

# AFRICAN INDABA

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e-Newsletter

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Dedicated to the People and Wildlife of Africa

## 1 Hunting Behind High Fences

Editorial Comment by Gerhard R Damm

Boone & Crockett Club – the universally respected North American hunting and conservation organization founded by Teddy Roosevelt and recognized for its stringent Fair Chase definitions and the concomitant hunting ethics and morals – has tackled, as B&C President Robert Model said in his president's message in the Club Magazine "Fair Chase" Spring Issue 2004 – the so-called *high fence* issue. Model challenged all B&C members to participate in a policy formulating exercise to develop a sensitive and workable solution. In Model's words, the challenge centers on *"to recognize what composes appropriate management within high fenced areas and what is and is not fair chase hunting"*.

B & C realizes that in North America there are more and more legally established "high fenced areas". In Southern Africa this trend has started already several decades ago in South Africa, and has spread to Namibia, Zimbabwe, Zambia and Botswana. The important issue on hand – and we in Africa know about this from painful experiences – is how hunting takes place (or should take place) within those fenced areas.

We have been bombarded for some years with criticism for the so-called *"canned hunts"* (I still prefer to say canned killing or shooting, since even the thought of it makes my hunter's soul recoil in horror) and more recently the issue of *"put & take"* has justifiably gained momentum. I have written frequently – and not only in hunting magazines – about it. Therefore I am encouraged that an American organization like Boone & Crockett Club tackles the matter in a very serious way. Last not least, most of the visiting hunters going on safari in Africa come from the United States – and if such a respected association like B & C develops a credible solution it might very well be applicable in Africa as well, respectively the African professional hunting associations could use it as a blue print to develop acceptable universal policies together with the international hunting associations.

I am impressed by the democratic and pluralistic approach of B&C and the courage to involve all members in the effort to find a solution. The club recognizes that the deliberations will provoke debate and even controversy, but that the inescapable realities require decisive actions!

Africa will closely watch the discussion at B & C and it is more than likely that we will use the expertise of some B & C members to assist us in solving a few of the fair chase related problems on our continent.

Many American hunters look at the one African safari as a unique achievement of a lifelong dream, others come back to Africa whenever personal economics make it possible. These hunters expect in Africa a quality hunting experience.

Great clubs like B & C have created the foundations for such

quality hunting experience in North America. Their principles are based on valuable traditions, but at the same time consider the necessity of change in an ever changing world.

Change is a difficult process there and here. The challenge is that we use our combined knowledge and expertise to come to conclusions which serve at the same time the furthering of biodiversity conservation objectives, the sustainable use of natural resources for the benefit of biodiversity AND the local rural population, the preservation of hunting and the public acceptance of the contributions modern trophy hunters make to conservation.

SCI has also recognized the importance of the issue with the recent press release dealing with the SCI Board's policy on fenced wildlife operations (see separate article in this issue). The International Council for Game and Wildlife Conservation CIG has already put "Best practices in Trophy Hunting in Africa" high on its African agenda and the professional hunting organizations in Africa have tackled the problems repeatedly over the past years.

The end result of a future combined effort could be a fundamental guideline for safari hunting within and outside fenced areas in Africa.

Some years ago the burning issue of fair chase hunting within and outside fenced areas had been tackled already by a select

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African Indaba is a e-newsletter for hunter-conservationists and all people who are interested in the conservation, management and the sustainable use of Africa's wild natural resources.

## 2 The Large African Predator Project – Progress & Guidance To Participants

By H O de Waal, University of the Free State

**African Indaba** carried several references to the African Large Predator Research Unit (ALPRU) at the University of the Free State in Bloemfontein, South Africa. In an article (AI #1,3 - "Measuring large African predators") ALPRU stated its objective to establish a database for among others the African lion (*Panthera leo*). Professional and visiting hunters, outfitters and scientists were invited to participate in this project.

This issue of **African Indaba** is pursuing the topic further with a view to provide some guidance on the measuring procedures as well as feedback on the progress thus far.

Background on the Project: a growing concern was expressed in some quarters that trophy quality of African lions is declining. Therefore, ALPRU initiated this project through which hunters and scientists could co-operate in collecting reliable data of trophy quality, area, habitat and prey availability. This data can then be evaluated and among others be integrated into game management plans.

The standardized procedures of ALPRU to measure the body mass and dimensions of large African predators have been designed to measure specimens and record data collected from dead or immobilized animals and will assist in measuring all variables on hunted large African predators. Scientists will use the same procedures to collect data on immobilised animals across the continent. These procedures are now available in \*.pdf format on ALPRU's Web site: <http://www.uovs.ac.za/alpru>. Each procedure contains very specific instructions that are easy to follow. If you are still unsure of how to do it, contact HO de Waal & Sarel van der Merwe [ALPRU.SCI@MAIL.uovs.ac.za](mailto:ALPRU.SCI@MAIL.uovs.ac.za) for more information and guidance. Be it as it may, you are welcome to pop us a note/message/letter or e-mail to show your interest.

It should not be too difficult to perform these chores, namely to weigh and measure the animals. We can assure you that the anatomy of these animals will fascinate and impress you if nothing else while you measure them! Collecting biological samples are just as simple! ALPRU only require a sample of hair for DNA analysis to accompany the physical data set. The hair is plucked between thumb and forefinger from the skin at the base of the tail. The hair must still contain its follicles - that is the roots in layman's terms. The hair sample is then placed in a paper envelope; the envelope is inserted in a small plastic bag or a pillbox to keep it dry and stored in a cool place or refrigerator. Clearly mark the container with the corresponding identifying info reported on the ALPRU Field Data Sheet. Once ALPRU has been informed about the number and detail of hair samples the necessary arrangements and quarantine procedures for export/import of pathology specimens will be issued. Contact ALPRU timely in advance for more detail.

You may still ask why this new initiative? During discussions it became evident that techniques to capture and record morphometric data from hunted animals in Africa are either non-specific, inadequate or non-existent. Hence, valuable data that could serve as justification for sustainable use and management of wildlife are lost to science and conservation efforts, especially for large African predators. It seems that the measuring of large

animals is perceived to be difficult and for that reason, or simply because it is not regarded as necessary or a priority by professional and visiting hunters, very few authenticated measurements are available to science. The need for greater co-operation between science and the hunting fraternity, specifically to "...recognize their obligations towards age-old traditions of hunting and more recent needs for scientific based conservation activities" has previously been stated eloquently by the Editor of **African Indaba**.

The specific procedures and the ALPRU Field Data Sheet have been developed to suit all large African predators. Although a male lion has been used as example, the ALPRU procedures have been tested successfully with several species such as immobilised leopard (*Panthera pardus*) and cheetah (*Acinonyx jubatus*), as well as dead black-backed jackal (*Canis mesomelas*), caracal (*Caracal caraca*) and Cape fox (*Vulpes chama*). Thus far ALPRU have received requests for info and procedures on detail from within South Africa, but also from Namibia, Botswana, Zambia, Zimbabwe and Tanzania to measure legally hunted lion and leopard.

**In exchange for the effort in co-operating with ALPRU, safari outfitters and professional hunters will be provided with previously unknown detailed statistics of their trophies and a Certificate of Appreciation for Participating in a Scientific Endeavour issued by ALPRU. Check also [African Lion Working Group](#) (ALWG) for further information on the African Lion**

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## 3 News From Africa

### South Africa

A British tourist, who was on a day walk in the wilderness area on the banks of the N'waswitshaka River with a group of other foreign tourists, sustained minor injuries when an elephant attacked him in the Kruger National Park in March. The two accompanying guides reported they had just observed a breeding herd of elephants fairly close to them when, out of nowhere, an elephant charged the group from behind. One of the tour guides fired a shot at the elephant, killing it instantly.

### Zimbabwe

The International Monetary Fund (IMF) reported a sharp contraction in Zimbabwe's economy. The real gross domestic product contracted by about 30% while poverty levels have doubled over the past 5 years. Inflation doubled each of the last 3 years to reach 600% at the end of 2003. Unemployment, estimated at 70%, has been rising as poverty has doubled since 1995 and school enrolment declined to 65% in 2003. "While the economic decline in part reflected exogenous shocks, such as inclement weather, the structural changes in agriculture related to the way in which the land reform was implemented negatively affected agricultural production," said the IMF.

### Kenya

The Speaker of the National Assembly called on the State to allow the Maasai a greater say in the management and conservation of wildlife. Speaking at a workshop of wildlife stakeholders he warned that unless the Maasai were allowed to have a controlling interest in the national parks and national game reserves in their areas, the future of wildlife as a source of tourism revenue was bleak and added that it was high time the management of national

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## 4 Managing African Elephant Populations: Act Or Let Die?

