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**HISTORY OF BALE MOUNTAINS NATIONAL PARK:
1970 TO THE PRESENT**

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**A HISTORY OF BALE MOUNTAINS NATIONAL PARK:
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A Thesis submitted to the college of social sciences of Addis Ababa University
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This is to certify that the thesis prepared by Dessu Kedir, entitled: "A History of Bale Mountains National Park: 1970 to the Present" and submitted in partial fulfillment of the requirement of the Degree of Master of Arts in History complies with the regulations of the University and meets the accepted standards with respect to originality and quality.

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Table of Contents

Contents	Page
Glossary.....	i
Preface.....	ii
Acronyms.....	iii
Abstract.....	IV
Chapter One	1
1. Introduction	1
1.1 Geographical Features of the BMNP.....	1
1.2 Historical Background to Management of Wildlife Resources and Parks in Ethiopia.....	9
Chapter Two	18
2. The Foundation and Early History of the BMNP up to 1974	18
2.1 Historical Background to the Bale Mountains	18
2.2 The Foundation and Development of the Park.....	23
2.3 The Reaction of the Local People towards the Establishment of the BMNP.....	30
2.4 The Park Management.....	31
2.5 Tourism Promotion in the BMNP under the Imperial Regime.....	33
Chapter Three	35
3. BMNP under the Socialist Regime (1975-1991)	35
3.1 Socialism and Early Wildlife Conservation Activities.....	35
3.2 The <i>Derg</i> Conservation Policy and Challenges in the BMNP.....	37
3.3 <i>Derg's</i> Conservational measures in the BMNP.....	41
3.3.1 Relocation of People.....	41
3.3.2 Man Power and Rule Enforcement	43
3.4 Tourism Development in the BMNP during the <i>Derg</i> Regime.....	48

Chapter Four.....	55
4. BMNP under the EPRDF Regime.....	55
4.1 The Collapse of the <i>Derg</i> , Damage to the Park and its Reorganization....	55
4.2 The Policy of Wildlife Conservation and Management of the Park.....	61
4.2.1 Policy of Wildlife Conservation after the fall of the <i>Derg</i> Regime.....	61
4.2.2 Man Power and Management of the Park.....	62
4.3 The Relationship between the Park and Local People and Fire Incident in the BMNP...67	
4.3.1 The Relationship of the Local People within the Park.....	67
4.3.2 Fire Incident in the BMNP.....	71
4.4 Tourism Promotion in the BMNP under the EPRDF Regime.....	77
Conclusion.....	83
Bibliography	86
List of informants.....	92
Appendices.....	96



Lists of Maps and Pictures

	Page
Map 1: The Bale Mountains National Park.....	2
Picture 1: Tulu Dimtu, the second highest peak in Ethiopia.....	4
Picture 2: The Sanetti Plateau.....	6
Picture 3: Mountain Nyala, which is endemic to Ethiopia.....	8
Picture 4: Human settlement in the Bale Mountains National Park.....	69
Picture 5: People campaigned against the fire episode of 2000.....	72
Picture 6: The ruin of the 2002 fire episode in the BMNP.....	74
Picture 7: The fire incident of 2008 in the BMNP.....	75

List of Tables

	Page
Table 1: Tourism trend in the Bale Mountains National Park.....	53
Table 2: Post 1991 Tourism trend in the BMNP.....	81

Glossary

Ato - a civil term to address an adult male, is equivalent to “Mr”

Awraja - an administrative unit below the level of a province.

Balabat- Land lord or local hereditary chief.

Balambaras - A military title just below that of *Grazmach*.

Burqa - An intermediate official between *balabat* and *chiqashum*

Birr - the currency of Ethiopia.

Chiqashum- village chief empowered to collect tax during the imperial regime.

Haji - A man who has made a pilgrimage to Mecca.

Kilils-The Regional States

Militia- Auxiliary local police force

Qegnazmach- ‘Commander of the right’, a politico Military title above *Grazmach*.

Sheki- A title given to a religious leader of Islam.

Ras - ‘head’, the highest traditional title next to *negus*.

Preface

The history of the Bale Mountains National Park (BMNP) has not yet been comprehensively studied. Many books, reports, and BA and MA theses have discussed contemporary and specific issues relating to the park such as its landscape, wildlife species, human encroachment on the park and its impacts. But these sources are not comprehensive and more importantly lack a historical perspective and depth. It was this realization which led me to undertake research on the subject for my thesis.

The thesis primarily seeks to reconstruct the history of the park from its foundation in 1970 to the present. The work is largely based on archival materials that I collected from the Ethiopia National Archive and Library Agency, the Ethiopia Wildlife Conservation Authority, Bale Mountains National Park Office and Goba *Woreda* Environmental and Forest Conservation Bureau. The archives of the first three organizations are especially invaluable for researchers interested in the history of the BMNP. Archival materials at the Goba *Woreda* Environmental and Forest Conservation Bureau are kept in the most haphazard manner. They are uncataloged and are stored in such a way that they are exposed to dust and rats. Hence, it was tedious and time consuming for me to identify materials that relate to my research. Of the archival materials of the Ethiopian Wildlife Conservation Authority, letters and reports by J.H. Blower from the 1960s provide valuable information about the early history of the Wildlife Department. In addition to this, letters, newspapers and articles on the hunting of wildlife, fire incident and gazettement of the park boundary supported the reconstruction of the thesis.

Materials from the Kennedy Library have also been useful in my study. The accounts and reports of the late 1950s and beginning of 1970s by Herbert Mooney and C.E. Buer describe the

landscape and wildlife resources of the Bale Mountains respectively. Moreover, the reports of L. Brown, John Osbore and Calavdio Sillero Zubiri from the mid 1980s and 1990s in the Frankfurt Zoological Library at BMNP headquarters provided me with substantial information about the human activities and the situation of the park on the eve of the collapse of the *Derg* regime and in the immediate years.

I faced several problems and challenges in collecting written sources. The archival sources relating to the period of Haile Selassie and the early foundation of the park is scanty. Therefore, I had to rely on oral sources to fill in the existing gaps. Moreover, time pressure in my working place and the distance from my working place (Bale Robe) to Addis Ababa (430km) seriously affected the research for my thesis. The frequent fieldwork trip from Robe to the park's headquarters and to remote *kebeles* of the park territory also made my research work tiresome. The closure of the Library of the Institute of Ethiopian Studies (IES) throughout the summer of 2014/15 A.Y also affected the progress of my research.

The information collected from informants also supported the thesis. First of all, I was able to identify knowledgeable informants based on the information I collected from the park's warden and scouts who had long years of services at the park. I interviewed elders, scouts, and former and current employees of the park. I encountered several problems in conducting interviews. First, I faced transportation problem while I was interviewing the elders, since most *kebeles* surrounding the park were inaccessible by public transport and were far from my work place in Robe. Moreover, while some informants tried to hide information about the park, others had had limitations in recalling past specific events relating to the park. However, I have tried to cross-check the information provided by informants. It is on the basis of these sources that I have reconstructed the thesis.

The thesis consists of four chapters. The first chapter offers an overview of the early history of wildlife resource management in Ethiopia and a historical background to the BMNP. The second chapter deals with the process of the establishment of the park, the management of the park and tourism trends under the imperial regime in the park. The third chapter examines conservation policy, its implementation and tourism activities in the park under the *Derg* regime. The final chapter focuses on developments since the change of government in 1991 and particularly on the destruction of the park during the government change, the reorganization of the park and activities of the park under the EPRDF regime.

I would like to express my gratitude to my Advisor, Dr. Belete Bizuneh who, suggested the topic of my thesis. I am also indebted to him for his excellent guidance and invaluable comments on the drafts of the thesis. My heartfelt thanks also go to Prof. Tessema Ta'a for his comment on the proposal. Special thanks go to the office of the Ethiopian Wildlife Conservation Authority for giving me permission to conduct my thesis on the Bale Mountains National Park and the Frankfurt Zoological Society (FZS) for allowing me to use their Library. It is also my pleasure to thank the staff members of the Bale Mountains National Park Office for their help with my research. Especially, I would like to thank *Ato* Girma Urgi and *Ato* Husen Kemal for their invaluable support in accessing archival sources found in the park. I am indebted to *W/ro* Zerayehu Endale for providing me with helpful information and all my informants for their cooperation and encouragement throughout my study. I sincerely wish to thank my friends Binyam Wondifraw and Abiyot Negera and other graduate students in the Department of History at Addis Ababa University for their company, moral support and friendship. Last but not least, my everlasting gratitude goes to my lovely family for their encouragement and support from the very beginning of this research till the end of the study.

Acronyms

BMNP	Bale Mountains National Park
BMRSMP	Bale Mountains Eco Region Sustainable Management Program
ENALA	Ethiopian National Archive and Library Agency
EPRDF	Ethiopia People Revolutionary Democratic Front
EWCA	Ethiopia Wildlife Conservation Authority
EWCO	Ethiopia Wildlife Conservation Organization
EWCP	Ethiopian Wolf Conservation Program
FZS	Frankfurt Zoological Society
GMP	General Management Plan
IUCN	International Union for Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources
MELKA	Movement for Ecological Learning and Community Action
MoNRDEP	Ministry of Natural Resources Development and Environment Protection
NGO	Non-Governmental Organization
NTO	National Tour Operation
OLF	Oromo Liberation Front
PMAC	Provisional Military Administrative Council
UNDP	United Nation Development Program
UNESCO	United Nation Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
WWF	Worldwide Fund for Nature

Abstract

The BMNP is located in the southeastern part of Ethiopia within Bale zone of the Oromia Regional State. The existing literature reveals there were only few permanent Oromo settlers in the Bale Mountains before the inauguration of the national park in the area and the settlers livelihood was partially depend on the hunting of wild animals. In the late 19th and early 20th centuries hunting big game animals was seen as a source of prestige in Ethiopian society. Wild animals were also hunted for commercial purpose. Tireless efforts were made by the Ethiopian government and the agents of UNESCO to save the most endangered and endemic wildlife as well as conserve outstanding and splendor environment in Ethiopia. Based on the recommendations of UNESCO some areas of the country were selected for the development of national parks. Accordingly the process of establishing the national park began in the 1950s and 1960s to save the country's fauna and flora species from complete damage. Bale Mountains were one of those areas rich in wildlife resources and attention of UNESCO agents.

This thesis begins with the geographical features of the BMNP and offers analysis on the management of wildlife resources and parks in Ethiopia. It also provides a brief description of human activities and the process of the establishment of the BMNP and subsequent conservation policy and implementations by different governments. Moreover, it also gives the trend of tourism in the BMNP since its establishment to the present comprehensively.

I was able to use a combination of primary and secondary sources to reconstruct the thesis. The archival sources, reports, memo, traveler accounts, letters and other published and unpublished secondary sources are important materials to reconstruct the thesis.

Chapter one

Introduction

1.1 Geographical Features of the Park

The Bale Mountains National Park (BMNP) is located in southeastern Ethiopia within the current Bale and West Arsi Zones of the Oromia Regional State. It is found some 400 kms away from the capital of the country, Addis Ababa. It is bounded by the following five districts: Dinsho in the north, Goba in the northeast, Delo Mena in the south, Adaba in the west and Harena Buluk in the southeast.¹

The park lies within the mountains between 39° 28' to 39° 57' longitude and 6° 29' to 7° 10' latitude and is enclosed within 2150 km². The north-south and east-west width of the park is 74 and 53 kms respectively. The BMNP, which has a rectangular form, has a narrower shape in its southern and northern sections. The central part of the park is wider than the two sections.²

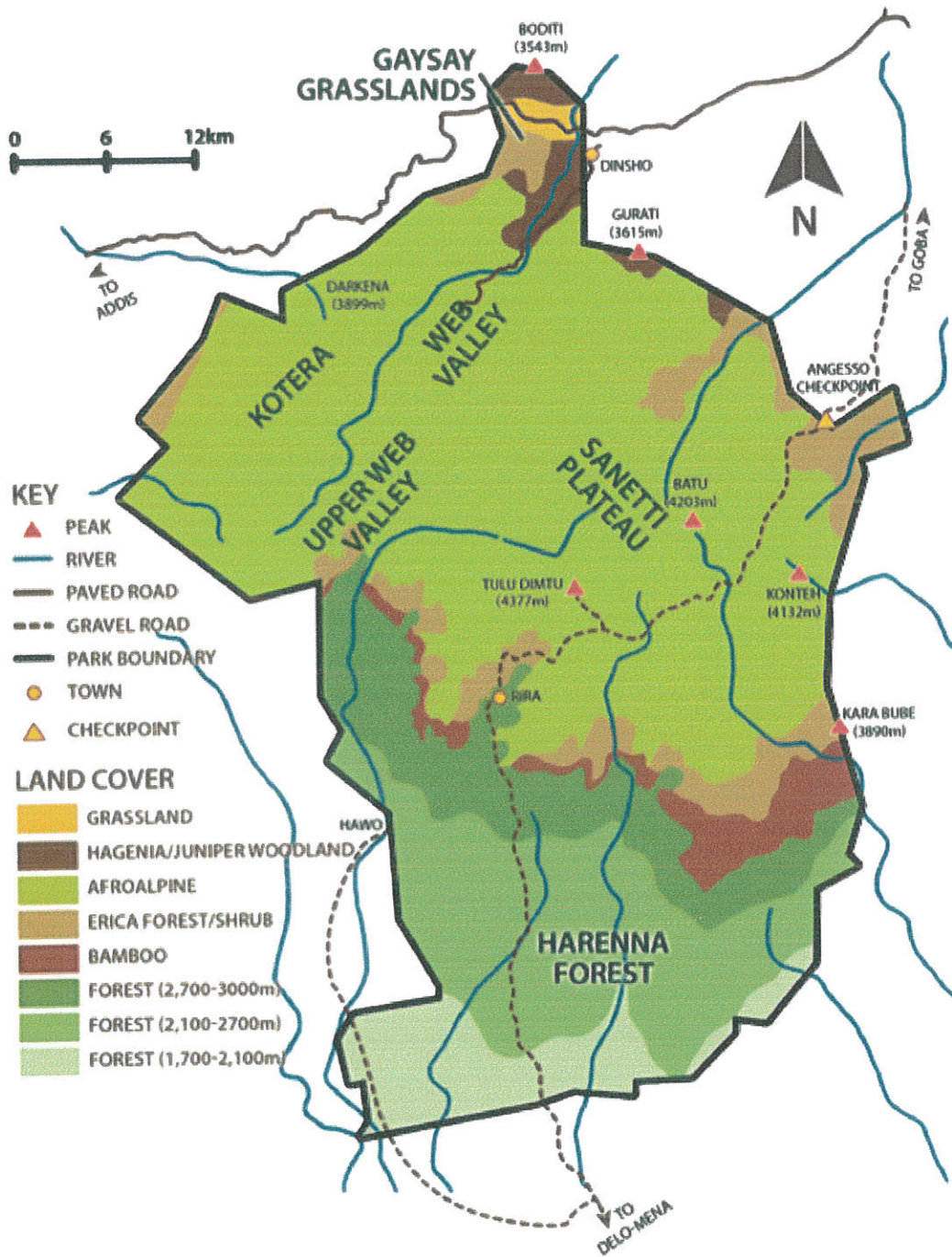
The park is dominated by various volcanic heights with high plateaus, attractive alpine lakes and small as well as medium sized streams that emerge from the heart of the mountains and flow towards the lowlands of the region. In terms of vegetation cover, the park exhibits with change in altitude, various kinds of plant species ranging from juniper forest to heather moorland and alpine meadows. It also holds a variety of wild animals. Hence, it makes the park the largest Afro-alpine habitat.³

¹Anouska A.Kinahan, *Bale Mountains National Park: Business and Sustainable Finance Plan* (A.A: Central Printing Press, 2011), p.9.

²Jesse C. Hillman, *Bale Mountains National Park: A Management Plan Manual*, (1985), p.11; Menassie Gashew, "The use and value of wild plants to the people of Bale, " *Walia No.13 ,Journal of the Ethiopia Wildlife and Natural History Society* (1991),p.21.

³Mohammed Amin, *A Tourist Paradise* (Nairobi: Camerapix Publisher International,1996),p.72.

Map.1 The Bale Mountains National Park



Source: (Accessed from, <http://www.ethiovisit.com>), 12 July 2015.

In the Bale Mountains, variation in climate is frequently seen as altitude goes up and exhibit orographic type of rain fall in the massif. The BMNP receives nearly 1000 mm to 1400mm precipitation in the higher altitude areas annually. However, rainfall decreases as one moves to the lower altitude and ranges from 600 mm to 1000mm. A long duration of wet season occurs starting from March to October and is followed by a dry short season that usually lasts from November to February. It is characterized by coldest and warmest during the night and day time respectively.⁴

Based on the altitudinal variation and landform patterns, the park can be divided into three subsections. The first section is the Gaysay grasslands which is found in the northern part of the park. This area is largely characterized by broad valleys and high points and has altitude ranging from 3000m to 3500m. Its topography is mainly dominated by juniper/ hagenia, moorland, extensive grasslands and swamps. The area is home to the endemic Mount Nyala and other wild animals such as warthog, grey duiker, hyena and bohor reedbuck.⁵

The second subsection of the park consists of the central peaks and the Sanetti plateau. These are found along the eastern flanks of the park. The ranges of mountains in this section are mainly made up of extensive lava floods that erupted during the Miocene and Oligocene. The emission of lava in great amounts resulted in the formation of rocks, particularly trachytes, rhyolites, basalts and tuffs. This great geological arrangement in the Bale Mountains happened long before

⁴ Jesse C. Hillman, A Management Plan Manual ,pp.3-9; Chris Hillman and Sheila Hillman," The Mountain Nyala (*Tragelaphus Buxtoni*) and the Simen Fox (*Canis Simensis*) in the Bale Mountains National Park," *Walia No. 10, Journal of the Ethiopian Wildlife and Natural History Society*(1987), p.3;Addisu Assefa, " Birds of Bale Mountains National Park South Eastern Ethiopia," *Walia No.25, Journal of the Ethiopian Wildlife and natural History society* (2006-07), p.23; Robert G. Waltermire, " A National Park in the Bale Mountains," *Walia No.6, Journal of the Ethiopian Wildlife and Natural History Society* (1975),p.20.

⁵Stuart Williams, *Bale Mountains: a Guide Book* (A.A: United Printers, 2002), p.6.

the creation of the features of the Ethiopian /East African Rift Valley.⁶ The mountains exhibit vegetation ranging from juniper forest at the base of the mountains to heather moorlands and alpine meadows at the top of the mountains. The section holds the country's second highest peak i.e. Tulu Dimtu (4377m) and other impressive heights such as Batu, Worgona, Wasema, Archaha, Adola and Garanba Dima.⁷

Picture.1 Tulu Dimtu, the 2nd highest peak in Ethiopia.



Source: (Accessed from, <https://www.tourhq.com>), 3 August 2015.

⁶*Ibid*, p.6.

⁷ Mohammed Amin, p.72; Assegid Ayele, "Ecotourism as a Sustainable Development Option: Case study from BMNP" (MA Thesis in Tourism and Development, A.A, 2011), p.43; Chris Hillman and Sheila Hillman, p.10 ;Zegeye Kibret(ed.), "Ethiopian Wolf Conservation Program", in News letters, Vol.2.issue.1(March, 2007),p.1.

The Sanetti plateau covers around 34kms and is dissected by the Micha, Togona, Kaficho, Shaya and Danka rivers. From the western edge of the plateau to the Upper Web Valley, there is a wall like rock which is made of lava flood. The highest peaks which were made in this manner are Darkina, Layencha, Ukamsa, Amach and the Adely. The Semen Fox which is also known as Red Fox, is mainly found in this plateau where it hunts for various species of rodents. Among these rodents on which the fox feeds on is the giant mole-rat which weights up to one kilogram. Out of sixteen rodent species worldwide, eleven of them are only found in Ethiopia.⁸ The road from Goba to Delo town which passes through this section of the park gives an impressive view of the beautiful mountain scenery of the area.⁹

The third subsection of the BMNP is the Hareenna Forest. The area encompasses one of the impressive Hareenna escarpments that lies some distance south of the Sanetti plateau and holds areas as high as 2000m to 3500m. As one goes further southwards, one finds the impressive Hareenna forest. This is the country's second largest forest and contains a variety of wildlife resources such as lions, leopards, hyena and some African hunting dogs. The Hareenna escarpment divides the park into eastern and western sections. In the north, many rivers and small streams dissected the high altitude plateaus into deep gorges that made scenic waterfalls in some areas. The area is not usually exposed to snow cover, so that someone can watch easily its beautiful physical appearances from a distance.¹⁰

⁸ Jesse C. Hillman, A Management Plan Manual, p.11; Zegeye Kibret (ed.),p.1;Robert G. Waltermire, p.21.

⁹ Eliza Richman and Biniyam Admasu (eds.), *Bale Mountains National Park: A Traveler's Guidebook, One Park many world* (Addis Ababa: Central Printing Press, 2013), p.42.

¹⁰ *Ibid*, p.21; Herbert Mooney and others, "An account of two Journey to the Arenna Mountains in Bale Province (South- East Ethiopia) 1958 and 1959-60," *In proceedings of the Linnaean Society of London , 1961-62*, (London: Linnaean Society, 1963),p.128; Assegid Ayele, p.44;Randall, Debora and others (eds.), *Walia: Special edition on the Bale Mountains, Journal of the Ethiopian Wildlife and Natural History Society*(2011), p.131.

Picture.2 The Sanetti plateau



Source: (Accessed from, <https://en.wikipedia>) 3 August 2015

In the lowlands of Harenna territory grow wild coffee and big tree species that rose as high as 30m. Behind the Harenna escarpment, one finds the Gujurule rock towers surrounded by mixed forests with bamboo trees and the source streams of the Shawe River at their bases.¹¹

The BMNP in its realms holds many wildlife species. Within it nearly 46 mammals, more than 160 bird species and a number of reptiles, amphibians exist. The Mount Nyala, Semen Fox, Bohor Reedbuck, giant Mole rat, Menelik's bushbuck and fish species are found in the ecosystem of the BMNP.¹²

¹¹ "Bale Mountains National Park: Harenna Forest Expedition, Preliminary Report", p.2; Eliza Richman and Biniyam Admasu (eds.), p.16; Mohammed Amin, p.81.

¹² Jesse C. Hillman, A Management Plan Manual, pp.21-23.

Despite the abundance of wildlife species in Bale, the BMNP was established primarily to protect two endangered wild animals in the area, the Mountain Nyala and Semen Fox. The Gaysay grassland area, which is found 7kms from the headquarters of the BMNP at Dinsho, is the particular place where Nyala is seen together with other wildlife such as Menelik bushback, reedback, grey duiker, warthog, and several species of cats, colobus monkey and anubis baboon.¹³ Among the bird species that dwell in the Bale Mountains, sixteen endemic species are easily seen including wattled ibis, black-winged love birds, and blue-winged goose.¹⁴ In addition to its attractive environmental setting, the BMNP is home to many ritual places which the peoples in and surrounding of the park used. These include places such as Abbel Kasim, Alija and Gassuray are/were serving the people in line with their beliefs.¹⁵

The Bale Mountains are also endowed with mountain streams that are filled with fish imported from Kenya in the 1960s.¹⁶

¹³ Randall, Debora and others (eds.), p.41; John Atkir, "History of Wildlife Protection in Ethiopia" *Walia No.16, Journal of the Ethiopian Wildlife and Natural History Society* (1995), p.21.

¹⁴ Mohammed Amin, p.76.

¹⁵ Assegid Ayele, p.45.

¹⁶ *Ibid*, p.81.

Picture.3 Mount Nyala which is endemic to the country.



Source: (Accessed from, <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bale-Mountains>), 12 July 2015.

1.2 Historical Background to the Management of Wildlife Resources and Parks in Ethiopia

Ethiopia is blessed with varieties of wildlife owing to its favorable and wide-ranging climate.¹⁷In the late 19th and early 20th centuries, however, these huge resources began to be highly exploited and their socio-economic importance began to diminish as a result of unrestrained human activity. Before the introduction of firearms to Ethiopia, the hunting of wild animals was largely carried out by weapons like spears and lances. Even big animals such as elephants and buffalo were hunted in this traditional way by the people. However, during Menelik's period, people began to hunt wild animals by using guns imported from the outside world. Gun ownership significantly increased which led to the destruction of wild animals and their dislocation from their natural habitats. Wild animals were generally hunted for two purposes. First, the hunting and killing of big animals like buffalo, lion and elephant was a source of prestige and sign of bravery in many societies of Ethiopia. Mahteme Silassie described the prestige accorded to big game hunters as follows: “.....አንድ ጎሽ.....ወይም አንድ ዝሆን የገደለ አምስት ሰወ. እንደገደለ ይቆጠራል...”

A rough translation of this would be: *“A person who kills one buffalo or elephant was considered as a killer of five men.”*¹⁸

This indicated that game animals were hunted in greater extent partly to get respectability and prestige.¹⁹

¹⁷Kefelegn Getahun, “An overview Geographical Analysis of tourism in Ethiopia “(M.A Thesis in Geography and Environmental History, A.A University, 1994), p.46.

