



AFRICAN INDABA

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Dedicated to the People and Wildlife of Africa

Hunting for Truth: Why Rationalizing the Ritual Must Fail

Guest Editorial by Shane Mahoney

Editor's Introduction: *Shane Mahoney, Director of Newfoundland Wildlife Research, is a research biologist with broad experience and an internationally known writer and lecturer on environmental and resource conservation issues. He is a leading conservationist, philosopher and extraordinary speaker on the future of hunting and sport fishing and the role hunters and anglers have played in conserving the planet's wildlife legacy. Shane Mahoney has published in a broad spectrum of scientific journals including Ibis, Canadian Journal of Zoology, Wilson Bulletin, Alces, Journal of Wildlife Management, Forest Ecology and Management, Rangifer, and Journal of Molecular Ecology. He is currently cross-appointed at three universities in Atlantic Canada. Shane is a noted authority on the North American Conservation Model and narrated a film on the model in partnership with the Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation in 2006. At the 30th International Wildlife Media Center & Film Festival in May 2007 Shane Mahoney moderated an international panel discussion that dramatically focused on the theme "Crisis, Hope, Vision – Solutions for Planet Earth".*

His writings and lectures reflect a deep personal commitment to understanding man's place in nature and are drawn from his own experiences in rural Newfoundland, where undoubtedly his fascination with wildlife and the human cultures that depend upon it was fostered. Shane has challenged audiences to think about the positions and beliefs they hold, emphasizing the evolutionary and historical influences on modern society's outlooks and values.

African Indaba is proud to present Shane Mahoney's guest editorial to our readers:

Across the wide belt of the North American continent a profound debate surges. It is a collision of world views; a refinement of man's view of himself; a reinterpretation of Eden; a great contemplation of the future of mankind. Yet, despite this profound nature, the debate in question is delivered to the public as a clash of soft sentimentality and rigorous rationalism, the central theme portrayed by both sides as something so far removed from its essential self that it is at worst belittled, at best trivialized. The evisceration of man's greatest achievement, *naturalness*, is the work of two opposing forces, each wrapped in the

cloak of conservation, striving for supremacy in a tournament of frauds and follies. The problem for hunting today is that nobody will tell the truth.

On the one side, there are those who are opposed to hunting, who obviously do not hunt, and who portray the activity as barbaric, unnecessary, and inappropriate to today's society, and mankind's future. They concentrate on the suffering of the individual animal and upon the behavior of persons who might inflict it. They portray nature as more benign, more *right*, without man than with him; and hunters as fermented juveniles who enjoy killing as a diversionary sport and who see animals as targets for their violence.

To persons who argue for animal rights, hunting is a cruel wastefulness and the hunt an anachronism, something we should have put behind us, as we have bear baiting and cock

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The Professional Hunters' Association of South Africa

supported by the Peace Parks Foundation and endorsed by Dr. Ian Player announces the
2nd Grand Gala Dinner & Auction
 Intercontinental Sandton Sun & Towers
 April 4th, 2008 – 19.00h

Tickets @ R1000 per person



The key-note address will be presented by

Dr Hector Magome
 Executive Director
 South African National Parks

Limited Openings – Make your reservations NOW with PHASA (Phone Marianna at 012-6672048 – email info@phasa.co.za)

The gala evening is part of a long term strategy of PHASA and the Southern African Wildlife College, supported by Peace parks Foundation, to fund bursaries for selected students from all ethnic groups for careers in wildlife management and conservation. All proceeds of the gala evening and the auction are earmarked for this purpose.

Great safaris, weekend getaways, fine art and jewelry will be auctioned to the highest bidders see list on this page

Auction Items for the PHASA Gala Dinner

These great safaris, fine art and exciting weekend getaways will be auctioned at the 2nd Grand Gala Dinner & Auction of **PHASA** on April 4th, 2008. If you cannot make it to the auction in person, make sure to enquire about the possibility of telephone bidding with Mariaan at the PHASA office (Telephone +27-12-667-2048 or email info@phasa.co.za)

Hunting

Zambezi Valley Safari for 2 buffalo bulls, 1 buffalo cow, hippo and plains game (includes camp site along the river, trophy fees of game specified, excludes outfitting)

Zambezi Valley Safari for 1 leopard, 1 buffalo bull, hippo and plains game (includes camp site along the river, trophy fees of game specified, excludes outfitting)

Zambia Bangweulu Safari 10 days hunting for sitatunga, black lechwe and tsessebe.

Timbavati Buffalo Safari 5 days hunting for one buffalo of less than 40 inch spread but unlimited boss width! Includes trophy fee and camp (from April 2008 to April 2009, subject to availability), not included catering and hunting vehicle.

Klaserie Buffalo Safari 5 days hunting for one buffalo of less than 40 inch spread but unlimited boss width! Includes trophy fee and camp (from April 2008 to April 2009, subject to availability), not included catering and hunting vehicle.

Swaziland Safari for kudu, impala, blue wildebeest, blesbok (in two different areas)

5 day Namib Desert Safari with Paul Stones Safaris Africa in conjunction with Wilsonfontein Game Ranch for springbuck, Hartmann's zebra and gemsbok for 1 hunter and 1 observer, included: all taxidermy work by Lifeform Taxidermy and trophy shipment by Safari Air Cargo

Artwork, Books & Jewellery

Sable Bull Bronze by Brenda Miller

Original artwork by Fuz Caforio.

Leadwood carving from "Railwoods" Don Lindsay.

Exclusive jewellery by SunStar Diamonds

Duikers of the World from Zimbi Books.

Lilac Breasted Roller giclee print (21/50) by Vickie McMillan.

Lioness & Cubs print 2/100 by Kim Diment

Exclusive jewellery donated by Bella Shaw.

John Banovich a giclee by this famous wildlife artist

Getaways

Lindsay Castle B&B, South Africa, 2 nights for 4 people.

ZuluNyla Lodge 5 nights 6 days for 2 persons

Kruger Park Game Capture, one of the Big Five, for 2 persons

Mapanbukwe Lodge 1 week/6 persons, self catered

For hunter-conservationists and all people who are interested in the conservation, management and the sustainable use of Africa's wild natural resources.

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South Africa to Resume Elephant Culling

Gerhard Damm

In a comprehensive update to South Africa's elephant policy, the Department of Environmental Affairs and Tourism (DEAT) announced new elephant management regulations on February 25th. The regulations, which will come into effect on May 1st include strict conditions. Lethal removal may be undertaken only in terms of a culling plan prepared with the assistance of a recognized elephant management specialist and approved by the relevant issuing authority that sets out the conditions under which culling would take place and the manner in which the cull would be implemented. The culling plan must provide the issuing authority with the following information relating to the culling operation:

- evidence that the actual or projected elephant numbers at a specific location are incompatible with the agreed land use objectives spelt out in the management plan and that a reduction in population numbers is therefore necessary;
- evidence that all other population management options have been rejected by an ecologist after appropriate consideration and evaluation;
- proposed number of elephants to be culled;
- proposed method of animal selection;
- proposed time frames;
- proposed culling methods; and
- intended use of products.

The new regulation also said that elephants' survival often depends on their operation as a family unit, and an elephant may not be culled if it is part of a family unless the matriarch and juvenile bulls are culled as well.

Minister van Schalkwyk told reporters, "our simple reality is that elephant population density has risen so much in some southern African countries that there is concern about impacts on the landscape, the viability of other species and the livelihoods and safety of people living within elephant ranges." Van Schalkwyk said he had discussed the new regulations with other southern African countries, all with booming elephant populations as a result of their conservation efforts, facing the same dilemma. Botswana has by far the largest population, with an estimated 165,000 elephants. Zimbabwe has an estimated 80,000 and Mozambique some 20,000. The minister concluded saying that South Africa's elephant management policy is part of an adaptive management process and that his department would continue to invest in research and scientific analysis. Bob Scholes, lead author of the elephant management regulations, acknowledged that culling would change the way elephants behave, with possible social behavioral consequences as a result of culling, but highlighted that contraception also is fraught with problems. Moving elephants, another alternative, usually is prohibitively expensive

and suitable land for translocated elephants is scarce.

South Africa's elephant population has ballooned to more than 20,000 from 8,000 in 1995. A total of 14,562 elephants were culled in South Africa between 1967 and 1994. Without that earlier culling campaign, elephant numbers would by now stand at the totally unsustainable number of 80,000.

Rob Little, WWF South Africa, said the government approach was "responsible". Susan Lieberman, WWF global species director, said in a telephone interview that "It's not something anybody welcomes at all, but we also have to look at the broader conservation management issues. The option of doing nothing does not exist. We have immense sympathy for wildlife managers in South Africa. They can't just walk away and ignore [the problem]." Independent Online reported on February 27th that "WWF does not advocate culling as the preferred population management alternative, but recognizes that government managers may deem it necessary after consideration of all other options has been exhausted."

Eugene Lapointe, President of IVMC World Conservation Trust, said: "South Africa has been forced to take this step precisely because its conservation policies, based on the principle of sustainable use, have proven so successful in boosting elephant populations. It is taking a responsible, ethical and holistic approach to the environment, ensuring that stocks are maintained at levels that can be sustained not only by elephants, but by other wildlife too. This is the proof of the pudding, showing that sustainable use and careful management provide the most effective wildlife conservation mechanism. The African continent should now start working together to emulate this achievement."

Predictably, radical animal rights activists rejected the new regulations. These activists obviously do not accept democratic processes, scientific research results, and extensive national and international public consultation, if the outcomes are not meeting their extreme expectations. Various animal rights organizations publicly stated that killing elephants was "undeniably cruel and morally reprehensible", threatened to call for international tourist boycotts and protests and to take legal action.

For the complete text of the Minister van Schalkwyk's Announcement on Norms and Standards for Elephant Management in South Africa dated 25 February 2008 go to <http://www.environment.gov.za/>

Elephant Culling – A Veteran's View

The EWT Magazine "Vision" brought this factual and unemotional article by Dr. John Ledger in the March issue. Interestingly, Ledger quotes noted elephant scientist Peter Mundy from Zimbabwe with these words: *"almost all range states have their elephants culled, the southern African countries do it themselves, while most of the other countries have effected population reduction "by delegation" to poachers."*

We will try to obtain reprint rights for Dr. Ledger's full article and bring it in the next issue.

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Antelopes Successfully Reintroduced in Tunisia

Source: Convention on Migratory Species
<http://www.cms.int/>

Following the severe depletion of antelopes due to unsustainable hunting activities, CMS has been working with the Hanover Zoo and others to reintroduce them into the wild. Currently, more than 20 antelopes from European and North American zoo-based breeding programs are being released in Tunisia, reinforcing the Tunisian Strategy for restoring the desert ecosystems. Tunisia has been actively engaged in the ongoing process of restoring semi-desert and desert environments, and in the reintroduction of several species typical to these environments, for about 25 years.

For two of these species, the Scimitar-horned Oryx (*Oryx dammah*) and the Addax (*Addax nasomaculatus*), a new round of reintroductions has started. 22 antelopes and their keepers arrived at Tozeur in the very early morning of the 7th. The animals are 4 male and 9 female *Addax nasomaculatus* and 4 male and 5 female *Oryx dammah*, and will be distributed to Djebil National Park and Senghar National Park.

