

Recreational Hunting: Standards and Certification

Report of the IUCN/SSC Sustainable Use Specialist Group (SUSG) Workshop held in London, UK on 14th-15th October 2006

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Report compiled by SUSG members Rosie Cooney & Lee Foote**

Following a two day symposium entitled "Recreational Hunting, Conservation and Rural Livelihoods: Science and Practice", members of the IUCN/SSC SUSG from several regions, together with a number of invited expert participants (see Annex 1), met for a workshop in London on 14-15th October 2006. The meeting objective was to discuss ways to strengthen the conservation and social benefits of recreational hunting, including the possibilities of certification, and to identify actions which the SUSG could take to forward this agenda. Much of the first day comprised presentations (see summaries at Annex 2). Thereafter Dr Chris Weaver (WWF Life Programme, Namibia) facilitated discussion and helped participants draw parallels, isolate uncertainties and reach conclusions.

The meeting recognised that there are many different types of hunting and ways of categorizing it. These included hunting of abundant species by hunters in their own localities, tourist hunting for trophies in foreign countries, water-bird hunting, hunting of introduced species, falconry and others. It was accepted that although the dynamics of hunting may vary in different contexts and countries, the discussion should encompass recreational hunting in its broadest sense. It may be helpful to include here a provisional definition of recreational hunting which was provided by the organisers of the conference mentioned above and was set out in the first presentation at the symposium by Professor Nigel Leader-Williams:

RECREATIONAL HUNTING DEFINITION:

Recreational hunting is the over-arching term for this meeting and refers to hunting where the hunter or hunters pursue their quarry primarily for recreation or pleasure. The enjoyment of recreational hunters arises from the social and cultural norms associated with the hunt, and need not necessarily include killing the quarry.

Recreational hunters may seek a range of quarry species, from large mammals to small birds, and use a range of technologies in pursuit of their quarry, from more traditional bows and arrows, traps, dogs, falcons and ferrets, to more modern guns and rifles, and most recently to tranquillizing dart guns. Beside the primary motive of enjoying the hunt, recreational hunters may also be seeking a trophy or trophies, and/or meat for consumption, to gain meaningful experiences and insights into other's livelihoods, and/or to make a direct or indirect contribution to population management and habitat conservation goals.

From an economic perspective, there are two broad, but not exclusive, types of recreational hunting:

First, what we term **local hunting**, where the hunter lives near the hunting arena, and organizes, and pays appropriate fees for, that hunting experience locally.

Second, what we term **hunting tourism**, where the hunter travels a considerable distance from home, often abroad, to participate in hunting. Such individuals are prepared to pay considerable sums of money for hunt requirements such as guide services, licenses, trophy fees, skimmers and trackers, and some brokerage to an intermediary supplier, to organise aspects of that hunting experience.

Many more recreational hunters take part in the first, while many fewer, but usually wealthier, recreational hunters take part in the second.

While this report raises a number of issues and difficulties associated with recreational hunting, these must be viewed in context. For example in North America, Europe and Australia some 22 million hunters who hunt locally or in their own countries spend the equivalent of US\$32 billion annually, significant elements of which go into the rural economy or taxation which directly or indirectly supports public conservation efforts. In Africa, Central Asia and the North American Arctic, high value trophy hunting regimes are now designed to convey benefits to conservation and local livelihoods – sometimes termed “conservation hunting”. Moreover, wherever recreational hunting occurs it gives economic or political value to land which is favourable to the existence of wild species and maintenance of their habitats and therefore provides a disincentive to converting such land into environmentally less favourable uses. Where practised responsibly, as it mostly is, recreational hunting is an important tool for conservation and development, even if hunters themselves may not always be aware of this.

The challenge for the participants in this meeting was to examine ways in which the positive aspects of hunting can be understood and strengthened and any negative outcomes ameliorated.

A range of possible mechanisms exist for enhancing the sustainability, conservation contribution and public acceptance of hunting, including: certification, assisting in government cooperation and improved governance, development of standards, best-practice guidelines, codes of conduct, and model systems.

Fundamental questions faced by the meeting included:

- What problems need to be addressed?
- What is an appropriate mechanism to address these problems?
- What is the role of IUCN/SSC and its SUSG, if any?
- What is the way forward?

What problems need to be addressed?

Major problems (many of which are linked) include:

1. *The conservation benefits of hunting could be improved.* A range of current practices undermine potential conservation benefits of hunting, such as introduction of alien species to hunt, breeding genetic “freaks” or hybrids to hunt, setting quotas too high or poor monitoring of populations potentially impacted by hunting.
2. *The socio-economic effects and equity of revenue distribution from some types of hunting must be improved.* In some cases the benefits of hunting are captured “upwards” by privileged hunt managers while the costs are transferred “downwards” to the relatively poor local people in the hunting area, with considerable benefits flowing offshore, sometimes to large powerful interests, and few benefits going to local people and communities. Hunting needs to provide direct socio-economic benefits to local people and landholders, for reasons both of social equity, to maintain/maximise conservation benefits.
3. *There is poor governance of hunting in some countries.* In hunting institutions (regulatory agencies as well as hunters’ organisations) in some countries there are serious problems with lack of transparency, corruption, deliberate misinformation and malpractice.
4. *The case for hunting as a conservation tool is not well understood.* The case for the conservation benefits of recreational hunting has not been made in a credible way at global and national levels. There is a major gap of understanding regarding how killing animals can help their populations survive. Even within key conservation organisations, some country branches support hunting as a conservation tool while others oppose it.

