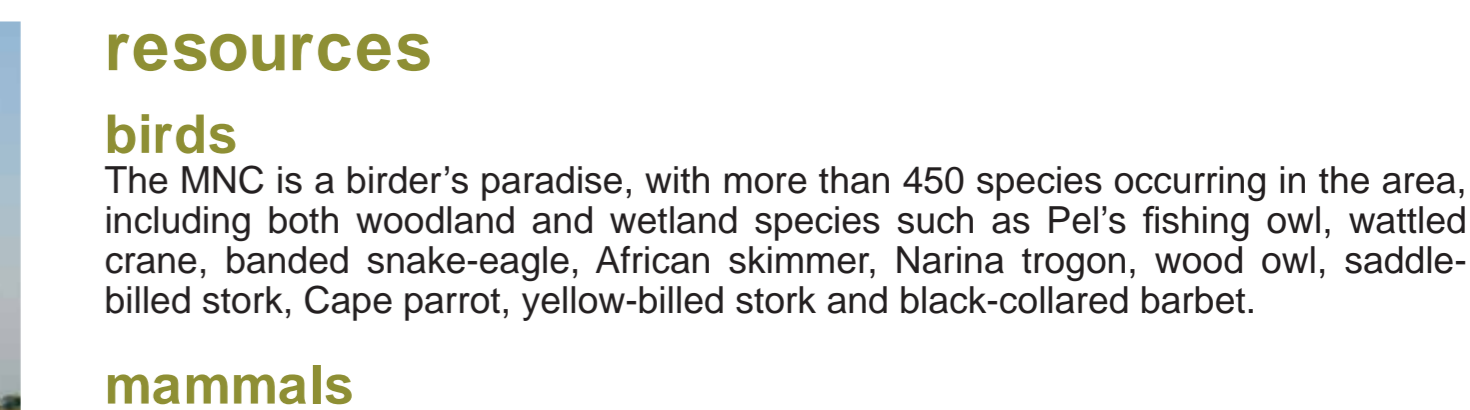




Mudumu

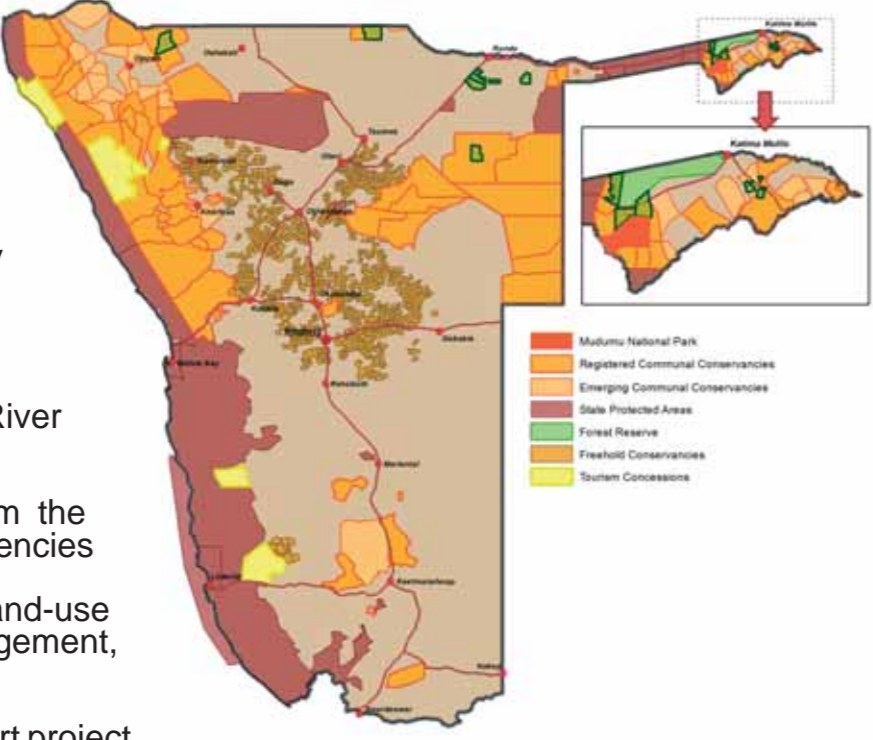


North Complex



the Mudumu North Complex (MNC):