The Scimitar-horned Oryx has gone from abundance to extinction in the wild within the space of a few short decades. Once a common sight in the Sahelian grasslands of North and sub-Saharan Africa, the last few remaining specimens probably disappeared from Chad and Niger during 1990s. Like most of the other inhabitants of the desert, the Oryx is able to satisfy its water requirements through the food it eats.

The Addax is a medium-sized antelope that inhabits the dunes of the Sahara. Formerly a common inhabitant of deserts across North Africa, from Morocco and Mauritania in the west to Egypt and Sudan in the east, the addax is today one of the rarest and most endangered species on earth. With probably less than 500 left in the wild, the species' survival depends on urgent and comprehensive conservation action in its last remaining strongholds in the Sahelian nations of Chad and Niger. Over-hunting is the most important cause of the Oryx's and Addax's demise; drought, desertification and habitat encroachment had a cumulative impact.

In the framework of the Sahelo-Saharan Antelope - CMS/Fonds Français pour l'Environnement Mondiale (FFEM) Project, a significant translocation operation of Addax and Scimitar Oryx was organized in Tunisia in 2007. A first group of 15 Addax, 5 males and 10 females, went to the south of Douz. A second group, made up of 3 females and 2 males, went to a new Saharan park of which the area, still in negotiation at the national level, should be 250.000 ha. 3 male and 5 female Scimitar Oryx went to the Dghoumès National Park, on the border with Chott al Jarid 's, close to Tozeur. One adult male joined two females in a separate zone of Bou Hedma park. The translocation operation was a great success: all animals have arrived safe and sound in different acclimatizing enclosures.

In 1936 the first conservation measures for the Umbrella Acacia woodland in the Bou Hedma region in Tunisia were undertaken. In 1980, 16,488 hectares were designated as a Na-

tional Park, of which 4,500 hectares were placed under particularly stringent protection. Over the last 25 years, there have been numerous reintroductions from zoo breeding programmes into the wild. Today the herds are not directly managed at all, but merely observed for data collection. Reproduction of the stock is regarded as good and naturally occurring. While 38 animals were counted in 1996, there were 70 Addax, together with a population of Scimitar-horned Oryx, in early 2004. In 2006, with a population of 130 Oryx and around 50 Addax, the results achieved up to now are remarkable. However, it was necessary to manage reintroduce the population from fenced reserves to the wide natural environment in the desert, via a network of national parks.

Resources need to be mobilized to show that the conservation and sustainable development in these arid parts of the world can stimulate the economy and create new jobs, and develop local communities. This is how CMS and its partners will make the difference on the ground in cooperation with other parties to conserve terrestrial migratory species in Africa. The future protected area in Termit and the cross-border region between Niger and Chad are a crucial region, for which France and the European Commission are providing support to allow CMS and these countries to restore their unique heritage of antelopes and their habitats. Given continuing commitment and support, a new day is dawning for Sahelo-Saharan wildlife.

2008 Dallas Safari Club Convention Breaks Records

DSC Press Release

The annual convention held in early January of each year in Dallas, Texas is the principle fundraiser of [Dallas Safari Club](#). This year's "Wild Spirit-Live it!" Convention at Dallas Market Hall and the Hilton Anatole Hotel broke all previous records of revenue, guest and exhibitor attendance. More than 20,000 attended the four day expo, the first four day format for Dallas Safari Club, and visited over 820 international exhibits featuring everything for the traveling hunter and angler. Visitors participated in educational seminars featuring hunting legends Craig Boddington, Larry Weishuhn and other experts. As the first international sporting Expo of the year, the DSC annual convention has become a must attend event for those wishing to book the best dates with the finest outfitters and guides. The expo enjoys a worldwide attendance from all 50 states, Canada, Mexico and around the globe to enjoy the event. In addition to the exposition, the Club hosts a silent auction and four evening banquets, which include live auctions, raffles, celebrity guests and live entertainment.

DSC's outgoing Executive Director, Gray Thornton, was honored in a moving ceremony during the Club's Gala Banquet. Thornton announced his March 2008 departure in March of 2007

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2008 Dallas Safari Club Convention Breaks Records

to provide the Club a final year of service and to produce this record breaking convention, his eleventh as Executive Director. The ceremony included an audio/visual narrated by "Teddy Roosevelt" where Gray was recognized for the Club's growth during his leadership. During Gray's tenure, membership grew 600%; fundraising net revenues increased 600%, cash reserves 800% and grants to mission programs 1000%.

Dieter Krieghoff, President of Krieghoff International, presented Gray with a lavishly embellished Krieghoff Classic Big Five double rifle in .470 Nitro Express in a Murray Leather case. The incredible package was donated by current and past board members of Dallas Safari Club, the Club's charitable arm, Dallas Ecological Foundation, Krieghoff International and Murray Leather.

Thornton announced earlier he will continue to serve the hunting and conservation community from his new home in Cody, Wyoming where he will join the Foundation for North American Wild Sheep/International Sheep Hunters Association in May. Thornton's successor, Ben F. Carter, III begins his term at the staff helm of DSC April 1, 2008.

Dr. Ian Player Receives Peter H. Capstick Hunting Heritage Award

Fiona Capstick

The *Peter H. Capstick Hunting Heritage Award (PHCHHA)* is named after the well-known American author, whose defense of the international big-game hunting community and the role of hunting in the conservation of wildlife and its habitat made him a household name. 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 establishment of this premiere hunting award heralds a milestone for the international hunting and wildlife conservation community by highlighting individuals or groups responsible for the long-term support and commitment to our hunting heritage.

When Harry Tennison, the noted hunter/conservationist of Fort Worth, Texas, inaugurated Peter H. Capstick Hunting Heritage Award at the [Dallas Safari Club](#) Convention in 2005, an exceptional benchmark was set. Baron Bertrand des Clers of France and President Theodore Roosevelt have since been

honoured for generating and bequeathing a magnificent heritage of conservation excellence that knows no borders and that embraces all peoples everywhere in the quest to conserve what remains of the world's wilderness and wildlife.

In 2008, Dallas Safari Club and the Dallas Ecological Foundation paid homage to Dr. Ian Player, the internationally acclaimed conservationist visionary from South Africa. Revered around the world as one of the elder statesmen of conservation, his undaunted dedication has raised the consciousness of human beings everywhere about the interconnectedness between humans and the natural world and about the crucial value of the wilderness experience in healing the human soul.

The great-grandson of an Englishman who immigrated to Natal, South Africa in 1850, Ian Player's African roots are deep. His special kinship with the Zulu people and with their historic home in Natal exercised a profound influence on him and resulted in his pioneering a wilderness leadership movement in 1957 that now flourishes on several continents. Player cut short his high school education in Johannesburg to enlist in the 6th South African Armoured Division, attached to the American 5th Army in Italy where he served from late 1944 until 1946. He was only 17 years old. Back in South Africa, young Player worked for a while in a gold mine before coming up for good into the fresh air and sunlight of another world. He headed for Natal where his ancestor had disembarked a solid century previously. The lush hills and valleys of the early Zulu Kingdom beckoned where mighty rivers flowed in all their wild beauty to the humid estuaries and golden dunes on the Indian Ocean. All Player's senses would be invigorated and his soul fired up with a vision to share the wilderness experience with the world.

Before becoming a cadet game ranger with the Natal Parks Board in 1952, Ian Player had already inaugurated what is widely acknowledged as being the toughest canoe race in the world, namely the Dusi Canoe Marathon of over 110 river miles between Pietermaritzburg and Durban on the Indian Ocean. A triple back-to-back winner, Player was well equipped for his new calling where advanced bush skills, courage and tenacity were prerequisites for the job.

It was his life-changing good fortune in 1953 to meet a remarkable middle-aged Zulu employee of the Natal Parks Board, Qumbo Magqubu Ntombela. A legendary game tracker and formidable repository of Zulu oral history, he was already a skilled hunter at 14 when he began working for the first game conservator of Zululand, Frederick Vaughan Kirby, soldier, hunter and noted author. Player, too, would eventually become Chief Conservator of Zululand by the time he retired in 1974.

Magqubu, who could trace his lineage back to the great kings, chiefs and warriors of his people, had an unrivalled knowledge of the wilderness and its wildlife as well as great wisdom and insight into human nature. He took his young protégé on a learning curve like no other as he guided him into the real Africa. With unfailing enthusiasm and courtesy, Magqubu communicated the urgency to conserve wilderness and wildlife and to spread that message to other worlds.

He and Player demonstrated the eco therapy of wild

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Dr. Ian Player Receives Peter H Capstick Hunting Heritage Award

places and the value of the wilderness in helping us retain our sense of humanity and our ability to respect and reconcile. It was Magqubu who shared the tradition of the *indaba* of the Zulu people, a meeting where the elders would confer with their peers or address the young on matters of great importance. It was this tradition and Magqubu that inspired Player to organise the first triennial world wilderness congress in Johannesburg in 1977.

Ian Player and Magqubu were together from the start in a history-making mission in the late 1950s when Player headed a highly specialised team of exceptional people in what became known around the world as Operation Rhino. From a few dozen white rhino in their natural habitat in the Umfolozi Reserve of Zululand at the turn of the 20th century, facing a desperately precarious future, they now number in excess of 12 000 animals.

Player and his team developed what at that time was a revolutionary drug-darting technique for the capture and translocation of these huge animals. The young ranger personally oversaw the sale of breeding colonies to zoological gardens and safari parks in many foreign countries to help ensure the diversification of the gene pool and the survival of the species. Operation Rhino became arguably the most successful translocation programme in conservation history, making world headlines in the process.

Ian Player's conservation achievements are many and they are remarkable, shared throughout by his remarkable wife of almost 51 years, Felicity Ann, and by his three children. Among these triumphs was the proclamation in 1958 of the first wilderness areas, as opposed to parks, anywhere in Africa. These were in Umfolozi and Hluhluwe, covering part of the traditional hunting grounds of the Zulu kings.

In 1959, Player and Magqubu began wilderness trails on foot through those areas, accompanying people of all races and from many countries on a journey of self-discovery through nature like no other. Extensive international travel followed to promote conservation. Player produced and showed wildlife films and raised funds for major environmental projects as well as scholarships, such as those that enabled over one hundred young Americans to attend the Wilderness Leadership School.

Ian Player's expertise also resulted in his being engaged as technical advisor on major wildlife films such as MGM's "Rhino" and in implementing and overseeing a conservation program with the Philippines Government concerning the highly endangered Tamarau, a miniature buffalo.

To his eternal credit, Player spearheaded a decade-long international campaign to prevent a mining company from exploiting titanium deposits in the St. Lucia wetlands on the KwaZulu-Natal coast. With no funds but with a lifetime of knowledge, cast-iron determination and an international reputation with a matching network of influential friends, Ian Player took up the fight, much like the Zulu warriors of old when they braced the British Empire's rifles with their spears.

The battle lasted until 1996 when the mining company finally threw in the towel. On 1 December 1999, UNESCO proclaimed the Greater St Lucia Wetland Park as South Africa's first Natural World Heritage Site. Ian Player's relentless courage and

tenacity in the face of severe criticism, wilful ignorance and even outright hostility helped conserve for posterity the largest estuarine system in Africa and the southernmost extension of coral reefs on the continent.

