

# GAME COUNTS IN EAST ZAMBEZI

A collaboration between NACSO, MEFT and environmental NGOs

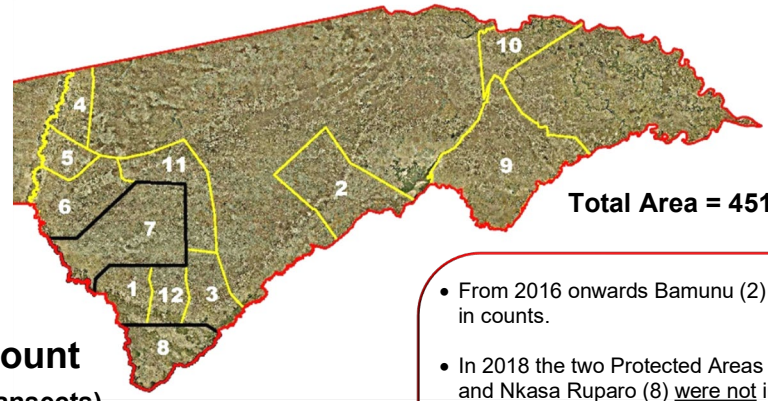
The fundamental purpose of game counts in communal areas is to inform conservancies and MEFT of wildlife trends for the purposes of adaptive management of resources. While estimates for some species are provided, these should only be considered as an approximate guide to species abundance.

## Dry season - Live sightings August 2024

Numbers seen (transects):

Area	1 Balyerwa	2 Bamunu	3 Dzoti	4 Kwandu	5 Mashhi	6 Mayuni	7 Mudumu	8 Nkasa Rupara	9 Salambala	10 Sikunga	11 Sobbe	12 Wuparo
Total km	99	106	118	79	99	71	392	116	201	58	97	44
No. of routes	12	9	12	11	9	6	24	4	16	4	10	4

Species	1 Balyerwa	2 Bamunu	3 Dzoti	4 Kwandu	5 Mashhi	6 Mayuni	7 Mudumu	8 Nkasa Rupara	9 Salambala	10 Sikunga	11 Sobbe	12 Wuparo
Baboon								40				
Buffalo			903		150		45	35	7		20	200
Bushbuck		1						1				
Bushpig												
Cheetah												
Crocodile												
Duiker	8	3	10	9	4	2	21			1	8	1
Eland			16	34		10	19		22		3	
Elephant	73		45	20	200	15	939	68	23	37	8	48
Giraffe			1		5	8	13		42		9	
Hartebeest												
Hippo	1			4		25	46	7				
Hyaena, sp.							1					
Impala	74	18	90			10	345	1,349	168			182
Jackal	2		2				4	1				
Kori bustard								1				
Kudu	16			13	23		45	42	5		23	4
Lechwe			10	280	9	604	52	183				18
Leopard												2
Lion			5				1					
Ostrich						1						
Reedbuck		2	2					8				6
Roan					2		81				14	
Sable			2				193				26	
Steenbok							1					
V. Monkey								1				
Warthog	4		1				34	453	16			28
Waterbuck			6									1
Wild dog												
Wildebeest	51	1	2				181	26	23			12
Zebra B.	46	373	10		91		791	36	128	7		



Total Area = 451,600 ha

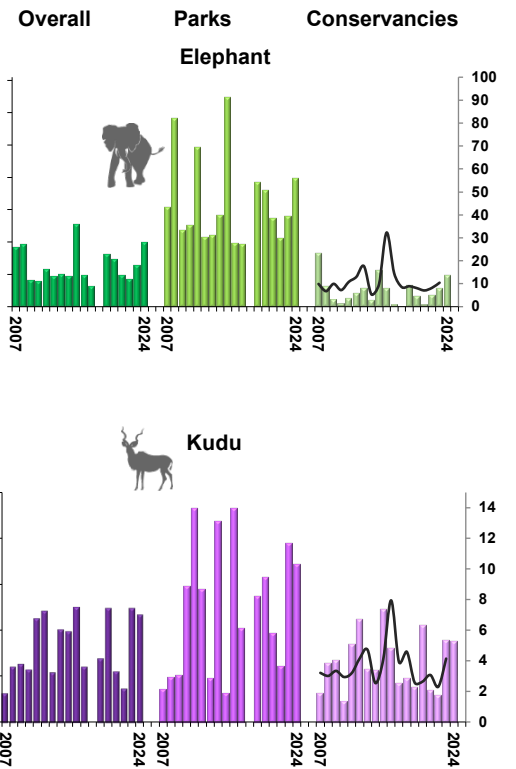
### Last 3 Count Years (transects)