- is a cluster of resource management areas including the Kwandu, Mashi, Mayuni and Sobbe Conservancies, the Kwandu, Lubutu and Masida Community Forests, the Mudumu National Park and the eastern section of Bwabwata National Park
- has the mission to work together to rehabilitate and manage the area's fauna and flora, and guide the development of tourism and resource use for social, cultural and economic benefits through collaborative management of conservancies, community forests and national parks
- aims to accomplish goals greater than any smaller unit could achieve on its own
- embraces an area of particularly high biodiversity along both sides of the Kwando River and covers about 3,400 square kilometres
- is headed by a Senior Decision-Maker's Forum consisting of representatives from the conservancies, community forests, traditional authorities, NGOs and public service agencies
- has a Management Committee to coordinate joint management activities including land-use planning and zoning, human wildlife conflict mitigation, resource monitoring, fire management, sustainable agriculture and the sustainable use of forest resources.
- has a Technical Support Group made up of government, NGO and donor-funded support project staff and a number of working groups addressing specific issues such as law enforcement, enterprise development and marketing
- the Kyaramacan Association (KA), which represents the residents of the Bwabwata National Park (BNP) is also a member of the MNC, and is engaged in activities such as joint fire management of BNP, joint concession management, joint game counts in BNP, joint BNP management meetings, anti-poaching, and BNP Technical Steering Committee meetings.



