Republic of Namibia

Monthly Burned Area Report

Ministry of Agriculture, Water and Forestry

DIRECTORATE OF FORESTRY

October 2014

Introduction

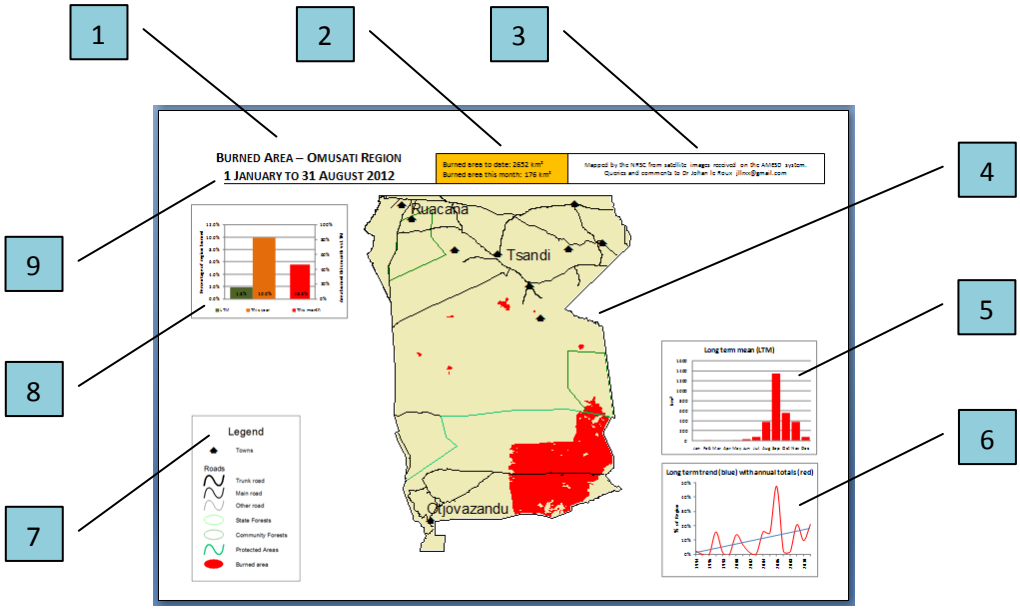
This burned area report is issued by the Directorate of Forestry's National Remote Sensing Centre on a monthly basis from June to December, and complements the active fire bulletins that are produced and distributed daily. Each report presents the burned area situation from the start of the fire season up to the preceding month. The first report is issued in June and shows burned areas and statistics for the period from January to May. The last report appears in December and presents the situation for the entire season up to the end of November.

Burned areas in Namibia have been mapped from NOAA AVHRR and MODIS satellite data since 1994. This 18 year data archive was used to calculate long term mean (LTM) values for each of the 14 political regions in Namibia. These LTM values represent the "normal" or expected situation in the same way that we often hear or read in the papers: "Normally, 'so many' hectares burn every year". The burned area reports compare the current situation to these "normal" values, and also present the current situation in map form. This allows the reader to see at a glance, whether the current situation in a particular region is better, worse or the same as "normal".

Map layout

The report has one map sheet per political region[1].
All map sheets contain the following elements:

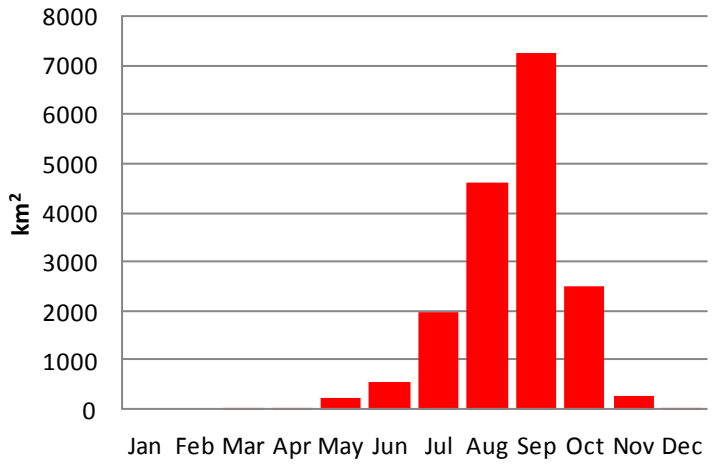
1. Title and political region
2. Burned area figures
3. Acknowledgement
4. Burned area map
5. Simple column chart
6. Line chart
7. Map legend
8. Combination column chart
9. Reporting period



Please note that the legend and charts may be in different positions on the map sheets, in order to fit around the shape of the region.

[1] Only those regions with a monthly LTM burned area greater than 100 km^2 are included in the report

Interpreting the charts

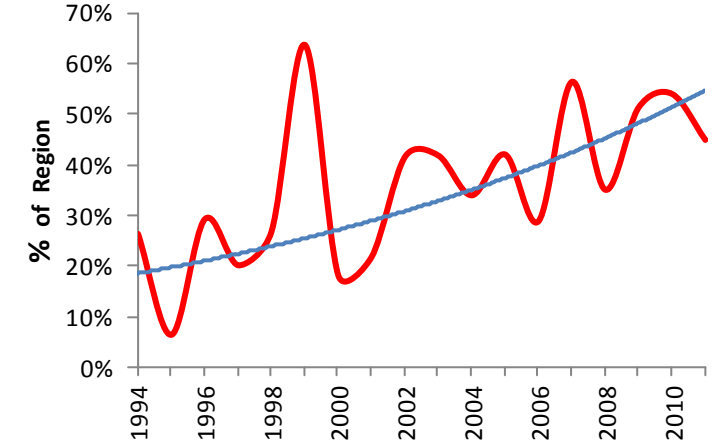


This chart compares the size of the area **burned per month**.

Values are based on the long term average for that month.

For example, the indicated value of ± 2000 km^2 for July means that on average, over the last 18 years, about 2000 km^2 burns in this region during July.

Based on these figures, if about 500 km^2 burns in this region during June, we could see this as average, "normal" or "as expected".



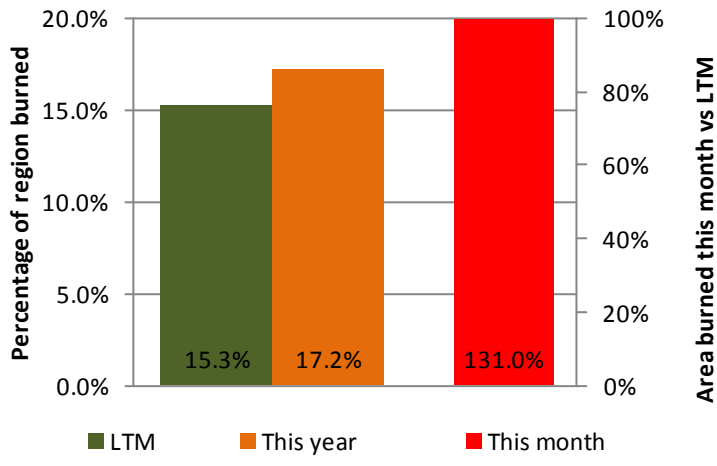
This chart compares the size of the area **burned per year**.

The burned area is expressed as a percentage of the region's total area.

Additionally, a trend line to shows whether the burned area is increasing or decreasing over the long term.

For example, the high peak shows that more than 60% of the region burned in 1999 while the deep trough shows that only about 5% of the region burned in 1995.