Species	Animals Seen			Groups Seen		
	2024	2023	2022	2024	2023	2022
Baboon	40	173	46	1	8	4
Buffalo	1,360	708	296	13	11	4
Bushbuck	2	3		2	3	
Bushpig		4	6		1	1
Cheetah			2			1
Crocodile			2			2
Duiker	67	88	62	56	76	58
Eland	104	202	92	14	14	8
Elephant	1,476	892	581	81	93	21
Giraffe	78	38	53	21	14	17
Hartebeest		2			1	
Hippo	83	92	8	9	7	2
Hyaena, sp	1	1	1	1	1	1
Impala	2,236	2,325	327	102	139	27
Jackal	9	13	2	7	8	2
Kori	1			1		
Kudu	171	193	51	33	38	12
Lechwe	1,156	1,003	51	23	36	8
Leopard	2	3		1	2	
Lion	6	2	9	2	1	3
Ostrich	1			1		
Reedbuck	18	42	7	7	16	4
Roan	97	155	66	16	27	19
Sable	221	29	87	13	8	6
Steenbok	1	9	10	1	9	8
V. Monkey	1		10	1		1
Warthog	536	718	39	63	143	13
Waterbuck	7	43	2	2	8	1
Wild dog						
Wildebeest	296	304	160	16	17	14
Zebra B.	1,482	2,655	1,843	72	71	73

- From 2016 onwards Bamunu (2) was included in counts.
- In 2018 the two Protected Areas Mudumu (7) and Nkasa Rupara (8) were not included in counts.
- In 2022 Nkasa Rupara (8) was not counted due to inundation.
- It is important to bear this in mind when interpreting tables, charts and a time series of posters.

### Trends:

Bars = numbers per 100km (left axis); line = monthly fixed patrol sighting index



### Estimates

Estimates were calculated for 2024 using DISTANCE. Due to low numbers of sightings, in most cases, at least the last 5 years of data were used in analyses to generate detection profiles for each species. Only foot transects were used in analyses for Mudumu N.P. Some contiguous conservancies have been grouped in which case estimates are provided for the combined area. The bottom row of hyphenated numbers = 95% Confidence Intervals. With zebra, buffalo and lechwe DISTANCE is not an appropriate method to use as these animals are usually found in large herds, and/or in association with floodplain and riverine areas.

Species	Kwandu Mayuni Mashhi Sobbe	Balyerwa Dzoti Wuparo	Mudumu	Nkasa Rupara	Bamunu	Salambala	Sikungu
Buffalo	170 0	1,103 0	45 20	35	* (5)	* (5)	0
Duiker	1,308 752-2274	644 351-1184	932 524-1660	* (4)	* (16)	**	* (13)
Elephant	813 358-1847	1,526 777-2997	5,605 2829-11104	373 144-964	* (7)	**	* (16)
Giraffe	290 121-692	* (3)	148 34-643	0	* (1)	42	* (9)
Impala	166 30-919	3,715 1638-8425	471 113-1957	18,375 12577-26845	* (5)	2,480 868-7082	* (8)
Kudu	912 424-1964	366 135-996	330 117-934	456 157-1330	* (5)	197 50-778	* (7)
Lechwe	893 211	28	52 153	183	0	* (1)	0
Roan	232 87-616	**	882 328-2370	0	* (1)	0	0
Sable	*	*	1,393 567-3420	0	0	* (1)	0
Steenbok	*	*	39 7-220	0	* (1)	**	0
Warthog	**	595 208-1702	257 97-685	7,899 5364-11631	* (16)	308 143-660	* (5)
Wildebeest	*	* (17)	414 124-1378	* (10)	* (5)	1,061 178-6325	* (6)
Zebra	91	56	791	36	373	128	7

DISTANCE analysis is not appropriate for big herd/floodplain species.

