Annex 5 – Final Progress Report

1. **Identification:**

   Partners Name: **PARKS AND WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY**

   Budget line: BAC [**US$ 53,800.00**]

   POW 2018-2019 Sub-programme: [**SMALL SCALE FUNDING-AFRICAN ELEPHANT FUND**]

   Expected Accomplishment(s):

   [**INCREASED AWARENESS ON ELEPHANT CONSERVATION AND MANAGEMENT OF KEY STAKEHOLDERS THAT INCLUDE POLICY MAKERS AND LOCAL COMMUNITIES AMONG OTHER INTERESTED GROUPS AND STRENGTHENING RANGE STATES KNOWLEDGE ON AFRICAN ELEPHANT MANAGEMENT**]

   Output(s):
          1: Set of modules and associated teaching materials/ aids produced;
          2: Quality control and certification of program with the Ministry of Education;
          3: Trained officers and lecturers to teach each course done;
          4: A training plan for the Sebungwe and other elephant range areas developed;
          5: An updated database of elephant population and distribution across Zimbabwe National Parks

   Title of the approved PRC project: [**ENHANCING THE CAPACITY OF SENGWA WILDLIFE RESEARCH INSTITUTE TO DELIVER TRAINING IN SMART RANGER BASED MONITORING (RBM) SYSTEM IN THE SEBUNGWE AND OTHER ELEPHANT RANGE AREAS IN ZIMBABWE**]
   SSFA starting date: **09/08/2019**
   Completion date: **09/08/2021**

2. **Summary of Status:**

Brief description of the main achievements, main implementation challenges and lessons learned towards achieving SSFA's objective

Through the development of SMART curriculum and training of staff, three field staff from each station (Chirisa, Sengwa, Chete, Chizarira and Sebungwe Office) and respective officers, adaptive management and monitoring systems had been improved in terms of elephant monitoring and quick decision making. More and accurate data in updating MIKE and SMART data through accurate recording of information by field workers is being produced. Standardized database had been developed which is usable by stations in elephant range state across the Sebungwe region and beyond. Development of a national database on elephant population status, mortalities and related threats is underway which will feed into the National Elephant Management Strategy (2021-2025). Elephant monitoring and research activities had been done that sort to establish main causes of elephant fluctuations in Sengwa Research Area and major threats to elephant conservation in Chirisa Complex using data collected from the field and based on trained staff perceptions and knowledge. The reports gave policy makers some recommendations in the Chirisa Complex areas on ways to improve elephant and other large herbivore conservations and protection of their habitats. Through such reports and publications, funds for the clearing of the Chirisa Boundary that will promote reducing Elephant-Human-conflicts with adjacent communities of Chirisa Safari Area) and being provided by from stakeholders.

With training in SMART, more illegal activities and mapping of its distribution had been recorded and done respectively. This information is has been useful for law enforcement and biological monitoring across elephant range landscapes as well in updating elephant databases. Based on the number of elephant's status, elephant's population estimates had been done across the landscape. In October, 2020, an Arial survey of elephant and other large herbivores had been conducted that sort to establish the actual number of heads in Chizarira and Chirisa Complex. This information fed into updating the 2021-2025 Elephant management plan five core areas that seeks to minimise illegal activities, improve elephant research, building conservation capacity, enhance the contribution of elephant to rural livelihoods and increase collaboration with stakeholders. Local Community Based Conservations under the CAMPFIRE had been allocated quota based on improved research that uses data generated from ground field surveys.

Challenges faced was on training of all staff at Sengwa and from other elephant range areas. This was caused by some national covid-19 regulation which restricted movements to the Zimbabwe Institute of Wildlife Management (Mushandike) that offers the teachings. However, the staff which initially got the training assisted other field staff to have some knowledge on how SMART works. Other challenges was a result of delayed supply of equipments to fully set the SMART system at Sengwa Wildlife Research Institute. Technological evolution and advancement which constantly change especially in the use of cyber trackers and data quarrying need refresher course for all staff that use SMART data.

There is need to train and capacitate adjacent communities to improve collaboration and coordination towards reducing Human Elephant Conflicts. Community engagement help supply intelligence networks relating to elephant and other large herbivore conservation in human dominated areas. This can only be done when revenues generated from conservation of elephants are directed towards improving their

livelihoods. Policy makers are easily convinced where actual figures related to illegal activities, habitat conservation threats are displayed. Training of staff on SMART implementation makes it easy for data collection in various areas of conservation as well constant and uniform data is supplied to the station for database updating.

3. Activity delivery status

Activity	Description of work undertaken during reporting period	Deliverables	Delivery date	Status of Activity (completed or not completed	If activity not completed, please describe the reason why and indicate mitigation actions that were taken.
Activity 1	Development of curriculum that aims to teach ranger-based data collection	Set of modules and associated teaching materials/aids produced		Completed	
Activity 2	Certification and approval of curriculum by the Ministry of Education	Quality control and certification of program with the Ministry of Education		Completed	
Activity 3	Teaching and training of officers and lecturers	Trained Officers/Lecturers to teach each course		Completed	

4. List of attached documents
(for example, publications, meeting reports, participants list, workshop reports, etc.)

Meeting and workshop reports
1. Smart Experts, Users and Implementers Workshop invitation letter- 25 February, 2020.
2. Smart Curriculum Development Workshop Report 5 March, 2020.
3. Smart Curriculum Development and Delivery Status Report & Training Plan – 17 September, 2020.

Modules produced.
4. Smart Data Model Design And Management Module
5. Defining Conservation Area Parameters Module
6. Using A Gps Device For Data Collection Module
7. Queries And Summaries Module.

Signature:

R. Mandisodza

Date: 6 December 2021
Name and title of signing officer:
R. L. MANDISODZA
CHIEF ECOLOGIST TERRESTRIAL