive for *B. Anthracis* Isolation results representing a prevalence of 46%. Positive Isolation results were recorded from soil and tissue-bone samples. All water samples were negative

6

HIPPO/ LIVESTOCK MORTALITIES



7

IMPACTS OF ANTHRAX AND CBPP OUTBREAK ON COMMUNITY LIVELIHOOD

1. Three Anthrax (3) human cases recorded within Kaza Landscape
2. The community lost at least close to 100 cattle within this period leading to income loss due to livestock loss (draft power for agricultural activities and means of transport).
3. Due to CBPP there is restricted movement of Livestock which impact access to better market.

8

RESPONSE AND MITIGATION MEASURES

1. Surveillance and Monitoring: Ground teams were deployed in affected protected areas and Districts for carcass mapping, sample collection, and environmental assessment.
2. Carcass Disposal: Identified carcasses were buried or burned under supervision to prevent further contamination and scavenger transmission.
3. Community Engagement: Awareness campaigns were conducted in adjacent communities to prevent handling or consumption of infected meat.
4. One Health Coordination: The Department of Veterinary Services, DNPW, Ministry of Green Economy and Environment and health authorities were coordinating a multi-sectoral One Health approach to monitor and contain the outbreak.
5. Decontamination: identified old and new grave sites were decontaminated to inactivate the anthrax spores to minimize them acting as a source of the ongoing outbreak and future outbreaks (Sodium hypochlorite 10%)

9



10

6. Vaccinations

Anthrax Vaccinations in southern province

KAZUNGULA	Cattle	135,000	128,354	95.08
	Goats	15,000	1,988	13.25
	Sheep	3,000	0	0.00
	Donkeys	0	77	
		153,000	130,419	
LIVINGSTONE	Cattle	9,700	3,471	
	Goats	2,150	342	
	Sheep	850	20	
		12,700	3,833	

Anthrax Vaccinations in WP for 2024

Sesheke	30,000	18,768	62.56	On going
Mwandi	35,000	34,851	99.57	On going
Mulobezi	30,000	24,382	81.27	On going
Sioma	42,000	40,844	97.25	On going
	137,000	118,845	86.75	

11

FMD Vaccinations in Southern Province_2024

Kazungula	120,000	109,879		Completed
Livingstone	9,500	6,553		Completed
	129,500	116,432		

FMD Vaccinations in Western Province_2024

Sioma	18,000	17,955	99.75	Completed
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CBPP Vaccinations in WP for 2024

Mulobezi	22,000	21,106	95.94	Completed
Mwandi	55,000	54,096	98.36	Completed
Sesheke	30,500	30,316	99.40	Completed
Sioma	39,000	39,204	100.52	Completed
	146,500	144,722	98.79	

12

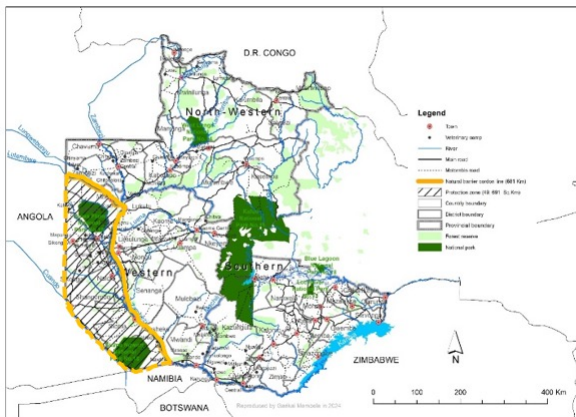
Other issues

- In the first quarter of 2025, an accident on the Copperbelt resulted in acid spilling into the Kafue National Park and this led to a drop in the water PH to 6.94. As a mitigation measure, lime was sprayed over the water to increase the PH in order to neutralize the acid and minimize ecological and biodiversity loss.

13

B. ACTIVITIES IN THE KAZA LANDSCAPE

1. DVS conducted a CBPP Sero-surveillance in Kazungula in February, 2025 and it still remains a clean area despite being close to an endemic area (Western Province)
2. DVS is in the process of re-introducing a cordon line and to this effect 250 cordon guards have already been employed and a feasibility study has since been completed.