The upward sloping trend line shows that the burned area is increasing.



This chart compares the current situation to the long term mean.

The green bar shows the % of the region that would "normally" be burned by now.

The orange bar shows the % of the region that has burned so far **this year**.

The red bar shows the % of the region that has burned **this month**, compared to the long term mean.

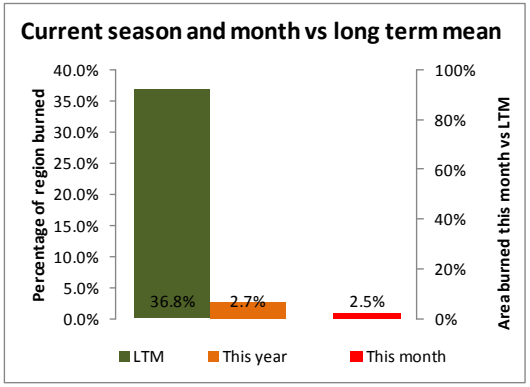
In other words, we expect 15.3% of this particular region to be burned by this time of the year. However, the data shows that 17.2% has actually burned already. Furthermore, the area burned in this month is 31% more than normal.

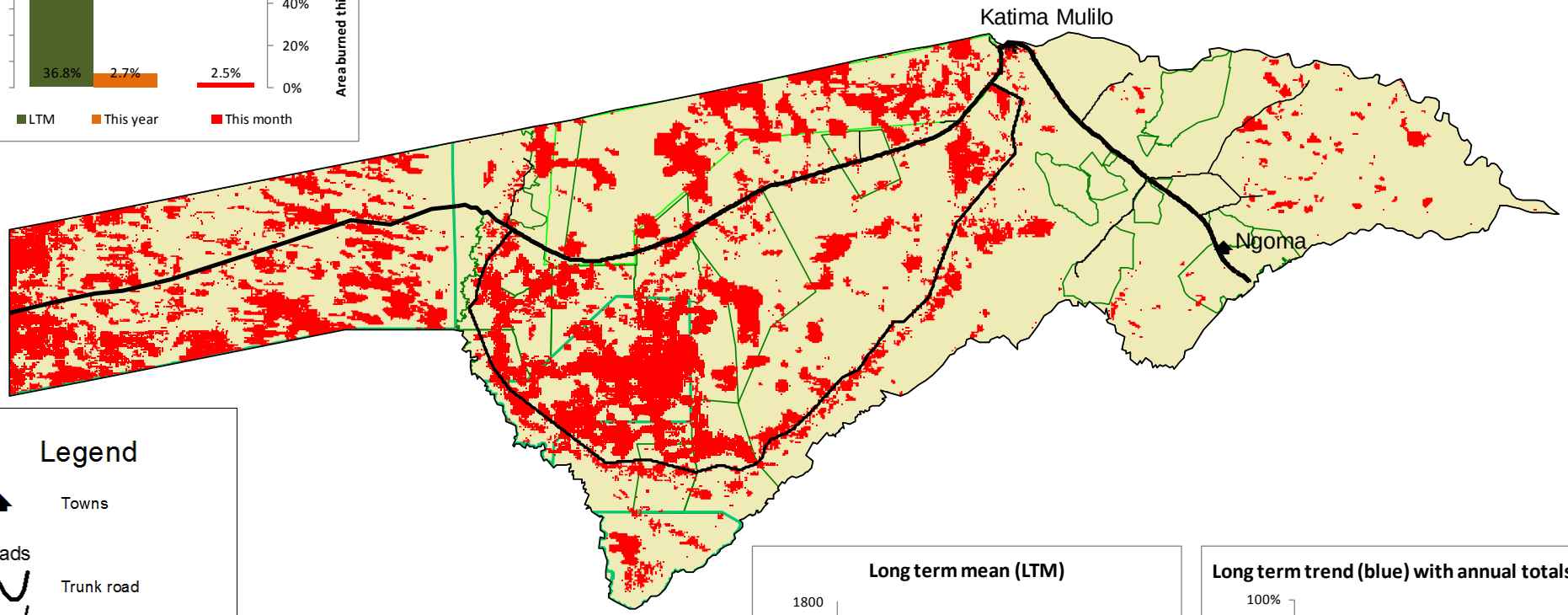
Mapping is currently done from data received on the AMESD system at the National Remote Sensing Centre.
AMESD (African Monitoring of the Environment for Sustainable Development) is implemented by the AUC and funded by the EU.
The contents of this newsletter is the sole responsibility of the NRSC and can under no circumstances be regarded as reflecting the position of the European Union.

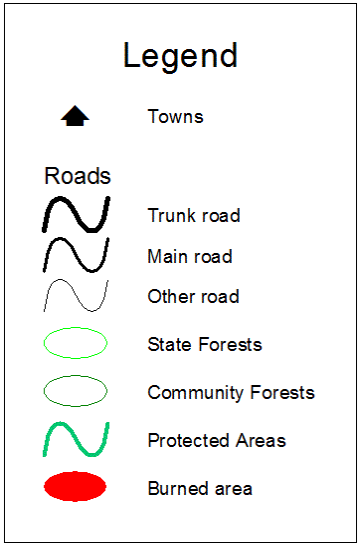
BURNED AREA – ZAMBEZI REGION
1 JANUARY TO 31 OCTOBER 2014

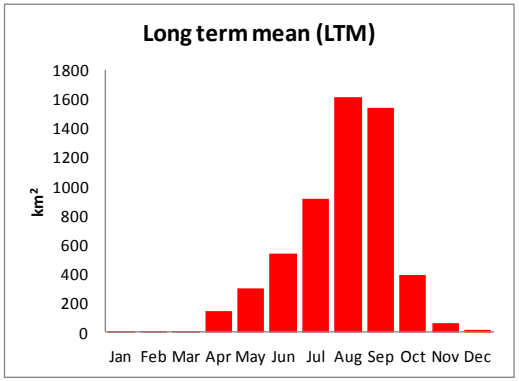
Burned area to date: 393.8 km^2
Burned area this month: 9.2 km^2

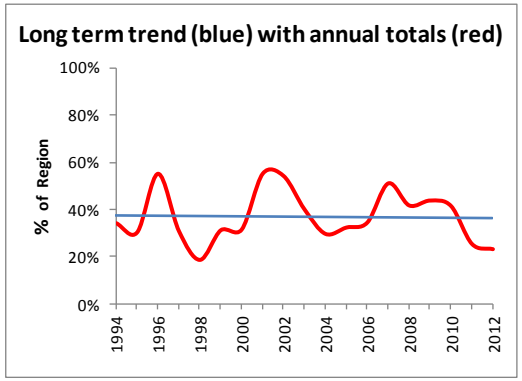
Mapped by the NRSC from satellite images received on the AMESD system.
Queries and comments to Mr Paulus Shikongo, chicco.paulus@gmail.com







