

**IPOLE WILDLIFE  
MANAGEMENT AREA**

**RESOURCE  
MANAGEMENT ZONE  
PLAN**

**2004-2014**

APPROVAL PAGE

Implementation of this plan has been approved

by

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Director of Wildlife  
Ministry of Natural Resources and Tourism  
Dar es Salaam

Date.....

IPOLE PILOT WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AREA RESOURCE  
MANAGEMENT ZONE PLAN (2004- 2014)

1.0 INTRODUCTION.

The process of setting aside the *Ipole pilot WMA* was preceded by PRA exercise, which was done between May 2001 to October 2003 by Planning Land use Management for Ipole, Msuva, dekamiso and Utimule villages. The PRA results indicated that these villages derive significant resources and income from activities done in Ipole Forest such as beekeeping, pit sawing, wildlife hunting and fishing in Kululu River. The PRA exercise was facilitated by an International NGO called Africare/Tanzania through Ugalla Community Conservation Project (UCCP).

The participatory approach in planning resource use and management of *Ipole pilot WMA* which borders Ugalla Game reserve was within the framework of Tanzania wildlife policy of 1998, which offers WMAs to communities living near core protected areas. These communities play the role of primary management actors in lands which buffer core protected areas such as National Parks or Game Reserves. The above development was also in line with the National Land Policy of 1995 and the village land Act. No. 5, which both advocate for the devolution of power on land tenure and Management to local communities; each of these two documents stresses on the participation and involvement of local communities in planning and managing environment and natural resources within their jurisdiction to achieve sustainable development. In the light of these policies Africare and the National Land Use Commission embarked in sensitizing communities on participatory land use planning and management for districts

bordering the Ugalla Game Reserve in Urambo, Sikonge, Mpanda and later Uyui Districts in Tabora Region.

In each district, a team of experts was formed, whose task was to plan sustainable land use management. Together with this they were also required to identify land use constraints and recommend possible interventions in their respective districts. Each team was composed of: Town Planner, Agricultural Extension Officer, Livestock Officer, Forest / Beekeeping / Natural resources Officer, Game Officer, Community Development Officer, Road Construction Engineer and Health Officer. This group was also known as *Participatory Land Use Management Planning Team* (PLUM team). Priority in selecting the pilot WMAs was given to areas with funded/on going projects. At the village level the team was tasked to sensitize villages, identify land use problems and interventions, this was done by involving land use management members at village level (VLUM) and village council (VC) as important institutions for implementation of the agreed intervention.

## **2.0. HISTORY, LOCATION AND ACCESSIBILITY OF IPOLE PILOT WMA**

### **2.1 History**

The Ipole pilot WMA falls in Ugunda Game controlled area (GCA) in Ipole Ward, Sikonge District, in Tabora Region. This area is found in south of Sikonge Township, which is the District headquarter. Ipole pWMA covers an area of 2540 km<sup>2</sup>.

*“Ugunda”* is a vernacular name for Nyamwezi people, meaning “farm inspection”. Initially the area was dominated by “Wagunda” who are among Nyamwezi clans, which originates from Ukonongo (Itimbwa). It is said the area is rich in wildlife, fish and fertile valleys, which attracted many people to settle in the area. However during 1920s the outbreak of

sleeping sickness resulted into shifting of Wagunda from Ukonongo to Igunda, Isumba, Sikonge, Ipole, Mole, Tutuo, Mitowo, Usanganya, Inyonga, Unyanyembe, Mkolye, Lehani, Mibono, and Kipanga. This pandemic reduced human population of this area drastically. As a result this situation attracted more wild animals from other places to settle in Ugunda. Furthermore, there was extensive regeneration of miombo woodland species which provided sufficient resource base for social and economic development of the surrounding villages.

## **2.2 Location**

Administratively, *Ipole* is a ward, in Sikonge division, Sikonge district, Tabora region in Tanzania. Five villages, namely Ipole, Msuva, Idekamiso, Utimule and Udongo, compose this ward. Ipole ward is located in the South of Sikonge Township, which is the District headquarters. On the East *Ipole pilot WMA* borders Ipembambazi Forest Reserve, to the south the area is bordered by Inyonga East Game Controlled Area (GCA) and Inyonga Forest reserve respectively, while to the west the area is bordered by Ugalla Game Reserve and Walla Forest reserve and to the North the area is bordered by villages of Ipole, Msuva, Idekamiso and Utimule

## **2.3 : Accessibility.**

The Ipole pilot WMA is accessible throughout the year by the following ways: -

- By road from Tabora Municipality via Sikonge township to Ipole
- By road from Mbeya via Kitunda to Ipole
- Road from Sumbawanga through Mpanda district via Inyonga to Ipole
- By air to an airstrip located within the Ugunda game reserve at Koga and later by airstrip, which is under construction in Ipole

Village. This means of transport is only reliable during the dry season.

