



“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

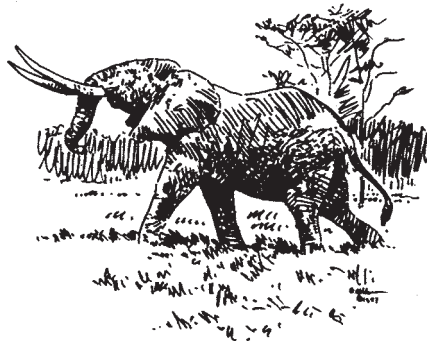
by John J. Jackson, III

DATELINE: TANZANIA

News... News... News
Amboseli Elephant Are
Tanzanian After All

A Kenya-based elephant tracking project has inadvertently disclosed that the bulls of Amboseli may really be Tanzanian. You may remember that a few years back there was a big flap over a few elephant bulls shot in Tanzania in the Longido Controlled Hunting Area concession. The elephants were misrepresented to the media to have been shot on the borderline as they wandered across. The representation was that they were Kenya elephants from Amboseli that had just happened to “wander” to Tanzania or perhaps were driven across the border. In fact, the hunting operators said two of the three had been shot deep in Tanzania’s hunting concession and that they were from herds of resident bulls in Tanzania. The new study radio collared a so-called

Amboseli bull in Amboseli and tracked it from a GPS transmitter on the radio collar. Although the bull was immobilized and collared in Amboseli he “spent 92% of his time in the Longido Game Controlled Area in Tanzania.” One month when the bull elephant was in musth he



spent most of it in Amboseli in the company of female groups, but immediately afterwards he returned to Tanzania and “stayed there for four full months.” “He was observed mainly associating with bulls (in Tanzania) and never came into the park.” He was not seen in the park

again until he was in full musth five months after having left the park. The author represents this as being evidence that Amboseli bulls are leaving the park and entering Tanzania therefore “it supports the decision of the Tanzanian government to close elephant hunting in this area as an activity incompatible with the objectives of the neighboring Amboseli National Park.” To the contrary, it demonstrates that the bulls are Tanzanian elephants and that they only go to Amboseli for sex. Bulls in heat are the last thing Amboseli needs since the elephant population there is three times the carrying capacity of the habitat. This fact is highlighted by the increasing focus by Kenya on immuno-contraception of the elephants. Regardless, the original representation that they were Kenya elephant bulls and that there was no existing population in Tanzania was false. Though the issue remains a sensitive one for those in Kenya, Tanzania is bearing the cost of Kenya’s management as well as the scars from the misrepresentations.

SPECIAL REPORT

News Analysis

**Whither Gun Control?
Who’s Doing What...**

As I write this there are 38 bills in Congress concerning gun control. Most have nothing whatsoever to do with violent children in schools even though gun violence in a middle class school started it this time. What tops it off is the 68th U.S. Conference of Mayors just held in New Orleans. Instead of slums and the tax base being the principle topics, gun control has become the dominant issue at the Conference. Even guest speaker Larry Gershman, president of World International Network and former president of MGM/United Artists television reportedly said, “I think the right to bear arms doesn’t fit with our changing times.” That is the pot calling the kettle black. More than 100 mayors sent a letter to House Speaker Dennis Hastert calling for tighter gun laws. Vice President Al Gore was in town at the same time for a fundraiser for his presidential campaign. Though he was careful to steer clear of sportsmen’s firearms, his key issue was gun control. He cited a new study by the Treasury and Justice Departments released the day before that shows that 24 percent of gun murders in the U.S. are committed by people between 18 and 20, just four percent of the country’s population. “In simplest terms, 18 to 20 year olds represent the group that is most likely to kill, most likely to kill with a gun and the most likely to use a gun when committing a crime other than murder,” Gore said. Gore cast the tie-breaking vote in the Senate several weeks before that cleared a major gun control measure. We can only hope that Gore deemphasizes gun control as his campaign matures and that the Conference of Mayors returns to old business as well, though it is not likely for either. Unfortunately the problem of violence with firearms now showing up in middle class suburban schools has long been chronic in our cities among