¹⁸ Mahateme silase Wolde Meskel, *Zikre Neger*(A.A: Netsanet Printig Press,1950), p.342; Abraha Misginna, “The history of Ethiopian Wildlife Conservation Organization “(B.A Thesis in History, A A, 1991), p.18.

¹⁹*Ibid*,p.18.

Young Ethiopians at an adolescence stage went to the wilderness in search of wild animals. If they were lucky they returned home with their kills within a few days. Otherwise they stayed in the wilderness until they were lucky for a month or more than that since returning home without a kill was considered shameful by the society. The wife of a man, who returned home from hunting without success, sang the following couplet which struck at a man's personal dignity:

የገዳይ አጋዳይ ሆኖ ከመመለስ

አልነበረኝም ወይ አፈ ሾሌ ፈረስ

To returned as a killer of killer

Hadn't been a rider horse²⁰

This indicates that women encouraged their husbands to hunt wild beasts. Therefore, men preferred to stay in remote areas until they succeeded in killing wild animals.²¹

Second, especially in the late 19th and early 20th centuries, wild animals were also hunted for commercial purpose. People hunted wild animals for their skin, teeth and horn. The country had a large number of elephants which commonly existed at an altitude as high as 2,500m above sea level up to the end of the 19th century. Areas such as the Awash basin and the Ethiopian Central Rift Valley were home to such big animals before their number declined rapidly between 1900 and 1934.²² The hunting of wild animals particularly of elephants in the above mentioned period was carried out enormously throughout the country.²³

²⁰ Mahateme silase Wolde Meskel, p.346.

²¹ *Ibid*, p.346.

²² Richard Pankhurst and Rita Pankhurst (eds.), "Wildlife and Forests in Ethiopia." *Journal of independent option, economics, history and the arts, VII. No.1*, (1963), p.241; Boshera Jerbo, "Environment, State and Pastoral groups: A history of Awash National Park 1966-1991" (MA Thesis in History, A.A University, 2002), p.1; Yirmed Demeke, "The status of the African Elephant (*Loxodonta Africana*) in Ethiopia," *Walia No. 18, Journal of the Ethiopia Wildlife and Natural history society*, (1975), pp. 17-20; Abraha Misginna, p.18.

²³ Richard Pankhurst and Rita Pankhurst (eds.), p.242.

Large scale elephant hunting intensified during the time of Menelik's illness when his government failed to run government affairs effectively. In 1908, Emperor Menelik II issued the country's first wildlife legislation. This was intended to regulate the destruction of wild animals particularly of elephants. A year later, the government attempted to generate income from the country's huge wild life resource by prohibiting the illegal hunting of big game. The law proclaimed that hunting of elephants could only be undertaken with the permission of the Emperor. In 1913 Menelik passed yet another proclamation that underlined the banning of hunting. The proclamation was quoted by Richard Pankhurst and Rita Pankhurst as follows:

“All you who were (are) big game hunters!

“I have ordered that from now onwards big-game hunting should cease, and that all you big-game hunters who before this went down to the desert and are hunting, should return to your provinces. And you who have started from here to go down, don't go. You people, who after this proclamation was proclaimed, did not abandon your hunting and return from the desert to your villages, and if you go thinking that you will go down again to hunt, and are caught, you will be severely punished.

“All you chiefs also who are on the frontiers, cause careful watch to be kept that, with the exception of persons with passes and traders, hunters do not pass through your country. It has been decreed (the Emperor) has said, if after this proclamation has been made, a hunter or whoever it may be, having passed through your territory, is found in your province without a pass going down to the desert, and if your keeping guard do not catch him, know that the punishment will be (i.e. fall) on you”²⁴

Despite the Emperor's warning, the proclamation remained only in print and the destruction of wild animals continued unabated.²⁵

²⁴*Ibid*, p.248.

²⁵*Ibid*, p. 248; John Atkir, p.20.

The Italian invasion of Ethiopia had a negative consequence on the wildlife resources of the country. During the occupation period (1936-1941), various wildlife areas were destroyed.²⁶

The loss of wild life at an alarming rate continued during the post-liberation period. Therefore, Haile Selassie's regime sought to protect the fauna of the country from unrestricted human interference. The government especially gave attention to the conservation of rare and endangered species in an attempt to save them from vanishing and also to generate income from the tourism industry which was expected to support the national economy.²⁷

Therefore, to mitigate the destruction of rare wildlife species, the regime promulgated a new legislation in 1944. Part of the proclamation which came out in the *Negarit Gazeta* stated:

“ማንም ሰው ቢሆን ከእርሻ ሚንስትራችን ፍቃድ ካልተቀበለ በቀር አወሬ ለማደን፣ ከነኑበሱ ለመያዝ፣ ፎቶግራፍ ለማንሳት አይችልም። ከኛ ትእዛዝ ካልተሰጠው በቀር በዝህ አዋጅ መሰረት የሚደረገው ደንብ ሁሉ በነጋሪት ጋዜጣ አይወጣም። ይሁን እንጂ አራዊትን ለማደን ከነነፍሳቸው ለመያዝ ወይም ፎቶግራፍ ለማንሳት ፍቃድ ለጠየቀ ሰው ሁሉ በዚህ አዋጅ መሰረት የተዘጋጁትን ደንቦች ግልባጫቸው ይሰጠዋል።”

“No one shall hunt, poacher, photographing wild animals without the legal permission of the Ministry of Agriculture. Any regulations shall not be applicable unless the order of the Emperor, therefore would not be declared in the Negarit Gazeta. However a person who asks to hunt, poacher and photographing,

²⁶ Yirmed Demeke, p.26.

²⁷ Wondeson Hailu, “Wildlife Conservation and Utilization in Ethiopia” (B A Thesis in Geography Department, A.A University, 1984), p.15.

*a copy of this regulation would be given to him.*²⁸

The intention of the regulation was to end the further destruction of wild animals within the country and thereby regulate the wildlife resources in sustainable way.²⁹

In order to oversee the regulation, the regime established the Department of Licenses in the same year. The main duty of the Department was issuing licenses and controlling illegal hunting of wildlife at the national level.³⁰

Foreign involvement in wild life conservation in Ethiopia began in the early 1960s. In 1962 the Ethiopian government requested UNESCO (The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization) to carry out an extensive survey of wild life resources in Ethiopia and to forward recommendations about the establishment of national parks. Shortage of trained man power and limited financial resources were the factors that forced the country to seek help from UNESCO. The Ethiopian personnel who represented the country at the UNESCO General Conference held in Paris in 1962 expressed this idea during the conference.³¹ As a result, UNESCO agents led by Sir Julian Huxley came to Ethiopia in 1963 and visited the country's wildlife resources. Huxley noted that Ethiopian's geographical position and topographical features has enabled it to possess a great variety of fauna and flora species and that it should be the major duty of the government to protect these from fast decline and preserve them for the benefit of future generations.³²

²⁸ *Ye dur Arawiten Selmetebeke Yeweta Awaj* (Genbot 21, 1936), Ethiopian Wildlife Conservation Authority Library, Folder No. WWC/11, File No. L/7.

²⁹ *Ibid.*

³⁰ Boshera Jerbo, pp.13-14.

³¹ *Ibid.*, pp.13-14; John Atkir, p.20.

³² Report by J.H. Blower to Wildlife Conservation Board, (25 May, 1967), Ethiopian Wildlife Conservation Authority Library, Folder No. Blower 4. EWCO.5, File No, K/1, p.1.

In 1964/65 L.H.Brown and I.R Grimwood, two UNESCO agents, made extensive survey of the wildlife resources of the country and accordingly prepared a three years development plan for the establishment of parks in the country and presented this to the Emperor for approval. The plan envisaged implementation in two phases. The first phase of the plan envisaged the establishment of the Semien, Awash and Omo National parks. The impetus for the establishment of the Semien National Park was the destruction of Walia Ibex (*Capra walia*) which is endemic to Ethiopia. The expansion of commercial farms in the lower Awash Valley and infiltration by the surrounding pastoralist groups to the territory of the park and the subsequent decline of wildlife were major factors behind the proposal to establish the Awash National Park. The Omo valley was rich in wildlife but was yet not well known. Brown and Grimwood, believed that these wildlife resources needed protection for the future.³³

The establishment of national Park in the Bale Mountains was part of the second phase of the plan. The impetus for its establishment was primarily to save the few numbers of Mount Nyala that exists in the area. The second phase of the plan also included the creation of a park or game reserve around the Baro River which was notable for its Wild Ass species. Another component of the second phase of the plan was the inauguration of sanctuaries or game reserves in the Rift Valley Lakes for their bird and aquatic animals. The plan was approved by the Emperor in 1966.³⁴

The first step in translating the above proposal into a reality was taken by the government with the establishment of the Wildlife Conservation Department (WCD) in 1965. The Department was put within the Forest Department. The recruitment of some capable individuals was carried

³³ Report by J.H. Blower to Wildlife Conservation Board, (25 May, 1967), Ethiopian Wildlife Conservation Authority Library, Folder No. Blower 4. EWCO.5, File No, K/1, pp.1-4; Boshera Jerbo, pp.13-14; G.H.H. Brown, "The Conservation Situation in Ethiopia" in *Biological Conservation*, Vol.2.No.4; July, 1970, p.295.

³⁴ *Ibid*, p.295.

out and also areas which have outstanding natural beauty were identified by the government immediately.³⁵ The WCD was initially led by *Ato* Berhanu Tessema. In September 1965 J.H. Blower was appointed as Senior Game Warden. In the same year *Ato* Birhanu was replaced by Major Gizaw Gedlegiorgis as head of the WCD.³⁶

The Department had the objective of preserving the rare and endangered wild animals from complete extinction; conserving the wildlife resources of the country and passing these to the coming generation. Furthermore, it sought to improve the conditions of wildlife and create an opportunity for generating income from the tourism industry.³⁷

However, this early attempt at regulating the use of wildlife was unsuccessful because of limited staff and funds available to the Department. In addition to this, poor transportation system and lack of awareness about the government's conservation activities and its importance by the people extremely weakened the Department's effort to protect wildlife. Moreover, the scattered existence of the wildlife had a profound effect on the conservation efforts of the Department. For instance, buffalo had disappeared by human activity from the central parts of the country. Elephants in the Awash area were wipe out. The northern Walia Ibex also was under pressure and its number declined to a great extent. The number of Mount Nyala in Bale Mountains had also declined because of human activities. Therefore, Ethiopia remained far beyond neighboring African countries with regards to the conservation of its wildlife resources. Even worse, the Department had financial difficulty. The wardens and staffs of the park did not receive their

³⁵ Ministry of Agriculture Wildlife Conservation Organization: A Development for Wildlife Conservation in Ethiopia (A.A, 1985), p. 2; John H. Blower's Outline proposals for future extension, (6 May, 1968), Ethiopian Wildlife Conservation Authority Library Folder No. Blower 4.EWCO.5, File No.K/3, p. 1; John Atkir, p.20.

³⁶ Report by J.H. Blower to Wildlife Conservation Board, (25 May, 1967), Ethiopian Wildlife Conservation Authority Library, Folder No. Blower 4. EWCO.5, File No,K/1, p.1.

³⁷ G.H.H. Brown, p.293.

salary on time and hence failed to carry out their job effectively. Supplies of equipment were inadequately provided by the Department. The absence of facilities particularly housing, medical services and clean water in the conservation areas made the newly appointed game guards to stay at the headquarters of the Department in Addis Ababa rather than in their work places. Thus, the game guards lacked commitment to serve the government in under such difficult conditions.³⁸

The foundation of national parks and reserve areas for the purpose of conserving the country's fauna and flora is a recent development in Ethiopian history. In spite of this delay, the country was able to create around nine national parks and many game reserves beginning from the late 1960s. The establishment of national parks across the country took into consideration some major issues. These included, conserving some unique and impressive environment, protecting rapidly declining endemic wildlife species and promoting tourism industry in Ethiopia. Accordingly the national parks of Awash and Omo were established at in 1966. This early development was followed by the inauguration of other national parks such as Semien(1969), Mago (1970) and Bale Mountains (1970) one after another.³⁹

In 1970 the Haile Selassie government passed an order to establish the Wildlife Conservation Organization (WCO) in an attempt to regulate effectively the wildlife resources of the country. Accordingly, the organization was established as autonomous body in the same year. The principal purpose of the organization was to ensure the proper conservation and management of wildlife resources and thereby facilitated the establishment of national parks within the country.

³⁸ A letter from Buckingham Palace to Ministry of Agriculture, (31 March, 1969) , Ethiopia National archive and Library Agency, *Gibi Minister*, Folder No.1-2-62-10, file No.12.1.12.7; G.H.H. Brown,p.293.

³⁹Wondesen, p.23.

It also had the mandate of administering this conservation areas and enforcement of any legislation or regulation issued in regard to conservation of wildlife.⁴⁰

Two years after its establishment, a new wildlife regulation was issued by the Ministry of Agriculture at the recommendation of the Wildlife Conservation Organization.⁴¹ The 1972 regulation replaced the 1944 regulation on wildlife resources. The new regulation was broad and different from the previous one in many ways. Under this regulation, the WCO had the authority of give hunting license and collect fees. In the previous regulation this power was assigned to the Ministry of Agriculture. To obtain license for hunting, a person had to submit his application to the organization. A person who had license of hunting has to hold a Game register in the form prescribed by the WCO. A Game register form helps to list the type of wild animals a person would hunt. The regulation prohibited grazing cattle, human intrusion and exploitation of natural resources within the national parks. It also forbade people from living temporary or residing in the park territory unless the WCO's manager granted a written permission. The prohibition of export of game animals was also stated in the regulation. A year later a regulation on the administrative structure of the WCO prepared.⁴²

The government also passed another proclamation in 1974 to strengthen the power of the Wildlife Conservation Organization. Although the government made such successive reforms, the destruction of wildlife did not die out due to the weak implementation of the laws and limited budget of the Wildlife Conservation Department.⁴³

⁴⁰ *Negarti Gazeta*, 1970, 30 year No.4, issued on the 5 November, pp.30-32.

⁴¹ Boshera Jerbo, pp.13-14.

⁴² *Negarti Gazeta*, 1972, 31st year No.7, issued on the 19th September, pp.35-37; A letter from *Ye Dur Arawit AstedaderTibeka* to Ethiopia *Neguse Negest Mengist Ye Serategna Mastedaderia m/aw/Bet*, (*Hidar 5*, 1965 E.C), Ethiopian National Archive and Library Agency, *Ye Sivile Servis Mezagebet*, Folder No.81.71.4, File No.aw55/31(See Appendix I)

⁴³ J.H. Blower Report to Wildlife Conservation Board, (4Jun, 1974), Folder No. Blower 4. EWCO.5, File No,K/4p.1.

Chapter Two

2. The foundation and early history of the BMNP up to 1974

2.1 Historical background to the Bale Mountains

Early 20th century literature on the Bale Mountains region indicates that the area was not permanently settled by humans. A few European travelers and explorers, who arrived during this period, have left us testimonies about the social and natural landscape of the area. The German naturalist and explorer Carlo Von Erlanger was the first European to visit the mountains of Bale between 1899 and 1901. Erlanger was the first to describe with some detail the giant mole rat (*Tachyoryctes Macrocephalus*) that is common in the region.¹

At the beginning of 1901, a Frenchman called Viscompte du Bourg de Bozas visited the Bale massif and described the existence of big game such as elephants and buffalo in the southern sections of the mountains. During his stay in Goba, he participated in an elephant hunting expedition in the mountains. However, de Bozas was not able to penetrate deep in to the mountains because of the rugged nature of the landscape and heavy rain at the time. The elephants that de Bozas described would disappear from the area over the next decades because of the increase in human activities near and inside the park before the inauguration of the park.² The disappearance of these big game animals was confirmed by a Finish born man called Helmer Smeds during his visit to the area in 1959. Smeds was able to visit Goba and the small village of Rira and the Delo Mena areas. He stated that elephants disappeared from the Hareenna forest mainly because of human activity. He also witnessed at the time the existence of some small dispersed huts and honey collectors in what would be the future territory of the park. Part of the

¹ Jesse C. Hillman, A Management Plan Manual, p.9; Stuart Williams, p.4; Eliza Richman and Biniyam Admasu (eds.),p.20.

² Jesse C. Hillman, Management plan Manual, p.5;*Ibid*, p.20.

Bale Mountains, the Sanetti plateau was not completely settled by humans. However, seasonal migration to the area was occasionally observed particularly during the dry season.³ This was because the Bale Mountains are/were endowed with many mineral springs, locally known as *hora*, which were used by the local people to nourish their cattle. During their stay in the area, the migrants built temporary huts for the purpose of looking after their cattle. The pastoralists stayed in the area until the arrival of the rainy season when they moved out elsewhere. The herders believed that the rain that comes after the long dry season would harm the health of their cattle. Moreover, they had permanent houses and plots of farm land in Rira, the place where they migrated from.⁴

Another foreign traveler who offered a description of the Bale Mountains in the late 1950s was a British man called Herbert Mooney. A botanist, Mooney had left record of the landscape, vegetation types and human activities in the Sanetti, Rira and Dello areas during the time of his visit in 1958/59. Mooney stated that the village of Rira was a destination point for some merchants who came from Goba to sell items like flour and salt. The traders then bought locally produced honey. Honey collectors were also sometimes observed in Hareenna forest, on the way to Dello(Meslo). Hence, the forest served as a source of income for the people who lived in its surrounding.⁵

Two decades before the establishment of the park in the Bale Mountains, the vast land located north of present day Dinsho *Wareda* i.e Gasuaray, Adelay and Gaysay was owned by *Balabats*(land lords) and *Burqas*(an intermediate official between land lord and village chief). Since the area was not suitable for crop production, the owners used the land for grazing their livestock.

³ Stuart Williams, p. 5.

⁴ *Ibid*, p.5; Informants: *Ato Santimi Mohammed* and *Ato Marshelo Timo*.

⁵ Herbert Mooney and others, p.140; Jesse C. Hillman, A Management Plan Manual, p. 9; Eliza Richman and Biniyam Admasu (eds.), pp. 20-21.

Despite its infertility, however, the owners of the land were expected to pay high land tax to the government. In the late 1950s, they appealed to the emperor that their land revert to the control of the government. Consequently, the emperor took away the land and gave it on a contract basis to a Belgian investor called B.N. Weerts in 1965.⁶

Weerts leased the land for raising sheep. The concession area was nearly 1000 *gashas* (400 hectares) and covered parts of the present park area including Gasuaray, Adelay and Gaysay. Weerts brought many sheep from Belgium and launched the project soon after receiving the land. The government, on its part, expelled all the residents who were found near the project from their farm lands. Moreover, it also prohibited human infringement in the area. The land was fenced to give the intended service as the investor planned.⁷

But Weerts' project failed to achieve his goal. Many sheep died abruptly due to the very cold climate of the area. Weerts also bought domestic sheep and cattle and tried to raise these by taking additional contract land from the government in the area which at present hosts the park's lodge. But his attempt remained fruitless. The remaining few sheep were taken to Sinana area for further raising by Mr. Martin a man who arrived in the area few months before Weerts left. Mr. Martin was able to provide sheep to the market of Robe for a few years.⁸

Much more enduring than Weerts's sheep raising scheme was his role in the development of a park in the region. During his stay in the area, Weerts observed a group of Mount Nyalas within his concession land at a place called Bidiru, near present day Gojera *Kebele*. He was impressed by the scenic landscape of the area and the existence of this species in the area. He reported this

⁶ Informants: *Ato Aman Mame*, *Ato Alo Batu* and *Ato Haji Ebu*.

⁷ *Ibid*; Jesse C. Hillman, *A Management Plan Manual*, p.9.

⁸ Informants: *Ato Santimi Mohammed*, *Ato Aman Mame* and *Ato Abubeker Nure* (These informants could not give the full name of Mr. Martin); Curtis E. Buer, p.1.

to the Emperor before he left the country in 1966. His report was important for the establishment of a national park in the Bale Mountains.⁹

Following Weerts's departure, the concession land remained without effective control and the area experienced an accelerated rate of human encroachment. The local people moved to the area in search of good pasture for their cattle. Frequent grazing by cattle exposed the land and made it vulnerable to the erosion of the top soil. Hence, the natural habitat was extremely affected because of uncontrolled grazing before the inauguration of the park.¹⁰

When a park was proposed in 1969 in the Bale Massifs, only a few permanent settlers lived in the area. The livelihood of the local people, who had settled in the Mountains since Menelik II's conquest of the region, was partially dependent on the hunting of wild animals and especially the Mountain Nyala, which was hunted for its flesh, hide and horns.¹¹ This early human threat affected one of the endangered species, the Mount Nyala. With the exception of the Gaysay area in the north, where it got protection since it was part of Weerts' sphere, Mount Nyala was forced to migrate to remote areas within and out of the proposed park boundary. Therefore it became difficult to see this endemic mammal in the nearby territory.¹²

The illegal hunting against Mountain Nyala around Gebre Gurach was also witnessed by local officials who were appointed to demarcate the Weerts concession at the beginning of 1965. A group of young male and female Mount Nyala near Kona Dera were killed by hunters at the same period. Because of these illegal activities, large numbers of mount Nyala retreated from open field. On the eve of the creation of the park, their numbers had begun to decline rapidly

⁹*Ibid.* 1.

¹⁰ John Atkir and others (eds.), p.25; Deborah Randall and others (eds.), pp.197-198.

¹¹ Stuart Williams, p.6.

¹² Curtis E. Buer, pp.13-14.

because of the absence of appropriate protection and legal frame work.¹³ Therefore, the impetus for the creation of National Park in the Bale Mountains was the existence of rare and endemic wild animals like Mount Nyala and Red Fox and to save them from complete disappearance.¹⁴

Another serious challenge for the natural habitat of the Bale Mountains in general and the areas proposed for the future park in particular was recurrent outbreak of wild fire. The local people particularly the herdsmen, harmed the flora and fauna of the massif. The trespass of the herdsmen negatively affected the top soil which is made of bare rocks, the remains of animals and plants as well as rich varieties of minerals. The fresh grass following the rainy season was reason for clearing the forest. At the beginning, the top soil was not vulnerable to running water, excessive sun light and wind. However, once the herdsmen fired the forest, the area was destroyed by the ravages of running water and wind.¹⁵

Before the establishment of the park in 1970, the local residents of the Bale Mountains were also involved in cutting trees in the area. The demand for firewood and charcoal was so high that indigenous trees such as huge junipers were cleared out; others were used for construction and other purposes. This was particularly common in the forest which is found near Adaba area. The giant heath tree species around Goba was also heavily affected because it was the preferred tree for charcoal making. Around Dinsho area a thick juniper forest along the main road was cleared by the local government officials' on the occasion of emperor visit in 1970.¹⁶

¹³*Ibid*,p.14.

¹⁴Bale zone Cultural and Tourism Office " Bale Mountains National Park Scenically splendors but on the verge of disappearance" (Robe, 2003), pp.2; Ministry of Agriculture Planning Committee (Addis Ababa, 1967), p. 4.

¹⁵ Curtis E. Buer, p.15.

¹⁶*Ibid*,p.15; Fikadu Garede, A Report on the lion attack on live stocks in the Haremma Forest and its reason (Bale, nd),p.6;A letter from Zegeye Gizachew to Major Jeneral Jagama Kelo, (*Hamle* 2,1962 E.C),Goba *Woreda* Environmental and Forest Conservation Bureau, Folder No.፳/122/8, File No.13906/45.(See Appendix II)

2.2 The foundation and development of the park

The early visit to the Bale Mountains by European explorers was followed by successive survey of its wildlife resources by foreign experts. For instance, several scholars were employed in this fruitful activity under the auspices of the United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization (UNESCO). One of these UNESCO agents was a British naturalist named Dr. Leslie Brown, who advised the Ethiopian government in the area of wildlife conservation and national park development. Dr. Brown arrived in the Bale Mountains at the beginning of 1958. Dr. Brown admired the impressive natural habitat of the mountains and recognized the potential the area has for tourism promotion in the future. He therefore proposed nearly 1000km² of land to be set aside in the area which became the basis for the future development of the park.¹⁷ In 1963 Brown returned to Ethiopia and made successive trips to the Bale Mountains. UNESCO soon published Brown's recommendation on the necessity of establishing a national park in the Bale Mountains for its rich wildlife resources on the UNESCO report entitled "Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources in Ethiopia".¹⁸

In 1966 Brown was funded by the National Geographic-World Wildlife to explore the Bale massif. Accordingly, he stayed in the mountains for one month and studied the status of Mount Nyala. Brown identified the habitat zones and the varieties of Nyala in the area and sketched them on a map. In the same year, the National Geography published Brown's work. The magazine also gave consideration to his work on the mountain Nyala in 1969. His recommendation was followed up by John Blower at the time to the Wild life Conservation Organization of Ethiopia, who made additional extensive survey together with member of Peace

¹⁷ Curtis E. Buer, p.1.

¹⁸ *Ibid*,p.1; Ministry of Agriculture Planning Committee: Third Five Year Development Plan, National parks and Wildlife Conservation(Addis Ababa, 1967),p. 4.

