

Global Biodiversity Information Facility (GBIF) Awareness Workshop for Preservation and Use of Hunting Records Project

#### University of Botswana Library Auditorium, 10 May 2017, 0900 h. – 1200 h.

Information collected by the Botswana Wildlife Management Association between 1996 and 2014 about hunting quotas, concession location, and trophy measurements, as well as biological specimens, forms an important piece of the knowledge legacy of legal hunting in Botswana.

Following the 2014 moratorium on hunting in Botswana, recognising the valuable insights to wildlife research that these materials can provide, the Association is working with the University of Botswana's Okavango Research Institute to catalogue, transfer and preserve the materials in ORI's library and archival collections in Maun, and to capture the data in a widely accessible online resource, the <u>Global Biodiversity Information Facility</u>. The Botswana Department of Wildlife and National Parks is providing guidance and advice to the project.

This workshop shares the experience of the project team and welcomes input from potential users of the collection and its data.

Time	Activity	Presenter		
0900	Introduction to the workshop	Ms Monica Morrison, PI		
0905	Prayer	Mr Masego Dhliwayo, ORI		
0910	Welcome remarks	Mr Edwin Qobose, Director, Library Services, UB		
0920	Introduction to the project	Dr Gaseitsiwe Masunga, ORI		
0940	The records and data of the BWMA	Mrs Debbie Peake, Botswana Wildlife Management Association		
1000	Using hunting records data to support wildlife management	Dr Lucas Rutina, ORI, Mrs Debbie Peake, BWMA		
1030	Tea break			
1050	Making hunting records and data permanently available	Ms Olebgeng Phaladze, Ms Mosepele Boiditswe, ORI Library and Mr Masego Dlhiwayo, ORI GIS Lab		
1115	Discussion	Led by Mrs Debbie Peake and Dr Lucas Rutina		
1150	Closing	Mrs Babakisi Fidzani, Deputy Director,UB Library		
1200	Prayer	Dr Gaseitsiwe Masunga, ORI		

#### Agenda







### Gaborone Awareness Workshop for GBIF Hunting Records Project



A second awareness workshop for the Global Biodiversity Information Facility Global Biodiversity Information Facility (GBIF) Biodiversity Information for Development (BID) project to rescue records and data of the Botswana Wildlife Management Association (BWMA) was held at the University of Botswana's Library auditorium in Gaborone on Wednesday, May 10th, 2017. A cross-section of stakeholders from government, NGOs, tertiary education and the private sector heard about the project's progress with preservation of records and mobilisation of trophy hunting data at the Okavango Research Institute.

Presentations by the project team members stimulated an intense discussion about biodiversity data sharing policies. Referring to the willingness of the BWMA to make its records freely available, representatives of the National Archives, University of Botswana library, the Kalahari Conservation Society, and researchers called for government to follow this example. The issue of cost recovery was raised by government officials. Information sharing systems, such as the Botswana Environmental Information System (EIS), are costly to maintain, so charging users a fee for their use might support them. DWNP officials present explained that, under Botswana's participation in the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), the National Biological Diversity Authority (NBDA) is meant to be a platform for sharing of biodiversity data.

Many at the meeting called for further use of the data mobilised by the project through combining it with Problem Animal Control, illegal harvesting, and aerial survey data, as well as legacy records from previous projects and data from independent researchers.

The Data Rescue for the Records of the Botswana Wildlife Management Association project runs until the end of July 2017. Find out more about the GBIF's BID programme here.



## Processing and Publishing of Hunting Records in the Integrated Publishing Toolkit

Mosepele Boiditswe, Olebogeng Phaladze & Masego Dhliwayo GBIF Awareness Workshop for Preservation and Use of Hunting Records Project Gaborone Botswana 10 May 2017





- Records from the Botswana Wildlife Management Association (BWMA)
- To ensure continued access to legacy biodiversity data related to animals formerly hunted in Botswana
- Supported by the Global Biodiversity Information Facility (GBIF)







- Reports
- Excel datasets
- Correspondence
- Trophy descriptions
- Biological specimens

