

MNGULUWE BLOCK MANAGEMENT PLAN



NTCHISI FOREST RESERVE

PERIOD 2014-2019

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ACRONYMS

DFO	-DISTRICT FORESTRY OFFICER/OFFICE
TA	-TRADITIONAL AUTHORITY
IFMSLP	-IMPROVED FOREST MANAGEMENT FOR SUSTAINABLE LIVELIHOOD PROGRAMME
EU	-EUROPEAN UNION
FMU	-FOREST MANAGEMENT UNIT
LFO	-LOCAL FOREST ORGANISATION
FD	-FOREST DEPARTMENT
FDF	FOREST DEVELOPMENT FUND
BMC	- BLOCK MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE
BMCA	-BLOCK MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE ACCOUNT.
VH	-VILLAGE HEAD
EPA	-EXTENSION PLANNING AREA
LFMB	-LOCAL FOREST MANAGEMENT BOARD
LFMBA	-LOCAL FOREST MANAGEMENT BOARD ACCOUNT
PCU	-PROGRAMME COORDINATING UNIT
GVH	-GROUP VILLAGE HEAD
NGO	-NON GOVERNMENTAL ORGANISATION
VNRMC	-VILLAGE NATURAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE
FUG	- FOREST USER GROUP

1.0 INTRODUCTION

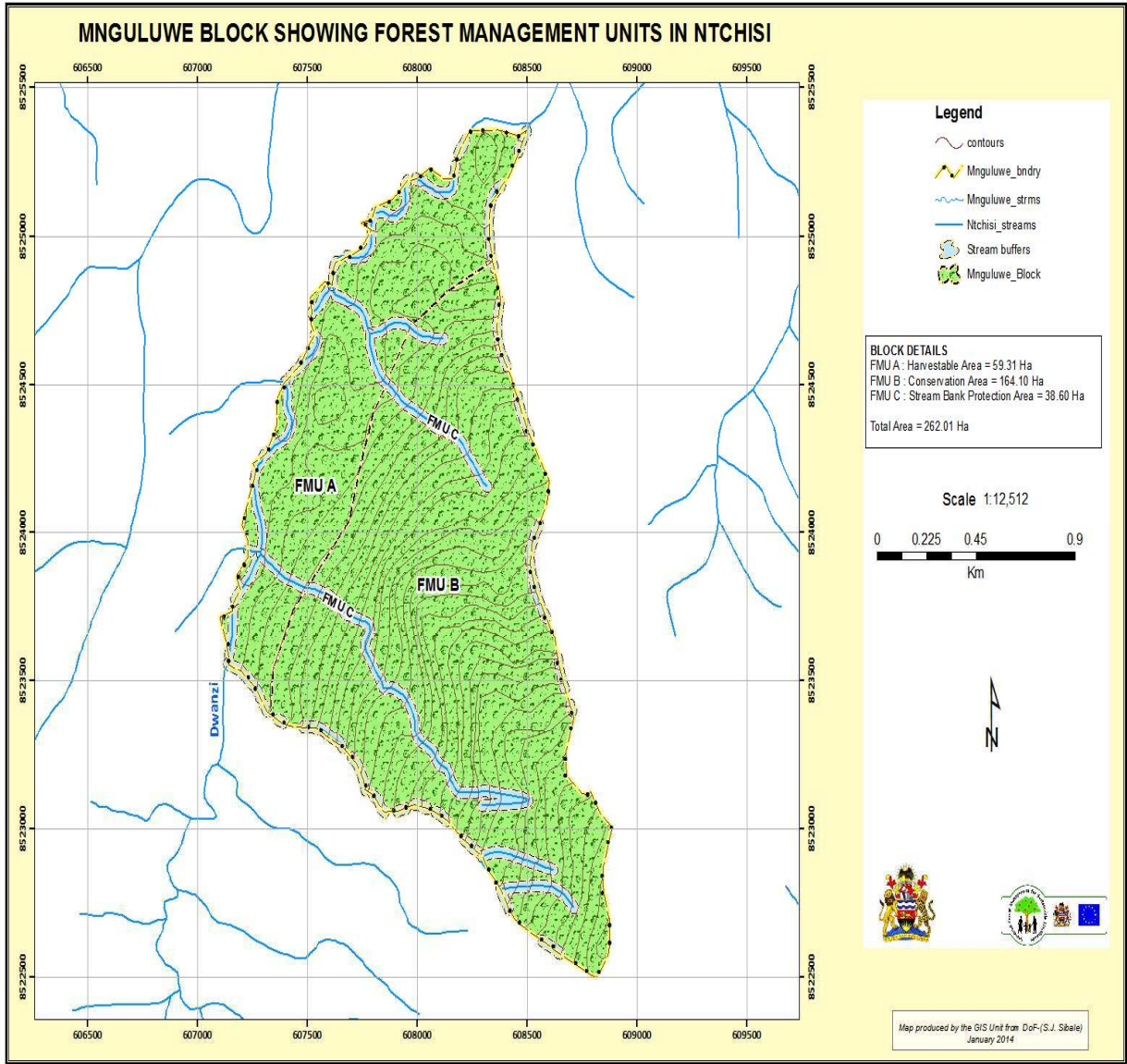
This document is the summary of a process of joint discussion, analysis, Consultation, negotiation and planning by the community of Mnguluwe.

