



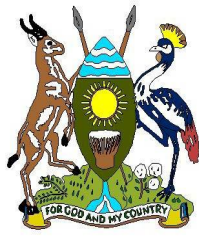
RWENZORI MOUNTAINS NATIONAL PARK: STATUS, MANAGEMENT AND CONSERVATION STRATEGIES



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Uganda in Africa





Ruwenzori Mountains NP



- Consists of six mountain ranges
- An IUCN listed world heritage site
- A Man and Biosphere reserve
- Has water catchment values, unique natural and scenic beauty.
- fragile mountain ecosystem which supports threatened, endemic, and rare species of fauna and flora.

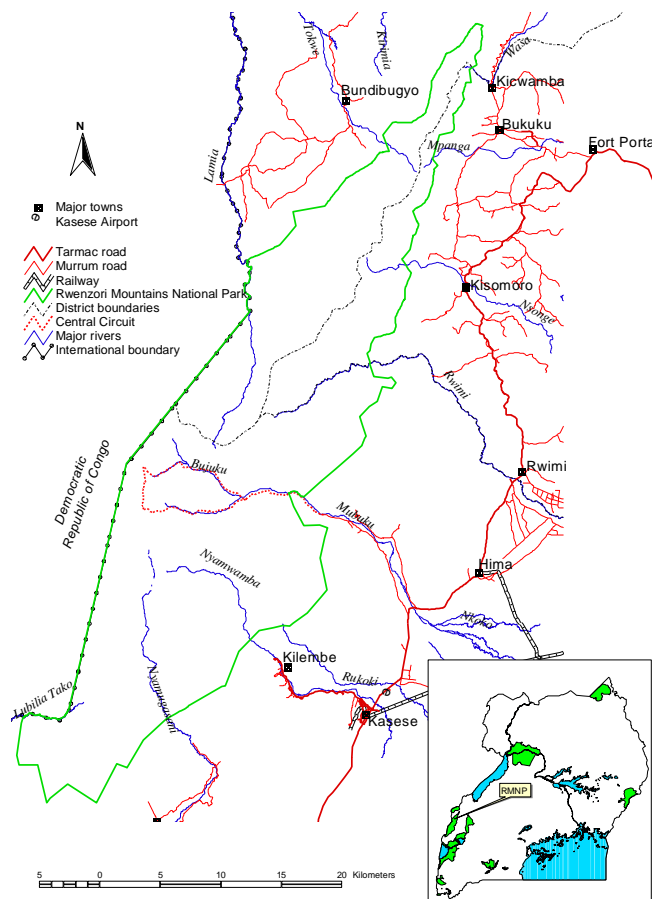




RWENZORI MOUNTAINS NATIONAL PARK (RMNP) BASIC DATA.



- Local communities (Bakonzo) live on the slopes.
- Area – 995 sq. km
- Gazetted as a national park in 1991
- Designated A World Heritage Site in 1994
- Designated a RAMSAR site in 2009
- 18 species of mammals, 217 species of birds (IBA), 9 species of reptiles and 6 species of amphibians





The legacy



- AD 150 - christened “Mountains of the Moon” by Ptolemy (linked to River Nile).
- 1888 – placed on map by Henry Morton Stanley.
- 1906 – popularised by **Prince Luigi Amedeo of Savoy; Duke of Abruzzi**.
- 2006 – Duke of Abruzzi centenary celebrations
the Centenary celebrations:
www.rwenzoriabruzzo.com

Rwenzori Abruzzi website

The screenshot shows a web browser window displaying the website www.rwenzoriabruzzo.com. The browser's address bar and tabs are visible at the top. The website's navigation menu includes links for HOME, RWENZORI TRIP TIPS, RWENZORI CLIMBING PEAK, RWENZORI MOUNTAINS NATIONAL PARK, and CONTACT US. A search bar is also present. The main content area features a large background image of a mountain range. On the left, there is a logo for 'Uganda - Italia' with the text '1906 - 2006' below it. The title 'RWENZORI ABRUZZI' is prominently displayed in the center. Below the navigation menu, there is a featured article titled 'The Central Circuit trekking' with a sub-headline 'Created by Rwenzori Climbing on Sep 15, 2010'. The article text describes the 'central circuit trail' and mentions Mount Baker and Margherita Peak. A 'Read More' link is visible at the end of the article text. The background image of the article shows a group of trekkers on a path through a forest.