The *Ipole pilot WMA* is rich in floral and faunal biodiversity of high economic importance which justifies the area to be among 16 pilot WMAs in the country. The area harbors a diverse of wildlife species such as: Sable antelope, Roan antelope, Kudu, Hartebeest, Lion, Giraffe, Leopard, Warthogs, Monkey, Aardvark, Baboon, Hyena, Buffalo, Kiro, Hyrax, Porcupine, Snakes and birds. Tree species include timber, fruit and medicinal species such as *Pterocarpus angolensis*, *Azalia quanzensis*, *Terminalia sericea*, *Julbernadia globiflora*, *Strychnos cocculoides*, *Sclerocarya birea*, and *vitex*.

The objectives of the *Ipole pilot WMA* management zone planning are to specify the purpose and significance of the WMA to the JUHIWAI; and to evaluate the existing natural resources and activities done for the benefit of the local communities and natural resources.

## METHODS

Participatory Resource Assessment procedure was used in partitioning Resources Management zones for the *Ipole pilot WMA*. Stakeholders were involved to draw a sketch map on the ground and mark the location of important features inside *Ipole pilot WMA*. Stakeholders had to reach consensus before marking any feature or boundary and were very helpful on this exercise. Using Universal Transverse Mercator (UTM) visible features on the sketch map were used to initiate boundary tracing for the *Ipole pilot WMA*.

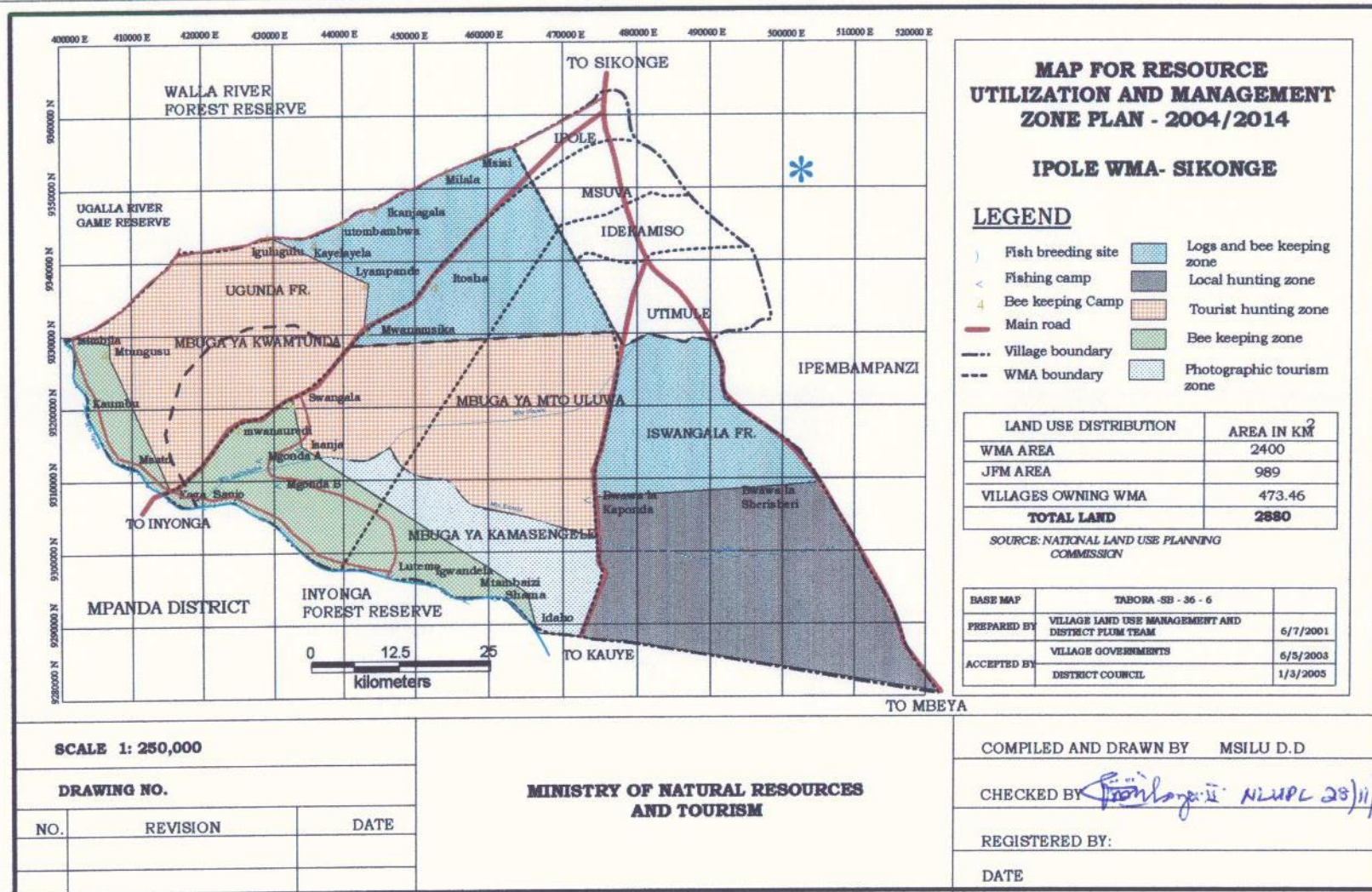
### 3.0. THE IPOLE PILOT WMA RESOURCE MANAGEMENT ZONE PROGRAMME.

