

FORESTRY REPORT : MSANA NATIVE RESERVE

INTRODUCTION:

This report is for submission to the Assessment Committee, and gives a general outline of present and future requirements of forestry work.

Forester Barry, together with the Land Development Officer, collected the data on 29th June, 1956.

Costs = £6. 2. 3d.
Mileage = 141 Land Rover miles.

PART I

1. Location and Area:

This area is that, bounded on the West by Chindamora Native Reserve, the North by Chindmora and private property, the East by the Mavidzi River and private property, the South by private property.

The area is 64,650 acres of which 58,185 are considered usable land, the remainder, 6,465 acres as waste.

2. Geology and Soils:

Generally the area consists of soils, derived from granite, which are coarse grained and light in colour. A reddish clay is given from patches of contacts.

Black and grey soils appear in vleis.

3. Rainfall and Topography:

The area lies in the 32" to 40" belts. Two main rivers drain the area. The Nyauri to the West and the Mavidzi to the East.

The country is broken up by granite hills and kopjies, and there is evidence of good underground water supplies.

4. Vegetation:

Generally the Reserve is well timbered, except in the Mpandira section, which has far less timber.

The main species seen were :-

Muhohohobo
Muhacha
Mnondo
and Msasa

with Mountain acacia on the hill slopes.

See appendix for list of trees seen.

5. Existing Plantations:

A total of approximately 64 acres has been established under Eucalypts.

Damusi	10 acres
Nora	4 acres
Umvenzi	20 acres
Nyava	30 acres

6. Timber Requirements:

Timbered area	=	26,700 acres
Population	=	710 families
Annual increment is estimated at 8 cu. ft. per acre.		
Total volume available	=	213,600 cu.ft.
Annual Consumption per family	=	300 cu.ft.
Therefore total annual cut	=	213,000 cu.ft.

PART II

400 cu ft in Chinese

PROPOSALS:

1. Areas for Planting and Nurseries

It is considered that further extension to the existing plantations is not necessary at present.

On the Land Development Officer's advice, an additional 10 acres should be established as soon as possible in the Mpandira Township area, to meet the anticipated requirements of this section, which is not so well timbered.

The position should be reviewed in five years, to cover any changes.

2. Areas Proposed for Reservation:

None were seen.

3. Suitability of Large Scale Afforestation:

The area is not suitable.

4. Management:

All plantations should be fenced.

AJE/LMSS.

Sgd. A. J. BARRY
FORESTER : NATIVE AREAS

A P P E N D I X

Brachystegia tamarindoides.

Brachystegia spiciformis.

Isoberlinea globiflora.

Strychnos spp.

Uapaca kirkiana.

Syzygium guineense.

Parinari mobola.

PASTURE OFFICER'S REPORT

MSANA RESERVE:

1. Dates of visit over which report based:

9th February 1956, Msana.

Dates of any previous visits and history of past reports:

Nil.

2. Classification of area: Brief notes on rainfall, soils, vegetation, topography:

Rainfall: 32 to 36 inches.

Altitude: 4,000 to 4,500 feet.

Topography: Very large granite hills to the north opening out to smaller more isolated hills towards south central. South-east more open.

Soils: Granite sandveld topland and vlei. Red soils from doleritic intrusions along Shamva road in east section.

Vegetation: Msasa mnono with some muzhanje mostly thick regrowth and with poor grass. Waterberry with fair to good cover in vleis.

3. Present stocking rate and figures on which rate determined: Director of Native Agriculture's formula to be used:

Usable acreage	-	58,185
- Acreage cultivated 1955	-	
+ 1/6th of Cultivated	+	
	=	
- 7%	-	
	=	

4,838 Grazing available/Director of Native Agriculture
Total Large Stock Equivalent. / Formula = acres.

(Above figures not available at 10th May 1956).

4. Report on grass and browse: Suitability for grazing: Conditions of grazing areas:

Browse: Mostly unpalatable and intake low.

Grass: Perennial grass but cover sparse and of low production in topland grazing under tree regrowth. Vleis in general fair to good cover. Sporobolus pyramidalis, however, has spread in many vleis.