3. Production of pasture for sell / stocking and restocking of various livestock packages for community livelihood

14

4. SPECIAL BEEF ECONOMIC ZONES AND BEEF EXPORT COMPARTMENTS (Western Province)

The Ministry, working in collaboration with the Ministry of Commerce, Trade and Industry has designated Special Beef Economic Zones which are meant to support the growth and expansion of the sector through provision of incentives and support infrastructure in the medium to long term. In the immediate term, the Ministry is also establishing Animal Disease Free Compartments (ADFCs) which allow the country to export livestock (beef) into regional markets such as Angola and the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) and international markets such as Saudi Arabia, United Arab Emirates (UAE) and the European Union.

15

5. Simalaha Community Conservancy – Herding for Health

- **Health for Health Programme**
- A community-driven livestock management model that supports the livelihoods of rural communities living in and around protected areas, while restoring rangelands and conserving biodiversity through herding, capacity building and collective governance.
- The Herding for Health Model is anchored on four key pillars:
 - Healthy Rangelands
 - Healthy Animals
 - Thriving Livelihoods
 - Good Governance and Enabling Policy.



16

Simalaha Community Conservancy - Why is H4H important in the landscape

- Problem we are solving
 - Wildlife integration
 - Water Security Enhancement
 - Land degradation/ Inadequate fodder during dry season
 - Animal Safety
 - Livestock Diseases
- Driving Community-led initiatives
 - Dug-out wells by spade
 - Water Stations
 - Fencing off water pans
 - Fire Management
 - Fire Management committees, fire equipment
 - Harvesting grass and hay baling.
 - Boma construction initiatives



17

Key Indicator and Impact Outcomes – A comparison of progress

General site stats project start 01.06.24									
	Hectares under improved management	Cattle Participating	Number of livestock farmers participating	Green Jobs / Employment	Households Participating	Total no of Beneficiaries	Total number of cattle stations active	Total GAC active	Number of GAC members
SCC	21630	913	99	54	98	490	4	5	27

General site stats 2025 Q2									
	Hectares under improved management	Cattle Participating	Number of livestock farmers participating	Green Jobs / Employment	Households Participating	Total no of Beneficiaries	Total number of cattle stations active	Total GAC active	Number of GAC members
SCC	42667	10058	331	55	285	1425	8	9	46

18

Key Indicator and Impact Outcomes

- Progress
 - The H4H Programme has expanded to include 3 more VAGs/Areas With Simalaha Landscape, with support from IKI Growing Greener Project.
 - Signed two (2) Rangeland Stewardship Agreements.
- Primary Animal Health Care Interventions
 - Vaccination Program for Anthrax and Blackleg
Vaccinated: 10062 cattle
 - Dipping and Deworming exercise
- Animal identification
 - Branding and eartagging.
- Water Augmentation
 - Two drilled boreholes to become Water stations.



19

CHALLENGES IN THE KAZA LANDSCAPE

- Currently we do not have any Laboratory within the Landscape –Depending on CVRI LAB based in Lusaka
- Increased HWC due to the effects of the drought
- Stock thefts and illegal transboundary livestock movements

20

Lessons Learnt

1. Most positive samples in Livingstone were obtained from sites not more than 200 meters from the Zambezi River or its lagoons. This could indicate the river as the common source of spores. Since the river is also a physical barrier between Zambia and its neighboring countries (Zimbabwe, Botswana and Namibia), a close to the river distribution of positive anthrax cases would also indicate a cross-border origin of the disease. Consequently, there is a need to conduct a study that would pinpoint the origin of the spores.

21

3. Positive Anthrax environmental soil samples present a risk of dispersion of spores due to high traffic of tourists and trespassers from nearby communities which present a risk of the infections spreading to other areas.

22

RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE KAZA AHSWG

- KAZA AHSWG to assist in developing and implementing standardized protocols for disease surveillance, reporting and response across KAZA region.
- Schedule regular meetings to facilitate information sharing, collaboration and coordination. This will help us address common problems occurring in our respective countries such as stock theft and illegal transboundary movement of livestock.

23

THANK YOU

24