Beyond Fences: Policy Options for Biodiversity Livelihoods & Transboundary Disease Management in Southern Africa

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BEYOND FENCES

POLICY OPTIONS FOR BIODIVERSITY, LIVELIHOODS & TRANSBOUNDARY ANIMAL DISEASE MANAGEMENT IN SOUTHERN AFRICA

Advancing Health ▫ Revaluing Ecosystems ▫ Securing Livelihoods
Animal & Human Health for the Environment And Development
“AHEAD is a facilitative, convening mechanism working to create enabling environments that allow different and often competing sectors to find collaborative ways forward to address challenges at the interface of wildlife health, livestock health and human health & livelihoods.”

http://www.wcs-ahead.org
FMD in Southern Africa

DFZs and the Geographic Approach
14 Southern African TFCAs Covering 750,000 km²

- AIS/Richtersveld TFP
- Kgalagadi TFP
- Greater Mapumgubwe TFCA
- Greater Limpopo TFCA
- Lubombo TFCA
- Maloti-Drakensberg TFCA
- Iona-Skeleton Coast TFCA
- Liuwa Plain-Mussuma TFCA
- Lower Zambezi-Mana Pools TFCA
- Malawi/Zambia TFCA
- Niassa-Selous TFCA
- Mnazi Bay-Quirimbas TFCMA
- Chimanimani TFCA
- Kavango Zambezi TFCA
Wildlife

Southern Africa’s Global Competitive Advantage
TFCAs in Southern Africa

Primary aims

- Expand opportunities for socioeconomic development
- Promote a culture of peace & co-operation
- Conserve biodiversity
A New Scale of Land-Use Planning
• Largest conservation-oriented landscape in Africa (~440,000 km²)
• Home to ~1.5 million people & their livestock
• Home to ~250,000 elephants
• Significant pressures on wildlife related to human settlement, poaching, veterinary fences, drought, fire & other factors
• Rapidly declining populations of other key wildlife species identified
• TFCA lies in geographic zone considered most ‘at risk’ from climate change
• Diseases (i.e.- FMD) threaten the viability of the entire TFCA enterprise
The Human Dimension
Health Matters

Transboundary Animal Diseases (TADs)

- **Epidemic** diseases which are highly contagious or transmissible and have the potential for very rapid spread, irrespective of national borders, causing serious socio-economic and possibly public health consequences.

**Health Matters**

Transboundary Animal Diseases (TADs)

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• Transfrontier conservation requires **free movement** of wildlife over large geographic areas

• Current internationally accepted approaches to TADs control **prevent movement** of susceptible animals between areas where TADs occur and where they do not

• TFCA vision and geographic approaches to management of TADs are **not compatible**

• Sustainable livelihoods depend on a new approach
FMD Control in Southern Africa

‘Geographic’ Approach

- International approach is **geographic** or **zonal** in nature

- Market access for animal commodities & products is linked to area-wide disease freedom: the challenge of equity

- Safe trade traditionally requires products to originate from a Disease Free Zone (DFZ)
FMD Control

Current Approaches are Failing to Control the Disease

Incidence of FMD outbreaks in three southern African countries in last 8 decades
Minefields; de-mining underway

Proposed veterinary cordon fence will limit connectivity between Angola & Zambia in KAZA

Double veterinary cordon fence is primary impediment to wildlife movement between Namibia & Botswana

Double veterinary cordon fences (Northern Buffalo Fence & Caprivi Border Fence) exclude NG13 from rest of KAZA, create bottleneck & limit movement corridor to 30 km stretch, west of Kwando River

Free movement of wildlife between Zimbabwe & Botswana is limited by fences & agricultural initiatives
"Okavango Panhandle" (NG11 & 12)
Caprivi Border Fence (135 km)

Northern Buffalo Fence

10,000 - 15,000 elephants
15,000 people
18,000 cattle

Unrestricted wildlife movement north currently limited to 30km-wide "Kwando Corridor"

Map 3
Livestock agriculture and biodiversity conservation vital for balanced rural development and socioeconomic equity; nature-based tourism now crucial to regional economic growth.