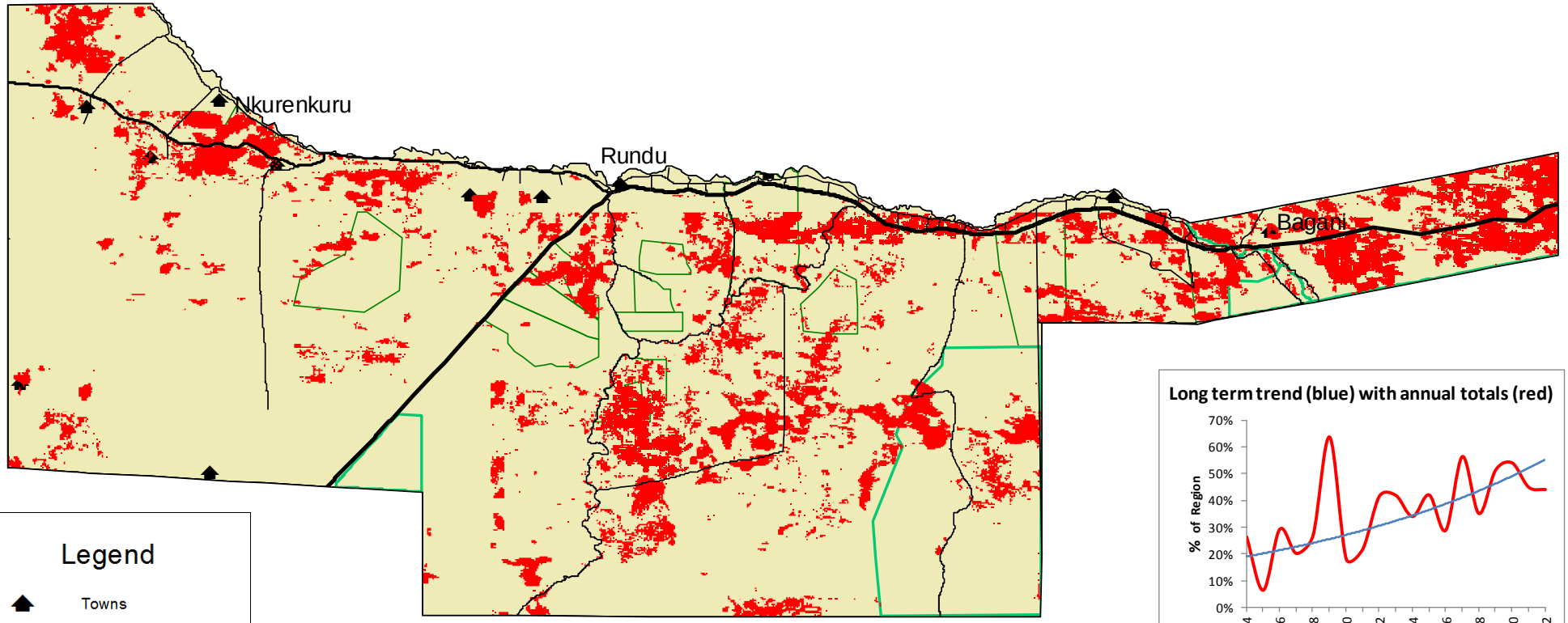


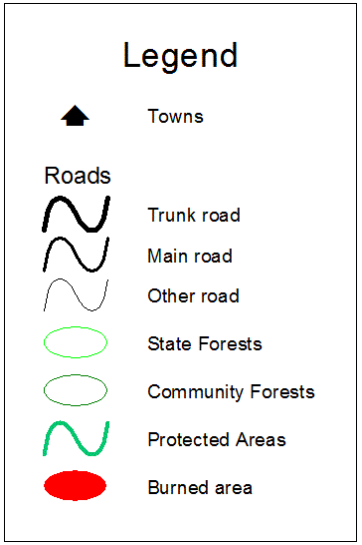


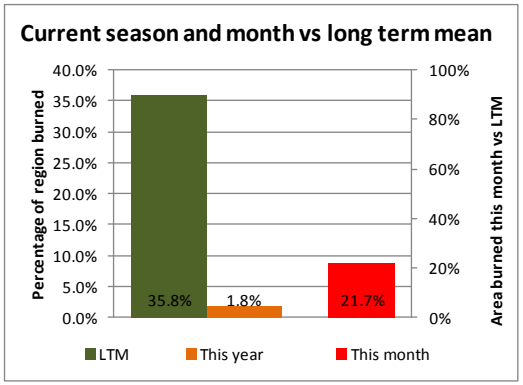
BURNED AREA – KAVANGO EAST & WEST
1 JANUARY TO 31 OCTOBER 2014

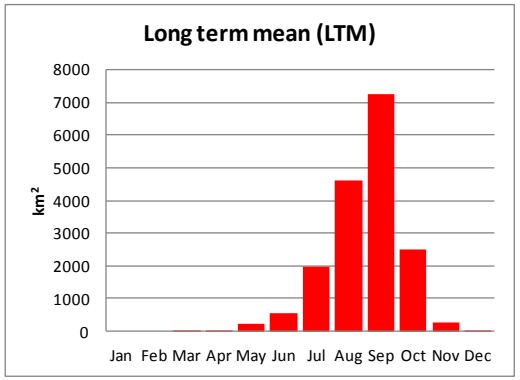
Burned area to date: 871.3 km^2
Burned area this month: 513.8 km^2

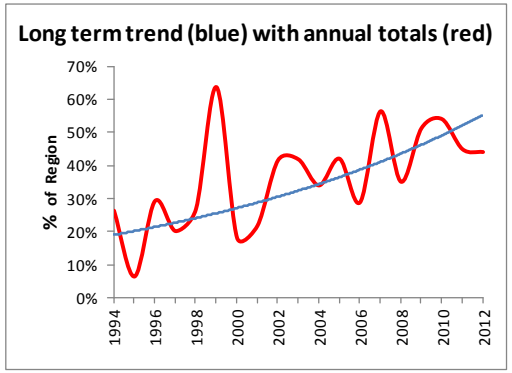
Mapped by the NRSC from satellite images received on the AMESD system.
Queries and comments to Mr Paulus Shikongo, chicco.paulus@gmail.com







