



For the sustainable use of wildlife



Conseil International de la Chasse et de la Conservation du Gibier
Internationaler Rat zur Erhaltung des Wildes und der Jagd
International Council for Game and Wildlife Conservation

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Dear Reader,

African Indaba recently had somewhat erratic publication dates – not by design, but caused by an overload of commitments of the editor with other hunting and conservation projects. My recent election as president of the CIC Applied Science Division and member of the CIC Executive Committee during the 58th CIC General Assembly will not contribute to easing the workload. Nevertheless, I will stay committed to collecting and disseminating African hunting and conservation related news. I hope that we will return soon to the normal two-month publication rhythm. Some changes are planned; the distribution of African Indaba will be streamlined and the much-neglected website will be re-vamped..

In this edition you will find a CIC press release regarding the European Commission CITES Conference. Dr. Rolf Baldus attended this meeting for the CIC and his statement that *“CITES decisions must take into account the needs of rural people, who live side by side with the wildlife that we want to conserve”* (p. 5) reverberates through quite a few other articles in this issue. Wildlife – in order to survive and prosper – must deliver tangible benefits to rural people who live side by side with wild animals. Rural Africans are perfectly capable to care for their very own wildlife heritage with the right tools and enabling legislation, as the Namibian example shows, Kenya is the other side of the coin – where the absence of any use produces continually declining wildlife populations. Tanzania probably is right now at a cross road and needs to contemplate actions carefully.

The cause of sensible incentive-driven conservation in Africa is not helped by *“First World Do-Good Organizations”* trying to protect natural resources by totally disregarding the economic and socio-cultural aspects. Conservation at the expense of local rural people has a long history of failures rooted in the decidedly neo-colonialist attitudes of these *“Do-Gooders”*.

The international speakers at the 58th General Assembly of the CIC made abundantly clear that the only hope for wildlife and wild areas around the world in general, and Africa in particular rests on finding pragmatic solutions. The knowledge of indigenous people who live with wildlife and their aspirations for a prosperous future need to be a main part of innovative conservation planning. We need a triple bottom line approach, which produces positive

outcomes for biodiversity, allocates a commensurate share of economic benefits to those bearing the direct and indirect costs of maintaining intact ecosystems and last not least, which respects their culture and traditions. Protectionism – especially when advocated and forcibly instated by people who live in faraway lands destroys natural assets – conservation and sustainable use are the way to preserve the wildlife heritage of the world.

Sincerely,
Gerhard R Damm

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For hunter-conservationists and all people who are interested in the conservation, management and the sustainable use of Africa's wild natural resources. The publication and distribution of African Indaba is supported by the International Council for Game and Wildlife Conservation CIC www.cic-wildlife.org



The World Forum For Sustainable Hunting At The 58th CIC General Assembly

"Hunting – a part of our cultural heritage" was the theme of the 58th General Assembly of the International Council for Game and Wildlife Conservation (CIC) – *The World Forum for Sustainable Hunting*. The delegates gathered in the beautiful scenery of the "city of white nights", the cultural capital of the Russian Federation and a UNESCO World Heritage Site – Saint Petersburg.

This year's CIC General Assembly was hosted by the Russian CIC Delegation, and more than 500 participants from 42 countries from around the world enjoyed the gracious hospitality of the Government of the Russian Federation, the City of Saint Petersburg and the Russian Alliance of Public Associations of Hunting and Fishing.

Amongst the participants were leaders from the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES), the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN), the Convention on Migratory Species (CMS), the European Commission, the World Bank, the European Landowners Organization (ELO), the World Organization for Animal Health (OIE), and the Federation of Associations for Hunting and Conservation of the European Union (FACE) as well as numerous official government delegations, national hunting organizations and wildlife experts. From the United States of America high ranking representatives of the Boone & Crockett Club, Congressional Sportsmen's Foundation, Dallas Safari Club, Wild Sheep Foundation and Conservation Force took part.

During the Opening Ceremony at the prestigious Smolny Institute, leaders of major international bodies confirmed that hunting is increasingly recognized by the public as an asset for society and economies. Many references were made to the success of falconry, which has been inscribed as UNESCO Intangible Cultural Heritage, demonstrating that indeed hunting is part of human culture and that hunting is an inseparable part of human development.

With his enthusiastic opening words CIC President Bernard Lozé (France) set the stage for the World Forum for Sustainable Hunting. Vladimir Melnikov, Deputy Minister of Natural Resources and Ecology of the Russian Federation delivered the welcoming address of His Excellency, the President of the Russian Federation, Dmitry A. Medvedev which highlighted the cultural and economic importance of hunting in Russia. Alexey I. Sergeev, Vice-Governor of Saint Petersburg thanked the organizers for choosing the beautiful city of Saint Petersburg as venue of the CIC General Assembly, pointing out its cultural and natural highlights.

As head of the host delegation of the CIC, Eduard Benderskiy, President of the Russian Alliance of Public Associations of Hunting and Fishing, welcomed all participants on behalf of the Russian hunters. He especially thanked the CIC for its engagement in re-establishing the import of brown bear trophies from the Russian Federation into the territories of the European Union.

In his keynote address John Scanlon, Secretary-General of CITES highlighted the role of hunters in the implementation of the CITES Convention. *"Hunters are ideally placed to see, or learn of, crimes directed at game species. I reach out to you and your representative organizations, such as CIC, to support anti-poaching efforts and wildlife law enforcement. And I respectfully urge you to do everything you can to make clear that poachers and unscrupulous traders or outfitters have no place among the genuine hunting community,"* Scanlon said. He emphasized his appreciation to the CIC for its efforts to support the publication of the ninth edition of *"The Evolution of CITES"*, and stated that this handbook *"will help everyone, Parties and hunters alike, to better understand the detailed workings of CITES and the critical role it plays in the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity."* The book was officially launched at this Opening Ceremony in the presence of the author, Willem Wijnstekers, former Secretary-General of CITES.

Prof. Kalev Sepp (Estonia) Vice-President of IUCN, drew attention to the developments within this worldwide largest conservation organization, highlighting especially engagements in major international processes and policies. *"IUCN has a key role to play in showcasing biodiversity ecosystem services as fundamental elements of human well-being and highlighting how conservation can support social equity and economic development. ... IUCN's niche is to advance nature based solutions both to halt the destruction of biodiversity and to sustain development for all, especially the poor communities who depend on nature for their livelihoods."*

Eduardo Rojas-Briales (Spain), Assistant Director-General of the FAO Forestry Department emphasized the ongoing cooperation with the CIC known as the *"Wildlife Initiative for Central Asia and the Caucasus (WICAC)"*. This initiative provides technical support for countries in Central Asia and Southern Caucasus in wildlife conservation and sustainable use. Thanking the CIC for its efforts in the Bushmeat Liaison Group Meeting prior to the World Forestry Congress in Buenos Aires, he pointed out that *"sustainable wildlife management can preserve biodiversity in a dynamic and efficient way while sustaining rural populations and their right to assure long lasting and adequate living standard conditions."* He stressed that the *International Year of Forests* is a very good time to deepen cooperation and relations between the two organizations and the sectors forestry and wildlife management.

Nicholas Hanley (United Kingdom), Head of Unit, International Relations and Enlargement of the European Commission, explained the developments in EU policies towards the sustainable

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The World Forum Of Sustainable Hunting At The 58th CIC General Assembly

use of natural resources, which was *"for many years an area of significant conflicts based on different values and extreme positions of animal welfare and a hunting lobby seeking to put aside EU nature legislation. (...) The EU seeks to continue promoting positive collaboration between hunting and conservation interests, convinced that the degree of common commitment to the management of wild animals and their habitats is important to address the many threats to wildlife, which is a source of such pleasure, excitement and wonder to us all."*

Keshav Varma (India/USA), Program Director of the World Bank's Global Tiger Initiative (GTI), explained to the participants the background of the establishment of the GTI, which *"is part of the World Bank's commitment to develop a new paradigm that balances economic growth with wildlife conservation and environmental protection. (...) Tiger habitat often adjoins deep pockets of human poverty. The destruction of habitat is destroying the livelihoods of forest-dependent communities."* He invited the CIC to *"promote the new paradigm of conservation as a critical part of sustainable development"* and *"much stronger actions against the illegal wildlife trade."*

Thierry de l'Escaille (Belgium), Secretary General/CEO of the European Landowners' Organization (ELO) introduced his organization to participants by emphasizing the common interests of landowners and hunters in the sustainable use of natural resources. He invited the CIC to join forces in the ELO project *"Wildlife Estates"*. *Wildlife Estates* is a recognized label rewarding exemplary management efforts in terms of wildlife and biodiversity conservation. The label aims amongst other objectives to *"raise awareness of the role of sustainable hunting and angling to the general public and political authorities."*

Baron Gilbert de Turckheim (France), President of the Federation of Associations for Hunting and Conservation of the European Union (FACE), appreciated the long-term cooperation of the two international hunting organizations. *"It is essential that we put in place and may keep a proper coordination of our activities and our areas of expertise to ensure maximum efficiency and complementarity, while respecting the identities and particularities of each organization."* With joint efforts the goals which benefit hunting and sustainable use all over the world can be achieved

Bernard Vallat (France) Director General of OIE, the World Organization on Animal Health, welcomed in his video message the budding cooperation between the CIC and OIE, which will soon be embodied in a Memorandum of Understanding. Prof. Dr. Nikola Belev (Bulgaria), President of the OIE Regional Commission for Europe reconfirmed this message and pointed out *that "last years have shown the need for closer cooperation of national veterinary authorities and professional organizations of hunters and wildlife experts in order to detect the emergence of any epizootic among wild animals, and create an "early warning system"*.

As a closing act to this high-level Opening Ceremony,

Tamás Marghescu Director General of CIC, called upon the representative of the Finnish State Forestry and Wildlife Authority (Metsähallitus), the Director of the Natural Heritage Services, Rauno Väisänen to take the podium for the signing ceremony of the secondment of a young Finnish professional to the CIC Headquarters. He invited other national CIC Delegations to follow this good example and to effectively support CIC's work a by assigning young professionals to the CIC Team in Budapest. Once returning to their national duties, they would be equipped with the necessary know-how on international issues related to wildlife management. A true "win-win" situation for all!