In several African countries, elephant populations are growing at an alarming rate, as high as 5-10% per annum. Such population expansion is not sustainable and, despite the huge tracts of land open to elephants, it is already having a devastating effect on a number of unique ecosystems and the biodiversity (plant and animal) within them. To avoid an ecological catastrophe culminating in a mass die-off of elephants, urgent action is needed to reduce elephant numbers. Even then, further long-term population control strategies must be implemented if the apocalypse is to be prevented rather than just postponed. With this in mind, an expert consultation on the "Control of Wild Elephant Populations" was organised by Utrecht University's Faculty of Veterinary Medicine in Beekbergen, The Netherlands on 7th – 8th November, 2003. Twenty-one international experts in fields ranging from reproductive physiology and contraception to population dynamics and game-park management attended the meeting, and came to the following conclusions:

1. In many of the more than 35 African countries that are home to wild elephants, populations are or have historically been endangered by poaching and habitat destruction. However, in several parks where the elephants are well protected, populations are now growing at such a rate that other animal species and plants are being driven to extinction and, due to destruction of the vegetation, a mass die-off of elephant is fast becoming inevitable.
2. The approach to controlling elephant numbers depends primarily on the aim of a given park; i.e. is it primarily an elephant sanctuary or an area dedicated to conserving as great as possible a diversity of species and habitats. If the aim is biodiversity and the elephant population density is already well above the carrying capacity, immediate population reduction is the only answer. Although this could, in theory, be achieved by translocating groups of elephants to new areas, translocation is expensive, time-consuming and logistically complex and, moreover, there are very few areas left to accommodate the large numbers of animals involved. Indeed, in some areas, the numbers of elephants are so large, that the only realistic way of bringing the population under control is culling.
3. Contraceptive techniques have been developed that successfully control population growth in feral horses and are being developed for pest species such as mice and possums. While such anti-fertility treatments are very useful for reducing the rate of population growth in the longer term, they are certainly not suitable for reducing numbers of a long-lived and late reproducing species, like the elephant, in the short term.
4. Techniques exist to exert reversible or irreversible contraception on male and/or female animals. Indeed, there are already encouraging results from field trials of anti-zona pellucida vaccination of female elephants (a treatment that should block fertilisation) and pilot trials have begun with a GnRH vaccine in male elephants (vaccination should block sperm production and suppress sexual behaviour in males and prevent follicle development and ovulation in females). Further

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## 5 The Peter Hathaway Capstick Hunting Heritage Award

Courtesy: Dallas Safari Club

Named after the well-known American author, the Peter Hathaway Capstick Hunting Heritage Award (PHCHHA) was announced at the Dallas Safari Club (DSC) Annual Convention, in January 2004 by Capstick's widow Fiona Claire Capstick. Award criteria include active involvement in: education, hunting, conservation organizations, humanitarian causes, research, permanent endowments, and charitable giving. The intent of the PHCHHA is summed up in the Award Committees' words:

***"The objective of this award is to bring honor and recognition to an individual, organization or group whose achievements reveal a sustained and significant contribution to the conservation of wildlife and its habitat. Additionally, the winner will have shown long-term commitment to our hunting heritage by pursuing that goal for the benefit of future generations."***

The award honors the memory of a great man whose writings captured the essence of his love of the hunt and his respect for and understanding of wildlife and wild lands. It is intended to fulfil Mr. Capstick's lifelong desire to promote a hunting legacy and ensure the conservation of our wildlife resources.

Numerous international organizations and groups have been invited to submit nominees for this prestigious award. The cut-off date for nominations is June 1, 2004; The Awards Committee will select a winner no later than November 1, 2004.

An award selection committee has established selection criteria set to conduct the international search for the first-ever, 2005 Peter Hathaway Capstick Hunting Heritage Award nominee.

Committee members are: Albert Wolf, DSC Board; Ben Carter, DSC President; Fiona Capstick; David Oakes, DSC Board; Gray Thornton, DSC Executive Director; Mike McKinney, DSC President-Elect; Roger Hooper, Dallas Ecological Foundation (DEF) Board; Bob Harper, Past DSC President and DEF Board and Tommy Caruthers, Chairman, DEF Board.

**For more information contact:**

[Dallas Safari Club](http://DallasSafariClub.com), 6390 LBJ Freeway, Suite 108, Dallas, TX 75240 USA, Phone +(1)-972-980-9800 Fax +(1)-972-980-9800, email [info@biggame.org](mailto:info@biggame.org).

### **... ask yourself - what are you going on safari for?**

Are you going for the great experience? A great adventure? To see a new land, and to see new people? Or are you just going to go and collect a bunch of trophies and the experience becomes incidental? Unfortunately today that is too often the case. People will arrive on a very limited time budget, the trophy book in one hand and a list of must-have trophies in the other. This is not a safari. That really is shopping for trophies.

All I can say is that if you want to go on safari, in Africa or anywhere else, enjoy the whole experience, more than just the shooting and killing of the animal.

**Harry Selby in an interview with ESPN's Tony Makris as published in [Sporting Classics](#) (January/February 2004)**

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**4 Managing African Elephant Populations: Act Or Let Die?**

studies are needed to examine the effects, efficacy, reversibility and in-field practicality of these and other putative contraceptives. Ideally, the bulk of this development will be achieved using in vitro or other-species models, since the 4-year calving interval in elephants means that field trials yield meaningful results only slowly.

5. The way in which the presence and behaviour of a dominant bull suppresses reproductive activity in other male elephants and, at least in captivity, can lead to temporary infertility should be investigated. This may lead to novel contraceptive approaches tailored to male elephants.
6. Demographic models need to be developed, using existing and new, targeted field data, to predict the effects of elephant removal and/or contraception on population growth and conservation targets. Field data on the natural factors, such as food resources, that affect population growth will improve the accuracy of these models, which could then be used to identify the best strategy, and the proportion of animals that need to be included, to control a given population.
7. The expert group makes a call for international political will and financial support to:
  - a) Preserve eco-systems in Africa
    - By protective measures for animals and plants,
    - By urgent reduction of elephant numbers where needed, through translocation and culling.
    - By reducing elephant population growth via fertility control
  - b) Study population dynamics in elephants and the factors that affect it, so as to enable reliable modelling of the effects of protective and control measures on population growth, social structure and behaviour
  - c) Improve existing and develop novel methods of contraception for the elephant.

*Disclaimer: The Conclusions are based on the general consensus of opinion reached during the workshop and may, therefore, not express the personal opinion of all the individual participants.*

Source: <http://elephantpopulationcontrol.library.uu.nl/paginas/index.html> (for the full paper follow the links)

## African Indaba eNewsletter

**Editor & Publisher: Gerhard R Damm,**

**Postal Address: PO Box 411, Rivonia 2128, RSA,**

**Email: [gerhard@muskwa.co.za](mailto:gerhard@muskwa.co.za) P +27-(0)11-883-2299,**

**Fax +27-(0)11-784-2074**

**WEB: [www.africanindaba.netfirms.com/index.htm](http://www.africanindaba.netfirms.com/index.htm)**

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**3 News From Africa**

parks and national games reserves was left in the hands of the professionals of the Maasai community.

**Zambia**

Three crocodiles have been killed in Samfya by Zambia Wildlife Authority (ZAWA) officers in March. A ZAWA PR officer said the officers had continued to hunt for more crocodiles which had killed several villagers. ZAWA police officers were sent to the area after the killing of several people especially in Chief Chitembo's area where villagers burnt down his palace.

Meanwhile, ZAWA has advised people in elephant infested areas to use chili cultivation as one way of controlling the animals straying into villages and destroying crops.

**Cameroon**

Daniel Besong Nkwo was sentenced to 2 years imprisonment and one million francs fine for illegally killing elephants in the Banyang Mbo Wildlife Sanctuary. He has to pay 100,000 Frs in costs or undergo a confinement of 6 months. The court found him not guilty on 2 counts: possession of illegal firearms and threat of life on the WCS Project Director. Although Besong was well known in the area as commercial poacher, the court had to rely on his confession of having killed 19 elephants in and around the wildlife sanctuary over the past 6 years to convict him. The Banyang Mbo Sanctuary (662 km<sup>2</sup>) is the only wildlife sanctuary in Cameroon and was gazetted in March 1996. 2 other alleged hunters in the sanctuary, Lawan Paul and Mbong Alexander arrested in May 2003 are said to be on the run after escaping from the Nguti gendarmerie on June 5, 2003. Paul, Alexander and Nkwo are known to be responsible for killing most of the 166 elephants in and around the sanctuary between 1993 and 2002.

**Namibia**

The protection of Namibia's predators was the main topic of discussion at the 11th general meeting of the Large Carnivore Management Association of Namibia (LCMAN) held at Otjiwarongo recently. A statement released after the gathering said that seasoned veterans continued to put aside philosophical differences to work towards productive and pro-active carnivore conservation.

Represented at the meeting were local farmers, veterinarians, AfriCat, the Brown Hyena Research Project, the Cheetah Conservation Fund, Harnas, the Ministry of Environment and Tourism (MET), the Namibian Professional Hunting Association, the Okatumba Wildlife Trust, the Rare and Endangered Species Trust and the Wild Dog Project. During deliberations, the hope was expressed that more farmers would become involved in the association. LCMAN has been active in assessing methods to reduce farmer-predator conflict, disseminating information to the farming community and developing guidelines for captive carnivore management among others.

**Namibia**

The Ehrovipuka Conservancy residents are up in arms after suffering serious losses of livestock to lions from Ombatere concession. They have lost more than 100 cattle and numerous donkeys, goats and sheep to lions that sneak out of the Etosha National Park into Ombatere. A spokesperson of the conservancy which covers Otjokavare, Verdag gate, Kautjata, Onaisi, Onjuta and Omuruke among other areas, said the community is facing a chronic problem and does not know what to do as they cannot kill

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## 6 SCI Board Passes Policy On Fenced Wildlife Operations

Courtesy: SCI First For Hunters

During the January Board of Directors meeting in Reno of SCI First for Hunters (SCI) and SCI Foundation (SCIF), the board passed an official policy regarding fenced wildlife operations. **African Indaba** brings you the text of that policy (*edited for space reasons and for African context only*). SCI is addressing issues worldwide regarding hunting operations utilizing high fences as a wildlife management tool. The full text can be obtained by contacting SCI (see below):

1. The state or country hunting industry shall have industry approved standards based on the specific conditions of that region including types of species, terrain, habitats and weather as well as such factors as cultural history of hunting practices and current regulations;
2. Management programs must include adequate practices to effectively address disease issues including a testing program, record keeping of animals that have been moved and any other preventative practices that are considered appropriate for the region and species involved;
3. Hunting programs conducted behind high fences must be conducted under fair chase principles. It is recognized that there is difficulty in defining fair chase principles for different species and habitat conditions but the hunting programs must have a reasonable set of standards that address the issue with a minimum standard which provides that all hunted animals have an opportunity to escape into adequate cover and to retain a natural flight response;
4. Management programs must address the well-being of the animals involved in all phases of the programs and must provide adequate food, water and cover within the fenced area;
5. Standards for high fence facilities should be of high quality with regular checks to maintain the integrity of the fences on the facility and a process to deal effectively with escaped animals.
6. Management programs must be conducted in such a manner that they will not shed a negative light on the sport of hunting.