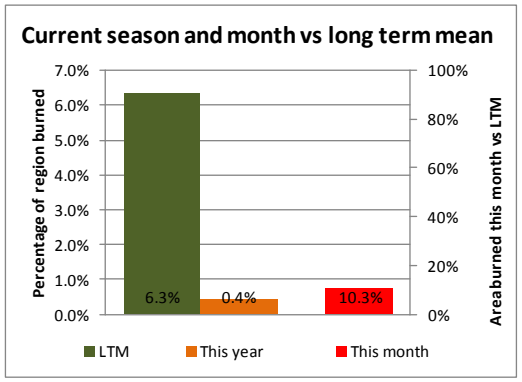


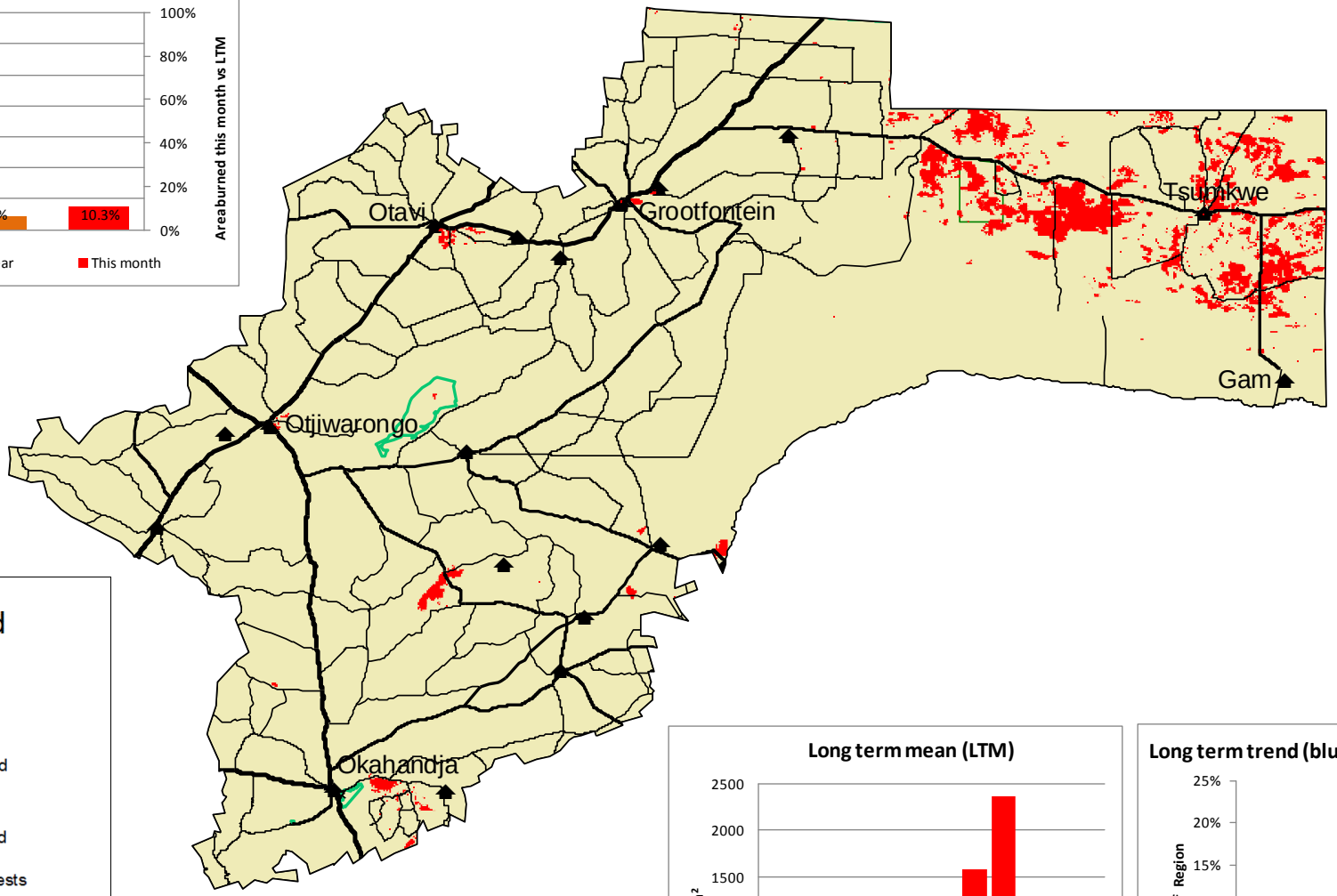


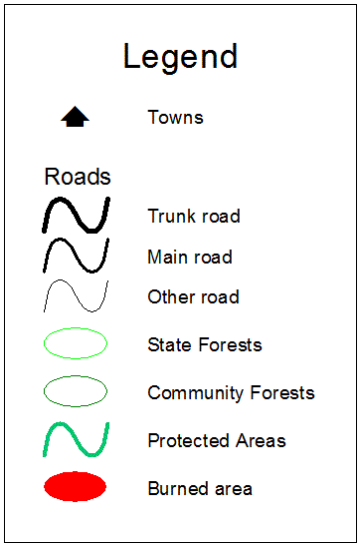
BURNED AREA – OTJOZONDJUPA REGION
1 JANUARY TO 31 OCTOBER 2014

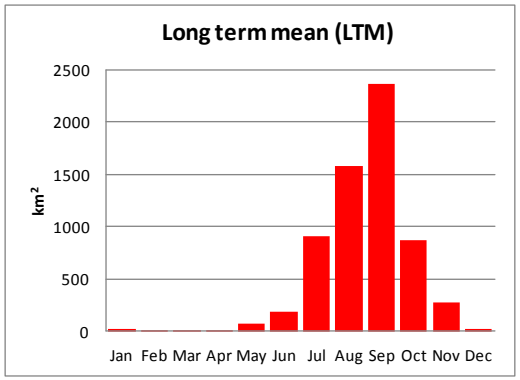
Burned area to date: 438.5 km^2
Burned area this month: 89.7 km^2

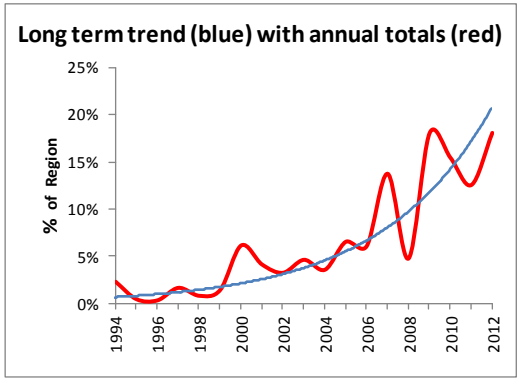
Mapped by the NRSC from satellite images received on the AMESD system.
Queries and comments to Mr Paulus Shikongo, chicco.paulus@gmail.com







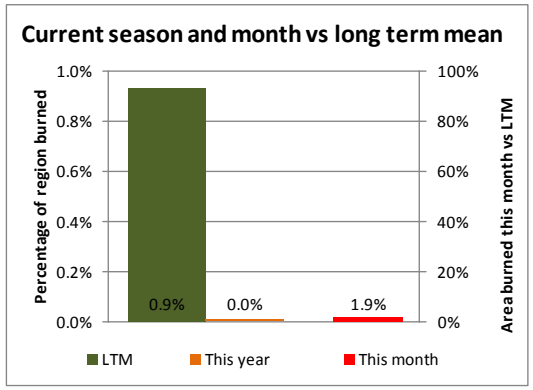


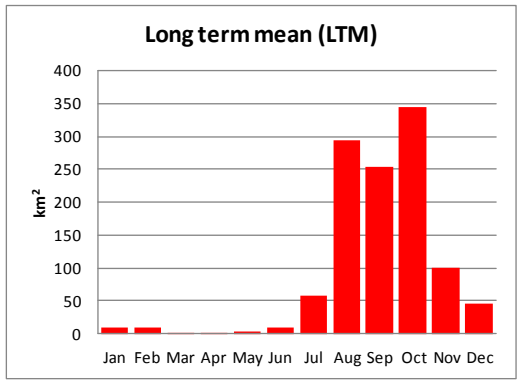


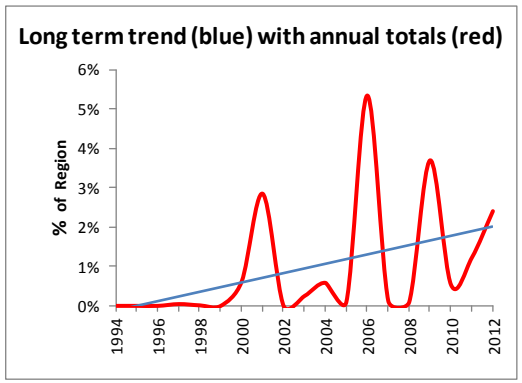
BURNED AREA – KUNENE REGION
1 JANUARY TO 31 OCTOBER 2014

