

WORLD HERITAGE NOMINATION

IUCN TECHNICAL REVIEW

1. IDENTIFICATION NUMBER AND NAME 156 Serengeti National Park
2. LOCATION: Northwestern Tanzania, 2°S, 34°35'E.
3. NOMINATED BY: National Parks Department, Government of Tanzania
4. DOCUMENTATION:
 - (i) Nomination form
 - (ii) Supplementary documentation (IUCN)
 - a) Consultations with large number of experienced and qualified individuals at the Serengeti Diamond Jubilee, January 1981
 - b) Consultations with Jim Thorsell and Fred Pertet, Kenya Wildlife Planning Unit
 - c) Field visit during Serengeti Diamond Jubilee; field visit to adjacent reserves of Ngorongoro and Masai Mara (Kenya)
 - d) Sinclair, A.R.E. and Norton-Griffiths, M. 1980. Serengeti: Dynamics of an Ecosystem. University of Chicago Press, New York. 389 pp.
 - e) African Wildlife Leadership Foundation, 1974. "The Serengeti Landscape Classification". 26 pp, plus map.
5. BACKGROUND AND SUMMARY

Serengeti is an area of savanna and open woodland comprising some 1.5 million hectares. It contains the largest herds of grazing animals in the world, providing a wildlife spectacle that is second to none. The great migrating herds of perhaps 2 million wildebeest, 900,000 Thomson's gazelles, and 300,000 zebras are continuously moving through the entire ecosystem, but the sight is most impressive in May and June, when the animals travel en masse from the central plains to the permanent water holes on the western side of the park. As the vast herds move westwards in parades over 10 km long, followed by their predators, they pass through the central Itonjo range in one of the most remarkable and inspiring wildlife spectacles in the world. The Serengeti ecosystem contains much more than these dominant species. There are 7,000 eland, 27,000 topi, 18,000 hartebeest, 70,000 buffalo, 4,000 giraffe, 15,000 warthog, 3,000 waterbuck, 2,700 elephant, 500 hippopotamus, 200 black rhino, plus at least 10 other species of antelope and 7 of primates. The rich fauna of large herbivores supports no less than 5 major predators, including 4,000 lion, 1,000 leopard, 225 cheetah, 3,500 spotted hyena, and 300 wild dog. There are at least 17 species of lesser predators, including bat-eared fox and ratel. The Serengeti National Park is well managed, with a large (200+) and well-trained staff (due particularly to the facilities of the College of African Wildlife Management at Mweka, Tanzania), well-designed tourist facilities, and continuing support from a number of bi-lateral and multi-lateral agencies. Also worthy of note is the presence of the Serengeti Research Institute, established in 1962 to provide a scientific basis for management. Studies cover ecology and behaviour of wildlife, disease and parasitology, elephant damage, distribution of vegetation, effects of burning, and a wide variety of other matters of interest to park management.

6. INTEGRITY

Serengeti is contiguous with Ngorongoro Conservation Unit, an area of 528,000 hectares declared a World Heritage Site in 1979. But even the combined Serengeti-Ngorongoro ecosystem of nearly 2 million hectares does not include the entire ecosystem (which is defined by the area used by the wildebeest); the Maswa Game Reserve in the south and the Mara National Reserve in Kenya to the north are both key areas in the functioning of the great animal migrations (see map attached). It should also be noted that the number of wildebeest have increased remarkably in recent years, from 250,000 in 1961 to 700,000 in 1971 to nearly 2 million today; this represents an accelerating recovery from the rinderpest (a viral disease of ungulates) epidemic which killed 95 percent of the wildebeest in East Africa in 1890, but the rinderpest antibody is no longer found in wildebeest and the crowded conditions are a prescription for disaster. Cropping plans are being developed and should be considered a part of sound management of the site rather than any threat to its integrity. A more real threat is the plan to build a railroad through Serengeti. This would essentially cut the ecosystem in half, with predictably unfortunate consequences. To conclude, it is felt that the Serengeti National Park is sufficiently large to ensure the survival of all the species contained therein if it is maintained as at present, but that it does not, by itself, ensure the protection of the entire migratory ecosystem.

7. COMPARISON WITH OTHER AREAS

A number of East African ecologists, game wardens, and administrators were interviewed in Serengeti in January 1981. Their unanimous judgement was that Serengeti is unmatched in the world as a wildlife spectacle. It is considered an excellent, even necessary, complement to Ngorongoro Conservation Unit. Other protected areas of Serengeti's general size and character in the same biogeographic province include Rungwa National Reserve in Tanzania, Southern National Park in Sudan, and Ruaha National Park in Tanzania. Serengeti is superior to all of these in its spectacle of migration, effective management, and long-term continuing research.