Corps volunteers like Curtis Buer, D.L Golobitsh, R.G Waltermire and Lilyestrom. At the end of 1969 the boundary of the proposed park was demarcated by *Ato* Tezera Beyene, *Grazmach* Kasim Bilu and *Grazmach* Husen Bilu who were selected from Dinsho village. This was an important step in the creation of the park.¹⁹

At the end of 1969, Blower and two former Peace Corps volunteers, C. Buer and D.L Golobitsh, returned to the Bale Mountains to gather valuable information. Their mission laid an important basis for the inception of the park. The members of the mission lived in Mr. Weerts former house and worked with *Ato* Tura Beyene who was appointed by the Wildlife Conservation Department to assess and control the interference of the local people in the former concession land. The ecological survey carried out by these men was submitted to the Wildlife Conservation Department in December 1970. The report included useful information about the proposed park and its ecology, which were collected during the time of their survey. All the former concession lands of Mr. Weerts were included in the proposed park by making his previous houses as headquarter.²⁰

At the end of 1969, the initial boundary of the park was first recommend by Mr. John Blower and his comrade Mr.Curtis, who was a Peace Corps Volunteer. Then, the park's territory which covers nearly 2000km² was the identified and demarcated in 1969. The demarcation was followed by the prohibition of all kinds of human activities within the park that adversely affect the natural habitat of the Bale Mountains. These included cutting down trees, hunting and grazing livestock and firing grass within the park territory.²¹

¹⁹ Jesse C. Hillman, Bale Mountains National Park: Management Plan, p.9.

²⁰ Curtis E. Buer, p.1; Stuart Williams, pp.5-6.

²¹ *ibid*,p.15.

To initiate the project associated with the establishment of the park, money was required. Therefore, in 1969 the central government allocated 60,850 birr that was deposited in the Commercial Bank branch at Goba under the withdrawal capacity of the park's warden called Curtis Buer. The money was used to buy construction materials and fuel for vehicle maintenance, payment for wages and laborers, purchase of tools, and other supplies. But the fund was not released to the park immediately. The senior game warden John H. Blower reported the delay of release of funds and presence of *shifita* (bandits) in the province to the Emperor. These two problems acted as a hurdle in beginning the early projects activities of the park.²²

During the first year of the park's establishment, some infrastructures were built by the government. To visit the natural habitat found within the Bale Mountains effectively, the construction of roads and housing was essential. Nearly 14 kms of road was constructed from Dinsho village to the park office at the end of 1969. To exchange information between the Central Wild life Department and the park, a radio was installed. Apart from the park's headquarters, a few guard houses were also built within the park.²³

As a part of the early development of the park, housing for various activities was needed. To solve the problem, the Weerts house which was initially constructed at Dinsho was turned in to the main office of the park and accommodation for visitors. It also gave services for the staff of the park.²⁴

The work of the game guard posts planned to be constructed on the outskirts of the proposed areas of the park. Areas such as Leyencha, Gondadoh River Vally, Furuna River headwaters,

²² A Report of J.H. Blower to Wildlife Conservation Board, (9 May, 1969), Ethiopian Wildlife Conservation Authority Library, Folder No. Blower 4. EWCO.5, File No,K/1,

²³ Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Wild life Conservation and Development Department: A Development Plan for Wildlife Conservation (Addis Ababa, 1972), pp.62-63.

²⁴ *Ibid*,p.16.

Germba River Vally, Gerba Guracha and Worgona were selected as posts for the guards. Patrolling was made based on rotation basis. Once in a week, the game guards patrolled the park territory. To this end, the previous Weerts large sheep house was reserved for Game Scouts and the smaller one was divided into small sized rooms for other services.²⁵

Following the inauguration of the park in 1970, the need for additional shelter for the personnel became urgent. The Department therefore built additional houses for accommodation of the park workers. The Weerts house was therefore converted in to lodge. The lodge contained around 20 sleeping beds for tourists, a fire place which was enclosed by a sitting room, the main office of the park and a store. One separate room was reserved for a museum. The lodge was located at an ideal site and offered views of the Web Basin as far as the Gaysay escarpment, a grassland area that was frequented by crowds mount Nyala.²⁶

To manage each activity, the Wildlife Conservation Organization had to employ guards with sufficient knowledge about the natural habitats. The guards were expected to speak Amharic and Afan Oromo languages. The former Weerts residence was selected to be the guard's quarters. On the other hand the chosen wardens had to recruit particularly from the local people who were familiar with the tradition of vicinity. In addition to this, these recruited people had the duty of guarding the game areas in the territory of the park. Any violation of the park's territory was dealt by the local prosecutors and other responsible authorities.²⁷

The Five Years Development Program was planned from 1969 and to be completed within five years. Seeking solution for transportation problem of the park was a part of the plan. For the sake

²⁵ *Ibid*, p.16.

²⁶ Jesse C. Hillman, A Management Plan Manual, p.9; Jesse C. Hillman, Bale Mountain National Park: National Park Lodge destroyed by fire (Bale, 1984), p.1.

²⁷ Curtis E. Buer, p.16.

of safe and easy movement of visitors and park workers, in the territory of the park, pack animals mainly horses were necessary. To support the traditional transportation by motor and vehicles two truck had to available, one for transporting materials from the park's headquarters to the territories of the park. In the early period of the park establishment there was lack of water source which in turn affected the progress of park development. Therefore transporting water by using heavy truck to the guards' station was mandatory. The other vehicle was required for inspecting the park biodiversity from human and other threats. To resolve the transportation problem 245,000 birr was required. A total of 66,500 Ethiopian birr had to require for the construction of roads, bridges and tracks within the territory of the park. Since the topography of the Bale Mountains consisted ups and downs it needed capital to deploy construction of these infrastructures. For instance 50kms road that connects Dinsho village to Mt. Tulu in the Sanetti plateau needed. Other long and small km of roads planned to be completed within the Five Year Development Program. These roads cover around 42kms.²⁸

The establishment of small posts for the recruited guards was also necessary. Along the borders of the park territory, seven additional game guard posts were needed. The construction cost was estimated 270,000 birr. These guard stations were planned to be established in strategic location so that the guards could watch things from a distance within the park territory. The place where these outposts were intended to be established were Dinsho, Mt.Gayasy, Darkena, Web area, entrance gate of the park, Tonoshame and Sanatti. Thirty two guards were needed for these outposts.²⁹ With regards to building within the park nearly 74,000 birr was necessary. It included

²⁸Jesse C. Hillman, A Management Plan Manual, pp.66-68.

²⁹*Ibid*, p.65.

housing for a deputy custodian of the park and two drivers as well as two independent guards for the museum and store.³⁰

The museum of the park had to properly manage and held different species of fauna and floras as well as relics render valuable information for those tourists who could not travel throughout the park territory. Another necessary thing for the Park was health center in the nearby Dinsho village. At the end of the development program the number of park workers was expected to reach 64. Therefore at Dinsho one clinic was necessary to follow the health status of the park staffs. For the realization of these infrastructures a total of 42,000 birr needed.³¹

Another component of the Five Years Development Program was demarcating park territory from that of the land used by the surrounding people. Beacons had to be erected to clearly identify the newly established park territory from the surrounding farm lands. To put up beacons in the territory of the park, investigation about the park's land has to be made initially and this required up to 7000 Ethiopian birr. The Development Program also included the building of embankments to produce more fish from the big rivers. Embankment enabled the water to be accumulated in the big rivers. Hence a total of 9kms of embankment was intended to be constructed on the Danka, Web and Shaya Rivers. 5500 birr had to be released to finish this task. These embankments had the advantage of attracting visitors to the park. The Bale Mountains National Park was rich in many species of fauna that attract the attention of visitors in many ways. However in most case it was difficult to watch different wild animals easily. For this

³⁰*Ibid*,p.67.

³¹*Ibid*,pp.67-68.

reason surveillance huts to watch wild animals were essential. Area like Mt. Gaysay, Dinsho escarpment, Darkenna and Adaba hill selected and for its success 4000 birr needed.³²

A few months after the park's foundation, the first group of tourists arrived in the area. Tourists came to and visit the natural environment of the chains of Bale Mountains. This led to shortage of resting house while they were visiting. The initial lodging which was established during the time of the park's establishment was not adequate. Therefore, new and better standard of inn had to be constructed at Dinsho so as to receipt large number of visitors.³³

The vastness of the Bale Mountains and their rugged terrain made difficult patrolling within the boundary of the park. Hence it was necessary to equip guards with communication media like radios and cameras to exchange information with the warden of the park and with each other. By using portable radios, the guards could assess and gather useful information about illegal hunting and other activities relating with the park. 370,000 birr had to be released to fulfill the materials. To make effective patrolling and protect themselves from any type of risk, the guards had to hold weapon. For this 14, 100 birr required.³⁴

Another area of the development program was resolving the problem of transportation. The demand for transportation especially by pack animals increased with the flow of tourists to the park. Horses and mules were greatly needed to cross the park territory since transportation using track was partially impossible in the chains of mountains. Around 6000 birr required to buy these

³²Deker W. Yalden, "Twenty-five years of national history collecting in Ethiopia-a personal review." *Walia* No. 13 (Journal of the Ethiopian Wildlife and Natural History Society, 1991), p. 20.

³³Jesse C. Hillman, A Management Plan Manual, p. 69.

³⁴*Ibid*, p. 70.

pack animals. In general the amount of money that was needed to run the project cost 788,340 birr.³⁵

Nevertheless the total amount of birr released to accomplish the above all mentioned projects under the five years plan was less than the estimated amount. This was related to the small budget of the Wildlife Conservation Organization. Within the Five Years Development Plan, the total expenditure of the park, for building infrastructures was estimated at 335,500 birr. The developments of the infrastructures did not take place at once. The park's infrastructure was very meager at the beginning of 1970 owing to the minimal allocation of funds. But some infrastructures like accommodations in the outpost of Gaysay, vehicles, buildings, store for park equipment and different field equipments were gradually fulfilled.³⁶

2.3 The reaction of the local people towards the establishment of BMNP

When a national park was proposed in the Bale Mountains in 1969, there were only a few settlers in and adjacent to the former Weerts quarter. These areas were Adlay, Gaysay and Gasuaray. Following the establishment of the park these settlers were told to leave their farm lands. They moved to areas further to the present day headquarters of the park. However, the settlers rejected the government's order and refused to withdraw from their lands. Represented by some elders, the settlers appealed their case to the Emperor. However, they did not get positive response from the Emperor. The government then took measure to enforce the law. Local police were sent in to the above areas to deal with the opposition of the settlers. People who resisted the government decision were attacked by the police and some were wounded, a few were sent to prison for a few days. The government however, tried to placate the settlers by paying compensation for the

³⁵*Ibid*, p. 71.

³⁶ Ministry of Agricultural Planning Committee (A.A, 1967), p.np.

loss of their lands and to resolve the park situation. Not all of the present day parks' territories were included under the park's jurisdiction when the park was proposed in 1969. It was after 1970 that the park administration made efforts to evacuate the settlers to out of all parts of the park areas. These areas were the Sanetti plateau, Kotera, Rira, Delo and Hareenna forest. This is due to the fact that these areas of the park were found far from the parks' headquarter and difficult for the government to manage with the few park workers of the time. Moreover the local people lived in permanent base and they considered the land as their own property. Therefore, it was difficult for the government to dislodge the settler's out of these areas at once.³⁷

2.4 The park Management

The Mountains of Bale received better attention from the central government after the creation of a national park in the area. To strength the development of the park, staff consisting of four men were recruited by the government at the end of 1970. The personnel included a warden and three scouts. The park was managed from Dinsho, which was the headquarters of the park. Since the park had only a few staff, it received administrative support in the area of park management from the Bale province and Dinsho administration. Local militias were sometimes ordered to patrol the park by the provincial administration in order to control illegal hunting and cattle grazing within the park's territory.³⁸

According to informants, from the time of the park's establishment in 1970 to the downfall of the Haile selassie regime in 1974, the enforcement of the conservation laws of the national park was not strict. However, illegal activities by the local people on the nearby wildlife and plants in

³⁷Informants: *Ato Aman Mame, Ato Haji Ebu and Ato Abubeker Nure.*

³⁸Ministry of Agriculture, Forest and wildlife Conservation and Development Department: *A Development Plan for Wildlife Conservation* (Addis Ababa, 1972), pp.62-63.

general and within the territory of the park in particular were slightly reduced. This seems to have been for two reasons. First, fear of penalty for violation of the conservation laws of the state was a possible factor in the reduction of trespassing into the park and the illegal use of the fauna and flora of the area. In the Gaysay and Gasore areas of the park, the surrounding settlers respected the government conservation policy since both were located near the park's headquarter. In the remote areas of the park, however, illegal human activities like grazing cattle commonly happened. Secondly, the Bale Mountains were mainly occupied by Oromo people who had good knowledge of hunting wild animals. This traditional practice is called *Dhadhola* in Afan Oromo and involved hunting in groups and especially clearing out wild animals from the nearby territory. By conducting this type of traditional practice, the local people were able to protect their cattle from lions, cheetah, hyena and other prey animals. But with the establishment of the national park in the Bale Mountains, group hunting was gradually abandoned. The elders in the community met and agreed to stop this traditional practice with the establishment of the national park in the area. Any person or group who participated in hunting of wild animals was criticized and if he persisted in this ostracized by the community.³⁹

From the time of its inception to 1975, the BMNP was managed by expatriates who were employed by the central government. Peace Corps members like Buer (1969-1971), Golobitsh 1971, Lilyestrom (1972-1973) and Waltermire (1973-1974) administered the park one after another. It was after only 1973 that Ethiopian personnel were hired as assistant wardens in the park. *Ato* Tesfaye Hundessa served as vice manager of the park in 1973. *Ato* Abbaye Tadesse was the next man who held this post from 1973 to 1979. Under his management, the former area of the park which covered 2000km² was enlarged with the addition of 200 km² of additional

³⁹ Informants: *Ato* Haji Ebu, *Ato* Alo Batu and *Ato* Usman Nure.

territory. Therefore, the total area of the park territory covered 2200km² by 1974. When the park territory increased during this time, some important issues were taken into consideration. First the forest was not well studied by foreigners in the past except rudimentary records of Helmer Smeds and Herbert Mooney. The forest was/is ideal to conduct further research. Besides the area was rich in podocarpus forest and home for different species of fauna and flora which needed further study or investigations.⁴⁰

2.4 Tourism promotion in the BMNP under the Imperial Regime

Though Ethiopia has a huge potential as a center of tourism owing to its varied environment and important historical sites, the sector did not develop at the same time throughout the country. Historical places such as Gonder, Bahir Dar, Axum, Lalibela and Dire Dawa attracted tourists long before the national parks and sanctuaries. Although the country has huge resources of wildlife, the income gained from this was very small particularly before the 1960s. It was after this period that areas rich in wild life became a destination for many tourists. The national park of Awash took the leading place in attracting visitors because of its closeness to Addis Ababa and the presence of a variety of fauna and flora that tourists could not see in other parts of Eastern Africa.⁴¹

Bale province has a good potential of attracting tourists because of its impressive highlands and historical sites such as the BMNP, Sof Umer cave and Dire Sheikh Hussein and other ritual places. However, in the early 1970s, tourism development in the bale Mountains park was very weak. Only a few foreign and national tourists came to the park to visit its rich wildlife. There

⁴⁰ Jesse C. Hillman, National Park Lodge destroyed by fire, p.2;
Jesse C. Hillman, A Management Plan Manual, p. 9.

⁴¹ Jesse C. Hillman, Tourism in the Bale Mountain National Park Area: NYZS Research Fellow (Dinsho, 1983), p.1.

were some major problems that hindered the arrival of tourists from within the country and abroad to the BMNP at this time. First, the fact that a national park had been established in the area was not well known since the park was not legally gazetted in the *Negarit Gazeta*. Second, the park was distant from the capital and the road to it was poorly maintained and was not suitable for long voyage. Finally, the park lacked enough resting houses for visitors in the early 1970s. These problems set back the development of tourism in the park.⁴² Things began to change as of 1972-1973. Between these two years, 700 tourists on average visited the national park. The area was largely visited by foreigners who had lived and worked for long time in the country, Ethiopians and a small number of global tourists. The numbers of domestic visitors were very small and was on average up to 18% compared with foreigners who represented the remaining percentage. This was due to the fact that the shortage fuel and the unsuitable road made their journey difficult to the province of Bale. Moreover, national visitors lacked awareness and the tradition of visiting the parks and conservation areas of the country. By the end of the imperial period, the number of tourists who visit the BMNP was clearly on the rise.⁴³

⁴² Jesse C. Hillman, A Management Plan Manual, p.221; Martha and Paul Henze, *Tourism in Ethiopia: Observations and Recommendations*, A report (1984), p.10; Jesse C. Hillman, A Management Plan Manual, p.221.

⁴³ *Ibid*, pp.221-222.

CHAPTER THREE

3. BMNP under the Socialist Regime (1975-1991)

3.1 Socialism and Early Wildlife Conservation Activities

The Ethiopian Revolution, which spontaneously erupted in February 1974, was a result of the cumulative grievances that various sectors of the society had accumulated over a long period of time.¹ After the *Derg* or Provisional Military Administrative Council (PMAC) seized political power by overthrowing the imperial regime, the government declared “Ethiopian Socialism” to be its guiding philosophy. Following that the PMAC introduced a number of radical reforms such as nationalization of land, the abolishing of private land ownership, and nationalization of all urban land and extra houses. These reforms were intended to please the majority of Ethiopian people who were exploited during the imperial period.²

In 1978 the *Derg* extended its reforms to the conservation of wildlife resources. It sought to reform the sector through different legislative and organizational initiatives. One of the first laws on this sector was the Proclamation for Wildlife Conservation which was passed in 1978. The proclamation stated that “Wildlife have the right to exist and our wildlife resources are a national heritage to be conserved and developed for the continued benefits of the present generation and the generations to come.”³ Under this proclamation, the Wildlife Conservation Organization (WCO) put within the Ministry of Agriculture. All its administrative, financial and other issues were run by the WCO itself. The proclamation also stated the increment of WCO’s budget. But

¹Bahru Zewde, *A History of Modern Ethiopia 1855-1991* (Addis Ababa: James Currey, Ohio University Press, Addis Ababa University Press, 1991), p.229; Paul B. Henze, *Layers of Time: A History of Ethiopia* (London: Hurst and Company, 2000), p.300; John Markakis and Nega Ayele, *Class and Revolution in Ethiopia* (Trento, New Jersey: The Red Sea Press, 1986), pp.127-128.

²Bahru Zewde, p.240.

³Ministry of agriculture, Forest and wildlife Conservation and Development Authority, (FaWCaDA), *A proclamation plan for wildlife conservation* (A.A, 1978), p.218.

since 1980 the structure of WCO was studied by the government authorities for the sake of modification. Accordingly, in 1980 the *Derg* passed a Forest and Wildlife Conservation proclamation.⁴

The *Derg's* 1980 proclamation on Forest and Wildlife Conservation demonstrated the government's commitment to the conservation of the country's wildlife resources. The proclamation noted that the forests and wildlife of the country have rapidly declined under the imperial regime. It ascribed the decline of forests and wildlife to lack of appropriate protection given by the imperial government.⁵ It claimed that forests were exploited for the benefit of the aristocracy and the nobility and in consequence the country's wildlife have been exposed to the danger of extinction. Even worse, the old regime's ruling class participated in the hunting of wild animals since killing such big game was taken as a source of prestige. A man who failed to hunt wild beast did not get prestige in the palace and within the community. This contributed to the decimation of wildlife.⁶

To reverse what it saw to be a disastrous situation, the *Derg* decided to mobilize the mass of the Ethiopian people in conservation activities. To oversee the implementation of the above mentioned objectives, the regime proclaimed the establishment of an organization called the Forest and Wildlife Conservation and Development Authority in 1980. The headquarters of the organization was at Addis Ababa and sub branches were established at regional levels.⁷

⁴ Memo, (*Nehase* 30, 1972 E.C), Ethiopian National Archive and Library Agency, *Ye sivil servies mezage bete*, Folder No.8.1.73.7, File No.17, pp.1-2.(See Appendix Iv) ; A letter from Bale Province Ministry of Agriculture to Wildlife Office of Bale Province, (*Hamle* 18, 1971E.C), Goba *Woreda* Environmental and Forest Conservation Bureau, Folder No. 43, File No. 164/472.(See Appendix V)

⁵ *Negarti Gazeta*, 1980, 39th year No.17, issued on the 5th September, p.133.

⁶ Mahateme silase Wolde Meskel, p.346.

⁷ *Negarti Gazeta*, 1980, 39th year No.17, issued on the 5th September, p.133.

All the duties and properties of the former Wildlife Conservation Organization were transferred to the newly established organization within the Ministry of Agriculture. The organization had the primary objective of safeguarding, protecting and effectively utilizing the country's fauna and flora resources. The organization was also entrusted with the task of establishing and administering the national parks and game reserves of the country and creating awareness about the conservation and utilization of wildlife resources among the people.⁸ Some of the additional powers and responsibilities of the organization included: conserving the forest resources of the country effectively; protecting the forest resources of the country from fairing and take corrective measure against illegal human activities and working in collaboration with other governmental institutions in the area of national parks, sanctuaries, and game reserves.⁹

3.2 The *Derg*'s conservation policy and challenges in BMNP

Although the *Derg* criticized the imperial government's natural resource policy for being exclusionary, its policy in the area of conservation of wildlife was no different from its predecessor. Like the imperial regime, the *Derg* prohibited all forms of human settlement and grazing of livestock within conservation areas. The national parks, state forests and conservation areas had to be free from any human settlement according to the *Derg*'s conservation laws. Its conservation policy therefore was clearly non participatory. In other words, the regime did not factor in the local people who live in and around the park in the implementation of its laws.¹⁰

To realize its wildlife conservation policy in the BMNP, the Forest and Wildlife Conservation and Development Authority devised a management plan for the park. The plan, which was developed in 1986 focused on the following basic issues: broad and sustainable management of

⁸*Ibid*, p.136.

⁹*Ibid*, p.136-137.

¹⁰*Ibid*, p.134; Michael Jacobs and Catherine S. Chloeder, Impacts of Conflict on Biodiversity and Protected Areas in Ethiopia (pdf files, accessed from <http://www.org..date> 21 March 2015), p.15.

the park; resolving infrastructural problems of the local people who were hired in the park's territory; working cooperatively with the community to give solution for human trespassing; gazetting the park's boundary; developing research activity on the resources of the park; creating conducive environment in the park for educational purpose and working hard to promote tourism within the park.¹¹

The management goal of the BMNP was taken from the Ethiopian Wildlife Management Policy of 1979 which focused on the conservation of the area's wildlife resources and protects the environment from human interference and complete damage. For the sake of effective and successful management of the overall park's resources, additional list of objectives were included as management issues. These included, regulating the park's unique Afro-alpine habitat, extensive grassland and wet forest; controlling the water resources of the region; managing the park's fauna and flora in general and endemic resources such as Mountain Nyala and Semien Fox in particular; managing and conserving natural wild coffee resource particularly found in Haremma forest; creating a wider opportunity of scientific and educational study by conserving the area's huge resources and enabling the park to generate income to the region and the country as a whole.¹²

The BMNP faced several problems in its work of conservation of habitats and implementation of its management plan. Population settlement within the park's territories was a major problem in wildlife conservation. Local people lived within the park territory on permanent and temporary basis. Reports by the park's guardians underlined the above problem repeatedly. The Upper Web

¹¹ Deborah Randall and others (eds.), p.245; Jesse C. Hillman, A Management Plan Manual, p.37.

¹² *Ibid*, p.37. Jesse C. Hillman, National Park lodge destroyed by fire, p.1.

valley in the western section of the park, Gojera and the Hareenna escarpment were noted for their large population settlements.¹³

The issue of settlement was more severe in Rira and Hareenna areas which formed the southern parts of the park. Since the demand for agricultural land in these areas was very high, the local people moved to both areas in larger numbers. Once people moved to the area, big trees were cleared out for agricultural activities. This caused ecological damage to the resources of the area.¹⁴

In 1986 around 2500 permanent settlers with their livestock lived in the above mentioned areas of the park. The absence of effective management on these areas facilitated the settlement of more and more people. In addition to the above mentioned human activities, the need to get fire wood and wood for different purposes from the mountains seriously affected the natural habitats of the park.¹⁵

Another problem was human infringement on the resources of the park. The local people considered the resources of the park as their own and had no reservation in using the resources of the park for their daily life. The local pastoralists moved with their herds of cattle to the Upper Web Valley since the area has good pasture. In Gojera's case, the area is found between the extensive grassland of Gaysay and northern area adjacent to park. Areas such as Hora Soba and Geremba Dima in the Upper Web valley were commonly known for this type of human encroachment. The park's resources were regarded by an enlightened people as endless assets.¹⁶

¹³ Informants: *Ato Aman Husen, Ato Nuro Kedir and AtoTulu Mame.*

¹⁴ Informants: *Ato Husen Wario and Ato Bulu Mire.*

¹⁵ Deborah Randall and others (eds.), p.198.

