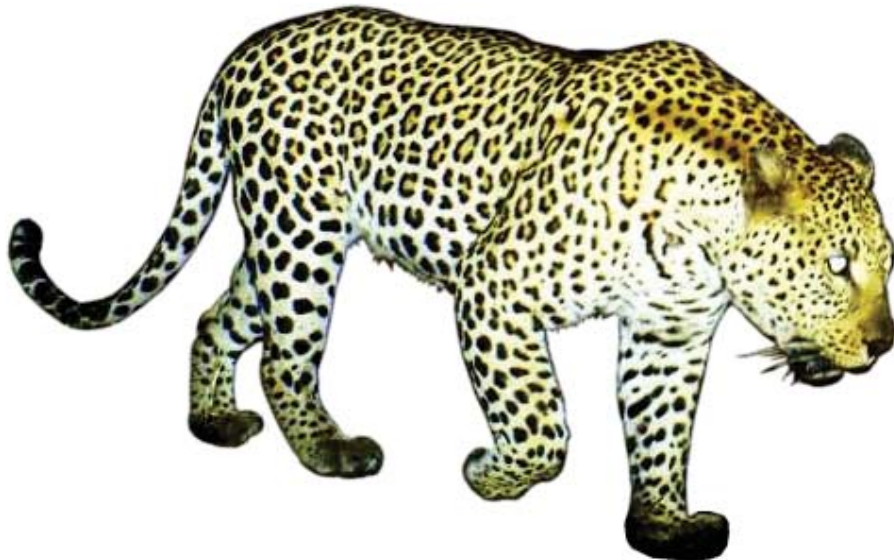


# DAPU Second Period Newsletter 2020

Charlton McCallum Safaris

18<sup>th</sup> September 2020



Dear Friends,

Let me start by thanking you all for your unwavering support.

So, we have moved to the next phase in the whole Covid story and it looks like our next hunters and income may be expected (fingers crossed) in April 2021. Our goal has been simply to fund DAPU for the balance of the 2020 and through to mid of 2021. Since we have time on our hands, we are also looking for continuous improvements on all aspects of managing Dande as a whole and DAPU specifically.

We are happy to report it looks like thanks to all of our supporters we are going to manage to keep all the boots on the ground well into next year with no operational sacrifices at all. Furthermore, we have been able to complete all of our road maintenance, early burning and stay on top of our Human Wildlife conflict mitigation efforts. All the solar pumps and pipelines remain fully operational too, which is a real-life saver especially in this dry year. To be honest a year of no hunting in Dande will do it no harm at all, so long as we can keep on top of poaching (which we are) and of course our business also needs to survive!

This year we have noted with concern two new challenges, that used to be peripheral, but are now full-time activities (1) illegal gold panning and (2) charcoal making. These are both lucrative and unfortunately extremely damaging.

We have continued to meticulously document all of our support, deployments, wins and losses, and here we share a summary with everyone who so graciously and generously supported all of our efforts both financially and in kind. As we grow from strength to strength, we look forward to your continued support.

Stay safe,

Myles E. McCallum  
James D. Charlton  
Charles Ndondo

Harare, Zimbabwe  
18th<sup>th</sup>September 2020

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## 1. COVID-19 continued

This virus has really turned into an epic economic challenge and one which has affected us all! Our hunters are still unable to travel, and as such our DAPU levy on all safaris has come to naught in 2020. We had honestly thought that perhaps we would have a few safaris, September and October 2020 but have come to the belated conclusion that 2020 is definitely not happening from a business point of view!!!

Dande is a complex area to manage in that it is...

- a. A large area.
- b. Needs to show benefits to the local community.
- c. Requires constant policing (DAPU).
- d. Is largely a “communal area” (with villages).

A number of areas (mostly photographic) are in “protected areas” and require very little in the way of policing. However, all of Dande needs constant and proactive monitoring, or else, 11 years of gains could be eroded in just 6 months. This would be a tragedy.

We are happy to report that we (DAPU) are in a decent financial position and have not had to make any operational sacrifices at all. In fact, our deployments have been best yet of last 11 years.

