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**“SERVING THE HUNTER WHO TRAVELS”**


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*“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

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■ **Special Report**

**57<sup>th</sup> CIC General Assembly: Expanding Scope, Participation & Influence**

■ The International Council for Game and Wildlife Conservation (CIC) held its 57<sup>th</sup> annual meeting in May in Dubrovnik, Croatia. At no other event do so many hunting associations and leaders from around the world join together in one meeting for the common conservation interests of hunters at this scale. Its participants span the globe and include governments and agencies. It is a congress that may indeed be internationally what the American Wildlife Conservation Partnership (AWCP) is domestically in the United States. That said, there is nothing quite like it.

The rank and diversity of the speakers in the first two hours of the program demonstrates the nature and potential networks and partnerships that arise at the event. The speakers during the opening ceremony included John Scanlon, the new Secretary-General of CITES; Moujahed Achouri, Forestry Team Leader of the FAO; Willem Wijnstekers, the retiring Secretary-General of CITES; Bert Lenten, acting

Deputy Executive Secretary of the Convention on Migratory Species (CMS); Ted Rowe, President of the World Forum on the Future of Sport Shooting Activities (WFSA); Angus Middleton, Chief Executive Officer of



the Federation of Associations for Hunting and Conservation of the EU (FACE); the Vice President of Croatia and the President of the host organization, the Croatian Hunting Federation. The CIC collaborates and cooperates with international entities, like CITES

and FAO, that clearly want to join forces.

Chrissie Jackson of Conservation Force is the Head of the new United States Delegation. This year a number of new individuals and organizations from the US were admitted to the CIC. Individually, Peter Horn (Beretta USA), Michael Cassidy (ESPN), Barbara Crown (*The Hunting Report*), Ted Rowe (President of World Forum on the Future of Shooting Sports) and Rick Patterson (SAMI) joined. Two US organizations were admitted, the Boone & Crockett Club and the Wild Sheep Foundation. Kaush Arha, a B & C graduate and the Assistant Undersecretary of Interior during the final period of the Bush Administration represented the Boone & Crockett Club. He explained that B & C was joining because of the broad international influence of the CIC. The CIC, he said, has great potential because it is informed by science, the unique prestige of its members and a broader view than individual

organizations. Joining together there is great potential to be harnessed for conservation and development. He thanked Chrissie and I for the introduction.

The Presidency of the CIC also changed hands. Dieter Schramm stepped down after being President of the CIC for 10 years and Bernard Lozé of Paris, France, was elected by acclamation as the new President. Bernard is a very successful businessman and respected international hunter and angler. Dieter, now Past-President, will remain active as an “Honorary President” and as the Chairman of a new transition Steering Committee.

Some developments of particular importance to Conservation Force should be of interest to readers. Yours truly continues to serve as the President of the Sustainable Use Commission (CSU) of CIC and consequently serves on the Executive Council. Shane Mahoney of Conservation Force’s Board of Directors serves as a Vice-President of the Commission. The Sustainable Use Commission held an open forum breakfast each morning to informally discuss issues across the globe. At that breakfast, the individuals participating included Peter Flack with his new film that Shane Mahoney is narrating about the historical development of hunter-based conservation in South Africa. It was initially inspired by Shane’s *Opportunity for All* DVD. The dozens of breakfast participants included Gary Bowers, President of CHASA, Ben Carter, CEO of Dallas Safari Club, Gray Thornton of the WSF and Rob Cahill of the Canadian Fur Institute. Topics ranged from the dire ramification of a potential ban on all lead ammunition to preparations for the upcoming Conference of the Convention on Biodiversity.