Attempts to control FMD geographically is limiting livelihood opportunities and compromising system resilience.

Intensifying conflict between livestock interests & wildlife conservation.
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FMD Control in Southern Africa

Key Challenges for Policy Makers

1. FMD SAT virus serotypes are maintained by free-living wildlife populations, i.e., African buffalo, and are not eradicable

2. Current internationally accepted approaches to the management of FMD conflict with wildlife conservation initiatives and constrain rural economic development

3. These approaches are failing to adequately control the disease

4. Rural development suffers
The Expanding Interface

Solutions Needed

Emphasize managing the risks associated with TADs in southern Africa in ways that:

- help southern Africa’s pastoralists & farmers
- do not threaten free-ranging wildlife
- provide confidence to beef importing countries that the products from this region pose minimal threats to their own agricultural sector
Emphasize managing the risks associated with TADs in southern Africa in ways that:

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Steaks & their aliases

When it comes to cuts of steak, we're spoiled for choice. Here are some of the most common.

**Rump steak**
A great all-rounder, rump steaks are good value. They're lean and full-flavoured.

**Sirloin steak**
AKA porterhouse or New York steak. An all-time favourite, sirloin steaks are the choice of steak lovers. They have a fine, yet firm texture and are rich in flavour.

**Scotch fillet steak**
AKA boneless rib eye or rib fillet. This is one of the most popular steaks. They're juicy, tender and full of flavour.

**T-bone steak**
The quintessential Aussie BBQ steak. They're tender, rich and flavoursome. Did you know it has a fillet on the smaller side of the bone and sirloin on the other.

**Fillet steak**
AKA eye fillet or tenderloin. The most tender of all steaks. They're mild and subtle in flavour.

**Oyster blade steak**
AKA flat iron steak. They're lean with a good beef flavour.

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**Buying tip**: Whatever cut you choose, only buy steaks of an even thickness, not wedge shaped — this way they'll cook evenly.
Institutional arrangements on which international trade standards for food safety & animal disease risk are based
• Adopt innovative **non-geographic approaches** to disease management such as commodity-based trade (CBT) and value chain risk management

• Why? Commodity-based approaches focus on the *safety of the process* by which products are produced *rather than on their regional origin*

• Engage FAO and OIE – international standards – **May 2015 – TAHC Revisions?**

*CBT: an array of alternatives that can be used to ensure the production and processing of a particular commodity or product are managed so that identified food safety and animal health hazards are reduced to appropriate risk levels*
Balancing Livestock Production and Wildlife Conservation in and around Southern Africa’s Transfrontier Conservation Areas

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International Trade Standards for Commodities and Products Derived from Animals: The Need for a System that Integrates Food Safety and Animal Disease Risk Management

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The Phakalane Declaration

Resolution by the Southern African Development Community (SADC) Calling for Adoption of Commodity-Based Trade and Other Non-Geographic Approaches for Foot and Mouth Disease Management as Additional Regional Standards for Trade in Animal Products

The Phakalane Declaration
On Adoption of Non-Geographic Approaches for Management of Foot and Mouth Disease

Preamble

Across much of Africa, both wildlife and livestock represent economic growth opportunities in an increasingly globalised world. However, costs associated with current geographic zonation-based approaches to managing international trade threats to their own agricultural sectors. It is clear that any sound foot and mouth in ways that help Africa, and also provide confidence to beef producers to make the transition to free-ranging wildlife, largely related to many countries across Africa, it is necessary to develop strategies to manage foot and mouth disease effectively in a manner that is acceptable to both domestic and international markets. In addition, many countries require a comprehensive strategy to manage the disease that will enable them to trade with other countries without the need for geographic zoning.
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**Upcoming Events**

#AskAg Twitter Chat: Livestock | June 26th

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