The biggest “pro” to Covid has been environmental i.e. a whole year of almost no hunting will actually help cement gains made over the last 11 years.

The biggest “con” has been that we have not been able to show communities any meaningful financial benefit in 2020. So these two competing land uses have reared their ugly heads – charcoal making and gold panning.



DAPU Crispin Tateguru

## **2. The “hunting season”**

Well of course in 2020 this is the wrong name for this section!!!

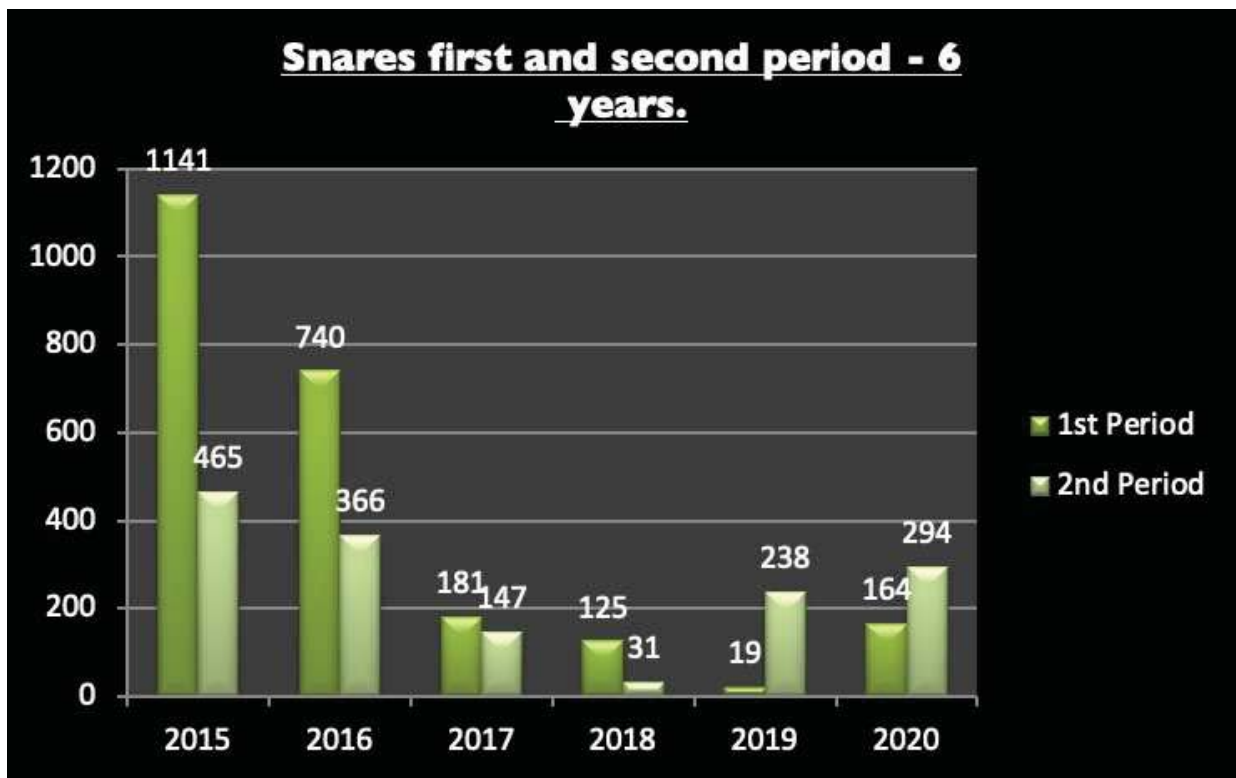
Typically speaking at this time of year we have multiple groups out in the field and we have always maintained that a hunting party is by far the best possible anti-poaching unit – two scouts, two trackers, a driver, Pro Hunter and the Hunter. A dedicated reliable vehicle covering 100 – 150km per day, hunters walking on average 7 hours a day. All highly motivated and certainly all expert in their fields. This year our hunters have been sorely missed. Poachers and panners are emboldened knowing that they will not encounter any hunting parties, consequently we have found that illegal settlements, gold panning and charcoal making has sprung up without us knowing. Normally we get really quick reliable information and we can nip these activities in the bud, but this year it took longer for us to work it out and react.