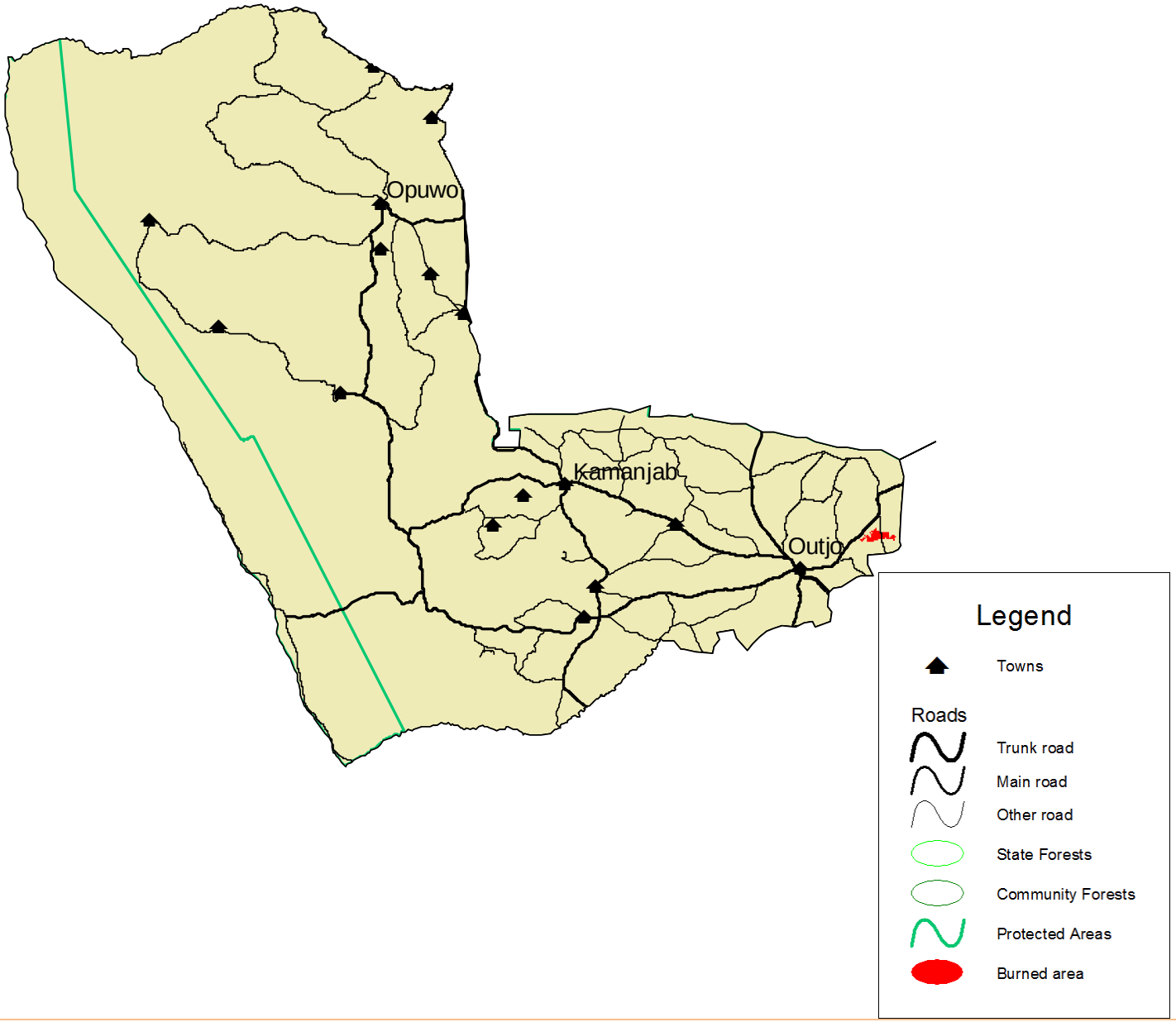
Burned area to date: 7.1 km^2
Burned area this month: 7.1 km^2

Mapped by the NRSC from satellite images received on the AMESD system.
Queries and comments to Mr Paulus Shikongo, chicco.paulus@gmail.com