5. From Officer's observations is the whole area overstocked or understocked, or are certain areas overstocked and others understocked? Any such areas to be detailed:

In Mpandira Zone numerous vleis within the arable areas not grazed during the growing season whilst vleis

within grazing areas overgrazed, e.g. vlei to west of Nyaba township.

Grazing area overstocked between Chidziwa and Mutsatsati village.

6. Should stocking rate be uniform throughout whole area, or should there be different stocking rates for different sections of the area? Such sections to be detailed and stocking rates recommended for each section:

The hill country falling into the Mpandira and Nyva Zones should be more lightly stocked than the remainder.

Recommended stocking rate for these Zones:

1:13 acres under present management with possibility of increasing to 1:10 acres;

Remainder: 1:10 acres under present management with possibility of increasing to 1:9 acres.

7. Report on any system of pasture management in force:

It was reported by the Land Development Officer that some of the people have shown interest in a form of rotational grazing.

8. Report on any pasture mismanagement found:

Concentrated herding causing bad stock distribution.

9. Detail type of stock that the pastures are suitable for and recommend proportion of bovines, equines and small stock that should be grazed, and recommend number of small stock to equal one beast:

Cattle and limited number of goats, i.e., suggest 4% as large stock equivalent, or 20 goats per 96 head of cattle.

As few donkeys as possible.

5 Head small stock to equal 1 head large stock.

10. Report on bush encroachment and possible ways of dealing with it:

Msasa and mmondo regrowth occurs on old lands reverted to grazing also some thickets of muzhanje. More mature treeveld occurs in the north. Possible means of dealing with bush:

- (1) Direct stumping for provision or sale of firewood;
- (2) Ensuring that before lands revert from cultivation to grazing that tree regrowth

-3-

is removed;

- (3) Allowing controlled shifting cultivation with proviso that lands are properly stumped.

11. Report on noxious or harmful weeds or grasses and methods for their eradication:

Upright Star Burr occurs towards east in Mumurgwe Zone.

Control:

- (1) Spraying in young stage at sources of infestation with $\frac{1}{2}$ -1 lb./acre 2, 4-D or MCPA;
- (2) Resting from heavy trampling and grazing will allow grass to compete to the eventual exclusion of this weed.

12(a). Recommend stocking rate under present management:

See section 6 above.

(b). Recommend maximum potential stocking rate under good management:

See section 6 above.

(c). Recommend system of management which should be followed and future development for improvement:

2-Camp system allowing a January, February, March rest for each camp in alternate years. A burn every four years after first good rains to clean up old grass. Camp should be burned in the year of rest. This system may be modified to give first half and second half season rest to each camp alternately. A burn as above to the camp rested during second half season.

(d). Detail basis on which recommendations made:

2-Camp system provides no means of controlling bush. With high population the local people should be induced to carry out eradication and control as a veld improvement measure. The potential stocking rate will only be reached if attention is paid to this matter. The hilly portion of the reserve is assessed at a lighter rate to allow for difficult topography.

SUMMARY OF STATISTICAL INFORMATION AND DATA

Number of Kraals	83		
Number of Taxpayers	1,901		
Number of Resident Adult Males	776		
Number of Stockowners	720		
Number of Landholders	1,442		
Number with stock and land	659		
Number with stock only	61		
Number with land only	783		
Number of Females with stock and land	247		
Total acreage cultivated:	13,271	acres	5 370?
Dry:	12,692	"	
Wet:	579	"	
Total acreage uncultivated	2,036	"	880?
Total acreage	15,315	"	
Approximate appropriate acreage?	8,713	"	
Total Animal Units	4,109		<i>see other table</i>
Transport:			
V/H.	50		
Scotch Carts	159		
Sleighs	461		
Number of Calves	372		
Number of Cattle	3,961		
Number of Donkeys	565		
Number of Sheep	18		
Number of Goats	63		
Number of Animal Units	4,587		
Number in Each Stock Group:			
1	42		
2	89		
3	92		
4	111		
5	98		
6	106		
7	58		
8	48		
9	49		
10	28		
11	23		
12	12		
13	10		
14	8		
15	3		
16	5		
18	3		
22	2		
28	1		