At the Closing Ceremony, which followed after two days of intensive discussions and networking, the delegates of the CIC cast their unanimous vote for a truly international new CIC Executive Committee (see p. 4). President Lozé and President of Honor, Dieter Schramm thanked the members of the past team for their dedicated work and service, presenting them with special awards.

Other important events at the Closing Ceremony were the presentation of the CIC Edmond Blanc Prize and Diploma, as well as the CIC Prizes and Awards for Hunting in Art, Literature and Photography. The CIC members adopted a resolution to prepare a *Recommendation for Conservation of natural biodiversity as opposed to artificial manipulations of wildlife by hybridization, hormones etc.* to be passed at the 59th General Assembly in Johannesburg, South Africa. CIC members also voted for a Resolution on supporting the Global Tiger Initiative, joining the partnership framework established by the World Bank.

The 2011 CIC General Assembly closed with Emile van den Berg parading the South African Flag to the rousing sounds of the South African National Anthem *Nkosi Sikelel' iAfrika*. The *Hymnus CIC* concluded the proceedings.

The CIC South African Delegation, Johannesburg and South Africa are looking forward to welcoming the delegates of the 59th General Assembly of the CIC in May 2012.

African Indaba eNewsletter

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The 2011-2014 Executive Committee of the International Council for Game and Wildlife Conservation (CIC)

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President Lozé nominated three Special Advisors:

Ali Kaka (Kenya), the world renowned wildlife expert as presidential advisor on African issues, **Dr. Rolf D. Baldus** (Germany) on communications and **Joachim A. Wadsack** (Germany) on the interface between hunting and agriculture

Conservation Training Gets A Massive Cash Injection

Professional Hunters Association of South Africa (PHASA) & The Southern African Wildlife College (SAWC)

Five years and over R6.7-million rand later, the Professional Hunters Association of South Africa (PHASA) once again demonstrated its commitment to conservation at its annual African Wildlife Heritage Gala Dinner hosted at the Sandton Sun in Johannesburg. This year was no exception with a whopping R1.5-million raised on the night.

Launched in 2007 with the aim of supporting worthy conservation causes, this fundraising initiative has continued to grow from strength to strength. *"At the outset, the hunting fraterni-*

ty and various conservation organizations agreed that the biggest contribution PHASA could make to conservation was to ensure that wildlife managers are adequately trained. Through PHASA's Conservation and Empowerment Fund, donors continue to support this annual event which enables people already employed in the field of conservation to be trained at the Southern African Wildlife College," said Adri Kitshoff, CEO of PHASA.

"To date 676 wildlife rangers, field guides and protected area managers from across the SADC region have benefitted from the funds raised at this event," said Theresa Sowry, CEO of the Wildlife College. *"As a non-profit training institution, which does not receive a government subsidy, the funding received from the PHASA Conservation and Empowerment Fund enables us to empower and uplift individuals and communities, primarily through training and skills development programmes."*

Endorsed by leading stakeholders and organizations in the African wildlife conservation field, the funds are raised by way of auctioning exclusive donations of hunting and accommodation packages, luxury weekend retreats, hunting equipment and wildlife art donated by various conservation organizations, outfitters and businesses. The Fund is also strengthened by voluntary donations from foreign hunters whilst hunting with PHASA members.



It was smiles all round when Theresa Sowry, CEO of the Southern African Wildlife College received a cheque for over R1.5-million raised at the annual African Wildlife Heritage Gala Dinner hosted by PHASA at the Sandton Sun in Johannesburg. Pictured from left are: Hermann Meyerdricks, Chairman, PHASA Conservation and Empowerment Fund, Theresa Sowry, Southern African Wildlife College, Adri Kitshoff, PHASA CEO and Eduard Katzke, PHASA President

Adding to the success of the event is the fact that it has over the years been supported by numerous dignitaries which this year included Nandi Nyameka Khoza, Gauteng Agriculture and Rural Development MEC, Dr Bartolomeu Soto, Ministry of Tour-

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Conservation Training Gets A Massive Cash Injection

ism in Mozambique, Dr David Mabunda, CEO of South African National Parks, and Dr Bandle Mkhize, CEO of Ezemvelo KZN Wildlife.



Pictured at the annual African Wildlife Heritage Gala Dinner hosted by PHASA at the Sandton Sun in Johannesburg are from left: Adri Kitshoff, CEO of PHASA; Victor Khoza; Nandi Nyameka Khoza, Gauteng Agriculture and Rural Development MEC; and Eduard Katzke, President of PHASA

In addressing these and other guests, Hermann Meyerdricks, Chairman of the PHASA Conservation and Empowerment Fund said that hunting plays a significant role in the South African economy. *"It brings in a substantial amount of foreign expenditure every year, resulting in job creation and economic stimulation, particularly in rural areas. In addition, and as a result of the growth in the industry, game numbers and land under conservation has increased exponentially."*

Other projects supported by the Fund since 2003, include the training of black professional hunters, the development and production of educational media, a cheetah conservation project and a Cape Mountain Zebra research project, as well as contributions to Conservation Force, the Magqubu Ntombela Foundation and the Endangered Wildlife Trust. During 2010, the Fund also donated R220,000 towards the Wildlands Conservation Trust and Private Rhino Owners' Association's rhino anti-poaching projects, with another R150,000 handed over to Dr Mabunda, CEO of South African National Parks on 15 April 2011 towards their South African National Parks anti-poaching projects.

Rural People Must Be Involved In The Conservation Of Wildlife: CIC Speaks At CITES Conference Of The European Commission in Vienna

"CITES decisions must take into account the needs of rural people, who live side by side with the wildlife that we want to conserve," said Dr. Rolf D. Baldus on behalf of the International Council for Game and Wildlife Conservation in Vienna on May 19th, 2011 during a conference organized by the Austrian Government and the European Commission. 60 participants from international organizations including CITES, Governments, community projects and Non-Governmental Organizations discussed the need to consider "Community Based Natural Resources Management" (CBNRM) in CITES policies.

They have the means to exterminate endangered species and can do so, if it improves their living conditions and if we neglect them. International trade restrictions such as CITES will become counterproductive as far as protection is concerned, if they violate the interests of rural people in an inappropriate way," said Dr. Baldus.

Sustainable hunting of species like elephant, leopard, lion, bear, markhor and many others can provide considerable revenues for conservation and the livelihoods of poor people. This raises peoples' tolerance towards potentially dangerous and destructive animals. Total protection of wildlife, which can be selectively and sustainably hunted, does not support its survival.

If no mechanism is found that better represents the interests of rural people at CITES, the Convention will fall short of its objectives in the case of a number of high profile and other species. As a consequence this will also adversely affect their habitats, which they share with thousands of species not listed in the Convention.

The Conference appealed to the European Commission to further explore the interdependencies between CITES, CBNRM and efficient conservation and develop synergies by improved liaising with other Conventions and international organizations or international processes on these matters.

Thailand: On 5 January 2011, Customs officials seized a shipment of 73 pieces of ivory (435 kg) that had been smuggled from Mozambique. On 25 February 2011, at Suvarnabhumi International Airport, Bangkok, 118 elephant tusks (over 1000 kg) and three rhinoceros horns (ca. 3 kg) in an unclaimed shipment from Nigeria were seized.



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The South African Conservation Success Story Première

Peter Flack

In March, South African National Parks, in conjunction with the Confederation of Hunting Associations of South Africa, the Professional Hunting Association of South Africa, SA Hunting and Game Conservation Association and the Wildlife Ranching Association of South Africa, hosted approximately 300 guests, including over 30 members of the media for the highly successful launch of this 80 minute, two part documentary at the Il Grande Theatre and Lounge at Monte Casino in Johannesburg.

The foyer, decorated with large wildlife posters, was abuzz with conversation as drinks and canapés were served before brief speeches of welcome and thanks by Peter Flack, followed by Hector Magome, Chief Scientist of SANParks, reading the speech of Dr. David Mabunda CEO of SANParks (see next column) who, unfortunately, was taken to hospital that morning..

Peter Flack pointed out that the documentary will be made available, free of charge, to all Members of Parliament and school principals, in other words, to current and future leaders. DVD copies of the documentary given to each couple in an attractive SANParks bag were, in fact, not for them, but to be given away to their children's school principal, a friend who was interested in the topic, a municipal ward councillor they knew and so on. If they wanted one for themselves, they should go out and buy one from Rowland Ward on their secure online shopping site (www.rowlandward.com) or at their Johannesburg showroom (011 6469888) as well as from the host organizations of the evening.. Proceeds from the DVD sale will go towards the costs of further distribution. At the interval and after, many guests could be seen taking Flack at his word. The ladies from Rowland Ward were seen doing brisk business.

Dr. Mabunda requested that a book covering the same ground as the DVD is produced. In June, this book will be available from the same outlets as the DVD.

After the interval, Shane Mahoney, the charismatic Canadian wildlife biologist, researcher and writer who acted as the main narrator in the documentary spoke passionately about the successes of the South African wildlife conservation model, its importance in local and world terms and the need to ensure that the successes of the past were not lost going forward.

Comments from members of the audience leaving the theatre at the end of the show were universally positive. "Everyone should see this film" was probably the most repeated comment.

Editor's Note: *The European Première was held with a presentation of the documentary to the CIC members and guests at a Gala Show at the Nevskiy Corinthia Grand Hotel in Saint Petersburg during the 58th CIC General Assembly.*

Hunting and Nature Conservation in South Africa

Dr. David Mabunda, CEO, SANParks, read by Hector Magome, PhD, Managing Executive Conservation Services, SANParks

Editor's Note: *The speech of Dr. David Mabunda, was delivered on occasion of the South African Premiere of Peter Flack's documentary "The South African Conservation Success Story"*

Introduction

In conservation books a hunt is commonly understood as the art of pursuing an animal, usually a large mammal or bird, in order to kill it for food, recreation, or trade with its products. Hunting is a regulated and legal activity as opposed to poaching, trapping or killing animals against the law. Except for subsistence hunting, hunting is practiced largely as a recreation activity hence the term recreational sport. Hunting is an extractive part of eco-tourism and it is for this reason that it is often argued by some members of the public, opposed to hunting, that photographic tourism is a non-consumptive activity and that it is, therefore, better than hunting. This is a myth. On the contrary photographic tourism is a consumptive activity, it affects the natural footprint.

