



The Importance of a Diversified Economy for the People and Wildlife of the Khaudum-Ngamiland WDA

TOWARDS IMPLEMENTATION OF COMMODITY-
BASED TRADE OF BEEF IN KAZA

Opportunities for Integrating Livestock Agriculture &
Wildlife Conservation

A KAZA Workshop,
in collaboration with AHEAD & FAO

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KAVANGO ZAMBEZI TFCA - 2011



BOTSWANA & CATTLE

- < 1% of land is arable
- estimated 20% of citizens own cattle
- estimated 3.3 - 4 million cattle
- < 3% of GDP
- 10% of farmers own 60-70% of the national herd – *the vast majority of cattle owners are traditional cattle post farmers.*



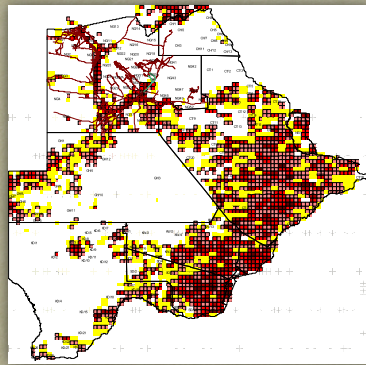
Two systems of cattle farming:

- Traditional (cattle post), communal (tribal) grazing land
- Commercial, free-hold, fenced

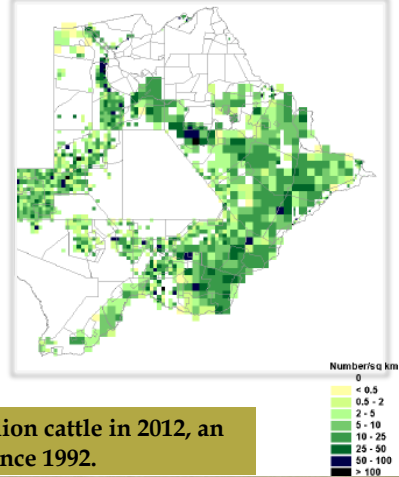
A Botswana Cattlepost



**DISTRIBUTION OF CATTLE
BOTSWANA – 1994
DWNP AERIAL SURVEY**



**DISTRIBUTION OF CATTLE
BOTSWANA – 2012
DWNP AERIAL SURVEY**



Estimated 3.13 million cattle in 2012, an increase of 300% since 1992.

Tourism in Botswana

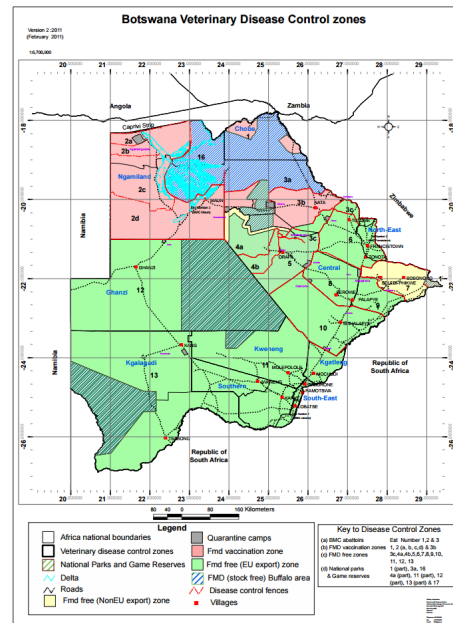
- Predominantly wildlife based
- Predominantly NW District
- Est. > 10% of GDP
- Supports 70-80,000 jobs (11%)