Facilitation was done by forestry extension workers from Department of forestry. The aim is to empower the people of GVH Mnguluwe to make decisions and take responsibility for and promote collective action for protection, management and sustainable utilisation of their Forest block. This is in line with the Malawi National Forestry Policy of 1996, which recognises the need for communities to be given a greater role in the management of forests and access to forest resource.

The output of the process of planning, consultation and negotiation is this Block Management Plan which was agreed by key stakeholders of the area. The process was participatory with the aim of being people – centred, transparent, equitable and empowering.

It includes resource use rules which are locally relevant and locally enforceable to assist protection and management of the block for both the present and future benefit of Mnguluwe community

Figure 1 Map of Mnguluwe Block



2.0 MANAGING AUTHORITY

This Management Plan shall be managed by Mnguluwe Block Management committee with support from the Forestry Department.

The Block Committee had been registered as a Local Forest Organisation and it is an official institution with legal mandate to ensure that the Block Management plan is followed. There are six villages namely: Wazili, (20HHs) Chigunda (22HHs), Mkaseka (15HHs), Khanyanga (10 HHs), Mnguluwe 1 (17 HHs), and Mnguluwe 2 (18HHs). Thus the total households that depend on the block is 108 and these are the people who are expected to co-manage Mnguluwe Block with assistance from DoF

3.0 FOREST DESCRIPTION

3.1 General Description

Mnguluwe Block is located 26 kms east of Ntchisi Boma and is part of Ntchisi state owned forest reserve. The size of the block is 262.01 ha. It is located in the area of Group Village Head Mnguluwe, Traditional Authority Nthondo in Ntchisi District.

3.1.1 Vegetation

The block has medium to big trees distributed scatteredly with regenerants. Species found in the Block include: Thombozi, Mpapa, Mkulo, Kulasinga, Kasokolowe, Sendeleya, Nthudza, Msukuludzi, Mvilu and Nseza.

3.1.2 Soils

. The Block has sandy loam soil in gentle slope areas and sandy clay soil in high areas

3.2 Boundary

Mnguluwe Block is 26.0 Km east of Ntchisi Boma. It borders with Sambakunsi Block to the South, Chifwerekete Block to the North, Evergreen Forest to the east and Dwazi River to the West

3.3 Tenure

The block which is part of Ntchisi Forest Reserve, is stated owned. According to the Forestry Act 1997, the community of Mnguluwe will be accord formal access as regards forest management and utilization upon signing of co-management agreements

3.4 Forest users

People from GVHs Mnguluwe are primary users of the resources from Mnguluwe Block. All the villages under Mnguluwe Block will have the right to collect or harvest forest produce from the block. The communities will have to access resources from this block through a Block Management Committee (BMC) which will be responsible for issuing user permits according to the type of forest products to be harvested /collected.