Economic contribution

In the United States of America, hunting is big business that generates more than US\$67 billion in economic output, and more than one million jobs (IAFWA 2002, Economic Importance of Hunting in America, International Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies). Former US President, Theodore Roosevelt, a devout hunter, is one of the icons of the wilderness concept and one of the founding supporters of the US National Park System. In his autobiography (1913), Theodore Roosevelt stated: "There are men who love out-of-doors who yet never open a book, and other men who love books but to whom the great book of nature is a sealed volume" (in Underwood L, 2003, "Theodore Roosevelt on hunting", The Lyons Press). Similarly, there are people who criticise hunting, but have little knowledge of its contribution to conservation. Equally, there are hunters and hunting practices that are totally bad and these should not be tolerated.

South African local hunters, largely biltong hunters, contribute nearly R1 billion directly into the economy while foreign trophy hunters contribute another R1 billion, making a total contribution of R2 billion per annum. While the contribution made by photographic tourism is massive, figures are not yet available on how much of the R70 billion tourism industries accrue from photographic tourism. As a developing country, it would be suicidal to want to make trade-offs between hunting and photographic eco-

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Hunting and Nature Conservation in South Africa

tourism, we don't have the luxury of choice, we need both.

That said the hunting industry still needs to make a quantum leap and huge strides that will make it speak to all the citizens of South Africa. Hunting takes place on land, and land is at the centre of various forms of economic activity. As one of the leading industries, hunting should, like other leading industries, transform itself into an indispensable socio-economic force that makes an impact on livelihoods. The industry can and should create decent jobs.

Ecological contribution

In remote areas where these properties are located, it is not easy to establish viable photographic ecotourism. In cases like these, recreational hunting provides the owner with the incentive to manage and maintain his land under conservation. Hunting is a component of modern wildlife management and it is often used to maintain a healthy population of animals where reserves are too small to allow natural regulation of populations or where hunting is a key part of the financial objective of the area. However, trophy hunting is exactly that, search for a trophy — an animal eye candy! This is another area where the hunting industry must set very high standards. South Africa cannot be in the top 5 mega diverse countries and have its big 5 hunting industry in the top 5 bad examples. Therefore, adherence to the National Environmental Management: Biodiversity Act, 10 of 2004 where TOPS (Threatened or Protected Species) is involved is a must!

The contribution of hunting to South African's protected area network, both formal and informal is phenomenal. There is no doubt that this could not have been achieved without incentivising the land owner. Hunting was one such key incentive that even provided the initial short term capital to built photographic ecotourism. Currently, more than 15 million hectares of private land is registered and set aside for conservation and another 15 million hectares is also used for mixed wildlife and cattle farming. This means registered privately owned land is three times more than the efforts of the state. South Africa needs some of these large estates to be formally registered and gazetted as part of the national protected area expansion strategy so that the country to meet the global target of 20% by 2025.

Conclusion

Tonight is the "Premiere of the South African Conservation Success Story" and it is a night of achievement. In this debut, let us continue to usher in a spirit of excellence, of desire, and of strong determination to manage the industry for the next century!

We can!

Socio-Demographic Factors Influence The Attitudes Of Local Residents Towards Trophy Hunting Activities In The Kilombero Valley, Tanzania

Eleanor Jew and Colin Bonnington

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Abstract

Within the Kilombero Game Controlled Area (KGCA) of Tanzania, protection is offered to large mammal populations by trophy hunting concessions that maintain natural habitat through the prevention of extensive human encroachment. The opinions of local communities to wildlife management operations such as trophy hunting play an important role in their long-term viability. This study addresses the influence of socio-demographic factors on the opinions of local communities to trophy hunting in areas that are not part of community-based management projects, which is where most research of this type has previously been conducted. Semi-structured questionnaires were conducted in 24 villages within the Kilombero Valley (fifteen interviews per village) in August–December 2007. The extent to which socio-demographic factors including location (e.g. village of residence) and individual respondent characteristics (e.g. gender and age) influenced the respondents' opinions was analyzed. Of these socio-demographic factors, all, except age and district of residence, were found to influence the opinions of local residents.

Socio-demographic factors play an important role in determining local communities' attitudes towards trophy hunting, and this must be taken into account during the design and assessment of wildlife management conservation strategies, both locally in the KGCA and in similar national and international initiatives.

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"... and now Kenya wants to publicly burn ivory again. Kenya did little to prevent elephant poaching, and the same will happen again this time. The wildlife conservation strategy of Kenya is well known to have been a dismal failure. Gradually, as the human population increases in that country, all the large mammals will be wiped out in areas outside of protected areas, and only those that can tolerate high predation will survive in small isolated islands."



CIC Hunting in Art, Literary and Photographic Awards 2011

CIC Press Release

Every two years the CIC artists recognizes with the **Hunting in Art Prize** for enhancing the cultural values of nature and hunting. The prize may be awarded to worthy recipients in the fields of sculpture, painting, museums or a specific exhibit therein as well as well in the field of music. This occasion came again at the 58th CIC General Assembly in Saint Petersburg

The 2011 **Hunting in Art Prize** was awarded for extraordinary achievements in music to Professor Paul Angerer (Austria) and to Professor Hansjörg Angerer (Austria).

Prof. Paul Angerer, who had been decorated with the Austrian Cross of Merit 1st class for Science and Art in 2001, received the prize for his rousing composition "*Hymnus CIC*", the anthem of the CIC.

Prof. Hansjörg Angerer was recognized for his dedication as principal conductor of the *Bläserphilharmonie Mozarteum Salzburg*, which for several years now performs the Salzburg New Year's Concert under the patronage of the CIC. Prof. Hansjörg Angerer also cooperated with the CIC to enable the production of the CD "*Le Rendez-vous de Chasse*" (after Gioachino Rossini's composition) which also contains "*Hymnus CIC*". The CD is available from the CIC shop. The prizes were handed over by József Károlyi, a descendant of one of the founders of the CIC.

In the field of literature, the **Technical and Scientific Literature Prize** went to Dr. Josef Feureisel (Czech Republic) for his work *Zelená čísla: O ekonomice v současné České Myslivosti*. The **Artistic Literary Prize** was awarded to Ingeborg Landthaler and Johann Waldner (Italy) for the magnificent volume *Caccia nelle Alpi. Animali Selvatici*. The Jury recognized Abdol Ali Yazdani (Iran) with the **Environmental Literary Prize** for his passionate story *Lar, the paradise I knew*. The **2011 Literary Award** went to Marques de Laserna (Spain) for *Dignidad de la Caza*. These prizes were handed over by Maria Fürstin zu Stolberg-Wernigerode.

Jonkheer Jan-Maarten van Vredenburg announced the winners of the **Photographic Prizes**: Jean Pierre Ramel, Switzerland, Dmitry Chelyapin, Russian Federation Mr. Peter Flego, Hungary and Mr. Le Huu Dung, Viet-Nam – all of them with some astounding and artistic renditions of wild birds from their respective countries (see <http://www.cic-wildlife.org/index.php?id=566> for the photographs).

Tanzania: Projects With Negative Environmental Consequences

Rolf D Baldus

Tanzania remains in the global headlines with a number of major projects which have the potential to cause significant negative environmental consequences. The plans as they are known today threaten, if realized, National Parks and Game Reserves which fall under the specially protected UNESCO World Heritage Site Program.

The construction of a major highway through the Serengeti to link Central African regions with the East African coast is one of the most worrying projects. To complete this road project, Tanzania also proposed a new deep water port to be dredged at Tanga, a small and sleepy Tanzanian port on the Indian Ocean. The planned facility is located right within a marine protected area, which has been specially designed to give shelter to Coelacanths, a group of lobed-finned fish that are related to lungfish and other extinct Devonian fish, thought to have first evolved approximately 400 million years ago. Only two living coelacanth species are found along these coastlines.

Based on assessments of the Frankfurt Zoological Society and from a wide array of world-renowned scientists, the Trans-Serengeti highway would seriously compromise the annual migrations of over one million savanna ungulates; the impact on ungulate species would also have negative consequences for all predators, for which the ungulates are the main prey. Over half a century after Bernhard Grzimek's book "*Serengeti Shall Not Die*" this world-famous area would finally meet an appalling destiny. The entire eco system will change completely and irrevocably. The environmental impact assessment submitted by the Tanzanian government was rejected by the European Commission on behalf of the donors as superficial and unprofessional. The US Department of State expressed also major concerns, although a top diplomat would not reveal if Secretary of State Hillary Clinton mentioned this topic at her meeting with the President of Tanzania.

Apparently, there are no technical or infrastructural problems, if a more southerly route, bypassing the Serengeti National Park, would be chosen. A greater number of people would benefit from a southerly transit artery; it is, however, a socio-economic give and take, since some of those along the presently planned route would be rather disappointed. It is probably also true that Tanzanians who live in the greater Serengeti area don't even know that an alternative route is being proposed to connect the Central African regions to the East African coast. For reasons that the world fails to understand, and without any explanation or reason-

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Tanzania: Projects With Negative Environmental Consequences

ble substantiations, the recently re-elected President of the Republic of Tanzania, Jakaya Kikwete has apparently already decided to move ahead with the highway crossing the Serengeti.

Dirk Niebel, Minister for Development of the Federal Republic of Germany, who offered on occasion of a visit of a senior civil servant of the ministry to Tanzania that Germany and other donor nations would finance all impact and viability studies of a more southerly route around the Serengeti could not convince President Kikwete. Apparently there were even discussions about a financing offer for the construction of the alternative route. A public announcement by Minister Niebel made later at a press conference did not draw any Tanzanian reaction either. In any case, Tanzania, which is deep in debt and in fact hanging on the various drips of development assistance of donor nations, cannot finance the highway from own means anyhow. Hence, there is ample speculation whether China is pulling any strings behind the scenes. In Africa, there are presently few, if any, minerals and raw materials prospecting ventures, or any major infrastructure projects, where China is not involved in one or the other way. Apparently – also taking other examples into account – environmental concerns are very low on the priority list of this emerging super power from the Far East. Anyway – most of Tanzania's threatened hardwoods and also a major part of illegally exported elephant ivory are incessantly gobbled up by China.

