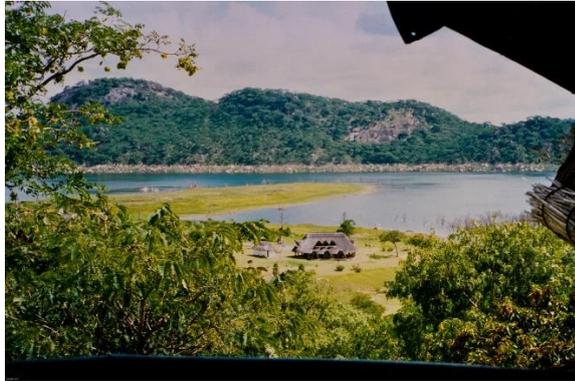


# DAMS OF ZIMBABWE

Issued 9<sup>th</sup> April, 1996

*(Extracted from Philatelic Bureau Bulletin No 2 of 1996)<sup>2</sup>*

The four dams chosen serve to illustrate the importance Zimbabwe places on water both for agricultural and conservational purposes.

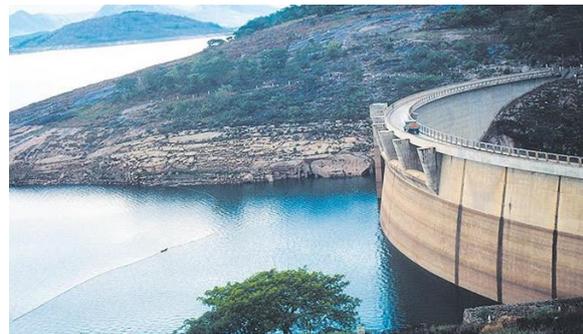


## 45c: Mazvikadei Dam

Construction of this dam started in 1985 and the wall, which is an earthfill embankment is 63.5 metres in height making it the highest dam wall entirely within Zimbabwe. Built on the Mukwadzi River north of Banket it has a capacity of 360 million cubic metres, and is the third largest dam in the country. The dam provides water for farm irrigation. It is a popular weekend resort with various facilities developed for visitors.

## \$1.50: Mutirikwi Dam

Located 40 kilometres east of Masvingo this dam has a maximum capacity of 1425 million cubic metres, making it the largest internal reservoir in Zimbabwe and provides irrigation water for the lowveld sugar estates at Triangle and Hippo Valley. Water is conveyed to the estates by means of a canal. The wall is an elegant curved concrete arch with a maximum height of 63.1 metres. There are many recreational sites on the lakeshore as well as the famous Kyle National Park.



## \$2.20: Ncema Dam

There are two Ncema Dams, the upper and the lower, in close proximity on the Ncema River in Matabeleland South Province. Both dams are concrete structures with central spillways and are very important as they supply part of the city of Bulawayo's water needs. The Upper Ncema Dam is 36 metres high and 270 metres long and has a capacity of 45.5 million cubic metres. The lower dam is 51 metres high and 200 metres long and has a smaller capacity.



### \$3.00: Odzani Dam

This dam lies 17 kilometres north Penhalonga on the Odzani River and is known as Lake Alexander. It has a capacity of 6.7 million cubic metres. The wall is a curved concrete arch 29 metres high and a length of 146 metres with a central spillway. The dam supplies water to Mutare and is a popular sailing venue with camping and picnic sites. The commercial pine forests surrounding the lake give it an attractive, almost alpine atmosphere.

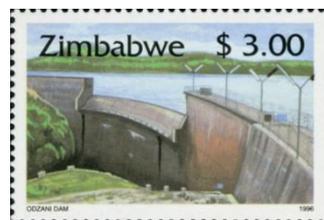
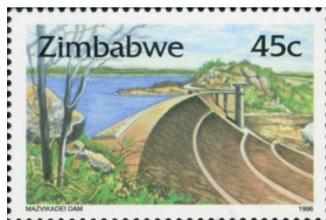
*(No photo available)*

The **First Day Cover** illustrates the Kariba dam wall, the barrage of the largest man-made lake in Central Africa. Built on the Zambezi River, it is a curved concrete wall standing 128 metres high and 633 metres long. The lake has a capacity of 180,600 million cubic metres of water and is an international tourist destination drawing visitors from all around the world who come to fish the famous Tjgerfish and view the large concentrations of wildlife that roam its shores.