Recipient of two honorary doctorate degrees, author of five books and numerous articles, Ian Player has also been honoured with many local and international awards, starting with The San Diego Zoological Society's Gold Medal for Conservation in 1966, followed in 1969 by Game Conservation International's Award in San Antonio. Other international honours include the Knight of the Order of the Golden Ark conferred on him in 1982 by Prince Bernhard of the Netherlands and Germany's Bruno Schubert Lifetime Award for Conservation, presented in 2003.

Ian Player's words contain a serious warning now. He said: *"We can do something about conservation as conscious beings. If we don't nature in all her ruthlessness will do it for us. We will lose something very deep within ourselves if we allow wilderness to be destroyed. As Magqubu would say: We are the land and the land is us."*

The laudation to Dr. Ian Player at the Dallas Safari Club Gala black-tie banquet was accompanied by an audiovisual presentation which also included Dr Player's acceptance speech given on camera from his home in Karkloof, outside Hilton in KwaZulu-Natal. Amyas Player, Dr Player's younger son accepted the award from Harry Tennison on behalf of his famous father. Tennison and Dr Player have been close friends for several decades. It was a truly historic evening.

Wild Africa in Southern Africa

By John J. Jackson III, L. Chris Weaver, Theunis Pieterse

Editor's Note: The WWF-LIFE Project experienced budget cuts in 2007 and for 2008 USAID invoked the project's early closure saying that there are not enough funds to continue support, because of reallocation of USAID funds to align with the new State Department policy of promoting aid in countries of conflict although the US Senate eventually approved a Biodiversity earmark budget of \$195 million. It is reported that US\$2 million were actually available for the WWF-LIFE Project to complete the final 16 months of activities. USAID has set April 15, 2008 as date for the conclusion of WWF-LIFE implementation activities thus threatening programmatic sustainability. It appears from documents that the performance of the project was very good and that the natural resource sector was now at a point of sustainability in Namibia. The decision of USAID has placed massive pressure on WWF and the Namibian partners to scramble around to shore-up the deficits created by this USAID decision and replace the \$2.4 million that was cut from the budget. The Congressional Sportsmen's caucus, a bi-partisan group of hunters and fishermen in the US Senate and Congress has requested a complete explanation for the FY 2009 funding of USAID.

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Wild Africa in Southern Africa

ID Conservation programs that include sport and trophy hunting as a component (see also the Dallas Safari Club Press Release in this issue).

The communal conservancies in northern Namibia may support the largest conservation-related hunting development in the world. Though heavily concentrated in northwestern and northeastern Namibia, conservancies are located throughout the country. Eventually there will be more than 80 communal conservancies that are expected to encompass more than 40 million acres of land. More than one-half of the current conservancies are new tourist hunting destinations (28 of 50), with this number annually increasing as wildlife populations re-establish themselves. The growth in the number and character of the conservancies is one more reason that Namibia is becoming one of the foremost hunting destinations in the world.

The nature and quality of the communal conservancies is even more striking. These new hunting destinations are enormous in size, pristine, wild and amazingly beautiful. Many of the areas are untamed and largely uninhabited. Traditional village life still predominates in those areas that are inhabited. There is a diversity of habitat as well as hunting opportunities as the communal conservancies range from rugged, arid mountain landscapes to savannah grasslands to woodlands and flood plains. Much of it is truly remote. Some, like the Kaokoveld, used to be "forbidden land" completely closed to outsiders for more than half a century. Some of the other million-plus acre conservancies have only a few hundred people.

Conservancies are legally recognized, geographically defined areas that have been voluntarily formed by communities by joining together to manage and thus benefit from wildlife and other natural resources. The conservancy program in Namibia arises from unique national legislation that gives communities the right to benefit from natural resource utilization if they form a conservancy. The legislation created a program that sets Namibia apart as the leader in this form of conservation. Forming a conservancy entails electing a representative conservancy committee, defining and approving the conservancy's boundaries, adopting a constitution, and developing and implementing a wildlife management plan and other requirements (the Natural Conservation Act of 1996). The local communities are not just beneficiaries - they are participants in the process, which in itself, gives them a sense of ownership and responsibility. Those that form conservancies are granted use rights (consumptive and photographic) over wildlife comparable to governed ownership. The intent and result is the very essence of empowerment.

The first four conservancies were legally recognized in 1998, but by 2004 there were 31. Today there are 50 and roughly 30 more are expected within the next two-three years. Today's tally of 50 conservancies covers 29.1 million acres and encompasses 230,000 people, which is the equivalent of 14.42 percent of the land surface and 12.21 percent of the Namibian population. One out of every eight of Namibia's 1.9 million people reside in the existing and planned communal conservancies. The country is approximately the size of Texas and Oklahoma, but has less than 2 million people.

Communities have seized and embraced these legislatively authorized opportunities and rights with amazing speed resulting in a national communal conservancy movement of unprecedented scale. By 2007, a total of 22 community-run trophy hunting concessions were operating across 28 of the conservancies.

28 different game species are available in the communal conservancies. That includes species that are available on license in Namibia alone, such as the springbok, cheetah, black-faced impala, and soon, the black rhino (along with those in RSA). Cheetah, black-faced impala and black rhino are not currently importable into the United States, but Conservation Force in partnership with the Namibian Professional Hunting Association and others has *Initiatives* to establish the importation of each of those game species. Though not yet importable, those same species are being reintroduced in the conservancies and are importable to other countries. Other species include lion, leopard, elephant, cape buffalo, crocodile, hippo, giraffe, kudu, eland, oryx, mountain zebra, plains zebra, red hartebeest, blue wildebeest, hyena, jackal, bush pig, baboon, roan, sable, duiker, klipspringer, warthog and ostrich.

The hunting quotas are being very carefully monitored by the Ministry of Environment and Tourism (MET). Where game populations are lacking, MET is assisting conservancies to reintroduce appropriate indigenous game and only indigenous game in the vast untamed land. This has been complemented by large donations of surplus game from private ranches and game farms in Namibia.

The communal conservancy program is an incentive-based conservation effort that inherently promotes wildlife production. People have little incentive to conserve government property, so they often overuse, open-access property, which is called "the tragedy of the commons." The Namibia legislation devolves exclusive wildlife use rights directly to the conservancy, thereby providing conservancies with strong incentives to responsibly manage their valuable wildlife resources. The rapid

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African Indaba eNewsletter

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Subscription requests, comments or article submissions should be sent to: gerhard@muskwa.co.za please include your name, full address, e-mail address and organization

For hunter-conservationists and all people who are interested in the conservation, management and the sustainable use of Africa's wild natural resources.

The distribution of African Indaba is supported by the International Council for Wildlife Conservation CIC and Conservation Force

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Wild Africa in Southern Africa

acquisition of wildlife benefits has created strong and increasing awareness in the conservancy members of the value of wildlife, precipitating widespread changes in community attitudes towards wildlife. Previously largely valued as illegally obtained meat for the pot and viewed as competition with livelihoods, wildlife is now regarded as a highly-valued asset. As a result, poaching in communal conservancies is less socially acceptable and has declined markedly. In contrast, conservancies have developed wildlife-friendly land-use plans, introduced wildlife management and monitoring systems, and integrated wildlife as part of their long-term livelihood strategies.

The conservancies boost wildlife numbers in a number of ways:

- By expanding areas under conservation management;
- By managing and protecting wildlife populations;
- By reintroduction from both private and public donors - once introduced, game breeds between 10 and 25 percent per annum; and
- By bolstering the viability of Namibia's protected area system through the establishment of wildlife friendly zones adjacent to parks (i.e., 30 of the registered conservancies are immediately next to or in key corridors between parks).

The response has been impressive, with wildlife numbers expanding and rebounding across the country, old wildlife migration routes being revitalized, and upward spiraling benefits accruing to increasing numbers of participating conservancies. For example, the cheetah observations (live sightings, spoor and animal conflict) from Kunene conservancy survey information have increased 13 fold in the past five years, rising from 31 in 2002, to 241 in 2003, 359 in 2004 and 604 in 2005. Leopard observations in that region also went from 73 in 2002 to 127 in 2003, 190 in 2004 and 381 in 2005. Hyena increased from 51 in 2002 to 565 in 2005, while the lion population in this area has increased from an estimated 35 in 1995 to more than 150 in 2007. The widespread return of predators to the top of the food chain is a positive sign of ecosystem health and that prey species are thriving. Similarly, Northwest Namibia also boasts the world's largest free-roaming population of black rhino, with both the range and population of this flagship species increasing on an annual basis.

Other parts of the country are also displaying impressive recoveries of wildlife. The MET aerial censuses (1994, 1998, and 2005) for the Nyae-Nyae Conservancy reflect a six-fold increase of game numbers from 1994 to 2005. Seasonal migrations of plains zebra have once again (they had ceased in the mid-1970s) commenced between Botswana's Chobe National Park and the floodplains of eastern Caprivi. On a national level, elephant populations have increased from approximately 7,500 in the mid-1990s to an estimated 16,000 by 2006, while cape buffalo populations in Caprivi are also responding rapidly.

The development of communal hunting concessions and other assorted sustainable use options is being facilitated by a number of best practice mechanisms that empower local communities, promote good governance of hunting operations, ensure sustainable harvests, and optimize economic returns.

Some of the fundamental tools include the introduction of conservancy wildlife management and monitoring systems, development and application of quota setting procedures, marketing of hunting concessions through transparent and competitive tender processes, institution of "win-win" hunting concession contracts, application of human/animal conflict mitigation mechanisms, and routine data collection and analysis of databases to promote adaptive management.

The Dallas Safari Club and Conservation Force are providing critical support funds to technical sustainable use elements (i.e., quota setting, tender of hunting concessions, contractual negotiations, monitoring, etc.). These funds are being channeled through the USAID/WWF-funded LIFE Plus Project (LIFE is an acronym for Living In a Finite Environment). WWF, in turn, supports a number of key Namibian conservancy service providers, especially the Integrated Rural Development and Nature Conservation (IRDNC) and MET, who provide on-the-ground support to a large number of the conservancy hunting concessions. Other key support partners include: the Namibia Nature Foundation (NNF), Nyae-Nyae Development Foundation of Namibia (NNDFN), and, of course, the Namibia Professional Hunting Association (NAPHA).

The USAID support to the LIFE Plus Project will soon enter its 15th and final year. Over this timeframe, USAID will have invested US\$32 million into the development of the Namibia Conservancy Program, while WWF Network contributions will exceed an additional US\$10 million.

This significant investment is assisting the Namibia conservancy program to become increasingly more recognized as one of the most successful community conservation programs in the world. Benefits generated include collective incomes (from hunting and photographic lodges) to conservancies, much-needed employment to rural community residents, skills training in the hunting and tourism industries, meat from harvested animals, and strengthened governance. Cumulatively, these benefits are providing incentives and assisting community members to invest in building up their wildlife populations, zoning their conservancies to counter growing human/animal conflict, and giving rural people both the voice and the resources to influence their long-term development destinies.

The Conservancy movement is still very much in its infancy, with recoveries of wildlife populations in many conservancies just beginning. Though communal areas compose 41% of Namibia's landmass, they presently only support about 10% of the country's wildlife populations. Thus, there remains substantial scope and opportunity to develop new hunting opportunities for years to come.

John J. Jackson is the chairman of [Conservation Force](#), President of the [Sustainable Use Commission of CIC](#) and a wildlife attorney. L. Chris Weaver is employed by WWF in Namibia as head of its LIFE Plus Project. Theunis Pieterse is employed by WWF in Namibia as the [LIFE Plus Project Game Utilization Specialist](#). Mr. Pieterse's position is funded via the kind support of Dallas Safari Club and Conservation Force.