The province of Newfoundland and Labrador joined the CIC as the newest State Member through its Department of Environment and Conservation. Also, Shane is to Head the newly established Canadian delegation. In a side program, Shane gave a presentation on the cutting edge work he is doing on predator-prey wildlife management, the seal controversy and

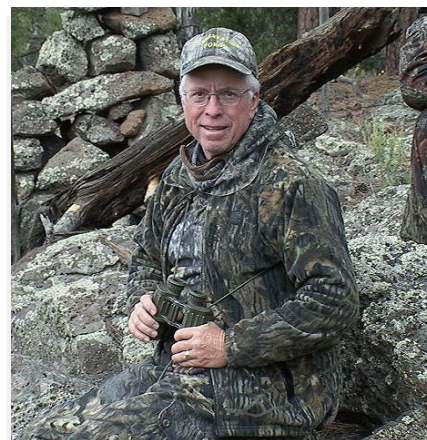
many other topics of interest to hunters. I too gave a presentation on polar bear.

Readers may remember that the CIC adopted a Resolution urging lion action plans last year at CIC’s 56<sup>th</sup> Conference in Paris. Philippe Chardonnet of Conservation Force’s Board of Directors and the CEO of the International Game Foundation (IGF) presented an update on progress made in developing national lion conservation action plans. Philippe announced from a not-yet-released report that there is good news on the status of lion numbers in Tanzania. CIC has participated in many of the lion action plan workshops and lion aging guidance. Incidentally, ESPN Outdoors has just pledged \$5,000 towards African lion national action plans through Conservation Force.

Yours truly participated in a sort of fireside chat on CITES and the 15<sup>th</sup> CoP in Doha with former Secretary-General of CITES Willem Wijnstekers and the new Director-General of CIC, Tomas Marghescu. Willem was the Secretary-General of CITES at CoP15, so it was an honor for me to share the stage beside him and respond to the questions Tomas put to the two of us. Of note, Willem described the polar bear proposal as being “politically motivated” and pointed out that “CITES does not make ice.” He seemed to lament that the bobcat, Tanzania and Zambia elephant did not get downlisted.

Gerhard Damm of Conservation Force’s Board of Directors described the ongoing *African Indaba* publication as well as the *Caprinae Atlas* that he and Nicolas Franco are completing. CIC has assumed all the costs of the publication. *African Indaba* is now exclusively a CIC publication. Although it is no longer a Conservation Force publication it will still be posted on our website. Nicolas Franco’s invited guest was Richard Harris who helped formulate the recent Mongolia *Caprinae* survey.

The members passed two resolutions/recommendations, one concerning Zimbabwe and the other, the Giant Sable. The first calls upon the Zimbabwean government to maintain acceptable management practices “before a



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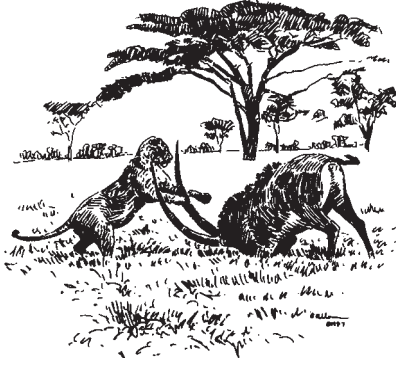
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social and environmental catastrophe becomes irreversible.” It encourages donors and the private sector to cooperate and support the Government of Zimbabwe to revive and conserve the wildlife sector, “in particular private and communal conservancies and protected areas.” The second resolution called for “Support for Giant Sable in Angola.” The CIC and International Game Foundation (IGF) were among the first to initiate giant sable conservation, which accelerated in 1998 when CIC and IGF provided \$10,000 in support for the program in a public ceremony with the Angola President. Then-CIC President Nicolas Franco took special interest and the CIC’s Tropical Game Commission headed by Bertrand des Clers (deceased founding board member of Conservation Force) led the effort. Since then, other contributors have included Dallas Safari Club, Shikar Safari Club, Conservation Force, SCI’s Utah Chapter, SCI’s All of Africa Chapter (since disbanded) and others. For a more comprehensive history of the effort to save and restore Giant Sable, see the May 2010 issue of *African Indaba* at <http://www.conservationforce.org/publications.html>.

The sable resolution at this confer-

ence calls for international hunting organizations to support the ongoing projects to capture, radio-collar, and adaptively manage both captive and free-roaming giant sable and to establish the necessary infrastructure to conserve the sable. It calls upon international development agencies and multilateral environmental agreements to help



with support in the conservation effort.

