

Name: The provision of simple rubbish bins for Hillside Dams Conservancy.

Location: Hillside Dams, off Banff Road, Hillside, Bulawayo, Zimbabwe.

Objectives: to provide suitable and distinctive rubbish bins to be positioned around the area, most especially near picnic areas.

General Background

The Hillside Dams were once a popular recreational area operated by Bulawayo City Council (BCC). However it has fallen on hard times what with financial difficulties, a lack of vision and application, and several serious criminal incidents. This has resulted in the existing facilities being allowed to deteriorate while the area is now shunned by most local residents.

The entire area, approximately 86ha., has been leased from the BBC by Mungrisdale Marketing (Pvt) Ltd who has conceded the conservancy area to an independent, broad-based Trust, the Hillside Dams Conservation Trust. This non-profit Trust has been tasked with the restoration of existing facilities and developing new, appropriate projects in the area in line with the defined aims of the Trust which place an emphasis on conservation, education and recreational pursuits all within a safe, well-run recreational area aimed principally at the residents of Bulawayo.

The conservancy includes a large section of natural vegetation as well as two dams built amongst the rocky kopjes at the beginning of the Twentieth Century. There are also several gardened sections, including what was once an impressive aloe garden. Several archaeological and fossil sites in the area are of a national, if not international importance. Previously there was a trim track on the east side of the conservancy while several youth organizations once used this area for camping and educational purposes.

Project objectives

While we appreciate the serious financial situation in which we find ourselves in Zimbabwe today, we are looking at practical assistance from companies and individuals with various skills and interests – we are not seeking financial contributions. It must be emphasized that this appeal is being made on behalf of the general Bulawayo Community and not simply ourselves.

A detailed Site Management Plan has been drawn up (Burrett 2007). This document provides some suggestions as to the way forward and sets out the ultimate objectives towards which we operate. It is a long to medium term policy which will be tackled by the Trust as and when the finances and skills are available. The focus of this specific proposal forms part of the overall plan.

The purpose of this document is to appeal for assistance in the provision of a number of rubbish bins to be positioned at various spots in the northern section of the Conservancy. These need to be near locations where there is a frequent accumulation of litter that currently is being scattered by the winds and crows. This includes a number of the picnic spots, at the two car parks, at strategic locations along the main paths and near the toilets. There are a few (too few) old BCC metal dust bins near the Tea Room but they are in a very poor state. Employees of the Trust will be responsible for ensuring that the bins are regularly cleared and emptied of water in the rainy season thereby ensuring that they are not corroded.

We, the Hillside Dams Conservancy Trust are therefore requesting your help in this project. We seek someone to help us out with:

- 1. The provision of several (as many as possible) large rubbish bins. These can be large, partially damaged metal containers with a base.**

- 2. Alternatively someone might be able to repair some of the old BCC dustbins.**
- 3. Be able to provide additional bins in the future as we expand the number of picnic places and establish a camping area.**

Our estate manager will be available to discuss this matter further with the donor. He will also oversee their positioning and maintenance.

All assistance will be suitably acknowledged and donors/companies will be able to use this for purposes of advertising or addressing issues of corporate responsibility. Painting of these bins advertisements as well as additional signage with logos at select locations would be suitable.

If you are able to assist please contact the Estate Manager, Hillside Dams Conservancy, Mr. Norman Scott or Neil Rix 011-402851.