ATER CONSERVATION & USAGE IN ZIMBABWE

Issued 25th April 2006

(Extracted from Philatelic Bureau Bulletin No 3 of 2006)[2]

Zimbabwe, being a drought prone country, places major importance on the conservation and provision of water supplies.

$30,000: Water for the people

The major population centres in Zimbabwe draw water from the large dams situated in the vicinity. This is then filtered and treated with chemicals, ensuring that it is clean and fit to drink, before being pumped through to dispersal points.



The needs of the farming, mining and rural communities are catered for by a great many smaller dams around the country, providing water for home use, irrigating crops and watering stock.



$225,000: Water for irrigation

There are hundreds of irrigation schemes throughout Zimbabwe, the greatest concentration being in the north-eastern areas where there are more reliable water supplies.

Flood irrigation is practised mainly in the rural areas, in flat terrain and on the sugar estates in the lowveld. This stamp shows supplementary flood irrigation using channel fed water from a dam or river.

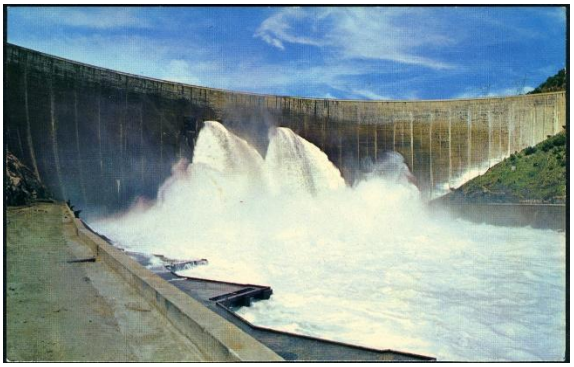
Other methods of applying irrigation are the sprinkler system and to a lesser extent, drip irrigation.

$375,000: Water for Wildlife

Wildlife is of major importance to the Zimbabwe tourism industry. The best hope for the sustainability of our wildlife is the availability throughout the year of adequate drinking water.

Boreholes have been sunk in the National Parks to this end, and during the wet season rivers, streams and pools provide a natural source of water.





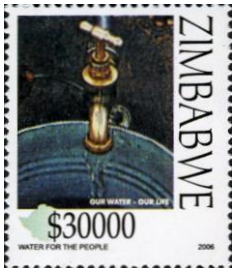
Postcard published by Big Game Photography

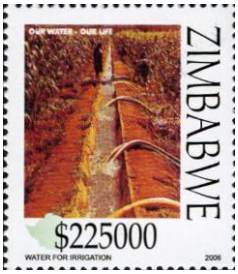
$450,000: Kariba Dam: Water for hydroelectric power generation.

The Kariba Power Station was constructed between 1956 and 1960, 620 km downstream of the Victoria Falls on the Zambezi River. Water is drawn for generation of hydroelectric power from the Kariba Dam, the 64.74 billion cubic metres being equally shared between Zimbabwe and Zambia.

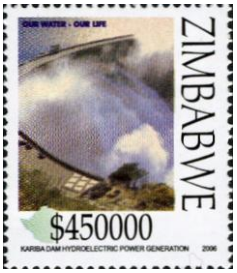
The dam is managed by the Zambezi River Authority (ZRA) and the purchase of water for electricity generation is through an agreement between ZRA and the Zimbabwe Electricity Supply Authority.

The Stamps









Catalogue listings

SG	ZSC[1]	Value	Description
1188	609	$30,000	Water for the people
1189	610	$225,000	Water for irrigation
1190	611	$375,000	Water for wildlife
1191	612	$450,000	Kariba Dam: Water for hydroelectricity generation

Technical details

Stamp size: Sheet stamps: 30 x 35 mm

Sheet Size: 50 stamps (10 rows of 5 stamps), two panes per printed sheet

Artist: Joan Soriano

Paper: ZSC paper type J: paper described by Zimpost as “Chancellor Litho PVA Gummed Postage Stamp Paper”. This paper is produced by