Inventoried and then moved to ORI Library



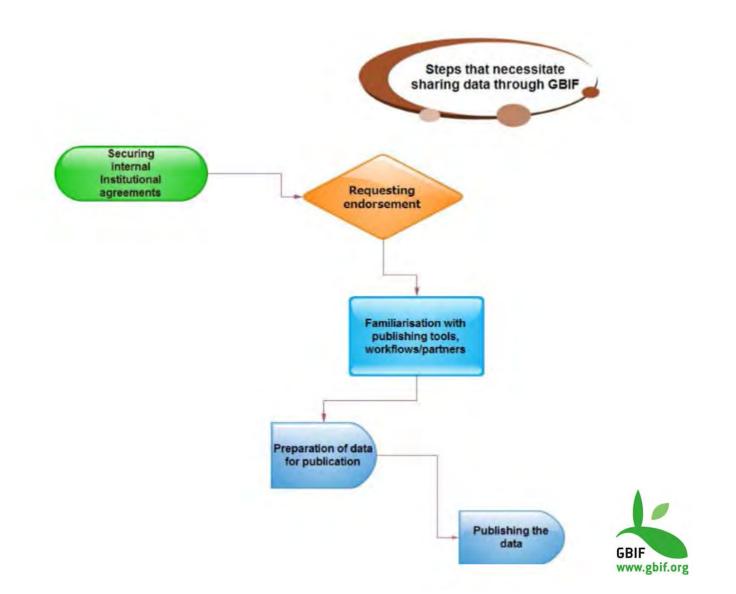




The library team produced an inventory & detailed archival description of the records









#### The GBIF Integrated data Publishing Toolkit (IPT)

is a free open source software tool written in Java that is used to publish and share biodiversity datasets through the GBIF network.

http://www.gbif.org/ipt

#### IPT User Manual:

https://github.com/gbif/ipt/wiki/ IPT2ManualNotes.wiki

Robertson T, Döring M, Guralnick R, Bloom D, Wieczorek J, Braak K, Otegui J, Russell L, Desmet P (2014). The GBIF integrated publishing toolkit: Facilitating the efficient publishing of biodiversity data on the internet. PLoS One 9(8). doi:10.1371/journal.pone.0102623

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- The Global Biodiversity Information Facility Integrated Publishing Toolkit -GBIF IPT
- Free, open source software
- For publishing and sharing biodiversity data





- Data already recorded in Excel documents transferred to Okavango Research Centre's GIS laboratory server
- Data hosting at ORI is a significant commitment
  - consistent online presence
  - stable and secure infrastructure
  - helpdesk support to users
  - accuracy of data



# Darwin Core standard

#### Darwin Core - a vocabulary of terms

continent taxonRank basisOfRecord kingdom institutionCode scientificNameID family institutionID vernacularName coordinatePrecision recordedBy taxonID verbatim TaxonRank originalNameUsagenomenclaturalCode nameAccordingTo higherClassification namePublishedInID classparentNameUsage occurrenceID originalNameUsageIDnameAccordingToD order higherGeographyID associatedTaxa verbatimCoordinateSystem datasetID order higherGeographyID associatedTaxa verbatimCoordinateSystem datasetID infraspecificEpithet acceptedNameUsageID genus scientificNameAuthorship behavior collectionCodepreviousIdentifications maximumDepthInMeters taxonConceptID geodeticDatumreproductiveCondition decimalLongitude namePublishedIn phylum catalogNumber acceptedNameUsage nomenclaturalStatus taxonRemarks specificEpithet higherGeography decimalLatitude subgenus taxonomicStatus scientificName islandGroup lifeStage locationID collectionID waterBody

Wieczorek J, Bloom D, Guralnick R, Blum S, Döring M, De Giovanni R, Robertson T, and Vieglais D (2012) Darwin Core: An Evolving Community-Developed Biodiversity Data Standard. *PLoS ONE* 7(1): e29715. (doi:10.1371/journal.pone.0029715)



Facilitate data sharing through:

- well defined standard core vocabulary
- flexible framework to maximize reusability
- Content based on taxa and occurrence in nature
- extended terms for sharing additional data



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Original spreadsheet from Debbie Peake:

- license
- area
- CITES ID
- tusk weight
- tusk length
- circumference
- tip to lip
- weight



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New spreadsheet with data mapped

- occurrence ID
- country of hunter
- hunter's name withheld
- basis of record
- scientific name
- kingdom
- family
- genus
- higher classification
- ... 56 Darwin core terms



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- The data can provide insights to wildlife research
- rich context for scientific and economic studies of natural resources management in northern Botswana
- From tusk length, weight can estimate age, compare data from one concession to another, enquire why there are differences









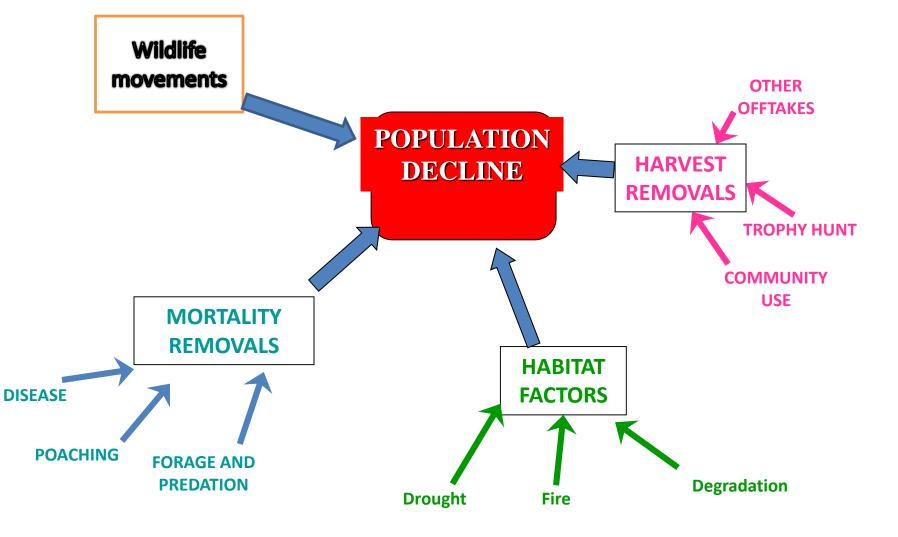
### USING HUNTING RECORDS TO SUPPORT WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT LUCAS RUTINA OKAVANGO RESEARCH INSTITUTE DEBBIE PEAKE BOTSWANA WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT ASSOCIATION