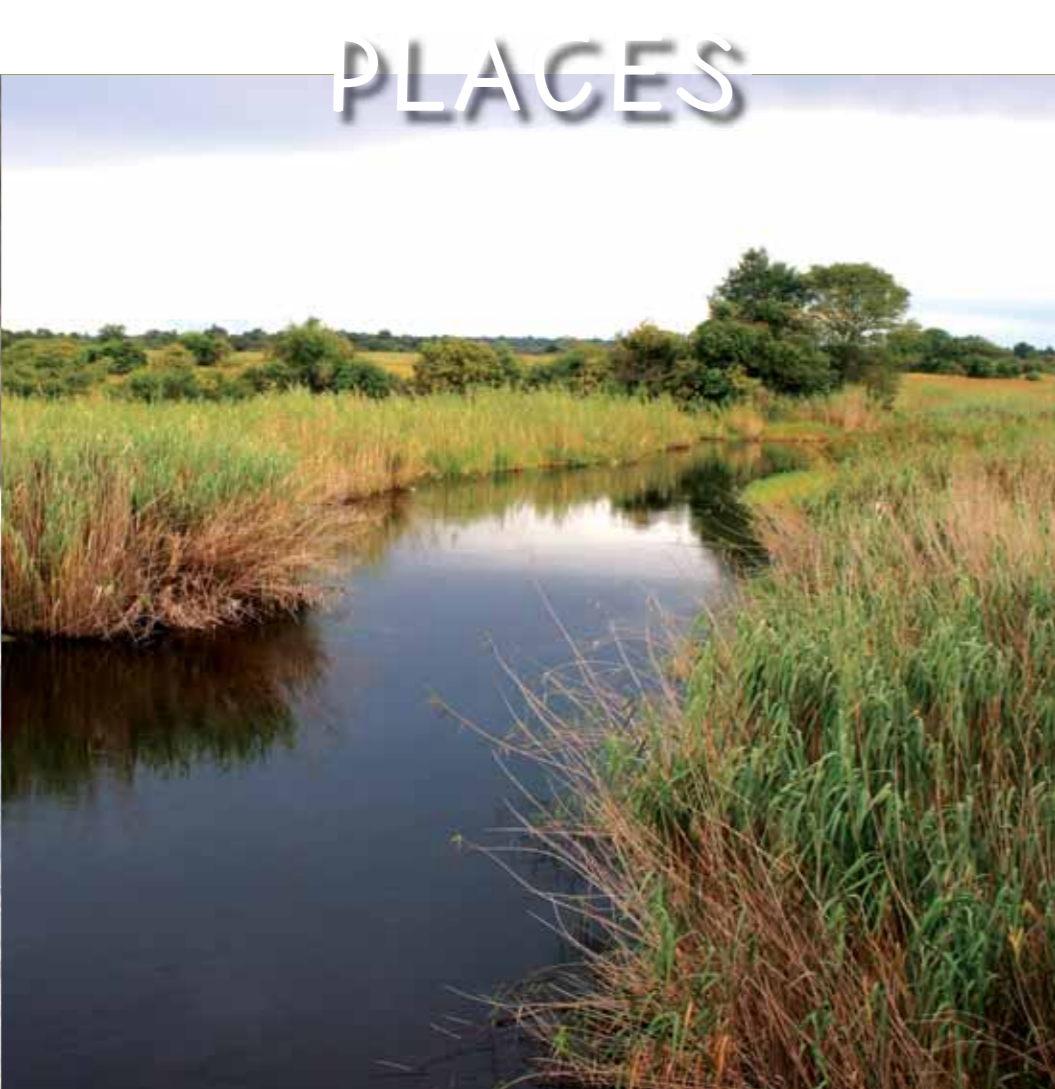
milestones and successes

- 1996 - policy changes allow communal area residents to benefit from wildlife and tourism by forming conservancies
- 1999 - Kwandu and Mayuni Conservancies are registered in December
- 2001 - implementation of the Event Book monitoring systems in the Kwandu and Mayuni Conservancies and the Mashi community
- 2001 - Kwandu and Mayuni Conservancies pilot the Human-Animal Conflict Conservancy Self-Insurance Scheme (HACCSIS)
- 2003 - Mashi Conservancy is registered in March
- 2003 - Mayuni Conservancy develops the Nambwa Campsite, the first conservancy-owned and managed campsite in Namibia
- 2003 - Kwandu Conservancy develops the Bum Hill Community Campsite
- 2005 - Mudumu North Complex is formed
- 2006 - Sobbe Conservancy is registered in October and becomes part of the MNC
- 2006 - the Kyaramacan Association is officially recognised by the MET in March as the legal entity representing all the people living inside the Bwabwata National Park
- 2007 - Chief Joseph Mayuni resettles his people to free up a key floodplains area for tourism development; he also wins the regional Environmentalist of the Decade Award from the Namibia Nature Foundation
- 2009 - MNC conservancies agree to planned grazing
- 2009 - The Bwabwata National Park is certified organic, allowing for better management and higher prices for natural resources, including Devil's Claw.
- 2005-10 - wildlife reintroductions by the Ministry of Environment & Tourism, including sable, giraffe, eland, blue wildebeest, kudu and common impala, re-establish locally extinct species and bolster population numbers of others