The CIC has other unique features, including a Culture Division and a youth group called Young Opinion. The Culture Division really delves into and awards art that depicts hunting and its meaning. Young Opinion has several activities of its own, independent of the main organization, which appeal to young adults at a time in their lives

when they may not otherwise participate.

The Russian Association of Hunters and Fishermen (over 2 million members) will host the next, 58<sup>th</sup>, CIC General Assembly in St. Petersburg, Russia, 11-15 May, 2011. The theme of the event will be “Hunting - A Part of Cultural Heritage.” That theme stands for the fact that “[h]unting was a main part of human life and played a basic role in formation of culture from ancient times.” Of course, this is not to be a backwoods event. St. Petersburg is known as the cultural center and Versailles of Russia. The main hotel of the event will be the Corinthia Nevsky Palace, a 5-star hotel. The opening ceremony will take place in the Grand Hall of the Philharmonic and the Gala Dinner will be in the Russian Museum of Ethnography. Being the hunters that they are, the hunters in Russia will no doubt host a never-to-be-forgotten event. US individuals and organizations interested in joining and attending next year should contact Chrissie at 504-837-1233.

Conservation Force (Chrissie, Gerhard, Philippe, Shane and I) will remain active in CIC to help it realize its full potential of influence for the good of all.

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### Briefly Noted

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**Poaching in Southern Tanzania:** We are greatly concerned about the reported level of poaching in southern Tanzania. The negative position of the Panel of Experts towards the token downlisting of elephant in Tanzania at CITES CoP15 in Doha was partly based upon the level of poaching and possible decline in the number of elephant in southern Tanzania. The most recent survey estimate was down 30,000 in that area. The Robin Hurt Wildlife Foundation and the Sarah and Ross Perot Foundation are taking action.

The Sarah and Ross Perot Foundation is funding a large anti-poaching operation being mounted in southern Tanzania by the Hurt Foundation in conjunction with Tanzania’s Wildlife Department. The Perots (Perot Jr.) donated \$75,000 US dollars dedicated

exclusively to the effort through Conservation Force in memory of their dear hunting friend Hays Kirby who was sadly killed in a car accident earlier this year. Hays Kirby had hunted many times with Robin Hurt. The Perots are regular donors to both Conservation Force and the Robin Hurt Wildlife Foundation. Sportsmen continue to be the force. Thank you.

**Hornady Manufacturing Company:** Hornady has become the third Corporate Sponsor of Conservation Force. Steve Hornady has long been a personal contributor to all that Conservation Force does but now the company is stepping up to be a Corporate Sponsor. There is no question that Hornady is the leading hunting ammunition manufacturer in the world today. To date, the three corporate sponsors are

Global Rescue, Fauna & Flora International and Hornady Manufacturing Company. We are proud to have sponsors of this caliber.

**World Forum on the Future of Sport Shooting Activities (WFSA):** Another organization of growing importance to traveling hunters is the WFSA. It is a 40-member association with UN status speaking for more than 100 million hunters and sport shooters. Yours truly serves on its Executive Committee and chairs its Transit Task Force (TTF). That task force tracks and attempts to contend with problems hunters and shooters encounter traveling with their personal firearms and ammunition for sporting purposes. Hunters, sport shooters and competitive target shooters have been finding it more and more difficult to transport their sporting fire-

arms. Airline procedures, International Air Transport Association (IATA) rules, security protocols and national government regulations are all part of an ever more complex travel environment.

It has now been confirmed that the WFSA/TTF will convene an international workshop on November 10, 2010 in Geneva to protect and secure recreational firearms transportation. This will be the first effort of this magnitude to establish consistency, better practices and standards to facilitate transit. The workshop is entitled *Sporting Firearms and Ammunition as Airline Baggage: Growing Problems - Simple Solutions*.

