

CLZ NEWS FLASH!



October 2011



Anthrax update – GRZ response

As reported in last month's newsletter the Anthrax disease has continued to affect the wildlife of the Lower Zambezi with mortalities of Hippo (100+), Buffalo (50+), Elephant (17), Baboon (2), Kudu (7). However, we are happy to confirm that due to ZAWA and CLZ's immediate response no lions have been lost to the disease and it is likely that the lions have now developed a natural immunity due to their exposure.

The ZAWA Area Warden Mr. Mambwe Ngoma, the ZAWA Area Ecologist Mr. Howard Miambo and several personnel from the GRZ Department of Veterinary Sciences visited CLZ Base Camp on 9-10 October to work on a response to the epidemic. In the meantime, CLZ were given authorisation to circulate an information factsheet amongst schools and clinics in the local area in order to educate the communities about the disease and the consequential risk to humans and livestock. On 29 October at the invitation of HRH Chieftainesse Chiawa, CLZ also hosted a range of community representatives including Counsellors, Police Officers, Clinic Officers and Headmen to discuss the epidemic and mitigation approaches to human infection.

As rain (hopefully!) approaches, we will likely see the end of the disease soon.

Wildlife Protection - Two big bulls lost in early October

Two elephant carcasses were found at the beginning of October. We lost one big bull at the western end of Out of Africa plain and a small bull on the western bank of the Upper Mwambashi river. The same group of hunters were probably responsible for the killings. ZAWA Chinyunyu Command's Roan team carried out a follow up and did find tracks but unfortunately these were lost due to a rain shower. Gunshots were reported recently by Old Mondoro from the Chakwenga river area – Buffalo team, also from Chinyunyu Command have been deployed to investigate.

BIG thank you to Beej and welcome back Ian!

All those who have worked with Brendan Raisbeck will I'm sure join me in saying thank you for everything over the past few months. For giving so much time and enthusiasm to CLZ, being so committed and also always fun to be around! He is off to pastures new and will be reunited with his wife and children. We welcome back Ian Stevenson to his old stomping ground and are already grateful for all the hard work he has done and energy that he brings to CLZ! Good times ahead.

Education Program - Environmental educator Besa Kaoma breathes a sigh of relief as he waves goodbye to his last school group of the year this time from the Chinyunyu area. Twenty-four children from Chinyunyu, Kankumba, Ndubulula and Namanongo Basic Schools visited CLZ for 3 nights learning about environmental issues and enjoying game drives and boat cruises in order to experience their national wildlife. Besa and Oscar also visited the Chongwe area at the end of October to encourage environmental education in all of the local Basic Schools. These catchment areas are an important target due to being well known for the eminence of poachers and high deforestation levels.

Thank You – this month to: Cocktails for Conservation evening sponsors:



Anita Balletto for presenting, **Richard Chapple** and **Julie Matthews** for auctioning and all at the Elephant Charge for their attendance - **We raised over \$5000 for CLZ!**

Thank you to **Magma Aviation** for a fantastic lumpsum donation of \$12,000 which will go towards wildlife protection. Magma Aviation in conjunction with Eurocargo Aviation operate a weekly B747 freighter from Luxembourg to Lusaka, departing Luxembourg @ 18:00 on a Thursday evening.



Thanks to the wonderful **Elephant Charge** committee for organising a fantastic event again this year. www.elephantcharge.org. Sarah and Ian came 4th!



Thanks to **Barry Savage at Top Gear** in Lusaka for a vehicle renovation after a medevac explosion! To **Yancey Walker, Kellie Leigh and Kristine Merz** for their kind donations and **Baines** for donating a vehicle for our School groups.



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And the saviour of the valley never to be forgotten....**Jerry Carbin.**

Working Today to Protect Tomorrow