¹⁶ J.C. Hillman, Bale Mountains National Park Research Project: Quarterly Report (Dinsho, 1984), p. 4; Informants: *Ato Kemer Uki and Ato Husen Adem.*

Moreover, the war that Ethiopia fought with the Somalia's expansionist forces in 1977 had negative impact on the park's development activities and the implementation of its management plan. The park's fence and its vital properties were damaged due to the instability that occurred in the province. The political turmoil of the time facilitated the infringement of the local people towards the territory of the park. Though the war was not fought actually in the territory of the park, the local people used the opportunity and caused damage to the park's resources.¹⁷

On the other hand, some *kebele* leaders sometimes violated government's conservation policy for private gains. For instance, in 1978, the heads of the Gofingra, Gaysay, Teyenta and Gojera peasant associations participated in illegal hunting contradicting the government's conservation policy. What was ironic was that they hunted the wildlife, particularly the Mount Nyala, by using the rifles the government gave them to fight individuals who resisted the government's policies!¹⁸

Furthermore, big local projects sponsored by the government and established on the periphery of the park beginning in 1984 had a negative impact on the wildlife of the Bale Mountains. These projects included the establishment of a hydro-electric power plant on the Yadot and Shawe rivers (the two big rivers of the region), the Goba water supply project on the Togona River, the founding of the Shawe Military Camp and the Mio-Gasera water supply project which emanated from the Derba River. Most of these projects were launched without taking into account the conservation activities of the park and was not part of the management plan. These projects

¹⁷Informant: Kebede Tegegn; A letter from *Ye Denene Ye Dur Arawit Tibeka Lemat Baleseltan to Ershana Ye hizeb Masfer Minister*, (*Tikemt* 22,1971E.C), Ethiopian National Archive and Library Agency, *Adega Mekelakelna zegejenete* Commission, Folder No.12.1.12.7, File No.68.(See Appendix VI).

¹⁸ A letter from Wildlife Conservation Department Authority to Dinsho *Woreda* Office, (*Sene* 20, 1970 E.C), Bale Mountains National Park office, Folder No.L 14/221, File No.ñ/17.(See Appendix IX).

exclusively relied on the park's resources for their success. Big trees were cut for the construction works related to the above projects. In this way the park's resources were harmed.¹⁹

The violation of the government's conservation laws intensified during the final years of the regime. In these years the growing weakness of the government due to the expansion of insurgency movements across the country made it difficult for the *Derg* to enforce its laws. Therefore, the laws of the park were not properly implemented. The laws were flouted not only by the local people but also by some of the park's scouts who participated in illegal hunting of wildlife. They also took bribes from the local people and allowed them to hunt game within the park. For example, the local people hunted wild animals at night time in Kotera and Hawo *kebeles*. The Wildlife Conservation Organization warned the park's administrator to take remedial measures against those who broke the conservation policies of the government. Consequently, the park authority detained them. This measure reversed the illegal trend in the park.²⁰

3.3 *Derg's* conservational measures in the BMNP

3.3.1 Relocation of people

I have tried to indicate at the beginning of this chapter, that the *Derg* carried out structural changes to the WCO's to implement its exclusionary conservation policy. Another way by which the government exclusionary policy was expressed was through the relocation program.²¹

¹⁹ Jesse C. Hillman, A Management Plan Manual, pp.28-32.

²⁰ A letter from Wildlife Conservation Authority to BMNP, (*Sene* 18, 1982 E.C), Bale Mountains National Park Office, Folder No. *Λ*/14/*Λ*36/82, File No. *J*'1/5.

²¹ A letter from *Ye Den Ayayazena Astedader Wana Kefil to Bale Kifile hager Ye Denena durTibekaTsefet Bet Goba*, (*Genbot* 18, 1971 E.C), Goba *Woreda* Environmental and Forest Conservation Bureau, Folder No.W/43, File No.1148.(See Appendix X).

A visit in the early 1980s to Bale province by President Mengistu Hailemariam was followed by the beginning of relocation program in the region. Mengistu visited the park and ordered the park administrators to take urgent measures against settlement of the people within the park, the increasing number of dogs in the park and its poor management. Accordingly the EWCO sent a team to investigate the pattern of human settlement in the BMNP at the time. The team identified areas such as Gojera , Gaysay and the Sanetti plateau which needed immediate solution and ordered the park authorities to relocate the local people.²²

To this end, the administration of Dinsho district conducted discussions with the park administration on how the relocation program can be implemented. The relocation of people from Gojera *kebele* was one of the conservation measures taken by the park. Consequently on 12 September 1980 the Dinsho *woreda* in cooperation with the park administration decided to resettle the people from Gojera at a distance of 2 kms away from the northern parts of the park's boundary. However, before the program was implemented on the ground, the EWCO decided to extend the relocation site to 5 kms since the area intended for settlement was rich in wildlife resources. Accordingly the relocation program was carried out in the same year and people were settled at 5kms distance far from the park area.²³

The 1980s boundary change in Gaysay and Sanetti plateau was another important step in the government's relocation program. In Gaysay's case the governors of Mendoyu *Awraja* and Dinsho *Woreda* as well as representatives of Hora Soba Peasants' Association reached an

²² A letter from Bale Provincial Administration to Dinsho *Woreda* Administrative Office, (*Megabit* 1,72 E.C), Ethiopian National Archive and Library Agency, Folder No. 17.01.5.02, File No. *hoo/1* 1.

²³ A letter from Ethiopia Wildlife Conservation Organization to Dinsho *Woreda* Administrative Office, (*Tir* 30, 1972 E.C), Ethiopian National Archive and Library Agency, Folder No.17.1.5.05-03, File No. *T/9/24*. (See Appendix. XI).

agreement to remove the inhabitants from the area. The local people who lived adjacent to Gaysay were relocated to an area of about 5kms away from their former homes.²⁴

The newly added territory reached as far as the northern edge of the Gaysay Valley and the Gojera area. These territories of the park were notable for their wildlife resources. From the Gaysay and Gojera areas, nearly 57 km² of additional territories became part of the park territory. In 1989 the government decided to relocate the settlers from Kotera *kebele* because of the threat of rabies against Red Fox. However, the government did not carry out the program.²⁵

The consequence of the *Derg's* relocation program was not auspicious for the park during the last period of the regime. Since the program was forceful and was not based on the wishes of the community, many of the settlers resented it. Lack of community support towards the regime conservational policy in general and the relocation program in particular led to infringement of people on the park's resources in the days following the collapse of the *Derg*.²⁶

3.3.2 Man Power and Rule enforcement

During the *Derg* regime, the number of park workers increased from the previous period. At the beginning of the 1980s, the park was staffed by 27 men. These were 1 warden, 1 biologist, 1 public relations and education officer, a secretary, a cashier, a storekeeper, a driver, 18 game scouts, a cleaner and a cook. During the *Derg* period, the following personnel served as the park's warden. *Ato* Abbay Tadese (1973/4-1979), *Ato* Yetayal Kebede (1980-1984), *Ato* Matewos Ersedo (1984-185), *Ato* Ketema Debele (1985-186), *Ato* Mohammed Abdi (1986-

²⁴ Jesse C. Hillman, National Park lodge destroyed by fire (Bale, 1984), p.4; Jesse C. Hillman, A Management Plan Manual, p.45.

²⁵ *Ibid*, pp.47-50; A letter from the Bale Province Administrative Office to Mendoyu *Awraja* Administrative Office (Meskerem 1, 1981 E.C), Ethiopian Wildlife Conservation Authority Library, Folder No, 2-70 File, No. 29/25. (See Appendix VIII).

²⁶ Informants: *Ato* Aman Mame, *Ato* Usman Nure and *Ato* Santimi Mohammed.

1987) and *Ato Niguse Mulu*.²⁷ Many of the game scouts were selected from the local people except a few who were recruited from the Semien Mountain National Park. The game scouts who were employed in the park had an average of 8 years of services with EWCO. The recruitment of the game scouts was dependent on local people since they knew the environment, can speak the local language and were well integrated into the culture of the surrounding community. Experience sharing with other conservation areas like Siemen, Awash, Abjiatta-Shala lakes and Yangudi Rassa were made by the park staff during this period. Furthermore, the game scouts took training at Wondo Genet Forestry and Wildlife Resource Institution for more than a week during the *Derg* period. The training was mainly on the use of firearms, control the wildlife resources, implementation of conservation laws and how to patrol within the park. Except the game scouts, all staffs lived in the Headquarters and management of the park was largely carried out from this area. The game scouts performed their jobs from outposts established in the Gaysay area.²⁸ The Web camp was another important site for patrolling the park's habitat. Patrolling within the whole park territory was impossible because of limited number of park's scout. The scout patrolled only few distances from the Gaysay outposts and the Web camp. In the early 1980s only 4% out of the total park area was patrolled by the scouts. Lack of transportation and the up and downs of the BMNP created problem of patrolling within the park territory. Besides lack of shoes, slipping bags and other necessary materials affected the work of the scouts.²⁹

During the early 1980s the park had 3 trucks which supported the various activities of the park. Various services of the park were carried out with these three outdated cars until the park

²⁷ Informants: *Ato Haji Ebu* and *Ato Girma Urgi*.

²⁸ Jesse C. Hillman, *A Management Plan Manual*, p.204.

²⁹ *Ibid*, p.204; Informants: *Ato Haji Ebu* and *Ato Santimi Mohammed*

received two new toyotas from IUCN (International Union for Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources) in 1985.³⁰

According to informants, patrolling within the park territory was mainly carried out by pack animals particularly using horses and on foot. Sometimes, patrolling in remote areas of the Sanetti plateau and the Haremma forest were undertaken with the few available cars. To facilitate the easy movement of park workers and valuable equipments, the road that connected Dinsho to Gaysay was maintained well by the park administrators.³¹

There was close relationship between the heads of some *Awraja* leaders and the park administrators on management issues. Unlike the imperial period, the regulation of the park's wildlife resources was relatively improved under the *Derg*. This was because the local people who inhabited in and surrounding the park territory feared the consequences of breaking the government's conservation policy. This was particularly so in areas adjacent to Dinsho which was/is the headquarters of the park. The penalties imposed on local people for violating the laws of the park were severe. Two birr per sheep and goats and fifteen birr per cattle was imposed on the owners of domestic animals whose animals trespassed in to the park. Although the park administration and the Dinsho *woreda* worked cooperatively to reduce illegal grazing, cattle were released to the park territory at night time secretly. Likewise, remote areas of the park were also subjected to illegal incursion by local inhabitants. Since the overall park areas was not equally managed by the few park workers, grazing was usually carried out at day time in remote areas of the park.³²

³⁰Jesse C. Hillman, A Management Plan Manual, p.204.

³¹Informants: *Ato* Husen Jundi and *Ato* Abubeker Nure.

³²*Ibid*; A letter from WCOA to Bale Mountains National Park, (*Tahasas* 30, 1982 E.C), Bale Mountains National Park main office, Folder No.L 14/330, File No. *፱*/19.

For the sake of effective regulation or management of the park's resources, the park administrators worked with local leaders on the problem of human infringement in the park. Accordingly, some corrective measures were taken by the park administrators.³³ For instance, the park authorities conducted discussion with Dinsho *woreda* administration authorities to give solution to the local people encroachment from the direction of Gofingra *kebele* in 1984. Before this time the people moved with their cattle to the area. They cleared forest for house making and firewood. Therefore beginning from 1984 the local people were ordered by the park and Dinsho *woreda* administrators to leave the area within a few days. Although, the people were offended by this decision, they were forcefully removed from the area further to the outskirts of Ladjo area. Besides the settlers of Hore Soba *kebele* were also moved beyond the boundary of the park and caused damage to the resources of the park. The park authorities in cooperation with the Dinsho *Woreda* administration removed the people further north to the Gaysay area in 1984. Other areas in which human infringement on the park's territories regularly observed were Gojera, Kersa and Simbirro. The park authorities made tireless efforts to stop these human activities.³⁴

To stop the infringement of people on the park land and then conserve the wildlife in a substantial way, gazettment of the park boundary was necessary. In other words the park territory had to be demarcated from the surrounding inhabitants and published in the *Negarit Gazeta*. For this in 1986 the park authority prepared the boundary of the park and included it in the management plan. The total area covered was 2400km². Later in 1989 the WCO authority attempted to gazette the park's boundary. However, the park boundary remained without legal

³³ Informants: *Ato* Abdela Husen, *Ato* Areri Ari and *Ato* Mama Buna.

³⁴ Jesse C. Hillman, A Management Plan Manual, p.192.

gazettment during the *Derg* period. The *Derg's* forceful conservation policy accompanied with lack of community support led to the failure of this plan.³⁵

In the last years of the *Derg* regime, the park's fauna and flora resources were relatively in better condition than previously. The number of the Mountain Nyala which was very few and difficult to see within one or two days visit in the early 1970s grew from time to time. For instance, Martha and Paul Henze reported that in the mid-1980s nearly 75 mountain Nyala existed in the northern end of the Gaysay grassland. This created a good opportunity for visitors to come to the province and track the mountains to see it and other resources of the park.³⁶

Moreover the park land which was frequently exposed to illegal grazing in the pre-1980s was much improved after this period. According to informants, the height of grass adjoining the park headquarters reached as high as 1m after the above mentioned measures were taken by the park authorities. This indicates that areas adjacent to the headquarters were found in a better condition unlike the remote areas of the park which were frequently exposed to grazing and other types of human activity like agriculture.³⁷

Although the remote parts of the park were not equally managed by the park workers, wildlife status of these areas was relatively found in a better condition. A good indicator of this was the rise in the number of wildlife attacks particularly in *kebeles* adjacent to Hareenna forest. For instance in 1985, a total of 155 cattle were eaten by lion, cheetah and hyena from Refisa, Fechea and Bedesa within a year. The reports of these *kebeles* leaders indicate that the wild animals attack had increased and was terrifying the inhabitants. Similarly a pride of lion harmed cattle of

³⁵ A letter from EWCO to Bale Administrative Office, (*Sene* 19, 1981E.C), Ethiopian Wildlife Conservation Authority Library, Folder No. E/23.1, File No. J'4/3/28.(See Appendix XIII).

³⁶ Martha and Paul Henze, *Tourism in Ethiopia: Observation and Recommendations*, A Report (Arussi, Bale, Rift Valley,1984), p. 11.

³⁷ Informants: *Ato* Haji Ebu, *Ato* Aman Mame and *Ato* Husen Kemal.

the local people in Weltai Godana *kebele* in 1991. The *kebele* found down to Delo Mena *Awraja*.³⁸

3.4 Tourism development in the BMNP during the *Derg* regime

The *Derg* regime planned to develop the tourist industry in the country in line with its ideology. The *Derg* believed that tourism should contribute to the success of the National Democratic Revolution Programme, for example, by promoting interaction among the peoples of Ethiopia and generating income for the national economy.³⁹ To meet these goals, the Council of Ministers of the PMAC proclaimed the establishment of the Ethiopian Tourism Commission in 1980. The duties, rights and properties of the former Ethiopian Tourist Organization were transferred to the Commission in the stated proclamation. The Ethiopian Tourism Commission which set up its main office at Addis Ababa had the objectives of promoting tourism in the country as well as work to conserve the natural resources and historical heritages of the country in collaboration with concerned government institutions. The Commission, among others, was entrusted with publicizing areas which have a potential of attracting national and foreign visitors in large numbers.⁴⁰

Three bodies were responsible for tourism activities in the Bale Mountains region. The first was the Ethiopian Tourism Commission and National Tour Operation which was responsible for the management of tourism in the country and also managed the then newly established *Ras* Hotel at Goba, the regional capital. The second was the Wildlife Conservation Organization which was responsible for the management of the BMNP itself. The third was Bale province's local

³⁸ A letter from Bale Provincial Administration Genale *Awraja* Wildlife Conservation and Development Authority Office to BMNP office, (*Yekatit* 5, 1977), Bale Mountains National Park Office, Folder No. $\Lambda/24/75$, File No. 485. (See Appendix XIV) ; A letter from Bale Province Agricultural office to BMNP office, (*Tir* 25, 1983 E.C), Bale Mountains National Park Office, Folder No. $\Lambda/24/75$, File No. 485. (See Appendix XV).

³⁹ *Negarti Gazeta*, 1980, 39th year No.10, issued on the 9th June. p.92.

⁴⁰ *Ibid*, pp.94-96.

government administration and the neighboring *awrajas* and *woredas* of the park. These bodies facilitated tourism in the Bale province in general and the park in particular. The NTO (National Tour Operation) rendered transport services for foreign tourists who visited the park. It transported visitors from Goba Hotel to Sanetti plateau and then back to Goba town. The Bale province in cooperation with the *awrajas* and *woredas* worked on security issues to support the development of tourism in the area.⁴¹

However, the burning of the park's lodge in 1982 negatively affected the promotion of tourism in the area. The former Weerts house which had been serving as a lodge during the time of the park's establishment has been giving multi-faceted services until it was suddenly destroyed by fire in 1982. The burning of the lodge was connected with the work of a Swedish scientist called Professor Olav Hedburg. Hedburg, Scandinavian students as well as three Addias Ababa University students arrived at the park headquarter to carry out investigation on the Afro-alpine plants on 7 November 1982.⁴² Hedburg and his students collected different plant species from the park territory and put these next to a petrol appliance for later examination. To avoid the tampering of the samples by the workers of the park, they locked the room and left the park to visit first the Sanetti plateau and then Sof Umer cave which are located south and west of the park respectively. The group returned to the park after two days of tedious visit. The gas exploded and the plants caught fire. Since the room was largely made of wood, it easily caught

⁴¹ Jesse C. Hillman, *Tourism in the Bale Mountains National Park Area: Research Project* (Dinsho, Oct.1983), p.1.

⁴² Jesse C. Hillman, *National Park lodge destroyed by fire*(1984), p.3;
Informants:*Ato* Abdela Husen and *Ato* Haji Ebu.

fire. Many valuable documents, artifacts, rooms of visitors and the main office of the park with all its equipments were destroyed by the fire.⁴³

The fire incident happened on a Tuesday, which was a market day for the surrounding community. The park staffs mobilized the people who had come to attend the market and were able to control the spread of fire. The damage could have been greater if the people had not been actively involved in extinguishing the fire.⁴⁴

The members of the scientific expedition were arrested and taken to the police station by the order of the park administrator but were released after a few days. The investigation made Professor Hedburg responsible for the fire. Prof. Hedburg wrote a letter to the Ethiopian WCO taking responsibility for the loss of property because of the fire accident. In the letter, he agreed to pay money in the form of compensation. A total of 190,953(US \$ 93099) was estimated for the loss of the lodge by a regional committee. However, Hedburg did not keep his promise and the construction of the lodge later began in the mid-1980s with government funding.⁴⁵

On the other hand, many of the park's workers who were absent from their work place on the day the fire broke out were arrested and detained for more than two months. The park workers were detained in three separate quarters. Those who worked in the lodge made to stay at Goba. The remaining staff of the park was separated in two group based on their contribution to the incident where one group remained in Dinsho and the other were sent to Robe town.⁴⁶

⁴³ Statement of the Dinsho fire accident, (24 Nov,1982),Ethiopian Wildlife Conservation Authority Library, Folder No.WWL/11, File No.L/4; Informants: *Ato* Abubeker Nure and *Ato* Abdela Husen. The Sof Umer cave is one of the historically known sites in the province of Bale found around 150km away from the village of Dinsho.

⁴⁴ Informants: *Ato* Junedi Areri, *Ato* Santimi Mohamed and *Ato* Kebede Tegegn.

⁴⁵ Jesse C. Hillman, National Park lodge destroyed by fire,p.3

⁴⁶ Informants: *Ato* Haji Ebu and *Ato* Abdela Husen.

The 1982 lodge fire episode had far reaching consequence for tourism activity of the park. The number of tourists who arrived to see the wildlife resources of the area declined in great number. This was because after the damage to the lodge, tourists faced a serious problem of finding accommodation. Camping inside the park was prohibited after the accident and hence many visitors were obliged to use the new *Ras* hotel which was built in Goba in 1983. But a serious shortage of water supply made it difficult for tourists to stay at the hotel.⁴⁷ Similarly, a comfortable hotel named Bekele Mola was established in small town of Robe, just 30kms from Dinsho. It offered better accommodation for those tourists who arrived in the area.⁴⁸ Although the hotels in Goba and Robe towns were relatively comfortable, they were located far from the natural beauty of the park which most visitors wanted to see during their every moment of stay in Bale. As a result, not many visitors came to the park and the status of the park as a center of recreation decreased.⁴⁹

Poor road transportation system within the territory of the park also affected tourists flow to the BMNP. Further south, the all weather road that run from Goba to Dello Mena town crosses the Saneti plateau about 4000m above sea level making it one of the high altitude roads in Africa. While driving on the road, a tourist can see the magnificent Mount Tullu Dimtu the second highest peak in the country, the alpine lakes, Mount Nyala and Semien Fox. However, the road was damaged by big trucks that served the government's projects launched in Dello *Awraja* beginning from 1984. On the other hand, the road known as Simbiro track, which was a 10 km

⁴⁷ Jesse C. Hillman, National Park lodge destroyed by fire, p.3 Informants.

⁴⁸ Jesse C. Hillman, Tourism in the Bale Mountains National Park area (Dinsho, 1983), p.5.

⁴⁹ *Ibid* p.3.

track built by the staff of the park, connecting the park's headquarter with Web river gorge in the direction of Mount little Batu. However, it was not comfortable for transportation.⁵⁰

During the *Derg* period, the BMNP was visited by three categories of tourists. The first ones were Ethiopian nationals from different parts of the country. The second type of visitors were foreign nationals who were residents in Ethiopia. The third type of tourists were those foreigners who visited the country for a short period of time. The first and second types of visitors used public transport; they usually brought their own food and camped in the park. The objective of their visit was to relax from their work and get relief from the hectic city life by enjoying the amazing natural environment within limited time. The third type of tourists were different in their requirements in terms of facilities and accommodations. First, they required transportation, and the provision of food services as well camping equipments that were provided by the NTO.⁵¹ The tourists had to rent some equipment such as sleeping bags, tents from NTO when they wanted to walk, horse trek and so camping. Therefore, they were already prepared to spend much money on these facilities and accommodations and stayed for some time in relatively comfortable hotels such as *Ras* Hotel in Goba or Bekele Mola Hotel in Robe.⁵²

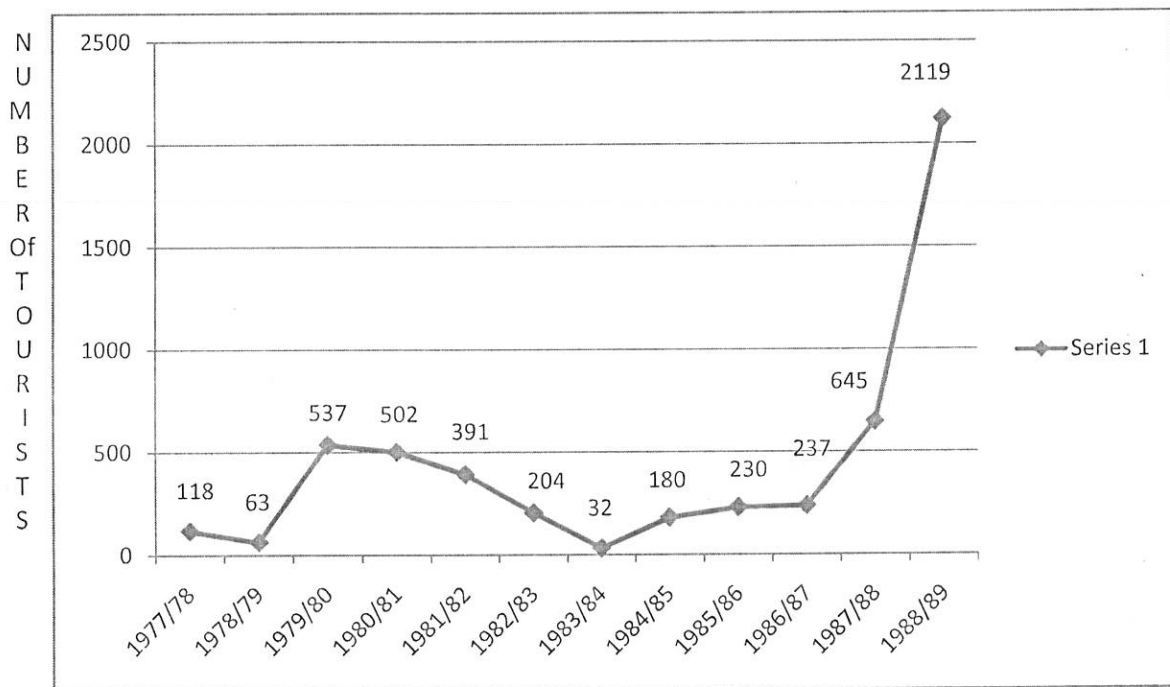
⁵⁰*Ibid*,p.3.

⁵¹*Ibid*,pp.3-5; Informants: *Ato* Haji Ebu and *Ato* Girma Urgi; Jesse C. Hillman, Bale Mountains Research Project: Quarterly Report to Ethiopian Wildlife Conservation Organization (Dinsho, Feburary 1987),p.4.

⁵²*Ibid*,p.3.

Due to the scanty of sources, the data of tourism activity in the BMNP during this period was not stated well. The table below shows the trend of tourism in the Bale Mountains National Park during the *Derg* period.