High fence hunting operations worldwide can offer unique hunting experiences to many types of hunters, including beginning hunters, advanced trophy hunters, elderly hunters, and special needs hunters. However, we also recognize that some of these facilities can provide opportunities to take animals in a manner that does not meet the ethical standards of fair chase. Property managers must conscientiously avoid any situation which casts a negative light on sport hunting. SCI knows many industry operations can provide high quality experiences and will work with the industry to promote fair chase within high fence facilities.

SCI believes the management of non-domesticated wildlife within high fences has been practiced for centuries and remains legitimate activity. However, this legitimate activity must be balanced with the potential risks associated with enclosed wildlife. Because of these concerns, SCI recognizes the rational for reasonable regulatory oversight of this industry by appropriate governmental agencies.

For more information contact: [SCI First For Hunters](http://SCI First For Hunters) or email to Jim Brown [JBrown@safariclub.org](mailto:JBrown@safariclub.org)

## 7 Certification Of Game Reserves And Game Ranches

By Pieter Odendaal

A growing need exists amongst owners of game reserves and wildlife ranches, as well as other role-players, for an independent evaluation and certification of the standard of management of their properties. This is further emphasised by the fact that the traditional views of competitiveness, survival and profitability are eroded and owners and shareholders of game reserves and ranches can no longer act as isolated economic entities operating detached from civil society. Failure to accept this reality will inevitably lead to our wildlife areas becoming islands of green in a surrounding sea of poverty. Although profits remain the prime concern of business, they are also expected to contribute to social and environmental development – this view has become common cause amongst South African business leaders. The need for adding corporate social responsibility to their business strategy necessitates that tools should be available for measuring performance in this field. Furthermore, when looking at the game reserve “industry” a basic need exists (like it does in any other industry) to give assurance to a range of stakeholders, that the management of game reserves in Africa conforms to the highest standards and is in line with the principle of sustainable use of renewable resources.

Similar international concern about the destruction of the tropical high forests of the world lead to the establishment of the Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) in 1993. The FSC system has proved itself over the last decade and provides a ready means of certifying wooded game reserves as well, especially since their definition of a forest encompasses the woodlands of Africa. The FSC is an international non-profit organization which founding mission was to provide a truly independent, international and credible labelling scheme to promote responsible forest management. It is the only organisation offering a credible worldwide certification scheme for all forest types, and as such has already received endorsement and active commitment from a wide range of respected NGOs, including WWF-International, Friends of the Earth, and Greenpeace. It has been well received by consumers, especially in the UK and Europe, where a market segment has been established which insists on FSC certified products from forest / woodland areas.

Certification entails the independent assessment of an organization's activities against agreed external standards. The FSC has developed an international standard for natural forests / woodland management, consisting of nine Principles and associated criteria. They cover the environmental, social and economic impacts of forest / woodland management. Certification is undertaken by SGS, the world's leading verification, testing and certification company, currently operating in more than 140 countries, with a presence in South Africa as well. The woodland is assessed by a team of SGS assessors against the requirements of the FSC standards. If management of the forest / woodland meet the requirements of the FSC standards, a certificate is issued which is valid for five years. SGS assessors make regular, normally annual, surveillance visits to ensure that high standards are maintained. The integrity of the FSC brand name and the robustness of FSC audits hold the many advantages for the management and conservation of game reserves in the woodland areas of Africa.

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## 8 EMOA Elephant Symposium 2004

The [Elephant Management & Owners Association](#) (EMOA) celebrates its 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary with an Elephant Symposium from 13 – 17 September 2004 at Bakgatla, Pilanesberg National Park, Northwest Province, South Africa.

The symposium is sponsored by the North West Parks & Tourism Board. Dr Holly Dublin (Chairperson African Elephant Specialist Group) will deliver the key-note address.

Since its inauguration EMOA has held 7 successful workshops on various topics related to elephant management. At the end of last year EMOA launched the process of a national elephant policy in conjunction with Government. EMOA has increasingly gained in reputation, and, being the only elephant organization within South Africa, endeavours to take the lead in issues pertaining to elephant management.

In the early years translocation of elephants was an important management tool and at the centre of interest. However, most established reserves, private or official, have reached their full elephant carrying capacity and are faced with a whole set of new problems.

The most pressing issue is that of elephant overpopulation, and there are few options for management intervention. There are very few suitable reserves left to which elephants can be translocated to; immuno-contraception seems viable only for small populations at this stage; and culling is only a last option due to public opinion, ethical considerations and costs involved in such an undertaking. Clearly new ways of managing elephant overpopulation need to be developed.

The symposium endeavours to bring together current research on all aspects of management of free ranging elephant populations and wild elephant populations restricted by fences, either private or official. These presentations will be the background for a workshop to discuss and develop innovative ideas on conservation of elephants within South Africa, and their management. Some exciting ideas have been put forward.

Amongst the **presenters of papers** will be **Professor Rudi van Aarde**, who will talk about "Nurturing metapopulation dynamics as an alternative conservation measure for elephants across southern Africa" and **Ron Thompson**, well-known author who will talk about "Culling as a necessary management tool". **Markus Hofmeyr** will explain his experiences with Moving elephants to the Greater Limpopo TFCA" and **Ian Whyte** evaluates the "Current options for management of elephants". Other prominent speakers have already confirmed their acceptance and information about the final schedule of events can be obtained from EMOA.

The symposium will also have a workshop session to develop possible scenarios for the future, to identify key issues and coordinate research. Amongst the topics will be intervention management such as culling, translocation, hunting, sustainable utilisation, contraception; fences and conservation strategies such as mega parks, transfrontier parks, corridors, etc.

Please contact [mgarai@esnet.co.za](mailto:mgarai@esnet.co.za) (Dr. Marion Garai) for registration forms and details. Registrations received prior to July 31<sup>st</sup> qualify for substantial discounts.

If you are interested in presenting a paper or poster, please note that EMOA requests abstracts by 30 June 2004.

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### 7 Certification Of Game Reserves And Game Ranches

- The certification process will provide a globally accepted mark of assurance of good management through an objective and independent audit of all management activities, providing assurance of best practices, legal compliance and thus improved management. It provides an important management tool to improve the standard of operations in conservation areas in Africa.
- An FSC certificate will give peace of mind to investors in conservation projects in Africa that they are involved with a well-managed organization with reasonable prospects of longer-term returns. Where responsible management is jeopardized, regular surveillance audits will detect such non-compliance and corrective actions can be instituted at an early stage.
- As with investors, donor bodies can use FSC certification as a requirement for the responsible management of their funding to provide assurance on their wise use.
- As many game areas in Africa suffer from a lack of resources and management skills, FSC certification will not always be achievable in the short term. For these areas, a step-wise certification system can be introduced, where an institution endorses the intent to move towards full certification over a number of years. Progress towards full certification and the annual surveillance auditing by SGS, will ensure continuous progress and also confirmation for funding bodies that progress is being maintained.
- Tourism and Safari operators in Northern countries can be lobbied to give preference to responsibly managed game areas, thereby rewarding the progressive and well managed game areas as well as enhancing the image of responsible operators. The established brand name of FSC in environmental circles will give it an edge in such a marketing drive.
- Part of the FSC process is to certify products originating from responsibly managed forests. The certification of game areas will open up the possibility of placing the FSC certificate on e.g. woodcarvings originating from these areas. Such carvings will have a niche market for export to Northern countries.

The concept has already been discussed with leading NGO's like Conservation International and WWF as well as SA Game Ranchers Organisation and the scientific community in the form of the Southern African Wildlife Management Association, the Mammal Research Institute and the Centre for Wildlife Management at the University of Pretoria and the Department of Nature Conservation at the Tshwane University of Technology. It is clearly getting a favourable reception in environmental circles and the first pre-assessment for a FSC certificate of an African game reserve was recently undertaken on the Sabi Sabi Private Game Reserve.

**For more information on this subject** please contact: Juliane Lemcke +27(0)11-652-1499, cell +27-(0)82-601-9313 or Pieter Odendaal +27(0)12-361 6715, cell +27-(0)72 768 5022.

*"Hunters and anglers have been in the forefront of America's conservation tradition from the outset and their support in defense of these values has never been more essential than it is now!"*

Lawrence J Amon, Acting President & Chief Executive Officer  
National Wildlife Federation, USA

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3 News From Africa

the predators. He put the blame on elephants that bring down the fence of the concession area. Contrary to this assertion, the Acting Director of Parks and Wildlife Management said the community flattens the fence for their animals to graze in the concession area, thus making them easy prey for the lions. He however agreed there is a problem of resident lions in Ombatere.

Problem animals in the country are numerous and they involve elephants, lions, cheetah, leopards, hyenas and buffaloes, crocodiles and hippos that destroy water pumps and water installations, crop fields and prey on livestock. In Okakarara, communities on a daily basis lose cattle, goats and sheep to wild dogs, which roam around the areas of Okamatapati and Okondjatu. Livestock owners are entitled by law to kill problem animals but should inform the ministry within 10 days of the action.

### South Africa

In early March 6 lions undertook a traumatic and disorganized journey from a Spanish zoo to South Africa. The lions had to travel 3 000km from Spain by road to Luxembourg to board a Cargo Lux aircraft. According to reports they were transported in inadequate crates that did not conform IATA standards. They were taken to Lechwe Lodge near Kroonstad in the Free State after arriving at Johannesburg International airport.

Africa Indaba questions the fate of these lions. Could they be another batch of "superb trophy lions for canned shooting"?

After reading the most recent SCI Safari Times (Vol 16, Issue 3/56 - March 2004), which arrived in South Africa early April, we suspect that this may well be the case. Pages 6 and 7 carry a massive full page colour advert and in the centre of page seven a 12 x 10 centimeter section shows a typical canned circus lion with the "happy hunter" and the following headline: **"Really super big big big-maned lions!"** and the subtitle **"It's rumored that 2004 could be the last year you will be able to hunt these magnificent beasts. So don't delay! Call now! 100% success on this hunt for really great maned lions!"**

We suggest that this definitely looks like advertising for "Canned Shooting" in South Africa - a practice abhorred by all decent hunters.