Flying for Wildlife in particular have been wonderful and have given us “eyes in the sky” proving invaluable in getting us back onto the information curve!

## **3. Snaring and General poaching second period 2020**

The results have been really quite pleasing. Yes, snare yields are up on 2017, 2018 and 2019, but not at alarming levels by any stretch of the imagination, especially considering the circumstances.

### **Snares - 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019 & 2020 (1st and 2nd periods)**



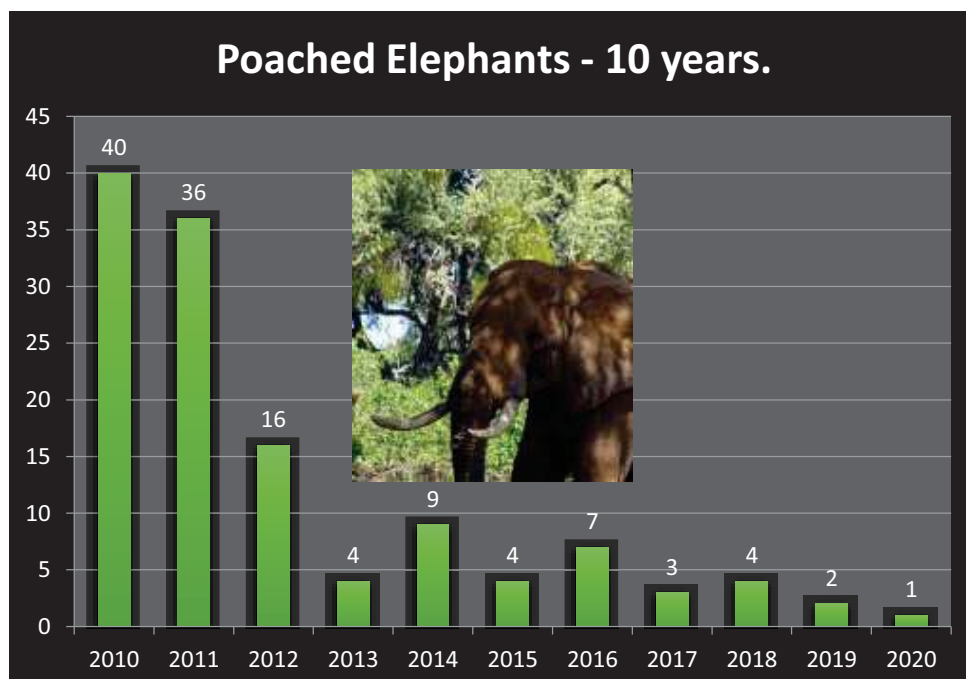


#### 4. Elephant poaching

Nothing further to report on the first newsletter – still only one elephant being poached in Dande this year. “Flying for Wildlife” have completed multiple flights in the area, and combined with our patrols and informants, only the one poached elephant has so far been found. We can say with some confidence that we do not think there are any unaccounted-for carcasses. The elephant in question was a young bull that had clearly been shot. It may be that the elephant was shot by a villager protecting his crops and had subsequently died. The ivory was recovered.



National Parks Officer inspecting wounds to determine cause of death.



## 5. Gold Panning

High gold prices combined with huge unemployment and no hunters (COVID), have created a perfect storm with respect to illegal gold panning. The panning itself is hugely damaging environmentally, and comes along with poaching, general crime and a whole host of other undesirable activities! So far, we have been quite lucky in that the panning has been on the periphery of our areas not inside it yet. It seems the gold gets washed out of the Zambezi valley escarpment in the fast flood water, then as soon as the rivers flatten and water slows down, it drops out of the ' water and gets trapped in the rapids. Thus, the rivers with rapids closest to the escarpment are richer in gold. We have had a little panning and have managed to stop it, but worry for the future. It is a fast-changing landscape that has been added to the DAPU to deal with list!