MSANA RESERVE

SUMMARY AND REPORT

1. THE OVERALL PICTURE

Estimated Population	7,650 ✓
Number of villages	93
Number of taxpayers	2,102
Number of adult resident males (% of taxpayers)	40.1%
Estimated average density of population per square mile	76
<i>Density / sq km = 29.3</i>	
Total area of reserve	64,650 ✓ 26,163 ha.
Estimated wasteland	6,465 ✓ 2,616
Estimated usable land	58,185 ✓ 23,547
Total cultivated acreage (% of usable)	24.7%
Acreage of wet lands and gardens	609 ✓ 246.5 ha.
Arable land uncultivated <i>see other table</i>	2,176 ✓ 880.6 ha.
Total estimated arable potential (% of usable)	20.6%
Total number of landholders (% of taxpayers)	1,543 1,442 75.8%
Total number of landholders with stock (% of landholders)	45.7%
Total number of landholders with- out stock (% of landholders)	54.3%
Number of female landholders and/or stockowners (% of landholders)	17.2%
Acreage required for allocation to present landholders with standard area at 6 acres	10,467 4,236 ha.
Estimated surplus for future allocation and/or return to grazing	6,088 2,464 ha.
Number of stockowners (% of taxpayers)	37.5%
Number of stockowners without lands (% of stockowners)	8.3%
Animal units declared <i>See other table</i>	4,577 ✓
Total cattle	3,940
Average number of animal units:	
per stockowner	5.7%
per landholder	2.8%
per taxpayer	2.1%

Present ratio of animal units to cultivated acreage 1 : 3 1:1,214

Present grazing density (Director of Native
Agriculture Formula) 1 : 9.3

Assessed grazing capacity 4,840

2. LAND

This reserve is situated to the east of Chinamora and north of the Shamva road with one sector crossing this road to meet the Umvinzi river. This river is the common boundary with Chikwaka reserve from Rutorpe farm to the Lion's Head hill. Here the line turns west to Ruwanga hill and bounded to the north by the farms Mumurgwi, Bythorn, Rusikani and Ruwanga. From Ruwanga hill the line turns northwards for $1\frac{3}{4}$ miles along Ruwanga farm fence, and then west again to the Nyauri river with Masembura reserve to the north. Following the river southwards to just beyond Chikowore then up the Kondo stream and passing between Mutanurwa (Chinamora) and Nzirawa township proceeds down the Chigariro stream to Denda farm. The whole of this western boundary is in common with Chinamora reserve. From Denda the line follows the boundaries of the farms Swiswa, Halstead, Saratoga, Marsala, Frascati and Rutorpe.

The area is 64,650 acres.

The western and northern sectors are very hilly with a few valleys suitable for cultivation. The eastern and southern sectors are more open with gentler gradients. Most of the estimated surplus of 6,088 acres occurs in these last two areas.

3. ZONES

There are three zones, as follows:

Mpandira: southwestern zone from Chikowore to Guwa. 27 Villages, 494 landholders, arable acreage 5,349, of which 535 acres are vacant. Animal units 1,356.

Nyava: northern zone from Muza to and including Nowa. 35 Villages, 535 landholders, arable acreage 5,616, of which 647 acres are vacant. Animal units 1,479.

Mumurgwi: eastern zone from Msekiwa to Aaron. 30 Villages, 557 landholders, arable acreage 5,619, of which 994 acres are vacant. Animal units 1,742.

4. POPULATION

Estimated at 7,650 spread over an area of 100 square miles. Due to the old method of centralisation there is some overcrowding around Mpandira township and along the Nora strip between Kunaka and Gorwa. Re-centralisation will solve the problem temporarily.

5. STOCK

There has never been any destocking as their own consumption combined with the voracity of the hyaenas has kept the total below the assessed figure. Present management of a very low order; breeds are nondescript. There is very little of the true indigenous type left. Calving percentages of the total cattle over the past three years were 14.1 in 1953; 13.5 in 1954; and 20.7 in 1955.

would be of great benefit. There are very few sheep, only 11 in the whole area. Goats are not popular, and the 39 are kept by the old inhabitants to ward off the "evil eye". Donkeys are used extensively as beasts of burden and help to reduce the number of sleighs. There are 529, of which 341 are in the hilly Nyava zone.