PEOPLE

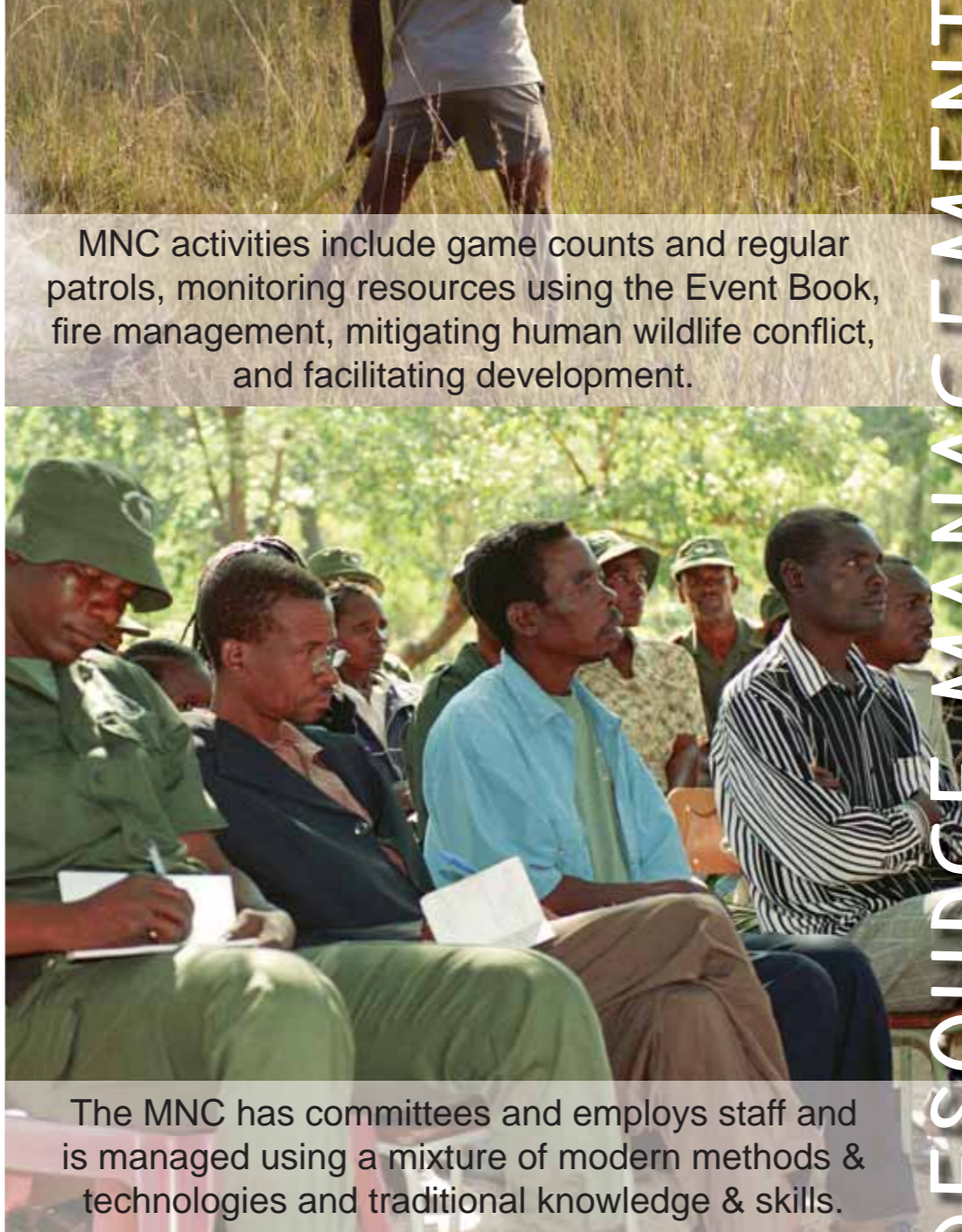
Sifwe and Thimbukushu are the main languages spoken in the conservancy



PLACES

People living in MNC share a common vision for managing their area. Local cultures and social dynamics are of great interest to tourists.

Natural resources diversify economic opportunities and are a driver of economic growth. Spectacular rivers and wetlands are a key tourism attractions.



MNC activities include game counts and regular patrols, monitoring resources using the Event Book, fire management, mitigating human wildlife conflict, and facilitating development.

The MNC has committees and employs staff and is managed using a mixture of modern methods & technologies and traditional knowledge & skills.