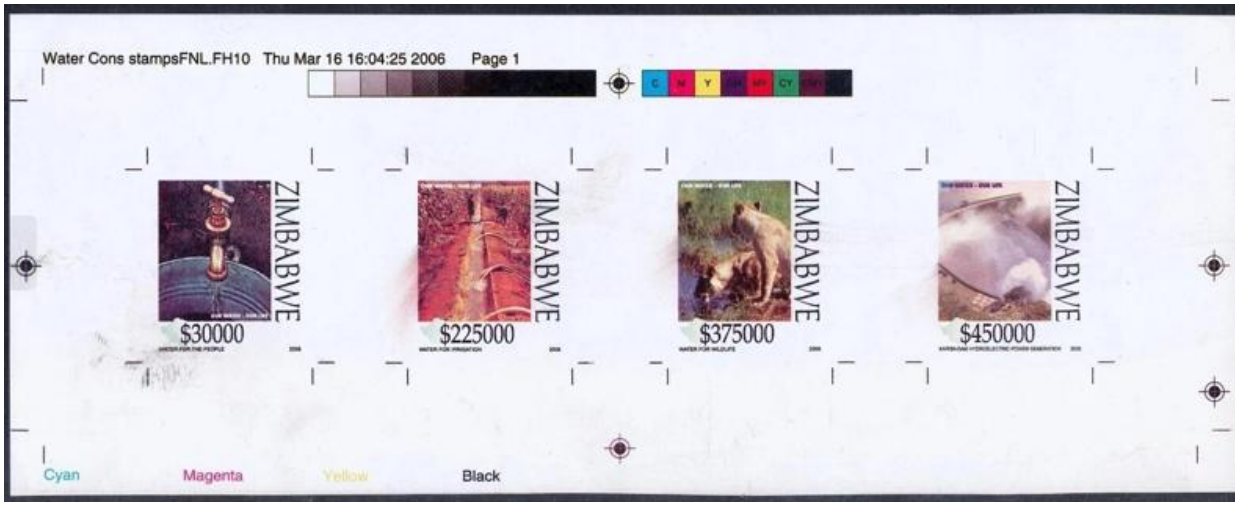
	Tullis Russell Coaters of Glenrothes, Fife, Scotland. Under UV there is no fluorescence either front or back, the stamp appears to be very dark
Print colours:	Cyan, magenta, yellow & black
Perforations:	SG 14 x 14½, ZSC 14 x 14¼ Left margin: Perforated through Other margins: Imperforate
Printer:	NatPrint, Harare, Zimbabwe
Printer's Imprint:	Bottom Margin, below Row 5 Columns 5 & 6. Imprint printed in black
Cylinder numbers:	Bottom margin below R5/1. Colours from left – cyan, magenta, yellow, black
Colour register:	Type TL 4– round boxed – left margin opposite R5/1. Colours reading down – cyan, magenta, yellow, black
Sheet Value:	Bottom margin, below R5/10, printed in black
Sheet Number:	Type SN 7 with printed 'ZIMPOST' prefix, right margin opposite R5/10, reading down
Print numbers:	\$30,000 235,000 \$225,000. 30,000 \$375,000. 30,000 \$450,000 28,000
Issue date:	25th April, 2006

Postal Rates

The postage rates used were current for all basic local and air mail external rates.



(Courtesy of Jefferson Ritson)



Print out of the designs of each value on a single sheet. Each design has two black lines in each corner giving the size of the stamps. On the bottom left are the words “cyan, magenta, yellow, black” in the respective print colours. Above are grey scale and colour charts. Top left corner text “Water Cons stampsFNL.FH10 Thu Mar 16 16:04:25 2006 Page 1”
(Source eBay June 2026)

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 notable colour variations have been noted for this issue, this is considered normal.



$30,000: Imperforate pair, possibly proof material *(Source eBay February 2022)*	**£375,000:** Green lines across the two upper stamps and yellow scratches across the lower one. *(Courtesy Narendhra Morar)*

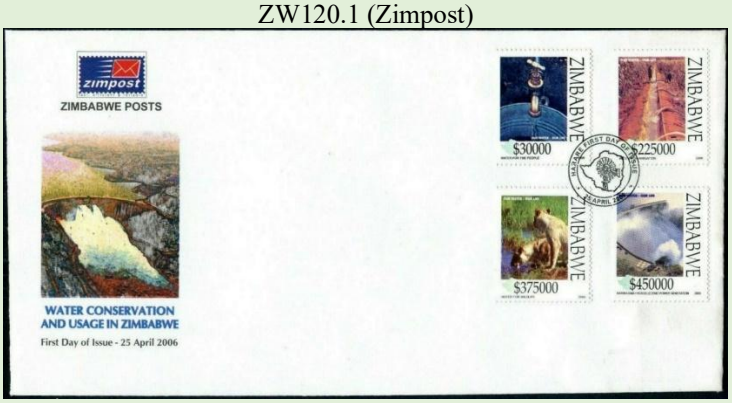
First Day Cover

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.



ZW120.1 (Zimpost)



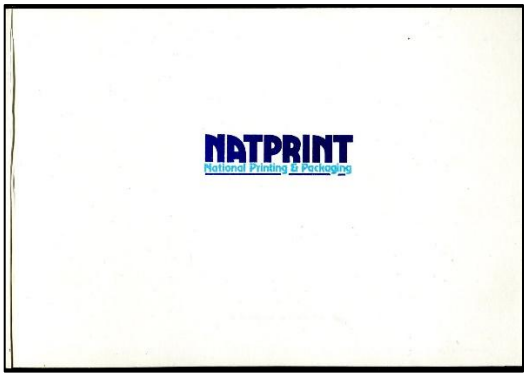
220 x 110 mm

Related Material

Natprint Proof Presentation Cards

Presentation cards produced by Natprint with imperforate proofs of the stamps to be issued. The presentation cards were forwarded to the PTC for approval of the final product.