6. RAINFALL

Rainfall is in the 30 to 40 inch group. This year it was 45.02 inches.

7. SOIL

Soil of the Mpandira zone is 90% granitic sand of reasonable texture. Nyava zone is 50% sandy soil and 50% red derived from doleritic intrusion. Mumurgwi zone is 75% red and 25% sand.

8. WATER

Water supplies for animals are adequate with four perennial rivers - Nyauri, Karoi, Nora, Mudortwe - and short section of the Umvinzi, as well as many smaller streams flowing most of the year. Vleis numerous and fairly well spaced so that the majority of villages will have gardens. Three very large vleis occur in the grazing areas of Mumurgwe. A few sponges to be fenced. No dams and no lined wells. Wells are being dug at Mchemenye, Jonasi Gwara, Zinyama and Mpandawana and a further 17 are required.

9. GRAZING

Grazing is fair in all areas except two. These are the strip along the Nora and west of the Shamva road. The Nora strip is about 4,000 acres with 1,047 animal units. 190 Of these can go to other areas, and two new grazing areas composed mainly of hills in the arable area can be added. A cattle corridor through the arable to the hills will ease the situation west of the Shamva road.

10. TIMBER

Timber is in good supply in nearly all areas. A gum plantation at Mapndira is required.

11. CENTRALISATION

Centralisation is particularly bad in the Mpandira zone. In the other areas only slight adjustments will have to be made, but in the first zone six kraals will have to move and three others should, but the distance of 350 yards to a better site hardly warrants arousing ill-feeling. Muchaziwepi in the Nyava zone should move to their lands, and, in fact, are very willing to do so. Samwura Motsi and Chidziba arable lands should go into the grazing, and new lands allocated near the villages.

In the Mumurgwi sector only Nekati should be transferred from the present double line with Sikara to below Chishayamvudzi.

12. SOIL CONSERVATION

The villages of Chikowore, Mawana, Nzirawa and Mchemenye were included in the Chinamora project. Elsewhere a little voluntary work has been done around Nyava township, and Msana, Chidziva, Dunduru villages. Buffer stripping of sixteen villages was completed last year. Erosion is active in all areas but not uncontrollable. The worst gullies are those below Mugabi village line.

13. AGRICULTURE

No figures are available at the moment, but I reckon that they are higher than Chinamora and the farmers as good as anywhere else. The arable blocks of Chavunduka-Tinargwo, Cibaya, Jaji and Rusere are outstanding.

14. TANKS

There are three tanks:

Chikowore	753
Damusu	1,980
Umvinsi	1,662.

As can be seen from the figures above, Damusi is overcrowded. It is suggested that a new dip be constructed in the Nora strip to relieve the pressure, and also some from Umvinsi.

15. COMMUNICATIONS

Roads are being re-aligned where necessary. It is estimated that there will be 44 miles of roads to maintain. The main Shamva road passes through the reserve from the Nora bridge to the Lion's Head, and a branch road, (old Shamva road), gives access to the five villages in that vicinity. Access to the Mpandira zone is via Denda farm turnoff approximately 17 miles from Salisbury and then through the Shumba zone of Chinamora to Nzirawa township, six miles. A third way of entry is about 5 miles beyond Mermaid's Pool, where there is a road signposted to Guwa school. This road is being correctly aligned and will give access to the centre of Mpandira zone as well as adjacent parts of the other two areas without crossing any streams and only one small vlel below Mpandawana. There are two bus services at present. The Kambashi service is based on Muchapondwa township and goes to Salisbury via Denda. (The Lord alone knows how it has managed to keep going!) The other is from Kanyowa on the Shamva road to Bushu and Salisbury. Zonal vehicle holdings are an accurate reflection of communications, and these are: Mumurgwi 33; Mpandira 13; and Nyava 5.