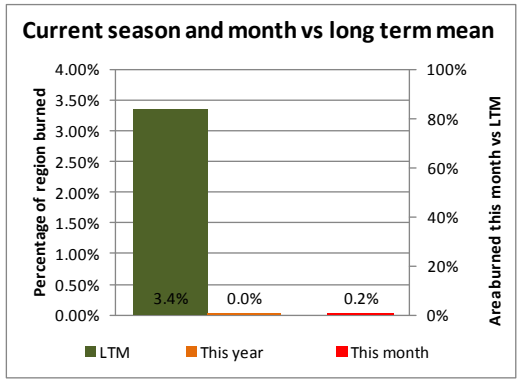


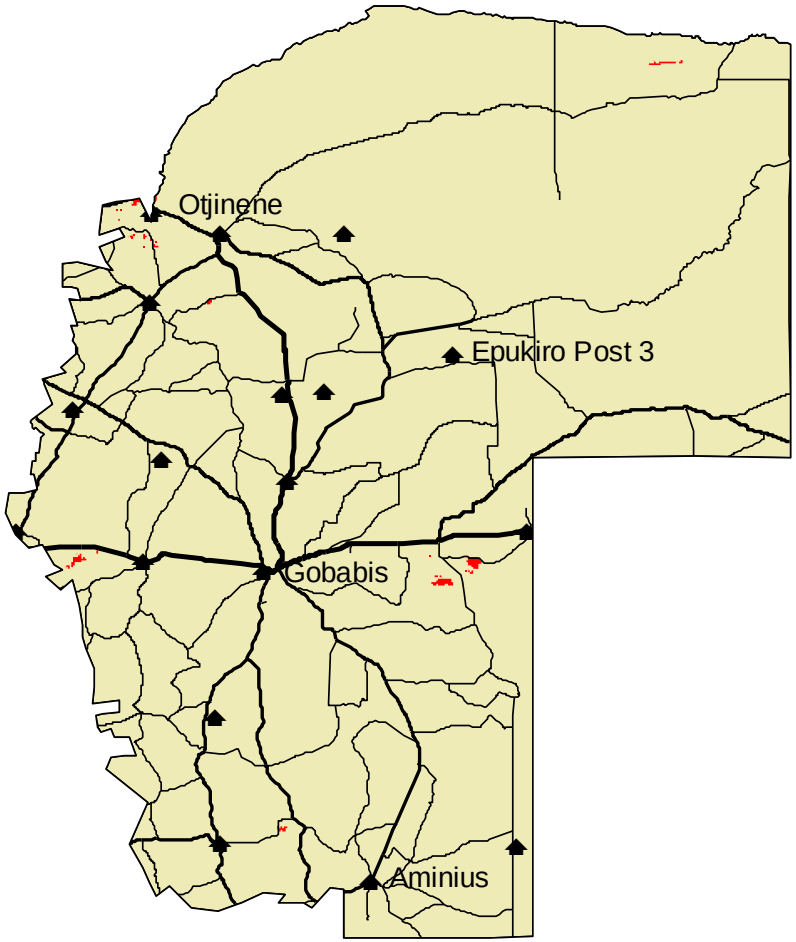


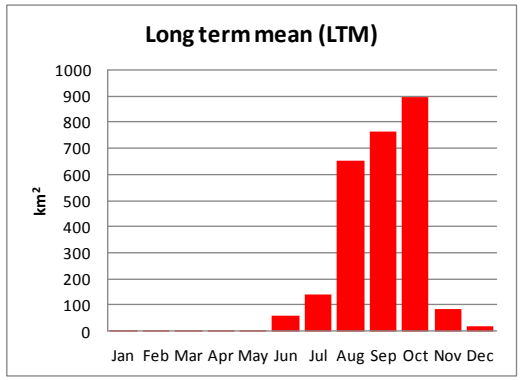
BURNED AREA – OMAHEKE REGION
1 JANUARY TO 31 OCTOBER 2014

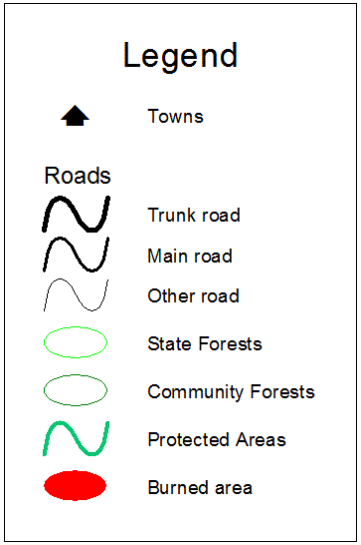
Burned area to date: 10.7 km^2
Burned area this month: 1.4 km^2

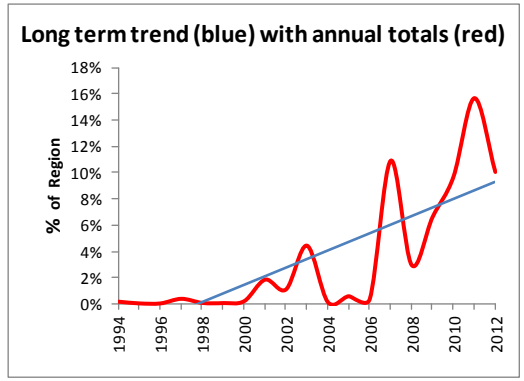
Mapped by the NRSC from satellite images received on the AMESD system.
Queries and comments to Mr Paulus Shikongo, chicco.paulus@gmail.com







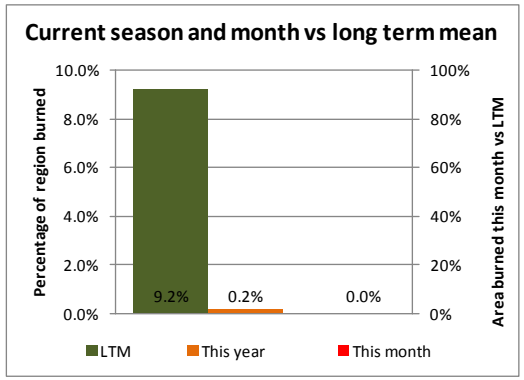


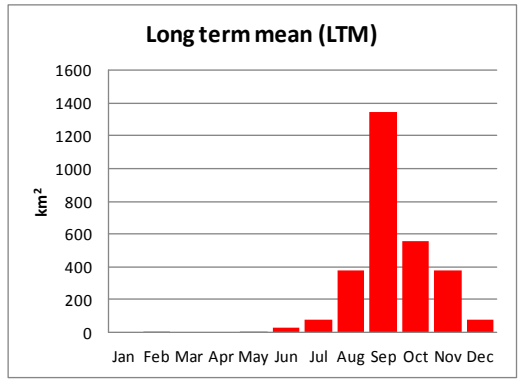


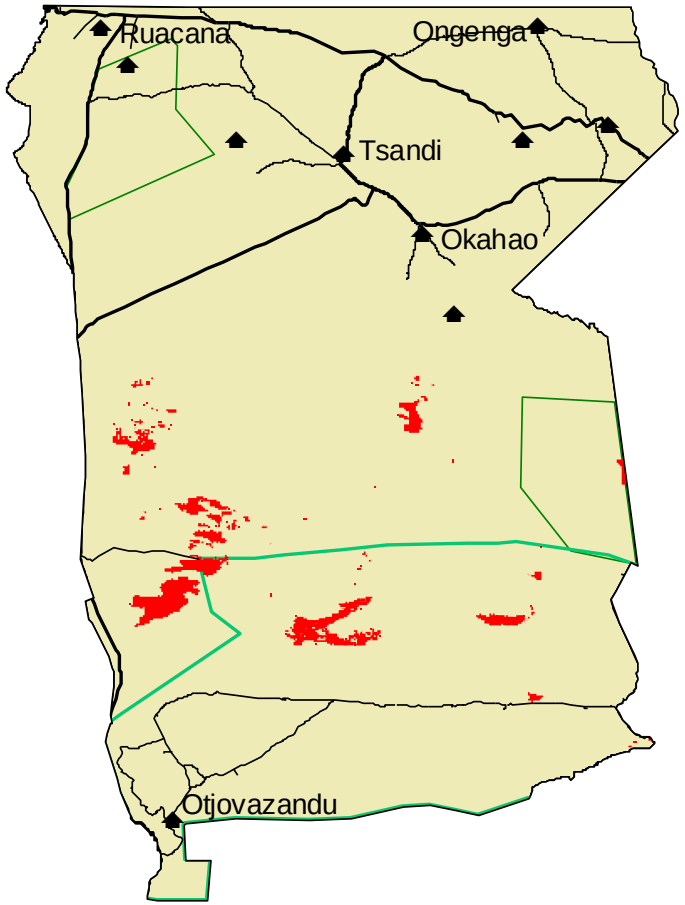
BURNED AREA – OMUSATI REGION
1 JANUARY TO 31 OCTOBER 2014

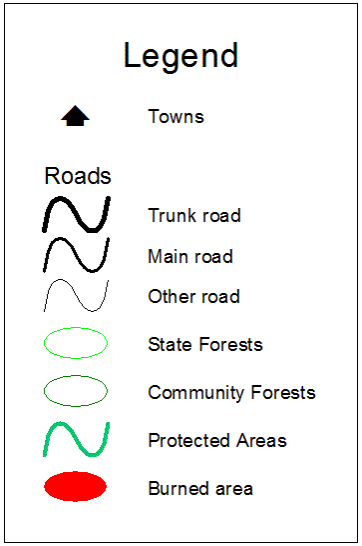
Burned area to date: 42.3 km^2
Burned area this month: 0 km^2

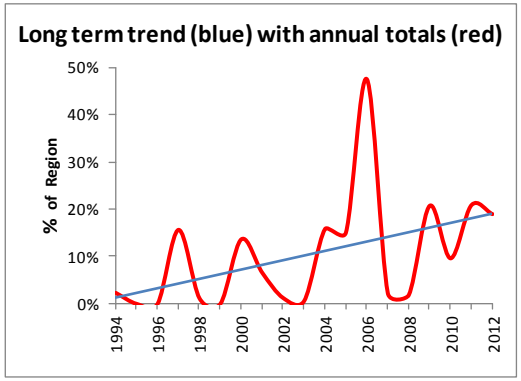
Mapped by the NRSC from satellite images received on the AMESD system.
Queries and comments to Mr Paulus Shikongo, chicco.paulus@gmail.com







