



MINISTRY OF WATER AND ENVIRONMENT

General Notice No. 1047 of 2017

NOTICE OF INTENDED AMENDMENT OF THE FORESTS (FOREST RESERVES DECLARATION) ORDER, S.I. NO. 146-1, TO EXTEND THE BOUNDARIES OF KALAGALA FALLS CENTRAL FOREST RESERVE AND UPGRADE THE CONSERVATION STATUS OF THE EXISTING AND EXTENDED KALAGALA FALLS, NILE BANK, AND NAMAVUNDU CENTRAL FOREST RESERVES.

(Under sections 6, 7 and 8 of the National Forestry and Tree Planting Act, 2003, Act. 8 of 2003).

This Notice is issued under sections 7(1) (a) and 8 of the National Forestry and Tree Planting Act, 2003, 7th December 2017.

1. The Minister of Water and Environment, on the advice of the Board of the National Forestry Authority (NFA) intends to amend the Forests (Forest Reserves Declaration) Order, S.I. No. 146-1 –

(a) to extend the boundaries of Kalagala Falls Central Forest Reserve by adding approximately 556.1 hectares along the River Nile in the districts of Kayunga, Buikwe, Kamuli and Jinja, upstream to within 2.5 km from the Bujagali Dam wall and downstream to the tail end of the Isimba Dam reservoir (when operational at Maximum Pool Level of 1,055 meters elevation), including all river islands and river banks (extending inland 100 meters from the high water line) within these limits; and

(b) to upgrade the conservation status of the current and extended Kalagala Falls, Nile Bank and Namavundu Central Forest Reserves.

2. The objectives of the intended amendment are:

(a) to restore and protect the ecological zones along the River Nile banks and associated wetlands and islands within the area stated in paragraph 1.

(b) to ensure that the existing and extended Kalagala Falls, Nile Bank and Namavundu Central Forest Reserves sustain their ecological services and to protect and stabilize the watershed and Nile River banks;

(c) to maintain the potential for ecotourism within the existing and extended Kalagala Falls, Nile Bank and Namavundu Central Forest Reserves including the natural waterfalls and rapids;

(d) to protect and enhance aquatic biodiversity and natural habitats, including endemic

fish species of global and national conservation concern;

(e) to preserve the cultural heritage sites, assets and spiritual values within the existing and extended Kalagala Falls, Nile bank and Namavundu Central Forest Reserves; and

(f) to upgrade the conservation status of the existing and extended Kalagala Falls, Nile bank and Namavundu Central Forest Reserves to be managed as special conservation Forest Reserves with prohibition of infrastructure development that could adversely affect and alter the biodiversity and aquatic ecosystem of the Nile River.

3. The proposed management plan for the existing and extended Kalagala Falls, Nile bank and Namavundu Central Forest Reserves will entail developing performance indicators for proposed management activities to be led by NFA in collaboration with other entities as appropriate. The proposed management activities primarily include:

(a) restoration and protection of ecological zones along the River Nile banks and associated wetlands and Islands;

(b) sustainable management and monitoring of fisheries resources and other aquatic biodiversity;

(c) preservation of the cultural heritage sites or assets and spiritual values within the extended conservation area to include river islands, including those around Kalagala Falls and Itanda Falls;

(d) promotion of ecotourism within the Kalagala Falls Central Forest Reserve;

(e) developing and strengthening stakeholder partnerships for sustainable management and long-term funding of conservation activities.

4. The proposed summary of the Management Plan and the Map showing the proposed

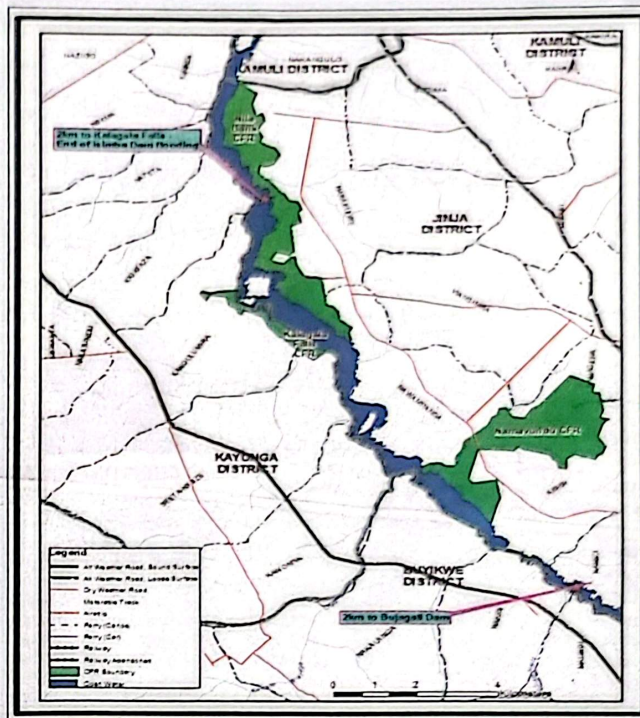


Fig1 Declaration of Kalagala falls CFR site (extended) a special conservation area.

extension can be viewed at the Ministry of Water and Environment Offices at Plot 21/28 Port Bell Road, Kampala or at the National Forestry Authority offices at Plot 10/20 Spring Road, Kampala.

5. Interested persons are invited to make written comments and representations on the proposed extension of the boundaries of Kalagala Falls Central Forest Reserve and the upgrade of the conservation status of the existing and extended Kalagala Falls, Nile bank and Namavundu Central Forest Reserves within ninety (90) days from the date of publication of this Notice.

6. Comments may be hand delivered, posted or emailed to-

(a) the Permanent Secretary,
Ministry of Water and Environment,
Plot 21/28 Port Bell road,
P. O. Box 20026,
Kampala, Uganda,
email: mwe@mwe.go.ug; or

(b) the Executive Director,
National Forestry Authority,
Plot 10/20 Spring Road,
P. O. Box 70863,
Kampala, Uganda,
email: info@nfa.org.ug

Hon. Kitutu Kimono Mary Goretti (Ph.D)
Minister of State for Environment