

**Where to from here?**

# Ruaha River Update

October 2017



The photo above was taken on the 13 October 2017.

**The river is a disaster!**

In the last update sent out in July, I mentioned that though we did get some flow coming through in April, **never before in the history of the river has there been this many 'no flow' days .**

If you look at the photo above taken in the usual spot at Ibuguziwa, you **will see a dead Hippo on the top right edge of the stagnant pool.**

Ruaha has been experiencing an outbreak of **anthrax**, which is what seems to happen when the river flow is exceptionally low. **The hippos have died in various areas along its course, Maji Moto, Hussmans Bridge near Jongomero and Ibuguziwa.**

## Where to from here?



Whilst we see **dead Hippos in the Ruaha River caused** by lack of water, and anthrax, (photo above) the **rice paddies upstream from here are filled with water lying idle**, the precious water evaporating away, with **nobody benefiting!** (photo below)



**The question is this:-**

**How can it be possible that we are squandering water?**

It is so easy to shut the gates along the rice paddies once the harvest is over, and let the water run back into the river. No one will suffer and everyone will gain.

Why is this so difficult to do?

**In 2009, when the gates were shut along the Ndembera river alone, the Ruaha river ran all year round, it was a trickle, but enough to keep the pools fresh and healthy.**