Wildlife censuses of the Zambezi-Chobe-Linyanti wetlands

The aerial survey includes the Eastern Floodplain area from the Zambian border to the Nkasa Rupara National Park border. This represents 1042 square kilometer area stretching over a 380-km portion of the Zambesi, Chobe and Linyanti Rivers.

The area is surveyed during north-east wetland counts by fixed-wing aerial surveys and helicopter surveys.

Helicopter surveys use two observers, one data recorder and a pilot. Transects 400m apart are flown at 90km/h, with back doors open for optimal visibility. The helicopter is circled especially for groups of buffalo, lechwe and hippo, to obtain a better count. Some bigger groups are photographed for verification of group size.

Fixed-wing aeroplane surveys use standard aerial survey methodology. All counts follow the same flight path and give a 100% sampling coverage of the area.

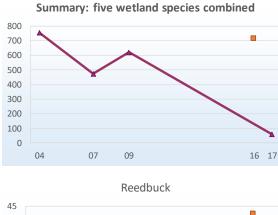
Total numbers of animals recorded:



Helicopter surveys		Fixed-wing surveys		/S	* Total	
Species	2016	2004	2007	2009	Population estimate	
Buffalo	809	1,150	2,148	2,558	809	
Common Impala	0	485	801	271	0	
Elephant	22	77	552	742	22	
Plains Zebra	1,741	1,047	1,558	1,640	1,741	
Hippopotamus	380	272	185	339	380	
Red Lechwe	38	315	138	92	38	
Reedbuck	42	0	3	10	42	
Waterbuck	6	53	27	107	6	
Crocodile	249	113	119	73	249	
Baboon	0	0	15	0	0	
Blue Wildebeest	0	0	14	0	0	
Bushbuck	0	0	0	0	0	
Giraffe	0	8	1	8	0	
Kudu	0	4	14	8	0	
Ostrich	2	0	0	0	2	
Roan	3	0	0	0	3	
Sable	0	0	0	0	0	
Sitatunga	0	0	0	0	0	
Tsessebe	0	0	0	0	0	
Warthog	16	18	8	12	16	
Total	3,308	3,542	5,583	5,860	3,308	

* The best available recent population estimate derived from multiple sources

Hippopotamus

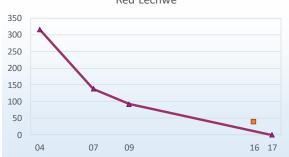


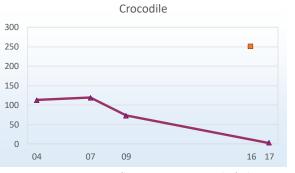












Fixed-wing survey Helicopter survey Sponsors: Norad

CONSERVATION

WILDERNESS

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Waterbuck

Red Lechwe