Environmentalists and conservation NGOs have organized global protests. These actions obviously and unfortunately appear to have had an unintended side effect: President Kikwete seems to be fed up by these activities and apparently views them as uncalled interventions into each and every infrastructure project. On March 28th, President Kikwete reportedly stormed into the Tourism and Environment Ministry's offices and apparently enraged, announced that Tanzania would not be dictated from abroad with respect to the country's environmental policies. This was ostensibly also the cause for the immediate withdrawal of Tanzania's application for recognition of the "Eastern Arc" as a World Heritage Site. The "Eastern Arc" is a particularly species-rich mountain range in south-eastern Tanzania. However, UNESCO is by no means trying to dictate anything to Tanzania. To the contrary, for the past 15 years the Government of Tanzania has been trying to achieve inclusion into the UNESCO list and even commissioned a number of research studies to this end.

Is President Kikwete forgetting what the founder of the nation, Julius Nyerere, said to the world and to the Tanzanian citizens in the 1961 Arusha Declaration on Wildlife Protection? Here is a quote from Nyerere's speech "*The survival of our wildlife is a matter of grave concern to all of us in Africa. These wild creatures amid the wild places they inhabit are not only important as a source of wonder and inspiration but are an integral part of our natural resources and of our future livelihood and well-being.*"

The President's executive order to suspend all further

studies on environmental impacts of soda ash production at Lake Natron, near the Ngorongoro Crater and his expressed wish to rapidly build the necessary soda ash production plant fits the same pattern. Lake Natron, protected by an international agreement, is the most important refuge for flamingos and pelicans in East Africa. The President is, however, firm in saying that one could produce 500,000 tons of soda ash per year there without harming these magnificent bird populations. He describes environmentalists as unpatriotic agents of foreign powers.

Storms are brewing also for the Selous Game Reserve, an UNESCO World Heritage Site and the world's largest hunting reserve. Not only did rampant poaching again raise its ugly head due to inadequate funding and a 75% budget cut, but some projects in this 50,000 km² wilderness might soon change the face of the Selous forever. In the southern part of the reserve a new uranium mine is about to start mining on an area of 70 km² – despite of the global endeavors to change from nuclear power to renewable energy sources, and despite of the general exclusion of mining from all areas designated as World Heritage Sites. In the northern Selous, the dam at the "Stiegler's Gorge" rapids of the Rufiji River, contemplated and rejected already in 1982, is on the cards again. Reportedly, Brazil is interested in cooperating with Tanzania here. This dam would destroy the eco systems of the entire northern Selous. A smaller dam, which is presently being built about 100 kilometers to the northwest at Ruvo is already causing significant environmental damage. The future reservoir will destroy the summer pastures of immense buffalo and antelope herds with a foreseeable drastic reduction herd size..

Poaching is again a major threat in Tanzania. Even one of the rhinoceroses from South Africa, flown in last year by the Frankfurt Zoological Society, amidst some great media hype, has been ruthlessly killed by poachers. The carcass of rhino "George" was found by game rangers – the horns had been rudely sawn off and were missing. President Kikwete personally had welcomed rhino George on May 21st, 2010. One of the poaching suspects died in police custody.

Editor's Note: Please read in this connection also the Press Release of the CIC on page 5 and the call by CIC's Dr. Rolf Baldus that "*In the long run it is impossible to protect wildlife against the interests of rural people who bear the costs, but rarely benefit*". There are other articles in this issue who deal with the problem from a number of view points.

Yellow Fever Alert Zambia

The South African Department of Health has issued a statement that all returning travellers from South Africa to Zambia and travellers from Zambia to South Africa will now require proof of yellow fever vaccination. Previously, this was not required. All in-transit passengers between the two countries, irrespective of the time period in transit, will also require proof of yellow fever vaccination.



Rhinoceros Horn Sale Ban in Effect in the UK

Source: TRAFFIC Bulletin Vol. 23/2

New legislation in the UK has bans the sale of mounted, but otherwise unaltered rhinoceros horns. Until recently, mounted rhinoceros horns in their natural state were considered to be 'worked items', and, as such, were permitted to be legally traded. Now, it will be illegal to sell such items unless they qualify under the antiques derogation (i.e. prepared and acquired in such condition prior to June 1947 and unaltered since then).

European regulations allow for the sale of rhinoceros horn provided worked items meet this derogation. The ban is in response to EU Commission guidance and is implemented by the UK Animal Health's Wildlife Licensing and Registration Service (WLRs).

"The new EC guidance has been put into immediate effect and we will no longer give approval for the sale of mounted, but otherwise unaltered, rhinoceros horn under the antiques derogation," said John Hounslow, the head of the WLRs. "Neither will we allow sales of rhino horn to take place where the artistic nature of any alteration is not obvious."

In future, mounted rhino horns will be considered to be unworked.

Given that all unworked specimens of rhinoceros horn are already banned from sale in the UK, it will no longer be possible to offer mounted rhinoceros horns for legal sale. In respect of exporting such items, Animal Health would also be unlikely to grant a CITES re-export certificate under the export restrictions brought into force in the UK in September 2010. The newly implemented EC guidance states that a rhinoceros horn mounted on a plaque, shield or other type of base has not been sufficiently altered from its natural state to be included in the derogation for worked specimens in Article 2(w) of the EC Regulations (the "antiques derogation"). The EC also advises that the conditions in Article 2(w), which require any alteration to have been carried out for "jewelry, adornment, art, utility, or musical instruments", will not have been met where the artistic nature of any such alteration (such as significant carving, engraving, insertion or attachment of artistic or utility objects, etc.) is not obvious.

All species of rhinoceros (excepting certain populations of Southern White Rhinoceros *Ceratotherium simum simum*) are listed in Appendix I of CITES/Annex A of the EC Regulations implementing CITES in the EU.

Editor's Note: This reaction was most likely triggered by the increasing entry of old rhino trophies into public auctions and the acquiring of such trophies by Far Eastern buyers. It is anybody's guess where these sometimes unique and rare trophies ended!

Continuing Wildlife Population Declines And Range Contraction In The Mara Region Of Kenya During 1977–2009

J. O. Ogutu, N. Owen-Smith, H.-P. Piepho, M. Y. Said
Journal of Zoology, Article first published online: 20 May 2011

Abstract

Populations of many wild ungulate species in Africa are in decline largely because of land-use changes and other human activities. Analyses that document these declines and advance our understanding of their underlying causes are fundamental to effective management and conservation of wild ungulates. We analyzed temporal trends in wildlife and livestock population abundances in the Mara region of Kenya. We found that wildlife populations in the Mara region declined progressively after 1977, with few exceptions. Populations of almost all wildlife species have declined to a third or less of their former abundance both in the protected Masai Mara National Reserve and in the adjoining pastoral ranches. Human influences appeared to be the fundamental cause. Besides reinforced anti-poaching patrols, the expansion of cultivation, settlements and fences and livestock stocking levels on the pastoral ranches need to be regulated to avoid further declines in the wildlife resource.

CIC Edmond Blanc Prize 2011

The International Council for Game and Wildlife Conservation CIC annually awards outstanding efforts in wildlife conservation and game management that are based on the principles of sustainable use of wildlife. This year the Edmond Blanc Prize was awarded to the "Cangandala National Park" and "Luando Reserve" in Angola. The Edmond Blanc Diploma was given to the Kurgan Regional Union of Hunters and Fishermen in Russia.

The Cangandala National Park protects the one of the rarest and most magnificent African antelopes, the Giant Sable. H. F. Varian wrote at the end of his book *Some African Milestones* as follows, "On one of my visits to London from Angola, I had taken to the curator of the Natural History Museum, Mr. Oldfield Thomas, specimens of a number of smaller mammals.... I mentioned to him that in spite of the official lack of interest in the larger animals of this province, I considered that some of them showed a distinct difference from the classified varieties, and would repay a little study. I told him of a large sable antelope which I had already described in an article published in *The Field*, which differed in face-markings and other important respects from the ordinary sable

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CIC Edmond Blanc Prize 2011

antelope found in most parts of Africa, and as I knew it to be far larger than any they had in the Museum, I offered to present him with a specimen. He welcomed the offer, and I accordingly sent him the head and skin, pointing out the differences, and suggesting that this might be a link between the common sable and the 60 inch single horn that had puzzled Selous when he saw it in the museum at Florence, the record measurement of the ordinary sable being then about 51 inches. In due course I received a warm letter of thanks from Mr. Thomas, in which he stated that this was one of the most important gifts the Museum had received for a long time. At a subsequent meeting of the Zoological Society, the head was exhibited and the difference demonstrated between it and the common sable, *Hippotragus niger niger*. It was decided to name the new species after me, and it was duly called *Hippotragus niger variani*."

Today the Royal Sable, or *Palanca Negra*, as it is called in Angola, can only be found in small numbers in the Cangandala National Park and the Luando Integral Reserve bordered by the Cuanza and Luando Rivers in the Malange District of the Republic of Angola. Already in 1997, the CIC assisted in promoting the conservation of this rare species with its then President Dr. Nicolás Franco. Relentless efforts of a group of dedicated believers who refused to accept that this magnificent species had become extinct during the civil turmoil in Angola were led by Mr. Pedro vaz Pinto of the Catholic University in Angola. Finally, after many set-backs, the continued existence of the Giant Sable was confirmed by photographic evidence in 2005, after earlier expeditions had obtained spoor and DNA from dung. In 2009, vaz Pinto and his team managed to capture a small herd and put them into a fenced reserve.



Today the Giant Sable conservation work is led by the Ministry of Environment headed by Dr. Fatima Jardim and the Giant Sable project is still driven and coordinated by Mr. Pedro Vaz Pinto. In the Luando Reserve the focus has been on strengthening the law

enforcement system, while monitoring the resident Giant Sable populations. At the Cangandala National Park years of hard work and recent months of expectations finally paid off when on 27 July 2010, precisely one year after the first Royal Sable bull was caught the first little *Palanca Negra* calf was born in the sanctuary! This is a motivating milestone, and living proof that the project is on the right track.

The CIC thanks all people – government officials, scientists, wildlife managers, sponsors, local guards and shepherds and others –, who have contributed to this great conservation success. Pedro vaz Pinto, who received the Edmond Blanc Prize from CIC President of Honor Dr. Nicolás Franco was accorded a great round of applause by the audience.

