



The numerous goals envisioned for the Galama Mountains Conservation Fund are designed to be within realistic reach. An elementary school will be established for Oromo children where it will be stressed that this new opportunity and improved quality of life is possible because conservationists from other countries care about preserving the habitat of the Mt. Nyala. Other ways of cooperatively meeting the needs of the local communities as a means to ensure the success of the Galama Mountains Conservation Fund include the provision of flour mills and a medical clinic.

Both short term and long term projects are crucial to the overall purpose of the Fund but they require substantial financial commitment. Alan and Barbara Sackman have admirably taken the first step by establishing and initially funding these efforts. It is now the responsibility of every one interested in the preservation of the Mt. Nyala and it's habitat to keep these worthy projects alive. Mr. and Mrs. Sackman and other contributors to the Fund invite your support and participation as we work for the furtherance of Ethiopia's magnificent Mt. Nyala.

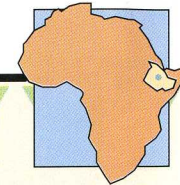
For further information or
to make a contribution to:

THE GALAMA MOUNTAINS CONSERVATION FUND

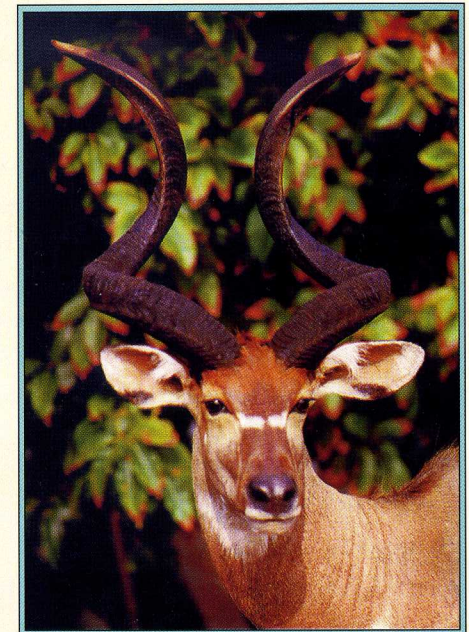


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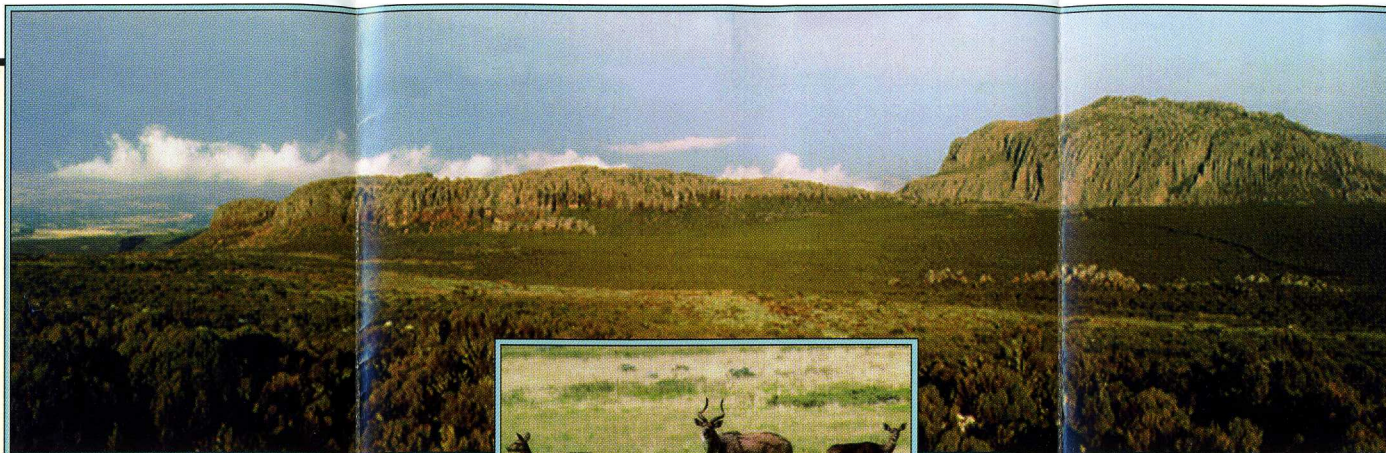
ETHIOPIA'S MT. NYALA



The Galama Mountains comprise an area of app. 675 square kilometers and host a number of species

endemic to Ethiopia. Foremost among these is the majestic Mt. Nyala. First known to Western man in 1908, this spiral horned member of the bushbuck family was the last major ungulate in Africa to be "discovered". It exists today in three areas of Ethiopia. The Bale Mountains where the Bale National park is located, the Amhar Mountains which are comprised of the Tcher-tcher and Arba Gugu Mountains, and the mountains of the Arsi Region which include the Galama Mountains. Mt. Nyala habitat in the Galama Mountains begins at 11,000 feet and extends to the top of one of the highest mountains in Ethiopia, Mt. Chillalo, very close to 14,000 feet in elevation. At 11,000 feet the last of the junipers is left

behind and one emerges into rolling, heather covered, moorlands which rise gradually but in grand sweeping contours around jagged rock outcroppings and ancient volcanic plugs to rounded mountain tops. The heather (*erica*) is interspersed with numerous and varied wildflowers and lobelia. When the sky is clear it is an idyllic setting but within minutes this can change to rain, hail, snow, and then fog so thick one can't see ones own hand. This then is the home of the



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Mt. Nyala (*Tragelaphus buxtoni*). Other endemic species found in the area include the rare and endangered Ethiopian Wolf also known as the Semien Fox (*Canis simensis*), the Abyssinian Bohor reedbuck (*Redunca redunca bohor*), and the only black species of bushbuck known as the Menlik's bushbuck (*Tragelaphus scriptus decula*). Other more common species found here are klipspringer, East African bush duiker, serval cat, spotted hyena, anubis baboon, and on the lower slopes the black and white colobus monkey. Ethiopia's burgeoning human population has heavily encroached upon this fragile area. Heather has been burned in an attempt to create new grazing for the cattle of the Oromo tribe who live on the lower slopes. Poaching has been rampant and the Mt. Nyala numbers have been dwindling in the wake of this infringement on their territory.

When New York sportsman, Alan Sackman visited the area in 1996, he was so impressed with the Mt. Nyala and this

special place, that he and his wife, Barbara, founded 'The Galama Mountains Conservation Fund, Inc'. The purpose of this fund is to raise money to be used in the preservation and conservation of this highland area, thus ensuring the future of the Mt. Nyala and the other endemic and common species which share this fragile habitat. Nasso Roussos, well known conservationist and outfitter in Ethiopia, has agreed to act as Managing Director for the Fund. Already three radio equipped game guard outposts have been put into place and the initial support and cooperation of the local and Provincial authorities has been outstanding. Since the Fund has been established there has been no more burning of the heather and the loss of Mt. Nyala due to poaching has been minimized. This year the three major roads that cross these mountains will be improved after which the local authorities will then prohibit travel in any other areas. This will create

areas of sanctuary for the Mt. Nyala free of any human encroachment, thus facilitating an uninterrupted breeding period this summer.