Table.1 Tourism trend in the BMNP during the *Derg* period



Source: National Tourism Development, Vol I, Project Report.

As the above chart indicates from the years 1977/78 to 1980/81, the number of visitors who came to the park increased. However from, 1982 to 1984 the trend declined. The main reason for this decline was the burning of the park's lodge in 1982. From the mid 1980s to 1989 there was a rise in visitors number due to the availability of relatively comfortable hotels in Goba and Robe towns. Tourists used these as resting places to visit the park's wildlife resources.

The park's documents indicate that 44.4% tourists on average visited the park during the dry season (from November to February) while 44.1% of tourists on average visited the park in the early rainy season between March - June and only 23.3% tourists on average visited the park in the wet season between July and October. The highest number of tourists visited the park in the dry season due to the comfortable weather conditions which allowed tourists to enjoy the clear sky and made walking and trekking easy. The dry season was also favorable for visitors since it coincided with public holidays such as Ethiopian Christmas, Western Christmas and New Year, Ethiopian and European Easter. The long holiday season and good weather made it convenient for tourists to enjoy the natural provision of the park in the dry season.⁵³

⁵³Informant: *W/ro* Zerayehu Endal; Jesse C. Hillman, Bale Mountains Research Project: Quarterly Report to Ethiopian Wildlife Conservation Organization ,pp.4-5

Chapter Four

4. BMNP under the EPRDF Regime

4.1 The Collapse of the *Derg*, Damage to the Park and its Reorganization.

The flight of President Mengistu Hailemariam from Ethiopia on 20 May 1991 was followed by the outbreak of anarchy across the country. Local order and stability broke down due to the absence of effective government which in turn resulted in lawlessness and damage to both private and public property. The BMNP was one of the conservation areas which were negatively affected by the collapse of local and national authority at the time.¹

In the immediate weeks following the collapse of the *Derg*, the Oromo Liberation Front (OLF) tried to establish political control in the province of Bale. Before the arrival of the EPRDF's representative to the province, the OLF set up its own office in Dinsho *Woreda*. Nevertheless, their appearance in the area did not prevent people from infiltrating inside the park boundary. Although the OLF members viewed the park existence favourably, they could not stop local people from infringing on the resources of park at the time.²

The people of Dinsho, who lived adjacent to the park territory, were happy with the fall of the regime. They came out in large numbers on to the main road of the town to celebrate the downfall of the government. Gun firing was common for several days since the local people

¹ Claudio Sillero Zubiri, Bale Mountains National Park: Current situation in BMNP(Report of recent meeting with local and Regional Administration to EWCO, Dinsho 1991), p.1; Paul B. Henze,p.331; Fikadu Garede, "Current Management problems and future opportunities in the Bale Mountains National Park" in Participatory Management Workshop, 16-18 May (Addis Ababa, 1995), p.5.

² Informants: *Ato Aman Mame*, *Ato Kemer Uki* and *Ato Aman Abdi*; John Osborn, "Conservation Education Service: EWCO(Report on a brief working trip to BMNP and surrounding towns, Tuesday 8th to Thursday 10th October to "EWCO, Dinsho, 1991), p.np.

bought weapons from the fleeing *Derg* soldiers who arrived in the area within a week after the government's collapse.³

The Teyenta, Gofingra and Gaysay outposts were destroyed by people a few days after the fall of the *Derg*. The park workers immediately evacuated these sites and relocated to the headquarters at Dinsho to protect the infrastructures found in the park. Some others preferred to stay at home when the situation got worse. Many of the park's valuable documents and houses and the park fence was destroyed during this critical time. The destruction of the park's infrastructures was followed by illegal hunting of wildlife. The damage against wildlife was severe. The Mount Nyala and other wild animals were hunted by the local people for their fresh meat. The fresh meat extracted in this way was sold in the neighboring district of Adaba. Consequently, the Mount Nyala which was previously commonly seen in nearby territory of the park, migrated to remote areas. The loss of its species was estimated to be nearly 80% during this time.⁴

Moreover, many Red fox were also killed in the Sanetti plateau. Their total population in consequence declined by 60%. The research center at Gaysay was also plundered. The park administrators and workers were not able to contain illegal activities within areas adjacent to the park territory. The wildlife and material damage to the Bale, Abijatta Shala, Mago, Nechesar national parks and Kuni-Muktar Sanctuary during this period of power vacuum was estimated at \$ 495,169 US Dollars.⁵

³ Informants: *Ato Aman Mame, Ato Alo Batu and Ato Areri Ari; John Osbore.*

⁴ *Ibid.*

⁵ Michael Jacobs and Catherine S. Chloeder ,p.23;
Zelalem Tefera and Claudio Sillero-Zubiri," *Walia.No.25" Journal of the Ethiopian wildlife and Natural History Society(2006/07),p.17;*
Informants: *Ato Alo Batu and AtoTulu Mama.*

The prevailing disorder and instability gave birth to looting which occurred across different parts of the park. A group of bandits looted the NGO workers near the Sanetti plateau while the team was traveling down to Delo Mena. The research center which was found at Kotera was another important area which was destroyed by local inhabitants. Accordingly traveling at night time and temporary camping in the area was prohibited by EPRDF leaders of Bale province.⁶

The other way by which the collapse of authority manifested itself in the park was through encroachment on its territory. The northern section of the park experienced infiltration by the surrounding people. Large number of cattle were commonly seen in place of wild animals in the area. Moreover areas such as Gojera and Gaysay were re-occupied by the people adjoining the park. As has been discussed in chapter three, these areas of the park were made free from human settlement by the *Derg* government's conservation policy. However, the people who were relocated from these areas returned in the days following the downfall of the *Derg*. In addition to areas which they previously inhabited, people occupied new areas some of which were only some distance from the headquarters of the park. John Osborne described conditions in the park a few months after the downfall of the *Derg* as follows:" Because of the many new settlements, especially in the Gojera area, grazing cattle, shoats and horses are now in evidence everywhere. Many animals are grazing within the immediate surroundings of the park headquarters at Dinsho. The park staffs are presently making no attempts to control this grazing."⁷ Condition inside the park's territories in the southern section was also serious. For instance, in Harena the number of people who moved with their cattle increased.⁸

⁶ Michael Jacobs and Catherine S. Chloeder, p.25;Zelalem Tefera and Claudio Sillero-Zubiri,p.17.

⁷ Claudio Sillero Zubiri, Bale Mountains National Park, p.1; John Osbore, p.np.

⁸ Informants: *Ato* Mamo Mire, *Ato* Alo Batu and *Ato* Mama Buna.

The other way by which the park was affected during this period of transition was through acute deforestation. The local people who opposed the *Derg*'s top-down conservation policy cut down trees in larger numbers. The removal of indigenous trees was a serious problem of the time. The local people cleared out forests for the purpose of house making and firewood. Trees particularly for fuel-wood were cut down within a few hundred meters from the park's headquarters and sold along the main road of Dinsho. Forest's in Harena, Upper Web Valley, Kotera and adjacent to Goba were also negatively affected by the local settlers.⁹

The disorder also expanded to the southern parts of the park. From 26 May to 1 June 1991 looting and destruction of infrastructure was common in the area. Former *Derg* soldiers stationed at Shawe military camp (nearly 20 kilometers from Delo *Woreda*) hunted the park's wild animals while they were returning to their homes from the camp. Extensive hunting of wildlife in this part of the park happened at the time because the *Derg* government had failed to provide food and other supplies to the soldiers in the camp. Furthermore, illegal hunting against wildlife was aggravated because the former *Derg* soldiers sold weapons and ammunitions to the people in the nearby districts such as Delo, Angetu and Rira. The local people used these weapons for poaching wildlife.¹⁰

After the EPRDF established itself across the country, the local EPRDF's personnel in Dinsho tried to restore local law and order and contain the damages to the park by conducting a serious of meetings from 30-31 July 1991 with the locally represented elders of Dinsho district. The EPRDF's men promised to bring order in and surrounding the park territories. On the part of participants, the majority agreed to calm down instability that prevailed in the area. They pledged

⁹ John Osbore, p.np; Jesse C. Hillman, A report of the current situation in Ethiopian's Wildlife Conservation Areas (25 Jun, 1991), p.2; Informants: *Ato Aman Abdi*, *Ato Tulu Mama* and *Ato Kebede Tegegn*

¹⁰ Jesse C. Hillman, A report of the current situation in Ethiopian's Wildlife Conservation Areas, p.1; Informants: *Ato Husen Jundi* and *Ato Bulu Mire*.

to protect the infrastructures of the park, contain illegal hunting and grazing. To this end, at the end of the meeting, responsibility was given to the regional EPRDF and community representatives, the Ethiopian Wildlife Conservation Organization (EWCO) within the Ministry of Agriculture and Goba Administration to stabilize conditions in the park in general and contain the intrusion of the local people adjoining Dinsho in particular.¹¹

In October 1991 the EPRDF members returned to Dinsho and held a meeting with representatives of the people to restore stability in the northern parts of the park. At the same time, a team delegated by EWCO comprising *Ato* Tesfaye Hundesa, *Ato* Abbay Tadese and John Osbore came to Dinsho held discussion with the local people. In an attempt to stabilize the volatile situation in and surrounding the park's headquarters, a Peace and Stability Committee was established. The Committee was largely represented by elders from Dinsho and had jurisdiction over the vicinity. The Committee consisted of seven men. These were *Haji* Muhammed Husen, *Ato* Aman Mame, *Haji* Mamu Sheka, *Ato* Sheka Aliyi, *Haji* Usman Nure, *Haji* Aman Husen and *Ato* Adam Husen. Its establishment was essential in protecting the park from further human interference.¹²

The park resources were also negatively affected by some of the park workers in October 1991. For instance, seven of the park workers were captured while they were stealing the parks' properties like blankets, sleeping bags, hoes and spades from the park store. Their case was resolved by the Committee of Peace and Stability under the operation of traditional system of

¹¹ Claudio Sillero Zubiri, p.2; Informants: *Ato* Haji Ebu and *Ato* Santimi Mohammed.

¹² John Osbore, p.np; John Atkir and etal(eds.), p.25; Informants: *Ato* Haji Usman Nure and *Ato* Aman Mame.

Jarsuma (traditional method of conflict resolution in Oromo society). These workers were prohibited by the Committee from patrolling within the park for the time being and later.¹³

However, not all local people pursued a destructive action against the park. Some local Oromo who lived in Dinsho and the nearby territories opposed the destruction of the park and its immense resources during this time. They sought the resources of the park not to be damaged by illegal human activities such as looting, damaging properties of the park and hunting of wildlife. Concerning this John Osborne reported that: "It is being clearly stated by the Oromo people of the Dinsho area that they want the park to be theirs, that they want to control the park, and that they are their children to be the keepers. Many inferences can be drawn from this."¹⁴

During this critical period, the effectiveness of park workers in managing the resources of the park was severely limited. This was largely because they feared moving far from the headquarters of the park and carry out patrol work. Moreover, patrolling the park areas adjacent to Dinsho was temporarily halted due to absence of order and stability. Furthermore, the park's vehicle was given to the EPRDF staff that used it to move around and oversee the political situation in Robe, Agarfa, Goba and other districts. In consequence, the mobility of the park's personnel was severely restricted thereby limiting their capacity to deal with the damage done to the park.¹⁵

¹³ Informants: *Ato Abdela Husen, Ato Alo Batu and Ato Husen Kemal.*

¹⁴ John Osbore,p.np.

¹⁵ Informants:*Ato Haji Ebu, Ato Usman Nure and Ato Aman Abdi.*

4.2 The Policy of wildlife Conservation and management of the park

4.2.1 Wildlife Conservation Policy after the *Derg*

The immediate years after 1991 saw a slow attempt to revitalize the activities of the park. To bring sustainable stability in the country's conservation areas, capital was urgently required. However, the EWCO's financial problem continued until the country's economy was fully recovered from decline. The assistance provided by EWCO to the BMNP for running activities was very small.¹⁶

The role of International Organizations was immense in supporting the country's national parks and conservation areas from deteriorating condition. Beginning from 1993, to rebuild the national parks from this period setback, international aid arrived in the country. For instance, the United Nation Development Program (UNDP) made support to the national parks. The organization arranged for consultants to work with EWCO. In addition, it made tireless effort to raise funds for the national parks and protected areas of the country. The BMNP was one of the parks that received the attentions of the organization in this regard.¹⁷

From 1991 to 1995, the Ethiopian Wildlife Conservation Organization run the task of conserving wildlife without making radical changes to the existing conservation policy. The only new change made following the seizure of power by the EPRDF was the assignment of the EWCO to the newly established Ministry of Natural Resources Development and Environment Protection (MoNRDEP). However, when the government decentralized some of its power to the regional states (*Kilils*) in 1996, the mandate of managing all issues relating to the national parks and protected areas fell in to the hands of the regional governments. The devolution was made

¹⁶ Jesse C. Hillman, A report of the current situation in Ethiopia's Wildlife Conservation Areas, p.2.

¹⁷ *Ibid*, p.2; Informants: *Ato* Girma Urgi and *Ato* Husen Kemal.

especially to bring effective management of the national park and conservation areas. Only the Awash National Park was put under the management of the EWCO. This was because the park was found between Oromia and Afar regions and it was therefore difficult to give it to either of the two.¹⁸

The devolution policy however, did not bring a desirable outcome and proved unsuccessful. Michael Jacobs and Catherine Chloeder explained the reasons why the policy failed as follows:

While decentralization already has taken place, most of the personnel working in the regions are not necessarily indigenous to the place where they work or the protected areas for which they are responsible. Additionally current regional personnel are former EWCO employees, which does not necessarily endear them to the local populace any more than they worked for the EWCO.¹⁹

Before the government's policy of decentralization came in to being in 1996, the EWCO employed people who were native to the area in the national parks and protected areas for the success of the policy of wildlife conservation. However, once the government policy of decentralization took place, the personnel assigned to the BMNP were new to the area. Most of them were not familiar with the traditions of the local people and hence the decentralization policy could not bring about the desirable goals of conservation.²⁰

4.2.2. Man Power and the Management of the park

After the change of government in 1991, the park's man power increased in number. *Ato Yilma Delelegn* was a warden of the BMNP during the transitional period. Personnel such as *Ato*

¹⁸ Michael Jacobs and Catherine S. Chloeder, pp.27-32.

¹⁹ *Ibid*, pp.27-32.

²⁰ *Ibid*, pp.27-32.

Alemayehu Bedada, *Ato* Fikadu Mulu, *Ato* Birhanu Gilicha and *Ato* Addisu Assefa served as the park's wardens. *Ato* Aschalew Gashaw is currently the warden of the park. Nowadays the park is staffed by 98 workers. Out of this number the park's workers, scouts took a greater percentage. There are also more than 150 daily laborers who have been working on contract bases salaried by the Frankfurt Zoological Society. These daily laborers have been manipulating different infrastructures such as accommodation, parking, latrine, water pipe and other necessary assets within the park.²¹

During the time of government change, the management of the park completely broke down because of the anarchy and lawlessness that followed. Even more, the park administration since the time of the transitional period was not effective. For example from 1991 to 2000 the park authorities were not able to manage the whole areas of the park territory. This is to mean that effective control of park was restricted to only the areas found next to the headquarters of the park. Lack of effective management of this period made the park resources vulnerable to damage.²²

There were some problems which affected the management of the BMNP. First of all the park was not properly gazetted during this period. Areas which became parts of the park were not properly identified from the territories of the surrounding people. Hence, it was difficult for the park administration to effectively implement conservation laws. Secondly, EWCO's failure to address the problems of the national parks on time as well as shortage of capital and inefficient leadership exacerbated the implementation of the management plan. Finally, EPRDF's exclusionary conservation approach in the beginning few years of its rule also negatively

²¹ Informants: *Ato* Haji Ebu, *Ato* Girma Urgi and *Ato* Husen Kemal. (These informants could not give the exact years of the warden's services.)

²² Michael Jacobs and Catherine S. Chloeder, p.24; Informants: *Ato* Haji Ebu, *Ato* Girma Urgi and *Ato* Aman Mame.

affected the management of the park. Following the EPRDF seizure of political power in the country, the government continued with the *Derg's* conservation policy.²³

The EPRDF continued to implement the *Derg's* policy which prohibited the settlement of local people within the park and use of the park's resources. However, lack of effective enforcement of conservation laws frequently exposed the national parks to be over exploited by the local populace. The local peoples in and surrounding the BMNP claimed right over the park resources. They considered the grass, woods, *horas*, streams and rivers as their own and even used them.²⁴

Because of the collapse of the management at the beginning years of the EPRDF rule, human infringement on the BMNP was immense. The wildlife was extremely affected. For instance in 1994 there were hunting against Mount Nyala by the local settler at Adele. A year later at Abekera village a tiger was killed and its skin was taken away by the inhabitants.²⁵

The 1996 government's decentralization policy proved unsuccessful in administering the park's resources. From the beginning of this policy to a brief period of 2009, the BMNP was administered by the regional state of Oromia. However, the responsibility of managing the assets of the park was mostly ineffective. This was due to the fact that the budget that was allocated by the Federal authority was too small and did not take in to account the newly acquired responsibility of the regional states. There was also absence of a defined power that ought to be given to the states with immediate decentralization policy. This in turn adversely affected the role of regional authorities in administering the park's resources. Moreover, the government did

²³ Debora Randall and others (eds.), pp.260-262; *Negarit Gazeta*, 2015, 21st year No.28 issued on 2nd February, p.82; John Atkir and etal(eds.), p.22.

²⁴ Debora Randall and others (eds.), *Ibid*,p.262.

²⁵ A letter from Ministry of Agricultural and Environmental Protection, Wildlife Conservation Organization to the Bale Zone Administration, (*Genbot* 30,1986 E.C),Bale Mountains national Park office, Folder No. A-14/221, File No.84. (See Appendix XVII) ; A letter from Ministry of Agricultural and Environmental Protection, Wildlife Conservation Organization to Dinsho *warda* council, (*Megabit* 8, 1987 E.C),Bale Mountains National park office, Folder No.A-14/221, File No. 91.(See Appendix XVIII).

not devise a new policy of wildlife from the time of devolution of power until the General Management Plan was prepared to the BMNP in 2007. The existing conservation law was an outdated one. Because of these factors, the regional government of Oromia could not effectively implement the government policy of conservation in the BMNP.²⁶

There was also lack of effective management of the park's resources in the years that followed 2000. For instance, the range of wolves declined alarmingly because of the outbreak of rabies. The disease was caused by dogs which were released in the park's territory by the neighboring people. Nearly 350 Red fox died. Although a number of discussions were made between the park administrators and the Oromia Region's Agricultural Bureau, the problem did not die out at the time.²⁷

The decline in condition of the park in the 1990s and beginning of 2000 got the attention of international organizations to reshape the management of the park. The international organization which initially arrived in 2001 to mitigate the existing problem of the BMNP was the Worldwide Fund for Nature (WWF). WWF is a proactive independent organization committed to the conservation of nature. Nevertheless, it failed to address the challenges in reality because of lack of administrative support from the park's authority and it left the park after sometimes in 2001. The departure of WWF was followed by the arrival of two other international organizations to the area in 2002. These were the Ethiopian Wolf Conservation Project (EWCP) and FZS. EWCP has been working on the conservation of wolves and it is a

²⁶ Michael Jacobs and Catherine S. Chloeder, pp.27-32.

²⁷ Debra Randall and others (eds.), p.262; Zelalem Tefera and Claudio Sillero-Zubiri, p.18; A letter from the Regional Government of Oromia Agricultural Development Bureau to Dinsho Administrative office, (*Tikemt* 19,1995E.C), Bale Mountains national Park office, Folder No. A-14/221, File No.94.

proactive independent organization in the area. The latter have been providing substantial aid to solve the park's infrastructural problems.²⁸

Beginning from 2004 other Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) began working in the BMNP. FARM-Africa and SOS Sahel Ethiopia were pioneers in the country for their work on participatory forest management. Nowadays, both are working in the conservation of forests within the BMNP. These two organizations devised the Bale Mountains Eco Region Sustainable Management Program (BMRSMP) in collaboration with the Oromia Regional State, EWCP and FZS. The program largely focused on the sustainable use of resources in all parts of the Bale Mountains. It has been working with the Oromia Forest Enterprise in the border areas of the BMNP.²⁹

On the other hand the FZS has supported the BMNP by preparing General Management Plan (GMP) in 2006. The plan focused on five important areas. These include "Park Management; Ecological Research; Sustainable Natural Resources Management; Tourism and Park Outreach." The GMP was designed to cover ten successive years i.e. 2007-2017 and was approved in 2007 by the Oromia Regional State.³⁰

The FZS organization has been working also on conservation and capacity building. Various infrastructures such as roads, houses for scouts and others have been constructed within the park with the help of FZS. The FZS has its own office and around 19 fixed contract workers. It also hired many daily laborers on the occasion of the projects launch. The construction of current

²⁸ Debora Randall and others (eds.), p.262; Zelalem Tefera and Claudio Sillero-Zubiri, p.19.

²⁹ Debora Randall and others (eds.), pp.262-263.

³⁰ *Ibid*, p.263.

park office was first initiated by the UNDP in 1996. The construction was completed by Frankfurt Zoological Society (FZS) after the departure of UNDP.³¹

The MELCA (Movement for Ecological Learning and Community Action) Mahiber, now called MELCA Ethiopia, is another pioneer NGO which has been working in the BMNP since 2004. It has been working on conservation of biodiversity and environmental rehabilitation in the area. The organization has made immense contribution by teaching the local people about the wise use of the wildlife resources in Dinsho and surrounding *kebeles*.³²

Beginning from 2010, the management of the BMNP reverted to the Federal government. There were two basic reasons why the park management shifted to the federal government. First, the park was not permanently registered by UNESCO. To do this, the park had to be legally gazzetted and well conserved. It was in 2008/2009 that the park was listed in the World Heritage list temporarily. Second, there was a need to create good tourism opportunity by regulating the park's wildlife resources. The shift of the park management from Oromia to federal government was challenged of course to some extent by local communities in some occasional public meetings.³³

4.3 Relationship between the Park and Local People and fire extent in the BMNP

4.3.1 The relationship of the local people with the park

Human settlement in the Bale Mountains began before the creation of the park in 1970. Oromo pastoralists continued to live in the park territory after its establishment owing to its favorable

³¹ Informants: *Ato Eban Yegezu* and *Ato Husen Kemal*.

³² Informant: *Ato Tesfaye Tola*.

³³ Informants: *Ato Haji Ebu*, *Ato Tesfaye Tola* and *Ato Aman Mame*.

climatic condition for crop production and rearing of livestock.³⁴ For instance, in 2002 there were more than 8000 settlers found in the BMNP. According to the park office these people have been causing damage to the wildlife of the park. Dogs which released to the park areas became a great threat for the life of Red Fox.³⁵

The Hawo, Gora, Darkina and Rira *kebles* were the areas that were significantly impacted by this phenomena. The number of people who settled permanently in the above mentioned areas of the park increased through time. To reduce the further infiltration of more people inside the park, and the subsequent damage at the beginning of 2000s, the park administration worked in collaboration with the Bale Zone Natural Resource Development and Environmental Protection, Goba and Dinsho *woredas*. They worked on the conservation of the park's wildlife resources. They tried prohibiting cattle grazing and cutting of trees for the purpose of charcoal making and lumber making. Although the park administration worked cooperatively with the local people to regulate the overall resources of the park, illegal activities continued especially in the remote parts of the park. For instance, in 2011, bamboo trees were destructed by the settlers of Rira down to Harena forest. In most cases the local people of the area used bamboo trees for the construction of houses.³⁶

³⁴ Debora Randall and others (eds.), pp.258-260; Frankfurt zoological Society (ed.), Bale Mountains National Park: General Management Plan, 2007-2007(2007), p.61.

³⁵ *Addis Zemen*, 1994, 61th year No.235, issued on the 25th April, p.5; A letter from the park warden to Dinsho Office (*Tikemet*19, 1995), Bale Mountains National Park, Folder No. A-14/34, File No.27.(See Appendix XIX).

³⁶ A letter from Ethiopian Wildlife Conservation Authority, BMNP Office to Rira *Kebele* Office, (*Genbot* 9,2003 E.C), Bale Mountain National Park Office, Folder No. A-38/579, File No.27.(See Appendix XX).

Picture.4 Human settlement in the Bale mountains National Park



Source: (Accessed from, <http://www.tourhq.com>), 3 August 2015

Moreover, seasonal migration of the Oromo pastoralist inside the park territory continued as an unresolved problem. The pastoralists, who live adjacent to the park areas seasonally, moved to Harena and Sanetti to graze their cattle especially during the dry seasons. This trend increased through time and still is a problem for the park administration.³⁷

³⁷ Debora Randall and others (eds.), pp.258-260.