3.5 Main uses

The block will be accessed by all relevant forest users who, under a management agreement will be permitted to obtain in a sustainable manner both woody and non-woody forest products which include the following: fuel wood, timber, poles, fibre, medicinal products, mushroom, edible caterpillars, fruits, honey and thatch grass.

Apart from being a source of the above mentioned forest products; the block also serves as a catchment area for rivers and streams within the block and beyond. Grazing is permitted. Other ecological services include soil and water conservation mainly in steep slopes and river lines

4.0 FOREST MANAGEMENT UNITS

Based on the nature of terrain and distribution of streams, Mnguluwe Block is divided into 3 Forest Management Units (FMUs).

FMU A has relatively gentle slope while FMU B has steep slope and FMU C is all that area 20 metres around every stream. Hectarage for the FMUs is as follows:

FMU A: 59.31 Ha

FMU B 164.10 Ha

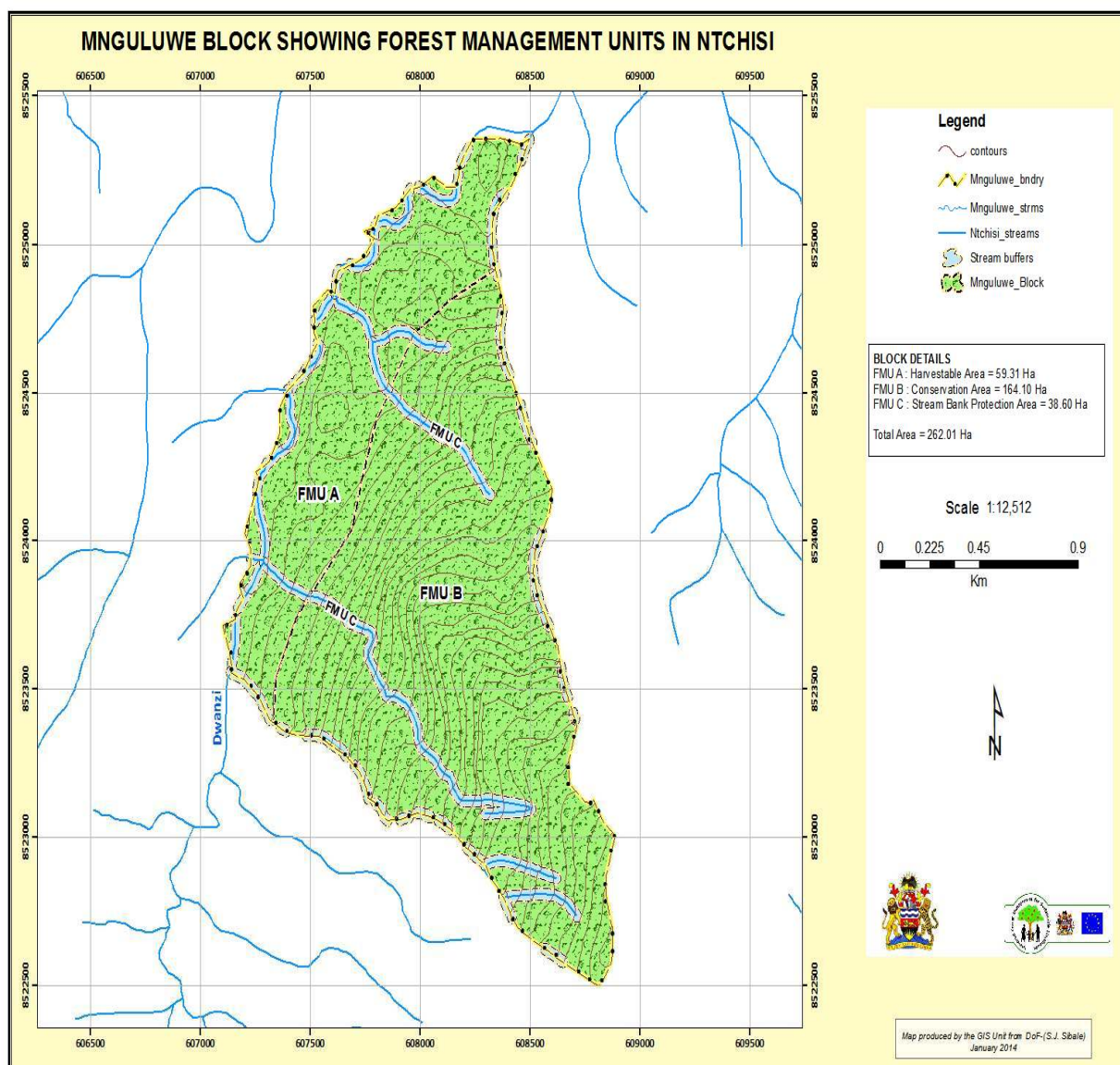
FMU C: 38.60 Ha

4.1 Harvesting Of Woody and Non-Woody Products

Harvesting of woody products shall be carried out in selected areas (depending on availability) within FMU A while harvesting of non-woody products will be carried out in all the FMUs.

NOTE: Considering the size of the harvestable area (which is small) and availability of woody resources (little), need for demarcation of harvesting coupes in the block has not been seen

Fig 2 Map of Harvestable and Non-harvestable area (FMUs)



4.1 Main objectives of Non Harvestable and Harvestable areas

4.1.1 Non harvestable

- To conserve and protect steep slopes and river line areas.
- To sustainably harvest non woody forest products such as; mushroom, medicine, fruits, thatch grass, edible caterpillars and honey for domestic use and for sale.

4.1.2 Harvestable

