



“SERVING THE HUNTER WHO TRAVELS”

“Hunting provides the principal incentive and revenue for conservation. Hence it is a force for conservation.”

Special To The Hunting Report World Conservation Force Bulletin

by John J. Jackson, III

SPECIAL REPORT

Polar Bear Decision **Some Thoughts About** **That Continuing Delay**

The final decision on listing all polar bear was not decided as I wrote this in mid-March. It may not be decided when you read this. Judging from the large numbers of emails and phone calls we have been receiving, there is keen interest in the outcome. Many hunters have forgone their hunts rather than risk that the bear may be listed and trophy imports will probably be prohibited to all hunters who don't have a permit in hand before the effective date of the final listing rule, normally 30 days after date of publication in the Federal Register. The delay in the publication of the decision has caused some hunters to cancel rather than risk their \$32,000. Ironically, the delay may also provide a window for import of bear during the delay period. In short, if the delay is un-

til the end of the season, all the bear taken this winter and spring may come in.

We here at Conservation Force are convinced that the bear should not be listed in whole or part. Despite the media hype, the truth is that the great majority of the “substantive” comments opposed the listing. We know



this to be a fact from doing Freedom of Information Act requests on both comment periods. Conservation Force itself provided opposition from five kinds of experts, i.e., legal, climate, ice, biological (polar bear) and cultural/sociological. They all substantively

opposed the proposed listing. On the other hand, the USF&WS is renowned for listing foreign species over the objections of foreign range nations and a listing in this instance would give the US Fish & Wildlife Service an importance in everyone's lives never before imagined.

The Center for Biological Diversity, Natural Resources Defense Council and Greenpeace jointly filed another lawsuit in the US Federal District Court for Northern California (San Francisco) when the final rule was not published in early March. A decision was due in early January, but the petitioners had to give the USF&WS 60 days notice before suing under the provisions of the Endangered Species Act. The petitioners have made a big to-do in the media about its new suit, but it is really quite ordinary. In fact, it would be exceptional for the service to meet the technical deadlines set forth in the Endangered Species Act.

On another front, there is no substance to the political posturing in the media that the United Kingdom will

soon ban polar bear trophy imports. That would require a unified action by the entire European Union, which has not yet reached the initial scientific review stage.

As I write this, Cambridge Bay has just had its coldest two days of the entire 2008 year to date - minus 47.2 degrees Fahrenheit for March 15 and 16. Seems we might be about to have an “Easter Freeze 2008” like the spring freeze that bit the eastern United States last April 2007. Of course, we can’t predict the weather even though it is a most popular thing to do for some.

DATELINE: CAMEROON

**News... News... News
All About The New
CAMNARES Program**

Thanks to Conservation Force Board of Advisors member Wayne Lau, we are partnering in a new project in Cameroon. Its name stands for *Cameroon Natural Resources* (CAMNARES) which is a communal-based natural resource management program (CBNRM). CAMNARES is a new Cameroon wildlife conservation NGO. It was formed to use trophy hunting as a force for wildlife conservation and for rural development. Of course, the object of the rural development is to improve the quality of the lives of the rural residents through sustainable tourist hunting.

Already, the project has provided the people of the Kong Village access to clean water. Wayne Lau reports: “I first thought I was working with CAMNARES to do a *chasse libre*, or “free chase” hunt for bongo antelope. It turned out to be much bigger, including the rebuilding of water wells for people living in the hunting area. I was surprised that even the Prince of the village was studying wildlife conservation in South Africa and my hunting, at least initially, was part of a grand strategy.”

CAMNARES’ CEO Armand Biko’o explains: “In our *chasse libre* hunts, foreign trophy hunters work directly with trackers and porters recruited from vil-

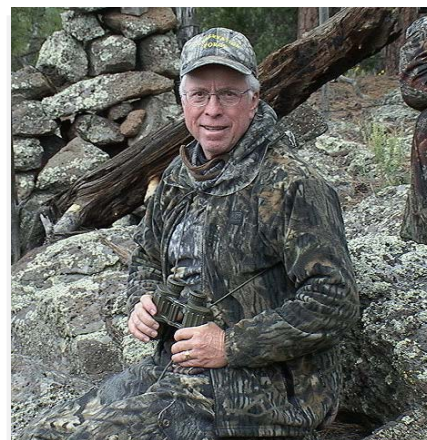
lages in hunting areas rather than professional hunting guides. This provides local communities with a much needed source of direct income by way of salaries and trophy fees. Most importantly, it shows villagers that thriving wildlife is more valuable than bush meat, encouraging conservation.”

Lau was the third hunter CAMNARES arranged to hunt in the transition forests of Kong. Upon his arrival at Kong, he discovered that the Kong village water pumps were broken and over 2,000 inhabitants were without clean water and at risk of water-borne diseases. CAMNARES and Wayne, through Conservation Force, decided to jointly fund the building of three water wells with labor contributed by the villagers. Under CAMNARES’ management, the purchase of materials and well construction were completed within one month as promised.