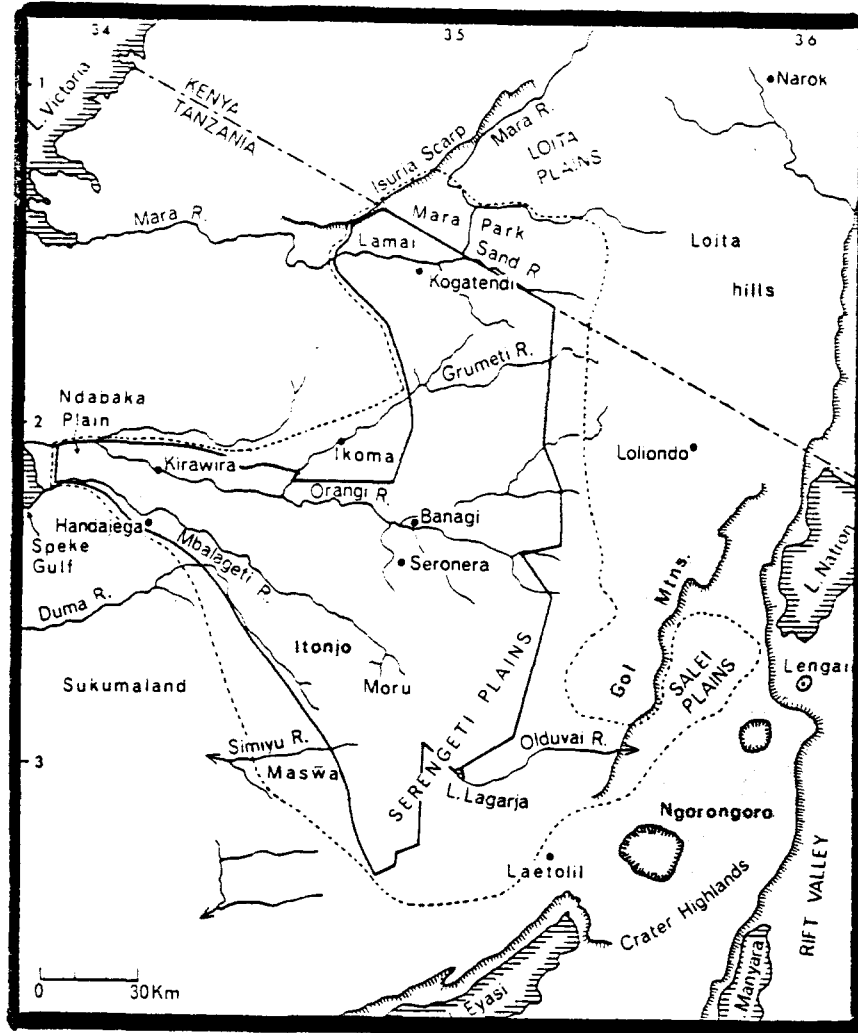
8. EVALUATION

Serengeti National Park, with its vast herds of ungulates and their associated predators, is an outstanding example of a Pleistocene large mammal ecosystem where mankind developed as a hunter; the nearby archeological sites of Olduvai (Oldopai) Gorge (included in the Ngorongoro Conservation Unit World Heritage Site) demonstrate that this was a habitat where humanity evolved. The area is sufficiently large to ensure the survival of this savanna ecosystem in perpetuity, though the migratory part of the system also requires the protection of the Maswa Game Reserve (217,600 ha.) to the south and the Masai Mara National Reserve (151,300 ha.) in Kenya to the north. The wildlife spectacle of Serengeti is the quintessence of Africa, but cannot be matched by any other African site; it has the largest and most diverse concentration of large mammals in the world. The wildlife is secure in Serengeti, provided it can be maintained at its present level of protection.