## 6. Charcoal production

Charcoal production is new to Dande and to Zimbabwe in general (although very common in Zambia, Tanzania and Kenya). People will burn down thousands of mopane trees in just days, make charcoal, bag it and smuggle it out to Harare for sale. Luckily our authorities are quite supportive in our efforts to stop it and we have had good success recently. One again this is a peripheral activity, not in our “core areas” as it were, but definitely we do not need this destructive behavior encroaching! Therefore, we are taking it seriously and paying good rewards for convictions.



## 7. Canoe making

Another seemingly harmless pastime – Mozambiquans contract Zimbabweans to fell huge old pod mahogany trees (*Azelia Quanzensis*), then they hollow them out into dugout canoes for use on Lake Caborra Bassa.



We counted 175 growth rings (dark ones only) meaning this tree was 175 years old?





Perpetrators - Mozambique Nationals.



The main trunk, now a dugout canoe.



## 8. Problem Animal Control

Duties for DAPU scouts include attending to Problem Animal reports (PAC). The peak season for PAC is during cropping season from January to the end of May. The three major problem species are elephants, lions and crocodiles. Both elephant and lion are extremely difficult to wean from their bad habits and are notoriously stubborn!

National Parks second rangers to DAPU for all PAC duties. Our constant goals with Problem Animal Control are:

- a. Protect human life.
- b. Protect property.
- c. IF POSSIBLE, deal with the offending animal by chasing it or them away using non-lethal means.
- d. Last resort is to shoot the animal. However in cases where life or property is threatened, we do not hesitate.

### 8.1 Elephant

In general, elephants in 2020 have made a nuisance of themselves. Each and every night DAPU crews have been chasing them. We had three vehicles and teams on permanent standby for 4 months, and its hats off to the DAPU staff, overall they managed very well.

- a. Despite their best efforts however, one old man in the east (Gonono village) was killed on the 23<sup>rd</sup> March whilst attempting to chase a breeding herd of elephants from his fields.



Attending the scene where the farmer was killed by elephants in his fields

- b. We also had to shoot a young elephant bull in the Irira villages. He had become a dangerous, belligerent and bad-tempered animal, who could not be chased in the normal way. It was therefore only a matter of time before a villager or DAPU scout was killed. The elephant in question was responsible for serious damage to a number of crops. The situation was quiet for a while but another young bull moved in and took over from the first bull, continuing with the same behaviour.
- c. Despite our best efforts – a young man was killed walking home to the Irira Villages at dusk by the bull in question. Of course, that animal was destroyed. The situation on the ground between Parks, Council Staff our DAPU scouts the villagers got quite heated. The villagers cut thorn trees down and covered ours and Parks vehicles, then proceeded to burn the entire elephant. To us it was a really good reminder how delicate the balance between human life, crop and property damage **vs** the worth of the animal is.

Clearly if those animals had no worth they would cease to exist and in 2020 – they really have very little value at all to a villager.



8.2 Lion

So far so good – 2020 has been very quiet and fingers crossed that it remains that way.

8.3 Buffalo

No reported serious problems to date in 2020.

8.4 Crocodile

Two people attacked and mauled in the same area by a small croc! Both escaped with moderate injuries and are expected to make full recoveries.

8.5 Hippo

One injury to a farmer on the Musengezi river (Dande East) to date. He has made a complete recovery and the hippo was not shot.

8.6 Snakes

No reported deaths to date in 2020.

## 9. Netting on the Zambezi

DAPU continues to contribute 200 liters of petrol per month toward efforts to eliminate illegal fishing in a 50km stretch of the Zambezi River. Generally speaking, illegal netting has been much reduced, and sport anglers and legal netters are reporting better catches which has been a big help to the local economy.

In the big picture the reduction in fish poaching has had a significant effect in reducing game poaching, as the fish poachers were often responsible for the poaching of elephant and other game animals. The diameters of their nets had become noticeably smaller over the years, clearly indicating a seriously depleted fish reserve.