Kurgan Regional Union of Hunters and Fishermen has been working for many years on the increasing of population numbers of game animals in the Kurgan region. Due to the active work in the field the hunting area belonging to the organization was increased to 2,378,300 ha. According to the data of the game population census for 2009, approximately 1700 moose, 62,000 roe deer and 3200 of wild boar populate the area.

Hunting tourism is a very important element in the organization's activities. 127 foreign hunters hunted in the reserves of the Kurgan region. Besides of that the regional Union of Hunters and Fishermen actively works with breeding of hunting dogs, including exhibitions with field trials. The Kurgan Union of Hunters and Fishermen received the Edmond Blanc Diploma 2011 from Dr. Franco.

Hippotragus niger variani in African Indaba

- Vol 3 Nr 3 "Our Search for the Giant Sable 1997 to 2004" by Brendan W J O'Keeffe
- Vol 3 Nr 6 "Sable Antelope Subspecies" by Dr Rolf D Baldus
- Vol 4 Nr 6 "News About Angola's Giant Sable" – Gerhard Damm interviews Pedro vaz Pinto
- Vol 6 Nr 1 "Giant Sable Follow-Up Report" by Pedro vaz Pinto
- Vol 7 Nr 4 "The Royal Sable – From 2002 to the Present" by Peter Flack
- Vol 7 Nr 5 "Giant Sable Report" by Pedro vaz Pinto
- Vol 8 Nr 2 "Giant Sable Update" by Pedro vaz Pinto
- Vol 8 Nr 3 "Milestones in the Efforts to Save the Giant sable and the Role Played by Donors" by Jeremy Anderson, Richard Estes, Joe Holmes, Peter Morkel, John Frederick Walker and Pierre van Heerden
- Vol 8 Nr 3 "The Luando Reserve in 1969 and 1970" by R D Estes
- Vol 8 Nr 3 "The Hunting Community's Role in the Conservation of the Giant Sable Antelope" by John Frederick Walker
- Vol 8 Nr 3 "CIC GA57REC02 Recommendation Giant Sable"
- Vol 8 Nr 4 & 5 "Angola: Giant Sable Update" by Pedro. vaz Pinto
- Vol.9 Nr 1 "Palanca Negra Report from Angola" by Pedro vaz Pinto

Go to [African Indaba Archives](#) 2003 to 2011 to download



The Status Of Wildlife In Protected Areas Compared To Non-Protected Areas Of Kenya

David Western, Samantha Russell and Innes Cuthill

Abstract

We compile over 270 wildlife counts of Kenya's wildlife populations conducted over the last 30 years to compare trends in national parks and reserves with adjacent ecosystems and country-wide trends. The study shows the importance of discriminating human-induced changes from natural population oscillations related to rainfall and ecological factors.

National park and reserve populations have declined sharply over the last 30 years, at a rate similar to non-protected areas and country-wide trends. The protected area losses reflect in part their poor coverage of seasonal ungulate migrations. The losses vary among parks. The largest parks, Tsavo East, Tsavo West and Meru, account for a disproportionate share of the losses due to habitat change and the difficulty of protecting large remote parks. The losses in Kenya's parks add to growing evidence for wildlife declines inside as well as outside African parks. The losses point to the need to quantify the performance of conservation policies and promote integrated landscape practices that combine parks with private and community-based measures.

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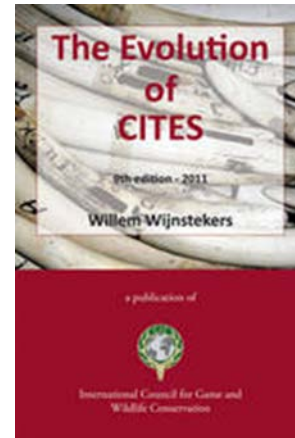
TRAFFIC BULLETIN E-COPIES

TRAFFIC, the wildlife trade monitoring network, works to ensure that trade in wild plants and animals is not a threat to the conservation of nature. It has offices covering most parts of the world and works in close co-operation with the Secretariat of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES). To receive e-copies of the Traffic Bulletin contact Dr Richard Thomas, Communications Co-ordinator TRAFFIC International, richard.thomas@traffic.org. The TRAFFIC Bulletin also is available on www.traffic.org

Other languages Websites:

www.traffic.org (English)
www.wwf.ru/traffic (Russian)
www.wwf.org.mx/wwfmex/prog_traffic.php (Spanish)
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www.traffic-china.org (Chinese)
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The Evolution Of CITES - 9th Edition – 2011



Willem Wijnstekers has been involved in CITES for the last 31 years; for 20 years in the European Commission and since 1999 as Secretary-General of the Convention. He retired in May 2010 and since then he dedicates a lot of his time to help anyone solve CITES questions and issues. His book "The Evolution of CITES" has come to its 9th edition. As with all previous editions, this comprehensive publication presents a history of the evolution of CITES. It begins with the basics and guides the reader through its complex structure. It presents the provisions of the Convention and relevant Resolutions and Decisions in an accessible way as well as explanations and comments to facilitate an understanding of the Convention and of how it should be implemented.

The 9th edition of The Evolution of CITES, published by the International Council for Game and Wildlife Conservation CIC is currently available in English only but French and Spanish translations are on the way.

This publication is a must for all professionals working with environmental issues.

The book is available in printed version for € 50 at the [CIC Headquarters](http://www.cic-wildlife.org).

You can also download the pdf file (10.3MB) from the web at this link [The Evolution of CITES](http://www.cic-wildlife.org). Considering the size of the file, it's best to save it first (*right mouse click, Save Link As*) and then opening it. For easy navigation, all page numbers function as hyperlinks in the "Table of Contents" as well as in the "Index of Valid Resolutions", in the "Index of Valid Decisions" and in the "Subject Index".



The WILD Foundation, Safari Club International Foundation Combat Rhino Poachers

Joint PR by SCIF & WILD

Safari Club International Foundation (SCIF) and The WILD Foundation (WILD) announced in April that they are working together to combat rhino poaching in South Africa through the Rhino Informant Incentive Fund (RIIF). The RIIF provides financial incentives to economically underdeveloped rural communities where rhino poachers reside. Local individuals will act as informants, to assist local law enforcement in apprehending poachers and confiscation of horns, weapons, or equipment.

"SCIF has successfully concentrated many of our financial resources into anti-poaching efforts in the last few years," said SCIF President Joseph Hosmer. "We are excited to work with The WILD Foundation through our contribution to the Rhino Informant Incentive Fund. By working collaboratively against international poaching we will ensure sustainable-use conservation and hunting can continue."

"We already see results with the first prosecution, validating further investment. The support by SCIF is instrumental in this regard, and is being matched by local, privately donated funds within South Africa. Thank you to the hunting community for continuing your role in sustainable use conservation," stated WILD President Vance Martin. "SCIF is ready to continue our anti-poaching projects throughout Africa and we hope that members of the hunting fraternity will consider making a donation to SCIF, so that we can increase our investments there," concluded Hosmer.

Recent poaching has again been attributed to a growing international demand for rhino horn in Far East Asia where it is used in traditional medicine. Professional criminal syndicates are using technology to their advantage, such as helicopters, with the aid of night vision and GPS tracking equipment. WILD's founder and SCIF's 2008 International Conservationist of the Year, Dr. Ian Player is leading the grassroots effort in South Africa to help combat the criminal syndicates.

Contact: Nelson Freeman, media@safriclub.org or Emily Loose, emily@wild.org

TOM MILLIKEN Regional Director of TRAFFIC East/Southern Africa, is to become thematic program leader for TRAFFIC's global work on elephant and rhinoceros trade, thus formalizing a role he has played for many years. Tom will bring to this position a wealth of knowledge and experience from his longstanding and excellent work for TRAFFIC, particularly in Africa and Asia.

"ex Africa semper aliquid novi"

...there is always something new out of Africa

Pliny the Elder (23 to 79 a.d.)

Conservation And Sustainable Use In Namibia: The Key To Conservation Success

Namibia has an outstanding wildlife conservation programs. Using a community-based system, it has maintained a healthy native ecosystem which has seen sharp increases in its key wildlife populations.

The nation's conservancies are run by ordinary people in the local communities. They record human-wildlife interactions, list rare or endangered species, and calculate their own annual budget. Currently, there are 64 community-based conservancies which cover about 17 percent of the land area. This is more land than is held in Namibia's state-run parks.

The community run areas are not exactly parks, because people live there and raise their livestock. However, they set aside a portion of their land exclusively for wildlife. Their goal is to create value through hunting and tourism. The national Ministry of Environment and Tourism has recognized this value and even translocates endangered species to these conservancies for protection.

The reason this community-based system works so well in Namibia and not other African nations is because Namibia has only six people per square mile. Other large nations like South Africa which has 94 people per square mile and Kenya with 158 per square mile have more difficulty mixing human and wildlife populations. Having such a low population density, Namibia was able to transfer ownership of wildlife conservation to the people. This is similar to the US Fish and Wildlife Service the duty of gray wolf protection to Montana cattle ranchers.

Community ownership seems like a radical idea, but it went along with the nation's liberation movement in the 1990's. Now these conservancies make an overall \$5.3 million and generated \$40 million for the Namibian economy. This is serious money for a country where people live on a dollar a day. Trophy hunting is a big revenue generator followed by equipment rentals and wildlife tours.

Namibian communities know that there are incentives to protecting their wildlife. They take pride in watching over "their" animals. The radical idea of community-based ownership is now spoken about being implemented in other parts of the globe. For example, Nepal wants to use it to protect its rhinos and tigers, and Mongolia to protect its argali sheep.



Saving The Rhino – Part 1

Paul Ash

Poachers continue to slaughter South Africa's rhinos as the price of horn skyrockets. Time to legalize the trade, Ash asks.

In the autumn of 1892, a man named Frederick Courteney Selous set sail from Africa for England. Selous was in a deep funk. As the original Great White Hunter, he had, with his single-shot, 10-bore rifle, dispatched a great swathe of wild animals during a lengthy and bloody hunting career. Yet, despite months of searching, he had been unable to find and shoot a single white rhino specimen for a European museum. Selous and other hunters believed that, at most, a handful of rhinos had survived the unhinged slaughter of Southern Africa's wildlife in the closing decades of the 19th century. These were now frightened, gun-shy animals probably hiding in remote thickets in the difficult, malarial country between the White and Black Umfolozi rivers. A few years later, Selous wrote: *"But that 20 of these strange old-world creatures are alive today, I very much doubt ... I cannot think that the species will survive very far into the coming century."*

Selous would probably have been greatly surprised to see what has happened a century later in South Africa. Not only has the white rhino survived, but there are now roughly 18,500 of them spread across national parks, game reserves and private farms. In many cases, Selous would not even have bothered to raise his rifle - because many have been dehorned in an attempt to prevent poaching, and horns have been locked in bank vaults.