- To sustainably harvest and utilize woody products like; firewood, poles, timber, for domestic use and for sale.
- To sustainably harvest non woody forest products such as; mushroom, medicine, fruits, thatch grass, edible caterpillars and honey for domestic use and for sale.

4.2 Specific objectives of Non harvestable and Harvestable areas

4.2.1 Non harvestable areas

- To conserve river line vegetation so that water flow throughout the year for domestic use.
- To protect steep slopes.
- To sustainably harvest non woody forest products such as; mushroom, medicine, fruits, thatch grass, edible caterpillars and honey for domestic use and for sale.

4.2.2 Harvestable areas

- To conserve and protect steep slopes and river line areas.
- To sustainably harvest non woody forest products such as; mushroom, medicine, fruits, thatch grass, edible caterpillars and honey for domestic use and for sale.

5.0 MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVES

5.1 Main objectives

The main objective of participatory forest Management in Ntchisi Forest Area is to share responsibility between communities and the Forestry Department in sustainable management and utilization of forest products and services for improved livelihoods of the communities around/adjacent to the forest area.

5.2 SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES

Specific Objectives include the following:-

- i Sustainable supply of forest produce such as poles, firewood, timber for both domestic and commercial use.
- ii Environmental protection especially of ecological areas such as Wetlands and Watersheds.
- iii Sustainable utilization of non-wood forest products such as mushrooms, honey, medicinal products, fruits, etc

6.0 FOREST RESOURCE USE RULES

For an effective forest co-management program, Mnguluwe Forest Block Committee has formulated a number of rules with specific penalties. This is also in line with prescriptions from the forestry Act.