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Dallas Safari Club's Initiative Saves Millions of Acres for Conservation

DSC Press Release dated February 20th, 2008

After discovering efforts by members of Congress to block funds from reaching key nature conservancies in southern Africa, the [Dallas Safari Club](#) has been working actively to prevent a backdoor effort by anti-hunting groups to hinder funding for conservation efforts. These funds, provided by the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), had been used to benefit the most successful public and private conservation efforts in the world today, bringing much-needed economy and development to literally millions of acres of wildlife habitat and to the scientists, biologists and game managers who help maintain them. Because of potential congressional budget cuts, the critical balance between the local villages' economies and the surrounding habitat and wildlife management were in danger of collapse.

Huge blocks of acreage in southern Africa have been set aside for game, due to the combined support of USAID and private conservation organizations such as [Dallas Safari Club](#), [Conservation Force](#), [World Wildlife Fund \(WWF\)](#) and [National Rifle Association \(NRA\)](#). The language included in the USAID congressional budget report, because it was not voted on specifically but rather passed without review, would have terminated any funding from USAID for conservation efforts in southern Africa that had connections with "sport or trophy hunting."

Dallas Safari Club's lobby team, headed by Glenn LeMunyon of the LeMunyon Group, reacted by rallying members of the Sportsmen's Caucus in the House and Senate to modify the report language to allow for continued funding for these key wildlife programs. They spent a significant amount of time on Capitol Hill fighting for this cause, working in conjunction with John Jackson of Conservation Force, Chris Weaver of WWF, and Liz Williams and John Goodwin of NRA in Washington, DC. Fortunately, the budget passed with modified language that would not inhibit USAID funding.

On January 13th, key members of the Congressional Sportsmen's Caucus and administrators from USAID met to discuss the success of current conservation programs. USAID Assistant Administrator Katherine Almquist spoke, thanking Caucus Members for their support. She recognized the programs' accomplishments and spoke of the hunting component as one of the most influential endeavors that USAID is currently engaged in, acknowledging that wildlife game excursions bring much-needed and well-used income to their surrounding communities. Administrator Almquist also recognized the key efforts made by Dallas Safari Club to bring the funding situation to the attention of Congressional Members.

Dallas Safari Club's initial point of contact on this issue was Congressman Pete Sessions (R-TX-32). Along with Legislative Assistant Jim Silliman, Congressman Sessions played a tremendous role in leading a bi-partisan effort to support these conservation efforts. Sessions, a Life Member of the Dallas

Safari Club and the National Rifle Association, was joined by Sportsmen's Caucus Vice-Chair Dan Boren (D-OK-2), and Congressmen Paul Ryan (R-WI-1), and Michael Conoway (R-TX-11). All men are Sportsmen's Caucus Members, and they recognized the vast impact of the USAID funding.

Congressman Sessions said of the USAID meeting: *"As a proud supporter of sport and trophy hunting programs in Africa, I believe that these programs are vitally important for the conservation efforts of land, wildlife, and the indigenous populations. During our meeting with USAID, I was pleased to hear from the leaders of their Africa Bureau that there is no written or unwritten agenda against the use of sport and trophy hunting as conservation tools in Africa, and that legislation passed by Congress ensures the availability of future funding opportunities for these important programs. I look forward to continuing to work with the Dallas Safari Club, the Congressional Sportsmen's Caucus and USAID on protecting these critical conservation efforts in Africa."*

For more information on Dallas Safari Club visit the Club's website at www.biggame.org or contact Ben F. Carter, Deputy Director at (972) 980-9800 or by email at ben@biggame.org.

Gordon Cundill's "Some Lions I have Met"

Reviewed by Peter Flack

The one and only time I met Gordon Cundill was in the Rand Arms and Safaris gun shop in Eloff Street in the early 1980s. I was a young attorney and acting for the owner, the late Geoff Smith and he was a significant investor in the business. He was then probably approaching the peak of his professional hunting career and the owner of Hunters Africa with a concession in the Linyanti Swamps of Botswana. He was busy and impatient. I was an enthusiastic meat hunter and he was the first professional hunter I had met. I was in awe and my questions went unspoken. What made him even more interesting was that we shared the same birthday and he was a lawyer by training just like me. But there all similarity ended.

I followed Cundill's career through the stories told to me by Campbell Smith (Geoff's PH son) and I dreamed of hunting buffalo, sitatunga, red lechwe and tsessebe in the vast game paradise that was northern Botswana. Little did I know what the future held and that, in time, not only would I own a share of a concession in Botswana's Okavango Swamps and hunt all those animals I had dreamt about, but I would also buy Mr. Cundill's very accurate, Army and Navy, .500 double rifle.

Not surprisingly, when his first autobiographical book, *A Hunter's Africa*, was published in 1998, I bought the limited collector's edition and a few years later, in 2004, his much shorter second book, *Fragments of Africa*, which I also thoroughly enjoyed. The present one is exclusively on lions.

I wonder if many people know that, in addition to his law

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Gordon Cundill's "Some Lions I Have Met"

degree, Gordon Cundill also studied English at Oxford University. If not, it may help to explain his somewhat unique writing style which, as my dim and distant memory serves me, is exactly the way he speaks - heavy on the humor, irony and sarcasm. Having said that, I enjoy his writing style even if it can be elliptical and makes me reach for a dictionary at times.

Craig Boddington, in his Industry Overview for 2007, which he wrote for Safari Guide 2007 – 2008, wrote as follows, "A half-century ago Robert Ruark complained about "the high cost of lions." He should see it now! Today there are very few areas on the entire continent that are truly lion areas, that is, areas that support populations of lions and consistently produce mature, well-maned lions.....but there are some bright spots....such as Botswana" which is where most of the lion hunts in this book take place.

These are not boring cat hunts spent watching smelly bits of meat become even smellier but are, for the most part, all action, walk and stalk hunts. There are no carefully edited stories where the PH and the client never do put a foot wrong. No, these are graphic, here, now and in your face stories where you can almost feel the lion's roar rumble in your chest and smell his paint stripping breath at the end of a close encounter. Cundill does not spare himself or his clients from criticism and there is much to be learnt from the stories. I found them spell-binding and some of the most exciting I have ever read.

A number of them have made a previous appearance in his earlier books but each one has been re-written with a particular, instructional aim in mind. I have often said that, when you as an amateur choose a professional hunter to guide you, choose one who loves to hunt the animal at the top of your wish list. For Gordon Cundill that animal is clearly *Panthera leo*.

If you are one of the lucky few that can still afford to hunt a lion but have not done so, then this book is compulsory reading. If, like me, you have been lucky enough to have hunted lions but cats are no longer on the menu, you will thoroughly enjoy the armchair ride back to days gone by. And, if you have never and are not ever likely to hunt the King of Beasts, you will enjoy every adventurous page of these exciting tales with some leopard and elephant hunting thrown in for good measure when it complements the lion hunting action.

This is an exciting, specialist book on lion hunting for the lion hunter by an expert lion hunter. It contains many thought provoking and valuable lessons, for example, on calibers, cartridges and why not to use an over-and-under double rifle. Buy this book! You will be so glad you did.

Gordon Cundill: Some Lions I Have Met

250 pages with color photographs

Standard Edition: Hardcover with dust jacket R360 (\$50); Collector's Edition: R720 (\$100)

Available from Rowland Ward South Africa, phone: 011 646 9888, email: sales@rowlandward.com or Rowland Ward USA, phone: (540) 710 7234, email: RowlandWard@wwdb.org, website: www.rowlandward.com

International Association for Falconry AGM 2008 in South Africa

The South African Falconry Association will host the International Association for Falconry and the Conservation of Birds of Prey Annual General Meeting from 14th to 20th July 2008 at the Protea Black Mountain Hotel near Thaba Nchu (80km east of Bloemfontein). Falconers from all over the world will also participate in the SAFA Annual Field Meet in the heart of our Highveld Grassland region. It is characterized by short grass, huge skies and is home to two of our small, partridge-like francolin, the Orange River and the Greywing Francolin. A variety of other quarry species are to be found in this region. These include different duck species, Swainson's Spurfowl, guinea fowl and scrub hares.



Preliminary Program:

MONDAY 14TH July: Arrival, registration and some hunting. Welcome at the hotel bar in the evening, introduction to the hunting program and buffet dinner.

TUESDAY 15TH July: Hunting during the day. Evening: Introduction to Cape Wines by Edmund Oettle (Falconer and Wine-maker from the Western Cape) and buffet dinner.

WEDNESDAY 16TH July: Hunting during the day. Evening: Entertainment with music at the Hotel Bar and buffet dinner

THURSDAY 17TH July: Hunting during the day. Evening: Displays by invited organizations which may include the EWT, AGRED, WINGSHOOTERS SA, Provincial Conservation Authorities etc. Buffet dinner.

FRIDAY 18TH July. Hunting during the day. 12.00h meeting with representatives of provincial conservation authorities and falconry club representatives to establish a working group to standardize falconry policy in all provinces. Banquet at 8 pm with Yolan Friedman (CEO of EWT) as main speaker, (to be confirmed).

SATURDAY 19TH July. Hunting during the day. SAFA AGM 12.00h. Evening: traditional braai/spit roast. A raffle to benefit SAFA Funds will be held after dinner. Any contributions for the raffle will be gratefully received.

SUNDAY 20TH July: Fair-wells and final hunts.

For more details please contact Dr. Adrian Lombard on lombarda@mweb.co.za

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News from Africa

Angola

During the 1980s, Angola's elephants drew international alarm with reports of up to 100,000 elephants exterminated. Luiana Partial Reserve (PR), a 10,740 km² conservation area in southeast Angola, was the military operations center for UNITA, which used elephant ivory to pay for arms and meat to feed its' soldiers. A survey undertaken in 2004/2005 indicated that elephant populations are increasing rapidly and expanding their range in the Reserve from 329 in January 2004 to 1,827 in November 2005. Five elephants tagged in Botswana and the Caprivi Strip with satellite collars moved into Luiana PR.

Botswana

Lion scientists and researchers are concerned about lions from east Africa having been introduced into the lion population of the Tuli Block of Botswana by the notorious animal rights activist Gareth Patterson. Not only will this action result in the mixing gene pools, there is also the risk that Patterson introduced with the East African lions some of the East African strains of FIV (Feline Immunodeficiency Virus) that did not occur in southern Africa.

Botswana

The Chobe riverfront vegetation has been transformed from woodland to shrubland by elephants. Along with this transformation other wild animals have been affected either positively or negatively. A study by Jenamiso Mothusi and Lucas Rutina showed that at the Chobe riverfront the conversion from woodland to shrubland was associated with loss of avian diversity and that if the conversion of woodland to shrubland by elephants continues, the Chobe Riverfront will be dominated by few bird species.