### Botswana

Director of Wildlife, Joseph Matlhare, has cautioned against alarmist reports suggesting that Botswana's lions could be wiped out by the Feline Immuno-Deficiency Virus (FIV), the animal equivalent of AIDS. Matlhare revealed that there is a debate in scientific circles about the true extent of the damage that could be caused by the virus. His department is aware of press reports suggesting that Botswana's lions are under threat of extinction because of the increasing prevalence of FIV.

Matlhare is quoted as saying: "However, there is a counter argument that even if the animals do have this virus, they have lived with it long enough to render them resistant to it. The difficulty is that some of the authors of the articles (*Editor's note: Kat & Nicholls*) which predict extinction of the lions have not published in scientific journals so that professional peers might enter the debate. We also have to wonder about the motive behind the suggestion that our lions will be wiped out because of the failure to publish of the people who defend that position!"

### Zimbabwe

The Harare Financial Gazette reported on April 8<sup>th</sup> that safari

## 9 Botswana 2004 - A Review

By Debbie Peake, BWMA

The 2004 Hunting Season opened in Botswana early in April presenting huge challenges to safari operators and professional hunters: high rainfall and flood levels have left many wildlife management areas under water and almost inaccessible, although levels are dropping currently. Hunting in Mokoros is going to be a highlight for trophy hunters visiting this year!

Hunting quotas for 2004 remain largely the same as for 2003: the omission of a lion quota continues to leave a huge gap for operators and clients alike, amidst much debate amongst the scientific fraternity as to sustainable utilization of lion, and diseases threatening specific lion populations in southern Africa. Operators report increased numbers of lion in their WMAs, and human/predator conflict is as intense as ever in livestock areas bordering reserves and WMAs.

The international, and to a lesser extent, the national press are expressing concern about the veterinary/wildlife fencing issues in and around the Okavango Delta, particularly the "predator proof" fence along the Makgadigadi Game Reserve - these issues have served to exacerbate the ongoing debate on the value of the EU-supported cattle industry and wildlife in Botswana. Stakeholders are concerned the fence will destroy historic and valuable migration routes/patterns for zebra and wildebeest in northern Botswana. Interestingly enough, the moratorium on lion hunting originated from concerns surrounding lion populations and human/livestock conflict within the Makgadigadi area and were not necessarily the result of over hunting by the safari industry, as alleged. There can be no dispute that a high level of killing of lion through PAC and cattle owners has taken place over the years which can be accounted for by a number of reasons; principally, the Makgadigadi Game Reserve was designated through a very low key consultative process and is considered an imposed concept by neighboring communities, with little benefit accruing to them through park entry fees etc: Furthermore, DWNP has failed to compile comprehensive records of this activity, so the true level is difficult to establish and, in fact, little attempt has been made to do so. Surveys by independent consultants accredited by the Wildlife Department were carried out over the entire Okavango Delta and adjacent WMAs from 1997 to 2000, funded by the Botswana Wildlife Management Association; these surveys indicated stable, healthy lion populations of high density in suitable areas. Most notable negative result from the lion moratorium has been the loss of income to community based organizations and indeed, the safari industry as a whole. An economic review of the safari hunting industry, funded by Calitz Safaris and the African Chapter reveals that the moratorium cost the industry a conservative US\$1.26 million (10% of total income) in 2001, not to mention the repercussions on the CBNRM program and lack of faith in the industry as a prime hunting destination in southern Africa.

In an open article featured on the CBNRM website, community based organizations wrote: *"...we are surprised to hear about the decision of the Government of Botswana to suspend lion hunting for 2001. With the possible exception of dwindling lion numbers around the Makgadigadi area, we never had any information or discussion on the need to protect lion from hunting elsewhere in Botswana. Why punish the entire country for wildlife management problems in only one area? ... the surprise ban on*

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## 10 The Zanzibar Duiker: On The Road To Recovery Or To Extinction?

By Dr. Rolf D. Baldus

In February 2004 an international conference was held in Zanzibar to discuss – amongst other mini antelope issues – the future of this little symbol of the island. Conservation in Tanzania is not a Union matter. In Zanzibar it is therefore under the island's Government. The conference drew participants from many countries, but none from the mainland.

Very little is known about the Zanzibar duiker. Even the population figures commonly quoted (5.000 in 1983, 2.000 in 1995, 400 to 1.000 in 1999, today less than 300?) are pure guesswork, it was learned during the conference. Nevertheless the simple fact remains that the duiker who lives alongside with the blue duiker and the suni in some patchy forests along the north-eastern coast has been greatly reduced in numbers and is very rare by now. There used to be another Aders' duiker population in the Arabuko-Sokoke forest in Kilifi District on the Kenyan coast, but these thickets have been cleared, and the last duiker was seen there in 1995. Five duikers were successfully translocated to Chumbe Island in 1999, a small private protected area and eco tourist-resort in the Zanzibar channel. These duikers are breeding, but whether the experiment will be successful is not yet guaranteed. There will be no further translocations, as mortality during the operation was high.

If the few remaining antelopes on Zanzibar disappear, this duiker species will be gone forever. The reasons for the population decline are simple: Destruction of the forests and hunting for meat. Predation by stray dogs and the bush pig which occurs in the forests might have been overlooked so far as additional factors.

The forests have partly been cut down to open space for cultivation. The remaining forests are heavily used for logging, cutting poles, collecting coral-stones and formerly even as garbage dumps of tourist hotels. The duikers need a dense vegetation ground cover, and are very susceptible to such human disturbances. Some of the community forests have now been declared protected Forest Reserves, and the Jozani Forest will soon be officially inaugurated as the first National Park of Zanzibar. It might actually be an idea to fence the duiker forests. If this could be agreed with the neighboring communities this might actually be a simple solution to boost duiker populations. It remains to be seen how the protection can actually be enforced on the ground and become effective. Such enforcement would indeed need quite some commitment.

Despite being totally protected since 1919 the duikers have always been hunted by the local villagers, but also by more affluent people from Zanzibar town who kill the duikers as a pastime. Hunting methods commonly used are to drive the duikers into nets, snaring and killing them with shotguns, normally at night in the light of a torch. Since the communities have become more involved in the management and conservation of the forests, the hunting pressure has gone down. Duikers are, however, still a by-catch when villagers hunt legally for the other mini-antelopes

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## 11 People, Wildlife and Hunting: Emerging Conservation Paradigms

[Conference in Edmonton](#), Alberta, October 22-24, 2004

Worldwide experience suggests that carefully-managed conservation-hunting programs can contribute significantly to successful wildlife conservation. Program success is linked to the sustainability of local communities, as well to as wildlife populations, and requires meaningful cooperation among managers, local residents, scientists, and various business and public stakeholders.

This conference will examine and analyze, through examples occurring in the Northwest and Arctic as well as internationally, how conservation-hunting programs link wildlife and people in ways that foster successful conservation outcomes. One main goal of the conference is to define the state-of-knowledge and collective vision on this topic to inform a manual that will provide wildlife managers, local communities and entrepreneurs with best-practice guidelines for establishing or improving conservation-hunting programs in their own community or region.

We invite participation from those involved or interested in ways in which conservation-hunting programs contribute to wildlife management and community socio-economic development by, for example:

- assisting in the recovery of depleted or threatened wildlife populations
- contributing to the social, economic and cultural vitality of local/aboriginal communities
- improving cooperation between wildlife managers, local residents, landowners, hunters and outfitters
- enhancing use of TEK/ local knowledge in research and management activities
- allowing local communities to decide the appropriate degree to which wildlife values can be transformed into economic values
- providing economic benefits that increase local/public attitudes supporting sustainable use and improved wildlife conservation
- improving hunters' respect for local peoples' cultural and social rights and needs
- protecting habitat against detrimental land use activities
- enhancing hunters' awareness of conservation and research needs
- improving legal protection of a vulnerable/threatened wildlife species
- improving wildlife monitoring and/or research
- improving public knowledge and/or involvement in conservation

The conference is organized by the [Canadian Circumpolar Institute](#) and the [Alberta Cooperative Conservation Research Unit](#), University of Alberta.

To receive more information, please contact **Milton Freeman** [mf2@ualberta.ca](mailto:mf2@ualberta.ca). Tel: (1)-780-492-4682; Fax: (1)-780-492-1153 or consult [www.conservationhunting.ca](http://www.conservationhunting.ca)



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### 10 The Zanzibar Duiker: On The Road To Recovery ...?

which are still more common. A duiker might fetch on the market anything between 2 and 5 US\$ for its meat.

In the last few years conservation of the remaining forest has made remarkable steps forward. Some political decisions are still needed, but there is hope that they will follow. Conservation success, however, depends not only on improved policies and laws, but even more so on implementation. Zanzibar is small and everybody knows everybody else. It is therefore not easy to enforce decisions, as always the customary rights, expectations and benefits of somebody influential somehow play a role.

The extent of community involvement attained by the Zanzibar forest and wildlife authorities is amazing. The basic open question remaining is, however, what do the communities get as their share? Without giving these little animals a value, which can be turned into money, they certainly will not be saved from extinction. Many tourists come to Zanzibar, but how can the little duiker, which is seldom ever seen, become a tourist attraction? The duiker can not be habituated like the indigenous Zanzibar Red Colobus at Jozani. Will it be possible to convince the tourist hotels to make the duikers a subject of their advertisement strategies and sponsor its conservation out of their marketing and PR budgets? Without doubt the private sector has to be involved. The possibility of having a few duikers hunted for high trophy fees by foreign sports hunters has also been discussed. This may sound like blasphemy to some, but selling 5 animals and investing the money earned so that another 50 are not poached, would leave a net balance of 45 animals.

The discussion goes on, and it is hoped that solutions will be found before the last Zanzibar duiker is history. Life in the world will go on without these mini antelopes. However, Zanzibar will have lost part of its national heritage. The Zanzibaris must decide themselves whether the Ader's duiker will survive. It would actually be easy to achieve, if the political will exists.