## 10. Goals for 2020

Survival!!! No lofty goals for us in 2020 – to keep the DAPU show on the road will be enough for us! DAPU will have to work really hard, as at the end of the day there will be precious few hunters to help.

## 11. Water Projects

For obvious reasons, C.M Safaris has decided not to proceed with any new water projects in 2020. Due to the premature end of the rainy season, we did commence pumping a full two months earlier than normal at current installations. I am happy to report that due to popular demand, Nhemwa pan (Dande East), Centre pan and Palm tree Pan's (Dande North) are only JUST keeping up with the game! It used to be that there was plenty water to go around, just with a normal rainy season and no pumping, but now more game equals more pressure on those pans even with pumping and piping!

## 12. Cut lines

We will be extending boundary cut lines in the "East" for a further 8km. Encroachment has come close to Kabveve on the Southern boundary so we need to future proof that part of the concession.



### **13. We must extend our profound appreciation to:**

#### **The African Wildlife Foundation <https://www.awf.org>**

In the first period, the A.W.F contributed (financially) to the new game scout quarters at Karunga camp as well as providing some patrol rations. Over that period, we were chatting to the AWF about our very real concerns over our ability to keep DAPU going for the balance of 2020. Well they came through with a very big and very welcome surprise ... emergency COVID relief from 1<sup>st</sup> June to 30th November 2020 in the form of covering the monthly stipend for the 25 DAPU staff as well supplying patrol rations. A major shout out to the AWF team!

In June AWF arranged through ZIMPARKS a 10-day refresher course for all DAPU staff. They brushed up on their law, fitness, convictions, navigation (GPS's), firearms and first aid. This course was really well received so I think that perhaps DAPU now have some of the more qualified Rangers in Zimbabwe for sure.

The AWF have a special interest in the actual scouts themselves. Their efforts tend to lean towards staff welfare and training which has been very well received by all staff indeed. Staff that are current and motivated definitely get us better convictions.

#### **The Zambezi Elephant Fund <https://www.zambezielephantfund.org>**

The Zambezi Elephant fund is a young, home grown (Zimbabwean) NGO that also reached out to us to ask how they could help. They are a very proactive, dynamic and practical organization and have been an absolute pleasure to work with. They gave DAPU a significant grant, which we are going to use for running costs of vehicles (not serious R&M). So, at this point DAPU is using vehicles supplied by DSC – F and those vehicle running costs are currently being paid for by ZEF!

Vehicles and logistics remain our single biggest challenge by far, so to have DSC F and ZEF help us out in such a big way has been magnificent!

#### **The Dallas Safaris Club – Foundation <https://dscf.org>**

DSC Foundation has been our single biggest supporter for many years, and it came as no surprise at all to us that as soon as the global Covid 19 pandemic took hold, that they reached out to us to see what they could do to help. We immediately indicated that simple cash flow support would be of utmost value to DAPU 2020 in the form of cash for fuel, repairs and maintenance, salaries, uniforms, rewards and food.

Considering that DAPU is in a healthy financial position, we have taken the opportunity to purchase a new Toyota Landcruiser for DAPU. The older ones are killing us with R&M, and have done +500,000km's (all on shocking roads!). We will be selling DAPU # 2 and replacing it with a new vehicle. Once that vehicle is sold that cash will go back into DAPU.





Dapu # 1 at scene of gold panning.



Dapu # 2 resupplying an extended 14 - day patrol with fresh water.



**Flying for Wildlife** <http://www.flyingforwildlife.org>

FFW has grown immeasurably in the last couple of years, they now have two of their very own aircraft. All volunteer pilots include Richard Tennant, Hannes Scholtz and Richard Calder. Richard Thornycroft and Edward Whitfield also use their personal aircraft to supplement the fleet when need be!!! All flying is gratis to DAPU – it costs us nothing, and those who understand how expensive aviation is in Africa, will appreciate how significant this is!!!