*Postcard published by Pictorial Publishing*

## The Stamps



## Catalogue listings

SG	ZSC <sup>1</sup>	Value	Description
924	351	45c	Mazvikadei Dam
925	352	\$1.50	Mutirikwi Dam
926	353	\$2.20	Ncema Dam
927	354	\$3.00	Odzani Dam

## Technical details

<b>Stamp size:</b>	All values	42 x 28 mm	
<b>Sheet Size:</b>	50 stamps (10 rows of 5 stamps), two panes per printed sheet		
<b>Artist:</b>	Roland Pletts		
<b>Paper:</b>	ZSC paper type F - Although still officially described as HS8, the paper properties changed in 1996. This is fluorescent front but non-fluorescent back and the gum is whitish PVA.		
<b>Print colours:</b>	Black, magenta, cyan & yellow		
<b>Perforations:</b>	SG 14½, ZSC 14¼ Top margin: Perforated through. Other margins: Imperforate		
<b>Printer:</b>	NatPrint, Harare, Zimbabwe		
<b>Printer's Imprint:</b>	Bottom Margin, below Row 10 Column 3. Imprint printed in black		
<b>Cylinder numbers:</b>	Top margin above R1/1. Colours from left – cyan, magenta, yellow, black		
<b>Colour register:</b>	Type TL 4– round boxed – left margin opposite R1/1. Colours reading down – cyan, magenta, yellow, black		
<b>Sheet Value:</b>	Top margin, above R1/5, printed in black.		
<b>Sheet Number:</b>	Type SN 4a with 'PTC' prefix, right margin opposite R1/5, reading down		
<b>Print numbers:</b>	45c	2,000,000	\$1.50 190,000
	\$2.20	190,000	\$3.00 200,000
<b>Issue date:</b>	9 <sup>th</sup> April 1996		
<b>Withdrawal from sale:</b>			
<b>Demonetarisaton:</b>	10 <sup>th</sup> January 2000		

## Listed varieties

No listed varieties have been noted

## Unlisted Varieties

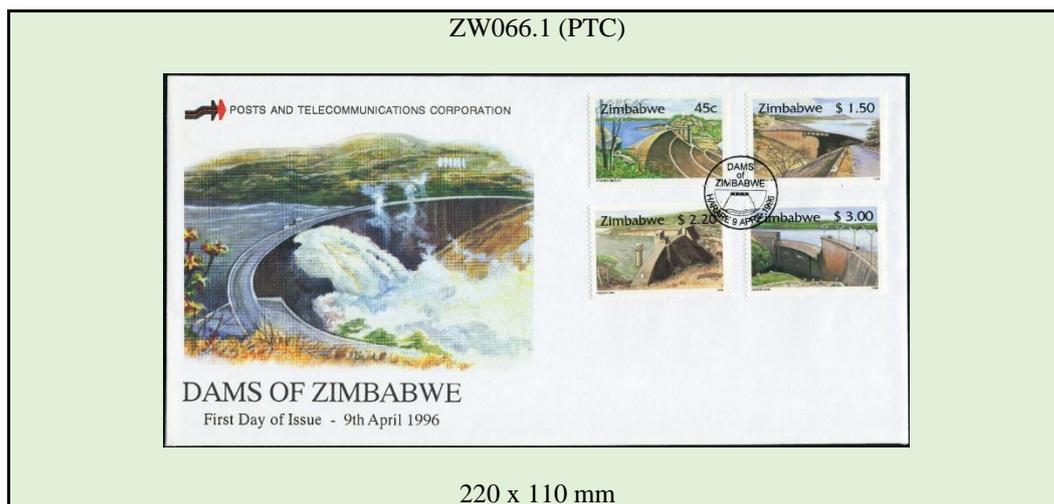
There are numerous small dots and specks in the printing of these stamps, particularly in the backgrounds. Some dots and specks shown below are a bit more distinctive, some may be constant.

 <p><b>45c:</b> Double black printing</p>	 <p><b>45c:</b> Yellow spot on dam shore, below 'Z' of Zimbabwe</p>
 <p><b>\$3.00:</b> Double black printing</p> <p><i>(Courtesy Narendhra Morar)</i></p>	

## First Day Cover

The cover numbering comes from the catalogue produced by Geoff Brakspear.

A pictorial first day of issue canceller was produced for this issued and was used by the Philatelic Bureau. Other first day cover cancellers continued to be used at main post offices.



### Bibliography:

1. "The Zimbabwean Concise Postage Stamp Catalogue", published by Harare Stamp Company, edited by Ken Allanson, Mike Amos and Geoff Brakspear. The catalogue continues to be updated and expanded by Geoff Brakspear
2. PTC Philatelic Bureau Bulletin No 2 of 1996.