

## Project Update: June 2011

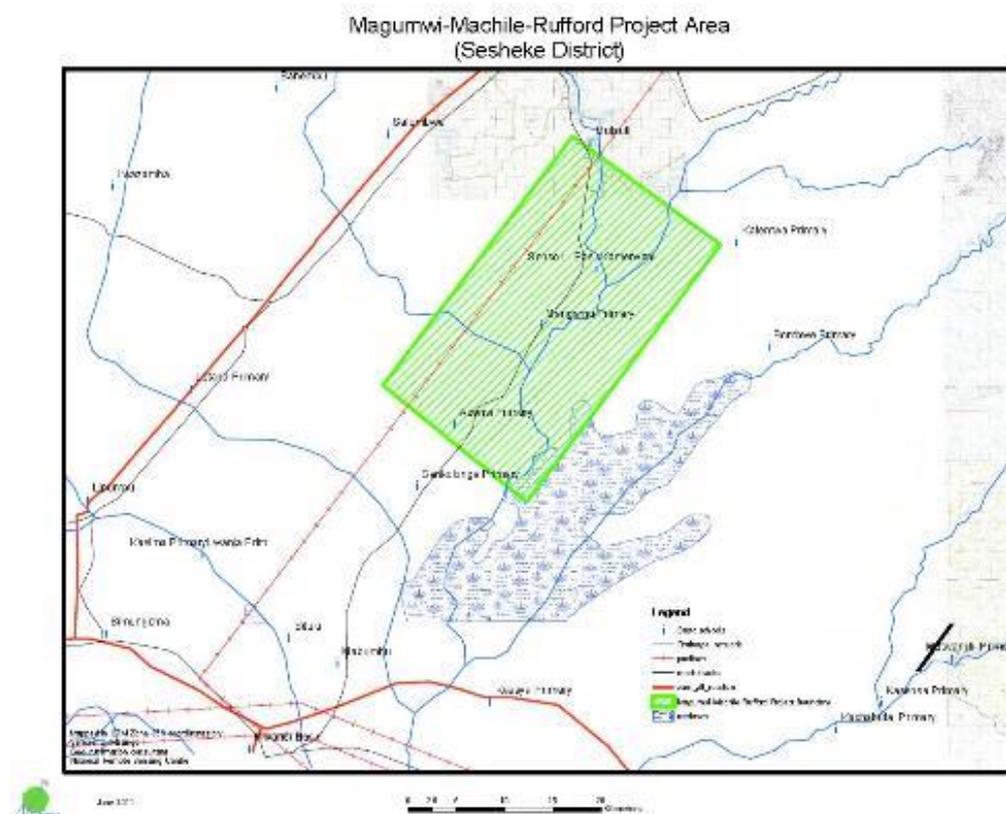
Another field trip to the project area was undertaken from 15<sup>th</sup> – 20<sup>th</sup> June 2011. This trip marks the last field visit to the project area using funds earlier received. The objective of the trip therefore was to hand over registration documents to the SSG, conclude population data collection with local monitors, conduct environmental campaigns in the two schools, distribute environmental education materials and register the group's final position in developing infrastructure for avian tourism.

Work towards the development of the species conservation plan for the black cheeked lovebird are being concluded. Additional transects to enhance collection of population data of the target species were instituted and community based monitors continued collecting the same and sending to Biodiversity Monitoring Coordinator at ZOS offices.

Formalisation of the local conservation group has been completed with the conservation group being legally registered and now ready to do legitimate business in the front of avian tourism. Besides the local bird guides earlier trained with support of ZOS have been linked to a tour operation and tourism marketing entity called Open Africa.

Sessions on environmental education have been held. Besides a number of posters were developed and distributed to two schools in the project area namely Magumwi and Adonsi Basic Schools. With complementary effort of Rufford funding other posters were also distributed to other schools in Livingstone and Sesheke districts.

The project area has also been clearly defined.





Left: Female bird guide (Ms. Agnitor Mutelo). Who was recently linked to Open-Africa Initiative © Kelvin Mkandawire. Right: Monitoring Coordinator and a local monitor marking permanent transects for bird population monitoring. © Moses Nyoni.



Left: Schools receive poster © Kelvin Mkandawire. Right: SSG obtains legitimate status through registration with government. © Kelvin Mkandawire.



One of the posters distributed to Schools. © Moses Nyoni.