16. VILLAGES

All living quarters and kitchens are either Kimberley or burnt brick, but there is a tendency in the outlying villages to have pole and mud granaries. Some really good modern houses are being, and have been, built in the Dzangare-Sika line (Mumurgwi). Most kraals have been well sited. The exceptions are Zinyama and Tandj, where erosion has been caused by extension down the slope; also the villages of Guwa, Mugabi and part of Jonasi are too close to the Nora river. These are all in the Mpandira zone, and the following villages will have to move to their lands:

Mchemenye, Chinara, Simau, Tambudzi, Mandizwiidza and Muchenje.

The last four were moved away from their lands some time ago, and in the case of Muchenje at any rate some form of compensation should be paid for the permanent houses built. In the Nyava sector Muchaziwepi has asked permission to move to their lands and a suitable site is available. Finally, in the Mumurgwi zone Nekati to the other side of main road below Cishayamvudzi.

17. SCHOOLS

There are seven schools, at Chakanyemba, Mpandira, Guwa, Chindotwi, Mumurgwi, Msana and Muchapondwa. That is the quota.

18. TRADE AND BUSINESS

There are six centres, Nzirawa, Mpandira, Guwa, Nyava, Muchapondwa and Rutorpe. A fair amount of trade appears to be done except in butchery. These gentlemen apparently are unable to acquire regular supplies and I have yet to find one open.

19. VERMIN

The order of precedence for damage done is: Hyaena, baboon, monkey, porcupine, pig and leopard. With practically no active carnivore left, the hyaena is turning into one.

20. GENERAL

In general, it is a reasonably populated and stocked area with average to good soil and rainfall, and, linked with improving communications and soil conservation, should forge ahead.

LAND DEVELOPMENT OFFICER,
MSANA.

(/JC/August 1956).

MINUTES OF MEETING OF ASSESSMENT COMMITTEE APPOINTED BY
THE MINISTER IN TERMS OF SECTION 4 OF THE NATIVE LAND
HUSBANDRY ACT, FOR MSANA RESERVE IN THE GOROMONZI DISTRICT:

1. Date of Meeting: 10th November 1956 held at the Provincial Native Commissioner's office, Salisbury.
2. Members: H.A. Cripwell, Provincial Native Commissioner - Chairman;
N.I. Boast, Native Commissioner;
C.A. Johnson, Provincial Agriculturist;
L.W.A. Johnson, Land Development Officer;
T.V.H. Margesson, Land Development Officer;
J.N. Gibson, Representative, Natural Resources Board;
Msana, Chief.

Co-opted Member: F.H. Dodd, Administrative Officer, Native Land Husbandry Act;

No Native Council established.

3. Date of Tour: 7th November 1956.

General Impressions:

- good.
- (a) Grazing: Some local overgrazing but generally fair to good.
 - (b) Stock: Fair to good.
 - (c) Agriculture: Fair. Very high standard in one area.
 - (d) Erosion: Some serious erosion in the Mugabe area. Some protection required in the catchment of the Mvinzi.
 - (e) Centralisation: Being re-centralised and will be completed shortly.

4. The Standard Area:

- (a) Rainfall: 30-40 inches.
- (b) Director of Native Agriculture's Recommended Standard Area: 6 acres + 2 acres.
- (c) Soils: 50% Granite sands and 50% red contact.
- (d) Average Yields and types of crops grown by average master farmers/plot holders:

<u>Crop</u>	<u>Yield (bags per acre)</u>
Maize	9
Groundnuts (shelled)	3
Rapoko	4
Munga	2

- (e) Basis and extent of previous allocations: Limited allocations on 6-acre basis.

- x (f) Acreage under cultivation: 13,271 acres. 5370 ha
- Number of cultivators 1,442
- x Average acreage cultivated by present landholders 9.2 acres ha

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- x

(g) (i) Views of Technical Members: 6 plus 2 acres, but section 31 of the Act be applied;

(ii) Administrative Members: Agreed.

(iii) African Members: Agreed.

(h) Recommended Standard Area: 8 Acres.

(i) (i) Arable acreage required for allocation in terms of section 27(1) of the Act: 11,536 acres;

(ii) Arable acreage required for allocation in terms of section 27(2) of the Act (tight formula): not applicable.