The activity of planning for natural resources utilization within Ipole -WMA, was done by stakeholders themselves who are the members of village land use and management (VLUM) from each village constituting the CBO known as "JUHIWAI" meaning "*Jumuiya ya Hifadhi Wanyama Pori Ipole*". The work was done in collaboration with different experts from several sectors. VLUM team from each village were facilitated by different experts from the following institutions:- Ugalla Game Reserve, *miombo* Woodland Research Centre under Tanzania Forest Research Institute (TAFORI), National Land Use Commission, Economic sector, District Forest department, District wildlife department and Local PLUM facilitator for land use from Ipole village in Sikonge District.

Within Ipole Wildlife Management Area (WMA) different zones of natural resources utilization were demarcated by considering different criteria in each zone. Some zones were made for total preservation, while the rest were open for human activities. These zones (Figure 1) include:

- ❖ Logging/timber harvesting zone
- ❖ Beekeeping zone
- ❖ Wildlife utilization zone such as Tourism hunting zone, local/residence hunting zone and photographic tourism
- ❖ Fishing zone.

MAP NO. 1: IPOLE PILOT WMA



**MAP FOR RESOURCE UTILIZATION AND MANAGEMENT ZONE PLAN - 2004/2014**

**IPOLE WMA- SIKONGE**

- LEGEND**
- Fish breeding site
  - Fishing camp
  - Bee keeping Camp
  - Main road
  - Village boundary
  - WMA boundary
  - Logs and bee keeping zone
  - Local hunting zone
  - Tourist hunting zone
  - Bee keeping zone
  - Photographic tourism zone

LAND USE DISTRIBUTION	AREA IN KM <sup>2</sup>
WMA AREA	2400
JFM AREA	989
VILLAGES OWNING WMA	473.46
<b>TOTAL LAND</b>	<b>2880</b>

SOURCE: NATIONAL LAND USE PLANNING COMMISSION

BASE MAP	TABORA - SE - 36 - 6	
PREPARED BY	VILLAGE LAND USE MANAGEMENT AND DISTRICT PLUM TEAM	6/7/2001
ACCEPTED BY	VILLAGE GOVERNMENTS	6/5/2003
	DISTRICT COUNCIL	1/3/2005

**SCALE 1: 250,000**

**DRAWING NO.**

NO.	REVISION	DATE

**MINISTRY OF NATURAL RESOURCES AND TOURISM**

COMPILED AND DRAWN BY MSILU D.D

CHECKED BY *[Signature]* NLUPC 28/11/06

REGISTERED BY:

DATE



### **3.1: Logging/Timber harvesting zone;**

Based on the availability of tree species required for timber production, two zones were identified for timber harvesting/logging as described below;

The first zone begins from Tumbo road to Igulugulu camp, thereafter extends to Lyampande camp and then joined to Mwana-Msika camp, where it turns to Inyonga road and then goes straight along Inyonga road up to the cut line, where it joins Tumbo road.