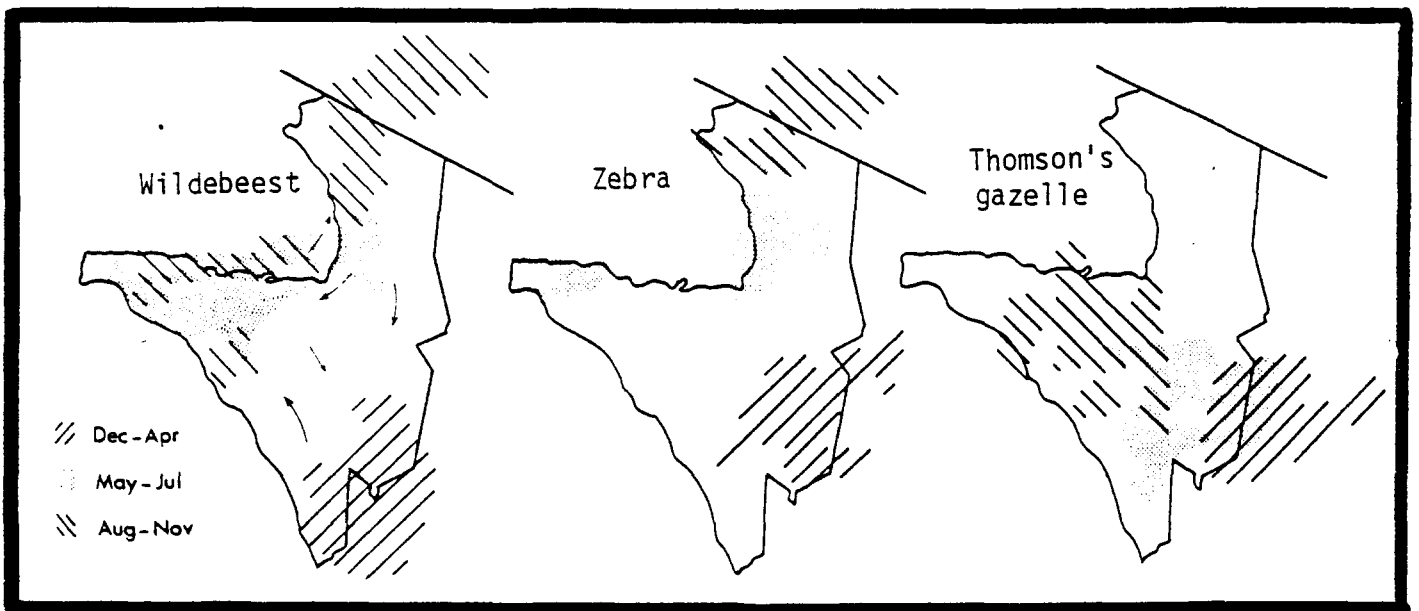
9. RECOMMENDATION

Serengeti National Park meets the criteria of the Convention and should be added to the World Heritage List. The Tanzanian Government should be encouraged to add Maswa Game Reserve to the site, though it is not considered necessary to include the Game Reserve in the National Park because the ecosystem will benefit by areas where controlled exploitation of certain wildlife

MAPS OF THE SERENGETI-MARA ECOSYSTEM AND ITS ANIMAL MIGRATIONS

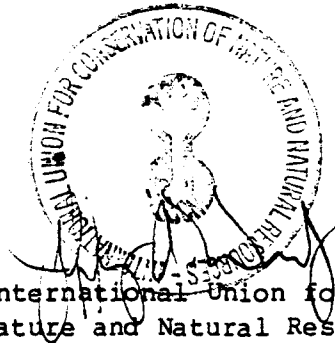


The Serengeti-Mara ecosystem is the area used by the wildebeest (even broken line). The Serengeti National Park is shown by the heavy line. Hills are shaded. (From Sinclair and Norton-Griffiths, 1980)



Seasonal movements of wildebeest, Thomson's gazelle and zebra in the Serengeti ecosystem. (From Sinclair and Norton-Griffiths, 1980)

species is allowed. Kenya's Masai Mara National Reserve was visited as part of this Technical Review; it is clearly part of the Serengeti-Mara ecosystem and should be considered for addition to the World Heritage List once Kenya becomes a signatory to the Convention. In the interim, it is sufficiently well managed to provide protection to the migratory wildlife.



International Union for Conservation of
Nature and Natural Resources

July 1981 (rev)

SERENGETI NATIONAL PARK (Tanzania)

Serengeti is the essence of the African savanna. Comprising some 1.5 million hectares, it contains the largest herds of grazing animals in the world, providing a wildlife spectacle that is unmatched anywhere on earth.

The great migrating herds of perhaps 2 million wildebeest, 900,000 Thomson's gazelles, and 300,000 zebras are continuously moving through the entire ecosystem, but the sight is most impressive in May and June, when the animals travel en masse from the central plains to the permanent water holes on the western side of the park. As the vast herds move westwards in parades over 10 km long, followed by their predators, they pass through the central Itonjo range in one of the most remarkable and inspiring wildlife spectacles in the world.

The Serengeti ecosystem contains much more than these dominant species. There are 7,000 eland, 27,000 topi, 18,000 hartebeest, 70,000 buffalo, 4,000 giraffe, 15,000 warthog, 3,000 waterbuck, 2,700 elephant, 500 hippopotamus, 200 black rhino, plus at least 10 other species of antelope and 7 of primates. The rich fauna of large herbivores supports no less than 5 major predators, including 4,000 lion, 1,000 leopard, 225 cheetah, 3,500 spotted hyena, and 300 wild dog. There are at least 17 species of lesser predators, including bat-eared fox and ratel.

The Serengeti National Park is well managed, with a large (200 plus) and well-trained staff (due particularly to the facilities of the College of African Wildlife Management at Mweka, Tanzania), well-designed tourist facilities, and continuing support from a number of bi-lateral and multi-lateral agencies. Also worthy of note is the presence of the Serengeti Research Institute, established in 1962 to provide a scientific basis for management. Studies cover ecology and behavior of wildlife, disease and parasitology, elephant damage, distribution of vegetation, effects of burning, and a wide variety of other matters of interest to park management.

Serengeti National Park, with its vast herds of ungulates and their associated predators, is the outstanding example of a large mammal ecosystem which resembles that of the Pleistocene Epoch, when mankind developed as a hunter; the nearby archeological site at Olduvai Gorge (included in the adjacent Ngorongoro Conservation Unit World Heritage Site) demonstrates that this was the habitat where mankind evolved in Africa. The Serengeti area, together with Ngorongoro, is large enough to ensure the survival of this savanna ecosystem in perpetuity, provided it can be maintained at its current level of protection.