Table 1: Forest Resource Use Rules and Penalties for Mnguluwe Block

NO	RULE/REGULATION	SPECIFICATION	PENALTIES
1	No cutting of live trees is allowed in Mnguluwe Block without a permit from the Block committee.	Cutting of live trees will be regulated and monitored by the Block committee with facilitation from FD frontline	Anyone found guilty of such offence shall be fined MK1,000 and the forest product plus equipment used shall be retained by the Block committee.
2	No sawing of timber is allowed in Mnguluwe Block without a permit from the Block Committee	Timber sawing will be regulated and monitored by the Block Committee.	Anyone found guilty of such offence shall be fined and have his/her timber and tools confiscated.
3	No dry wood collection is allowed in Mnguluwe block without a permit from the Block committee	Firewood for domestic we will be collected freely by the people managing the block but outsiders will pay K100 per head load.	Anyone found guilty of an offence shall be fined twice the normal charge and have the produce confiscated.
4	Setting of fires in the Block is prohibited	Controlled early patch burning shall apply in all hazardous areas in the block to reduce fire hazards and to induce regeneration of regenerants	Anyone found guilty of such offence shall be fined K25,000
5	GVH Mnguluwe wider community shall participate in all Forestry activities in the block	Mnguluwe Block Committee shall request GVH leadership to mobilize wider community to participate in all forestry activities.	Anyone found guilty of such an offence shall pay a fine of K1,000
6	Grazing of cattle in Mnguluwe Block is not allowed without a Block permits	All cattle grazers shall register with the Block Committee at a fee of K500/head/year	Anyone found guilty of such offence shall pay a fine of K100 per head per day
7	Hunting is prohibited in Mnguluwe Block	Hunting is completely prohibited	Anyone found guilty such an offence shall be fined K10,000 and have the game confiscated.
8	Cultivation in Mnguluwe Block is not allowed	Mnguluwe Block Committee completely bans cultivation in the Block	Anyone found guilty of an offence shall pay a fine of K25,000 and have his crops destroyed.

9	No bee keeping in the Block without Block Committee	Bee keepers to register with committee at a fee of K500/bee hive per year.	Anyone found guilty of an offence shall be fined K200/bee hive per day and removal of beehives.
10	No collection of medicine is allowed in Mnguluwe Block without a permit	Medicine will be collected free by wider community but outsider will be charged K1000 per day	Anyone found guilty of an offence shall pay a fine of K2000 per day.
11	No collection of fruits is allowed in Mnguluwe Block without a permit and mushrooms	Fruits and mushrooms are free for Mnguluwe wider community. Outsider will be required to pay K100	Anyone found guilty of an offence shall be fined K1000
12	Charcoal burning is prohibited	Completely prohibited	Anyone found shall be fined K25,000

7.0 FOREST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES FOR CHIFWEREKETE BLOCK

7.1 ACTION PLAN

The following activities shall be undertaken annually

MONTH	ACTIVITY
JANUARY	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Mushroom harvesting• Update register of bee keepers and collect fees• Issuing licenses to commercial collectors of medicine• Forest Block patrols• Monthly meeting
FEBRUARY	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Mushroom harvesting• Conduct Forest Patrols• Conduct monthly meeting
MARCH	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Mushroom harvesting• Conduct Forest Patrols• Quarterly review meeting
APRIL	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Firebreak maintenance• Forest Block patrols
MAY	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Forest Block patrols• Conduct early controlled burning
JUNE	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Assessment of regeneration on a 2 year basis• Thinning of harvested coupes (ie 5 years after harvesting)• Quarterly review meeting
JULY	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Nursery establishment• Thinning of harvested coupes (ie 5 years after harvesting)
AUGUST	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Seedling raising (Nursery management Forest Block Patrols)
SEPTEMBER	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Quarterly review meeting• Nursery management
OCTOBER	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Nursery management
NOVEMBER	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Hardening off tree seedlings• Nursery management• Fruit collection
DECEMBER	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Tree planting• Mushroom collection• Fruit collection

7.2 Patrolling Plan

Patrols will be conducted twice a week by people from the following villages in conjunction with DoF staff: Wazili, Chigunda, Mkaseka, Khanyanga, Mnguluwe 1, and Mnguluwe 2

Table 7.2 Patrolling Plan

Activity	Who	When	Indicator
Checking illegal pit sawing	Community and Forestry Department staff	Once a week	- No. of planks confiscated. -No. of tools confiscated - No. of cases Judged.
Checking illegal fuel wood collection	Community and Forestry Department staff	Once a week	-No. Of tools confiscated - No. of cases booked.
Illegal charcoal burning	Community and Forestry Department staff	Twice a week	-No. of bags confiscated -No. Of kiln destroyed. - No. Of cases recorded.
Checking illegal tree cutting for collection of edible caterpillars	Community and Forestry Department staff	Twice a week	-No of tools confiscated. -No of cases booked.