The second zone starts from Uluwa River at the bridge and then goes along Uluwa river up to the cut line of Ugunda Forest Reserve, from that point the area extends along Kauye road up to Kaponda dam, thereafter extends to eastern side up to Shelisheli camp which lies along Mbeya road and then joins Uluwa river.

### **3.2: Beekeeping zone;**

Based on the factors required for bee keeping, tree species, which are necessary for timber production are also suitable for bee keeping, therefore it was agreed that all areas zoned for timber production will also be used for bee keeping.

The second zone for bee keeping will lie along Kululu river from Idaho fishing and honey collection Camp followed by Mgonda A camp and Iswangala camp and thereafter goes straight along Inyonga road up to Koga camp where it extends up to Mtugunsu camp followed by Isimbila camp and then goes back to Koga camp through Kululu river.

The third zone for bee keeping includes all area from the boundary of Ipole and Msuva village up to Mwana- Msika camp where it extends up to the boundary of Ugunda Forest Reserve and diverged towards eastern side up to Kauye road at the point where it intersects with Uluwa river.

### **3.3: Wildlife utilization Zone;**

#### **3.3.1: Tourist hunting zone;**

Tourist hunting has been allocated in the zone starting from the bridge of river Uluwa extending along Kauye road to river Nkwazi and then going along the western side of river Nkwazi up to Isanga camp, then joined by Swangala, Mwanauredi, Koga, Mtugunsu and Isimbila camps, thereafter the area goes along Isimbila- Igalula road up the junction of Milala and Msisi camps and joined by Igulugulu and Lyampande camps and from that point extends up to the boundary of Ugunda Forest Reserve and Swangala Forest Reserve then go back to the bridge of Uluwa river.

#### **3.3.2: Resident/ Local hunting zone;**

In order to encourage people surrounding wildlife management area (WMA) to protect Ugalla Game Reserve there must be a special area allocated for local hunting where by local people should be allowed to selectively and carefully utilize the resources sustainably. Therefore area for local hunting starts at Kaponda dam extending eastwards to Shelisheli camp near Ipole -Mbeya road and thereafter going along Mbeya road up to the boundary of WMA and from that point extending along the cut line of WMA all the way to Kauye- Ipole road then going back to Kaponda dam.

#### **3.3.3: Photographic tourism/ wildlife expedition zone;**

Area for wildlife expedition and photographing in Ipole WMA is found within Kamusengele swamp, beginning at Isanga camp extending along Nkwazi River up to Kauye road (The intersection point of Kauye road and river Nkwazi) thereafter diverging southwards up to the intersection point of Kauye road and the boundary of WMA, from that point the area extends westwards up to Idaho camp and then go back to Isanga camp.

### **3.4: Fishing Zone.**

Fishing activities will be done along Kululu River starting at Koga fishing camp to Ulunga fishing camp. Furthermore, fishing activities will be done in Mgonda A and Mgonda B fishing camps along Limbalimba River. However, Isimbila, Kaumbu and Msato, camps situated along the lower part of Kululu River will be special for fish reproduction and have been zoned for total preservation.

## **4.0: CURRENT STATUS OF RESOURCES IN EACH ZONE.**

### **4.1: Timber/Logging Zone;**

The following criteria were earmarked in locating this zone.

- ❖ Availability of large number of tree of big diameters suitable for timber production such as *Afzelia quanzensis*.
- ❖ The existence of both legal/illegal logging/ pit sawing activities
- ❖ Existence of access roads in dry season for transporting sawn wood in both zones.

### **4.2: Beekeeping Zone;**

The following criteria were used in designating this zone:

- ❖ The most important feature was the availability of tree species, which provide nectar and pollen for honey production e.g. *Julbernadia globiflora*, and the closely related *Julbernadia paniculata* which begin to flower in April reaching peak in May and fading in June. Again come into flower in September to November in which bees collect abundant nectar.
- ❖ Most of these trees are not used for timber production.
- ❖ Availability of water for bee and honey hunters throughout the year.

### **4.3: Fishing Zone:**

Kululu River and Limbalimba River provide ideal areas for fishing activities. Some parts form breeding sites and were exclusively zoned for total protection for breeding purposes.

