



FOOT & MOUTH DISEASE CONTROL IN AND AROUND THE LIMPOPO NP: Initiatives aimed at integrated control

8th AHEAD-GLTFCA Working Group Meeting

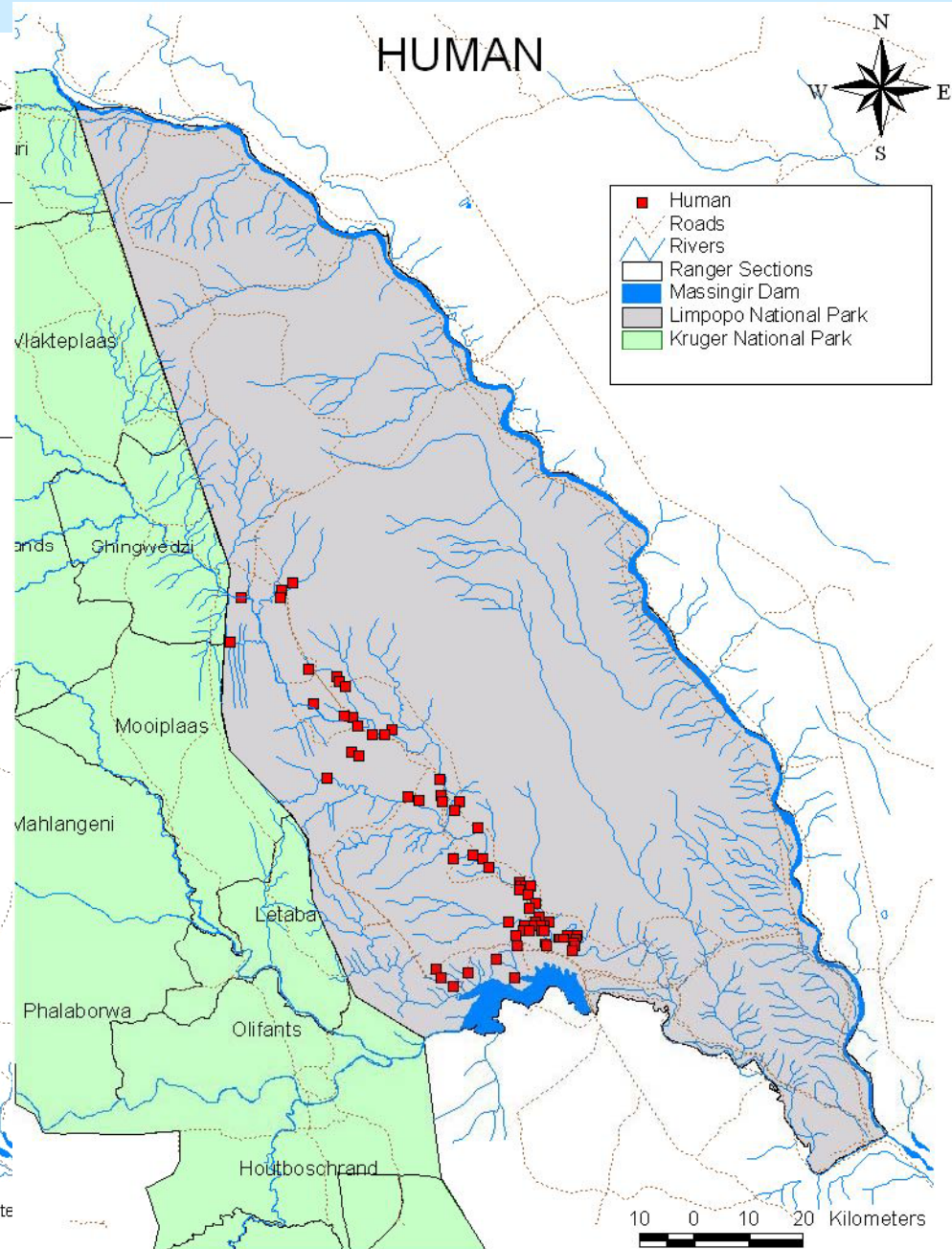
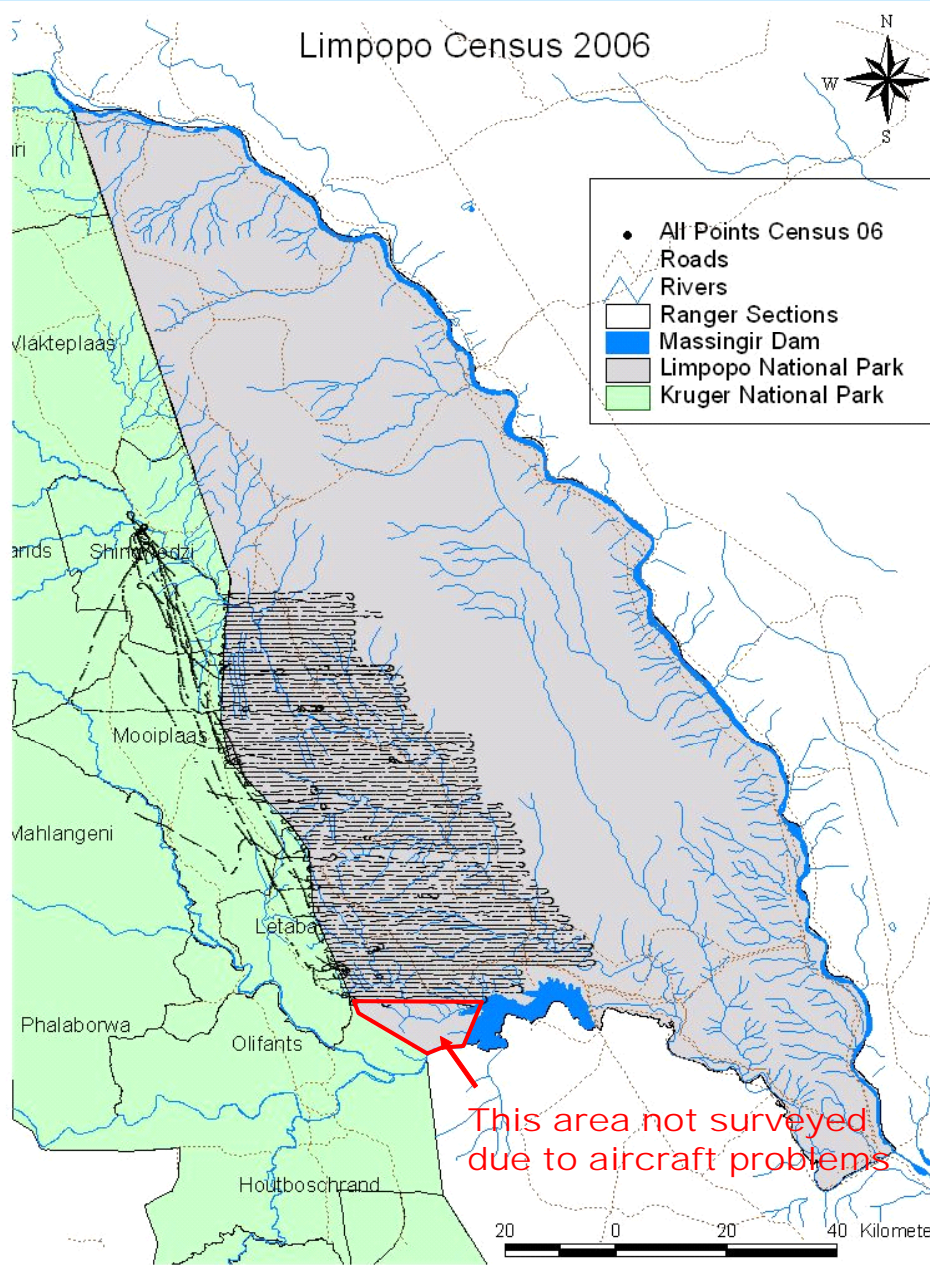
F. Cipriano (DNSV, Moçambique) &
G. Thomson (SADC FMD Project)