8.0 SITE BASED FOREST PRODUCT ISSUES

A number of site-based forest product issues in both FMU 1 and FMU 2 relating amongst other thing to product type, demand and supply, challenges and management practices have been outlined. FMU 1 is considered key site for woody products although poles can also be harvested in FMU 2 through singling and thinning. Non-woody forest products can be harvested in all the FMUs.

8.1 MANAGEMNT PLAN FOR WOOD PRODUCTS

8.1.1 Management plan for Timber

Product key: Timber

Supply: Low

Demand: Low

Key Species: *Mkulo, Kulasinga, Sendeleya, Nthudza, Mvilu and Nseza*

Issues/Challenges: Scarcity of good quality timber species
Theft

8.1.2 MANAGEMNT PLAN FOR FIREWOOD

Product 2: Firewood

Supply: High

Demand: High

Key Species : *Thombozi, Mpapa, Mkulo, Kulasinga, Kasokolowe, Sendeleya, Nthudza, Msukuludzi, Mvilu and Nseza*

Challenges: Wastage, Lack of market, Theft

8.1.3 MANAGEMNT PLAN FOR POLES

Product 3: Poles

Supply: Low

Demand: High

Key Species: *Thombozi, Mpapa, Mkulo, Kulasinga, Kasokolowe, Sendeleya, Nthudza, Msukuludzi, Mvilu and Nseza*

Challenges: Low regeneration rate, Fires

MANAGEMENT PRACTICES

- Timber tree species will not be harvested for poles or firewood but retained for timber
- Conduct frequent and consistent patrols
- Harvesting of poles and firewood shall be done after assessing the market of the produce and amount required.
- Harvesting of poles will be through singling and thinning
- Firewood will be left overs from timber and poles and dead trees
- Trees will be felled at a recommended stump height if 20cm or below
- Poles have to be counted before being removed from the block
- Firewood will be stacked in mends.

8.2 NON-WOOD PRODUCTS

8.2.1 MANAGEMNT PLAN FOR MEDICINE

Product : Medicine

Supply: High

Demand: High

Key Species: *Thombozi, Mpapa, Mkulo, Kulasinga, Kasokolowe, Sendeleya, Nthudza, Msukuludzi, Mvilu* and *Nseza*

Challenges: Bad harvesting practices and over grazing

MANAGEMENT PRACTICES

- Felling or ring barking is not permitted where there are medicinal plants
- Pits dug should filled after use
- Removal of root stock for medicinal purpose shall be done with minimal damage to the root system and surrounding area
- Only 10% of the root stock can be removed from only medicinal plant
- Collection of medicine will be monitored by the Block Committee.

Allowable Harvestable quantity per year

- Communities may collect according to availability and quantity of medicine as long as specified rules and regulations are fully followed.

8.2.2 Management plan for Bee Keeping

Product 2: Honey

Supply: Low

Demand: High

Challenges:

- Lack of modern bee keeping equipment
- Limited bee keeping skills
- Careless felling of bee fodder
- Improper use of fire when harvesting honey

MANAGEMENT PRACTICES

- Bee hives shall be hanged in selected sites within the FMU
- The LFO, as a managing authority, shall register bee keepers and provide guidance in locating sites for bee keeping
- Modern bee hives shall be promoted
- Bee hives made from tree bark will be prohibited
- Bee hives will be located at not less than 10 metres from one another
- Train BMC in modern bee keeping skills.

Allowable number of bee hives in the Block

- The LFO will decide how many beehives can be positioned in a particular site.
- Registered bee keeper may keep as many bee hives as allowed by the LFO
- The registered bee keeper shall have liberty to dispose all honey/she produces

8.2.3 Management plan for fruits

Product 3: Fruits

Supply: Low

Demand: High

Key Speices: *Nthudza* , *Kasokolowe* and *Mvilu*

Challenges: Poor harvesting methods and illegal felling of fruit trees.

