

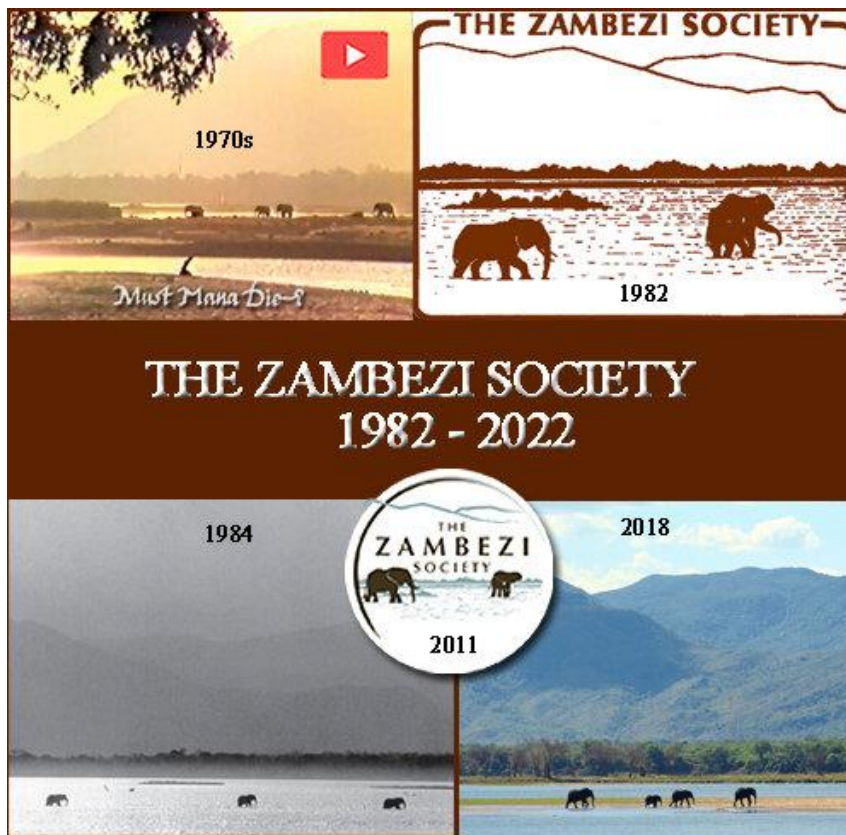
INTRODUCING THE ZAMBEZI SOCIETY'S HISTORICAL SERIES. Episode 1: Must Mana Die?

JULY 2021

In 2022, The Zambezi Society (Zamsoc) celebrates 40 years of conserving the precious wilderness and wildlife resources of the Zambezi River.

As a lead-up to this important milestone in our history, we introduce a series of historical features highlighting significant events and conservation achievements that we're proud of, spanning the four decades since the Society's formation in 1982. We are sharing these on our Social Media Instagram and Facebook platforms, with videos on You Tube, on our website and in a special Historical Series of Bulletin mailouts.

EPISODE 1: HOW IT ALL STARTED. *MUST MANA DIE?*



The Zambezi Society story began in the 1970s, when the Mupata Gorge on the Zambezi River downstream of Mana Pools was identified by the Rhodesian government as a dam site for hydropower. But the idea could only be pursued when Zimbabwe achieved Independence in 1980.

Thereafter, a flood of international funding was released. Building the dam became a major national priority, but a huge section of the Middle Zambezi Valley upstream of the dam, including Mana Pools, would be submerged by the waters of its lake.

Tony Ferrar, of the then Zimbabwe Department of National Parks, commissioned a film – “*Must Mana Die?*” – filmed by Geoff Peel, edited by Grettl Hughes and scripted by Dick Pitman.

The Mupata Gorge scheme was abandoned, but the controversy catalysed the creation of The Zambezi Society in 1982 to combat any future threats to the unique wildlife and wilderness areas of the Middle Zambezi.

Watch this unique archival film by clicking on the video image below.