The goals of the workshop are to 1) examine problems with the transport of sporting firearms and ammunition as baggage, 2) recommend model airline and security procedures for the transport of such, 3) if necessary, propose additions to International Air Transport Association resolutions, and 4) encourage states to adopt simplified procedures for the temporary import, export and transit of sporting firearms and ammunition as contemplated by Article 10, Section 6 of the UN Firearms Protocol.

In the meantime we are continuing to contend with firearms transportation problems as they arise.

#### **World Symposium on the Ecologic and Economic Benefit of Hunting:**

Readers may remember that the WFSA hosted a significant forum for three days in September 2009 in Windhoek, Namibia on the benefits of hunting. Many of the foremost authorities in the world participated. Conservation Force was one of the principle sponsors and participants. My own presentation was entitled *The Unrealized Potential of Conservation Hunting*, which contained a message that needs to be broadcasted far and wide.

The whole symposium with every paper, totaling 400 pages, is now available and is **free**. It is on Conservation Force's website under "*Why We Hunt: Conservation Benefits*" at <http://www.conservationforce.org/role.html> or on WFSA's website at <http://www.wfsa.net/events.html>. Summaries are on those sites at the moment, but

the actual presentations should be substituted by the time this Bulletin reaches readers.

**Mohamed Malik to Receive Award:** Dr. Mohamed Malik Sahib has been chosen to receive the *Distinguished Service Award* for 2010 from the Society for Conservation Biology (SCB). He is the just-retired Chief Conservator of Wildlife for the Pakistan Forestry Department that administered the markhor program in the Northwest



Province. The award is for his “extraordinary contributions to conservation biology.” It is an award for his three decades of work but certainly also recognition of the markhor conservation strategy he oversaw - and indirect credit to Shikar Safari Club who funded his education and the program from its inception to completion. The award is to be presented at the 24<sup>th</sup> an-

#### **Conservation Force Sponsor**

Grand Slam Club/Ovis generously pays all of the costs associated with the publishing of this bulletin. Founded in 1956, Grand Slam Club/Ovis is an organization of hunter/conservationists dedicated to improving wild sheep and goat populations worldwide by contributing to game and wildlife agencies or other non-profit wildlife conservation organizations. GSCO has agreed to sponsor *Conservation Force Bulletin* in order to help international hunters keep abreast of hunting-related wildlife news. For more information, please visit [www.wildsheep.org](http://www.wildsheep.org).

GRAND SLAM CLUB  OVIS

nual meeting of the 10,000-member Society in Edmonton, Alberta in July. Yours truly and Shane Mahoney are participants in the annual meeting and will attend the award presentation.

The related markhor Torghar Project in Pakistan will also receive an award at the CoP of the Convention on Biodiversity in October in Japan. It will receive the *Markhor Award*, which is named after it. It is fitting the Torghar Project receive the conservation award already named in its honor. Of course, CITES Parties long ago created a quota for these critically endangered species, which is another form of recognition or award.

#### **Latest on Addax, Dama Gazelle and Scimitar-Horned Oryx:**

The USF&WS issued a notice in the Federal Register, 75 FR 200, on April 26, 2010 that has caused confusion for some regarding the management of the endangered listed addax, Dama gazelle and scimitar-horned oryx. Some people concluded that the Special Rule allowing the harvest had been terminated and that they need the more traditional captive-bred and cull permits to proceed. Not so. The Special Rule is still in effect and a revision of it is expected to be issued in the near future. It is in the process of being revised, not wholly eliminated. In fact, the USF&WS has asked that owners/managers not apply for captive-bred and cull permits for those three species at this time. They want managers to wait for the new regulation and whatever it provides. We believe the new revised regulation will still entail some kind of procedure.

The notice was entitled *Unified Agenda* and was meant to give notice that the USF&WS would soon publish a “revision” of the regulation and repeal the existing regulation. Some readers concluded “repeal” meant total abandonment rather than revision but missed the “revision” title. We checked with the Service and have been advised that it is status quo for the time being.

Whatever the ultimate outcome, Conservation Force stands ready to help exotic game managers comply with the new enhancement protocol. - *John J. Jackson, III.*