I recently visited a private rhino rancher (who requested his name be withheld). Formerly what he called a "normal" farmer, running cattle and growing vegetables, he turned to game ranching in the mid-1990s as the wildlife breeding business took off. Now he is just one of a growing number of private rhino owners in South Africa who, between them, own roughly 25% of the local white rhino population. The rancher has been breeding rhinos since 1994 with considerable success. *"I think the white rhino is the most incredible animal in the world,"* he said. *"It deserves to be protected."* The large number of rhinos grazing happily in camps seems to confirm the idea that farming rhinos as if they were merely very large cows works. *"Whether it's grapes or wheat or mangoes, give the job to farmers - they'll do it well."*

As part of his sustained effort to protect his animals, all have been dehorned. At current prices, the rancher's horn stash is worth millions of dollars, but there will be no payday for him or any other rhino owner until the ban on the trade in rhino horn is lifted. That is unlikely to happen any time soon - but legalizing this trade could be their salvation.

Rhinos are protected under the UN Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES), which forbids trade in rhino horn.

That white rhinos have prospered so well in South Africa is thanks to a legal market for breeding and selling them, driven by rising prices for live animals for both wildlife tourism as well as the

vibrant trophy-hunting market. It is no small irony that the rhino, which had been hunted almost to extinction a century ago, has been saved by hunters.

In October 1953, when legendary conservationist Ian Player conducted the first aerial survey of the Umfolozi Game Reserve, he counted 437 white rhinos. In the following years, Player and his team translocated dozens of rhinos to other parks and overseas zoos because they were literally running out of elbow room in Umfolozi. In the end, though, rhino survival is a matter of simple economics, says independent environmental economist Michael 't Sas-Rolfes. *"Trophy hunting is largely responsible for the growth in our rhino population,"* he says. *"The market has saved them."*

Trophy hunting attracts large sums of money from hunters, mostly from the US, Europe and the Middle East, who can afford to hunt a rhino. A trophy hunter may shoot one rhino a year and export its horn, subject to CITES provisions. That trophy hunting has saved the white rhino is a view that many conservationists and animal lovers find unpalatable. But the numbers do not lie: in 1982, trophy hunters paid \$5,500 to shoot a white rhino; by 2008, the price had peaked at \$54,000 before dropping to about \$29,000 in 2010. If the trophy-hunting market ensured some sort of balance in the rhino business, the recent surge in poaching has not only wrecked the peace, but also threatens to drive the rhino to final extinction as the black-market price of rhino horn soars to astronomical levels. For the first time in recent memory, rhinos are worth more dead than alive. Conservationists believe the resurgent trade has been driven by declining stocks of available horn in Asian traditional medicine markets, most notably China and Viet Nam, where, although illegal in both countries, it is often used in preparations to cure fevers. Despite a popular myth constantly peddled in Western media, rhino horn is not used as an aphrodisiac. Tom Milliken, regional director for international environmental monitoring group Traffic, says improving economic performance and rising prosperity in the East means people can now afford traditional cures that were previously out of reach. *"GDP is up, personal income is up and there's lots of disposable income,"* he says.

The problem has been exacerbated by false rumors that rhino horn can cure life-threatening illnesses, adding a new dimension to an already complicated issue. *"There is nothing in the traditional literature (to support these claims),"* he says.

Right now, the authorities in various countries are struggling to get a grip on poaching. CITES, which employs just a single enforcement officer, has been largely powerless to stop the boom in the illegal trade.

Many officials and conservationists have pinned their hopes on the recently established CITES Rhinoceros Enforcement Task Force, which brings together wildlife law-enforcement officials from range, transit and consumer countries to share intelli-

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Saving The Rhino - Part 1

gence on rhino-related crimes.

Meanwhile, the slaughter continues unabated. So far this year in South Africa, 141 rhinos have been killed by poachers, a figure not far short of the road death toll over Easter. And Sas-Rolfes believes the rising price of horn may be encouraging speculative stockpiling. *"This leads to even more rhinos being killed now to harvest horns for anticipated demand in the future in the hope of earning massive profits."* He says the current poaching levels prove the rhino horn trade ban has failed and that it is time to investigate the possibility of legal trade. *"Whether rhino horn can be scientifically proven to work as a medicine is most likely irrelevant to those who use it."* He believes that legal trade will most likely result in a lower price for horn and so reduce pressure from poaching. A legal trade would also provide an economic incentive to ensure the rhino's survival.

Milliken is more cautious. The issue of demand for rhino horn *"is completely out of focus"*, he says. *"There are huge fundamentals - we don't have a grip on it. One mistake, and we could wipe out an entire species."* He argues that better policing and more vigorous prosecution of offenders would go a long way to curbing the trade. *"If these people are successfully prosecuted, it would be a huge deterrent."*

The recent poaching surge has everyone worried, to the point that South Africa's Department of Environmental Affairs plans to commission a study on a legal trade in rhino horn. If it happens, the rancher and other rhino breeders will be smiling. *"What regulation do you have on merino sheep?"* he asks? *"None. And as long as wool pays, you will never have a problem of merino sheep getting too few."*

So it could be for the rhino.

This article appeared first online on May 29th 2011 at <http://www.timeslive.co.za/local/article1090690.ece/Saving-the-rhino>

Value Added Tax in the European Union

In some Eurozone countries the percentage of VAT added when importing hunting trophies is substantially higher than in others. Shipments destined for recipients in high VAT Euro-states can be routed through Antwerp in Belgium. All clearing of trophy consignments is done at the point of entry into the Euro Zone; this includes the VAT. But VAT is charged at the rate applicable to the country where the goods first enter and Belgium's rate is only 7%. Clearing charges are considerably less in Belgium too as compared with other EU states. It may be worthwhile to consider this.

Information supplied by Highveld Taxidermists (Pty) Ltd, South Africa. Tel: 27-12-650 0000 Fax: 27-12-349-8334 : www.highveldtaxidermists.com

Rare Dama Gazelles Rediscovered

SANDSCRIPT, No. 9. April 2011

Recent fieldwork carried out in Chad thanks to the Pan Sahara Wildlife Survey, generously funded by HH Sheikh Mohammed bin Zayed Al Nahyan, has yet again turned up ground breaking data on endangered desert species. Accompanied by staff from Chad's parks department and an experienced guide and ex-park ranger, the team surveyed part of the vast Ouadi Rimé-Ouadi Achim Game Reserve. The reserve, approximately the size of Indi-ana, was until civil war broke out in the 1980s a haven for desert antelopes, including several thousand of the now extinct in the wild scimitar-horned oryx. The reserve's dama gazelle population was also truly astounding and it was not uncommon to see upwards of a hundred of these magnificent gazelles in any one day. Following the war and the almost total disappearance of larger wildlife, it was assumed the dama gazelles, now a globally critically endangered species, had gone the way of the oryx into oblivion. And although the odd rumor of gazelles did pop up from time to time no tangible evidence could be secured.

So with the somewhat daunting challenge of finding dama gazelles we set out. Our initial strategy was to talk to local nomadic herders and we were pleasantly surprised to hear news of recent sightings and some good indications of where the gazelles might be found. Once in the general area we then started a systematic search, combining long, vehicle-based transects with shorter excursions on foot to optimize chances of picking up tell tale tracks. It did not take long for our guide, Abdelaziz, to pick up the first spoor and soon enough we finally spotted our first dama gazelle. This was quickly followed by a small group of four, including a youngish animal. It is difficult to say exactly how many gazelles are left but first indications are very positive.

Apart from dama gazelles, the fieldwork also confirmed the reserve as being almost certainly the best remaining reservoir in the whole of Africa for dorcas gazelles. In all we saw over fifteen hundred. And while camels in some areas out-numbered gazelles by 6 to 1, the prospects for their conservation are extremely positive. Significant efforts have been recently under-taken by the Chadian Government to curtail illegal hunting. On our return to Chad's capital, N'Djamena, we were able to present our findings to senior government officials and to discuss how best to conserve the precious gazelle populations of the reserve. Further work in the coming months will consolidate options, including the possibility of reintroducing scimitar-horned oryx.

"If your actions inspire others to dream more, learn more, do more and become more, you are a leader"

John Quincy Adams
6th President of the United States



Bilateral Collaboration Between South Africa And Viet Nam To Address Rhinoceros Horn Trade

Source: TRAFFIC Bulletin, Vol. 23/2, 2011

The escalating death rate of rhino in South Africa are due in large part to the growing demand for ground rhinoceros horn in Asia. As traditional medicine, it is believed to cure a range of ailments, with recent, unfounded claims that it can cure cancer.

One country in particular that has emerged as a main driver of the international illegal trade in rhinoceroses is Viet Nam, as increasing wealth has corresponded with an increasing appetite for expensive products like rhinoceros horn.

In order to address the growing illegal rhinoceros horn trade between Viet Nam and South Africa, TRAFFIC organized and participated in a mission to Viet Nam in October 2010 to facilitate bilateral talks among officials in both countries. Between 18 and 22 October, five delegates from the South Africa National Wildlife Crime Reaction Unit met government officials in Ha Noi and Ho Chi Minh City, including Customs, Environmental Police, INTERPOL, and the Association for Traditional Medicine, among others. Discussions focused on increasing understanding of the trade and strengthening enforcement.

Both parties agreed to develop a Memorandum of Understanding which will form the basis for collaborative law enforcement action in the future. It is anticipated that this document will be ready to sign when the Vietnamese delegation visits South Africa later in 2011. This is an important first step and will formalize the relationship for working together to combat the illegal trade in rhino horn.

The South African delegation also promised a donation of equipment to Viet Nam to help track horns in the country that have been legally obtained from trophy hunts. While trophy hunting of White Rhinoceroses *Ceratotherium simum* is permitted in South Africa under strict regulations, the lack of a system to register and track privately-owned horns in Viet Nam is allowing them to enter commercial trade illegally.

