

Dear Supporter,

It is time measure our progress this year. One measurement is the worldwide recognition from other organizations.

Five of Conservation Force's Board Members were honored with six awards in 2006. The uncommon number speaks for itself. The **Peter Capstick Hunting Heritage Award** was bestowed on Baron Bertrand des Clers; the **Ox of Okavango Award** was bestowed on John Jackson by the African Professional Hunters Association; the **Wielder Conservation Award** was bestowed on Dr. James Teer; the **Wildlife Utilization Award 2006** was bestowed on Gerhard Damm by the Professional Hunters Association of South Africa; the **Cheetah Conservation Award** was bestowed on Volker Grellmann by the Cheetah Conservation Fund; and the **Conservationist of the Year Award** was again bestowed on Volker Grellmann by the Namibian Professional Hunters Association. What a team!

A second measurement is the success of our "smart" projects:

- Completed **A Hunter's Guide to Aging Lion in Eastern and Southern Africa** in a joint effort with half a dozen of the leading African lion scientists in the world. Conservation Force developed and funded this book to be published by Safari Press to advance best hunting practices.
- Conservation Force co-hosted the spectacular **Presidents' Gala Banquet** with Dallas Safari Club, The Freidkin Fund, and the Tanzania Foundation. Joint patrons former U.S. **President George H. W. Bush** and former **President Valery Giscard d'Estaing** animated the guests to raise a quarter million dollars for conservation in Tanzania.

This is above and beyond the quarter million dollars we also collected in the ongoing **Cullman & Hurt Community Wildlife Project** in Tanzania.

- Completed the **King of the Altai** monument conceived and sculpted by artist Rick Taylor and funded primarily through Conservation Force. The monument rests before the Natural History Museum in Ulan Bataar, Mongolia.
- Conservation Force continued its proactive leadership in six major projects aimed at developing hunting as a better recognized conservation tool. First in Bonn, Germany, then in Brussels, Belgium, Conservation Force formed part of an international team to develop **Principles, Guidelines and Criteria for Sustainable Hunting Tourism**. In London, Conservation Force co-sponsored the symposium on **Recreational Hunting, Conservation and Rural Livelihoods: Science and Practice** and the follow-up meeting **Standards and Certification for Recreational Hunting**. Both were held by IUCN's Sustainable Use Specialist Group in conjunction with the Zoological Society of London. In North America, Conservation Force sponsored the reestablishment of the **IUCN North American Sustainable Use Specialists Group** and supported the study and documentation of "conservation hunting" with the University of Alberta and the Circumpolar Institute. To top it off, Conservation Force worked tirelessly in South Africa to help develop better **Norms & Standards** for the regulation of hunting.

- Conservation Force continued its leadership in **African lion** conservation across all African lion range states. The projects range from the x-raying of teeth of all hunted lion in Botswana to photographing and aging the entire lion population of Kruger National park. Our Board members serve on the African Lion Working Group and contributed significantly to the **African Lion Workshops**.
- We expanded our **Ranching for Restoration** program. Ranchers in Texas are now funding an anti-poaching program to protect **red lechwe** in Zambia in partnership with the Zambia Wildlife Authority and Wildlife Conservation International. We serve on the IUCN **Deer Specialists Group** and sponsor the **Eld's Deer Task Force** and **Trust Fund** in partnership with the Smithsonian Research Center.
- We serve on the IUCN **Antelope Specialists Group** and this year began funding and partnering with the Murrelle Foundation for **Mountain Nyala** conservation in Ethiopia.
- Conservation Force persuaded the **Animal Health Inspection Service (APHIS)** to issue special interpretive letters clarifying that shipments of trophies were exempt from regulations applicable to commercially traded hoofed animal parts.
- Conservation Force led the campaign against the ESA listing of **polar bear** by acting as a communication and command center and filing well-researched and reasoned comments. We leveled many of the frightening misrepresentations that were being made.
- Conservation Force continued its leadership in proactive import permitting of key trophy species. This year we filed and argued administrative appeals for import of **elephant** from Mozambique and **black faced impala** from Namibia. We filed the first permits for elephant from Zambia and elephant from the NIASSA Reserve.

We filed the first permit for import of a **markhor** from a population not listed as “endangered” in a new initiative **The Other Markhor**. We started an initiative to downlist **argali** in China and another to eliminate the need for import permits for argali taken in Mongolia, Tajikistan and Kyrgyzstan.

- In Namibia, Conservation Force entered into a partnership with WWF to expand hunting, reintroduce game and preserve the biodiversity of 40 million acres of some of the last true wilderness areas on the earth. This is the largest new hunting development in the world and is expected to encompass 80 conservancies. It is real Africa in Southern Africa. Most of it has not been hunted before.

URGENT WARNING – HELP!

In stark contrast to all of these developments, the International Affairs section of the US Fish and Wildlife Service is drawing up regulations right now that will dramatically curtail your freedom to hunt overseas and bring back many major trophies. We formed an **International Hunters Campaign** with the USSA because of the peril. This year will be the most demanding and important in Conservation Force’s history. Unless you act **NOW** to support us, your son... your

daughter... your grandson... will almost certainly not enjoy the great freedom you have had. We need to triple our budget this year and I mean **RIGHT NOW!**

We have the commitment, courage and fortitude – but **not the resources** to see this fight through without your help. We can't even start unless there is money to see it through. Don't hold back or spread it around this time. We need all the support you can give. *I mean it!* Next month or next year will be too late. **Now** we have to give it all that we have.

Urgently and Sincerely,

John J. Jackson, III