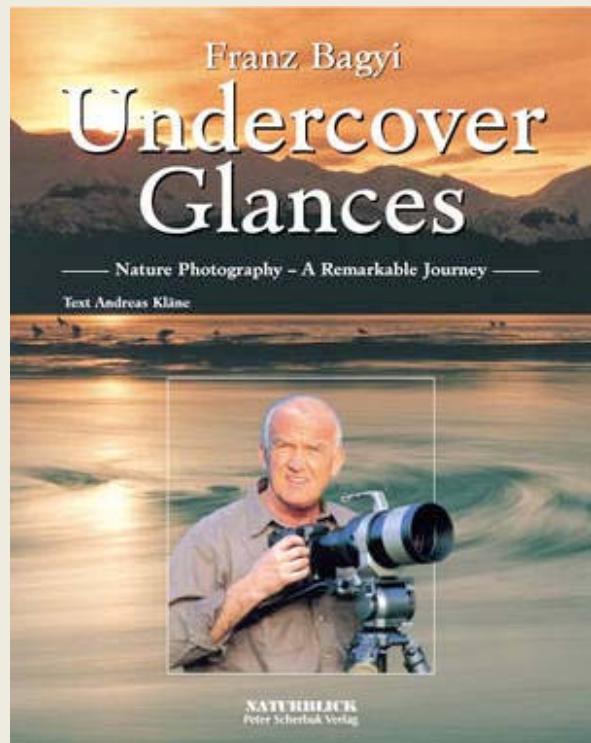
Botswana

In Kweneng 48 Lion were shot in a 12 month period, and between April and July 2007, 12 were shot South of Khutse, including 3 collared animals. Killing collared cats is not permitted, yet it goes on, sadly at the researchers' expense. All Lion research in Khutse has ground to a halt, as on last count there were only about six lion left in the park, which affects tourism. These lion killings are not related to safari hunting. BirdLife Botswana is concerned that the lion hunting ban may lead to increased poisoning of predators and globally threatened vultures. This already happened following the previous ban a few years ago.

Kenya

Dr Laurence Frank and Seamus MacLennan said that lion populations decline due to conflict with humans over livestock is acutely urgent in Kenyan Masailand, where local residents are spearing and poisoning lions at a rate which will ensure local extinction within a very few years. Kajiado and Narok Districts contain two of Kenya's most important tourist destinations, Amboseli National Park and the Masai Mara National Reserve, where lions are the primary attraction for overseas visitors. Limited data from the Tsavo-Amboseli Ecosystem (lying

Continued on Page 13



As a master of camouflage photographer Franz Bagyi manages to get only a few steps close to wild living animals. His book „Undercover Glances“ breaks the secret of the photo hunter's special finesse for exceptional success. His photos concentrate on the beauty and aesthetics of the game. And the texts of the author Andreas Kläne seduce the reader to hear, smell and taste in the wilderness, just as Bagyi does.

“This book manages to trigger a deep need in an increasing number of urban people alienated from nature to think more about the way we are all part of nature. And the result of this process is often far more beneficial than some of the panic-driven measures taken without the necessary expertise to repair environments that have fallen into disrepair.”

From the Epilogue of CIC President Dieter Schramm

“CITES, the CIC and this book have a common goal: to contribute to the possibility of future generations to stand back, in amazement, from a world rich in animal and plant life, just like Franz Bagyi.”

From the Epilogue of CITES Secretary General Willem Wijnstekers

Franz Bagyi/Andreas Kläne: UNDERCOVER GLANCES - Nature Photography – A Remarkable Journey, published by P. Scherbuk, 280mm x 220 mm

English Edition: Hard cover in slipcase, 169 pages, 187 colored photos, 39,90 Euro, ISBN 3-9809695-1-7

German Edition: VERBORGENE BLICKE - Ungewöhnliche Wege der Naturfotografie, 34,90 Euro, ISBN 3-9809695-0-9

Hunting and Culture: CIC Supports Wildlife Band in Southern Tanzania

By K. Ngomello, R. Hahn and R.D. Baldus

"Nani wawajibike kutunza maliasili yetu? - Who is responsible for the conservation of our natural resources?"

This is the title of a set of six songs produced by the "Ushoroba Cultural Group" from the town of Namtumbo in southern Tanzania which is supported by the [International Council for Game and Wildlife Conservation \(CIC\)](#) and a wildlife project financed by Germany and the United Nations.

Ushoroba is the local Kiswahili name for the Selous – Niassa Wildlife Corridor. It connects the largest hunting reserves in Africa; the Selous Game Reserve of Tanzania and the Niassa Game Reserve of Mozambique. The conservation of the Miombo forests in this unique landscape ensures the undisturbed migration of elephants and other wildlife linking the protected areas to one of the largest elephant ranges in the world.

The corridor is located in Tanzania's Ruvuma region and is managed by 29 villages which have their own wildlife management areas. These areas will create a contiguous network to ensure the protection of the Selous Niassa Wildlife Corridor.



The Ushoroba Cultural Group

Sustainable tourist hunting and village subsistence hunting will be the major wildlife related activities. Elephants, buffaloes, Roosevelt's sable, Niassa wildebeest, lions, leopards and other wild animals have been abundant in the past but have been greatly reduced by widespread poaching. By giving the local communities user rights it is expected that they develop a sense of ownership and will control poaching in order to facilitate sustainable use of wildlife for their own economic and social benefit. Villages already have their own village game scouts and anti-poaching programs. There are signs that game has started to recover.

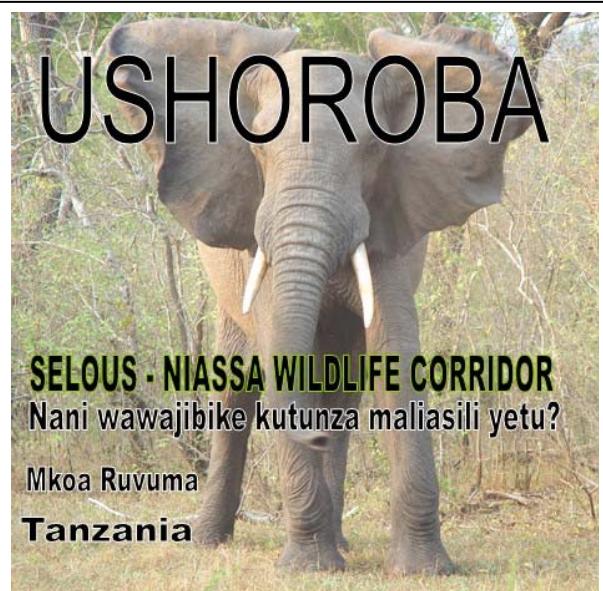
People are quite enthusiastic about the prospects of the corridor. The creation of the band came spontaneously and was

initiated by teachers and musicians. The idea is to campaign for the corridor, wildlife management and sustainable hunting.

All songs are locally produced under very simple technical conditions. They are available on cassettes and CDs and are presently the top dance music in all local bars. They will also be available in neighboring Mozambique. All songs are composed and performed by the "Ushoroba Cultural Group" and represent the music style and culture of the major ethnic groups living in and around the corridor, which are the Ndendeule, Ngoni and Yao.

The CIC has assisted the band with the production of the first CD and the CIC logo is found on all CDs, cassettes and on the T-Shirts which the musicians perform in.

The website of the Selous-Niassa Wildlife Corridor provides a free download of all songs at www.selous-niassa-corridor.com – if you like the swing of African music, a download is a must! Click the links provided below and enjoy!



Download Links

01_Tunaloa_pongezi.mp3	6.2 M
02_Faida_ya_Ushoroba.mp3	4.4 M
03_Tutunze_misitu.mp3	6.1 M
04_Tuhamsihe_uhifadhi.mp3	5.7 M
05_Ushoroba.mp3	6.1 M
06_Make_sure.mp3	3.0 M

Please distribute African Indaba to your hunting friends and all people who are interested in the conservation of Africa's wild heritage! The subscription to African Indaba is free of charge and can be made online at <http://www.africanindaba.co.za/subscription.htm>

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News From Africa

between Amboseli and Tsavo West National Parks) indicate that a minimum of 120 lions, and probably many more, have been killed in the region since 2001. In spite of a generous compensation program which pays people for livestock lost to predators, lion numbers on Mbirikani Group Ranch have declined steadily, and evidence suggests that the situation is as bad or worse elsewhere in the region. Young warriors who engage in traditional lion killing do not face significant consequences because of lax law enforcement and judicial corruption. Without drastic changes in conservation practice and law enforcement in the immediate future, Kenya will soon lose its most important tourist attraction.

Mozambique

Viable populations of buffalo are found in Niassa, Tete, Zambezia and Sofala provinces. There are presently no resident buffalo in Maputo province or in the Maputo Special reserve. The largest populations of buffalo are in the Niassa Game Reserve and the adjoining safari blocks (ca. 9000) and at Marromeu (ca. 6,000) and the adjoining Coutadas, there are also healthy numbers in Tete province around Cahora Bassa.

Mozambique

Mozambican Agriculture Minister Soares Nhaca announced day the launching of a wildlife census to start in June. The project was designed by the government, in cooperation with international consultants to know the number of animals of each species, their population density and distribution, to allow better planning and strategies for conservation areas and for community management of wildlife. Maputo and Niassa Game Reserves, the Gorongosa National Park, and the Tchuma Tcha-to Community Area in Tete province will not be included in the census since sufficient information for these areas is already available.

Namibia

The Government of Namibia has not yet allocated state hunting concessions, and does not expect to until February or later.

South Africa

The North West Parks & Tourism Board announced that hunting will take place in the following provincial Parks in 2008 Borakalalo National Park, Botsalano Game Reserve, Molemane Game Reserve, Mafikeng Game Reserve, Molopo Game Reserve, Bloemhof Dam Nature Reserve. After the closure of hunting in Madikwe Game Reserve some years ago, the NWPT Board announced that hunting will not be continued in Pilanesberg National Park. African Indaba learnt that the reason for closure of hunting in Pilanesberg seemed to be an administrative glitch with hunting quotas not having been presented in time.

South Africa

A survey of ten ecotourism-based private game reserves (PGRs) assessed their contribution to conservation and development in the Eastern Cape region. Sample findings include: 1) the ten PGRs protect 116,608 hectares, representing six of South Africa's eight biomes and an immense diversity of plants and animals; 2) in changing from farming to wildlife-based eco-

tourism, the total number of employees increased 450% and the average annual salary per full-time employee rose 480%; 3) gross revenues, and revenues per hectare, have shown steady increases over the past four years and are projected to continue rising; and 4) the PGRs were engaged in a wide variety of social development projects in and around their reserves thus providing an attractive alternative to traditional land-uses in this area.

South Africa

Black and blue wildebeest are ecologically similar and diverged from a common ancestor 1 million years ago. Today they are being kept side by side at numerous localities in southern Africa. Artificial management could lead to disrupted social structure which may result in hybridization. The hybrids are fertile and while F1 hybrids are morphologically identifiable, the identification of backcrosses is problematic. This will cast doubt on the level of purity of numerous black wildebeest populations on public and especially private land. The problem has been acknowledged since the 1980's but remains unresolved. South African researchers and conservation managers have started a concerted effort to pool resources and expertise to find markers and criteria for the identification of hybrid herds. Some researchers, however, maintain that sufficiently large properties with a good balance between open grassland and open woodland could allow for the coexistence of both types of wildebeest without competition, since distance to shade determines the separation of the habitat of the two types of wildebeest.

South Africa

Since 1992, wild lions have been reintroduced into at least 24 privately and publicly-owned reserves covering a combined land area exceeding 5,000 km². Reintroduced lions display high survivorship and successful reproduction which has resulted in rapid re-establishment of the species at all sites where they have been released.