The visit was hosted by Viet Nam's CITES Management Authority with support from TRAFFIC, and made possible through the financial assistance of WWF-Germany, WWF African Rhino Program and the US Government, which pledged to support such an initiative at the 15th meeting of the Conference of the Parties to CITES in March 2010.

Implications For CITES If African Elephants Split

Source: TRAFFIC Bulletin, Vol. 23/2, 2011

Tom Milliken Elephant and Rhinoceros Program Leader, TRAFFIC

A number of research papers published in recent years suggest the existence of two or even three genetically distinct species of African Elephant: the savanna elephant, the forest elephant (of Central Africa) and, possibly, the West African elephant (see http://biology.ucsd.edu/news/article_091202.html and <http://www.plosbiology.org/article/info:doi/10.1371/journal.pbio.1000564>). Such findings of genetic differentiation will need to be confirmed before any formal taxonomic revision of the African Elephant *Loxodonta africana* (or its recognized subspecies in forest areas *L. a. cyclotis*) can be proposed. It is, however, worth considering the implications of any change in taxonomy from a CITES perspective. If forest elephants in West and Central Africa and/or populations of West African elephants were ever recognized as separate species, they would remain listed in Appendix I under CITES, just as they are at the present time. Thus, in terms of treatment under the Convention, the effect would be moot, but there could be other follow-on consequences.

First, if the status of the savanna elephant (whose *Loxodonta africana* populations in Botswana, Namibia, South Africa and Zimbabwe are listed in Appendix II) were considered independently of either the poorly known and smaller populations of forest elephants in Central Africa and/or without the small, fragmented and highly endangered populations of West African elephants, a lesser category of threat might actually be applied to the species in the *IUCN Red List of Threatened Species* (where it is currently listed as Vulnerable). Although this may not necessarily result in a change in the CITES listing for *Loxodonta africana*, it might open a door for consideration of the savanna elephant species being listed in CITES Appendix II.

Secondly, distinguishing ivory from these distinct species may have implications for the successful implementation of these CITES listings. Experts can usually differentiate whole tusks of forest elephants from those of savanna elephants as they are generally much straighter, narrower and the material much harder to carve. However, worked ivory products and small ivory items would be almost impossible to distinguish from other elephant ivory types.

As a consequence, a period of uncertainty would likely prevail until a method were developed to verify the differences and specific training materials were produced. Such an outcome might finally result in CITES moving more forcefully to close the unregulated

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Implications For CITES If African Elephants Split

domestic ivory markets in Central and West Africa that are so problematic as drivers of illegal ivory trade.

The IUCN/SSC African Elephant Specialist Group (AfESG) has encouraged all research groups to work together to resolve this important genetic issue by pooling their data, obtaining DNA samples from parts of the elephant range that have not been sampled (especially south of the Congo river), and has issued a statement to encourage this process

(see also www.african-elephant.org/tools/pdfs/pos_genet_en.pdf).

Editor's Note: This article of Tom Milliken underlines the importance of the **Joint Research Project for the Conservation of the African Elephant** – a cooperative effort between the [World Wide Fund For Nature \(WWF\)](#), the [International Centre of Ivory Studies \(INCENTIVS\)](#) of the University of Mainz, the University of Regensburg (Germany), the [German Federal Agency for Nature Conservation \(FANC\)](#) and the [International Council for Game and Wildlife Conservation \(CIC\)](#). Scientists are developing a reference database for the geographical origin of African elephant ivory and a precise method on how to designate the age of ivory tusks. In a Press Release the CIC called “**Hunters for Support: African Elephant Ivory Samples Needed**” see also Pages 4 and 5, African Indaba, Vol. 9, No 1.

As there are still not enough ivory samples throughout the African elephant's range available for the project, the FANC and the CIC would like hereby to ask all elephant hunters for assistance. Contact Dr. Rolf Baldus, who leads this project within the CIC at rolfbaldus@t-online.de or Mrs. K. Hornig at hornig@bfm.de for further details and instructions

Hunting Lions: Unpalatable But Necessary For Conservation?

Dr. Luke Hunter, Executive Vice President of [Panthera](#)

Many conservationists, animal-lovers and commentators have applauded the efforts of a consortium of wildlife and animal welfare organizations fighting to add the African lion as an endangered species under U.S. law. If successful, the listing would effectively prohibit American hunters from bringing the skins and skulls of lions back to the United States. It would not prevent hunters going on safari to kill a lion but very few will bother if they cannot bring home some reminder to hang on the wall.

Normally, I would be among those applauding. Shooting a big cat in the name of "sport" nauseates me, and I've spent a career working to conserve the world's great cats. I have logged

thousands of hours in their magnificent presence. When I watch a male lion grooming his cubs or see a female leopard haul a carcass her own weight up a thorn-tree, I am mystified that some people take pleasure in killing their kind with a high-powered rifle. I'm not especially averse to culling -- like all wildlife biologists, my work occasionally necessitates killing animals, such as euthanizing injured wildlife -- but it certainly isn't fun. I simply do not understand what drives a hunter to shoot a creature as magnificent as a lion for a trophy and bragging rights.

Yet I question the effort to list the African lion under the Endangered Species Act (ESA). There is absolutely no doubt that far too many lions are being shot for sport. The process of approving the numbers for hunting (technically, the legal quota that can be exported by hunters) has long been flawed by shoddy science, population estimates little better than guesswork, and relentless lobbying by the hunting industry which is powerful, rich and persuasive. Hunting not only risks taking too many lions but it also disrupts the species' complicated social structure. Prime male lions -- the most sought after trophies -- guard their females from pride take-overs by strange males. Take-overs are catastrophic to lionesses because victorious incoming males kill any cubs belonging to the previous pride males; infanticide hastens the females' return to estrus, giving the new males their own opportunity to sire cubs. It is a natural part of lion society but excessive hunting removes too many males and the essential mantle of protection that allows females to raise a generation of cubs. Between shooting adults and the related loss of cubs, poorly regulated hunting drives lion declines; it is unequivocal.

But that does not mean that all hunting is necessarily bad for lions. Just as strong, empirical science has shown that over-hunting is bad for lions, it also demonstrates that hunting can be sustainable. By setting very conservative quotas and raising age limits to ensure that older male lions are targeted, the worst effects of lion hunting can be mitigated ([Packer et al.](#)). There is scant evidence of the hunting industry embracing such measures on its own but the few exceptions -- and they do exist -- show that hunting does not inevitably come with costs to lion numbers.

Indeed, it even has the potential to benefit lions. In Africa, sport hunting is the main revenue earner for huge tracts of wilderness outside national parks and reserves. Many such areas are too remote, undeveloped or disease-ridden for the average tourist, precluding their use for photographic safaris. Hunting survives because hunters are usually more tolerant of hardship, and they pay extraordinary sums - up to US\$125,000 - to shoot a male lion. The business requires only a handful of rifle-toting visitors to prosper which, in principle, helps protect those areas. The presence of hunting provides African governments with the economic argument to leave safari blocks as wilderness. Without it, cattle and crops- and the almost complete loss of wildlife they bring- start looking pretty attractive.

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Hunting Lions: Unpalatable But Necessary For Conservation?

Which is why I'm not happy about the ESA petition. If American hunters, by far the largest market for big game safaris in Africa, can no longer hunt, lions and other wildlife will probably lose out. As unpalatable as it may be, until we find alternative mechanisms to generate the hard cash required to protect wilderness in Africa, hunting remains the most convincing model for many wild areas.

Let me state it again; I think sport hunting big cats is repellent and I would welcome its demise. But my personal distaste for hunting won't help lions if shutting it down removes protection from African wilderness. Whatever one's personal feeling, hunting should be regarded as yet another tool in the arsenal of options we must consider if we are to conserve the lion. Without doubt, the entire process that allows hunting big cats in Africa needs a complete overhaul to purge its widespread excesses and enforce far stricter limits on which lions can be hunted and how many. That would force hunters to produce the conservation benefits of which they constantly boast but only rarely produce. That -- rather than the nuclear option of eliminating hunting -- should be our goal.

Read the Guardian's "[African lions under threat from a growing predator: the American hunter](#)" with quotes from Dr. Luke Hunter.

Learn what *Panthera* is doing to conserve Africa's lions through "[Project Leonardo](#)"

[Dr. Luke Hunter](#) is the Executive Vice President at *Panthera*, where he oversees the direction and strategy of all of *Panthera's* wild cat conservation programs. Hunter has conducted fieldwork on large cats in Africa since 1992. His current projects include assessing the effects of sport hunting and illegal persecution on leopards outside protected areas, developing a conservation strategy for lions across their African range, and the first intensive study of Persian leopards and the last surviving Asiatic cheetahs in Iran. Dr. Hunter has contributed to over 100 scientific papers and popular articles, and has just completed his 6th book -- A Field Guide to Carnivores of the World, to be released September 2011.

[Panthera](#), founded in 2006, is the world's leading organization devoted exclusively to the conservation of wild cats and their ecosystems. Utilizing the expertise of the world's premier cat biologists, *Panthera* develops and implements global conservation strategies for the largest, most imperiled cats - tigers, lions, jaguars and snow leopards. Representing the most comprehensive effort of its kind, *Panthera* works in partnership with local and international NGOs, scientific institutions, local communities and governments. Visit us at www.panthera.org

Save The Rhino Part 2

John Hume, Owner of Mauricedale Game Ranch, South Africa
Presentation to the CIC General Assembly, St. Petersburg

Our rhino are in a terrible crisis. We have to find a way to protect rhino or they will become extinct very shortly. Rhinos are vulnerable and totally dependent on wise men for their survival.

It is estimated that 50 years ago there were a 100,000 rhino in Africa with probably 2,000 - 3,000 in South Africa and 97,000 or 98,000 in the rest of Africa. This figure has now inverted with a total of about 26,000 rhino of which approximately 22,000 are in South Africa and 4,000 in the rest of Africa. So 98,000 in the rest of Africa have become 4,000 while 2,000 in South Africa have become 22,000. South Africa kept the poachers at bay while rhino were wiped out in most of Africa.

Now in South Africa we are facing the scourge and we are having one rhino poached every day. Clearly we have done too little to help the rhino - or rather what we have done has been the wrong thing. To make things worse the consumers or Pseudo hunters, as I call them, are demanding probably 98% of the legally hunted rhino and killing them in such a way as to blacken the reputation of genuine trophy hunters.