World Travel and Tourism Council (WTTTC) 2015



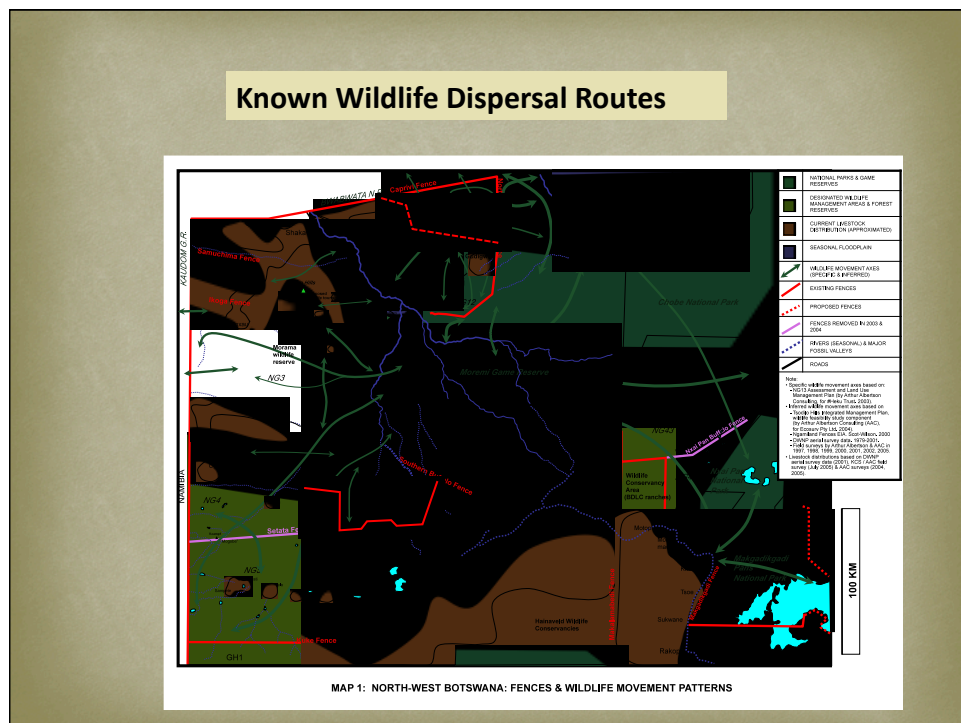
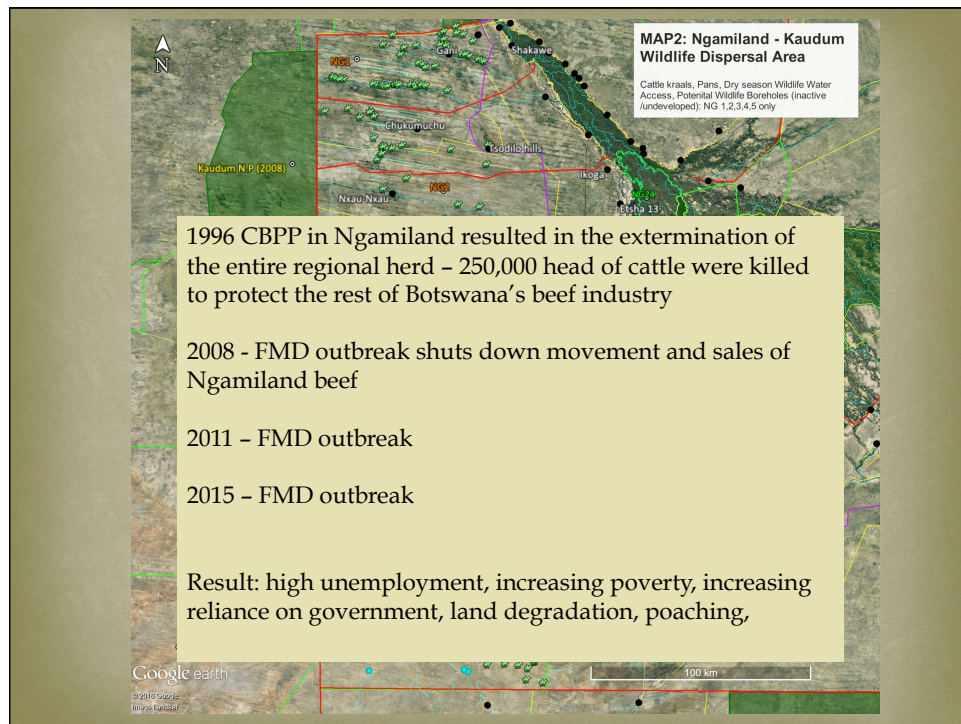
The History of Botswana's Commercial Beef Industry Development has relied entirely on the principle of physically isolating wildlife (and thereby wildlife diseases) from livestock.