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## 12 Introducing "Africa's Bowhunter"

The magazine for the bowhunter, ranch owner and archer  
Reviewed by Gerhard R Damm

The team around publisher Rean Steenkamp entered the market four years ago with the first South African bowhunting magazine. Africa's Bowhunter is still the only bowhunting magazine on the African continent. As a special service to game ranch owners and bowhunters alike, the magazine staff visits, evaluates and reports on game ranches from a bowhunting perspective. Of particular interest – and not only to the bowhunter – are Cleve Cheney's species accounts, with equal emphasis to general and detailed descriptions of the species, its distribution, habits, habitats, feeding and reproduction, hunting techniques, trophy judgment, etc. Cleve also provides detailed anatomical sketches and scaled tracks drawings. His specialized tracking articles give quite some useful tips for all who venture outdoors to hunt! Cleve is an accomplished outdoorsman – as I could find out myself, when he instructed my wife, my son and me during a private bowhunting course some years ago (I am still a committed rifle hunter, but at least I wanted to know what it is all about with bowhunting).

When I read the last issue, I was particularly impressed by a photograph in Herman Jonker's article about Jan Oelofse's Hunting Safaris in Namibia. This particular photograph shows a permanent blind on Jan's 72 000 acre ranch – an artificial blind resembling a natural termite mound. In my opinion the very best, besides ground blinds built from natural materials of the immediate vicinity, and a far cry from these ugly concentration camp observation posts on creosote posts, with shooting slits and sticking out from the bush like the proverbial sore thumb.

Interesting hunting stories – both from local and visiting hunters – are as well an essential part of the magazine as is the informative section with offers for bowhunting opportunities.

All in all – worth while reading – not only for the bowhunter, and at R72 (RSA), R 156 (Southern Africa) and US\$45 (Rest of the World) quite competitive!

For subscriptions contact Africa's Bowhunter via email at [editor@africasbowhunter.co.za](mailto:editor@africasbowhunter.co.za) or visit their website at [www.africasbowhunter.co.za](http://www.africasbowhunter.co.za).

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## 13 Safaris, Maneaters And Poachers

The Last Colonial Game Wardens Tell their Stories  
Reviewed by Rolf D. Baldus

Why did young men in the middle of last century work take every effort to become game wardens? Remuneration was pathetic. They even had to buy their own Landrover. And when they arrived at their duty station they were not sure whether there was even a house waiting for them.

Before the last of the few who are still alive have also passed away, Ian Parker and Stan Bleazard – both Wardens before independence themselves – could convince a good couple of them to tell us a few of their best stories. We hear of the last lion in the Nairobi city centre, of the game scout who mistook Jomo Kenyatta's best cow for a hippo and shot it, of the biggest pair of tusks – 189 and 178 pounds – ever taken in Kenya and of many extravagant and exciting personalities. We hear tales of tragedy, farce, hardship, achievement, failure and laughter, of safaris to distant places and adventures with man-eating beasts. And we read a good number of hunting stories narrated by no-nonsense professionals. They tell us from fights against poachers who hunted elephants with poisoned arrows and whom they respected as daring hunters despite bitter war-fare. Perhaps it was one of the largest mistakes of these years some wardens contemplate today, to think that the wildlife could be protected against the people behind fences and with a fortress mentality.

Under-staffed, under-funded and mainly untrained amateurs, the game wardens fought against poachers and bureaucrats to establish a safe haven where man and animal could share the land. They wanted to keep the Africa of the great migrating herds, of the unlimited wilderness without game fences. It was an "impossible dream", as the book title says – but none of the men regretted his effort when he had to leave his job at the time of independence.

"An Impossible Dream", Ian Parker und Stan Bleazard, £14,99  
Librario Publishing 2001, [www.librario.com](http://www.librario.com)  
ISBN:1-904440-20-7.

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operators in Matabeleland North, fuming over alleged irregularities in the allocation of prime hunting and photographic concessions in the area, have set up a committee to meet Vice President Msika after Minister of Special Affairs and ruling ZANU PF chairman Nkomo failed to address the contentious issue at a meeting in Gwayi. Headman Sibanda is leading the committee, which also comprises ZANU PF central committee members and representatives from the party's women's league. *"The committee will mention, among other things, the unfair hunting quota system in the prime hunting areas of Dete, Gwayi, Hwange and Matetsi which seems to favor big names in ZANU PF."* Another contentious issue was that recommendations sent to the government in March to address the controversies were yet to be implemented as agreed with Governor Obert Mpofu. Mpofu is reported in the press as having recommended that the government repossess the farms and re-allocate them in a "fair and balanced manner".

The indigenous safari operators are not impressed. "The hunting season has begun without the anomalies being redressed," said another source. The Financial Gazette already disclosed alleged gross favoritism in the allocation of hunting and photographic concessions in Matabeleland North, with ZANU PF bigwigs from outside the region getting long leases for prime concessions at the expense of locals.

#### Zimbabwe/Mozambique

The African Wildlife Foundation's Heartland Program held two one-week long training sessions for game scouts during February in Mozambique and in Zimbabwe as part of capacity building for the Community Based Natural Resources Management (CBNRM) Program institutions in the Heartland.

A total of 27 game scouts, 10 from Mozambique and 17 from Zimbabwe participated in the activity. Trainees were drawn from existing CBNRM institutions in the 2 countries – Tchuma Tchato Program in Mozambique and CAMPFIRE Program in the Guruve District of Zimbabwe. The activity is linked to the partnership role being played by these institutions in resource monitoring, anti-poaching, and the marking of wildlife movement corridors in the Heartland. The course content included problem animal control (PAC), physical drills, firearms handling, shooting, bush craft, big game hunting, tracking, law enforcement and radio procedures (Source [AWF](#))

#### Tanzania

The Tarangire Elephant Project (TEP) and Manyara Ranch have received an \$80,000 grant from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to support elephant research and conservation efforts in the Maasai Steppe Heartland. The grant will help the African Wildlife Foundation (AWF) partners study elephant migration and behavior and strengthen anti-poaching efforts. (Source [AWF](#))

#### South Africa

[AGRED](#) – the African Game Bird Research & Development Trust has a new website at [www.agred.com](http://www.agred.com). With the assistance of many farmers, landowners, shoot hosts, safari operators, academics, especially Professors Morne du Plessis and Tim Crowe of the FitzPatrick Institute at UCT, the many corporate donors, the SA Dept of Environmental Affairs and Tourism and the PhD graduates sponsored by AGRED over the years the new website became a show piece. There is a members' section and a discussion Forum (members and non members). It also features recent newsletters, research papers, social events, art dealing, financial

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## 14 African Lion Research Projects

We will periodically bring information about ongoing lion research projects. If you are interested in knowing more about these and other research projects please contact the [African Lion Working Group](#) (Mr. Sarel van der Merwe, Chairperson, Email: [mwnatura@mweb.co.za](mailto:mwnatura@mweb.co.za) or [sarel@civic.mangaung.co.za](mailto:sarel@civic.mangaung.co.za))

#### Laikipia Predator Project

- Principal researchers: Dr Laurence Frank, Dr Rosie Woodroffe.
- Co-workers: Harry Wright, Aaron Wagner, Meredith Evans, Morecai Ogada.
- Study area: Laikipia District, Kenya.
- Date started: 1998
- Academic institutions: University of California, Berkeley, University of Warwick, Montana State University.
- Affiliated institutions: Mpala Research Centre, Kenya Wildlife Services, Wildlife Conservation Society, African Wildlife Foundation, WWF, Berkeley Hyena Project, US National Cancer Institute.
- Summary: The project aims to conserve and manage lions and other large carnivores such as hyenas and leopards in a livestock-producing area. Basic ecological information on the existing predator populations is collected. Carnivores are radio-collared to study movements, home range, group composition, birth- and mortality rates. Important diseases, such as distemper, rabies, and Feline Immunodeficiency Virus are also studied. Patterns of depredation and livestock husbandry methods that reduce the impact of predators on livestock are also investigated. Results and recommendations will be applicable throughout Africa where predators still co-exist with people and livestock.

#### Kilimanjaro Lion Conservation Project

- Principal researcher: Dr Laurence Frank
- Co-worker: Seamus MacLennan
- Study Area: Kajiado District, Kenya
- Date Started: 2004
- Academic institutions: University of California, Berkeley.
- Affiliated institutions: National Geographic Society, Wildlife Conservation Society
- Summary: In the past few years, this area has seen a dramatic increase in lion killing by local pastoralists and a precipitous drop in lion numbers. Recent loss of traditional tolerance toward lions is a pattern that seems to be spreading in Masailand, one of the last great remaining lion populations. We will be collecting basic ecological information on lion populations and movements. This area is between Amboseli National Park and Tsavo West National Park, it is potentially an important dispersal area for both. Based on what we have learned in Laikipia, we will also be working intensively with the local Masai to try and improve livestock husbandry to better protect their herds from predators. This will be combined with an innovative compensation scheme that uses payment for lost stock as an incentive for improving husbandry practices and cessation of poisoning and spearing predators.

## 15 Ivory Issue: Kenya's Problems Could Be Solved

By Eugene Lapointe

Courtesy: [IWMC](#) March 2004 e-bulletin

Don't burn it this time! Remember when Richard Leakey worked in the Kenya Wildlife Service, and made a big show of burning tons of confiscated ivory? It had originated with Kenya's elephants, of course, those unfortunately unmanaged and unprotected beasts that often get into trouble with local people, who refer to them as "rogues". They call on their government officials to kill them to save human lives. And of course, some unfortunate elephants have been killed illegally by poachers. All the tusks were confiscated and added to the pile. Now, there is another huge, 30 ton pile that has resulted from similarly poor elephant management, and Kenya has talked seven of its neighbors (Cameroon, Central African Republic, Ethiopia, Ghana, Mali, Tunisia, and Uganda) into supporting its position at the upcoming CITES (October, Bangkok) that there should be no legalized sales of ivory. Their reason....they claim that it would encourage more poaching. So far, this position has had no practical backup.

The Nairobi East African Standard (March 6, 2004) reported that "Environment, Natural Resources and Wildlife minister Newton Kulundu said the rest of the haulage is from animals that have died of disease and other natural causes, and rogue elephants killed by the Kenya Wildlife Service personnel as a result of the now rampant human-wildlife conflicts." According to the minister, Kenya needs another 700 wildlife officials to handle the conflicts between humans and wildlife. And money is short in Kenya for such problems, so the parks people are looking for donations with which to buy modern surveillance equipment, and to pay the additional personnel.