# BACKGROUND

- What is wildlife management?
  - Management of wildlife populations and their habitat
  - \*Include interaction (intra and inter)
  - In agro-ecosystems
- What are the goals of wildlife management?
  - Population increasing
  - Population stable
  - Population decreasing
  - Leave it alone and keep and eye







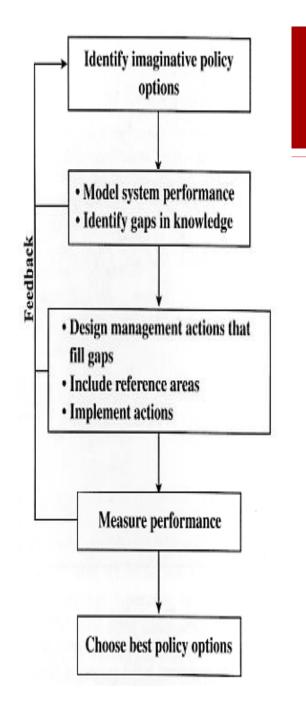
### How we learn

- Tradition ("local knowledge")
- Trial-and-error ("college of hard knocks", "on-the-job-training")
- Scientific experiment (objective, explicit, replicable, but often reductionist)
- <u>Adaptive management</u>: Combine advantages of trialand-error and scientific learning



### Adaptive management

The process of treating management as an experiment





### **Resilience and Resistance**

- In wildlife management (and ES generally) we often assume systems are linear and changes incremental, but often not the case
- Sudden shifts can alter ecosystems, as well as human understanding and the institutions that carry out management
- Ecosystems properties, :
  - Resilience: The capacity of a system to absorb disturbance and still retain its basic function and structure
  - Resistance: the capacity of the ecosystem to resist to change following disturbance



- Social-ecological systems can exist in more than one kind of stable state
  - If system changes too much it can cross a threshold and begin behaving in new and unexpected ways (it has undergone a "regime shift")



## Types of complexity

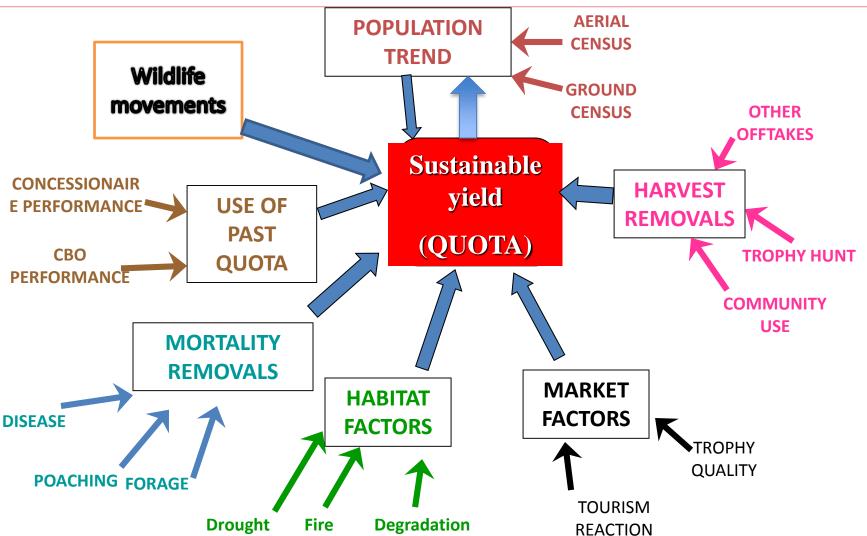
- Environmental variation
- Ecological variation in populations
- Synergistic effects (e.g., multiple stresses like drought and disease)
- Cumulative effects



### Resilience and ecological systems

- Ecological and human systems are dynamic
  - Constantly confronted with "surprise" events
  - What is optimal one year, is not the next
  - Structure and function of ecosystems change over time
- Not just *amount* of knowledge that is important (*e.g.*, species, ecosystems) but also *kind* of knowledge
  - How we perceive connections, consider uncertainty, consider resilience





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