Uganda - Italia
1906 - 2006

RWENZORI ABRUZZI

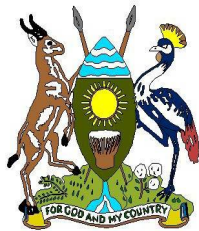
HOME RWENZORI TRIP TIPS RWENZORI CLIMBING PEAK RWENZORI MOUNTAINS NATIONAL PARK CONTACT US

Created by *Rwenzori Climbing* on Sep 15, 2010

The Central Circuit trekking

The best way to experience the Rwenzori is to take the so called "central circuit trail". This starts from the village of Nyakalengija, where the park quarters are found and follows the Mobuku river valley, then sloping around Mount Baker, where is found the final trail to climb Mount Stanley with Margherita Peak. This trekking passes through five different vegetation zones: from the mountain forest

Read More

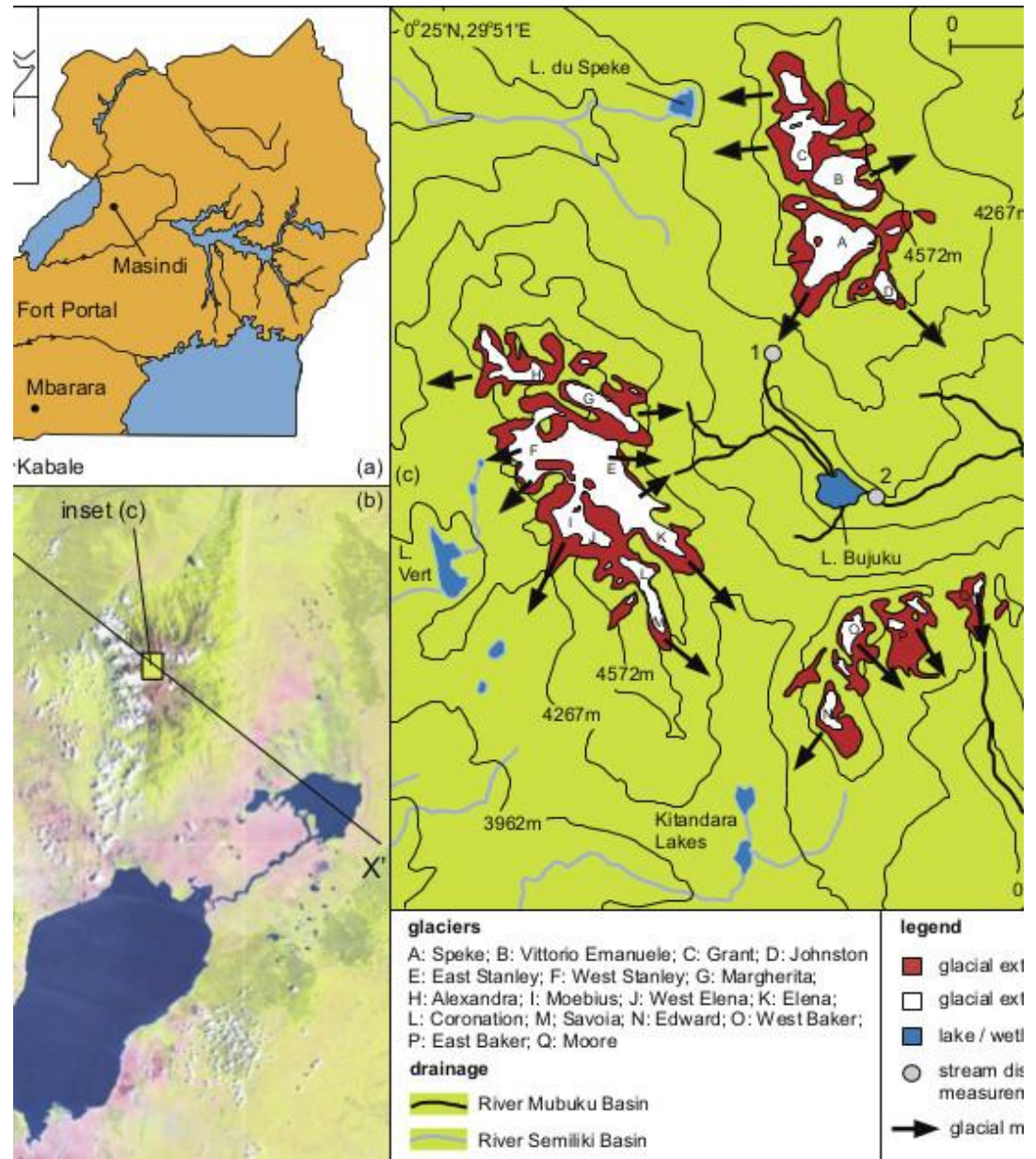


The issue of the Rwenzori



- Increasing temperature leading to receding glaciers
- Shifting geographical spread of wildlife (plants and animals).
- Threat to nature based tourism industry (the livelihood of the local community
- Reduced water availability for communities and Hydro Electric Power (HEP) generation
- Flash floods during the rainy season

The central Rwenzori massif showing alpine lakes, wetlands, streams and the extent of glacial snow cover in 1955 and 1990 (Taylor et al.).



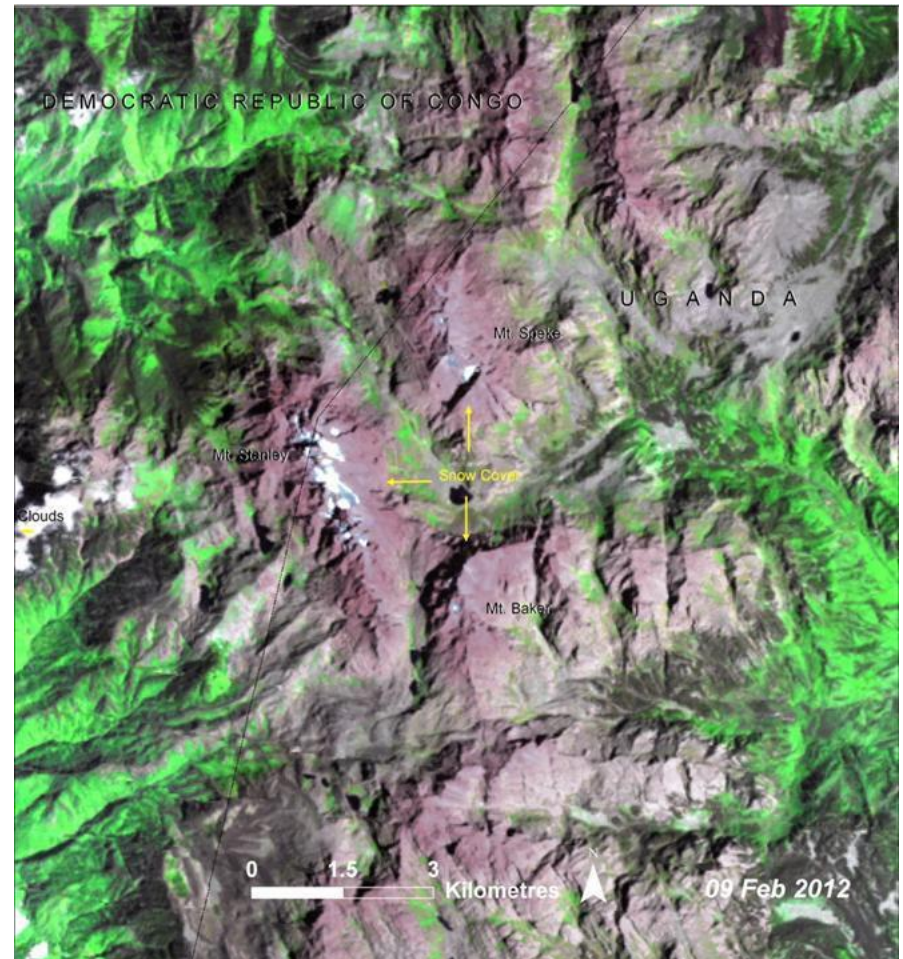
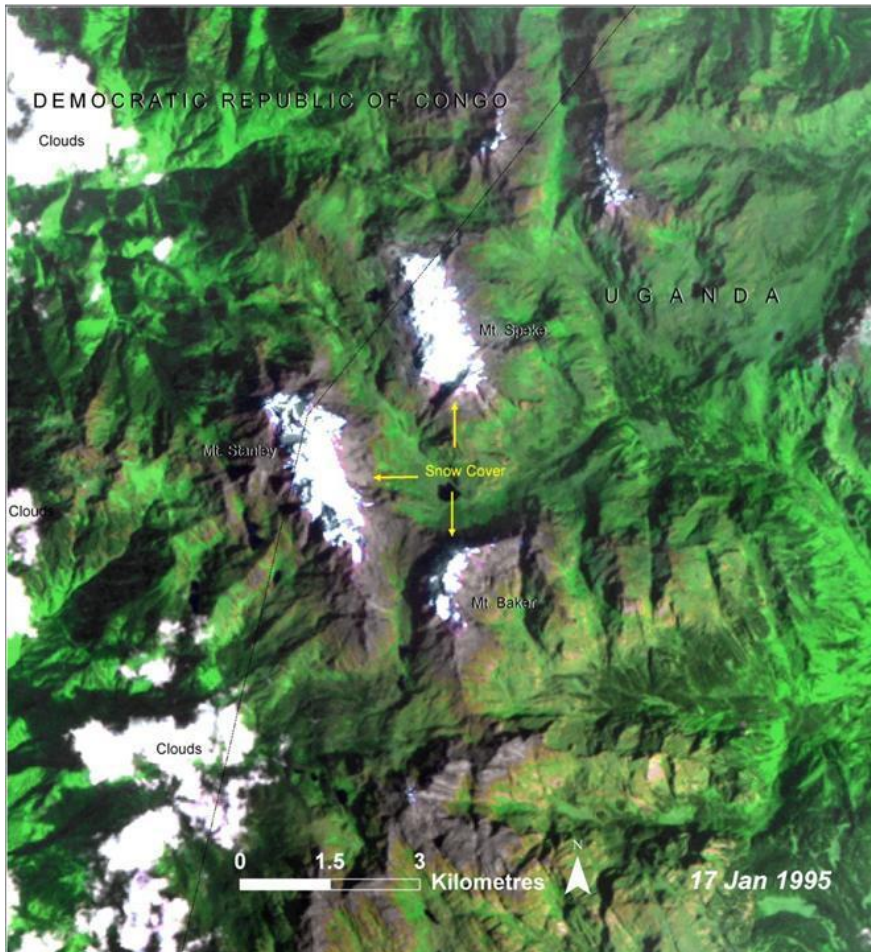


