



Environnemental Impact Assessment

Date : 21/01/2015

CEPF Grant nr : 63370

Grantee: Grzimek's Help for Threatened Wildlife, Frankfurt Zoological Society-USA

Project Title: Improved Community and Ecological Resilience for the Guassa Community Conservation Area

Project Location: Guassa Community Conservation Area

Grant Summary

1. Grantee organization: **Grzimek's Help for Threatened Wildlife, Frankfurt Zoological Society**
2. Grant title: **Improved Community and Ecological Resilience for the Guassa Community Conservation Area**
3. GEM number: **63370**
4. Grant amount: **140678.00 USD**
5. Proposed dates of grant: **2014 - 2016**
6. Countries or territories where assessment will be performed: **Menz-Guassa Community Conservation Area (GCCA), Ethiopia**
7. **Full name, title, telephone numbers, and electronic mail address of Grantee personnel responsible for this assessment**
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8. Summary of the project: Date of preparation of the environmental impact assessment:

The Improved Community and Ecological Resilience for the Guassa Community Conservation Area project works to increase the capacity of the local community to conserve and benefit from the conservation of the area on sustainable way. It works by building the capacity of the community elected scouts as well the highest conservation authority of the area the Community Conservation Council. It also tries to diversify income to the community by supporting conservation compatible livelihood activities like beekeeping, handcraft development and community based tourism.

9. Status of area to be impacted:

The GCCA is a community managed and conserved area with a number of endemic and rare biodiversity as well as serving as refuge for the livestock of the area during environmental stress like drought. The area to be impacted is the area around the community lodge where the new two extended self-contained rooms are to be added

10. Approach:

During the lodge building, every activity should be environmentally friendly and use local building materials that can easily blend with the surrounding environment. Sanitation and noise as well as waste disposal should be major concern during the construction work as well as afterward.

11. Anticipated impact:

Possible anticipated impacts during the construction are:

- Noise
- Solid waste
- System of waste disposal

12. Mitigation measures:

- **Noise:** The construction team should be made aware that they are in a conservation area and any activity that might disturb or destroy the natural environment or the biodiversity should be avoided. Noise should be reduced to the minimum and the use of radio or any music should be avoided to reduce the noise level in the construction area.
- **Solid waste:** littering the constructions or the lodge area should be avoided and all solid wastes should be collected and disposed on the already designated disposal area for the lodge. Major solid waste as a result of the construction should be taken out of the GCCA and dumped outside the conservation area. Other solid waste should be dumped on already designated area for the lodge and the use of already existing toilet should be strictly adhered for human waste.
- **System of waste disposal from the two new self contained rooms:** the waste from these rooms should be collected and discharged into the existing septic tank made for the already existing lodge facility, however if difficult to channel waste to the old septic tank a new tank should be dug and prepared according to the EPA standards i.e. lined with 50cm thick masonry wall which is plastered with cement with a thickness of 10cm. The top should be a reinforced concrete of 25cm.

13. **Actions to ensure health and safety:**

- Instruct construction staff about the bylaws of the conservation area
- Instruct construction team strictly to use safety materials
- Show the construction team leader where the first aid-kit is placed in case of emergency and give training to staff as what to do during emergency.

14. **Consultation:**

Make sure the Woreda (District) Environmental Protection Authority (EPA) is informed about this changes in the lodge and invite them from time to time for supervision.

15. **Monitoring and Evaluation:**

Temporally our community conservation officer is assigned to supervise and monitor the development of the construction from our side and he is also empowered to look at any EI issues and to report to the construction manager and the project leader. In general the construction is expected to be finished in short period of time as it is only two rooms to be constructed, their impact can easily be monitored and being evaluated with the assigned staff and other project staff in the area. A weekly progress report will be presented to the project leader regarding the development of the work as well as any problems encountered.

The greatest external risk was the resumption of the rain early which will make the ploughing and planting time earlier than anticipated, therefore we planned our actions as early as possible. No further risks have been identified.

The major problem has been the delay in the signing of the project agreement with the government partners. This resulted in the loss of 3 months and we are now rushing to compensate for the lost time and trying to accommodate the 1st quarter activities in the 2nd quarter.