Lack of adequate law enforcement in Kenya resulted in a massive loss of their elephants to poaching - whereas they had some 167,000 animals at the time of their independence, by 1989 the herd had dwindled to only 16,000 animals. That figure has now risen to 28,000 elephants. Minister Kulundu claims that if the ban on sales of ivory should be lifted, that there would be massive slaughter. Southern African countries continually pressure Kenya to vote for lifting the ban, but Kenya's position is that there has been a general failure in Africa to implement the MIKE program (Monitoring the Illegal Killing of Elephants). Sadly, this is true of Zimbabwe, where the world has watched blatant corruption and widespread elephant killings. But it does not have to happen that way.

IWMC is very familiar with the elephant and law enforcement problems in Africa. We believe that conservation programs should pay for themselves, because outsiders just do not have the incentive to support such programs that a range state has, to keep its animal resources in balance with its citizens. If ivory stores became a legal commodity, the price would go down, and there would be less incentive for poaching. Further, the money from confiscated ivory should be allocated directly to improving law enforcement, poacher conviction rates, and applied surveillance technology. Ivory money should not go into a general fund, for bureaucrats to use for irrelevant purposes. The elephants that died should not have died in vain...at least some good should come of it, and that good should be the protection and administrative integrity and determination of a central government committed to elephant conservation. Those 30 tons of ivory should be con-

verted into money to support a modern, efficient law enforcement effort in Kenya's wild lands. To waste 30 tons of confiscated ivory by burning it would do nothing to solve the problems of rogue control, poaching, and illegal exports of ivory on the world market.

IWMC Sustainable eNews is published monthly as a free service to the sustainable use community. Subscription requests should be sent to: [iwmc@iwmc.org](mailto:iwmc@iwmc.org).

## 16 Elephant Populations Increasing in Zambezi Heartland

Courtesy: [African Wildlife Federation](#)

You would think elephants would be relatively easy to count. After all, they are the largest terrestrial mammal on earth. But it gets complicated when their range crosses three national boundaries and the elephants are constantly on the move.

Until last year, no one had been able to get an accurate count in AWF's [Zambezi Heartland](#). But in the last half of 2003, the first ever transboundary large mammal aerial survey took place in this Heartland. The survey was conducted at the same time across all areas of the Heartland using standard census methods, an approach that minimized the chance of double counting in cases where elephants move across borders.

AWF facilitated this collaborative effort among the Zambia Wildlife Authority, Zimbabwe's Parks and Wildlife Management Authority, and the Mozambican Tete Province Department of Tourism. A high level of commitment was demonstrated by all parties, particularly in seeking the necessary permission for cross-border flights. Zimbabwe has by far the largest percent of the range (63%) and the largest population estimate of elephants with 19,646. Zambia has an intermediate size portion of the range (27%) that has a population estimate of 1,423, a 137% increase from the estimated figure of 600 elephants made in 2002 (CITES, 2002). Mozambique makes up just 10% of the range and has 1,717 elephants, a 41% increase from the 1,217 estimate from the year 2000 census. On a landscape level, the entire Heartland has had an 8% increase in population from an estimated 21,114 in 2001 to 22,826 elephants in the latest survey.

**While the elephant population in Zimbabwe is increasing steadily, the populations in Zambia and Mozambique show dramatic increases.** This trend can be attributed to the consistency in census methodology used during the AWF facilitated transboundary survey as well as improved wildlife management interventions on the ground.

As a result of this survey, conservation priorities have been determined. One is for transboundary law enforcement to help protect the increasingly stable Heartland elephant population from poaching. In addition, the growth of populations in Zambia and Mozambique must be sustained in cooperation with the national wildlife authorities and local government.

**To measure and retain the rich biodiversity of Africa we must ensure that national parks are transformed .... We need to break with traditional thinking, to catalyse a new vision and to join hands in new partnerships**

**Nelson Mandela**

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reporting etc. AGRED recently appointed Dr Aldo Berruti as new Executive Director with effect from the 1st of June this year. If you want to know more about African Game birds, [AGRED's](#) website is the place to go!

### Namibia

President Sam Nujoma assured Namibians in an address to Namibia's parliament on April 21st that the government's land expropriation program would be conducted in a legal manner. "Any concerns about land reform should be laid to rest," Nujoma said in his last state of the nation address before retiring. Most of the productive land in this southern African country remains in the hands of whites who make up less than 5 percent of the 1,8-million population. The government is in the process of identifying a number of white-owned commercial farms for redistribution to landless blacks. The plan, combined with union threats to invade some farms, has raised fears of Zimbabwe-style violent land seizures. Nujoma's government insists the owners of expropriated farms will be compensated and the country's constitution respected.

### Zambia

The Zambia Wildlife Authority (ZAWA) has ordered Sub-Chief Kalunga and his 100 subjects to vacate the Isangano National Park because the people have become a danger to wildlife. An alternative piece of land elsewhere where the affected villagers and their traditional leader would re-settle has already been found. ZAWA director-general Hapenga Kabeta said ZAWA had convinced the communities who had encroached into the area to vacate by the end of April. ZAWA and Government had also agreed to remove all villagers who had encroached into Kafinda GMA to fish on Lake Bangweulu. ZAWA also ordered people living in Sumbu National Park to leave the area immediately and has asked Kaputa council to find an alternative land for relocation.

### Kenya

The Kenyan parliament discussed the introduction of a Bill seeking new compensation rates for loss of life and property caused by wildlife. Several parliamentarians criticized that compared to the punishment meted out on those charged with illegal killing of game the present low compensation practice makes it appear that the Government values animals more than human beings. They requested that local communities should be allowed to kill game for food and that excess game should be exported to earn foreign exchange. The debate also touched on the increase in human population and subsequent encroachment on wildlife zones and the plans of moving more elephants to Tsavo, which is already filled almost to capacity with the pachyderms.

### South Africa

The **2004 KZN Wildlife Game Auction** takes place on 19<sup>th</sup> June, starting at 11.00 am at the Centenary Centre Hluhluwe-iMfolozi Park in KwaZulu-Natal. There will be a life auction with 40 white rhino, 30 disease-free buffalo, 302 nyala in family groups, 16 adult male nyala and 10 giraffe. The catalogue auction features amongst others 19 white rhino, 59 giraffe, 995 impala, 145 nyala in family groups, 38 adult male nyala, 95 blue wildebeest, 12 hippo, 70 zebra, 150 warthog, 82 red hartebeest, 55 kudu, 10 waterbuck, 86 springbok, 84 blesbok, 8 ostriches and 50 dassies. The auction is conducted by Vleissentraal auctioneers. Details at [www.kznwildlife.com](http://www.kznwildlife.com), email [gamecap@kznwildlife.com](mailto:gamecap@kznwildlife.com).

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*lion hunting will force safari companies to break open contracts, cause legal battles and disastrous economic impacts on communities .... We also fail to see the rationale behind the ban on lion hunting ..... if the ban is to allow the lion population to build up, then the result of the ban might be the opposite .... Residents in remote areas today realize the value of this resource .... an elephant is not just a "problem animal" – it has become a wandering 'bank account' that can be tapped by communities living with that resource and bear the costs of living with that resource!"*

A National Predator Strategy has been formulated but not formally adopted by relevant Ministries/stakeholders. In the meantime, the BWMA continues to lobby relevant interest groups and scientific fraternity to support the future sustainable utilization of lion under strict off-take conditions for certain WMAs.

Elephant hunting in Botswana continues to contribute 56% of total income, with no other single species making double figures. However, allocated numbers in commercial areas are currently extremely conservative and given the high population densities in northern Botswana could well be increased. Whilst an increased quota will play no role in reducing elephant numbers in WMAs, it does go some way to creating an increased revenue base in the form of license and trophy fees, export permits fees, as well as compensating for the loss of other species on the quota list. Quotas for elephant have not increased since 2001, although operators are lobbying DWNP for an increased non-trophy quota in certain areas, mainly to improve the economic viability of their areas.

Combined mean tusk weights of elephant shot on a sport hunting quota have remained consistently above 100lbs since the re-opening of elephant hunting in 1996. The country average for 2003 was 106.3lbs (combined tusk weight) based on 139 elephant shot.

Citizen hunting of elephant poses a problem to DWNP in that citizens acquire elephant licenses in the hope of selling it back to the safari operators: amidst disappointment to citizens, DWNP have ruled that no citizen license may be transferred nor shipped outside Botswana.

Other species affected by the gradual decrease in hunting quota are the sitatunga, sable and reedbuck: little data has been made available to the industry as to the rationale for their removal and indeed, little credible scientific data is on hand to substantiate the action. Regrettably, there is little evidence that these particular species will be re-introduced to the quota.

Monitoring of trophy quality of major species is ongoing since 1997, and has revealed high standards, Leopard, most notably, are outstanding with the majority measuring in excess of 14". Trophy measurements of plains game continue to reveal consistently good distributions. The trophy measurement project aims to answer a key question for all hunted species: what are the trends of trophy quality? Is it improving or declining? The results so far have shown that the perception of a declining trophy quality is generally false for Botswana. Hunter participation in the project demonstrates a commitment to the long-term viability of wildlife populations in both ecological and economical terms. The DWNP has shown interest in the project with a view to using the data as a tool for allocating quotas. The professional hunting industry welcomes this move. The dialogue between the BWMA and DWNP contin-

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ues on this positive note, with an annual BWMA/DWNP meeting during which areas of concern and mutual interest are discussed.

Safari operators confirm that bookings look good for 2004: high levels of interest were shown in Botswana at the various hunting conventions – long may it last!

For more information about hunting in Botswana contact Debbie Peake, Botswana Wildlife Management Association at [debbie.trophy@info.bw](mailto:debbie.trophy@info.bw)

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3 News From Africa

### Zimbabwe

The Zimbabwean Herald reported that safari operator Emmanuel Fundira, who was arrested on allegations of externalizing more than US\$100 000 in foreign currency from hunting proceeds and other operations, appeared before a Harare magistrate and was remanded in custody. Fundira was not asked to plead to charges of contravening the Exchange Control Act. The State opposed bail alleging that Fundira was likely to abscond.