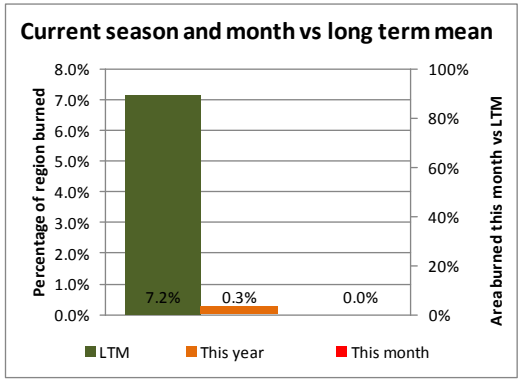


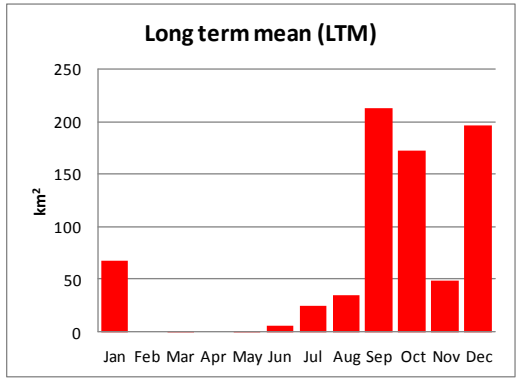


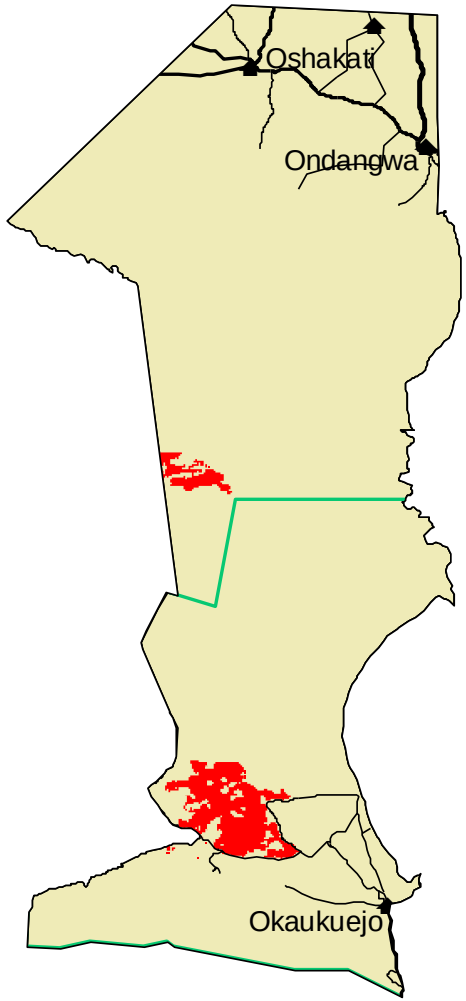
BURNED AREA – OSHANA REGION
1 JANUARY TO 31 OCTOBER 2014

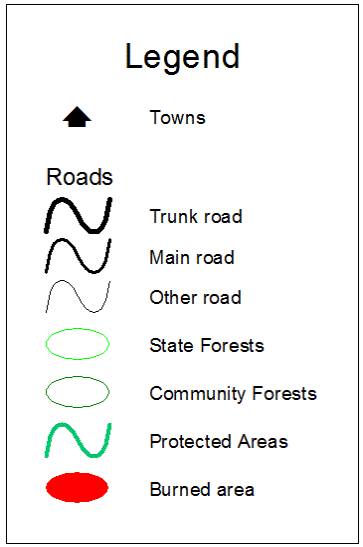
Burned area to date: 23.71 km^2
Burned area this month: 0 km^2

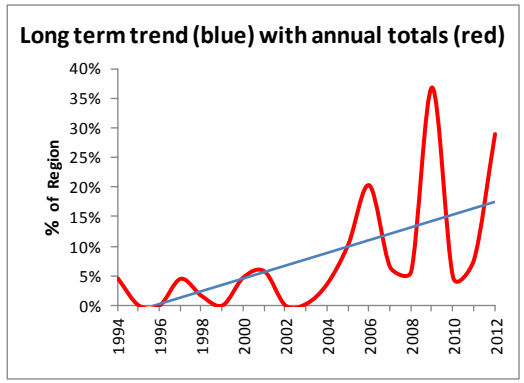
Mapped by the NRSC from satellite images received on the AMESD system.
Queries and comments to Mr Paulus Shikongo, chicco.paulus@gmail.com