South Africa

Professor Wouter van Hoven investigated leopard on private farms in the Waterberg and collared one male and three female leopards to determine their home ranges. The combined range of the four leopards covered 500 km² over 35 different properties. A questionnaire survey indicated that 41.6% of property owners object to the presence of leopards while 45.9% maintain that leopards have no inherent economic value. The principle, "if it pays it stays", is the basis for many successful community conservation projects. However, the implementation of such a strategy becomes complicated when applied to wide ranging species on several different properties. Theoretically an increase in the value of leopards would stimulate conservation of the species. While hunting properties favor an increase in hunting quotas, ecotourism properties prefer habituation as method of value added. However, conflicts will arise due to leopards traversing areas assigned to both ecotourism and hunting. The large range sizes of leopards make successful habituation difficult and cannot justify increasing hunting quotas. Van Hoven suggested that landuse zones, and not property boundaries be used to utilize the leopard population in a sustainable way.

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News From Africa

South Africa



This Common Reedbuck was taken in South Africa on a farm between Ermelo and Piet Retief; at the Lowveld Hunters AGM the longest horn was measured with 19 ½ inch (Rowland Ward) – a truly exceptional trophy and congratulations to the lucky hunter.

South Africa

South African Finance Minister Trevor Manuel proposed in his 2008 Budget speech measures to encourage conservation of South Africa's rich biodiversity. Tax reforms to encourage biodiversity conservation by private landowners will be considered. Landowners will receive an income tax deduction for preserving habitats and biodiversity on their land. The deduction will cover costs incurred in developing and implementing an approved conservation management plan under either the National Biodiversity Act (2004) or the Protected Areas Act (2003), but would be limited to income derived from the land.

South Africa

Last June, South Africa received permission CITES for a one-off sale of its ivory to Japan. Now China wants to buy up South Africa's massive elephant ivory stock but SA conservation authorities must first decide whether China is a suitable destination for the ivory, the national Department of Environmental Affairs and Tourism said. Any deal would depend whether China will be approved as buyer by the CITES Standing Committee which meets in July 2008, also to decide on additional South African ivory stock which will be verified by the CITES secretariat before that meeting.

Tanzania

The Hunting Report announced that the 2007 fee schedule which the Tanzanian hunting industry negotiated with the Tanzanian Government has been released. Government officials

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The Kingdom of Morocco, His Excellency
The Prime Minister, and the Haut Commissariat aux Eaux et Forêts et à la Lutte Contre la Déforestation host the

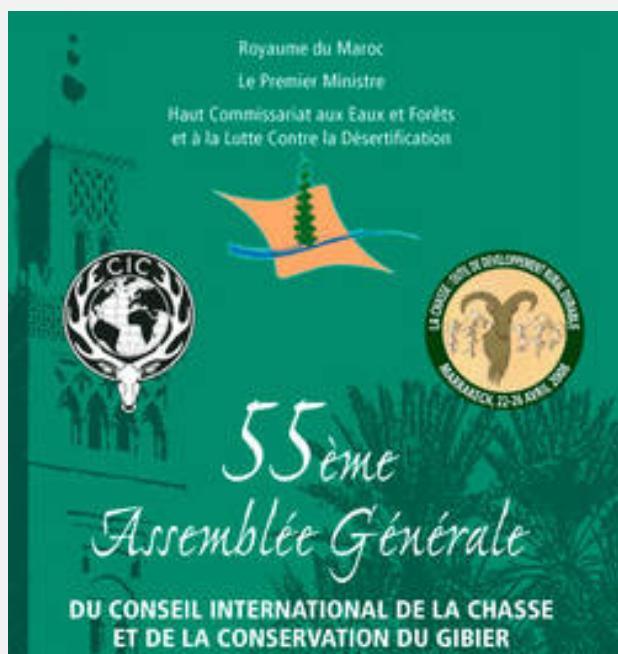
55th CIC General Assembly

International Council for Game and Wildlife Conservation
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Joy of the Hunt: Why can't Postmodern Society Acknowledge its Inner Wild Man?

Peter Shroedter

Hunting is a highly charged emotional issue, much like abortion, and people generally hold fast to the position they choose early in life all too often before they understand the consequence of their decision. Hunting is as natural an activity as falling in love and making babies. It's how families were sustained since the dawn of time.

The only people who can speak against hunting with some moral authority are true vegans; everyone else's comments are tainted by varying degrees of hypocrisy. Anyone who eats meat or uses animal products is responsible for killing on an industrial scale unimaginable in hunting.

Even the vegans' moral authority is in question when they criticize hunters because the market gardens that grow their vegetables have degraded the ecosystem and caused the demise of some wildlife somewhere. The cities and suburbs where they live have killed and displaced countless animals. The fact that they participate in our modern economy puts blood on their hands as well.

It is amazing how our society gorges itself nightly on virtual violence against people in movies and video games. We can also sit passively while politicians debate the finer points of genocide in far-off places and still somehow decry hunting.

Perhaps this dichotomy should not come as a surprise in a society where most people live their entire lives without being part of the food chain except as consumers. In a culture where the word hunting is another word for killing, it is easy for earnest young people to conclude that hunting, like dog or cockfights, is part of a senseless brutal past.

The act of hunting in the pure sense of the word is a communion with nature and an acknowledgment of our species' past and its enduring dependency on the environment for survival. The fact that human beings are genetically programmed to hunt should be enough reason to acknowledge that hunting is part of being human. We are omnivores at top of the food chain, able to eat almost anything between meat meals, but it is meat that gives us the protein we need. It is the act of hunting that connects us to the essence of our existence and our dependency on our environment.

I've been a hunter since childhood and still hunt actively. I make no apology for it. The process of hunting has made me keenly aware of my place in the environment. Through hunting I learned early about the importance of conservation. It was through hunting I learned patience and perseverance and became a student of nature. I also learned about the sacredness of life and how all life is interdependent.

People who speak the loudest against hunting have turned the campaign to stop hunting into a very profitable indus-

try. They choose to forget that it was hunters like Theodore Roosevelt who created the concept of national parks. They ignore that hunters pay for conservation efforts and give of their time to organizations like Ducks Unlimited and other conservation efforts that have undone the damage our modern economy has done to the environment.

The least part of hunting is the killing but you cannot hunt without intending to kill. In the words of Spanish philosopher Ortega y Gasset, in *Meditations On Hunting*. "One does not hunt in order to kill. On the contrary, one kills in order to have hunted."

One of the problems we have as hunters is that we do not talk about the hunt to non-hunters and when we do we make assumptions that non-hunters can appreciate the fine details of our passion without having experienced the "hunt." Hunters know about the range of emotions and state of heightened physical awareness that only the hunt can provide.

Non-hunters assume hunting is all about killing because to have bled your own hands for something to eat is such a rare experience today. I have killed many animals for food because for most of my life, the only meat I ate was that which I slaughtered myself. There is no similarity between that bloody work and hunting.

When hunting with city friends I see the transition from urbanite to "the hunter" once we get into the bush and I point out the game sign. In less time than it takes to program a VCR, people who have never hunted before begin to see and hear things they never noticed before. They learn to sort out the forest sounds and begin to see in a new way. They begin to see the world through a hunter's hungry eyes searching for prey. They lose their sense of time and become acutely aware of minute changes in temperature and wind direction. As novices they can't understand the information their senses are detecting, which only increases the intensity of the experience. An excellent article describing the transition from urbanite to human hunter was written by Michael Pollan, for the *New York Times* entitled *The Modern Hunter Gatherer*, published March 2006. Pollan is an urbanite non-hunter and he took a walk in the woods with hunting friends. He used to scoff at Gasset and Ernest Hemingway for writing what he called hunting porn. But, before the hunt ended, he felt the depth of the emotions that hunting arouses and experiences what he calls "a cannabinoid moment."

Cannabinoids are compounds that affect the neurotransmitters, creating an intense sensory experience.

I never knew the scientific cause for the altered physical and emotional state hunting brings on but it is the reason I hunt. I hunt to be part of the great thing that is the environment and to take my place in it.

Scientific explanations aside, suffice it to say that for many hunters, hunting is as important an experience and as spiritually uplifting as a religious pilgrimage.

So why, in a pluralistic society that tolerates so many spiritual pursuits, is hunting becoming an anti-social behavior. Is it that postmodern society is still afraid to acknowledge the inner wild man?

For hunter-conservationists and all people who are interested in the

conservation, management and the sustainable use of Africa's wild natural resources.

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Chikungunya Fever Fact Sheet

Source: www.cdc.gov/ncidod/dvbid/Chikungunya/

What is Chikungunya Fever?

Chikungunya fever is a viral disease transmitted to humans by the bite of infected mosquitoes. Chikungunya virus (CHIKV) is a member of the genus *Alphavirus*, in the family *Togaviridae*. CHIKV was first isolated 1953, in Tanzania and has since been identified in west, central and southern Africa and many areas of Asia.

What type of illness does Chikungunya virus cause?

CHIKV infection can cause a debilitating illness, characterized by fever, headache, fatigue, nausea, vomiting, muscle pain, rash, and joint pain. The term 'chikungunya' is Swahili for 'that which bends up'. The incubation period is usually 3-7 days. "Silent" CHIKV infections (infections without illness) occur. Acute chikungunya fever typically lasts a few days to a couple of weeks, but as with dengue, West Nile fever, o'nyong-nyong fever and other arboviral fevers, some patients have prolonged fatigue lasting several weeks. Some patients have reported incapacitating joint pain lasting for weeks or months. The prolonged joint pain associated with CHIKV is not typical of dengue. Co-circulation of dengue fever in many areas may mean that chikungunya fever cases are sometimes misdiagnosed as dengue infections, therefore the incidence of chikungunya could be much higher than what has been reported. No deaths, neuroinvasive or hemorrhagic cases related to CHIKV infection have been conclusively documented in the scientific literature. CHIKV infection is thought to confer life-long immunity.

How do humans become infected with Chikungunya virus?

CHIKV is spread by the bite of an infected mosquito. Mosquitoes become infected when they feed on a person infected with CHIKV. Monkeys, and possibly other wild animals, may also serve as reservoirs of the virus. *Aedes aegypti* (the yellow fever mosquito), a household container breeder and aggressive daytime biter which is attracted to humans, is the primary vector of CHIKV to humans. *Aedes albopictus* (the Asian tiger mosquito) may also play a role in human transmission in Asia, and various forest-dwelling mosquito species in Africa have been found to be infected with the virus.

Where does Chikungunya virus occur?

The geographic range of the virus is Africa and Asia. For information on current outbreaks, consult www.cdc.gov/travel/default.aspx. Given the current world wide distribution of *Aedes aegypti*, there is a risk of importation of CHIKV into new areas by infected travelers.

How is Chikungunya virus infection treated?

No vaccine or specific antiviral treatment for chikungunya fever is available. Treatment is symptomatic--rest, fluids, and ibuprofen, naproxen, acetaminophen, or paracetamol may relieve symptoms of fever and aching. Aspirin should be avoided during the acute stages of the illness. Infected persons should be protected from further mosquito exposure (staying indoors and/or under a mosquito net during the first few days of illness) so that they can't contribute to the transmission cycle.

How do I prevent becoming infected?

The best way to avoid CHIKV infection is to prevent mosquito bites. There is no vaccine or preventive drug.