TANZANIA

NAME Serengeti National Park

MANAGEMENT CATEGORY II (National Park)
IX (Biosphere Reserve)
X (World Heritage Site - Criteria: ii,
iii, iv)

BIOGEOGRAPHICAL PROVINCE 3.05.04 (East African
Woodland/savanna)

GEOGRAPHICAL LOCATION West of Great Rift Valley, 130km
west-north-west of Arusha. A corridor extends westwards to
within 8km of Lake Victoria and a northern sector extending to
the Kenya border. In Mara, Arusha, and Shinyanga regions.
1°30'-3°20'S, 34°00'-35°15'E

DATE AND HISTORY OF ESTABLISHMENT Protected area since 1940. In
1929, 228,600ha of central Serengeti was declared a game reserve.
National park status in 1951 with extensive boundary
modifications in 1959. Included with the adjoining Maswa Game
Reserve as part of Serengeti-Ngorongoro Biosphere Reserve in
1981. Accepted as part of a World Heritage Site in 1981.

AREA The biosphere reserve covers 2,305,100ha and includes
Serengeti National Park (1,476,300ha); contiguous to Ngorongoro
Conservation Area (828,800ha) in the east, Maswa Game Reserve
(220,000ha; recently reduced) in the south, Maasai-Mara National
Reserve (167,200ha) in Kenya to the north, and Ikorongo-Grumeti
Game Controlled Area on the west.

LAND TENURE Government

ALTITUDE 920-1,850m

PHYSICAL FEATURES The plains of Serengeti are mainly crystalline
rocks overlain by volcanic ash with numerous granitic rock
outcrops (kopjes). In the north and along the western corridor
are mountain ranges of mainly volcanic origin. Two rivers
flowing west usually contain water and there are a number of
lakes, marshes, and waterholes.

CLIMATE Rainfall is mainly restricted to November-May with peaks
in December and March/April. Mean annual temperature 20.8°C and
mean annual precipitation 1210mm recorded at 1,150m.

VEGETATION The undulating open grassland plains are the major type of vegetation, but become almost desert during periods of severe drought. Dominant species are couch grass Digitaria macroblephara and Sporobolus marginatus (an indicator of saline soils). In wetter areas, sedges such as Kyllinga spp. take over. There is an extensive block of acacia woodland savanna in the centre, a more hilly and densely wooded zone covering most of the northern arm of the park, and some gallery forest. Lowland woodlands comprise Commiphora, Acacia drepanolobium, and A. gerrardii. Upland woodlands comprise Acacia lahai and A. seyal.

FAUNA The park is best known for the now unrivalled herd sizes of 'plains game', which migrate between seasonal water supplies. These include wildebeest Connochaetes taurinus (about 1.3 million), zebra Equus burchelli, Thomson's gazelle Gazella thomsoni, numerous prides of lion Panthera leo, and spotted hyena Crocuta crocuta. In May and June many game animals take part in a mass migration away from the central plains into the western corridor.

Other characteristic mammals are hunting dog Lycaon pictus (T), leopard Panthera pardus (T), cheetah Acinonyx jubatus (T), elephant Loxodonta africana (T), black rhinoceros Diceros bicornis (T), hippopotamus Hippopotamus amphibius, giraffe Giraffa camelopardalis, buffalo Syncerus caffer, topi Damaliscus lunatus, waterbuck Kobus ellipsiprymnus, eland Taurotragus oryx, sitatunga Tragelaphus spekei, bushbuck T. scriptus, oryx Oryx gazella, reedbuck Redunca redunca, mountain reedbuck R. fulvorufula, numerous species of rodents and bats, golden jackal Canis aureus, side striped jackal C. adustus, Grant's gazelle Gazella granti, seven species of mongoose, two species of otter, warthog Phacochoerus aethiopicus, and seven species of primate. Smaller predators include bat-eared fox Otocyon megalotis and ratel Mellivora capensis. Over 350 recorded bird species include 34 species of raptors, six vultures, kori bustard Choriotis kori, ostrich Struthio camelus and lesser flamingo Phoeniconaias minor, and several with a comparatively restricted distribution such as rufous-tailed weaver Histurgops ruficauda.

CULTURAL HERITAGE No information

LOCAL HUMAN POPULATION No information

VISITORS AND VISITOR FACILITIES Tourist facilities include lodges at Seronera and Lobo and four campsites near Seronera. Lodges are being built at Kirawira (one operational as of August 1989), Klein's Camp, Banagai, Turner Springs, Seronera and Nyaruboru. Six access routes exist, but usually access is by road from the Ngorongoro Conservation Area. There are several airstrips and an aerodrome at Seronera. In 1983, after several years of isolation due to the closed border with Kenya, Serengeti recorded its lowest number of visitors (18,602) since the 1950s.