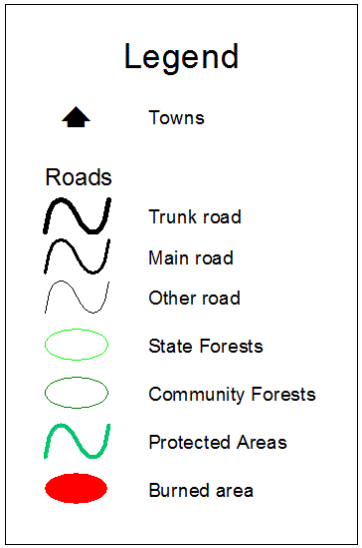


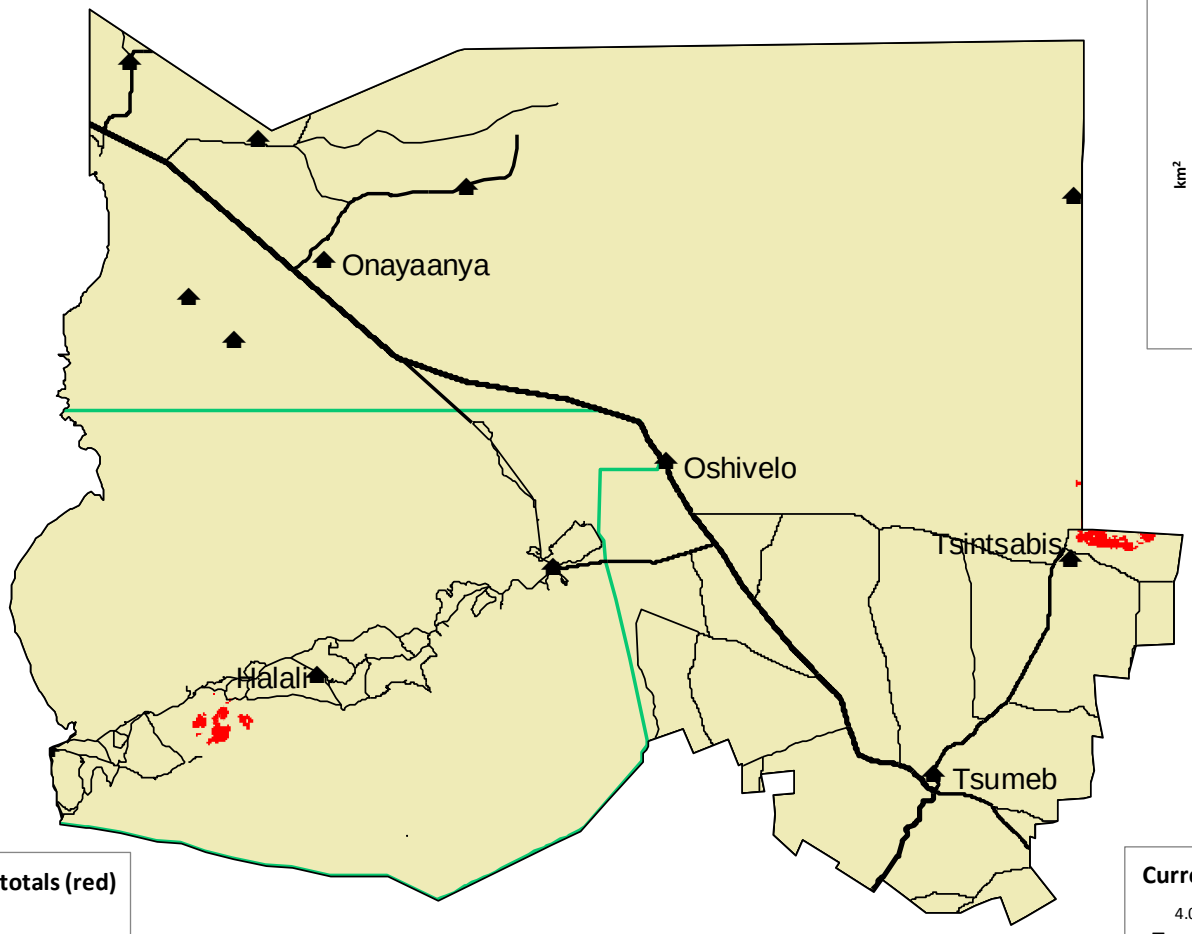


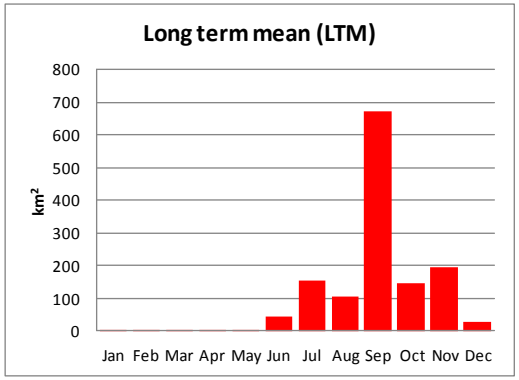
BURNED AREA – OSHIKOTO REGION
1 JANUARY TO 31 OCTOBER 2014

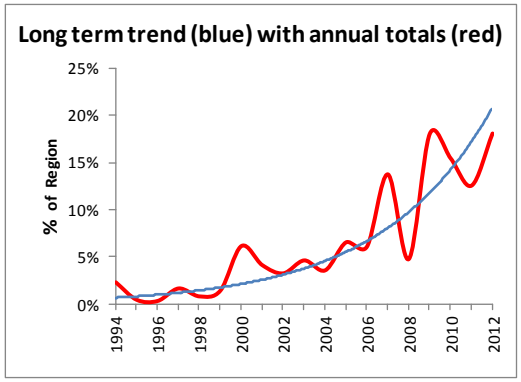
Burned area to date: 8.0 km^2
Burned area this month: 3.9 km^2

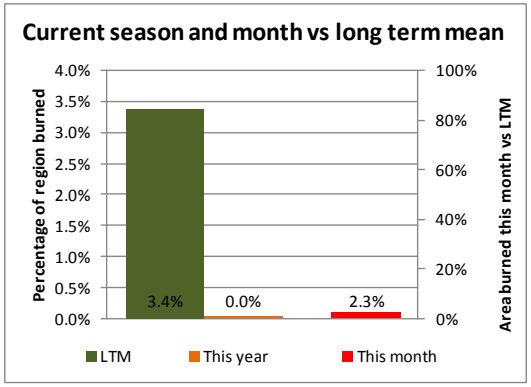
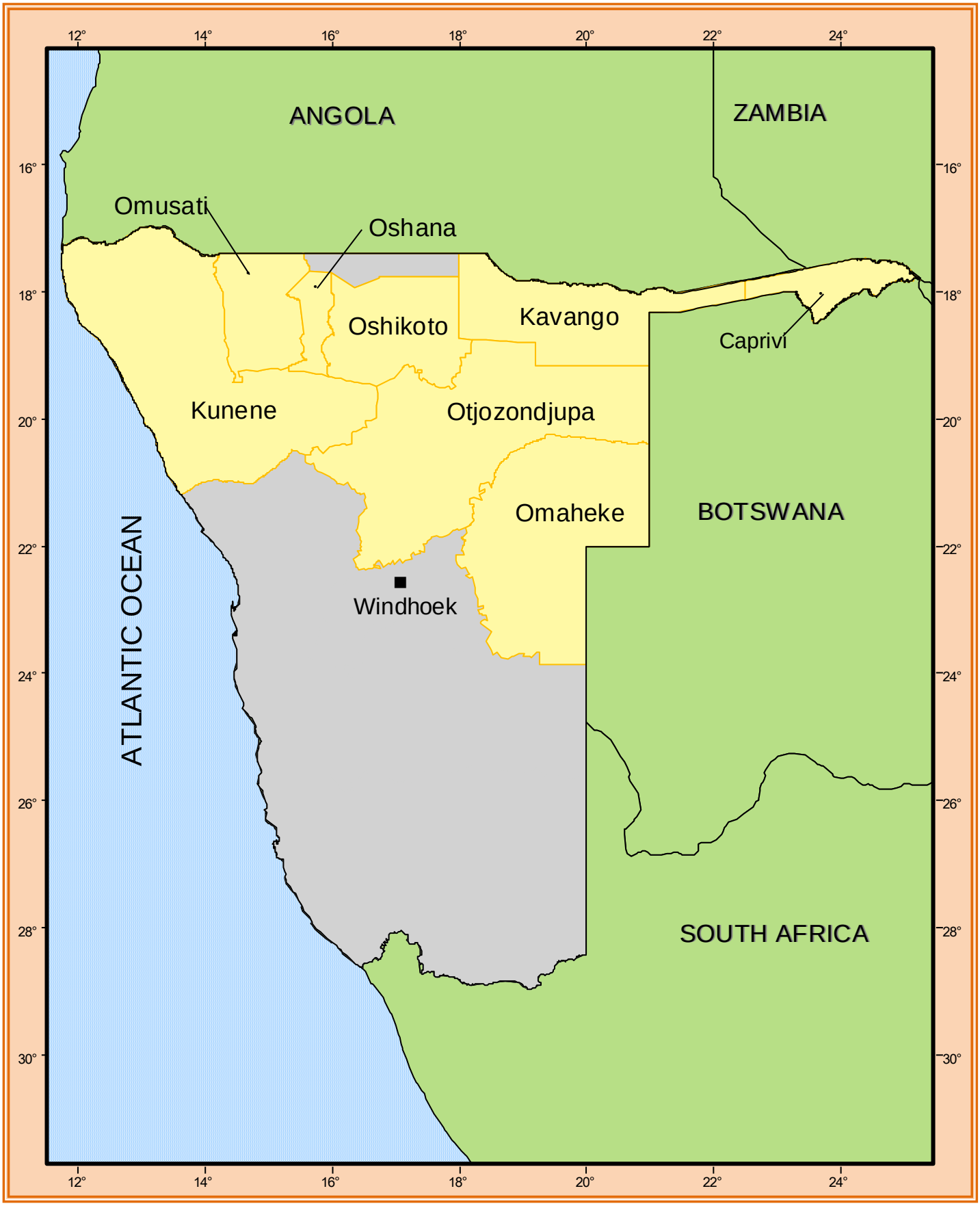
Mapped by the NRSC from satellite images received on the AMESD system.
Queries and comments to Mr Paulus Shikongo, chicco.paulus@gmail.com











Regions covered by this report