Since the time of the establishment of the park in 1970, the boundary of the park had not been well demarcated from the adjoining local people. This was an important factor which created a good opportunity for the local people to use the park's resources.³⁸

However, the government attempted to address this problem by identifying the park's boundary. The government's approach was more participatory in this regard. For instance, the boundary revisions of 2008 and 2009 in the BMNP involved the local people. The 2014 boundary demarcation was made again in collaboration with five bordering *woredas* and twenty five surrounding *kebeles*. The demarcation aimed to register the BMNP in the UNESCO list permanently and thereby protect the wildlife resources from human intrusion. However, the revision faced resistance from the inhabitants of Haricho *kebele* in Adaba district because of fear of loss of farm land. This refusal encouraged the remaining adjacent *kebeles* to go against the government's plan and delay the demarcation effort.³⁹

The issue of boundary demarcation, however, was finally resolved in 2015. The park was legally gazetted on 2nd February, 2015. The former territory of the park which covers 2200km² was now reduced to 2150km². Before the demarcation of the park boundary started, a Committee was established at the *woreda* level. The Committee consisted of the *kebele* leaders surrounding the park area; Dinsho *Woreda* Administration; Bale Zone Administration; Police force and elders from the community. Some park territories which were settled by humans were then away and

³⁸ Informants: *Ato* Haji Ebu, *Ato* Aman Abdi and *Ato* Santimi Mohammed.

³⁹ A letter from Ethiopian Wildlife Conservation Authority, Bale Mountains National Park Office to Dinsho *Wareda* Police Office, (*Miyazia* 8, 2000 E.C), Bale Mountains National Park Office, Folder No. **1**-49/221, File No. 34. (See Appendix XXI).; A letter from Oromia Regional State President Office to the BMNP office, (*Megabit* 12,2006 E.C), Bale Mountains National Park Office , Folder No. **1**-49/221, File No.37.

given to the people by the Committee. Hawo *kebele* in the Hareenna forest and a few other areas were decided by the committee to be out of the park's territory.⁴⁰

4.3.2 Fire incident in the BMNP

One of the challenges that the BMNP has faced was the recurrent outbreak of fire within the park's territory. The park has encountered both man made and natural fires. Man made fire has occurred frequently in the recent history of the park.⁴¹ According to informants, fire incident in BMNP occurred every year since its establishment but its cause and extent varied. For instance, the 1991 and 1992 wild fire erupted because of pastoralists who have settled temporarily within the park land. The pastoralists had migrated from Goba, Dinsho and Delo *wardas*.

The incident resulted in the migration of wildlife to remote areas.⁴² In addition to this, the southern section of the park was put on fire by the local people in 1996. The demand for additional agricultural land and pasture land led them towards the infringement of the park areas. Moreover from 1999/2000 to 2007/2008, the BMNP has also faced around 142 fire incidents. Within this period, 38,150 ha of the park land and its resources were damaged.⁴³

The fire of 2000 was one of the most serious incidents that extremely damaged the resources of the park. Within the year fire incident occurred many times in the BMNP and burnt a total of 6,615 ha. Of these the March 2000 incident was the most serious one and caused greater damage

⁴⁰ *Negarit Gazeta*, 2015, 21st year No.28 issued on 2nd February, p. 82; John Atkir and etal(ed.), p.22.

⁴¹ Debora Randall and others (eds.), p.147.

⁴² A letter from the Transitional Government of Ethiopian Ministry of Agriculture and Environmental Conservation, Wildlife to the Bale Administration Office, (*Tir* 7, 1983 E.C), Bale Mountains National park office, Folder No.1-25/340, File No. 22. (See Appendix XXII); A letter from Bale Mountains National Park to Bale Zone Administrative Office(*Tir* 16, 1983), Bale Mountains National Park Office, Folder No. 1-27/340, File No.28.

⁴³ A letter from Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia Ministry of Agriculture and Environmental Conservation, Wildlife Conservation Organization to the Bale Mountains National Park, (*Miyazia* 3, 1988 E.C), Bale Mountains National park office, Folder No.1-25/340, File No. 32 (See Appendix XXV) ; Informants: *Ato* Husen Wario and *Ato* Kedir Geda.

Picture.5 People campaigned against the episode fire of 2000



Source: Frankfurt Zoological Society Office Photo Gallery

to the park's resources. The Sodeta camp which was built by the Ethiopian Wolf Conservation Programme for the purpose of research, management of the wolves and tourism promotion, was burned to the ground during this period. All essential equipments were destroyed and the damage was estimated around 75,000 Ethiopian Birr. Many people were also dislocated from the park due to excessive fire. The loss of wildlife was also immense. Although the episode caused great damage, the accident was finally controlled by the coordinated efforts of the government and the community. In the same month, wildfire burnt in nine *woredas* of Bale and Borena zones. It spread swiftly and covered large areas. More than fifty thousand hectares of land was damaged

by the incident. In Borena alone it damaged nearly 31ha of land. In the case of Bale 26,630 ha of land was burnt to the ground. It burnt the wild coffee and forest adjacent to the southern part of the park's territory. Since the accident caused great damage and got out of control by government requested foreign assistance. Accordingly, German and South African helicopters arrived in the area and made substantial aid in controlling the fire. High school and university students, farmers, urban dwellers and civil servants also made immense contribution to control the ravages of the fire.⁴⁴

The following year, around 6,129 ha of the park land was damaged by another fire accident. In 2007 the park land along the eastern direction of the Rira village was also destroyed by fire. The local people set fire while the park workers were patrolling on the both sides of the village. A total of 220 ha of the park land was burned due to the intervention of the local people.⁴⁵

⁴⁴ Debora Randall and others (eds.), p.149; *Addis Zemen*, 5 March 1992, p.1 and 11; *Addis Zemen*, 13 March, 1992, p.3 and 13.

⁴⁵ Debora Randall and others (eds.), p.149.

Picture.6 The ruin of the 2002 fire episode in the Sanetti Plateau



Source: Frankfurt Zoological Society Office Photo Gallery

Picture.7 The fire incident of 2008 in the BMNP



Source: MELCA Ethiopia photo Gallery

The March 2015 fire burnt the national park in many directions. The park staff and villagers campaigned against the fire before it expanded. Beyond its wider range of destruction, the episode resulted in the loss of a FZS conservationist worker called Binyam Admasu and three local children. The park warden and a few other workers escaped from the terrible fire at a matter of chance. The park administration in collaboration with EWCA authorities and the federal police tried to investigate the incident. A meeting was held in the area with community representatives and elders to establish the causes of the fire. However, the team failed to identify the cause. Some suspected local people were caught by the police and imprisoned at Goba *Woreda* police station for a few days and then released. The fire also caused the destruction of the private properties of the local people.⁴⁶

In most cases, the park land adjacent to the main road that runs from Goba to Delo Mena was vulnerable to fire incident. The extent of fire decreases as one goes further from the main road. The land of the park which found between 3km to 6km on the higher altitude is susceptible to the ravage of sudden fire. In other words, areas near the settlers were less affected by the incident.⁴⁷ Similarly, areas found far from headquarter was frequently susceptible to fire. However, areas, near the headquarters were less vulnerable to damage caused by fire.⁴⁸

Local people provide different reasons for the outbreak of these fires. First, the higher areas of the park, especially the Sanetti and Rira areas are covered with shrubs. If these are not burned at four or five years interval, they expand and create an ideal environment for the breeding of

⁴⁶ Informants: *Ato* Marshelo Timo, *Ato* Kemer Uki and *Ato* Girma Urgi.

⁴⁷ Debra Randall and others (eds.), pp.152-153.

⁴⁸ *Ibid*,p.155; Informants: *Ato* Haji Ebu and *Ato* Husen Kemal.

insects that harm livestock. Secondly, the fresh grass that sprouted following the beginning of the rainy was important for their cattle. Hence, every year local pastoralist set fire. Thirdly, they fired the bush to protect their domestic animals from wild animals like hyena and lion. Finally, the settlers provided that, the tiny flower that grows after the rainy season is important for bee raising. To encourage this, people used fire in the park.⁴⁹

4.4 Tourism promotion in the BMNP under the EPRDF regime

During the time of government change in 1991, the tourism industry declined in Ethiopia. Consequently the number of national and international visitors showed a precipitous decline. In the post-1991 period, the sector however, has revived and shown progress. Rehabilitation and development of facilities and services which serve tourists has been the focus of the government's work. Its rich wildlife resources and magnificent environment added to internal stability has attracted a number of national and international tourists to the area.⁵⁰

There is no doubt that the flora and fauna of the BMNP as they are found in their setting of incomparable scenery, offers a great potential to tourism. But lack of good facilities together with poor transportation access affected tourist activities in the park in the years following the flight of Mengistu. In 2004, the park had only one lodge with poor services and this was not comfortable for tourists. Therefore, tourists were expected to bring their own equipment to stay

⁴⁹ Debra Randall and others (eds.), pp.149-150; A letter from the Ethiopian Wolf Conservation Programme to Bale Mountains National Park, (*Genbot* 14, 1992 E.C), Bale Mountains National park office, Folder No.Λ-25/340, File No.43(See Appendix XXVI) ; A report from scout investigation to BMNP headquarter, (*Yekatit* 12, 1999 E.C), Bale Mountains National Park office, Folder No.Λ-25/340, File No. 46.(See Appendix XXVII).

⁵⁰ Martha and Paul Henze, *Tourism in Ethiopia: New Perspectives and New Prospects* (Tourist Report to Ethiopian tourism Commission, Bethesda, 1991), p.1.

there and visit the park's wildlife resources and enjoy the landscape. This affected tourism's trend of the time.⁵¹

However, nowadays the sector has showed progress. Recent data on tourism activity reveals that visitors from different parts of the world come to visit the park. Of these, European visitors took the highest percentage followed by Africans, Americans, Middle Eastern and Asian tourists. Most of the tourists who came to the area arrive to trek the chains of mountains and watch the varieties of fauna.⁵²

The number of both national and foreign visitors has been increasing from time to time. Most of the tourists acquired information about the park from social media and guide books and this made them to know easily the park's location and distance.⁵³

The promotion of tourism from the park's resources was one core issue of General Management Plan (GMP) and the park has been working to achieve it since 2007. A three years plan was also developed in the same year to promote the sector in the area. By revising the plan based on its success and drawbacks, a new five years plan was devised in 2010. The objective of the plan was to develop tourism industry in the BMNP in collaboration with the local communities, private sectors and the government. Besides to increase the visitor trend and income gained from the sector through active community participation.⁵⁴

Tourism activity in the park has been improving the livelihood of the community. There are locally established associations, which deliver services for those tourists who arrive in the park.

⁵¹ Debora Randall and others (eds.), p.285...The lodge built in early 1990s in place of the previous house built by a Belgian man Weerts, which had burnt down in 1982.

⁵² *Ibid*, p.285.

⁵³ *Ibid*, pp.288-289; Informants: *W/ro* Zerayehu Endale and *Ato* Husen Kemal.

⁵⁴ Debora Randall and others (eds.), p.288.

These include the Nyala Guide Association, Walin Jirana Wood Sellers Association, Keyrensa Horse Providers Association, Borofa porters Association, Key Kebero Cook Association and the Barre Women's Association. The Nyala Guide Associations offer guide services to the visitors within the park. The members have been guiding visitors based on rotation by crossing the up and downs of the Mountains. Walin Jirana Wood Sellers Association brought eucalyptus firewood from the surrounding localities and sold it to the park. The Keyrensa Horse Providers Association has been renting horses to the visitors who came to the park to see the wildlife resources. The visitors went to the remote parts of the park since crossing the Mountains is impossible with vehicles. The Borofa porters Association has been serving the tourists by showing the path in the park. The members went further areas of the park. The Borofa porters and Keyrensa Horse Providers established at the same year in 2001. Walin Jirana Wood Sellers and Nyala Guide were established in 2010. The Key Kebero Cook Association and the Bare Women Association were established recently in 2012 and delivers food and locally made handicraft products to tourists respectively.⁵⁵

Though the development of tourism in the BMNP is still in progress, the income generated is relatively low owing to inadequate infrastructures and services in the beginning years of EPRDF period. The lodge gives poor service and many tourists complained about it. Moreover there is camp sites designated for the incoming tourists. However these sites give poor services. Hence most tourists are obliged to bring their own camping and cooking equipments. Those who come to the park by public transport suffered a lot. Therefore because of these factors the number of tourists and income gained declined for a few years. Moreover, the annual income of the park declined because of improper collection of payment at the entrance of the park. Most of

⁵⁵ Informants: *W/ro* Zerayehu Endale, *Ato* Haji Ebu and *Ato* Girma Urgi.

the time fee at the gate of headquarters is collected by a single person. Moreover, the absence of a fee collector at Angesu post also affected the income of the park.⁵⁶ Now a days the park authorities have been working to alleviate the above problems in collaboration with the park staff and the federal government. Additional fee collectors were assigned to the main gate of the park and the outpost Angesu.⁵⁷

The construction of additional lodge near the former one was launched in mid 2015 to solve the shortage of accommodation for the coming tourists. The FZS has been supporting the construction financially.⁵⁸

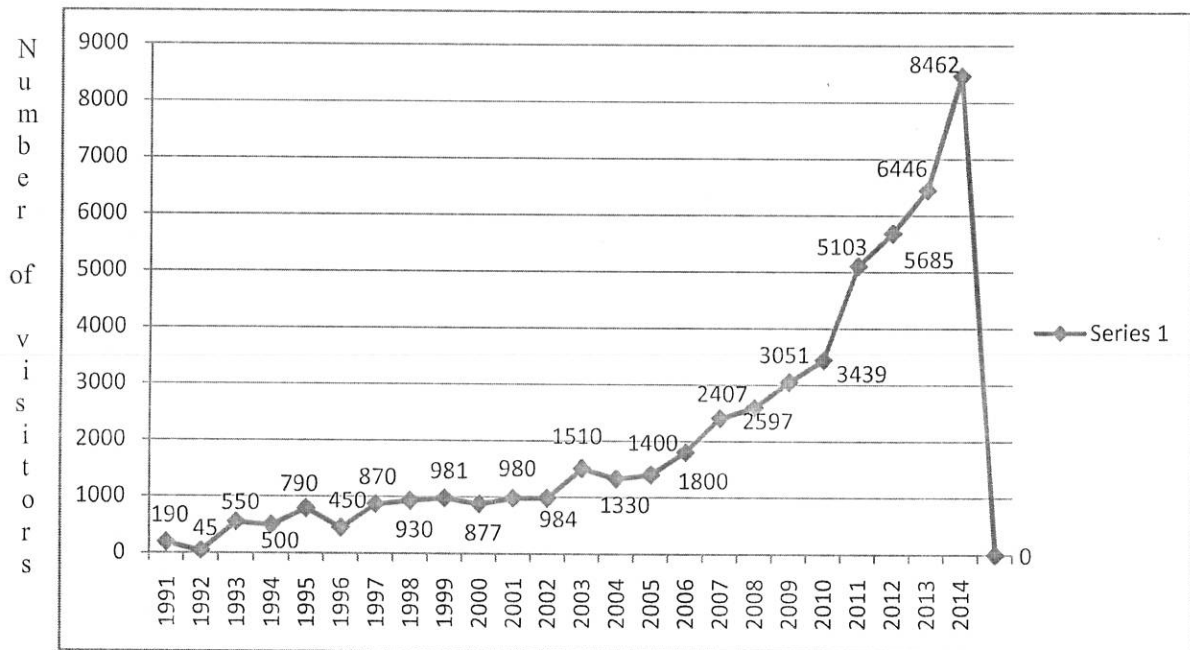
⁵⁶ Debora Randall and others (eds.), p.292; Informants: *W/ro* Zerayehu Endale and *Ato* Haji Ebu .

⁵⁷ Informants: *W/ro* Zerayehu Endale, *Ato* Haji Ebu and *Ato* Girma Urgi.

⁵⁸ *Ibid.*

The following table shows that the trend of tourism in the BMNP during the EPRDF government.

Table: 2 Post 1991 Tourism Trend in the Bale Mountains National Park



Source: Bale Mountains National Park (GMP: 2007-2017), Compiled and edited by

Frankfurt Zoological Society; Tourism Activities in BMNP, Tourism data, 2014.

As the table demonstrated, during the years of government change in 1991 and 1992, a few tourists visited the park. The decline in the number of tourists was due to the instability and disorder that occurred across the country following the collapse of the *Derg* government. But the number of visitors increased through time with the restoration of peace and order in the country. Tourists used alternative accommodations in addition to the park's lodge. There are standardized hotels in Goba and Robe towns currently. Therefore these hotels rendered qualified services to the incoming tourists.

The income gained from tourism activity also increased through time. From 1991 to 2006 a total of 730,777 Ethiopian Birr was generated from the park's fees. Between 2007 and 2014 the income generated from the park's fee was estimated at 3,502,705 Ethiopian Birr. The total income from 1991 to 2014 was 4,233,482 Ethiopian Birr.

Conclusion

The Bale Mountains National Park is located in the southeastern part of Ethiopia within the chains of Bale Mountain ranges. It is enclosed within 2150 km² area of land and has an altitude ranging from 1500 to 4377m. The park is dominated by various volcanic heights and endowed with various fauna and flora species.

Although Ethiopia has great varieties of wildlife resources, these resources have been vulnerable to destruction in the past. Different attempts were made to contain the destruction of wildlife by successive Ethiopian governments by issuing legislations. Menelik's 1908 and 1913 legislations and the 1944 game law passed by Emperor Haileselassie were some of the legislative initiatives taken by the state against the annihilation of wildlife resources of the country. These legislations, however, did not significantly contain the damage to the wildlife resources of the country.

In the 1960s, at the request of the Emperor Hail Selassie, UNESCO agents carried out scientific studies on the wildlife resources of the country. The agents conducted extensive survey of the country's wildlife resources and recommended the establishment of national parks. Accordingly, beginning from the mid-1960s, several national parks were established in Ethiopia.

The BMNP was established in 1970 primarily to save the endangered Mount Nyala. Though the local people opposed its establishment, the government tried to get their acquiesce by paying them compensation. At other times, it took forceful measure against them. In the first few years after its establishment, the park was run by expatriates and the management of the park was limited to areas adjacent to the headquarters of the park. Tourists began to arrive in the area following the park establishment. However, their numbers were few owing to lack of sufficient accommodation and poor facilities of the park.

Following its seizure of power in 1974, the *Derg* tried to rigorously enforce an exclusionary park policy. One way by which the *Derg* implemented this policy was through a relocation program. Although, the *Derg's* conservation policy showed significant achievements in the conservation of wildlife resources, it faced challenges on the eve of its collapse. During this time, tourism in the park was carried out cooperatively with three bodies. However, the trend of tourists showed subsequent decline because of the burning of the lodge in 1982.

The downfall of the *Derg* regime in 1991 caused great damage to the park. Resenting the government's exclusionary policy, the local people moved in large numbers to the park and destroyed many of the park's infrastructures. Looting of the park's property was common; much wildlife was killed during this period of lawlessness. Furthermore, some parts of the park were re-occupied by the local people.

With the arrival of EPRDF, Peace and Stability Committees were established locally. These played a crucial role in containing the destruction of the park during the government change. Once peace and stability was restored, international organizations arrived in the area to rebuild the park from its deteriorated conditions. The park received financial support from UNDP and FZS during this critical period.

Although the current government's conservational policy is more of participatory or community based than the previous governments, the park's management has continued to face challenges. One such problem was/is the prevalence of recurrent fire incidents which have resulted in the destruction of wildlife and other resources of the park.

Nowadays non-governmental organizations such as the FARM-Africa and SOS Sahel Ethiopia, FZS, EWCO and MELCA Ethiopia work on the conservational activities and development of

infrastructures within the park. The park has been receiving support particularly from the FZS. The BMNP is now becoming the destination of many national and international tourists though the problem of sufficient accommodation and better facilities are yet to be addressed..

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- Negarit Gazeta*, 2015, 21st year No.28 issued on 2nd February.

Lists of informants

No	Name (title)	Age	Place of interview	Date of interview	Remarks
1	Abdela Husen(<i>Ato</i>)	73	Soba	22 Mar.2015 12 May.2015	He has good knowledge about the burning of the lodge and the role of Peace and Stability Committees established during the period of government change. He worked as head of Dinsho Lodge in the past.
2	Abubeker Nure(<i>Ato</i>)	69	Gojera	30 Mar.2015	He served as guard in the park from 1970 to 2005. Interviewed on the early periods of the park.
3	Alo Batu(<i>Ato</i>)	71	Gojera	7 Apr. 2015	He has good information about the loss of the park's resource during the time of disorder and instability.
4	Aman Abdi(<i>Ato</i>)	65	Dinsho	3 Apr.2015	He has great deal of information on the local people infringement towards the resources of the park.
5	Aman Husen(<i>Haji</i>)	78	Hora Soba	3 Apr.2015	A resident of Gaysay before the area included under the park and interviewed on the resistance of local people towards the creation of the park and the people interference to the park territory.
6	Aman Mame(<i>Ato</i>)	74	Hora Soba	23 Mar.2015 6 May,2015	He was one of the member of Peace and Stability Committee. He is resourceful informant on the foundation of the park and the destruction of wildlife during the fall of <i>Derg</i> regime.
7	Areri Ari (<i>Haji</i>)	80	Gojera	23 Apr. 2015	He was interviewed on the park damage occurred during the fall of the <i>Derg</i> regime.
8	Bulo Mire (<i>Ato</i>)	72	Hawo	15 Apr.2015	He is one of the inhabitants of

					Hawo <i>Kebele</i> which encompassed formerly under the Harena forest. He gave valuable information on the human encroachment towards the park territory during the <i>Derg</i> and EPRDF regimes.
9	Eban Yegezu	45	Dinsho	6 Jun.2015	Technical advisor of FZS and was interviewed on the organization activities in the park.
10	Girma Urgi(<i>Ato</i>)	54	Dinsho	7 May 2015	He has good knowledge about the development of the park's infrastructure.
11	Haji Ebu Siut(<i>Ato</i>)	63	Gojira	14 Mar. 2015 3 Apr.2015	He is head of the park's scout. He was interviewed on the general aspects of the park since the time of foundation. He was delegated by the central authority to manage the park during the transitional period. He is knowledgeable informant and has been working since 1973.
12	Hasen Jundi(<i>Ato</i>)	59	Hawo	15 Apr. 2015	Notable person adjacent to the Harena forest who have good knowledge.
13	Hasen Nure(<i>Ato</i>)	77	Angetu	18 Apr.2015	A well known informant on the destruction of wildlife in Harena forest during the transitional period.
14	Husen Adem(<i>Ato</i>)	49	Dinsho	19 Mar.2015	He is guard of MELKA Maheber NGO. He gave valuable comment on the damage against the park during the final period of the <i>Derg</i> regime and the human trespass.
15	Husen Kemal (<i>Ato</i>)	59	Dinsho	23 Apr.2015 5 Aug.2015	An experienced Frankfurt Zoological Society worker and interviewed on the contribution of the organization in the development of the park.

16	Husen Wario(<i>Ato</i>)	63	Hawo	15 Apr.2015	He is one of knowledgeable informant and gave information on the damage of the park during the fall of the <i>Derg</i> regime.
17	Junedi Areri(<i>Ato</i>)	48	Gerenba Dima	13 May 2015	He has better information about the firing or damage of the lodge.
18	Kalu Sheka (<i>Ato</i>)	66	Kotera	20 Apr.2015	He gave information on the attitude the local settlers in managing the park after EPRDF seized political power.
19	Kebede Tegegn(<i>Ato</i>)	71	Dinsho	15 Mar. 2015 2 Aug.2015	He was former staff of the park and worked in the park for the past 30 years. Now he is retired and interviewed on the management of the park during the <i>Derg</i> and EPRDF regimes.
20	Kedir Geda(<i>Ato</i>)	55	Hawo	15 Apr. 2015	He was a settler adjacent to the park and interviewed on the cause of fire incident and the perception of local people in the Harena area.
21	Kedir Nesha(<i>Ato</i>)	44	Dinsho	12 Mar.2015	A guard of the Frankfurt zoological society office. He gave valuable information about the fire incident occurred during the current regime.
22	Kemer Uki(<i>Ato</i>)	48	Meskel Darkina	12 Mar.2015	He is one of the important informants who gave valuable comments about the management of the park particularly during the <i>Derg</i> and EPRDF regimes. He has been as park worker since 1996.
23	Kemal Hasen(<i>Haji</i>)	67	Rera	27 Mar.2015	He was interviewed on the cause of fire incident that frequently occurred in Sanetti and Harena forest in the history of the park.
24	Mama Buna(<i>Ato</i>)	67	Geysay	8 Apr. 2015	He has better information about the interaction of the local people with the park.
25	Mamo Mire(<i>Ato</i>)	68	Hawo	15 Apr. 2015	He was interviewed from the southern section of the park

					territory. He gave valuable comment on the indiscriminate destruction of wildlife during the time of instability.
26	Marshalo Temo(<i>Haji</i>)	72	Sanetti	27 Mar.2015	He gave important comment on the major threats against the red fox and fire incident usually started from the Sanetti as well as the attitude of the surrounding people towards the park during later two regimes.
27	Nuro Kedir(<i>Sheki</i>)	70	Gaysay	3 Apr.2015	He is knowledgeable about the conservational approach under the <i>Derg</i> regime.
28	Santimi Mohammed(<i>Ato</i>)	68	Gasaye	19 Mar.2015 29 Jul.2015	A knowledgeable informant who interviewed on the over all aspects of the park. He has been within the park since the time of Weerts's sheep farming project and he was employed as worker under this project.
29	Tesfaye Tola(<i>Ato</i>)	38	Dinsho	18 May 2015	Heads of MELKA Maheber NGO and was interviewed on the roles of NGOs in the development activities of the park.
30	Tulu Mama(<i>Ato</i>)	78	Hora Soba	7 Apr. 2015	A knowledgeable informant who gave comments on the destruction of the park and wildlife during the <i>Derg's</i> collapse.
31	Usman Nure(<i>Haji</i>)	74	Dinsho	5 May. 2015	He was one of the Peace and Stability Committee and interviewed on the situation in the park and near headquarters during the government change.
32	Zerayehu Endale(<i>W/ro</i>)	29	Dinsho	16 May 2015	She has good knowledge about the park's tourism trend in current government.