WCMC/UNESCO Draft World Heritage Database, March 1994

The reopening of the Tanzania-Kenya border in December 1983 has already resulted in increased visitor numbers. If tourism increases further, a lodge may be built in the western Kirawira area.

SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH The park has been the centre for major research for the past 20 years, including studies in human and animal ecology, soils, vegetation, herbivores, predators, parasites, elephant damage, effects of burning and management problems and natural resource assessment. Present studies include continuation of long term studies of the behavioural ecology of lion, cheetah, dwarf mongoose and hyrax. An integrated research and management study of the effect of fire is in progress, as are studies of grazing ungulate behavioural ecology and banded mongoose behaviour. Seronera Research Centre (formerly known as Serengeti Research Institute) has well-equipped laboratories, a library, herbarium and accommodation for visiting scientists. Although not fully utilised while the Kenya-Tanzania was closed, the Centre is now fully utilised. The Serengeti Wildlife Research Centre conducts an ecological monitoring programme. Studies include climate monitoring, vegetation dynamics and the status and ecology of various animal species.

CONSERVATION MANAGEMENT The management plan is under review, since the area was accepted as a World Heritage site. The park administration works with the village authorities to resettle encroachers and re-mark the boundary. Grumeti Game Controlled Area has been incorporated in the park as greater control of the area was thought to be necessary. IUCN is coordinating an ambitious conservation and development programme in the Serengeti region in collaboration with NORAD. The overall aim of the programme and the most appropriate management for the whole area is to ensure that while the Serengeti remains as a wild ecosystem, local communities can benefit from appropriate development activities. Three zones are proposed: strict nature reserve, tourist (or recreational) and defence. There are four administrative sub-divisions (anti-poaching zone): western, northern, Lobo, and Seronera lodges. Two tourist areas have been designated around Lobo and Seronera. Vehicles are not allowed off tracks throughout the park. Maswa Game Reserve forms an important buffer zone between the park and the populated region of Sukumaland.

MANAGEMENT PROBLEMS Poaching in the southern, northern and western corridors seems to be increasing, while anti-poaching activities (and morale) are hampered by lack of fuel and equipment. At one time the Serengeti was not within the elephants' range, but cultivation and settlement outside the park resulted in change in distribution. This resulted at one time in a number of problems. The combination of elephant, uncontrolled fires, and subsequent browsing and stunting of regrowth by

giraffe has caused a decline in woodlands. There has also been some tree cutting in small areas on the west and north-west boundaries. Boundary markers (piles of stones) have been removed and cultivation begun.

STAFF A staff of over 180 includes 35 in administration (many of whom trained at the College of African Wildlife Management at Mweka and/or the University of Dar es Salaam), 80 anti-poaching staff, one chief park warden and five park wardens.

BUDGET 1977: Tanzanian Shs.2,752,100 (approximately equivalent to US\$334,000) including grants from external sources. No recent information.

LOCAL ADMINISTRATION Tanzania National Parks Authority, PO Box 3134, Arusha

REFERENCES

Over 300 papers have been published by Centre/SRI research workers and others in scientific journals, and several popular books are also available.

Caro, T.M. (1970). Map of the Serengeti National Park and surrounding area. ARUSHA: SRI and Hunting Technical Services.

Grzimek, B. (1960). Serengeti shall not die. Hamish Hamilton, London.

Herlocker, D.J. (1976). Woody vegetation of the Serengeti National Park. College Station, Texas A & M University.

IUCN/WWF Project 1931. Tanzania, Anti-poaching equipment for National Parks.

Jager, T. (1979). Soil of the Serengeti Woodlands, Tanzania Agricultural Research Report 912: 1-239. PUDOC, Wageningen.

Kruuk, H. (1969). Interaction between populations of spotted hyena Crocuta crocuta and their prey species. In: Watson, A. (Ed.) Animal populations in relation to their food resources. Oxford.

Kruuk, H. (1972). The spotted hyaena. University of Chicago Press, Chicago.

Makacha, S., Msingwa, M.J. and Frame, G.W. (1982). Threats to the Serengeti herds. Oryx 16(5): 437-444.

Pearsall, W. (1957). Report on an ecological survey of the Serengeti National Park, Tanganyika. Fauna Preservation Society, London.

Schaller, G.B. (1972). The Serengeti Lion. University of

WCMC/UNESCO Draft World Heritage Database, March 1994

Chicago Press, Chicago and London.

Schmidl, D. (1982). The Birds of the Serengeti National Park, Tanzania. BOU Check-list No. 5, SRI Publication No. 225. British Ornithologists' Union, London.

Sinclair, A.R.E. (1977). The African buffalo: a study of resource limitation of populations. University of Chicago Press, Chicago.

Sinclair, A.R.E. and Norton-Griffiths, M. (1980). Serengeti: Dynamics of an Ecosystem. University of Chicago Press, Chicago. 389 pp.

Stronach, N. (1988). The management of fire in Serengeti National Park: objectives and prescriptions. Tanzania National Parks. 38 pp.