young minorities in and out of school. The real solution to that problem is not apparent. Ironically the debate among the 200 mayors gathered in Louisiana occurred on the same day that the governor of Louisiana signed a bill designed to nullify New Orleans’ lawsuit against the gun industry. The state legislature is also on the verge of passing a bill to prevent the authority of any Louisiana city to file such suits in the future. More than 20 cities have filed suits against gun manufacturers and retailers since the New Orleans suit began it all. The cities have a problem that has gained new political significance as gun violence surfaces in middle class schools and in suburbia as well as among youthful minorities in our inner cities. The good news is that Pittman-Robertson Act funds, the excise tax on firearms and ammunition that funds state wildlife grants, will take a leap. The jump in firearms sales following the passage of the so called “Brady Bill” doubled the P-R conservation fund and it was several years before it settled back to normal. It is happening again. Reactionary gun sales will be a boost for our state game agencies next year when the excise tax funds become available.

DATELINE: IRAN

**News... News... News
It’s Official: Americans
Can’t Hunt In Iran**

A recent attempt to get permission from U.S. authorities to hunt in Iran has been denied. All “transactions” with Iran have been prohibited since August 19, 1997 when President Clinton signed Executive Order 13059 clarifying two earlier Executive Orders, 12957 and 12959, and confirming that virtually all trade and transactions with Iran by U.S. persons, wherever located, are prohibited. The corporate penalties range up to \$500,000 and individual penalties of up to \$250,000 and 10 years in jail. Civil penalties may also be imposed. The sanctions against Iran are codified at 31CFR560. An earnest effort was made to get the Office of Foreign

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Assets Control that administers sanctions to issue an exemption license. The denial clarifies that prohibited transactions are far more inclusive than just the export and import of trophies. Transactions to hire services are included. The separate acts of employing a hunting guide or of paying a license fee to the government are criminally prohibited transactions. Though the denial of the license is being appealed, the attempt has definitely established that hunting in Iran is illegal. This is unlike the exemption for sporthunting and trophies that existed when sanctions were placed against the Republic of South Africa because of its apartheidism. In that case Congress passed an unusual exemption in an act of deference to wildlife conservation.

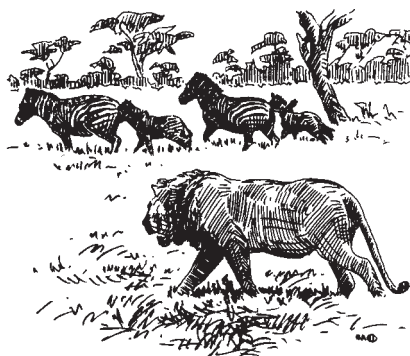
DATELINE: ZAMBIA

News Analysis

Kantipo: A Unique Anti-Poaching Outfit

The Kafue Anti-Poaching Company, KANTIPO, is a Zambia-based non-governmental organization formed in 1996 on a non-profit basis to serve and support Kafue National Park in Zambia. Today it has 85 people in the field at 10 stations in support of the park. The Kafue National Park is worth it. It is the oldest and largest national park in Zambia. Its biodiversity is said to be second only to the Amazon Basin ecosystem. Typical of many protected areas around the world, its animal density is lower than in the game management (hunting) areas surrounding it where, according to Stephan Sindern-Foster, manager of KANTIPO, LTD, "...the concession holders actively try to preserve the resource." One function KANTIPO performs is of particular interest. It has a legal wing that helps government prosecutors with prosecution of poachers and which also helps defend Zambia's National Parks and Wildlife officers when they themselves are charged for apprehending or killing poachers. NPWS officers are automatically held whenever a poacher

has been shot during an arrest. One major achievement of KANTIPO's legal wing came in 1997 when it managed to free four NPWS officers who had languished in Zambian prisons for more than three years waiting for trial on their case for alleged abuse of poachers. KANTIPO also puts up posters to attract attention, uses a local theatre group to perform on the issues at stake, and offers five-day courses in the park itself in environmental and wildlife education for children and adults from the surrounding villages. In short, it effectively promotes the conservation and development of Kafue National Park by including the local communities around the park in its work. It is a substantial undertaking worthy of support. If you wish to contribute to KANTIPO, Conservation