... For many years this approach - relying entirely on control of wildlife movement with extensive fencing - was reasonably successful.



Botswana's Fences





Botswana's Elephant Population - Est. 150,000



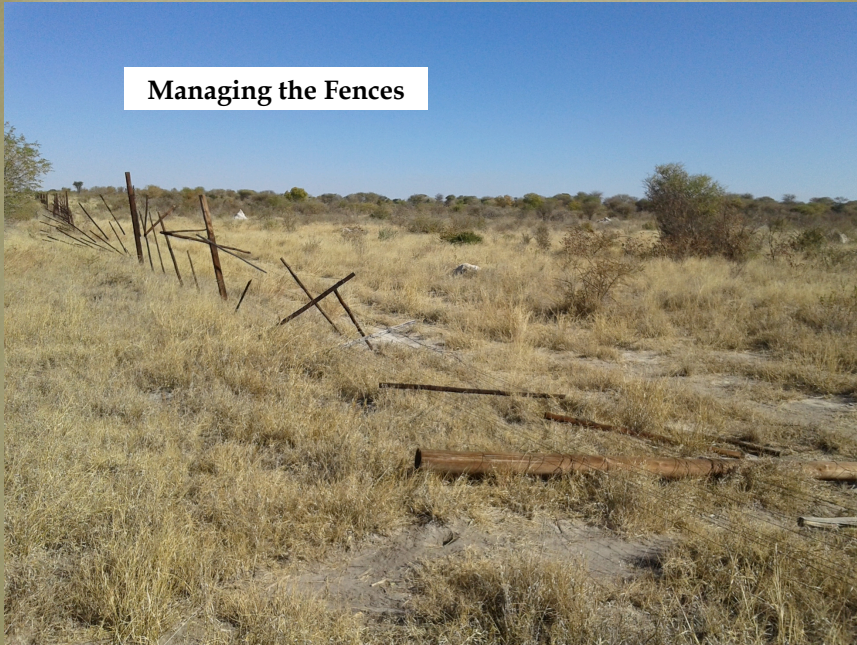
Fences



Managing the Fences



Managing the Fences



CONSEQUENCES: Conflict between people, livestock and Wildlife



ILLEGAL HUNTING IN BOTSWANA



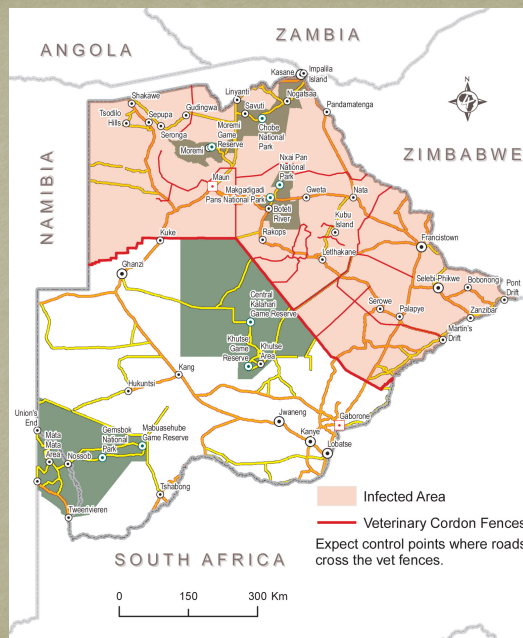
Transport of 'segwapas' (bundles of dried meat) and fresh meat using horses, donkeys and mekorros

Consequences: of a long history of unsuccessfully attempting to separate wildlife from livestock:

- Continuous investment of government funds in an enterprise repeatedly known to fail
- Frequent outbreaks of disease, especially FMD since
- District wide (red zone) collapse of the local beef industry, benefiting:
 - 1) the rest of Botswana beef growers (commercial)
 - 2) the wildlife tourism industries
 - 3) *but at the expense of Western Ngamiland cattle farmers*
- Disenfranchised communities
- Increased human wildlife conflict
- Increased poverty
- Increased illegal bushmeat hunting
- Declining wildlife resources

Clearly, it is time to address the prevailing practice of attempting physically separate wildlife from livestock and implement a new system that:

- Acknowledges the fact that separation of wildlife from broad landscapes intended to be reserved for livestock is neither practical nor desirable.
- Acknowledges the fact that indigenous wildlife species are more productive in drought affected semi-arid habitats
- Enables integrating wildlife related industries (including legal production of game meat and tourism) with improved traditional livestock farming
- Develops a local beef industry to enable a reliable market for 'wildlife friendly' beef and provides management incentives for traditional livestock farmers based on a productive economy



BOTSWANA CAN EXPORT MEAT FROM FMD-INFECTED CATTLE TO SOUTH AFRICA

Sunday Standard Reporter

03 Jul 2016



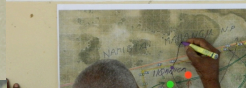
“Technologies exist to treat red zone meat so that it can be sold in the green zone and in targeted export markets. However, the value chain for such meats is constrained by the lack of available capacity for such processing. The Ministry of Agriculture..., should promote the establishment of smaller processing facilities for this purpose in the red zone.” – Report from the Private Sector Development Program (PSDP) plan

Opportunities for Cultural and Wildlife Tourism:

- Community owned and operated tourism ventures
- Joint venture partnerships with tourism operators
- Transfrontier tourism product development
- Cultural, wildlife and wilderness tourism
- Jobs



Engagement of local indigenous knowledge and historical land use.



Cultural, wildlife and wilderness tourism



Strengths

- Traditional ecological knowledge.
- Traditional culture.
- Habitat intact and unfragmented.
- Free-ranging wildlife populations.
- Growing value of wilderness.
- Potential tourist circuits (mobile, self-drive).
- Policy support for tourism expansion linked to poverty eradication.
- High levels interest in wildlife utilization and tourism development.

Weaknesses

- Relatively low wildlife densities.
- Lack of knowledge of community land use patterns and ecological dynamics.
- Poor community participation in plans that affect them.
- Lack of sense of ownership of natural resources.
- Limited surface water.
- Poor ground water.
- Poor agricultural potential.
- Community Trust difficulties.
- Poor local tourism development capacity.
- Minimal tourism infrastructure.

Opportunities

- Potential for inclusive approach to livestock.
- Habitat management and Human-wildlife conflict mitigation through water points.
- Capitalize on wilderness and cultural attributes.
- Linkages with emerging Namibia self-drive circuits.
- Start local businesses, supported by private sector (Trusts not the only option).
- Participatory community based mapping and land-use research and planning.
- Land-use plans and WL research strategies with community inputs (use your local ecologists!)
- Potential for Low cost – low impact tourism enterprise development.
- Cultural sensitivity. Identify viable community support structures from community based planning.
- Start small but start!

Threats:

- Unemployment.
- Dependence on Government.
- Barriers to community enterprise and ability to use Natural Resources sustainably.
- Loss of livelihood income from hunting ban.
- Poaching.
- Human disturbance of WL access to Okavango Delta.
- Land grabs.
- Habitat loss: especially around key pans.
- Livestock damage to veld products.
- Loss of traditional ecological knowledge.
- Predator / elephant conflicts.
- Poisoning.
- Fences.
- Fires.
- Degradation of wilderness attributes.

Strengths

Tourism

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CBT (Wildlife Friendly) Beef

- Provide a reliable and secure beef industry tailored to the conditions of Ngamiland traditional livestock farming – including new markets for Red Zone beef
- Improve range management (decreased regional herd)