Wit, H.A. de (1977). Soil map of the Serengeti Plain. Appendix "Soils and grassland types of the Serengeti Plain (Tanzania)". Thesis, Landbouwhogeschool, Wageningen 1978.

DATE 1985; reviewed September 1989

0215P

PATRIMOINE MONDIAL: CANDIDATURE

EXAMEN TECHNIQUE PAR L'UICN

1. NUMERO D'IDENTIFICATION ET NOM: 156 Parc national du Serengeti
2. SITUATION GEOGRAPHIQUE: Au nord-ouest de la Tanzanie, 2°S, 34°35'E
3. CANDIDATURE PROPOSEE PAR: Le service des parcs nationaux, gouvernement tanzanien
4. DOCUMENTATION:
 - (i) Formulaire de candidature
 - (ii) Documentation complémentaire (UICN)
 - a) Consultation d'un grand nombre de personnes expérimentées et qualifiées lors du 60^e anniversaire du Serengeti en janvier 1981.
 - b) Consultation de Jim Thorsell et Fred Pertet, de l'Unité de planification de la faune du Kenya
 - c) Visite sur le terrain à l'occasion du 60^e anniversaire du parc; visite des réserves voisines de Ngorongoro et de Masaï Mara (Kenya).
 - d) Sinclair, A.R.E. et Norton-Griffiths, M. 1980. Serengeti: Dynamics of an Ecosystem. University of Chicago Press, New York. 389 p.
 - e) African Wildlife Leadership Foundation, 1976. "The Serengeti Landscape Classification". 26 p. avec une carte.

5. PRESENTATION RESUMEE

Le Serengeti est une région de savane et de forêt claire d'1,5 million d'ha. Elle contient les plus vastes troupeaux d'herbivores qui soient au monde, offrant un spectacle sans pareil. Les grands troupeaux migrateurs regroupant environ 2 millions de gnous, 900.000 gazelles de Thomson et 300.000 zèbres se déplacent continuellement dans tout l'écosystème, mais ils offrent un spectacle particulièrement saisissant en mai et en juin lorsque les animaux se déplacent en masse des plaines centrales vers les points d'eau permanents sur la côte ouest du parc. Se déplaçant vers l'ouest en groupes, de plus de 10 km de long suivis par les prédateurs, les immenses troupeaux traversent la partie centrale de l'Itonjo, offrant l'un des plus remarquables spectacles de la faune qui soit. L'écosystème du Serengeti contient bien d'autres espèces encore. Il y a 7000 élands, 27.000 damalisques, 18.000 bubales, 4000 girafes, 70.000 buffes, 15.000 phacochères, 3000 cobs, 2700 éléphants, 500 hippopotames, 200 rhinocéros noirs, et au moins 10 autres espèces d'antilopes et 7 de primates. La riche faune de grands herbivores permet l'existence de pas moins de 5 prédateurs importants - 4000 lions, 1000 léopards, 225 guépards, 3500 hyènes tachetées et 300 chiens sauvages. Il y a au moins 17 espèces de petits prédateurs, dont l'otocyon et le ratel. Le parc national du Serengeti est bien géré, avec un personnel nombreux (200+) et bien formé (grâce, notamment au Collège de gestion de la faune africaine de Mweka, en Tanzanie), des installations touristiques bien conçues, et un soutien continu de la part de

plusieurs organismes bilatéraux et multilatéraux. Il faut également noter la présence de l'Institut de recherche du Serengeti établi en 1962 pour donner une base scientifique à la gestion. Les études effectuées couvrent l'écologie, le comportement de la faune, les maladies, et la parasitologie, les dommages causés par les éléphants, la répartition de la végétation, les effets des brûlis, et une grande variété de questions intéressant la gestion des parcs.