The receding glaciers





SATELLITE IMAGES OF RWENZORI MTS. 1995 ON THE LEFT AND 2012 ON THE RIGHT (UNEP).





Quantification of melting Rwenzoris glaciers



Glaciers receded from an area of 1,600 acres (650 hectares) in 1906 to 870 acres (352 hectares) in 1955 to a mere 366 acres (148 hectares) in 2008.



Conservation values

- Water catchment supporting livelihood of over 2 million people
- Scenic beauty – stratified vegetation and snow clad peaks
- Unique biodiversity – Rwenzori leopard, black fronted duikers
- Wetlands & glaciers – sources of water
- Research potential
- Resources for communities
- Cultural value – sacred sites and abode of deities



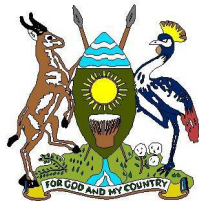


Management programmes



A ten year management plan is the basis for management actions including:

- Resource Conservation (community participation)
- Monitoring and research (understanding the issues and solutions)
- Tourism development (create awareness)
- Park operations (enforce the laws)
- Regional cooperation (cooperation)



Challenges

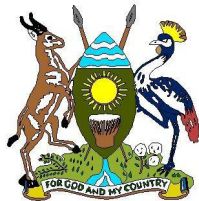


- Wild Fires (mostly by poachers)
- Floods and landslides (encroached mounted slopes)
- Prospecting for minerals with negative environmental impacts.
- Receding snow, melting of glaciers and exposure of crevasses
- Insecurity in Democratic Republic of Congo
- Poor safety facilities
- Substandard visitor infrastructure
- Poor mountaineering techniques
- Shifts in vegetation belts and shrinking home ranges of local endemic wildlife

Floods in Kasese (2012)







Areas of intervention

- Development of the mountaineering product to assist the conservation
- Scientific research on climate change in order to build resilience of the park to climate change impacts
- Implement Ecological Monitoring Plan of the park to adapt its management to climate change scenario
- Explore and develop financing mechanism based on PES to leverage on conservation value of the park as the largest water catchment in Uganda



Thank you for your attention



Conserving for Generations