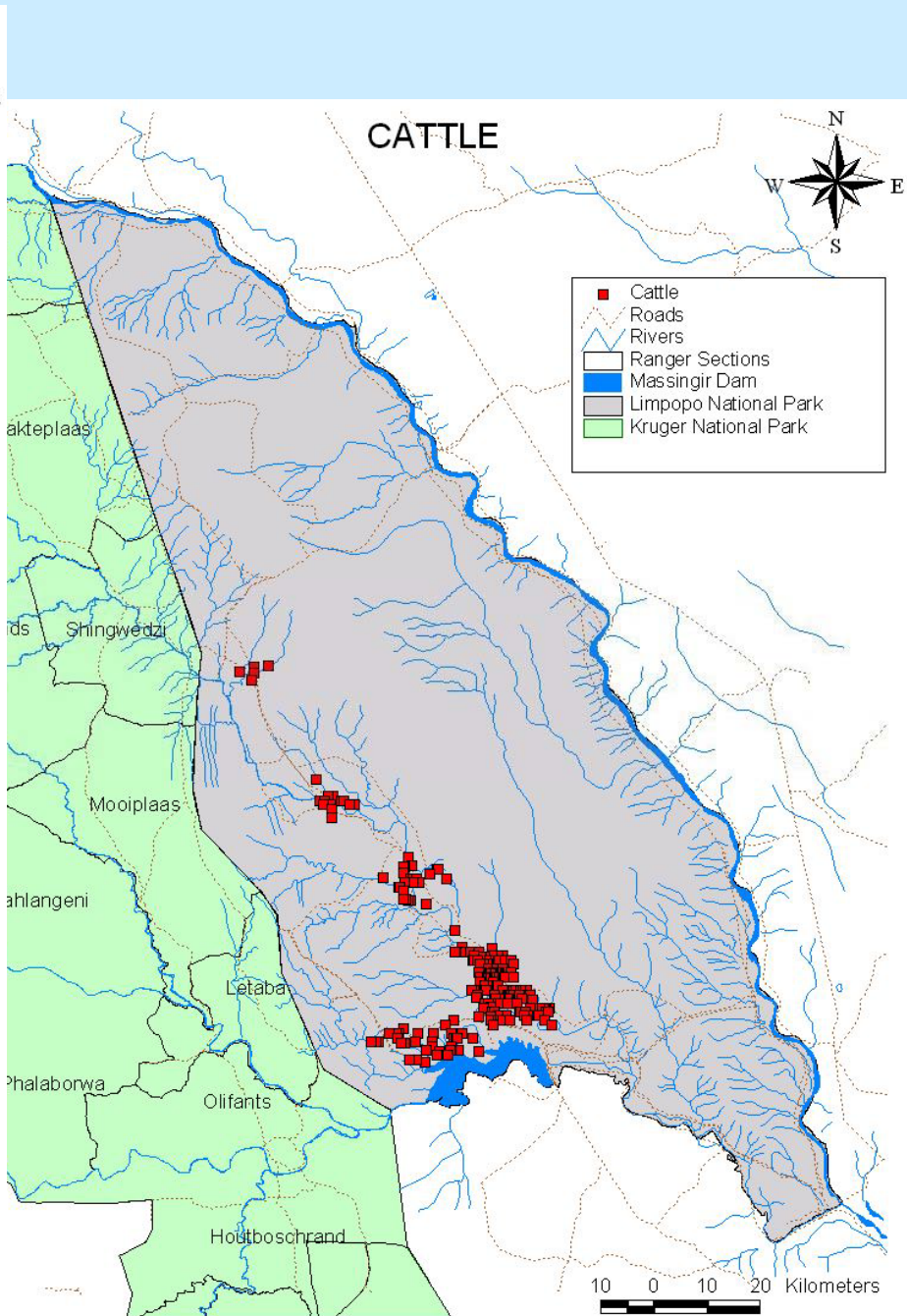
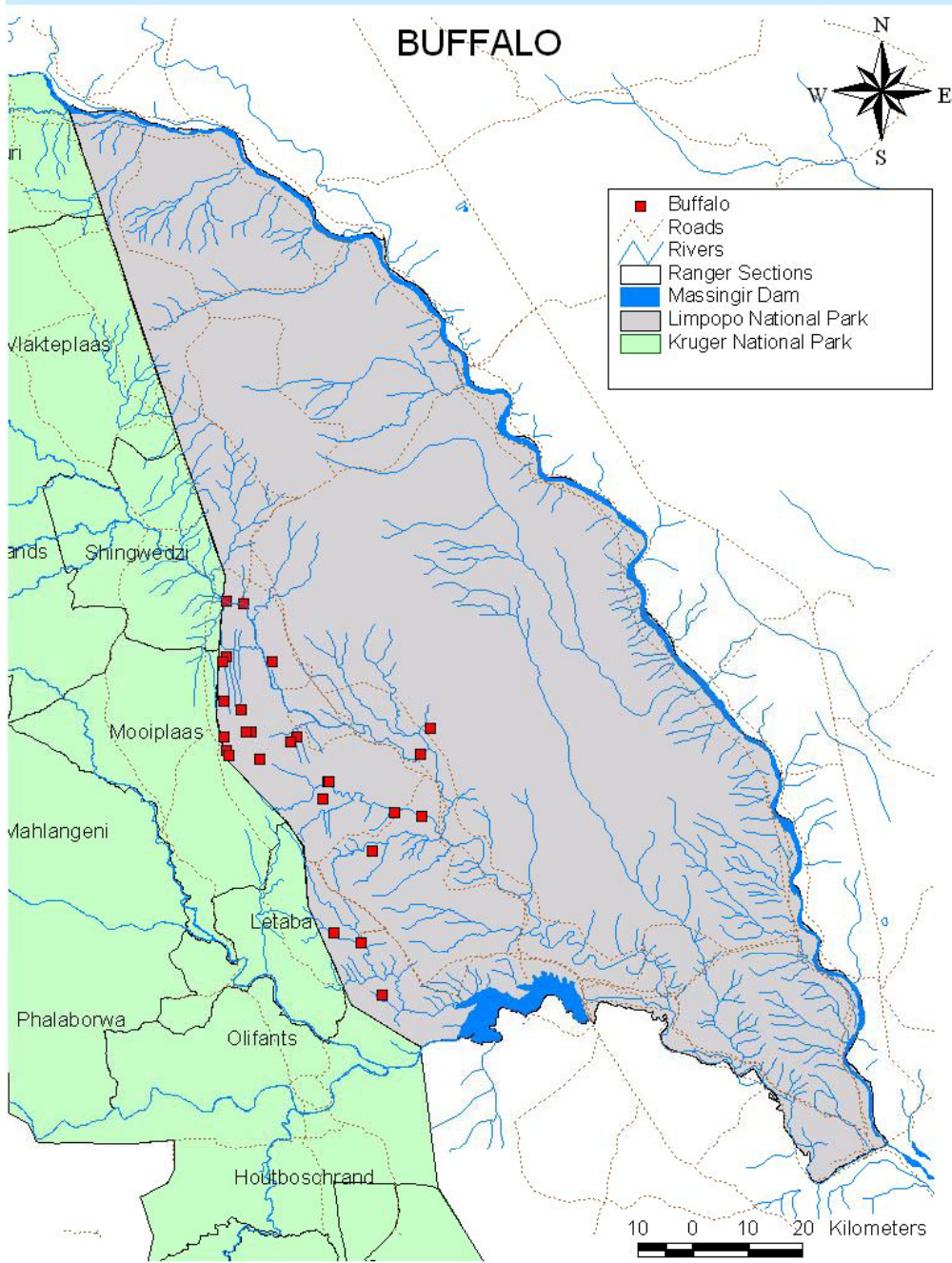
Background