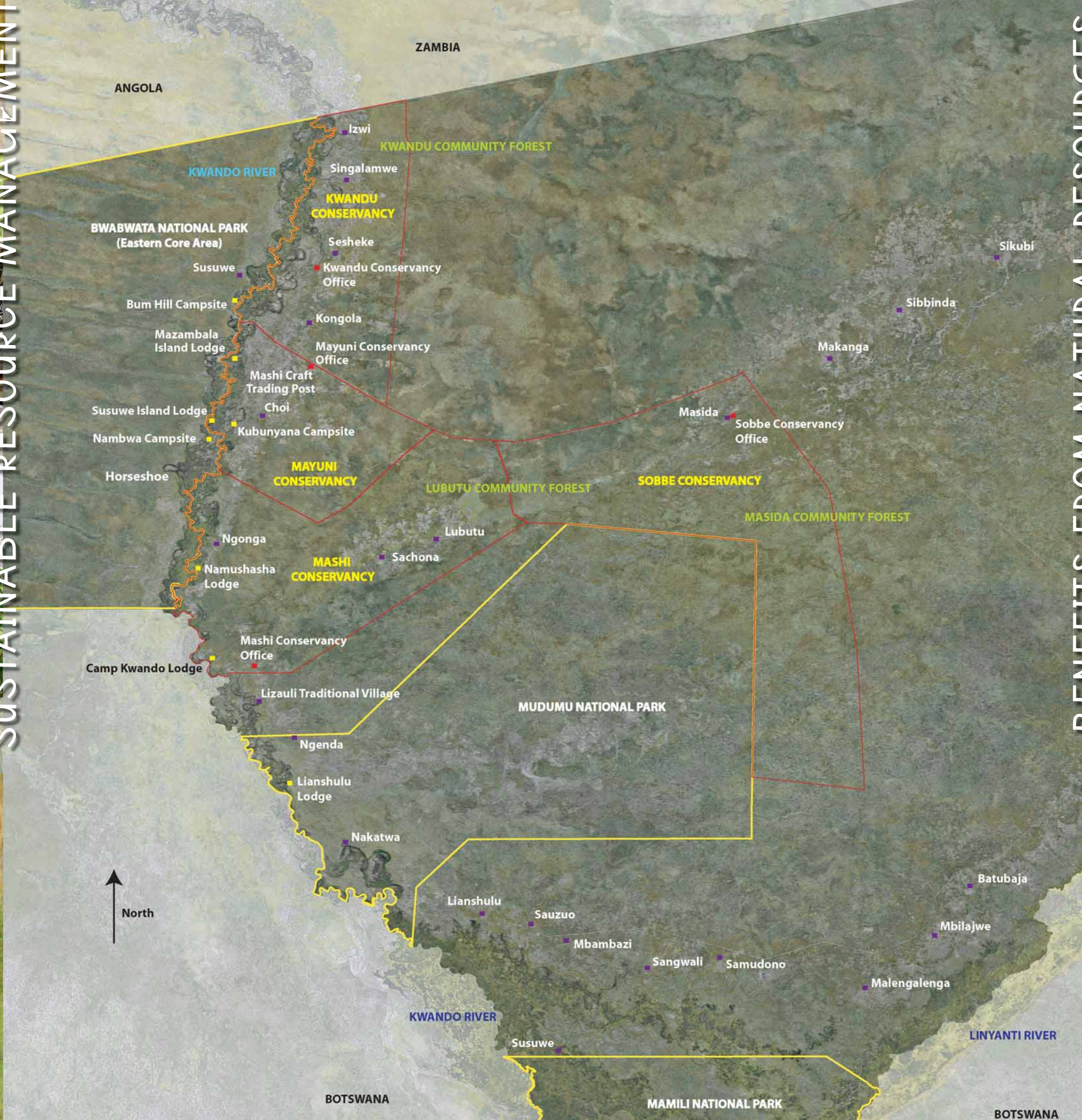


MNC residents engage in a variety of livelihood activities including livestock herding, crop production and natural resource use.



& WILDLIFE

Free-roaming wildlife, such as this red lechwe, can generate a variety of benefits and create an important tourism attraction.



SUSTAINABLE RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

BENEFITS FROM NATURAL RESOURCES

Conservancy enterprises such as community campsites help draw tourists to the MNC and provide income and employment.



Tourism provides a variety of economic opportunities. Joint-venture enterprises, such as Camp Kwando, provide significant income, employment, training and other benefits.



Sustainable use of resources, including forest resources, provides a new income opportunity for individuals and are receiving support from the MNC where needed.