87 11/11/65
Appendix 2

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ቁጥር: 11/11/65
No.



ኢትዮጵያ፡ ንጉሠ፡ ነገሥት፡ መንግሥት፡
የዲ.ሲ.፡ አራዊት፡ አስተዳደር፡ ተባብሮ፡ ደርጅት፡
IMPERIAL ETHIOPIAN GOVERNMENT
WILD LIFE CONSERVATION DEPARTMENT

አዲስ፡ አበባ፡ ቀን፡ 10/11/65 ዓ.ም.

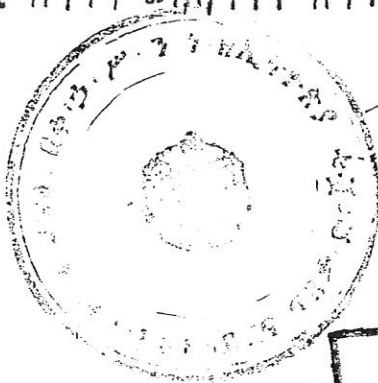
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Addis Ababa 197

የቴሌፎን፡ ቁጥ. { 44417
Telephone { 44418 የፖ. ሣ. ቁ. { 386
 { 45970 P. O. Box No. }

ለኢትዮጵያ ን.ነ. መንግሥት
የመንግሥት ሠራተኞች ግስተዳደርና ጠ/ሠ/ቤት
አዲስ አበባ ::

የደርጅታችን አደጋ በፕላንክ አደጋ ሲሆን ኢንሰኒት
ዩት አገዳጠና አደርገን በተጠቀሰው ኢንሰኒትዩት ተዘጋጅቶ
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ዓ.ም ጀምሮ በሠራ ላይ አገዳጠኑ የተፈተረውን የሠራ አደጋ
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ደብዳቤ በፕላንክ መሰባሰብን አገገልጻለን ::

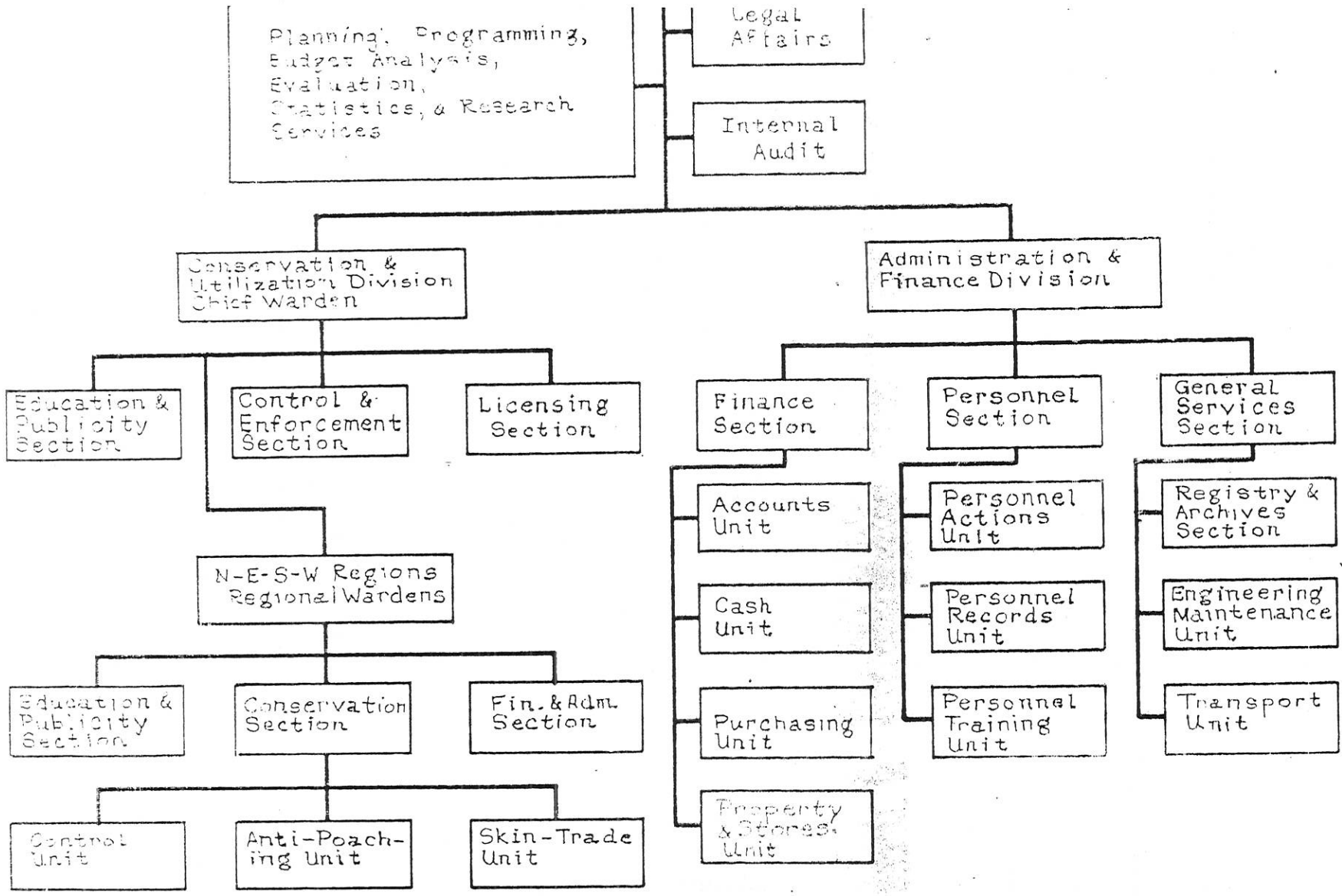


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ደብዳቤ፡ ቁጥር፡ 5-3-65
የደርጅታችን፡ የሰራተኞች፡ ግስተዳደር፡ ጠ/ሠ/ቤት

1	የፕላንክ	57	2765
2	የሰራተኞች	5	365
3	የግንባታ	5	365
4	የግንባታ	5	365
5	የግንባታ	5	365
6	የግንባታ	5	365

Appin





የኢትዮጵያ ፌዴራላዊ ዲሞክራሲያዊ ግንባታ ስልጣን ገዢ ግብርና ጥቅም ስራ ሚኒስቴር
 IMPERIAL ETHIOPIAN GOVERNMENT
 MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT

የአገር ግብርና ጥቅም ስራ ሚኒስቴር ገዢ ግብርና ጥቅም ስራ ሚኒስቴር
 Summary of Capital Expenditure Program For Current Fiscal Year

Table: 1960/61
 Ministry of Agency: Wildlife Conservation
 Branch of Activity of Department: Wildlife Conservation

Project Ident. No.	Project Title	Location Areas District	Total Cost of project	Total previous Allotments	Total	Authorization during current fiscal Year 1960/61				Remarks		
						First Quarter	Second Quarter	Third Quarter	Fourth Quarter			
Wild Game Conservat.												
11.7.1	Wild Life Res.	Awash	40800		40800							
11.7.2	National Park	Gambella	69900		69900							
11.7.3	" Park	Bale	60900		60900							
11.7.4	" "	Bale	68050		68050							
11.7.5	" "	Gambella	44700		44700							
Subtotal						282750						

የዱር ከራዊት ጥበቃና ልማት

ደርጅት

ሥራ አሰሪያጅ

የግብርና ፕሮግራም አገልግሎት

የዱር ኢ.ጥ.ጥቅም ማስፋፊያ አገልግሎት

የጠገ አገልግሎት

የኮሚሽን አገልግሎት

የዱር ከራዊት ጥበቃ ደርጅት ዋና ክፍል

የዱር ኢ.አጠቃቀም ቀጥተኛ ዋና ክፍል

የኮስተላንድ ፍሬናንስ አገልግሎት

የፋይናንስ ደርጅት

የጥናት ክፍሎች አገልግሎት ክፍል

የቀጥተኛ አደጋ ቀበሌ ክፍል

የሠራተኞች አሰተኮር ክፍል

የፍሬናንስ ክፍል

የጠቅላላ አገልግሎት ክፍል

የፓርክ

ጥናት ክፍል

የአደጋ ፈቃድ መስጫ ክፍል

የመደበኛ የሪሶርስ ገዢ ክፍል

የጠገ ገዢ ክፍል

የአቃ ገዢ ገዢ ክፍል

የከራዊት ውጤቶች ምዘገባና አያያዝ ክፍል

የቀጥተኛ የዘመናዊ የደረጃ አደገት ገ.ክ

የግራም ገዢ ክፍል

የግብረት ገዢ ክፍል

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የትራንስፖርት ገዢ ክፍል

የመዘገብ ቤት ገዢ ክፍል

Appendix

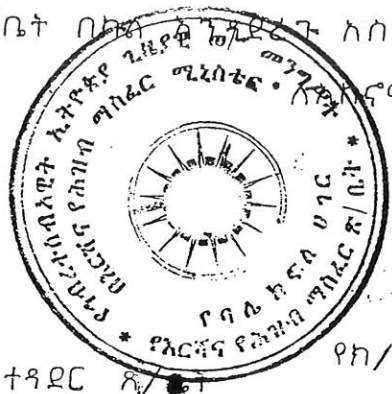
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Appendix - V

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ጥቅምት 18. 1971 ዓ.ም.

- ለባሌ ክ/ሀገር የአርቫና ሐ/ጣሰፈር ጸ/ቤት
 - ለባሌ ክ/ሀገር የደንና ዳር አራዊቱ ጸ/ቤት
 - የሕብረት ሥራ የገባራ ጣደራጃና የአርቫ ጣ/ጸ/ቤት
 - የእንጎሳት ጤና ጥበቃ ጸ/ቤት
- ፌ=ፌ።

በአዲሱ የገባርና ሚኒስቴር መዋቅር መሠረት ቀደም ሲል የድቶች ይከፈሉ የነበረው የሥራ እንቅስቃሴዎች ጥናታዊ የየደርጅት የአስተዳደርና የፋይናንስ አርጣቶች በየመደብ ሁኔታ መሆኑ ቀርቶ በገባርና ሚኒስቴር የክፍለ ስገሩ ተጠሪ ጸ/ቤት ሥር ህግ እንዲሰራ በተሰጠው መመሪያ መሠረት ጥናታዊ የልማት የአስተዳደርና የፋይናንስ እንቅስቃሴዎች በክፍለ ስገሩ የገባርና ጸ/ቤት በክፍለ ስገራት አስታውቋል።



የደንበኞች አገልግሎት ዘመቻ ወይንት
 •• እናሸጋገላለን ••
 ገርጣ ክርስታስ አሰፋ

ገልባጭ//

ለባሌ ክ/ሀገር አስተዳደር ጸ/ቤት የክ/ሀገሩ የገባርና ሚ/ር ተጠሪ

.. .. የገንዘብ ሚ/ተጠሪ ጸ/ቤት
 ለንግድ ባንክ የገቢ ቀ/መ/ቤት
ፌ=ፌ።

1. የገቢ ጥገና	1323
2. የገቢ ጥገና	43
3. የገቢ ጥገና	19.11.71

ለ አገልግሎት አስተዳደር ጸ/ቤት

ለ አገልግሎት የገባርና ሚ/ቀ/መ/ቤት

ለልዩ ልዩ ክፍል ኃላፊዎች

ጠ/ሥራ
 በፕሮጀክት መሠረት ንግድ
 የሚመዘገቡትን ድርጅቶች
 ንግድ ለገቢ ጥገና ይሆናል።
 19.11.71

(18)

Appendix - **V**



1034
1034
1034

የፌዴራላዊ ዲሞክራሲያዊ ሪፐብሊክ
የሪፐብሊክ ጠቅላይ ሚኒስትር
THE PROVISIONAL MILITARY GOVERNMENT
OF SOCIALIST ETHIOPIA

የፌዴራል ጠቅላይ ሚኒስትር
Ref. No.

የፌዴራል
19

የፌዴራል ጠቅላይ ሚኒስትር

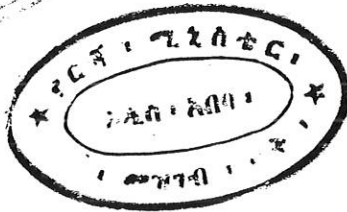


የፌዴራል ጠቅላይ ሚኒስትር

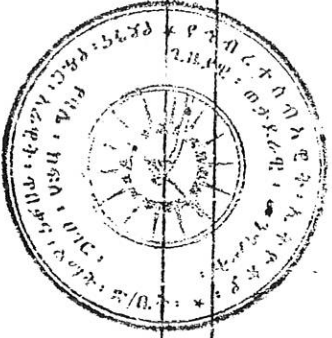
በግብር ስጦታዎች ስጥም
ገንዘብ ስጥም
ለአርባ ሳምንት ገንዘብ ስጥም
አዲስ አበባ

በዚህ ደረጃ ስጦታ ስለሆነ ስጥም ስጥም
የፌዴራል ጠቅላይ ሚኒስትር ገንዘብ ስጥም 26 ጥን 1974 ዓ.ም
በግብር ስጥም ስጥም ስጥም ስጥም:

በዚህ ደረጃ ስጦታ ስለሆነ ስጥም ስጥም
በግብር ስጥም ስጥም ስጥም ስጥም:



ቁጥር	ወረቀት	ከተማው	የአገልግሎት ዓይነት	የቤት ቁጥር	የክፍል ብዛት	የተገልጋይ ብዛት	አገልግሎት ከመቼ አስከፊ መቼ	የተገደበው ቤት ቁጥር	ጊዜ	ደብዳቤ	የገቢው ዓይነት	የወለሉ ቦታ	የገቢው ዓይነት	የገቢው ስፊት	የገቢው ዓይነት	የገቢው ዓይነት	የገቢው ዓይነት	የገቢው ዓይነት	
1	አባብ	ቡታ	መኖሪያ	2 ከፍል			1969	1968											18 \$600 አልፏል
2	ገበ	ሀገ አዛዥ	የገቢ ገቢ				1969												17 \$400 አልፏል
3	ገበ	ሀገ አዛዥ	የገቢ ገቢ				1969	1968											16 \$4500 አልፏል
4	ገበ	ሀገ አዛዥ	የገቢ ገቢ																15 አልፏል



አስተያየት



✓

ተገር 670/1/314

30/1 ተገ 1981 ዓ ሐ

የግንባታ ስራ ለማስፈጸም
የሚያስፈልጉትን ገንዘብ
የሚሰጥበትን ስልጠና
የሚሰጥበትን ስራ

ለመገደብ ክፍያ አስጠይቅ

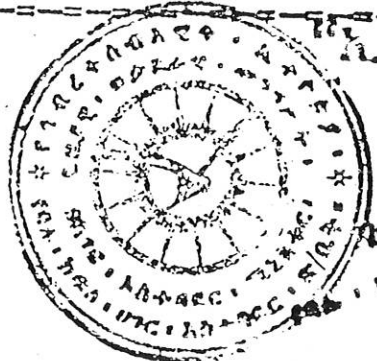
ር. ሴፕ

በባሌ ተረፈ በሥራ ፖሊስ ልዩ ስህተት በተባለው ተገር ተገር ክፍት
ወገ ጋር መገደብ ጉዳይ በተገር 270 /1 /2 /309 የጸናው ይታወቃል።

ፖሊስ በርቀ ህግ የዳር ክፍሉን በመያዝ ዓለፈ አጭር አርገታ ያገኘ
ለወረደው በሰሩት የታደሉት ሲሆን በፖሊስ ወሰን ያለው ክፍሉ ተገቢው ጥበቃ
ና አገልግሎት ስለተረጋገጠ አገደ የደግሞ ከሰው መኖሪያ ርቀ የጻፈው በሆነ
በርቀ ህግ የዳር ክፍሉን በታደሉት ህግ የገቡት ተገር ተገር መገደብ
በጭ አሰጣጥ ጉዳይ ሆኖ በግንባታ ስራ አካባቢ የሠፈረ በጽኑ በስራው ተገር
ስተው ወደ ሌላ አካባቢ አገልግሎት አገደው አገልግሎት ሰጠ።

የተፈጥሮ ህብት ጥበቃ ልዩት ዘርፍ የዳር ክፍሉ ጥበቃ ይገኛል ስለዚህ
ሁ ጉዳይ በተገር 74 /6 /20 /81 በተጻፈ ባቀረበው መሠረት ህብት ላይ በሰጠ
ተቀረቦ አፈጻጸሙን በተመለከተ በዘርፍ መነጋገሪያ አስፈላጊ መሆኑን አገልግሎት

08/10/81
J. J. J.
22/6/81



ገዳና ህግ
ወ/ሀገር ገዳና ህግ

100/1/1

የተፈጥሮ ህብት ጥበቃ ልዩት

ዘርፍ የዳር ክፍሉ ጥበቃ ይገኛል

አዳህ አበበ

የገንዘብ ሰነድ ቁጥር: 9725
የገንዘብ ቀን: 21/12/81
የገንዘብ መጠን: 22

የግል ተራ ገንዘብ ህ/ዘ/1

ቀን: 20/4/20/87

መስከረም 20, 1981

የግል ከፍለ ሀገር አስተዳደር ጸ/ቤተ

ጽ/ቤት

የግል ተራ ገንዘብ በ/ገርክ ከሌላን በቀላሉ በቀጥታ ደ70/1/2/ 307 ጸገጫ 4/1980 የተጻፈ ደብዳቤ ደርሶናል :: ደገገጫን ለገደለበረሳነው ሁሉ የዚህ በርቀ የሆኑ ለራዊት ቦታ ዘፍን ያተረፈው ሆነ ዓለም ለፍ ዐር ላይ ያገኘውና ለሁሉም በበጎት ዐርሳት የታደሰበት በከፍለ ሀገር አስተዳደር ለ ግራ ለካላት ለመሆኑ ቦታውን የገጠኑ የዓለም ለፍ የተረፈው ሀብት ጥበቃ ጉ ግምት ያመክተ ነው :: ይህም በመሆኑ ነው ዛሬ የግል ተራ ገንዘብ በ/ገርክ በ ለገሬቷ ከጫገኙት ምርት በ/ገርክ ለገገጥ ተጠሎ ለጠራ የገለጸ ይህንኑ በ/ገ ገርክ ገር ደንበር ከሌላ በነጋሬት ጋዘጣ ለግዕድ የተረበጠ ከፍለ ሀገሩ ቤተ ሰላላው ሥራው የሚለከታቸው የገርኩ ኃላፊና ለከበረበት ለሁሉም ለገገጥ ሁ ሌታያት ባሉ ለገገጥነገገጥ መሬት ሰጥተናል :: የነፃሬው ሕዝብ ከበተ ወደ ሌላ ቦታ በጫዛዎርበት ጊዜ ጥገር ለገገጥነገጥ በኖሞ ደረጃ ሆነ በተገለጸ ጫገጥ ለዐርሳትም ከገለገ የገገጥነገጥ ሁሉ የምናደርገው መሆኑን ለገገጥነገጥ ::

ሆኖም ሲኖረው የግናለፈው ነገር ቢኖር የሕዝቡ በገርኩ ከሌላ ጫፍ ለአጠቃላይ ለራዊት ከባድ ጥፋት የሚያደርስ መሆኑን ነው :: ዛሬ ለራዊት ተገ ሬው ጥበቃ ለገገጥነገጥ በለተደረገለት ለገገጥ የደቆው ከሰዐፍ መኖሪያ ርቀ የግ ጫፍ በመሆኑ በርቀና ሊተየግ በገ ገለገሉት የሆነጥበት የሬ ጠር ከሌት ወገ ገር መገጥሎ በጣም ለሰባቢ ነው :: ይህም ለገገጥ ወገኑን በለደገ ለግበወገጥ ምንነት የተደረሰ ቢሆንም ነፃሬ ሕዝብ በከሌላ ወገን ለሰባቢ ደረሰ በገተ ለ ገገጥ ለይቸለም ::

በሌላው የነፃሬው ሕዝብ በገርኩ ከሌላ መወጣት ጊዜ የግደበጠው መሆኑን ሲኖረው በቀርቦም በርካታ ለርሳታ ለዚህ ገርክ በሌላው ግደግ ዘገገጥ ወገን ነው :: በመሆኑም የከፍለ ሀገሩ አስተዳደር ለአካባቢው የአስተዳደር ተጠሪ ገን ሰረላጊው ለርጾን ለገገጥነገጥ መሬት ለገገጥነገጥ ለገገጥነገጥ ለገገጥነገጥ ::

“ ሊተየግ ተቀደም ”

የግል ተራ ገንዘብ
 ግደግ ገንዘብ
 ግደግ ገንዘብ

አ/ጫፍ

Appendix IX



የጥብረተሰብ አዋጅ ፣ አትሮጵያ ፣
ጊዜያዊ ፣ ወታደራዊ ፣ መንግሥት ፣
THE PROVISIONAL MILITARY GOVERNMENT
OF SOCIALIST ETHIOPIA

Ref. No. 54/31
20.1970

P.O. Box 1034
Tel. 15 64 00



FORESTRY & WILDLIFE AUTHORITY

17

ለጎንጠ ወረዳ የአበጃጃ የዘመን ማስተባበል ደብዳቤ

የሀገሪቷ የተፈጥሮ ሀብት የሆኑት በርቶ የደን ለጎንጠ የባህርይ ተጠቃሚነት ለማስፈጸም የሚገባ ተጠቃሚነት የሌለው ተፈጥሮ ሀብት ዘንግ ለመጠበቅ የተተካውን ተፈጥሮ የሚጠበቅ ማድረግ ማለት ሲሆን የባህርይ ተፈጥሮ ሀብት ስር ይገኛል ፡፡ በሀገር ውስጥ የባህርይ ተፈጥሮ ሀብት ስር ይገኛል ፡፡ በጥቅም 98/ጠ/70 በአርአበት ስር ይገኛል ፡፡ በተጨማሪም የተፈጥሮ ሀብት ስር ይገኛል ፡፡

- 1ኛ. የጎንጠ የባህርይ ተፈጥሮ ሀብት
- 2ኛ. የጎንጠ የባህርይ ተፈጥሮ ሀብት
- 3ኛ. የጎንጠ የባህርይ ተፈጥሮ ሀብት
- 4ኛ. የጎንጠ የባህርይ ተፈጥሮ ሀብት ለመጠበቅ የሚገባውን የተፈጥሮ ሀብት ስር ይገኛል ፡፡

የጎንጠ ወረዳ ለጎንጠ የሆኑት ሀብት ለመጠበቅ የተፈጥሮ ሀብት ስር ይገኛል ፡፡ የተፈጥሮ ሀብት ስር ይገኛል ፡፡ በሀገር ውስጥ የተፈጥሮ ሀብት ስር ይገኛል ፡፡

Handwritten signature and notes in Amharic script.

Handwritten signature and notes in Amharic script.