(iii) Committee recommends allocations should be in terms of section 31; that is, the tight formula be modified by section 31. Those cultivating more than 8 acres to be reduced to 8 acres and land thus saved be used to bring those cultivating smaller acreages up to a reasonable amount.

(j) Period within which application for farming rights should be made in terms of section 27(1)(b): 1st June 1957 to 31st August 1957.

5. Maximum Carrying Capacity:

(a) Total acreage of area	64,650	26163 ha
<u>Minus</u> waste land	- 6,465	
Usable acreage	58,185	23 547
<u>Less</u> Arable area (see (3)(j) above)	- 11,536	
Sub-total (1)	46,649	
<u>Plus</u> 1/6th of arable area	1,923	
Sub-total (2)	48,572	
<u>Less</u> 7% of sub-total (2)	3,400	
X Grazing area per D.N.A.'s formula	45,172	18280 ha
(b) Previous destocking:	Nil.	
(c) Present assessed carrying capacity	4,840	
(d) Present number of animal units	4,577	
(e) Present Grazing pressure	1 : 10	
(f) Stock distribution:	improving.	
(g) Average number of animal units per owner:	5.7	
(h) Recommended carrying capacity:		
(i) Views of Pasture Officer:	Area is split into two, 1:13 improving to 1:10, and 1:10 improving to 1:9.	
(ii) Technical Members:	by recentralisation the difficulties envisaged by the Pasture Officer can be overcome. Recommend 1:9.	
(iii) Administrative Members:	Native Commissioner recommends 1:9.	
(iv) Native Members:	there is sufficient grazing to increase the number of cattle.	

(v) Representative, Natural Resources Board: Should remain at 1:10 for the present.

(vi) Recommended Carrying Capacity: 1:9

Maximum Number: 5,019

Comment:

The Provincial Agriculturist draws attention to the large number of donkeys which he feels could be cut down in favour of cattle.

(j) Period within which application for grazing rights should be made in terms of section 11(b): 1st June 1957 to 31st August 1957.

6. Standard Number of Animal Units:

number: (a) Director of Native Agriculture's recommended standard number: 6.

(b) (i) Views of Technical Members: 6

(ii) Administrative Members: 6

(iii) African Members: Agree.

(iv) Recommended Standard Number: 6.

7. Number of Small Stock to comprise one Animal Unit: 5.

8. Forestry:

(a) (i) Forestry Officer's views on sufficiency of indigenous timber and present plantations for needs of inhabitants: Sufficient.

(ii) Views of Committee: Sufficient.

(b) (i) Areas of indigenous forest which Forestry Officer recommends should be reserved: None.

(ii) Recommendations of Committee: None.

(c) (i) Afforestation recommendations of Forestry Officer: 10 acres of plantation to be established at Mpandira.

(ii) Recommendation of Committee: support Forestry Officer.

(d) (i) Forestry Officer's recommendations for management: Nil. Plantations should be fenced.

(ii) Recommendation of Committee: as at present.

9. Roads:

(a) Main roads (a total width of 103 feet required for right of way):

Salisbury-Shamva: approximate mileage: 8 $\frac{1}{2}$. (Total).

4/subsidiary...

(b) Subsidiary roads: 63 miles.

(i) Committee recommends that a width of 30 feet be allowed as a right of way.

10. Stock Routes:

(a) Existing or proposed local stock routes:

(i) State where existing or local stock routes do not follow established roads and width to be reserved as right of way: Nil.

(ii) State where outspans or staging posts are to be reserved and acreage required in each case: Nil.

(b) National stock routes:

(i) State and describe the routes of existing or proposed national stock routes in the area and any comments from the committee:

Main Salisbury-Shamva road.

(ii) Detail existing national staging posts and the acreage of each; any comments from the committee: Nil.

(iii) Detail proposed new national staging posts. The Committee to make recommendations as to the availability of land, the size and siting of these posts: Nil.

11. Village Areas:

Recommended maximum size of residential sites: 1/2 acre.

12. Business Centres:

Areas and size of areas to be set aside as business centres to be recommended:

Six existing;
10 Acres at Rutope and 5 acres at the others.

13. Townships:

(a) Township sites set aside in terms of part IV of the Act to be detailed with acreages: Nil.