Force will accept dedicated donations for that purpose. Send your tax deductible donation to Conservation Force, 3900 N. Causeway Boulevard, Suite 1045, Metairie, Louisiana, 70002 U.S.A. Indicate that the contribution is for KANTIPO. Call if you have any questions, would like a brochure or need more information.

SPECIAL REPORT

**Regulatory Matters
Did Changes Improve
Bird-Baiting Rules?**

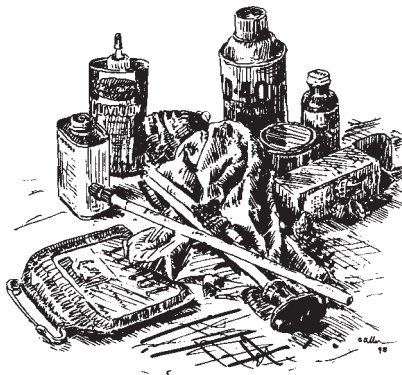
For the first time in 25 years, the USF&WS has reformed its regulations defining migratory bird baiting. The USF&WS is touting the regulations as being more user friendly, i.e., they treat hunt-

ers and landholders more reasonably. The Service Director Jamie Rappaport Clark, stated that "[e]veryone will find it easier to conserve and enjoy wetlands once it is in place." Although that is true, the regulations are most significant for the regulatory changes the service had proposed that were not adopted. A disaster has been narrowly avoided. The service had intended that incidental trampling and leveling of vegetation and inadvertent distribution of seeds would be unlawful as baiting by "manipulation." Instead the Final Rule expressly provides that inadvertent, normal distribution and trampling from making a blind, entering and leaving a blind, putting out decoys and retrieving downed birds is not to be prohibited. The service had intended that both intentional and inadvertent disturbances of natural vegetation be made illegal if they occurred at any time during the season or within the 10-day period before the season started. Instead the Final Rule provides that all the disturbance and manipulation of natural vegetation are excluded from regulation no matter when they occur. Natural vegetation is exempt. Hooray! Intentionally planted millet is to be treated as naturally occurring after one year from its planting to solve the special dispute over whether it is natural. After that one year it is to be exempt as well. The service had proposed prohibiting the hunting of migratory game birds over all top-sown fields regardless of the purpose of the seeding. The Final Rule continues to allow hunting over top-sown seeds that are present as a result of a normal agricultural planting or as part of a normal soil stabilization practice. The Final Rule is published at 106 FR 29799 and 50 CFR Part 20. If you want a copy, fax Conservation Force at 504-837-1145. The Final Rule is the opposite of what the USF&WS had intended and proposed... That is no accident. One has to wonder what would have happened had Congressman Don Young not been proactively at the helm. He watches over the USF&WS's

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shoulder in his position as Chair of the House Natural Resources Committee. The International Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies (IAFWA) must also share a large part of the credit for treating the proposed regulations very seriously and cautiously. IAFWA is the association of the 50 state game departments. Their committee earnestly opposed the proposed regulations that were not adopted. Conservation Force was in there too with both barrels, filing comments for multiple organizations, sending information and legal analysis to alert those that should be concerned. We even attended IAFWA meetings and counseled state directors on the legal implications of the proposed regulation changes that were ultimately rejected. It is another victory for wildlife management and the sportsmen, but I'd much rather not have such threatening close calls such as the proposed final rule before the USF&WS did a turn around. The new regulations are more significant for not making hunting and waterfowl man-

agement more difficult than for liberalizing the 25-year-old rules. They are also significant in their new appreciation and treatment of hunting and hunters. The USF&WS press release states that the regulations “will promote migratory bird habitat restoration efforts