- The establishment of the GLTP has created a significant FMD risk for Moçambique due to the lowering of the fence between the KNP and the LNP
- Why? Because increasing numbers of buffalo (which maintain SAT-type FMD viruses) live in close contact with resident cattle, especially in the Shingwedzi River Basin (at least 3000 cattle)
- Such sympatric distribution is known to result in periodic transmission of FMD to cattle
- Cattle will remain in the LNP for some years to come: therefore this situation needs to be actively managed

Results of an aerial count in the Shingwedzi River Basin portion of Limpopo National Park, Mozambique (Whyte & Swanepoel, 2006)

SPECIES	COUNT	SPECIES	COUNT
Buffalo	225	Ostrich	36
Bushbuck	1	Roan	6
Bushpig	8	Sable	62
Elephants	630	Steenbuck	12
Giraffe	23	Warthog	48
Grey Duiker	56	Waterbuck	86
Ground Hornbill	50	White rhino	16
Impala	496	Wildebeest	358
Kudu	273	Zebra	325
Lichtenstein's Hartebeest	7	Cattle	3142
Nyala	257	Goats	527





Background (cont.)

- It is difficult to control movement of cattle out of the LNP & there is therefore a risk of FMD spreading from LNP to other areas, e.g. Gaza & Maputo Provinces where livestock production initiatives are being implemented or planned
- Therefore the GLTP has the potential to significantly constrain rural development based on cloven-hoofed livestock in southern Moçambique
- More effective integration of development initiatives promoted by the livestock sector and the GLTP is consequently required

What is the plan to achieve amelioration?