(b) Any further site to be set aside to be recommended:

One necessary - 500 acres.

14. Administrative Centres:

(a) Administrative Reservations already declared to be stated with acreages: Roads Department 10 acres.

(b) Any further reservations or increase in size of reservations to be recommended: Administrative centre 5 acres.

15. Schools and Mission Sites:

- (i) Missions in existence to be stated: Nil.
- (ii) Recommendations for further mission sites: Nil.
- (iii) Schools: 7 existing: Mumurgwe, Gorwa and Mupandira are likely to expand.

16. General:

Following recommendations are made by the committee for future development:

- (a) One dip required near the Nora;
- (b) Fencing required for gullies;
- (c) Bridge required over the Mvinzi so that people can cross to the clinic.

SIGNED:

H.A. Cripwell	Provincial Native Commissioner;
N.I. Boast	Native Commissioner;
C.A. Johnson	Provincial Agriculturist;
L.W.A. Johnson	Land Development Officer;
T.V.H. Margesson	Land Development Officer;
J.N. Gibson	Representative, Natural Resources Board;
Msana	Chief;
F.H. Dodd	Administrative Officer, Native Land Husbandry Act.

N. Mashonaland

MSANA RESERVE:
IN THE BINDURA DISTRICT:

RE-ASSESSMENT OF STANDARD AREA:

Minutes of Meeting of Assessment Committee
Appointed by the Minister in Terms of Section 4 of
THE NATIVE LAND HUSBANDRY ACT:

DATE AND PLACE OF MEETING:

earlier meeting 10 Nov 56

29th October 1959, Nyaba, in Msana Reserve.

MEMBERS:

- | | |
|-----------------|---|
| J.A. Pitout | Provincial Native Commissioner,
(Chairman); |
| H.E. Sumner | Native Commissioner; |
| D. Espach | Provincial Agriculturist; |
| L.W.A. Johnson | Land Development Officer; |
| J.E. Robertshaw | Land Development Officer; |
| R.L.C. Cunliffe | Administrative Officer,
Native Land Husbandry Act; |
| J.N. Gibson | Representative, Natural Resources Bd.; |
| Msana | Chief; |
| Madziwa | Headman, accompanying Chief; |
| R.R. Jack | Acting Soil Conservation Officer. |

The meeting was called to determine the standard area for wet land. A standard area for dry land only was fixed for the reserve. The people in the reserve rely a great deal on their wet land for their livelihood.

Land allocation has been completed in the reserve on the basis of dry land standard area of 8 acres, and wet land basis of a standard area of 2 acres in red soil area and 2.3 acres in sandveld areas. In the red soil areas basis of allocation was on a standard area of 6 acres.

When land allocation was commenced it was found that there was less arable land available than considered by the assessment committee. This was due to errors in pacing and to land which had to be used for conservation works. It was found that there was insufficient land to give every cultivator his full holdings, so the alternative basis of allocation in terms of subsection of section 27(2) had to be adopted.

see one of my papers re area taken up by conservation works

It was further found that many people did not wish to move from the area where they were living and in order to stay in a particular area they accepted a lesser acreage than that to which they were entitled.

To legalise allocation on basis of wet land, it is recommended that:-

- (1) Technical Members: wet land standard area should be 2.7 acres, and in any combination of dry and wet land the ratio of 1 acre of wet land should equal three acres of dry;

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- (2) Administrative Members: agree;
- (3) African Members: the Chief feels that people should have less land so as to provide more land for sons of present land holders. The Chief is satisfied with the way the Land Development Officer has allocated the land. /Recommended...

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RECOMMENDED STANDARD AREA: for Wet Land: 2.7 acres.

Arable acreage required for allocation in terms of section 27(1) of the Act: 13,170.

Committee recommends allocations should be in terms of section 27(2) because only 11,984 acres available for allocation.

SIGNED:

J.A. Pitout

H.E. Sumner

D. Espach

L.W.A. Johnson

J.E. Robertshaw

J.N. Gibson

Ronald R. Jack

Musana

R.L.C. Cunliffe

March

Salisbury, S.R.
March 1960:
RLCC/JC.