

Film Request

One page. Twelve questions. Ten minutes.

Complete this sheet for any film you would like The Barking Gecko to make. It is deliberately short. You do not need a finished idea, a costing or agreement from everyone before you send it — we would rather see it early and rough than late and polished.

Zimbabwe Parks & Wildlife Management Authority • The Barking Gecko • Version 1.0 • August 2026

Question numbers in the margin show where each answer lands in the full brief, so nothing is ever written twice.

1. Working title of the film → full brief 1.1

A placeholder is fine.

2. Who is asking, and who signs off → full brief 1.3

The owner is our day-to-day contact. The approver is the one person who can approve the final film.

ROLE	NAME	POSITION	EMAIL / PHONE
Project owner			
Final approver			

3. In one sentence, what film do you want made? → full brief 1.5

One sentence. Resist the urge to explain.

4. What problem or opportunity does it exist to address? → full brief 2.1

Three or four lines on the situation as it stands today — not on the film.

5. Primary objective — choose ONE only → full brief 2.2

A film with three primary objectives has none.

- | | |
|--|---|
| ☐ Build public awareness or understanding | ☐ Recruit, train or brief staff and rangers |
| ☐ Change a specific behaviour in a specific group | ☐ Promote tourism or visitation |
| ☐ Attract funding, investment or a named donor | ☐ Create a permanent record |
| ☐ Secure political, diplomatic or ministerial support | ☐ Correct a misconception or defend a position |
| ☐ Report to existing donors or partners | |

6. What must be different once this film exists? → full brief 2.5

Not what the film contains — what changes because of it. This is the question we care about most.

7. Who is the primary audience? → full brief 3.1

Be specific. "The general public" tells us nothing; "finance officials in Harare" tells us a great deal.

8. What one thing do you want them to do after watching? → full brief 3.4

And where do they do it — a page, an address, a person.

9. Where will it be seen? → full brief 7.3

- | | |
|--|--|
| ☐ ZimParks website and social | ☐ Film festivals |
| ☐ Partner or donor channels | ☐ In-park visitor centres |
| ☐ Broadcast | ☐ Schools |
| ☐ Conferences and summits | ☐ Internal staff use |
| ☐ Donor meetings | ☐ Community screenings |
| ☐ Embassies and diplomatic events | ☐ Not yet decided |

10. What can ZimParks provide for this production? → full brief 8.3

Tick everything you can commit to. On a film with no cash attached, this list is the budget — and some of it is worth more to the film than money would be.

- | | |
|---|--|
| ☐ Filming permits and park fees waived | ☐ Accommodation inside the park |
| ☐ Ranger escorts and security | ☐ Access to restricted areas |
| ☐ Vehicles | ☐ Staff time and interviews |
| ☐ Fuel | ☐ Archive footage and stills |
| ☐ Boats | ☐ Community introductions |
| ☐ Aircraft | ☐ Cross-border facilitation with Zambia |
| ☐ Drone / aerial permission | |

11. Is any external or donor funding attached to this film? → full brief 8.1

Either answer is workable. We just need to know which, because it changes what is possible.

- ☐ No — none attached
☐ Yes — confirmed
☐ Yes — being sought
☐ Not sure

12. When is it needed, and what drives that date? → full brief 1.4

An event, a funding cycle, a meeting. If nothing drives it, say "no fixed date" — that is useful too.

DATE NEEDED

WHAT DRIVES THAT DATE

Anything else we should know?

Optional. Sensitivities, history, previous attempts, things that must not be repeated.

SUBMISSION

	NAME	POSITION	DATE
Submitted by			

What happens after you send this

WITHIN THREE WORKING DAYS

We respond with a short written note: whether the film is feasible as described, an indicative budget range, and the shooting window the season allows.

FOR STRAIGHTFORWARD COMMISSIONS

That note becomes the proposal. Nothing further is required from you and we can begin.

FOR LARGER OR MORE COMPLEX COMMISSIONS

We send Stage 2 — the full brief — and work through it with you, usually in a single call. Nothing you have written here is retyped; your answers carry across.

When we will ask for the full brief

So there is no mystery about it, we ask for Stage 2 when any one of the following is true. Otherwise this sheet is all we need.

- The shoot needs more than about ten filming days
- Filming crosses into Zambia or involves another authority
- Communities will be filmed and consent must be arranged
- Aviation, specialist crew or equipment beyond our standard kit is needed
- More than three versions, formats or languages are required
- The subject carries political, diplomatic or security sensitivity