In 2020, prompted by the fact that we no longer have hunters in the field, we asked Flying for Wildlife to undertake intense aerial patrols. The expectation was to discover signs of poaching, illegal settlements, gold panning, logging or any other illegal activity. It turns out that all three activities are very easy to spot from the air and successful raids on gold panners and charcoal makers were made with multiple arrests and convictions. FFW, DAPU, ZIMPARKS, The Forestry Commission and ZRP (the police) collaborated closely – making for a very satisfactory partnership.







Pilots view of alluvial gold panning in adjacent concession.



Diggings looking for gold with metal detectors.

**Trackit** Richard Tennant and Hannes Scholtz of (Flying for Wildlife) provide free, real time satellite monitoring of the two DAPU vehicles. This has saved us significantly on fuel and vehicle costs and has also helped us become much smarter with servicing and positioning of vehicles!

#### **Individual donors**

As previously mentioned, we have been truly humbled by all the kind folk who have donated to DAPU! Your generosity knows no bounds, and we will be eternally indebted to you. In thanks for your support, we shall endeavour to keep DAPU up and running to its fullest capabilities. We shall strive at all costs to keep poaching at bay, with the well-being of wild life foremost in our minds.

Buzz and I simply cannot tell you what a relief all these contributions have been to us. We now go into the third period with enough cash on hand to keep DAPU going strongly for the rest of the year and into 2021.

#### **14. Conservation Force**

We continue to work hand in hand with John and Chrissie Jackson of Conservation Force. John and Chrissie are proud hunters and legends in the fight for our way of life and the wild places that we all love. They work selflessly and endlessly in aid of conservation and to protect the rights of hunters around the world. Thank you, John and Chrissie!

Conservation Force is a registered non – profit 501(c) (3) public foundation.

How to make a Tax-Deductible donation.

Please make a check out to:  
Conservation Force

Mail to:  
C/O John J. Jackson, III  
3240 S. 1-10 SERVICE ROAD W.  
SUITE 200, METAIRIE,  
LOUISIANA 70001  
USA

Check Ref: DAPU

Conservation Force Contact:  
JOHN J. JACKSON, III  
TEL: (504) 837 - 1233  
FAX: (504) 837 – 1145  
Email: Jjw-no@att.net  
Website: [www.conservationforce.org](http://www.conservationforce.org)

**DAPU Income and Expenses 2020 YTD**

**2020 income**

**# 1. Donations**

Burton Foundation	US\$4,000
JD Crouch	US\$500
Paul Brewer	US\$500
Dave Adams	US\$5,000
Jytte Mejnertsen	US\$800
Jerry Jurena	US\$500
Martinus van der Reyden	US\$1,200
JD Crouch(National Capital Chapter SCI)	US\$1,000
Tony Statuto	US\$2,000
Mike Tenny	US\$2,000
Buzz Arthur	US\$1,200
Mike Core	US\$1,300
Jeff Butterfield	US\$1,000
Nick Moffat	US\$50
Jerry Meuthing	US\$200
John Bullion	US\$50
Dave Adams	US\$7,500
Marty Vick	US\$500
David Maple	US\$500
Larry Shores	US\$1,000
Henry Morgan	US\$50
Zach Fox	US\$500
Guy Gorney	US\$250
Jeremy Cotton	US\$100
J. Stephen Sheldon	US\$100
Gerald Begnaud	US\$1,000
Megan Durnsford	US\$200
Garry Woodman	US\$500
Keith Shope	US\$500
Walter Terry Patrick	US\$1,000
Jerry Jurena	US\$500
Richard Dein	US\$500
Todd Pavlik	US\$100
JD Crouch	US\$1,000
Paul Zuelke	US\$100
Charles Banks	US\$500
Russell Marshall	US\$250
Mike Core	US\$1,300
Mike Tenny	US\$1,000
Marcus Erling	US\$1,000
Mark Carnegie	US\$10,000
George DeBell	US\$1,000
Richard Negley	US\$3,000
David Kolhorst	US\$1,000