The state prosecutor said sometime in 2002 Fundira, who is the chief executive officer of Makuti Game Safaris & Lodges, entered into an agreement with *Out Of Africa Adventurous Safaris*, a United States-based hunting safari outfitter (**Editor's note: All hunters contemplating a safari in Zimbabwe should use – for their own protection – a variety of cross checks on the booking agent, the safari company and the professional hunters respectively the local outfitter before booking; in case the bookings have already been made and deposits have been paid, it is still worth while to consult with people like [The Hunting Report](#), international hunting organizations, internet hunting forums and Zimbabwean organizations). According to the State, the agreement stipulated that *Out Of Africa Adventurous Safaris* would source clients on behalf of Makuti Game Safaris & Lodges. The State alleged these clients made advance payments to the US-based company in foreign currency. The company would then deposit the funds into Fundira's accounts at Nedbank in Johannesburg and Bank of America in Las Vegas/USA. The deals were allegedly made since January 2002 to date. Fundira, who is also the Zimbabwe Tourism Authority's acting board chairman and deputy chairman, therefore failed to repatriate funds of more than US\$101 388 paid for the safaris.**

The prosecutor further submitted that Fundira had bank accounts in South Africa and the US which had large sums of money and was likely to flee the country like others had done. He also said investigations were still pending and releasing Fundira would give him an opportunity to interfere with the investigations and State witnesses.

### ... and last not least something from Europe

In the European Parliament Session of 9<sup>th</sup> March 2004 the British Labour MP Robert Evans proposed to the Commission "to prohibit the import of CITES listed species into the European Union citing that European hunters had killed tens of thousands of endangered animals and had imported them into the territory of the EU." Mrs. Wallström answered on behalf of the Commission and explained the import regulations, and said further "I am aware

that in a number of countries, including Namibia, South Africa, Botswana and Tanzania, carefully managed trophy hunting provides a major contribution to their relatively successful conservation efforts. While many people find the concept of hunting trophies distasteful under any circumstances, the Commission considers that a general ban on the import on any CITES-listed species would not be in the best interest of species conservation and the sustainable use of resources."

Evans' reply contained a number of obscure accusations and he topped it by saying "...my information is that in the last six years British people have been abroad and shot at least 40 African elephants, 32 leopards, 18 polar bears, six hippos – I could go on. Worldwide, this is something like over 3 800 African elephants, over 2 600 rare leopards and 9 000 bears." Mr Evans obviously has problems in interpreting and/or reading statistics! The final icing on the cake was provided by a MP from the Green Party who said "The European Union puts huge resources and effort into keeping out so-called illegal immigrants, yet it cannot stop the illegal import of trophies. We should get our priorities right. Let people in, not these trophies." (Source: EU Parliamentary Records)

## 17 AWF Donates Equipment To ZAWA

Courtesy: [African Wildlife Federation](#)

On April 8, 2004, AWF presented the Zambia Wildlife Authority (ZAWA) with camping equipment and uniforms worth US\$74,000 to assist wildlife protection in Mosi-Oa-Tunya National Park. The equipment includes camping tents, tarpaulins, mosquito netting, and other accessories.

AWF Chief of Party Henry Mwima presented the equipment to the Honorable Patrick Kalifungwa, Zambian Minister of Tourism, Environment, and Natural Resources, at a ceremony attended by numerous ZAWA officials and other dignitaries. Mr. Kalifungwa emphasized his commitment to tourism development and the need to work with neighboring countries to ensure wildlife conservation at an ecosystem level.

AWF purchased the donated items under the Protected Areas support program of the Four Corners Transboundary Natural Resources Management (TBNRM) Initiative. The Four Corners project area encompasses the Eastern Caprivi Strip in Namibia, Ngamiland in Botswana, the Hwange district in Zimbabwe, and Southern Province between the Zambezi River and Kafue in Zambia. It covers 220,000 square kilometres and is home to an estimated 140,000 elephants and other animals.

Through the TBNRM, AWF is helping the governments of Zambia, Namibia, Botswana, and Zimbabwe adopt an integrated approach to conservation and tourism development in the Upper Zambezi area. Specifically, AWF provides support for management of protected areas, collaborates with local communities to secure wildlife corridors, dispersal areas, and habitats, encourages communities along the Zambezi River to streamline fisheries management, and cooperates with wildlife and fisheries authorities on ecological planning, monitoring, and research.

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### 1 Hunting Behind High Fences

group of prominent African and American hunters. These efforts resulted at that time in a statement which read:

***Every sport hunter shall pursue an animal only by engaging in fair chase of the quarry. Fair chase is defined as pursuit of a free ranging animal or enclosed ranging animal possessed of the natural behavioral inclination to escape from the hunter and be fully free to do so. A sport hunted animal should exist as a naturally interacting individual of a wild sustainable population, located in an area that meets both the spatial (territory and home range) and temporal (food, breeding and basic needs) requirements of the population of which that individual is a member. Sport hunted animals should, wherever possible, be sustained within an ecologically functional system.***

***Said animal is to be hunted without artificial light source, or motorized mode of transport and in an area that does not by human design concentrate animals for a specific purpose or at a specific time, such as artificial water-holes, salt licks or feeding stations. No ethical hunter whilst sport hunting shall take female animals with dependant young.***

In my opinion this statement does already incorporate most – if not all – basic requirements covering hunting behind and outside fences. The statement also addresses concerns voiced by a number of people in various discussions I had. Most of these concerns evolve around the issue “*what is actually the difference of shooting a canned lion, since ‘put and take’ shooting involves also species like certain antelopes and especially white rhino?*”

I want to make my point of view again absolutely clear – and I know that I am not standing alone on this issue! The important point which distinguishes hunting from mere shooting must be the uncertainty of the outcome of the hunting activity. Those “guaranteed hunts” which some callous outfitters and agents offer (see page 16 – News from Africa) and in which so-called hunters participate have nothing to do with hunting. The often used arguments by proponents of these killing excursions “that killing a canned animal actually serves conservation since it protects the wild populations”, “the ethics and morals of an activity cannot be prescribed” and “what’s the difference between breeding cattle for slaughter and breeding lions for being shot” are unscrupulous and fact-twisting.

Unfortunately the public and the media regularly mix hunting and canned shooting to the detriment of all true hunter-conservationists.

The core issue in the above statement is clearly “*A sport hunted animal should exist as a naturally interacting individual of a wild sustainable population, located in an area that meets both the spatial (territory and home range) and temporal (food, breeding and basic needs) requirements of the population of which that individual is a member*”. Of essential importance are the underlined words.

Looking at the high fence issue in combination with fair chase, one can clearly deduce that any form of “put & take shooting” (i. e. when an animal is released on a property irrespective of size for

the sole purpose of being shot as soon as possible after release) and the even more perverted form of “canned lion shooting” (when the lion – often enough an aged zoo or circus lion imported from Europe – is sometimes released only hours before its being killed) have nothing in common with hunting and neither do they have any conservation benefit. They have also nothing to do with the livestock industry, since an animal destined for slaughter is killed by professionals under very controlled conditions.

Some may argue that it is a form of free enterprise and personal choice – and there I concur, as long as the perpetrators do not call themselves hunters and/or conservationists. If a government deems it fit to curtail such activities (as a draft legislation in South Africa for large carnivores suggests), these proponents of free enterprise should not complain, since a modern welfare state has the right and obligation to subject unbridled free enterprise to certain restrictions!

The age-old traditions of hunting, the objectives of the sustainable use of natural resources, the Africa-specific objectives of poverty relief, as well as the challenges of biodiversity conservation and wildlife management on finite (i.e. fenced) and open areas require that the organized hunting community around the globe takes stock and develops a clear vision for the future. Open and necessarily controversial discussions are essential to analyze problem areas and to find solutions. An inclusive and honest information and media policy is as necessary as good public relation work. I sincerely hope that the Boone & Crockett initiative will focus our attention again on this important issue and that all hunters worldwide see the necessity to join forces.

Sincerely,  
Gerhard R Damm

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### 17 AWF Donates Equipment to ZAWA

The TBNRM is part of AWF’s focus on landscape-level conservation, which aims to conserve protected areas and species over large areas such as the Four Corners region. This approach recognizes that protected areas have to be conserved within the context of the surrounding landscape and land use and that conservation efforts must transcend political boundaries. This approach also takes into consideration that protected areas are connected to their surroundings through ecological, economic and cultural relationships.

For more information contact **Elodie Sampere** email: [esampere@awf.org](mailto:esampere@awf.org)

## 18 Southern African Ivory Sale

**Confusion About The Sale Of 60 Tons Of Ivory In Southern Africa**

**By Gerhard R Damm**

In November 2002 the Santiago de Chile Conference of Parties of CITES permitted a single sale of 60 tons of ivory to Japan. The agreement was tied to the fulfilment of certain conditions by the selling and buying nations, and could not take place prior to May 2004.

During a meeting of CITES in Switzerland (15-19<sup>th</sup> March) attended by more than 200 representatives of the parties as well as NGOs, the African elephant and the respective domestic ivory

markets were discussed. One issue was not on the agenda – the international trade of ivory as approved for South Africa, Botswana & Namibia during the 2002 Santiago conference. Although all range countries were asked to improve the internal control of ivory trade or face punitive measures, a number of IFAW influenced media reported that the international ivory trade (between authorized countries and Japan) was discussed and permission was declined by the plenum. Already prior to this meeting, during and more even after the event, the world wide anti-use movement inundated the public and media with fabricated “news”.

The reports generally focused on the wrong assumption that this CITES meeting declined to authorize the sale. The anti-use propaganda further stated that the required conditions had not been met. It seems that most of the propagandistic fabrications of the anti-use movement are based on an article published in March by the government-run Zimbabwean Herald newspaper, which subsequently was taken up by media reports in Botswana, South Africa and finally across the globe. According to information from reliable sources the Herald article – for unknown reasons - used bits and pieces of information and the editor made up a story which did not represent the facts and wrongly implicated persons, who are firmly based within the framework of the CITES agreements, for siding with the anti-use movement. The antis are obviously using all means at their disposal to torpedo the ivory sale which has been agreed upon by the majority of CITES members.