6. INTEGRITE

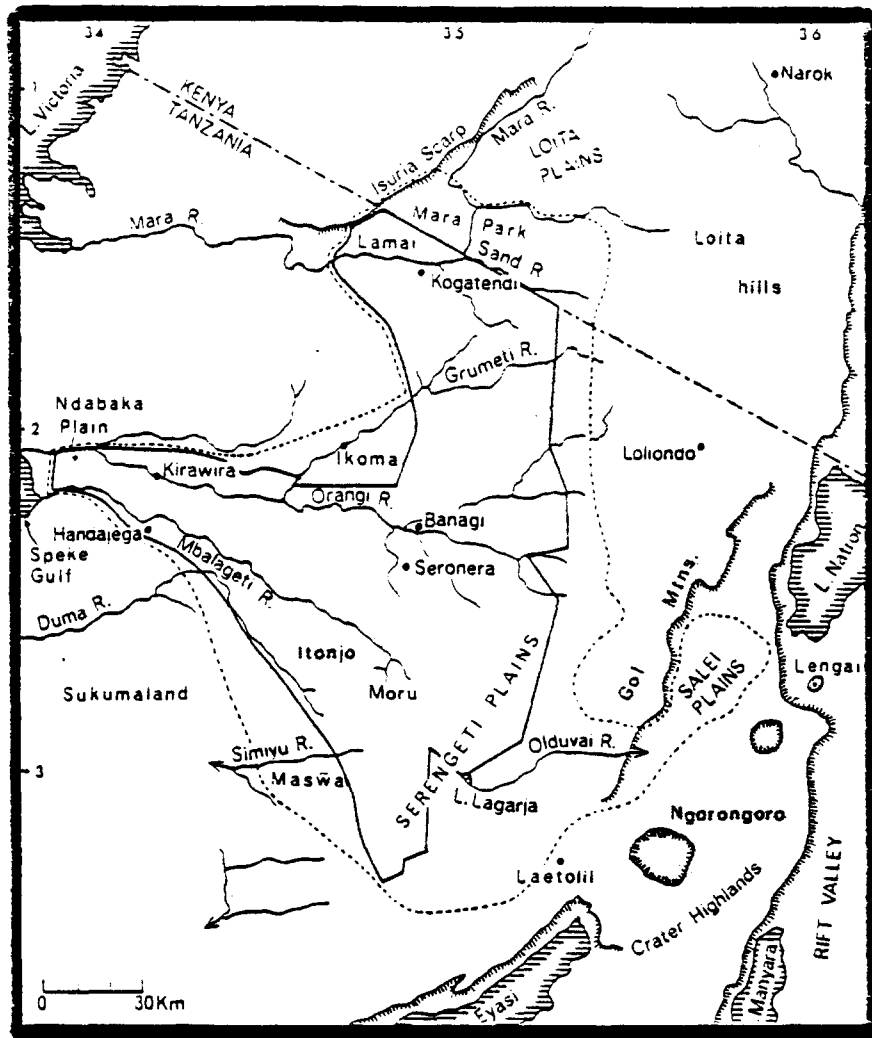
Le Serengeti est contigu à l'Unité de conservation du Ngorongoro, région de 528.000 ha déclarée site du patrimoine mondial en 1979. Mais même en combinant le Serengeti et Ngorongoro en un écosystème de près de 2 millions d'hectares, l'on ne couvre pas l'écosystème tout entier (lequel se définit comme la région utilisée par les gnous). La réserve de gibier de Maswa au sud et la réserve nationale de Mara, Kenya, au nord, sont deux régions clés pour le déroulement des grandes migrations animales (voir carte ci-jointe). Il faut remarquer que le nombre de gnous a beaucoup augmenté ces dernières années, passant de 250.000 en 1961 à 700.000 en 1971, à près de 2 millions aujourd'hui. Cela représente une remontée rapide après l'épidémie de peste bovine (maladie virale des ongulés) qui avait tué 95% des gnous d'Afrique de l'est en 1890, mais les gnous n'ont plus d'anticorps à cette maladie, et le surnombre fait courir des risques de désastre. Des plans d'abattage sélectif sont en cours de préparation et devraient être considérés comme une pratique de gestion saine du parc plutôt que comme une menace à son intégrité. Le plan de construction d'une voie ferrée à travers le Serengeti constitue une menace bien plus réelle, car elle couperait l'écosystème en deux et l'on peut prévoir des conséquences fâcheuses. En conclusion, le parc national du Serengeti est suffisamment vaste pour assurer la survie de toutes les espèces qui s'y trouvent s'il est maintenu dans son état actuel; cependant, il n'assure pas à lui seul la protection de tout l'écosystème où se déroulent les grandes migrations.