MANAGEMENT PRACTICES

- Felling of fruit trees will be prohibited
- Fruits will only be harvested when they are ripe

Allowable Harvestable quantity per year

- There is no restriction on the amount of fruits to be collected upon obtaining permission from the Block Committee..

8.2.4 Management plan for Mushroom

Product 4: Mushroom

Supply: Average

Demand: High

Key Species: Chiwere, Chipindi, Mphofu, Manyame, Ndelema, Kamtsempha, Kasanza, Chamakala, Chisuku, Manda, Kapasa, Ngodzi, Katelera, Mkodzowagalu and Chabwalo

Challenges:

- Forest fires
- Trampled by animals
- Illegal harvesting

MANAGEMENT PRACTICES

- Mushrooms will be collected under a permit from the Block Committee
- Mushrooms shall be harvested from December to March
- Only mature mushrooms shall be harvested
- Controlled early patch burning will be in the areas where mushrooms grow at the beginning of the dry season to avoid wild fires.

9.0 MONITORING THE BLOCK MANAGEMENT PLAN

The Block Committee shall submit a progress report of its achievements and challenges encountered during implementation every 3 months to the Local Forest Management Board and shall provide ie copy to the District Forestry Officer. There shall be a joint quarterly Review Meeting for the Block Committee and the District Forestry Office a week after the Block Quarterly progress Review meeting.

10.0 FINANCIAL ISSUES

Financial issues, such as benefit sharing shall follow prescribed guidelines as stipulated in Mnguluwe Block Committee Constitution. Any payment made to the LFO and expenses made by the LFO shall be transacted according to the said guidelines.

Annexes

MNGULUWE FOREST BLOCK MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE CONSTITUTION

NAME OF THE BLOCK: MNGULUWE

ADDRESS: MNGULUWE GVH
C/O SAMBAKUNSI PRIMARY SCHOOL
P.O. BOX 7, NTCHISI

CONTACT NUMBERS: 0991980494/0996021339

1.0 OBJECTIVE

To satisfy wider community of GVH Mnguluwe (particularly from Mnguluwe 1, mnguluwe 2, Chigunda, Wazili, Khanyanga and Mkaseka villages) of their needs on forest based products such as poles, bamboos, timber, hoe handles, firewood, mushrooms, medicine, honey and fruit besides protecting the water catchment.

2.0 STRUCTURE AND MEMBERSHIP

- 2.1 There shall be an elected managing committee comprising office bearers such as chairperson and vice, Secretary and vice, Treasurer and other 7 members totalling to 12 in number.
- 2.2 These members shall be elected proportionately from the 6 villages mentioned in 1.0.
- 2.3 Community members from the vilages stated in 1.0 shall be automatic members of Mnguluwe Forest Block
- 2.4 Elected members shall be representatives from different user groups of the block in the above 6 villages.
- 2.5 All village Heads from the stated villages and Group Village Headman Mnguluwe shall be ex-officials of the Forest Management Committee.

3.0 ELECTIONS

- 3.1 Elections shall take place in a free and fair manner in consultation with the 6 village heads and the Group Headman. Twelve (12) Community Members (representatives) from tcontest for executive membership of the Forest Block Management Committee. Village Heads shall observe elections.
- 3.2 Elections shall take place every three years except when the whole committee is dissolved or some members are deceased, disqualified, dismissed or have resigned.
- 3.3 Elected office bearers shall work for a period of three years and will be eligible to stand for another one term basing on efficiency and effectiveness.
- 3.4 The entire Block Management Committee shall be dissolved after contravening the Block constitution. Both wider community and Block advisors can move a motion to dissolve the committee provided they have reasonable grounds.

4.0 SPECIFIC ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

4.1 The Chairperson shall

- Prepare the Agenda for a meeting in consultation with the Secretary
- Call for the Executive meetings and preside over deliberations
- Call for meetings with wider community in consultation with local leaders
- Be a signatory of the Block Account
- Represent the Block Management Committee at external meetings

4.2 The Secretary shall

- Record all minutes of meetings and events of the block
- Welcome guests during events
- Deal with all correspondences of the committee
- Record fines, finances and penalties
- Be a signatory of the Block Account
- Produce a written agenda for a meeting
- Compile Block progress reports.