**# I Donations Continued**

Mark Harmon	US\$300
Bill Phifer	US\$500
Nick Moffat	US\$50
Stefan Zayer	US\$2,000
Moring Charitable Trust	US\$500
Janette Dingee	US\$500
Nick Moffat	US\$50
Myron Repka	US\$250
Jared Roberts	US\$500
Nick Moffat	US\$50
David Katzenstein	US\$1,000
Keith & Judy Shope	US\$100
Myron Repka	US\$250
Jerry Beardmore	US\$1,000
Bob Schofield	US\$300
DSC Foundation.	US\$25,000
Grant Wilson 500	US\$500
Ox of Okavango award (APHGA)	US\$5,000
Bill Wilson	US\$500
DSC - F /Lubbock	US\$26,000
Karl & Rebecca Evans	US\$2,000
Tibor Dobri.	US\$285
Joe Shown	US\$250
Anders Rustrom	US\$1,000
Julian Hingeston.	US\$1,231
Jeff Hicks	US\$500
Steve Crandall	US\$1,000
Zambezi Elephant fund	US\$20,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>US\$146,866</b>

**# 2.Hunting clients** **US\$0**

**# 3.Charlton McCallum Safaris** **US\$0**

<b>Total Income</b>	<b>US\$146,866</b>
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**Notes to accounts.**

1. Donations listed are up to end of August and do not include September.
2. Our apologies if we have missed any one out, we will definitely reflect your contribution in the next newsletter!

Charlton McCallum Safaris | Dande Anti-Poaching Unit

**2020 Expenses**

**# 1 Wages, rewards and rations.**

<u>Month</u>	<u>Game Scouts</u>	<u>Management</u>	<u>Rations</u>	<u>Rewards</u>	<u>Netting</u>	<u>Total</u>
January	US\$1,100	US\$1,605	US\$875	US\$56	US\$200	US\$3,836
February	US\$1,100	US\$1,605	US\$875	US\$390	US\$200	US\$4,170
March	US\$1,100	US\$1,605	US\$875	US\$80	US\$200	US\$3,860
April	US\$1,100	US\$1,605	US\$875	US\$514	US\$200	US\$4,294
May	US\$1,100	US\$1,605	US\$875	US\$1,345	US\$200	US\$5,125
June	US\$0	US\$1,205	US\$0	US\$1,630	US\$200	US\$3,035
July	US\$0	US\$1,205	US\$0	US\$56	US\$200	US\$1,461
August	US\$0	US\$1,205	US\$0	US\$1,362	US\$200	US\$2,767
	<b>US\$5,500</b>	<b>US\$11,640</b>	<b>US\$4,375</b>	<b>US\$5,433</b>	<b>US\$1,600</b>	<b>US\$28,548</b>

**# 2 2020 DAPU equipment expenses**

Rear axle repair ABK 7074	US\$226
Uniforms (Tselentsis)	US\$999
ACX 3232 major service Darryl's cruiser centre	US\$432
Darryl's cruiser centre	US\$710
Eric Engineering (welding of chassis)	US\$500
MRC motors (New radiator ABM 5149)	US\$440
Darryl's cruiser centre	US\$559
Leighfield's (new hand held radios x 6) & repairs to old ones (6).	US\$2,391
ACX 3232 new tires x 6	US\$960
Ammunition	US\$510
New Landcruiser	US\$34,000
	<b>US\$41,726.75</b>

**# 3 DSC -F Vehicles x 2 plus 1 (Fuel, Servicing, Insurance, Sat Tracking).**

ACX 3232 (\$.5/km)	\$0.5/km	13877 km's	US\$6,939
AAX 9832 (\$.5/km)	\$0.5/km	9952 km's	US\$5,030
ABM 5149 (\$.5/km)	\$0.5/km	11734 km's	US\$2,628
			<b>US\$14,596</b>

<b>Total expenses</b>					<b>US\$84,870</b>
<b>Total Income</b>				<b>US\$146,866</b>	
<b>Credit carried forward to third period.</b>					<b>US\$61,996</b>

Second period 2020