In order to sustainably produce rhino, we have to encourage private owners to breed them as they are simply better at protecting their rhino than the Governments of Africa have been. Unfortunately the opposite has occurred in the last 10 years where the private owners in South Africa have been dramatically discouraged from breeding rhino by onerous and punitive legislation. Rhino horn re-grows so, if it could be farmed sustainably and the farmers were allowed to make a profit from horn production, they would never need to sell an animal to be killed by a horn consumer and that is also happening every day in South Africa.

The one thing that we should be doing for our rhino is breeding as many as possible and killing as few as possible but everything that we are doing is aiming at the opposite. Why can't we wake up and realize that the rhino could produce an income for communities, emergent black farmers and commercial farmers and that the owners of rhino would never want to kill them if they were making a sustainable income from them. In other words they would not kill the goose that was laying golden eggs.

When the poachable rhino in the rest of Africa had diminished dramatically the Eastern demand found that they could legally pseudo sport hunt rhino in South Africa. Then about 3 years ago when the South African government became aware of this they drastically reduced the permits and visas issued to Eastern hunters and poaching dramatically escalated.

I think the government and the conservationist in South Africa towards the end of last year considered that the better of the two evils would be to issue more permits for hunting in an attempt to stop the poaching because at least the hunting permits would

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For hunter-conservationists and all people who are interested in the conservation, management and the sustainable use of Africa's wild natural resources. The publication and distribution of African Indaba is supported by the International Council for Game and Wildlife Conservation CIC www.cic-wildlife.org



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Save The Rhino – Part 2

be utilized predominantly for male rhino whereas poaching is indiscriminate often targeting pregnant cows as well as cows with small calves. Now I have become aware of the most bizarre and terrible situation involving the rhino. It turns out that it has become more attractive to a pseudo hunter to kill a young six or eight year old bull with a horn of 16 – 20 in. rather than a trophy bull of 28 – 30 in. This is because the hunter pays by the kilo of horn on the dead rhino and the horn of a young animal apparently is cheaper by the kilo. Thus we are killing the very rhino which are capable of saving their species from extinction as they can produce one kilo of rhino horn per year for the next 30 – 35 years if it was harvested regularly from the live rhino. It has been proven that it is possible to safely and painlessly dehorn rhino without much stress.

We could thus face the situation where we had the capability of sustainably producing enough horn to keep the poachers at bay and increase the numbers of our rhino population, but where we allowed this to slip through our fingers by killing the very animals that could sustainably produce the horn that could save our rhino from extinction. When the white rhino was taken off CITES Appendix 1, South Africa was allowed to trophy hunt white rhino and get a CITES permit to export the trophy and it was this that gave the Eastern pseudo hunter the gap to kill rhino and export the trophy. If we put white rhino back to Appendix 1, it would also be the death knell for our rhino population because our poaching would merely escalate to higher levels as no rhino horn could be legally acquired.

There is only one hope for the rhino in Africa and that is to continue our efforts to increase our anti-poaching coupled with the legalizing of the trade in rhino horn. This would enable farmers to sustainably produce and harvest rhino horn without killing the rhino when it is destined for consumer use rather than trophies. When a genuine trophy hunter requires a trophy it will not impact on the production of horn because the large trophy animals are all near the end of their productive life; unlike the young animals that are currently being slaughtered for the consumer trade rather than for the trophy hunter.

I feel incredibly helpless in the face of what I consider is the impending extinction of the rhino in Africa and I feel that the people who could do something about it are either standing by with folded arms or are completely unaware or uncaring that the rhino will become extinct.

Please consider the following: The existing wildlife conservation agencies have failed, failed spectacularly, to conserve rhino over the past 50 years, and they show no signs of changing the strategy. To continue the same failed strategy and hope for different results is insanity. A regulated trade in horn has the best chance of solving the problem and a few good brains that understand how markets work could produce a much better strategy.

I repeat - rhino are vulnerable and totally dependent on wise men for their survival. I plead with you to go back to your

home country and persuade your delegate to CITES not to rely on the continuation of the trade ban, as being the solution. Southern Africa has the capacity to supply, on a sustainable basis, all the horn the medicine market demands, horn sourced from natural death, existing legal stock piles, and sustainable, legal farmed horn. There is no need to kill one animal for the consumers of horn as they do not need a trophy. It is an absurd situation! We could without poaching have 50,000 rhino in 12 years. That should be our target and our measurable bottom line.

Dynamics And Underlying Causes Of Illegal Bushmeat Trade In Zimbabwe

P. A. Lindsey, S. S. Romanach, S. Matema, C. Matema, I. Mupamhadzi and J. Muvengwi

Abstract

The prevalence and impacts of the illegal trade in bushmeat are under appreciated in Southern Africa, despite indications that it constitutes a serious conservation threat in parts of the region. Bushmeat trade has emerged as a severe threat to wildlife conservation and the viability of wildlife-based land uses in Zimbabwe during a period of political instability and severe economic decline. We conducted a study around Save Valley Conservancy in the South-East Lowveld of Zimbabwe to investigate the dynamics and underlying causes of the bushmeat trade, with the objective of developing solutions. We found that bushmeat hunting is conducted mainly by unemployed young men to generate cash income, used mostly to purchase food. Bushmeat is mainly sold to people with cash incomes in adjacent communal lands and population centers and is popular by virtue of its affordability and availability. Key drivers of the bushmeat trade in the South-East Lowveld include: poverty, unemployment and food shortages, settlement of wildlife areas by impoverished communities that provided open access to wildlife resources, failure to provide stakes for communities in wildlife-based land uses, absence of affordable protein sources other than illegally sourced bushmeat, inadequate investment in anti-poaching in areas remaining under wildlife management, and weak penal systems that do not provide sufficient deterrents to illegal bushmeat hunters. Each of these underlying causes needs to be addressed for the bushmeat trade to be tackled effectively. However, in the absence of political and economic stability, controlling illegal bushmeat hunting will remain extremely difficult and the future of wildlife-based land uses will remain bleak.

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Ecological And Financial Impacts Of Illegal Bushmeat Trade In Zimbabwe

P. A. Lindsey, S. S. Romanach, C. J. Tambling, K. Chartier and R. Groom

Abstract

Under conditions of political instability and economic decline illegal bushmeat hunting has emerged as a serious conservation threat in Zimbabwe. Following settlement of game ranches by subsistence farming communities, wildlife populations have been eradicated over large areas. In several areas still being managed as game ranches illegal hunting is causing further declines of wildlife populations (including threatened species such as the wild dog *Lycan pictus* and black rhinoceros *Diceros bicornis*), threatening the viability of wildlife-based land uses. From August 2001 to July 2009 in Save Valley Conservancy 10,520 illegal hunting incidents were recorded, 84,396 wire snares removed, 4,148 hunters caught, 2,126 hunting dogs eliminated and at least 6,454 wild animals killed. Estimated future financial losses from illegal hunting in the Conservancy exceed USD 1.1 million year. Illegal hunters' earnings account for 0.31–0.52% of the financial losses that they impose and the bushmeat trade is an inefficient use of wildlife resources. Illegal hunting peaks during the late dry season and is more frequent close to the boundary, near areas resettled during land reform and close to water. Illegal hunting with dogs peaks during moonlight periods.

Our study highlights several management and land-use planning steps required to maximize the efficacy of anti-poaching and to reduce the likelihood of high impacts of illegal hunting. Anti-poaching efforts should be aligned with the regular temporal and spatial patterns of illegal hunting. Leases for hunting and tourism concessions should ensure minimum adequate investment by operators in anti-poaching. Reserve designers should minimize the surface area to volume ratio of parks.

Fences should not be constructed using wire that can be made into snares. Land reform involving game ranches should integrate communities in wildlife-based land uses and ensure spatial separation between land for wildlife and human settlement. Means are required to create stakeholdings for communities in wildlife and disincentives for illegal hunting.

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Rinderpest In Africa

The story began when an Italian expeditionary force arriving in the Horn of Africa in 1887. The small band brought with them livestock from Asia that carried a vicious hitchhiker — a cattle virus that causes a disease called *rinderpest*. Native to the steppes of central Asia, this close relative of measles and canine distemper had periodically swept through Europe, but was unknown in Africa south of the Sahara. The virus quickly spread to native cattle and traveled from Eritrea, through Ethiopia, and down trails south along the Rift Valley and west across the Sahel. The British colonial authorities in southern Africa tried to halt the passage of the disease by erecting a 1,000-mile barbed-wire fence and shooting infected cattle. But it was futile.

The pandemic was arguably the greatest natural calamity ever to befall Africa. *Rinderpest* only targets cloven-hoofed animals, but indirectly it devastated the human population, too. Herders had no livestock. Farmers had no oxen to pull their plows or drive the waterwheels that irrigated the fields. Hungry populations fell prey to diseases such as smallpox, cholera, and typhoid. Modern researchers have not estimated how many people died. Between 1888 and 1892, roughly a third of the population of Ethiopia, several million people, is thought to have perished. Great pastoral civilizations across the continent were shattered. Central African cattle-rearing tribes like the Tutsi and Karamajong starved, along with Sudanese nations like the Dinka and Bari, West Africans like the Fulani, and southern Africans like the Nama and Herero. The folklore of the Maasai of East Africa tells of the enkidaaroto, the “destruction” of 1891. They lost most of their cattle, and two-thirds of the Maasai died.

Many of these societies never recovered their numbers, let alone their wealth and power. *Rinderpest* served up the continent on a plate for European colonialists. In its wake, the Germans and British secured control of Tanzania and Kenya with barely a fight. In southern Africa, the hungry and destitute Zulus migrated to the gold mines of Witwatersrand, helping to create the brutal social divide between black and white from which apartheid sprang.

Extracted from: *Why Africa's National Parks Are Failing to Save Wildlife* by Fred Pearce. Read the full article at http://e360.yale.edu/feature/why_africas_national_parks_are_failing_to_save_wildlife/2231/

Stop Press: TIME Vol. 177 No. 24, 2011, Pages 32-39

Rhino's at Risk

[How Asia's Growing Appetite For Traditional Medicine Is Threatening Africa's Rhinos](#)

An investigative report by Hannah Beech/Beijing & Hanoi and Alex Perry/Pilanesberg & Harare