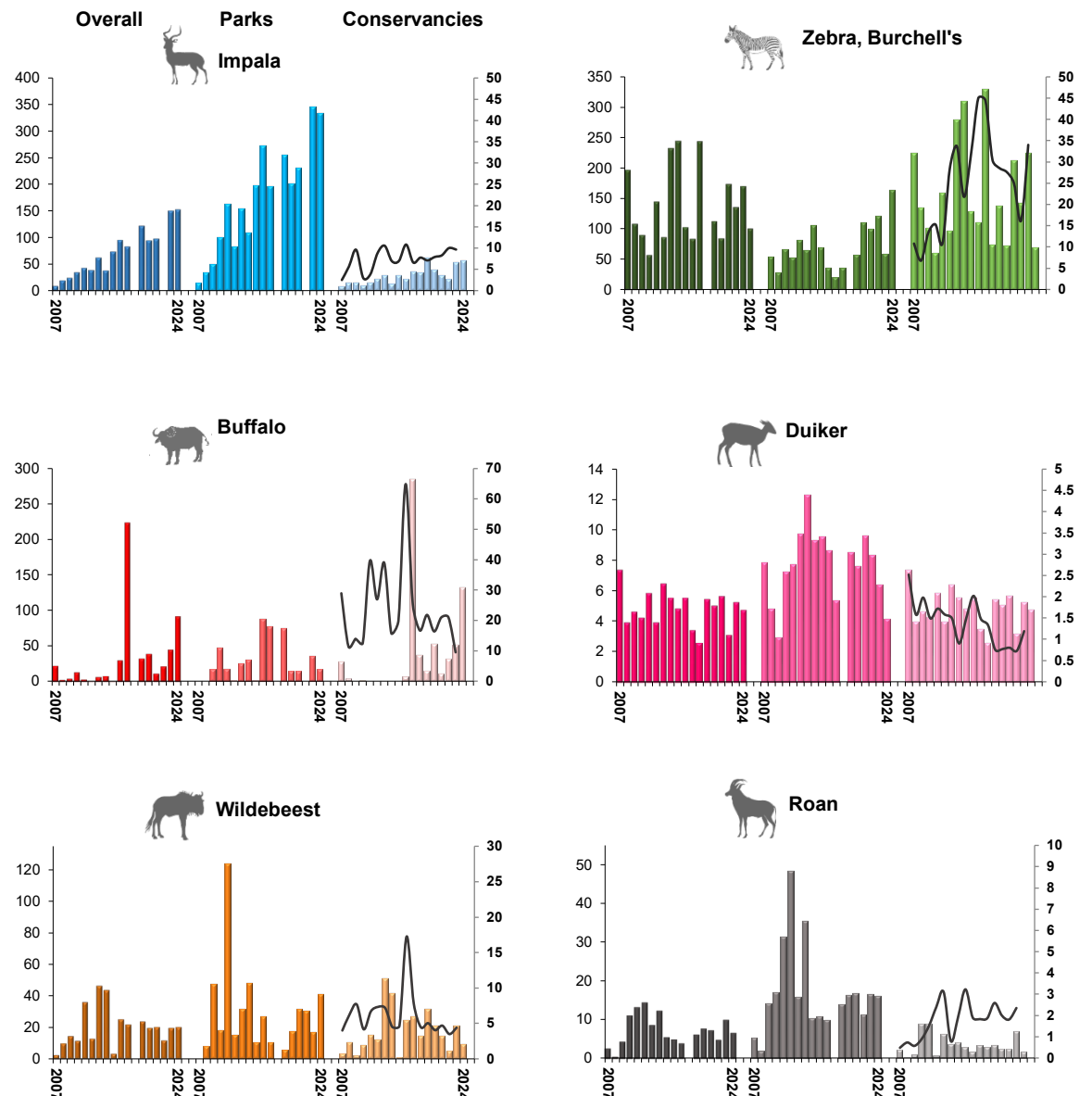
In red: numbers seen in transects.

In blue: numbers seen in the river count.

\* (5) = not counted, or too few, or zero, observations to derive estimates- but animals have been recorded. Where there is a value in brackets it indicates the total sightings of that species since counts began.

\*\* = no animals seen this count, but there have been sufficient sightings in previous years.

0 = no animals seen in counts.



Impala in Nkasa Rupara account for around half of the total animals normally seen. Consequently, trend values for the two parks and overall, in 2022 are not included in that chart.