(Courtesy of Jefferson Ritson)



Front cover



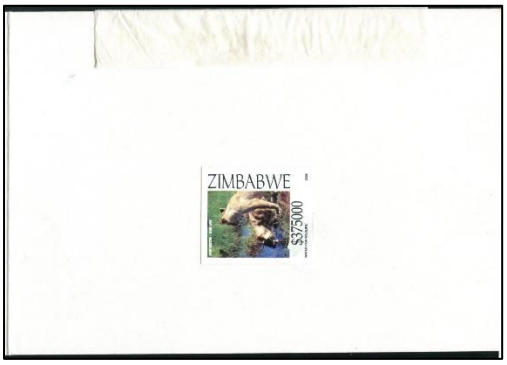
Inside front cover



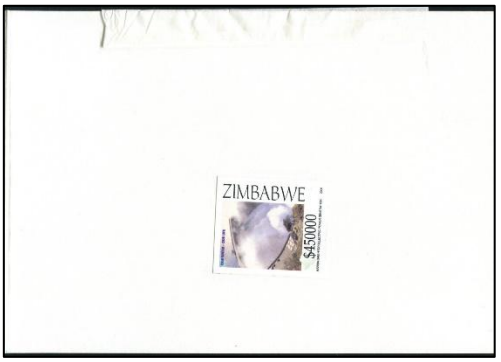
$30,000 stamp



$225,000 stamp



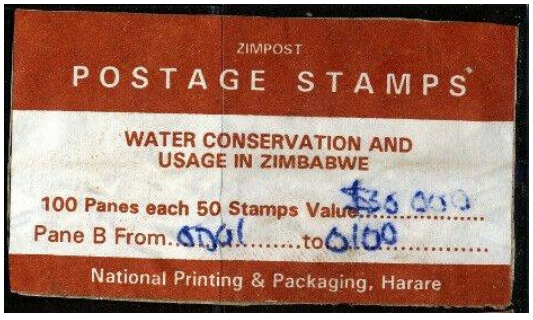
$375,000 stamp

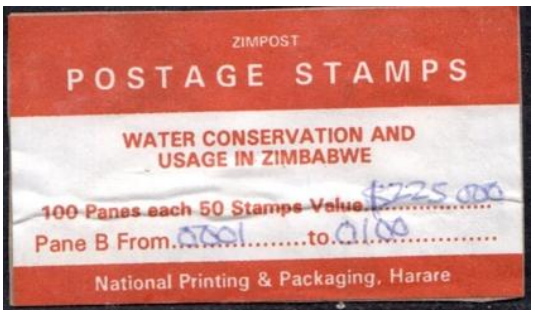


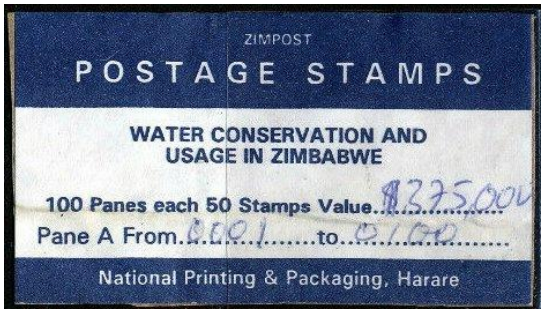
$450,000 stamp

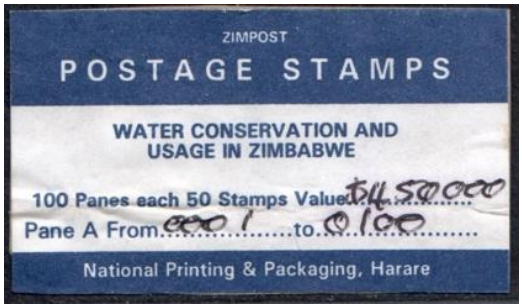
Delivery Labels

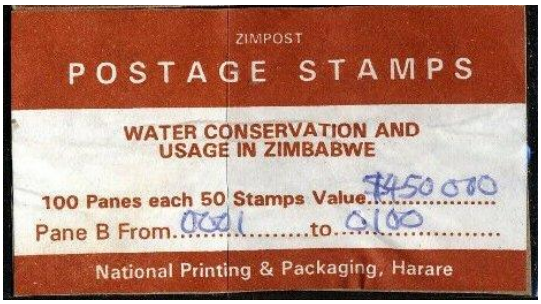
Delivery Labels from packaging containing sheets of 100 stamps. Three values are represented below, with the Cylinder 1A sheet having a blue label and 1B brown labels. All labels are for sheet numbers 0001 to 0100. *(Source EBay)*











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. Zimbabwe Post, Philatelic Bureau Bulletin No 3 of 2006

Additions/Changes since December 2020	
3/2022	Review of previous proof sheet, changed to design print out
	Single design print out of $375,000, with colour chart
	$30,000 imperforate pair
8/2025	Fuller sample printing sheet for approval
8/2026	Additional delivery labels