7. COMPARAISON AVEC D'AUTRES REGIONS

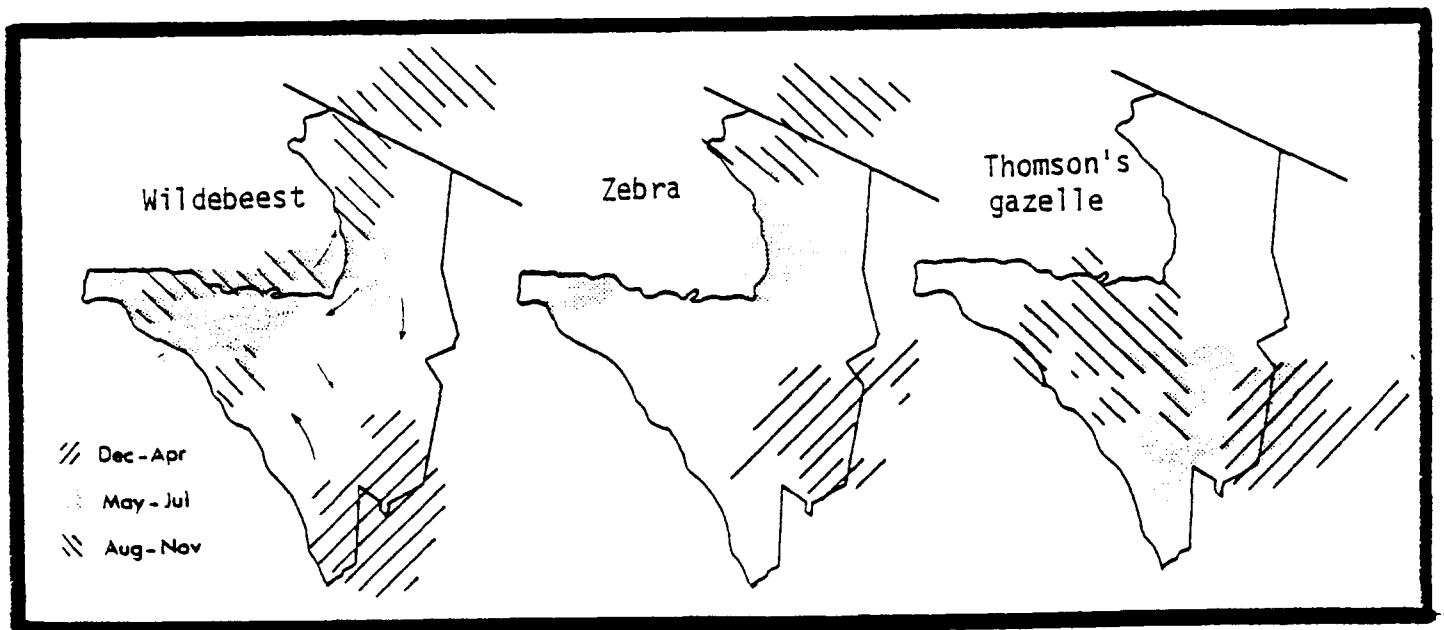
Plusieurs écologistes, gardes du gibier, et administrateurs d'Afrique de l'est ont été entendus au Serengeti en janvier 1981. Ils ont jugé unanimement que le Serengeti n'a pas son pareil au monde pour le spectacle de sa faune. Il est considéré comme un excellent complément - nécessaire même - à l'Unité de conservation du Ngorongoro. La réserve nationale de Rungwa, en Tanzanie, le parc national austral au Soudan, et le parc national de Ruaha en Tanzanie, sont des régions protégées de taille et de caractère général comparables, dans la même province biogéographique. Le Serengeti leur est supérieur par le spectacle des migrations, par l'efficacité de la gestion et par la recherche à long terme qui s'y poursuit.

8. EVALUATION

Le parc national du Serengeti, avec ses immenses troupeaux d'ongulés et les prédateurs qui les accompagnent, est un remarquable exemple d'écosystème du pléistocène supportant de grands mammifères, où l'homme a vécu comme chasseur. Les sites archéologiques de la gorge d'Olduvai, situés dans l'unité de conservation du Ngorongoro, site du patrimoine mondial, prouvent qu'il s'agit d'un habitat où l'espèce humaine a évolué. La région est suffisamment vaste pour garantir la survie perpétuelle de cet écosystème de savane, quoique la partie de l'écosystème où ont lieu les migrations, a également besoin de la protection de la réserve de gibier de Maswa (217.000 ha) au sud, et de la réserve nationale de Masai Mara (151.300 ha) au Kenya au nord. Le spectacle



L'écosystème de Serengeti-Mara est la région utilisée par les gnous (pointillés). Le parc national du Serengeti est indiqué par une ligne pleine. Les collines sont hachurées. (Sinclair et Norton-Griffiths, 1980)

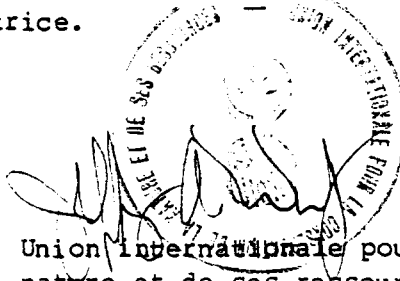


Déplacements saisonniers des gnous, des gazelles de Thomson et des zèbres dans l'écosystème du Serengeti (Sinclair et Norton Griffiths, 1980)

de la faune du Serengeti est la quintessence de l'Afrique; aucun autre site africain ne peut rivaliser avec lui. Il comporte la plus vaste concentration de grands mammifère, et la plus diverse qui soit. La faune sauvage restera en sécurité dans le Serengeti, à condition que le niveau actuel de protection soit maintenu.

9. RECOMMANDATION

Le parc national du Serengeti répond aux critères de la convention; il devrait être ajouté à la liste des sites du patrimoine mondial. Il faudrait encourager le gouvernement tanzanien à ajouter la réserve de gibier de Maswa au site; il n'est pas jugé nécessaire d'inclure la réserve de gibier dans le parc national parce que l'écosystème comportera des régions où l'exploitation contrôlée des espèces de faune est autorisée. La réserve nationale de Masai Mara, au Kenya, a été visitée au titre du présent examen technique. Elle fait partie de l'écosystème Serengeti - Mara et son addition à la liste du patrimoine mondial devrait être envisagée lorsque le Kenya deviendra partie à la convention. En attendant, elle est suffisamment bien gérée pour assurer la protection de la faune migratrice.



Union internationale pour la conservation de la
nature et de ses ressources

juillet 1981