#### **4.4: Hunting Zone.**

There was enough area to ensure that both tourist and resident hunters are happy by being allocated different zones which include:-

- Tourist Hunting zone
- Photographic Tourism zone
- Resident hunting zone

##### **4.4.1: Tourist hunting zone**

Main Criteria's:

- Existence of open areas with grassland with diversity of game species.
- Availability of feeding grounds, shallow valleys and depression with extensive drainage and grassland locally known as "mbuga".
- Scattered vegetation, which provide refuge and breeding grounds.
- Migratory areas and routes for wildlife from Ugalla Game Reserve.
- Availability of accessible road network to important sites.
- Availability of rare species such as cokes Hartebeest.

##### **4.4.2: Photographic Tourism zone**

Main Criteria's:

- Grassland with enough game
- Areas/sites with special features, which attract game e.g. Water holes "nkava", salt leak termite moulds "nkulo"
- On going beekeeping activities in associate with wildlife. This also opens avenue for interested tourists to participate in this activities without affecting other activities.

## **5.0: MONITORING PROGRAMMES AND IMPLEMENTATION IN THE IPOLE PILOT WMA.**

This Program prohibits activities, which deny sustainable management and utilization of wildlife resources in the pilot wildlife management area (WMA).

These include:-

- Developing human settlements
- Cultivation
- Mining
- Setting uncontrolled fires
- Indiscriminate felling and de barking of tree
- Livestock grazing
- Illegal game hunting (poaching) and fish catching

Villagers as well as resident/non-resident hunters will undertake the following activities:-

- Camping and picnic sites.
- Walking Safari and game viewing
- Research and Training

The JUHIWAI CBO will supervise the enacted wildlife laws. The highly trained Village Game Scouts (VGS) will enforce these laws and regulations.

### **5.1: COMMUNITY EMPOWERMENT TO MANAGE IPOLE PILOT WMA**

To ensure that *Ipole pilot WMA* is being managed in a sustainable manner, the JUHIWAI CBO involving four villages has been formed and registered by the the Registrar of Societies. This CBO will take the lead in managing the WMA as stipulated in the Wildlife Conservation (Wildlife management Areas) Regulations, 2002. The following has been accomplished:

- CBO entering into an agreement with village council on the Management of WMA.
- Recruit and Train village game scouts (VGS).
- Preparing by -laws, which safeguards WMA on land resource utilization on the respective villages.

However the JUHIWAI CBO is required to attain the following: -

- Acquisition of User rights
- Managing WMA in accordance to Resource Management Zone Plan and laid down regulations.
- Cooperating with Wildlife Division in the Management of Ipole pilot WMA.
- Review Resource Management Zone Plan (RMZP).
- Negotiating and entering into contracts with investors in Ipole pilot WMA.
- Developing and implementing mechanism for equitable sharing of benefits.
- Undertake resource monitoring and propose quota to the District Advisory body.
- Seek authorization for investment from village Assembly and report investment activities to the village assembly.
- Oversee Investment and development activities within Ipole pilot WMA.
- Protect Biodiversity resources
- Issue permits for utilizing resources in a WMA.
- Collect and remit fees to relevant authorities.

The District advisory body, Zonal anti-poaching unit, Regional Forest Office and the Ugalla Game Reserve all together will be involved in supporting the JUHIWAI in conservation of resources.

## 5.2: ANTICIPATED RESULTS OF IPOLE PILOT WMA

The major cash crop in four villages, which make up the JUHIWAI CBO, is tobacco growing which causes *miombo* deforestation because of fuel wood used to cure tobacco. An initiation of WMA will supplement income and poverty alleviation to residents of these villages through practicing environmentally friendly and sustainable, logging, beekeeping, fishing and wildlife activities.

An initiation of WMA **will increase revenue** and improve quality of life from newly created economic opportunities and shift of community wealth from individual to society which will be observed through the following indicators: improvement of diet/nutrition, clothing, good shelter and improved socio-economic services such as road construction, health, education and infrastructure.

An initiation of WMA will **enhance control of revenue** from different forms of resource utilization in WMA and decisions on use of revenue will be at village level hence improving social services and development at local level

An initiation of WMA will **enhance creation of new employment opportunities** through newly established economic activities such as logging, beekeeping, fishing, wildlife activities and multiplier effects of tourism activities.

An initiation of WMA will **enhance conservation of biodiversity** and indigenous knowledge of conserving the *miombo* woodlands.