CAMNARES was started as a non-profit, non-government organization (NGO) by Biko’o and Maliki Birose Wardjomto, Cameroon’s first two Master Degree students studying Nature Conservation at Tshwane University in South Africa. Their studies were supported by scholarships from international conservation groups, particularly Shikar Safari Club International, which have also funded the first two years of the education of the Prince of Kong. With the help of CAMNARES and Wayne, Conservation Force is funding the Prince’s third year at Tshwane University in Pretoria. CAMNARES is to be another of Shikar Safari Club International and Conservation Force’s success stories.

In the 2008 season, *chasse libre* bongo hunts in Kong are being organized for CAMNARES by Eugene Yap from Southpoint Safaris, Safari Club International *Outfitter of the Year* in 2004. More projects may be coming. As CAMNARES Deputy CEO Wardjomto foresees, “We are planning pilot conservation community hunts with villages in Cameroon’s northern savannah areas, as well as in the southeastern forests.”

Conservation Force is acting as a fiduciary-funding partner to the project but has been asked to play an even



JOHN J. JACKSON, III
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greater role in the development of the conservation strategy. We are fortunate that Wayne has graciously agreed to fund part of the development and to be our man on the ground.

COMACO

■ Another project that Conservation Force partners in is COMACO (Community Markets for Conservation) in Zambia. This is a project that first identifies, then transforms poachers to alternative livelihoods at the cost of less than \$700 per poacher. It targets the worst poachers.

This conservation and development strategy was devised by Dale Lewis of Wildlife Conservation Service. It was initially funded by Conservation Force with the help of two of our donor partners, the International Foundation for the Conservation of Wildlife (Prince H.I.H. Abdorezza of Iran) and Kevin Malone. Today, it is a much broader-reaching project than those early days and is funded by an assortment of partners.

In 2007, Conservation Force again stepped into the picture for the purpose of expanding the project into the habitat of the ESA “threatened” listed red lechwe. We did that with funds from our Ranching for Restoration Program in Texas, which directs funds from participating ranches in Texas to enhancement projects for specific hunted exotics to on-the-ground projects around the world for those same select species. In 2007 the sum from Conservation Force was \$10,000, which WCS was able to get others to match for a total of \$20,000. In 2008, the sum from Conservation Force is again \$10,000, which is being matched by hunting operators in Zambia and a tourist operator as well, for a total of \$30,000.

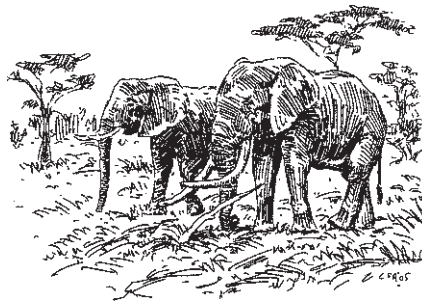
It’s too early to analyze the population trend of red lechwe, but the results of the project in the existing areas are clear. Animal populations that had been declining are now documented to be increasing. Although all the populations were in decline before, no significant decrease can any longer be found. Many of the species are showing increases (see <http://itswild.org/saving-wildlife-trends>).

By any measure, this is the fore-

most red lechwe conservation project in the world. It was initiated and is funded primarily by hunting and hunters. Conservation Force’s other Ranching for Restoration projects target Eld’s deer and barasingha species. Those too are the foremost projects in the world for those ESA and CITES-listed species. We are expanding the number of participating ranches in the United States and expanding the projects in the countries of the respective species’ origins. It is truly a Conservation Force conservation invention that others have not yet managed to mimic.

Cullman & Hurt Project Model

■ The model flagship conservation project that we are most proud of was not our invention, but we’ve been trustees, officers and the fiduciary charitable foundation partner of it for



eight years. That is the Cullman & Hurt Community Wildlife Project in Tanzania. It has built 48 schools, operated 12 medical dispensaries, two mobile medical units, and employed three full-time anti-poaching patrols fully equipped with vehicles, uniforms, etc.

Joseph Cullman is deceased and made no provision in his testament or otherwise for the continuance of the Cullman & Hurt Wildlife Project. Consequently, the board has changed the name and reach of the entity to the *Robin Hurt Wildlife Foundation*, which has extended its reach to Namibia, Botswana and even Europe. The newly renamed Foundation is doing well, thanks to the generous support of Robin Hurt’s hunting clients.

We cite it as the model it was intended to be. Much like missionaries

for conservation, we are forever forging hunter-funded projects across Africa that exemplify its attributes. Read below about three such projects in Botswana, Mozambique and Tanzania that are making Africa a better place for tomorrow.

The Rann-Force Botswana Lion Project is the first. It has been funding over \$20,000 per year in lion conservation projects across all of Africa thanks to charitable contributions from the generous clients of Jeff Rann. With up to three members serving on the African Lion Working Group (ALWG), Conservation Force has been in a position to strategically place those funds where they do the most good when they are most needed. Now that there is no Botswana lion quota, the lion client source of the funding has dried up. Consequently, the program is being renamed the Rann-Force Wildlife Project for a broader, less lion-oriented purpose. We will continue to be the conservation arm of this responsible and highly-respected hunting operator. (Don’t be concerned: Conservation Force still has three lion projects in Botswana alone in 2008.)