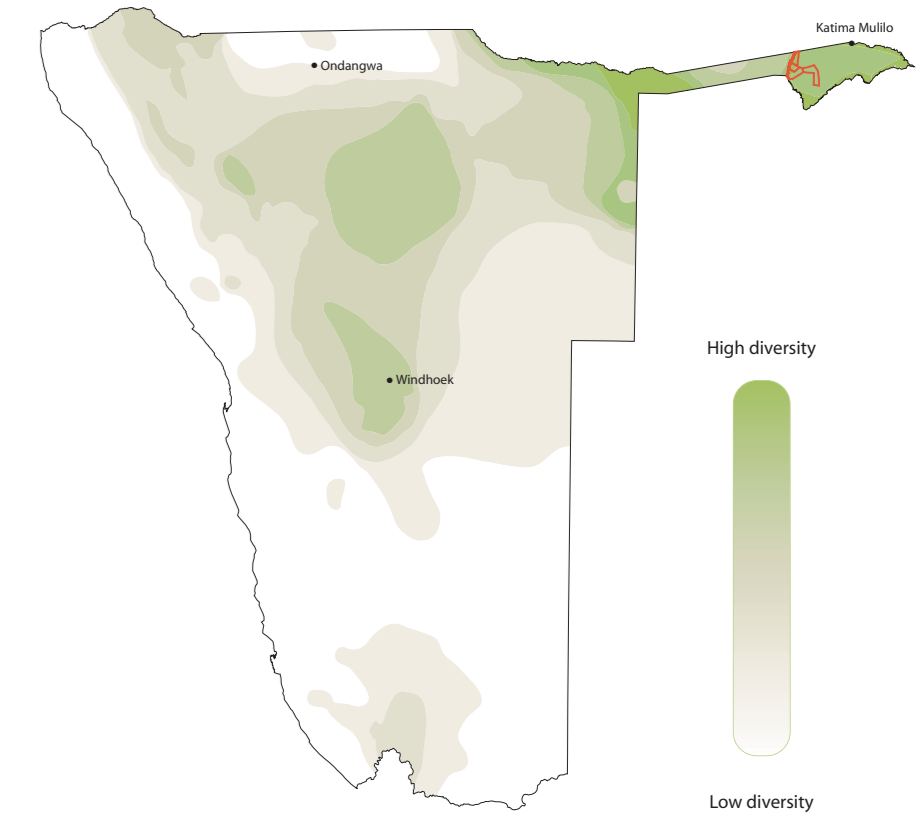


In collaboration with MET staff, Community Game Guards monitor wildlife and other resources and create the foundations for adaptive management.

resources

birds
The MNC is a birder's paradise, with more than 450 species occurring in the area, including both woodland and wetland species such as Pel's fishing owl, wattled crane, banded snake-eagle, African skimmer, Narina trogon, wood owl, saddle-billed stork, Cape parrot, yellow-billed stork and black-collared barbet.

- mammals**
The MNC has the highest diversity of large mammals found anywhere in Namibia, as well as a significant crocodile population:
- elephant
 - hippo
 - giraffe (re-introduced, was locally extinct)
 - buffalo
 - eland (re-introduced, was locally extinct)
 - roan
 - sable (re-introduced, was locally extinct)
 - blue wildebeest (re-introduced, was locally extinct)
 - tsessebe
 - bushbuck
 - common duiker
 - steenbok
 - burchell's zebra (re-introduced, was locally extinct)
 - warthog
 - bushpig
 - sitatunga
 - redudbuck
 - red lechwe
 - vervet monkey
 - baboon
 - lion
 - leopard
 - cheetah
 - caracal
 - serval
 - civet
 - spotted hyaena
 - brown hyaena
 - side-striped jackal
 - black-backed jackal
 - african wild dog
 - cape clawless otter
 - spotted-necked otter



plants
The MNC is rich in plants that are valuable to both people and wildlife. Common and valuable species include the red syringa, Angolan teak, Zambezi teak, false mopane, silverleaf terminalia, bird plum, camel thorn, leadwood, devil's claw and Kalahari melon.

benefits from natural resources

All stakeholders of the MNC benefit in some way from the management of natural resources, tourism and related activities. The national parks are drawing increasing visitor numbers, which also benefits the conservancies through accommodation provision and craft sales. Conservancy income varies, but is generally obtained from:

- joint-venture tourism agreements
- trophy hunting concessions
- community campsites
- indigenous plant products
- own-use hunting
- craft sales



a conservancy is:

- a legally registered area with clearly defined borders and a constituted management body run by the community for the development of residents and the sustainable use of wildlife and tourism

Text compiled by Helge Denker and Ginger Mauney; Layout by Gavin Damon
All photos were taken in the Mudumu North Complex by Helge Denker © WWF In Namibia

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