- Regular & systematic vaccination of all cattle in the Massingir, Mabalane & Chicualacuala districts against FMD (every 4 months to achieve high levels of herd immunity)
 - This provides no guarantee because even the best FMD vaccines are relatively inefficient
 - Provides an opportunity to apply other prophylactic measures (e.g. against tick-borne diseases) which may be done to encourage presentation of cattle for vaccination)
- Identification of all cattle resident in districts of Massingir, Mabalane & Chicualacuala
 - To assist movement control

Plan (cont.)

- Provision of more effective animal handling facilities (possibly increasingly based on mobile cattle crushes)
- Supporting further aerial surveys to establish cattle (and wildlife) numbers and distribution more accurately (e.g. 2007 survey)
- Consideration of assisting with construction of the barrier proposed in the BRL Report (i.e. to protect the large number of people & their crops in the south-east corner of the support zone)
 - This fence potentially provides an animal disease control mechanism (but this needs further consultation & planning on part of stake-holders)

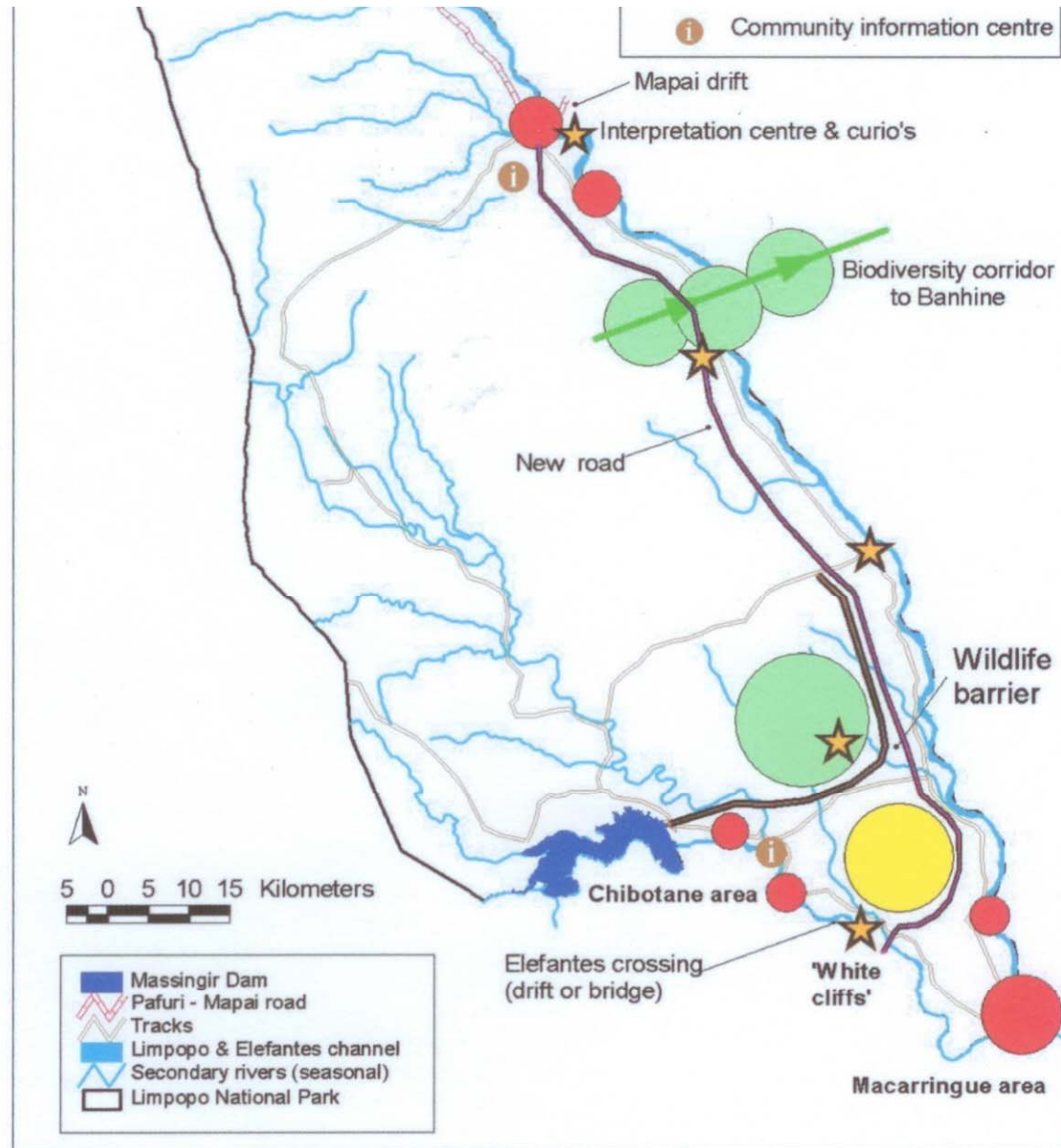
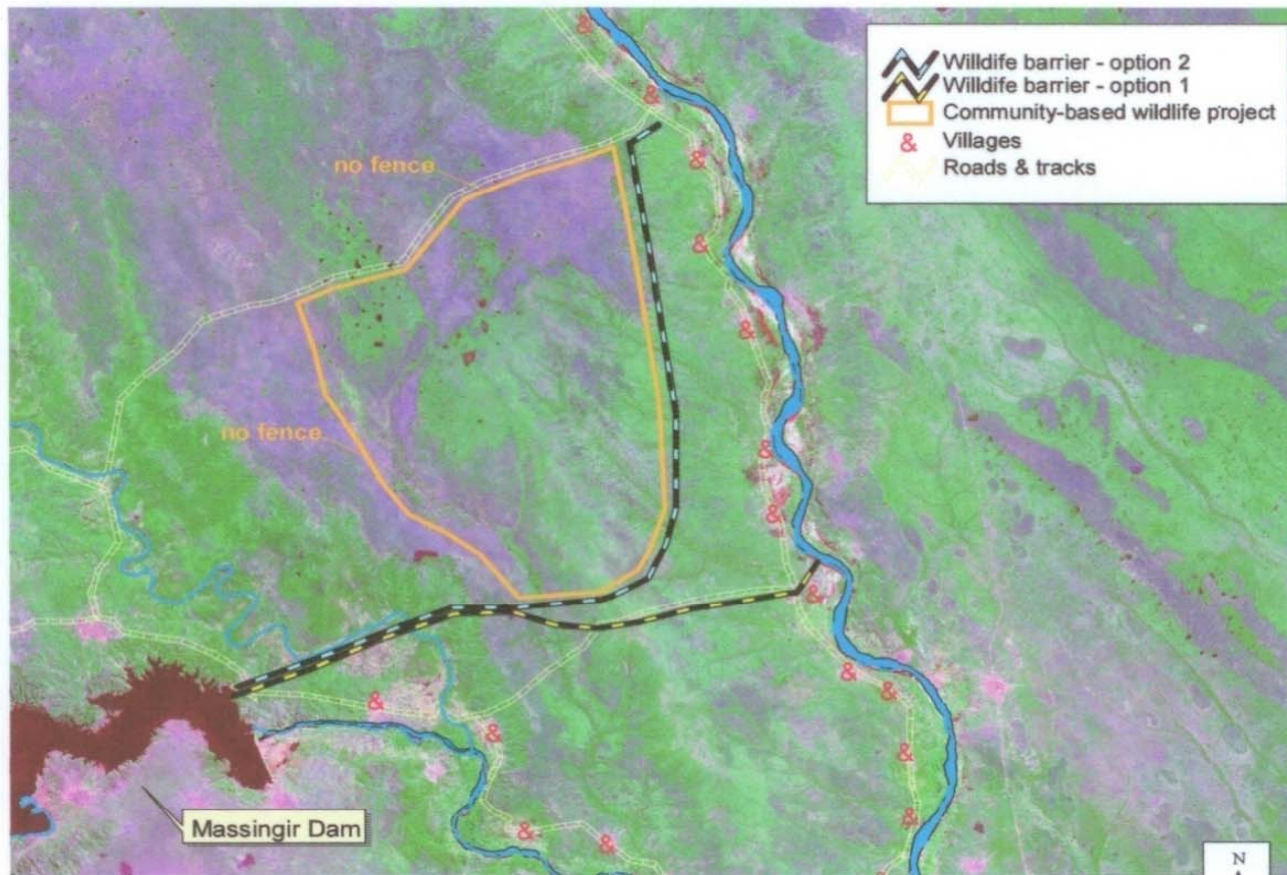


Figure 2.1: Development concept for the Support Zone of the Limpopo National Park



Conclusion

- FMD is only one of the animal disease problems affecting rural development in southern Moçambique but it has the potential to spread rapidly to distant locations with potentially serious knock-on effects
- Therefore, active management of FMD in the Limpopo NP needs to be implemented with immediate effect
- Integration of FMD control with other initiatives/development objectives is an important consideration