Kambako-Force Mozambique is Conservation Force’s program with Kambako Safaris in the Niassa Reserve Block B Concession and adjacent Coutada. This is one of the most pristine habitats in the world and part of a grand conservation experiment. The Kambako-Force program already entails elephant, lion and leopard projects and a strong community component. For more on the projects under this program, see <http://www.kambakosafaris.com>.

The Miombo-Force Tanzania Program is with PH Michel Mantheakis of Miombo Safaris, Ltd. in Tanzania. Michel has been named Professional Hunter of the Year by SCI and Houston Safari Club. He is educated as a biologist as well. He too already has successful conservation, community development and anti-poaching projects. Conservation Force is to be the fiduciary facilitator with this promising partner. For more on Michel’s projects, see <http://miombosafaris.com/conservation/projects.html>.

Air Travel with Black Powder is Absolutely Prohibited: What You Need to Know

■ Black powder is a Class 1.10, Packing Group II, number UN0027 “Explosive”. Air travel with black powder in your checked luggage is prohibited. Carriage on a plane is not one single offense. Rather, it constitutes multiple offenses and subjects the sportsman to multiple separate civil penalties (15 to be exact) that can each be substantial. The following is a partial quote from a Notice of Proposed Civil Penalty received by a hunter when his luggage was found to contain one container of Jim Shockey’s Gold Premium Grade Black Powder Replacement:

By reason of the above, you violated the following Department of Transportation Hazardous Materials Regulations (Title 49 of the Code of Federal Regulations):

1. Section 171.2(a) in that you offered a hazardous material for transportation in commerce when the hazardous material was not properly classed, described, packaged, marked, labeled, and in condition for shipment as required or authorized by applicable requirements of this subchapter.

2. Sections 172.200(a) and 172.202(a)(1) in that you offered a hazardous material for transportation and failed to describe the hazardous material on the shipping papers, including the proper shipping name prescribed for the material in Column 2 of the § 172.101 Table, in the manner required by this subpart.

3. Sections 172.200(a) and 172.202(a)(2) in that you offered a hazardous material for transportation and failed to describe the hazardous material on the shipping papers, including the hazard class or division prescribed for the material as shown in Column 3 of the § 172.101 Table, in the manner required by this subpart.

4. Sections 172.200(a) and Section 172.202(a)(3) in that you offered a hazardous material for transportation and failed to describe the hazardous material on the shipping papers, including the identification number prescribed for the material as shown in Column 4 of the § 172.101 Table, in the manner required by this subpart.

5. Sections 172.200(a) and Section

172.202(a)(4) in that you offered a hazardous material for transportation and failed to describe the hazardous material on the shipping papers, including the packing grouping, in Roman numerals, prescribed for the material in Column 5 of the § 172.101 Table, if any, of the material covered by the description, in the manner required by this subpart.

6. Sections 172.200(a) and Section 172.202(a)(5) in that you offered a hazardous material for transportation and failed to describe the hazardous material on the shipping papers, including the total quantity (by net or gross mass, capacity, or as otherwise appropriate), including the unit of measurement, of the hazardous material covered by the description, in the manner required by this subpart.

7. Sections 172.204(a) or (c)(1) in that you offered a hazardous material for transportation and failed to certify that the material was offered for transportation in accordance with this subchapter by printing on the shipping paper containing the required shipping description one of the certifications set forth in this part.

8. Section 172.204(c)(2) in that you offered a hazardous material to an aircraft operator for transportation by air and failed to provide two copies of the certification required in this section.

9. Section 172.204(c)(3) in that you offered for transportation by air a hazardous material authorized for air transportation and failed to add the certification required in this section the following statement:

“I declare that all of the applicable air transport requirements have been met.”

10. Section 172.301(a) in that you offered for transportation a hazardous material in a non-bulk packaging and failed to mark the package with the proper shipping name and identification number (preceded by “UN” or “NA”, as appropriate) for the material as shown in the § 172.101 Table.

11. Section 172.400(a) in that you offered for transportation a hazardous material in one of the packages or containment devices listed in this subpart and failed to label the package or containment device with the labels specified for the material in the § 172.101 Table and in this subpart.

12. Section 172.600(c) in that you offered for transportation a hazardous material and failed to make the emergency response information immediately available for use at all times the hazardous material was present, and failed to make such information, including an emergency response telephone number, immediately available to any government agency responding to an incident involving hazardous material or conducting an investigation which involves a hazardous material.

13. Section 172.21(a) in that you offered for transportation materials designated “Forbidden” in Column 3 of the § 172.101 Table.

14. Section 173.21(b) in that you offered for transportation forbidden explosives as defined in § 173.54 of this part.

15. Section 173.54(a) in that you offered for transportation an explosive that had not been approved in accordance with § 173.56 of this subpart.

In accordance with Section 5123(a) of Chapter 51, Title 49 of the United States Code of Transportation, 49 U.S.C. § 5123, [name of violator] is liable for a civil penalty of not less than \$250, nor greater than \$50,000 (\$100,000 if death, serious illness, severe injury, or substantial property damage results), for each violation of the regulations.

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