and make it easier for hunters to comply with federal and state regulations.” The change is “a crucial incentive for landowners that benefit a wide range of species.” The service actually admits that “wetland restoration efforts on private land have been hampered

by existing regulations.” The new rule is an admission that the past regulations were serving as a “disincentive” for land managers to manage habitat for migratory birds and caused “public confusion about the types of activities considered to be baiting.” The old regulations led to a reduction in migratory bird habitat when the “[l]oss of habitat is the leading threat to the nation’s migratory birds . . .” The new regulations implicitly recognize hunting and habitat management for hunting as being a force for conservation, and that is the difference. The USF&WS describes this recognition as “new and innovative approaches to our traditional habitat protection and management programs to actively invite and encourage participation from private landowners in migratory bird habitat conservation efforts.” The new regulations treat hunting as part of the solution instead of the problem, and hence the regulations themselves have been made less a conservation impediment.

Briefly Noted

The Bear Protection Act is Back: For the third time the antis have had legislation introduced to prohibit trade in bear parts. Senator Mitch McConnell (R-Ky.) has submitted S.1109 with 40 co-sponsors and Rep. John Porter (R-IL) introduced HR 619. In the interval, two separate surveys of state and provincial game departments this year indicate that America has between 900,000 and 1,000,000 bears excluding some areas where they are thought abundant which did not have estimates. Nearly all bear populations are stable or increasing across America. The proposed legislation is a “Red Herring.” The whole effort continues the charade that bear in America are in jeopardy.

Grizzly Population Endangered: The grizzly in the Selkirk area of Idaho and Washington and the Cabinet–Yaak area of Montana and Idaho have been found by the USF&WS to

be endangered, but precluded from uplisting from threatened at this

Conservation Force Sponsor

The *Hunting Report* and Conservation Force would like to thank International Foundation for the Conservation of Wildlife (IGF) for generously agreeing to pay all of the costs associated with the publishing of this bulletin. IGF was created by Weatherby Award Winner H.I.H Prince Abdorreza of Iran 20 years ago. Initially called The International Foundation for the Conservation of Game, IGF was already promoting sustainable use of wildlife and conservation of biodiversity 15 years before the UN Rio Conference, which brought these matters to widespread public attention. The foundation has agreed to sponsor *Conservation Force Bulletin* in order to help international hunters keep abreast of hunting-related wildlife news. Conservation Force’s John J. Jackson, III, is a member of the board of IGF and Bertrand des Clers, its director, is a member of the Board of Directors of Conservation Force.



International Foundation for
the Conservation of Wildlife

time because of 16 other candidate species in that region that are higher priorities, 64 FR 26725-33. The finding was instigated by a petition to uplist those and other grizzly populations and litigation to force the issue. The Fund for Animals filed both. It has waged the campaign since 1991 and is not likely to stop. The finding is significant. It is the first U.S. bear population to be found endangered. It is likely to compromise hunting and recreational access. Black bear hunting and bear baiting will undoubtedly become more contentious issues in the areas. British Columbia already closed grizzly hunting in areas across the border in Canada, but the closures are now likely to continue for 50 years. Access, restrictive deactivation of roads and forestry restrictions can be expected on both sides of the border. - *John J. Jackson, III.*

MEMO

To: Jim Young, Print N Mail
From: Nilton Aquino, The Hunting Report
Re: July 1999 Issue of Conservation Force Supplement
Date: June 25, 1998

Jim,

Here's the July 1999 issue of the Conservation Force Supplement, to be inserted in the July 1999 issue of The Hunting Report. Don't forget to insert John Jackson's picture on page 2. Please fax "blue lines" for approval ASAP.

Total print run is 4,150. That includes 3,914 copies for insertion into The Hunting Report (active circulation); and 50 copies to be shipped directly to John Jackson. The remaining 186 copies are to be shipped to us here in Miami. As usual, bill John Jackson for all costs relating to Conservation Force.

Please call if questions.

Nilton