Already prior to the March meeting, Kenya had protested against the sale. It is quite astonishing that the government of Mr. Kibaki toes the same line as its predecessors under Mr. Moi. Kenya's allies in this protest were Cameroon, Central African Republic, Ethiopia, Ghana, Mali and Uganda – all of them countries who can “boast” of disastrous results in the management and protection of their respective elephant herds. It is an unfortunate fact that the news of good elephant management and the burgeoning numbers of the pachyderms in Southern Africa are typically ignored and the voices of countries with dismal records of their own are fortified by a vociferous anti-use movement who rather spent their funds on international propaganda than on pragmatic elephant management and conservation!

The reality and simple truth is that the Standing Committee of CITES has never discussed the international ivory sale at the March Geneva meeting. The international ivory sale topic was never part of the agenda! Fact is, however, that certain baseline data as stipulated by the Santiago agreement were missing.

Fact is further that the CITES Secretariat will inform the CITES Standing Committee as soon as all conditions for the planned ivory sale are met to guarantee its compliance with the 2002 agreement. Dr. Pieter Botha of the South African Department of Environmental Affairs and Tourism regretted this new postponement in interviews after the meeting, stating that South Africa is in full compliance. Botha also mentioned that all three range states are in compliance with the requirements regarding the inventory of government owned stocks.

One has to contemplate on the wider repercussions of the continuing well publicized opposition to culling and the economic use of elephant products.

**Dr Imre Loeffler**, the chairman of the East African Wildlife Society, said in an article published in the East African on March 29<sup>th</sup> **“We have saved the elephant, now what are we to do with it?”** that *there are those for whom the continuing threat to the survival of elephants is itself a source of income: the conservation NGO people who make a living by conducting various activities that*

*may or may not contribute towards saving the elephant from extinction. He concludes with ‘this question [what to do with the elephant] is the acid test for the conservationist. There are two options. One is to hunt and to crop and to process the meat and the skin and sell the ivory and make money and share the money with the citizens. The other is to use modern methods of contraception and control the reproduction rate of the herd scientifically - in other words, to spend money so that killing is avoided and in the process forgo the benefits of the productivity of the herd.’*

The International Workshop on the **“Control of Wild Elephant Populations”** in Holland during November 2003 with 21 experts from 9 countries participating, concluded: *“Despite the considerable success of the relocation strategy used by Kruger National Park in recent years, and justified optimism that an efficacious method for inducing harmless and reversible contraception in larger elephant herds will be developed in coming years, organised culling remains a necessary method for controlling unwanted increases in, or achieving rapid reductions in, certain elephant populations. Most notably, those populations in Kruger Park, Hwange Park and surrounding areas in Zimbabwe and in clearly defined areas in Botswana need urgent attention. The Workshop recommends that the expertise of the relocation teams in Kruger Park be made available to other game parks and countries in southern and eastern Africa to assist necessary culling operations. The Workshop is also very aware and approving of the considerable potential benefits that may and should accrue to local populations and park management authorities as a result of well-organised culling operations, including the provision of food and cash from the sale of ivory and other by-products.”* (Compare article “Managing Africa's Elephant Populations: Act Or Let Die?” on page 3 and check the relevant [WebSite](#) for more details).

The experts clearly say that culling is a necessary and urgent measure to be adopted. Unfortunately, such information is never reported by the media, and the anti-use movement certainly ignores it. They rather try to derail any sensible and scientifically based approach towards a solution – and part of the solution must be that the economic benefit from culling is suitably shared between elephant conservation and the affected rural population who live with the elephant.

Ron Thomson – author and ex game-warden – said repeatedly that *“the single most important factor that will either wipe out Africa's wildlife, in general, and the elephant in particular, or that will save Africa's wildlife and save Africa's elephants for posterity is Africa's people”* Africa's on-going rural population explosion is causing a shortage of land for humans and wildlife. Coupled with lack of development this is resulting in an escalating state of poverty in rural communities. Thomson argues that poverty causes people to poach survival. The increase in rural human population and in poverty could conceivably lead to a new poaching pandemic –not for ivory and rhino horn but for meat. Wildlife managers and conservationists carry a heavy responsibility – they must achieve an equitable solution fast!

According to Thomson, wildlife in Africa is doomed within 50 years unless society starts to approach African conservation issues from a pragmatic management point of view, excluding all and sundry anthropomorphisms. We must finally effectively use Africa's wildlife on a sustainable basis to benefit Africa's people. Stopping elephants from breeding, and running with the animal rights anti-culling, anti-hunting and anti-use sentiment, will not save Africa's elephants. Biodiversity and wildlife in Africa will survive if they are used wisely as wild products of the land.!

## New Wildlife Industry Website

By Peter Morrison

A new community-based website, [www.EcoAssist.co.za](http://www.EcoAssist.co.za), has been launched for the wildlife industry offering a platform for communications linking those actively involved in wildlife globally. Members of the community will: receive the latest African wildlife news and that of global interest; post adverts to promote their wildlife related products and or services; get notified on wildlife related events and to receive and share information.

"A number of wildlife professionals work in remote destinations and through technology we can assist them with much needed information and keep them updated on what's happening in their industry. The website is unbiased and will not scrutinize or promote any wildlife practices, however members will be able to express their feelings," says Peter Morrison, the host of the site.

The site is for wildlife managers, rangers, veterinarians, rehabilitators, animal keepers, students and any interested individuals worldwide. For more information contact Peter Morrison, Phone: 27-(0)84 514 7708, E-mail: [Pete@ecoassist.co.za](mailto:Pete@ecoassist.co.za)

## 2<sup>nd</sup> South African National Conservancies Conference

"Empowering Communities through Conservancies"

The KwaZulu-Natal Conservancies Association will host the 2<sup>nd</sup> National Conservancies Conference at Ntshondwe, Itala Game Reserve from **May 14<sup>th</sup> to May 16<sup>th</sup>**. Speakers include amongst others Khulani Mkhize, CEO Ezemvelo KZN Wildlife, Mark Botha, Botanical Society of South Africa and Pete Goodman, Ezemvelo KZN Wildlife. For details contact Jean Lindsay, Tel/fax: (031) 705 5448, Cell: 082 550 4427, E-mail: [lindsayjd@mweb.co.za](mailto:lindsayjd@mweb.co.za)

## Tanzania Programme Officer Wanted

Frankfurt Zoological Society (FZS) is a non-governmental organization (NGO) whose overall goal is to *"work with and for people to secure biodiversity in key ecosystems worldwide"*. FZS works in Tanzania with its partners in the wildlife sector of the Ministry of Natural Resources and Tourism under a General Agreement with the Government of the United Republic of Tanzania. **FZS wishes to recruit a Tanzania Programme Officer who will manage and develop the Society's Tanzania Conservation Programme.** The ideal candidate will have professional qualifications in ecology or wildlife management and have a strong personal commitment to conservation. She/He will have at least 10 years experience in either the Government or NGO conservation sectors in Tanzania. Experience in community-based-conservation and park planning will be an advantage. Proven leadership and communication skills are essential as is the ability to work in a small team. Duty station is at FZS Africa Regional Office/Serengeti. The initial contract will be for 2 years starting in October 2004 and a competitive salary will be offered. Application by email with "TPO" in the subject line to [simonthirgood@fzs.org](mailto:simonthirgood@fzs.org). Include a CV and covering letter outlining your suitability for the post. **Closing date May 30, 2004.**

## 2004 SAWMA Symposium

The [Southern African Wildlife Management Association's](http://www.sawma.org) 2004 symposium "Innovations in Managing Wildlife Resources" will take place at Kathu (NC Province) from September 21 to 22. Papers within the thematic frame of the sub-themes are invited:

- Resource economics (sustainable use of wildlife, market forces and trends in the trade of wildlife products, monitoring of use, etc)
- Understanding and managing wildlife (applied research on biological and management issues, etc)
- Threats and solutions (alien invasives, habitat degradation, pollution, hybridisation, restoration ecology, etc)
- Benefits to the people (community involvement, job creation, CBRNM, etc)
- Conservation planning (contributions towards regional and national scale wildlife conservation, etc.)
- Conservation of aquatic systems (aquatic organisms, systems and planning processes, etc)
- Wildlife protection (legislation, policies, strategies, etc.)

Contact [SAWMA](http://www.sawma.org) (Mrs Elma Marais) email [elma@mweb.co.za](mailto:elma@mweb.co.za)

## 6<sup>th</sup> International Wildlife Ranching Symposium

The [International Foundation for the Conservation of Wildlife](http://www.igf.fr) in partnership with the French Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the National Museum of Natural History, the Office National de la Chasse et de la Faune Sauvage, and CIRAD announces the convening of the 6<sup>th</sup> International Wildlife Ranching Symposium, which will be held at the National Museum of Natural History, in Paris, France, from **6 to 9 July 2004**. Further information, the registration forms and relevant documents can be downloaded from [IGF's](http://www.igf.fr) website. You can also register on-line. Contact IGF by email at [6iwers@fondation-igf.fr](mailto:6iwers@fondation-igf.fr). A wide audience of representatives of Governments, NGOs and communities, wildlife specialists and professionals, from around the world is expected. It will provide a forum to interact and exchange information and ideas on all aspects of wildlife conservation as a tool for sustainable development, including:

- Sustainable use of wildlife reevaluated as a tool for the conservation of biodiversity
- Wildlife management in harmony with rural development
- Consumptive use and non-consumptive use of wildlife
- Wildlife ranching under temperate, arctic and tropical conditions
- Multispecies and multifunctional wildlife ranching
- Monospecific wildlife farming including deer, crocodile, ostrich, grasscutter
- New technologies for the sustainable use of wildlife
- New approaches for involving local communities including CBNRM, conservancies
- Wildlife as food including the bushmeat issues
- Wildlife products including marketing, processing, controlling
- Wildlife/Human conflicts including disease transmission, crop damage, predation on livestock
- Legal issues in the field of sustainable use of wildlife including challenges in land use policy