.../...

o/c 24/9/74

45

ቁ. 30. 1972

ለባለ ክፍለ ሃገር
የዲግሪ ወረዳ አስተዳደር ጽ/ቤት
ዲግሪ x x x

መስከረም 12 ቀን 1972 ዓ.ም ስለ ጉጂ ሕዝብ በፈራ ጉዳይ ያደረገ ጋጥሁትን ስምምነት ይመለከታል፤ ገንዘብ ስምምነቱም ላይ አንደተገለጸው፤ የጊዜውን የጸጥታ ሁኔታ በመመልከት በፈራው ከብሔራዊ ፓርቲ ሁለት ኪሎ ሜትር ርቀት ላይ አንዲጀመር ተወስኖአል፤ ይህም በመሆንበት ጊዜ በተጠቀሰው አካባቢ የሚኖረው ሕዝብ በብዛት ወደ ፓርቲ በማግባት የሚያደርሰውን ጉዳትና የሕዝቡ ቀጥሮ ከጊዜ ወደ አዳጠረ ሲሆኑ አርባ በመቶ ለኑሮ የሚያሰፈሩትን አፅዋት ሁሉ ከብሔራዊ ፓርቲ ለውቀረጥ የሚገደዱ መሆኑን አራዊቱ በአካባቢው አርባና ዓይነት አንባባትም ላይ ጉዳት የሚያደርሱ መሆኑን መታወቅ አለበት።

ስለዚህ ብርቅ የሆኑ የአገሪቷ ሰብት አራዊት ተገቢው ቦታ ተከፍሎባቸው ለአሁኑ ትግል መጠቀሚያ ለተተኪው ትግል በቅርብነት መተሳለፍ የሚገባቸው ወቅት የሌላቸው አራዊት በጊያዊ ሁኔታ መክንያት ብቻ ቦታ በክፍለ ሃገሩ ላይ ጠፋ በፈራው ከፓርቲ በሁለት ኪሎ ሜትር ተኩል ርቀት ላይ አንዲጀመር የተደረገው ትኩረት ስላለመሆኑ አንታወሞለን፤ የዲግሪ ከተማ ሲሆን ለብሔራዊ ፓርቲ ያደረሰውን ለወደፊት የሚደርሰውን ችግር የባለ ክፍለ ሃገር አስተዳዳሪና ሌሎችም ከፍተኛ የመንገድ ባለሥልጣኖች ባሉበት ጋራ ሊቀ መንበሩ ክፍለ ሃገሩን በገዢ ገዢ ወቅት ቀርቦ አንዲጠና የተሰጠውን ጣሊ በመጠባበቅ ላይ አያለን ይህም አንዲፈጸም መደረጉ አስጠያቂ ስለመሆኑ በበፈራውና በፓርቲ መስከል ሲያንሰ አሁን ሰት ኪሎ ሜትር ርቀት አንዲኖር ማድረግ በጣም አስፈላጊ መሆኑን በቅድሚያ አኖርባቸዋለን።

ገ x x x x x x x

- ለአገር አስተዳደር ሚኒስቴር
- ዲግሪ x x x x x
- ለባለ ክፍለ ሃገር አስተዳደር ጽ/ቤት
- ለባለ ክፍለ ሃገር አስተዳደር ጽ/ቤት
- ጽ/ቤት

" ኢትዮጵያ ትቅጥም "

የዲግሪ አራዊት ጥ. ል. ተ / የተደገ ጋላሪ

ቃለ ገባሌ፣

- | | | |
|----|-------------|------|
| 1. | ገዴ ገገሤ መንገሻ | ሰብሰቡ |
| 2. | ፡፡ ይላማ ደለለጉ | አባል |
| 3. | ፡፡ ምናሴ ገሻው | ፡፡ |
| 4. | ፡፡ ጉረሣ ለፈ | ፡፡ |
| 5. | ፡፡ ክፍሌ ወልቶ | ፀባሪ |

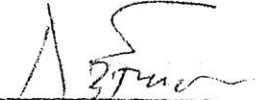

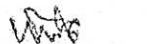
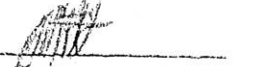
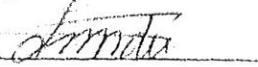
አ ሀ ገ ገ ፣

ሰለ 1ኛ. አቶ ጢቃሪ ቃዲ 2ኛ. አቶ ሣንቲሚ መስመድ 3ኛ. አቶ አሳይ ያ 4ኛ. አቶ ሀሰን መስመድ 5ኛ. አቶ አብዳራኤል ኡሳማን 6ኛ. አቶ አብይ መስመድ የተባሉ በጋራ ጉዞ ላይ በቀን መያዝነት በጥበቃና ቁጥጥር ሥራ ተሰማርተው ለሚገኙ ሠራተኞች ጠር መሣሪያ ለማስታወቅ የተደረገ ሰብሰባ ነው፡፡

በባሌ ተራራዎች ብ/ጋራ ጉዞ ላይ ያከጠር መሣሪያ በባይ እንገዛ ጥበቃና ቁጥጥር ሥራ ሲያከናውኑ ቆይተው በአሁኑ ወቅት የጠር መሣሪያ ማሳጠቅ አስፈላጊ ሆኖ በውጤት በቀርብ ጊዜ ክፍያ መ/ቤት አዲስ አበባ የጋራ አስተዳደር ኃላፊ ገዴ ተስፋዩ ሁንዳሣ ለሥራ ጉባኤት መጥተው ሰለዚህ ጉዳይ ጋራ ሰለአለበት የሠው ኃይል አጥረት ተወያይተው ያሉት የቀን መያዝነት ጠር መሣሪያ መታወቅ አንዳለባቸው ሰለ አሰሰቡ በዚህ መሠረት ለጥር የሚሆን የጠር መሣሪያ እንዲታወቅ ገቢ ተወካዮች ለመቀረብ፡፡

ው ገ ገ ፣

ተጠቃሪዎች በመ/ቤታችን ላይ ለብዙ ጊዜ በቀን መያዝነት ሲያገልግሉ በቀን ጊዜያት በሥራ ላይ ይገኛቸው በትጋት በቀን ልባናና ታግኝነታቸውን ገቢ ተወካዮች ያረጋገጠላቸው ሲሆን በአሁኑ ወቅት ያለን የታወቀ የሰው ኃይል አሳሳትና በመሆኑ ሚንቶ ጠባቢ ከ20 መሰል ጥይት ጋር እንዲታወቁና የተሰጣቸውን የጠር መሣሪያ በጥንቃቄ እንዲይዙ እና ሰለአለበት ቀጠለው የጥበቃ ክትትልና ቁጥጥር እንዲደረግ ሆኖ የሰብሰባው አባላት በአገደ ደምጽ ተሰማኝ ወሰነዋል፡፡

- | | | | | | |
|----|---|----|--|----|--|
| 1. | 
ገገሤ መንገሻ | 2. | 
ይላማ ደለለጉ | 3. | 
ምናሴ ገሻው |
| 4. | 
ጉረሣ ለፈ | 5. | 
ክፍሌ ወልቶ | | |

Appendix XVI

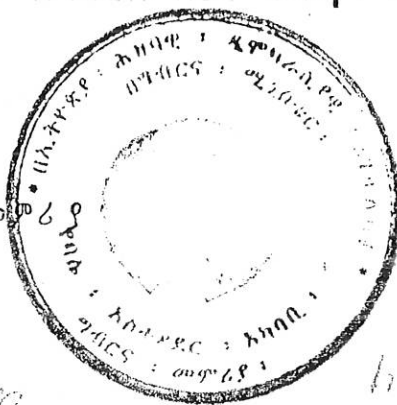
ለባለ ተራራዎቹ ብጩራዊ ፖርክ ጸ/ቤት
ደንብ፤

ቀ 4-9/8

L.P.C. 25. 1983

በደሴ አውራጃ መና አካባቢ በወልተኪ ገዳና ቀበሌ ገበረ ማህበር ክልል ውስጥ ከፍተኛ የአንበሳ መንገድ ተነሳቶ በአምስት/5/ የቀንድ ከብቸ ላይ ገዳት ከማድረሱም በላይ ለሰው ህይወት አደገኛ አዘማጫ ያለው መሆኑን የደሴ አውራጃ ገብርና መመሪያ በ6/5/83 በቁጥር 522/ደ_2/83 በተጻፈ ደብዳቤ ያሳወቀን ስለሆነ እንደዚህ አይነት ክፍተት የቦር እንሰሳት በገብረ ትና በህይወት ላይ ጥፋት በሚያደርስበት ወቅት በናንተና በቦር እንሰሳት ጥበቃና ለማት ይርዩት ዋናው መ/ቤት በኩል ወፍትጤ የሚሰጠው በመሆኑ ይህ የአንበሳ መንገድ የበለጠ ገዳት ከማድረሱ በፊት ልፋባን መፍትሄ እንደሚሰጥ እና ሳስባለን፡፡

ገለበጭ//
ለደሴ አውራጃ ገብርና መመሪያ
መና፤



ኢትዮጵያ ተቀደም//

የደሴ አውራጃ ገብርና መመሪያ
ቀ 4-9/8

624/155/83
6.6.83

Handwritten notes and signatures on the left side of the page, including names like 'ገብርና' and 'መመሪያ'.



የ/የ 54/3/9/86

በኢትዮጵያ የሥነ-ምግባር ሚኒስቴር
የሥነ-ምግባር ሚኒስቴር ሚኒስትር
የሥነ-ምግባር ሚኒስቴር ሚኒስትር

ግንቦት 30 1986

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ለባለ ዘን መስተዳደር ጸ/ቤተ

ርቤ ::

ጉዳዩ በባለ ተራራ ምክር ቤቱ ጋር ወስኖ ስለተገደለ ኒያል

በአሮጌያ ክልል ውስጥ ከሚገኙት ብርቀና ድንቅ የዳር እንሰባት መካከል አንዱ ኒያል ነው። ክሊሱን በአለም ውስጥ ሊያስመዘገብ የቻለና ተዋቂነት ያለ ገን እንደሆነ ይታወቃል። ይህ በአንዲት አያለ ገንቦት 9 ቀን 1986 ዓ.ም ከጠዋት በ5:30 ሰዓት በሚሆንበት ጊዜ አደሌ ተብሎ ከሚጠራው ሰፍራ ላይ አንድ ኒያል ተገደሎ የዳወና ሥጋው ተወስዶ የተገኘ መሆኑን በመገለጽ የባለ ተራራ ምክር ቤቱ/ጋር ጸ/ቤተ ገንቦት 9 ቀን 1986 ዓ.ም በቀጥታ 21/86 ባስተላለፈት የረዲዩ መለፀፍ ዘን ለመረዳት ቸለፍል።

አንዳንድ የረባቸውን ጥቅም በሚወጡ የአካባቢው ነዋሪዎች አማካኝነት የኒያል መገደል በተፈጥሮ ሃሳብ ጥበቃ ላይ የጥፋት ተለወጠ ነው።

በተረጎመው ገደብ ላይ ከአሁኑ ለፋቢካ አርምጥ ካልተወሰደ በግን አለባቸውን የሚቀጥል ይሆናል የሚል ከፍተኛ ሥጋት አድርገናል።

በአዚህ መስተዳደሩ ሁኔታውን በመረዳት ጥሩ ቀን በረጅም ገለበጠ ላይ ሕጋዊ የሆነ ከተተላ ለንዲደረገና ለወደፊት ለሕገ ወጥ አዳኞች ተምህርት ሊሰጡ የሚችሉ አርምጥ ይወሰዱ ዘንድ ለናባሰባለን። =x=x=x=x=x=x=x=x=x=x=x=x=x=x=x=x

ገ ለ ባ ዌ

- ለባለ ተራራ ምክር ቤቱ/ጋር ጸ/ቤተ ዲገሽ ::
- ለደንና ዳር እንሰባት ጉ. አዲስ አበባ ::



“ ከሰላም ታ ጋር ”
[Signature]
ሊደኩን አሰኝ
ዘ/የ ሥነ-ምግባር

አ/አ. ናገራጌ
የሥነ-ምግባር ሚኒስቴር
የሥነ-ምግባር ሚኒስቴር

114

6.14

Appendix XVIII

91

የግብርና ሚኒስቴር
የግብርና ሚኒስቴር
የግብርና ሚኒስቴር

ቁጥር 14/90/87
ቀን 1987

ለደንብ ፅረት ያቀረበው ቤት

ደንብ

ገዳጅ: በሕገ መንግሥት የተገለጸ የድር ለገበያ ጭለኝ
በ6/07/87 ዓ.ም ለሰራ ጉዳይ ፀደቀ ርቢ ገቢ, በጽንዖት ገዢ በአባባሪ ዘላ
የ/ገ/ዳህሮ በአቶ ጭጭጭ ጭጭ ቤት ረተ ለረተ ለገጽ ለሃር ተገዳሪ የገጽ ለገጽ ገ
ገጽ ባባሪ ላይ ለገገተናለ፤ ገዳጅ ጭጭ ለገገተ በጽንዖት ሰዓት የገጽ ተተ
የገገጥ በጭጭ ጭጭ ለገገተ ገዳጅ ለገገተ ለገገተ ለገገተ ለገገተ ለገገተ ለገገተ
የገገጥ ለገገተ ጭጭ ጭጭ፤

በአዲስ የቤት ባለቤት አቶ ጭጭጭ ጭጭ ጭጭ ጭጭ ጭጭ ጭጭ ጭጭ
ሆነ በገገተ በጭጭ ጭጭ ተገር ተ ለሕገ ለገገተ ጭጭ ጭጭ ጭጭ ጭጭ ጭጭ



ከሠላም ታ ጋይ
Jeewziff

ሃምሳ ገ ያ
ክክ

ገለጻ

ለደንብ ፅረት ገለጻ ጸ/ቤት

ደንብ

ለሃር ለገበያተ የ/ሰ/ድርጅት

ለደባ ለባባ



Appendix - XIX

የአዲስ አበባ ዩኒቨርሲቲ የሥነ ምግባር ምረቃ ትምህርት ማዕከል
የትምህርት ደረጃ ምርመራ ቤቅ
ለምርመራ ደብዳቤ የሚያገለግል ነው።
በምርመራው ላይ የሚጠቀሙት ሰነዶች ለምርመራው ብቻ ናቸው።

የምርመራ ቁጥር / 37 / 95

ቀን 19 / 2 / 95

ባለቤት የሌላ ገቢ የሌት አገላለጽ ተገባባኪ ግህበት
ገንዘብ ተርጓሚ
ገንዘብ

በተርጓሚ ጽ/ቤታችሁ አቀራቢያ በሚገኘው የባላ ተራራ ገንዘብ የጋር ከሌለ
ይህን ውጤት የሚያደረገው ወጣት በላይ አገላለጽ ላይ ከሚገኘው በከፊት ጋር ጥቂት
በማድረስ ላይ ይገኛሉ፡፡

እነዚህ ወጣት በላይ አገላለጽ ላይ የሚያደርሱትን ተጨማሪ ለውጫት በተደጋጋሚ
የተወያየንበት ለሠጥኞች ምንም ዓይነት ጋራ ስሜት ጥቂት ዘረ የረረበት የከፊት ደረጃ
ላይ ሊደርስ ችሏል፡፡ በዚህም መሠረት የጋር ገንዘብ ከሚገኘው አገላለጽ ጋር
አፋጣኝ ጋራ ስሜት ለማድረግ ለውጫት ላይ የሚገኘው የሆነ ጋራ ስሜት በከፊት
የሚገኘው ከሆነ የረባቸውን ለርዎች በጋር ከሌለ ይህን ለውጫት የሚገኘው መሆኑን
አገልግሎት፡፡

ከሠላም ታጋይ
የጋር ገንዘብ
የሚያደረግበት ሰነድ ነው።
044

፳፯

ላቲን ስም አድርጎ ይሰጣል

ሆኖ

ላቲን ስም ይሰጣል

፳፯

Handwritten signature and text in Amharic script.

Main body of text in Amharic script, containing a detailed report or official statement.

፳፯

Text block in Amharic script, likely a continuation of the report.

፳፯

Text block in Amharic script, containing further details or conclusions.

፳፯ ላቲን ስም ይሰጣል ላቲን ስም ይሰጣል

፳፯

ላቲን ስም አድርጎ ይሰጣል

Handwritten notes and signatures at the bottom left.

Handwritten signature and text at the bottom center.





የብሔራዊ ግብርና ገጠር ልማት ጽ/ቤት
National Park Authority
Park Office

ቁጥር ገ-49/1185/05
ቀን 8/01/05

ለዲንሾ ወረዳ ግብርና ገጠር ልማት ጽ/ቤት
ዲንሾ

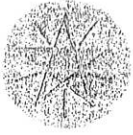
ጉዳይ: የባሌ ተራራዎች ብ/ፓርክ ዳግም ክለላን ይመለከታል

የባሌ ተራራዎች ብ/ፓርክ በ1962 ዓ.ም ከተቋቋመ ጊዜ ጀምሮ የድንበሩ ጉዳይ በተለያዩ ጊዜያት መነሳታቸው ይታወቃል። በተለይ በ2000 እና 2001 ዓ.ም የተካሄዱ የዳግም ክለላ ሥራዎች የተሻሉና ህብረተሰቡን አሳታፊ መሆናቸው ይታወቃል።

ይህንን አስመልክቶ በ11/01/2005 ላልተቋጩ የዳግም ክለላ ቀበሌዎች ድንበሮች ዙሪያ ለመወያየት ስለፈለግን በዕለቱ ከጠዋቱ 2:00 በባሌ ተራራዎች ብ/ፓርክ ሎጅ (ዲንሾ) የጽ/ቤቱ ኃላፊ (ተ/ኃላፊ) እንዲገኙልን በማክበር እንጠይቃለን። አስፈላጊው ወጪ ሁሉ የሚሸፈን መሆኑን እየገለፅን ለአስፈላጊው አገልግሎት ደረሰኝ መያዝ እንደለብዎት እንገልጻለን።

ከሠላምታ ጋር

ገረመው መብራቱ
National Park Warden



በኢትዮጵያ ፌዴራላዊ ዲሞክራሲያዊ ሪፐብሊክ
የኢትዮጵያ የዱር እንስሳት ልማትና ጥበቃ ባለሥልጣን

Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia
Ethiopian Wildlife Conservation Authority



ቁጥር 35/75/0
No.
ቀን 06 ጥቅም 2002
Date

በኦሮሚያ ብሔራዊ ክልላዊ መንግስት መስተዳደር
በፕሬዝዳንት ጽ/ቤት
አዲስ አበባ፣

ጉዳዩ፡- የባሌ ተራራዎች ብሔራዊ ፓርክን ማካሰል ይመለከታል።

ከላይ በርዕሱ ለመጥቀስ እንደተሞከረው የባሌ ተራራዎች ብሔራዊ ፓርክን ለማካሰል ፓርኩን የኦሮሚያ ክልላዊ መንግስት በሚያስተዳድርበት ጊዜ የዳግም ክልላው ሃይት በ1999 መጀመሩ ይታወቃል።

በዚህ መሠረት ፓርኩን 5 ወረዳዎችና 26 መንደሮች የሚያዋስኑት ሲሆን ከ25ቱ መንደሮች ጋር ህዝቡን በማሳተፍ የህዝቡ ድንበርና የፓርኩ ድንበር ሊለይ ተችሏል። ይሁንና እንደ መንደር ምዕራብ አርሲ ሆን እደባ ወረዳ የምትገኝ መስቀል ሀሪቾ የሚባል መንደር የፓርኩ ድንበር ለመቀበል ፍቃድ መሆን ስላልቻለ ከወረዳው መንግስትና ከሆኑ አስተዳደር ጋር በመሆን ችግሩን ለመፍታት ጥረት ሲደረግ ቆይቶል። የአዳባ ወረዳና የምዕራብ አርሲ ሆን ስህተቱን በመረዳት ፓርኩን ለማካሰል አቋም ቢይዙም ችግሩ ሳይፈታ ቆይቷል።

በዚህ ምክንያት በአሁኑ ወቅት ፓርኩን በየኑስስ ለማስመዘገብ ከተጠየቀው መስፈርት ውስጥ አንዱ ህጋዊ ድንበር በመሆኑ ይህም ድንበር በአገሪቱ ፓርኮች ዐድቆ ለየኑስስ መላክ ስላለበት የአንድ መንደር በራሰረው ችግር ፓርኩ ከየኑስስ ጊዜያዊ መዘገብ ላይ ሊፋቅ ተቃርቧል። ሌሎችም ፓርኮች ጋር በድርድር ፓርኩን ያካለው መንደሮች ከመስቀል ሀሪቾ መንደር ሁኔታ በመነሳት ፓርኩን ለማፍረስ ንቅናቄ ላይ ናቸው።

ስለዚህ የኦሮሚያ ክልላዊ መንግስት ይህንን ችግር በመረዳት ለሚመለከተው አካል የስራ መመሪያ እንዲሰጥልን በትህትና እንጠይቃለን።



ከሠላምታ ጋር
[Signature]
የኦሮሚያ ክልላዊ መንግስት
የፕሬዝዳንት ጽ/ቤት

ገልጻል

- ለብሔራዊ ፓርኮችና መጠለያዎች ማስተባበሪያ ዳይሬክቶሬት አዲስ አበባ፣
- ለባሌ ተራራዎች ብሔራዊ ፓርክ ዲግሪ



ጥቅም: 03. 1985

የኢትዮጵያ ፌዴራላዊ ዲሞክራሲያዊ ሪፐብሊክ
የግብርና ግዢ ሚኒስቴር
የድርጅቶች ጥቅም ለማድረግ ደርጅት

ለባለ ተራራ ምቹ ብ/ጋር ከ

ዳንሽ

ጉዳዩ - በጋር ከ አካባቢ ባለ የተረጎሞ ደን ላይ በሌላ ሚዛን ላይ

ቃጠሎ ይመለከታል

ከቦር የገብርና ሚኒስቴር በጋር ከ በስተደቡብ በሚገኘው የተረጎሞ ደን ላይ የሚገኘውን የአባት ቃጠሎ፤ ግንኙነትም የአካባቢውን ደን በመወጣት አርባን ለማስፋፋት የሚፈጸመውን ድርጊት በጥበቃ በኩል ለስታቲስቲክስ የተሟላ አር ምን መወሰድ አንዳለበት በየካቲት ወር ወደአካባቢው ሰንብተው ከመጡ ፕሮግራም ስር ደግሞ ለብዳላ ታደር የኢት/ጥቅም መስተረጃ ማህበር ፕረዘንት ከጻፉት ደብዳቤ በመነሳት፤ የጉዳዩን ከፍተኛ አሰጣጥ በመጥቀስ ከላይ የተጠቀሱትን ሕግ ወጥ ድርጊቶች በአስቸኳይ አፈገገው ጉዳዩን ለማስመለከታት ለዘኑ ለካላት መሪ ሪፖርት ለጉዳዩ ለአርግሜንታ ክልላዊ መንግሥት ምክር ቤት ሲጻፉ፤ ድርጅታችን በገለባው አንዳለው ተደርጋለን በተለይም በአካባቢው የሚገኘውን ጥፋት በጋራ ጥረት ለማድረግ የጋር ከ ማህበረ ግብርና ሚኒስቴር አርግሜንታ በመወሰድ የበኩሉን ለስተዋጽኦ አንዳለደርገን የጠቁሙ ስለሆነ፤ ጋር ከም በተቻለው ሁሉ ከሚመለከታቸው አካላት ጋር በጋራ በመወያየት ሁኔታውን በጋራ ለመገታት ደርጅታችን ጥረት አንዳለደርገን እና ማህበሩ የደረሰባቸውን ጥፋት በየጊዜው አንድታባቸውን ይሁን፡፡



.. ከሰላም ታ ጋር ..

[Handwritten signature]
ይይኩን አቡነ
ዳንሽ

ገ ለ ባ ጥ

ለብ/ጋር ከ ጥበቃ ግብርና ግዢ ሚኒስቴር

ዳንሽ ለበባ

[Handwritten notes and signatures]
አንድ ግዳ
ጉዳዩን በጋር ከም ታደር
የምደብረው ለካላት
የምደብረው

Guyyaa 12/6/99

**Wajjira Paarkii Garreewwan Baalectiif.
Diinshoo**

**Dhimmi- Gabaasa ibidda Aanaa Goobbaa ganda Rira keessaan
ka'e ilaala.**

Kunis guyyaa 5/6/99 ganda Rira kallattii bahaa lafa maqaan Addaa Qotiinsa jedhamu gubbatti Bosonni Saatoo lafa heektaara 60 ol kan ta'u gubee dhaamee jira.

Akkasumas naannoo tuqame kana irratti ji'a dabre keessa kan gubatee jiru heektaara 40 ni ta'a. Ganduma kana kallattii kaabaatiin lafa maqaan addaa Gaara Babarichaa jedhamu hanga Kaarra Diimaa fi Gaara Waagabataa jedhamutti lafa bosonaa saatootiin uffifame heektaara 100 ol kan ta'u gubatee jira.

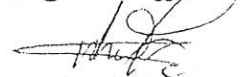
Akkasumas Gaara Riraa karaa konkolaataa irraa gara dhihaatti 20 ol kan ta'u gubatee dhaamee jira. Akkasumas guyyaa 9/6/99tti ummatticha gandaa walitti qabsiifnee gorsa barbaachisuu fi of'eeggannoo itti kenninee wayta nuu biraa sosochonu sa'atii 10:00 wayta ganduma Riraa iddoo Tooyuu jehamu irraa itt. qabamee battalanatti dhaamee jira.

Walumaa galatti Aanaa Goobbaa Ganda Riraa keessatti lafti heektaara 220 olitti tilmaamamu kan bosona Saatootiin uffifame gubachuu na jannee jirra. Akkasumas sababni isaa kan hubanne

1. Saatoon odoo hin gubatin waggaa afuriif shan yoo ture raammo horata, Raammoon horii isaanii waan ajjeessuuf ni gubu.
2. Iddoon gubate dheeda horitiif baay'ee gaarii dha jedhu
3. Waraabessi keessatti galee horii nu jalaa nyaata jedhu
4. Yeroo Saatoo guddaan gubate harofti biqilu kinnisni Abaaboo gaarii argata kan jedhani dha.

Kanaafuu yaanni ibidichaa namoonni tokko tokko ta'e jedhanii kan gubaa jiran waan ta'eef gama seeraatiin hordoffiin cimaan itti godhamuu qaba kan jedhu gabaasa kiyya kanumaan ni dha.

Nagaa Wajjiin



Hajji Ebuu

I/G/ Iskaawutootaa

I declare that this is my own original work and has not been presented for a degree on any other university. All sources in the thesis have been duly acknowledged.

Name Dessul Kadir

Signature Sefiz

Date of Submission 12 Nov 2015