- Use insect repellent containing a DEET or another [EPA-registered active ingredient](#) on exposed skin. Always follow the directions on the package.
- Wear long sleeves and pants (ideally treat clothes with permethrin or another repellent).
- Have secure screens on windows and doors to keep mosquitoes out.
- Get rid of mosquito breeding sites by emptying standing water from flower pots, buckets and barrels. Replace water in pet dishes and bird baths often.

CMS and CIC Boost Partnership

CMS Press Release

Kai Wollscheid, Director-General of the [International Council for Game and Wildlife Conservation \(CIC\)](#) visited the [CMS \(Convention on Migratory Species\)](#) Secretariat in Bonn for the annual meeting between CMS and CIC under their partnership agreements signed just over two years ago at CoP8.



Robert Kenwood (CMS) and Kai Wollscheid (CIC)

Topics discussed included CIC participation at the CMS Conference of Parties in Rome later this year; a joint project in preparation on sustainable use including hunting in relation to wildlife in Niger; and a translation of the CMS brochure on avian influenza which is being financed by the German delegation of CIC, and is due for publication later this year. Mr Wollscheid also had talks with CMS Deputy Executive Secretary Lahcen el Kabiri on Sahelo-Saharan antelopes where both CMS and CIC remain concerned about the damaging effects of illegal killing of seriously endangered species.

During the meeting the Executive Secretary accepted an invitation to attend the next CIC general assembly in Marrakech, Morocco in April 2008. The venue will be an opportunity to promote CMS' flagship project on North West African antelopes, which is delivering practical results through re-introduction schemes.

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Hyenas and Lion Interaction

High hyena densities do not have a negative impact on lion densities. The idea has been around for a while, first suggested in a paper by Susan Cooper and then immortalized in Derek Joubert's films about the "eternal enemies"! Honer et al followed with a speculative paper.

Craig Packer of the University of Minnesota and Bernard Kissui looked for evidence whether hyena densities have any measurable impact on lion population densities in the Ngorongoro Crater. Their findings were published by the Royal Society in 2004 in a paper titled "[Top-down population regulation of a top predator: lions in the Ngorongoro Crater](#)" (click the link for the complete pdf file). This paper summarizes what is actually known about lions vs. hyenas in the Crater, and there was no effect of hyena densities on lion food intake or lion recruitment rate.

Packer stated recently that since publishing the paper in 2004 his team has been able to examine Honer et al.'s population data for the Crater hyenas, and there is no effect of hyena abundance on lion abundance. Co-existence between lions and hyenas derives partly from the fact that lions primarily catch adult prey while hyenas are more likely to catch calves -- a classic form of niche-partitioning.

PHASA Takes Action on White Rhino

Gerhard R Damm

The Professional Hunters Association of South Africa (PHASA), followed by Wildlife Ranching South Africa (WRSA), have taken the initiative to prevent the taking and export of white rhino horn for purposes not permitted under CITES regulations.

They have called upon the CITES scientific and management authorities within the [Department of Environmental Affairs and Tourism of South Africa](#) (DEAT) so that appropriate measures be taken to prevent a possible circumvention of [CITES](#) regulations inside or outside South Africa.

It had come to the notice of PHASA that a rapidly increasing number of Asian nationals took advantage of the excellent conservation status of white rhino in South Africa. These persons contract hunting safaris and are subsequently legally hunting and killing white rhino. Various sources reported that the Asians concerned come under the guise of being sport hunters, since sport hunting white rhino is perfectly legal in South Africa and has to a large extent also contributed to the phenomenal recovery of the species.

Under CITES conditions hunting trophies of White Rhino can be exported from South Africa and imported into the home country of the hunter. It is apparent that the final purpose of the mentioned Asian "hunters" was not the trophy, but the commercialization of rhino horn and/or parts in China or other far eastern countries, a completely illegal activity in all concerned countries,

contravening the CITES protocols.

It must be understood that bona-fide hunting tourists from the USA, Europe and elsewhere in the world, who hunted white rhino in South Africa in the past and have booked hunts for the future, have been and remain one of, if not the major driving sustainable force, behind the resurrection of the white rhino from the brink of extermination.

The white rhino of South Africa has been downlisted to Appendix II of CITES because of this hunter-driven recovery along with very sound conservation management by the South African conservation and regulatory authorities. The downlisting to Appendix II was an "annotated" downlisting permitting that trophy parts of the white rhino can be moved internationally. Trade for commercial purposes was and remains prohibited. Any change in CITES protocols has to be authorized by the Parties of CITES.

The Professional Hunters Association of South Africa (PHASA) must be congratulated to have taken this strong action to prevent further circumvention of CITES regulations by unscrupulous persons. PHASA further advised all members to be on the lookout and will be cooperating with TRAFFIC and DEAT who are aware of the problem. Although there is no present risk to the continued conservation and growing numbers of white rhino in South Africa, PHASA took the prudent course of being vigilant and this is good!

The very same issue was first raised during the last CITES Conference of the Parties by Kenya and protectionist non-governmental organizations. The awareness was further raised by the director of TRAFFIC East and Southern Africa, Tom Milliken in his presentation at a SADC workshop in Windhoek in September 2007 before representatives of hunting associations and communities, Directors of Wildlife Conservation Departments and Conservation NGOs from Botswana, Mozambique, Namibia, Tanzania, South Africa, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

The international hunting community is now aggressively taking steps to bring any illegal activities to a halt and/or mend any loopholes.

John J. Jackson III, Chairman of Conservation Force and President of the CIC Commission on Sustainable Use warned in the March 2008 Conservation Bulletin, distributed by the Hunting Report that "*these alleged hunts call for strong action, not because there is any present risk to RSA rhino, but because of the potential implications for the favored treatment of hunting trophies of all CITES-listed game species.*"

"Voluntary adherence to an ethical code elevates the self-respect of the sportsman, but it should not be forgotten that voluntary disregard of the code degenerates and depraves him."

Aldo Leopold (A Sand County Almanac, 1949)

Tanzania Hunting Prices: The Saga Continues

Gerhard R Damm

In the [January issue](#) of African Indaba, we analyzed and commented on the 2008 trophy and block fees. Readers will remember that we said "*Hunting associations and hunting media reported that the stalemate between the Tanzanian professional hunting community and the Government over the 2007 fees was resolved in late November. The agreement on the 2007 fees is said to stipulate an increase of about 50% on concession fees (supposedly over those valid in 2006, i. e. \$10,000) and about 15% on trophy fees (also supposedly over those valid in 2006)*".

In the meantime [The Hunting Report](#) has published the entire fee listings on the HR website – these include the prices which were valid during the 2006 season, the finally agreed fees for the turbulent [2007 season](#), and the fees which form the basis for the soon to be launched [2008 season](#). Readers will also remember that African Indaba had a couple of articles on this topic in the 2007 [September/October](#) and [November/December](#) issues.

We have combined all these fees in the table in the next column, listing the reportedly valid trophy fees for the 2008 season, those fees which are reported to be invoiced by the Wildlife Division to the safari outfitters for the past 2007 season, those which were valid for the 2006 season and for good order's sake also those originally proposed by the Wildlife Division for 2007.

Please take note, however, that all hunters should double check with their outfitter, agent and/or with official Tanzanian agencies, since we are not aware of any other independent source than the Hunting Report. It is also important to note that hunting companies often put surcharges on top of the official trophy fees. These surcharges may be for a distinct purpose, like community upliftment or anti-poaching efforts, but could also be just for increasing the company's profit margin. It's a free market after all.

It was almost to be expected, that there are still some notable points in this list:

- Some of the now applicable fees for the 2007 season seem to be either wrong or illogic. For example, the trophy fee for baboon is listed at \$125 - \$15 higher than the respective fees for 2008 and 2006; the common duiker is listed for 2007 at \$510, compared to \$280 (2008) and \$220 (2006), most likely a typo of some sort;
- Thompson's Gazelle trophy fees for 2007 have been fixed at \$500 – the same level like for 2008, which is more than double of the 2006 trophy fee (\$240) and \$100 higher than the original proposal;
- For some game species, the newly agreed 2007 trophy fees are at similar or higher levels than the July 2007 [proposal](#) of the Wildlife Division, i. e., Bushbuck (\$500 in 2007 and 2008, up from \$425 in 2006); Bushpig (\$320 in 2007 versus \$420 in 2008 and \$240 in 2006, with the original proposal of the WD stating \$250); Ostrich (\$1050 in 2007 versus \$890 in 2006 with the original proposal of the WD at

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Tanzania Government Trophy Fees for the 2008 season compared to the trophy fees applicable for the past 2007 season, the fees valid for 2006 and the originally proposed fees published in July 2007

Species	Trophy Fees in USD			
	2008 List	2007 Final	2006 Actual	July 2007 Proposal
Baboon	\$110	\$125	\$110	\$110
1st Buffalo	\$1 900	\$870	\$750	\$1 500
2nd Buffalo	\$1 900	\$900	\$900	\$1 800
3rd Buffalo	\$1 900	\$1 000	\$1 050	\$2 000
Bushbuck	\$600	\$500	\$425	\$500
Bushpig	\$420	\$320	\$240	\$250
Caracal	\$150	\$102	\$85	\$150
Civet Cat	\$200	\$200	\$340	\$200
Crocodile	\$1 700	\$1 200	\$1 050	\$1 500
Dik Dik	\$250	\$250	\$205	\$250
Duiker Abbot's	\$280	\$280	n/l	\$220
Duiker Common	\$280	\$510	\$220	\$250
Eland	\$1 700	\$1 300	\$1 050	\$2 000
Elephant15kg33Lbs/1.5m	\$7 500	\$6 000	\$5 000	\$15 000
Elephant 27kg (60 Lbs)	\$12 000			
Elephant 32kg (71 Lbs)	\$20 000			
Fox	\$250	\$250	n/l	\$250
Genet	\$250	\$250	\$220	\$250
Gerenuk	\$2 500	\$1 850	\$1 625	\$2 000
Grant's Gazelle	\$450	\$320	\$275	\$400
Greater Kudu	\$2 200	\$1 700	\$1 465	\$2 000
Grysbok	\$350	\$200	\$180	\$350
Hartebeest	\$650	\$500	\$465	\$600
Hippopotamus	\$1 500	\$1 200	\$1 050	\$2 500
Hyena	\$550	\$250	\$230	\$500
Impala	\$390	\$350	\$300	\$500
Jackal	\$250	\$150	\$145	\$250
Klipspringer	\$1 200	\$950	\$900	\$1 500
Leopard	\$3 500	\$3 200	\$2 500	\$12 000
Lesser Kudu	\$2 600	\$1 780	\$1 625	\$2 200
Lion	\$4 900	\$3 800	\$2 500	\$12 000
Oribi	\$250	\$150	\$150	\$200
Oryx	\$2 800	\$1 300	\$870	\$2 000
Ostrich	\$1 200	\$1 050	\$890	\$900
Porcupine	\$150	\$100	\$85	\$150
Puku	\$800	\$300	\$275	\$600
Honey Badger	\$300	\$100	\$85	\$300
Reedbuck Southern	\$450	\$430	\$350	\$400
Reedbuck Bohor	\$450	\$430	\$365	\$450
Roan	\$2 550	\$1 750	\$1 090	\$2 000
Sable	\$2 550	\$1 750	\$1 500	\$2 000
Serval Cat	\$300	\$250	\$225	\$300
Sitatunga	\$2 000	\$1 750	\$1 125	\$1 300
Steinbuck	\$250	\$240	\$180	\$250
Thompson's Gazelle	\$500	\$500	\$240	\$400
Topi	\$800	\$500	\$440	\$1 200
Warthog	\$450	\$450	\$400	\$400
Waterbuck	\$800	\$630	\$550	\$800
Wild Cat	\$250	\$200	\$180	\$250
Wildebeest	\$650	\$480	\$400	\$500
Zebra	\$1 200	\$860	\$740	\$1 000
Zorilla	\$150	n/l	n/l	\$150

Read this table with the article on the next page

Source of data: The Hunting Report

www.huntingreport.com/temp_tanzania_fees.cfm downloaded 2008.03.03.