4.3 The Treasurer shall

- Keep custody of the entire block equipment
- Keep custody of all finances of the block
- Be a signatory of Institution Account
- Issue Licenses of forest products and permits for operations
- Produce financial reports

4.4 Committee members shall

- Be delegated to represent any member of the executive in meetings
- Participate in committee deliberations
- Be chosen where necessary to be a signatory of the Block Account
- Be involved in managing conflicts of the committee

4.5 The group village head and village heads shall

- Mobilise their subjects for development activities of the block.
- Assist to settle disputes which the Block Management committee has failed
- Advise the Block Management Committee where necessary
- Solicit external support for the Block where necessary

4.6 The District Forestry Office shall

- Provide technical and material support on all activities to the Block Management Committee.

- Assist in resource use regulation and law enforcement
- Facilitate the participatory M & E of the Block Management Plan.
- mentor the Implementation of the Block Management Plan.

4.7 Wider Community shall

- Be required to take part in tree planting, controlled early burning. Thinning, firebreak - maintenance and any other activity as may be determined by management.
- Take part in election of block committee office bearers, dissolution of committee and disqualification of an elected member.

5.0 FUNCTION OF THE BLOCK COMMITTEE

The Block committee shall

- Meet every fortnight to discuss management issues
- Meet once every month with a wider community for feedback or consensus
- Develop resource use rules, penalties and sanctions in consultation with GVH, VH and wider community
- Steer all activities of the Block in collaboration with available service providers, District Forestry Office, all the 6 village heads and the Group Village Headman
- Issue permits and licences to people for the purpose of accessing products in the block
- Review the Block Management Plan every three years.

6.0 BENEFIT SHARING

Revenue generated from sales of forest products will be shared as follows:-

60% into Mnguluwe Block Account
 30% into Forestry Development Account and
 10% into Local Forestry Management Board (LFMB) Account.

Money accumulated in the Block Management Committee Account shall be used as follows:-

1. Forest Management activities of the Block = 30%
2. Block Administration = 20%
3. Micro-credit scheme – 40%
4. Community Development (Social welfare) = 10%

Note:

- Forest Management activities include the following:- Boundary screening, slashing, controlled patch burning, conduct forest patrols, plot and coupe demarcation, licensing of forest produce, maintenance of road network adjacent to the block.
- Micro-Credit Scheme shall provide soft loans to GVH Mnguluwe wider community to start small-scale businesses with an intention of increasing household income levels. The loan will attract an interest of 20% per month.

There will be a sub committee headed by the BMC treasurer to manage loans.

12 NAMES OF MNGULUWE FOREST BLOCK MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

NO.	NAME	DESIGNATION
1	Yobu Robert	Chairperson
2	Isaac Jambo	Vice Chairperson
3	Office M. Njuchi	Secretary
4	Iness Msampha	Vice Secretary
5	Daniel Phata	Treasurer
6	Raphael Chimbiya	Member
7	Shabani Lingison	Member
8	Harold Kuwayula	Member
9	Chambola Kapalamula	Member
10	Kaliko Kabonyola	Member
11	Maria Kafinyadzombe	Member
12	Saukirani Kanjombi	Member
13	GVH Mnguluwe	Senior Advisor
14	VH Mnguluwe 1	Advisor
15	VH Mnguluwe 2	Advisor
16	VH Chigunda	Advisor
17	VH Wazili	Advisor
18	VH Khanyonga	Advisor
19	VH Mkaseka	Advisor

MNGULUWE (NTCHISI)

13. SIGNED:

[Signature]

DIRECTOR OF FORESTRY

Dated... 26-02-14



AND

Yobu Robert

CHAIRPERSON, LOCAL FOREST ORGANISATION

Dated... 2/4/2014

WITNESSES:

G.V.H. Mngulwe
VILLAGE HEADMAN/WOMAN



TRADITIONAL AUTHORITY

Dated... 2/4/2014

Dated.....

[Signature]
DISTRICT COMMISSIONER

Dated.....