For hunter-conservationists and all people who are interested in the conservation, management and the sustainable use of Africa's wild natural resources.

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Tanzania Hunting Prices: The Saga Continues

\$800); Southern Reedbuck (\$430 in 2007 versus \$350 in 2006 with the original proposal of the WD at \$400); Sitatunga (\$1750 in 2007 versus \$1125 in 2006 with the original proposal of the WD at \$1300); Warthog (\$450 in 2007 versus \$400 in 2006 with the original proposal of the WD at \$400);

- d) The block fees which were uniformly set for the 2006 season at \$10,000 per hunting season/block without considering qualitative differences, increased to \$15,000 (for game reserves) and \$12,000 (for open areas) in the now finalized prices for 2007. They will be further increased uniformly to \$27,000 per block for 2008 (again without considering the hugely differing block quality).

Study these lists and you come to your own conclusions.

My reading of the situation – already expressed in the last African Indaba – remains unchanged: *"[the 2007 and 2008] compromise, apart from not addressing the known core problems of wildlife utilization in Tanzania, massively short-changes visiting international hunters. [They] have to shoulder the bulk of the increases, not only in trophy fees, but also in the various add-on costs levied by the Government. The financial burden on the shoulders of the hunting clients weighs far heavier than the increased concession fee on safari operators."*

In January this year, The Hunting Report sent an email alert to all subscribers saying that the Wildlife Division will begin invoicing safari operators on January 28, 2008. Logically, safari operators who pay the invoices to the Wildlife Division should be able to start shipping trophies to clients soon after payments have been acknowledged.

In early February, Tanzanian media reported that only 11 hunting companies out of the 54 registered with 158 hunting blocks have paid either in full or partially the fees agreed between TAHOA and the Government in November (i. e. the fees, applicable retrospectively for the 2007 season). In a speech before parliament the deputy minister mentioned that corrective measures would be taken against those who do not pay up.

Given the obstacles within the administrative processes in Tanzania, it seems that the hunters who went on safari in 2007 will still have to wait some time before trophies will be shipped – although these clients all have paid the safari outfitter the originally agreed upon fees latest at the end of their respective safari. It is now a matter of the safari outfitter paying the Wildlife Division, the WD issuing proper receipts and export documents and, finally the outfitter arranging the trophy shipment. Some hunters might receive additional invoices from their outfitters with the difference between the fees valid when the safari was contracted and the fees now published for 2007 with requests for to pay these differences prior to any trophy shipments.

One final question remains unanswered: For the last years all data on hunting in Tanzania have been kept top secret by the previous Wildlife Division leadership. Even Tanzanian scientists of the Tanzania Wildlife Research Institute, which shares the roof of the same Ministry as the Wildlife Division, were not given access to hunting data. Why is that so? Is there a reason for secrecy? Why no transparency? Why are the public

and even parts of the administration being kept in the dark?

The Wildlife Division Director, Erasmus Tarimo can turn a new page in this confusing chapter by making the processes within the Wildlife Division and its interaction with the hunting companies transparent for all citizens of Tanzania and for all visiting hunters. Good Governance and rule of law require this transparency. Last not least, this will also assist in marketing Tanzania as Africa's prime hunting grounds.

Like in the last issue, we wish Mr Tarimo good luck and most of all the necessary resolve in his difficult task.

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News from Africa

were said to begin invoicing safari operators on January 28, 2008. That means operators should be able to start shipping trophies from the 2007 season to clients soon after having paid the respective invoices. See also article and fee comparison table on page 18).

Tanzania/CAR

During the 2007 Port Elizabeth Conference of the Society of Conservation Biologists, Yves Hausser and Pierre-Armand Roulet, presented a paper *"Between discourse and practice: investigating the role of trophy hunting in conservation and poverty reduction, case studies from Tanzania and CAR"*. Here is the abstract:

Trophy hunting is frequently quoted by both practitioners and scientists as a new important tool for conservation and poverty reduction through the use of participatory approaches. The growing debate regarding the role of the trophy hunting in conservation should be enlightened by recent findings from the field. The aim of this paper is to provide a trans-regional comparison of the introduction of community based conservation models and their results in two important biodiversity countries in Africa, Central African Republic and Tanzania.

The paper builds on years of experience of field work by the authors in the development of these schemes, through research, operational projects and consultancies. Results are contrasted and could partly be explained by local factors, but as well by the choices that have been made at political and institutional levels. Determinant factors identified were the role and influence of donors, the will of the industry to engage into such co-management schemes, the planned resistance of the State agencies to transfer rights and management responsibilities, the role given to communities and the benefit sharing agreements negotiated.

United Kingdom/Africa

Rolf Rohwer, a professional hunter and outfitter well-known around the world, and good friend of many, succumbed to a heart attack during the US conventions in January. The funeral service was held in the UK – and those who attended the memorial adhered to Rolf's wish that nobody should wear black. Rolf's ashes will be taken to the Luangwa Valley in Zambia for his final rest amongst the wildlife and wild spaces which were a central focus of his life. The hunting community has lost a stellar member and our condolences go to Carol, Rolf Jr. and Kirsten Rohwer.

For hunter-conservationists and all people who are interested in the
conservation, management and the sustainable use of Africa's wild natural resources.

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Hunting For Truth: Why Rationalizing the Ritual Must Fail

fighting. Hunting is empty of merit, devoid of value and without deep meaning. Its adherents are therefore the same. The activity is personified and therein lies the target. The concept, the rich idea, of hunting, becomes displaced. For the public, the gruel is watered down until it can be bottle fed. The question is asked: "why (do you) hunt?"

On the other side, stand those who support hunting, primarily hunters themselves, but not exclusively so. They fall for the trap. Their arguments in support of hunting are that it helps manage wildlife populations, it provides healthful recreation, physically and socially, it provides meat, and it generates wealth, especially in rural economies. Supporters argue it is their right, and not the animal's rights, that are to prevail, and because their activity harms no one, but benefits many, they should not be interfered with. Hunters don't discuss animal suffering, but concentrate on the health of populations. They rightfully point out the contributions, financially and politically, hunters have made to conservation, often when other voices of support were not being raised. They trot out the balance of nature, without ever defining natural balance. They portray anti-hunters as misguided extremists, whose views would have mankind being overrun with tick infested deer, drowning in goose macaroni, or starving so other predators might thrive. Hunters argue simply, or simply don't argue. They too keep the debate easy ...to digest....or dismiss. One thing they conscientiously avoid however: they never, ever answer the question "why (do I) hunt".

Why is this? What is it about this short little question that is so ponderous, so daunting? What is it that hunters fear; what is it they do not comprehend? And, if they do comprehend, why won't they offer an explanation? Why so quick to identify the *benefits* of hunting but so reticent to at least try and describe their true motivation for engaging it? This is a conceptual divide that must be breached. We have been treating the two as though they were the same. They are not. Explaining the benefits of hunting does not in any way explain why we hunt, and why we hunt is the question, really, that society is asking. We confuse and avoid the issue...but we will either answer it, or we will be dismissed. The one thing we must protect and define for hunting is its *relevance*; notoriety and debate will not kill it. Fabrication and irrelevance will. Once deemed irrelevant hunting will no longer be debated; nor will it be engaged in. If we want continuity and recruitment, if we want respect and tolerance for what we do, then we best get busy earning it...by explaining to the reasonable majority what hunting *really* is.

Hunting is not simple. It is the generator of our human condition, the crucible of intellect, and the fire of creativity. It is our mirror of the world, the image maker of wild creation; it has defined how we see, literally and figuratively. It is the only absolute rediscovery mechanism available to human beings; the mind-body fusion of all meditative, spiritual experience is derived from its pasturage. Those who return there know full well the sense of universal intimacy it gives over. Explaining this odyssey is our greatest challenge; but succeeding will be our greatest achievement. The world remains perpetually absorbed by this search, yet hunters know the way. Why not celebrate the truth

for a change? Hunting is a deliberate journey to the union of birth and death; it cannot but create a deeper perspective and appreciation for the glorious importance of both. What society does not dream for such citizens?

Like it or not we have to search deep within ourselves, journey to the place where the mind is floating free. We have to voice what is silent; capture what is shadow. The hunt is a universe of emotion that overwhelms, scatters all notions of other preoccupations, and delivers the *persona completa*. Hunting is a love affair; turbulent, gnawing, and all possessing. It is composed of lives, but has a life of its own; a life held precious by the participant who, in part, creates it. But then there is the "other", unpredictable, honored. Yes! An affair of the heart; and like all such affairs it drags the mind along, a great force subjugated by the senses engaged to their fullest; but alive just the same, and capturing memories and creating fantasy's that are nearly one and the same. Hunting is an immersion; a drowning in connectedness that squanders pride and privilege; the true hunter is the humble man, the enthralled child, and the knowing prince. All is ready, nothing is restive; all is rhythm, nothing is in friction.

Hunting is knowing why the senses were made! It displaces both the practical and the excess. It represents evenness, oneness and the knowledge of self. Hunting is a cataclysm of inward progress. We hunt for spiritual reasons; we hunt to find inner peace; we hunt to understand the world. Hunting is our first great myth! The true hunter is both the alert and the meditative man. Thought and action combined in purpose; a hymn for the unity of world and self. Hunting is a search for *all*.

Truth makes a great message; not an easy one! But saving the preciousness of life is never simple. We need remember however, that if hunters are viewed as dopes, hunting is viewed as a pass time for the dim witted; if hunters are viewed as slobs, hunting is a wasteful debauchery; if hunters are viewed as juvenile, hunting is deemed delinquent. Only hunters can change such stereotypes. The task at hand is to articulate the relevance of hunting; not its correctness, nor its practical service to human kind. Rationalizing the mythology is both a tactical error and a diminishment of pride. Lies and excuses usually are.

Shane Mahoney was the celebrated guest speaker at the 2007 convention of the Professional Hunters' Association of South Africa. He is also director on the Board of [Conservation Force](#) and an appointed expert of the [CIC International Council for Game and Wildlife Conservation](#).

Last Minute News

Liberia

Rare pygmy hippos are surviving in Liberia's forests, despite two civil wars that have ravaged their habitat, according to Ben Collen of the Zoological Society of London. The pygmy hippo were spotted in Liberia's Sapo National Park using special camera traps. The team of scientists led by Collen recorded images of pygmy hippos just three days after setting up their camera traps in the rapidly shrinking Upper Guinean forest ecosystem. Only 10 % of the original Upper Guinean forest is left, of which Liberia accounts for about 40%.

For hunter-conservationists and all people who are interested in the

conservation, management and the sustainable use of Africa's wild natural resources.

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