5. Lack of public support for hunting jeopardises its “social licence to operate”. There is a well-organised opposition to hunting led by animal rights and animal welfare organisations. While some see these as representing unrealistic romantic urban constituencies, their emotive message readily stirs the public. The impacts of hunting may be misrepresented to the public. In any case, widespread public opposition to hunting can jeopardise its survival.
6. Global/national regulation makes hunting vulnerable to restriction or prohibition. There is a plethora of regulation concerning hunting at levels from local to global, which may be on the increase. These provide many avenues for restriction or prohibition of hunting according to prevailing political or public disposition. Further, some regulations establish a precedent against hunting which is difficult to counter. The professional or governmental level from which regulation is enforced appears to be very important
7. Tools to demonstrate, evaluate, and verify the relative conservation and socio-economic contribution of hunting operations are lacking. There is currently no way to reliably discriminate between the “good” and the “bad” in hunting. There is, for instance, no best practice guidance for countries seeking to review their hunting laws, or to verify for the public that individual hunting operations meet conservation or socio-economic criteria, or to demonstrate to a regulatory agency that a hunting trophy is from an operation delivering conservation benefit.
8. Self-regulation is necessary but not sufficient. However, self-policing through the development of a culture of conservation by hunters holds promise. There are long-standing traditions and strong cultural mores within hunting and the hunting industry. Such internal policing can be very beneficial, especially when supported by the broader, non-hunting public. In some specific activities (e.g., white-tailed deer hunting in north-eastern USA, subsistence and recreational polar bear hunting in Nunavut, Canada; falconry in UK; and small game hunting in Germany) a conservation ethic appears self-imposed by user group peer pressure and distinct cultures of hunting have emerged, replete with modern taboos designed to steer behaviour toward socially acceptable outcomes. Cultural incentives for acceptable behaviour are often reinforced by regulatory, religious, or economic forces. Just as regulations alone are sub-optimal for legal/ethical compliance, persuasive appeals to a code of conduct are sometimes lacking to ensure good hunter behaviour; both are important and work best in concert. There are sometimes incentives for individuals to violate ethical or sustainable practices, and in some cases outfitters who violate can be protected by an industry “code of silence”, hence, the benefit of a backup of enforceable incentives/disincentives.

What is an appropriate mechanism(s) to address these problems?

Various strategies for addressing these problems include:

- Balancing of carrots and sticks. Historically, recreational hunting has been regulated by governments which have the benefit of having legal mandates. However, some think the hunting community is over-regulated in some places, arguing that an initiative that provides “both pressure and a solution” may be more powerful and efficient than more formal regulatory approaches.
- Standards in concessions, tenders and contracts Some communities in Namibia are including a range of operational conditions and guidelines in their contractual agreements with hunting operators that hunting clients must follow. This can be highly effective when properly enforced.

- Processes to develop standards for “Conservation Hunting” Efforts in North America are ongoing to develop conceptions and acceptance of “Conservation Hunting” building on a published paper by Drs. William Wall (North American Group of the SUSG) and Bryan Kerkoram.
- Codes of Conduct, Voluntary Guidelines, other “benchmarks of good practice” Those reviewed and discussed include the European Regional Group of the SUSG Wild Species Resources Working Group (ESUSG/WISPER) guidelines for hunting in Europe, a proposed European Charter for Conservation through Falconry in draft form, and the game-shoot standards assurance scheme 2006 of the British Association for Shooting and Conservation (BASC.) There are challenges associated with the growth in the number of such initiative, including possible duplication and contradiction. It is also likely that even successful schemes may not be easily transferable.
- Certification Various initiatives which provide insight, examples and practical guidance for the development of a certification process were discussed. The Forest Stewardship Council offers useful lessons and insights for the development of certification initiatives, albeit on a much larger and more complex scale than would be feasible for recreational hunting, and emphasises in particular the importance of getting the process and governance mechanisms right. “Savannas Forever” is in the early stages of outlining a national hunting certification initiative linked to community benefits in Tanzania; such efforts seek to provide a model. A recent study of American tourist hunters suggests that there may be a higher demand among hunters for “good practice” aspects (such as ensuring benefits go to local communities & hunted species are at least from non-threatened populations) than is currently recognised by most operators. The concept of hunting expressly identified as benefiting conservation and local people is potentially a strong niche that may provide leverage for market-based approaches such as certifiably sustainable hunts. Vigilance and awareness of any unintended consequences, such as the exclusion of local hunters, would be important.

Combined models add dimensions to enrich hunting activities. Recreational hunting conducted in a foreign context provides a rich opportunity to combine educational components for visiting hunters in topics related to, but not overlapping, hunting skills, including non-contrived social interactions with local people, environmental/ecosystem education, and non-game species ecology. Some relatively wealthy hunters travelling to destinations in developing countries, are interested in simultaneously hunting game animals, being involved in ecosystem improvement, contributing appropriately to the welfare and livelihoods of local people, and learning more about the ancient and recent history associated with hunting in their host countries. Outfitters who, invite external inspection and verification of their codes of practice, and can demonstrate that their outfitting craft is conducted in a sustainable manner, could help their clients to become ecologically aware “hunting ambassadors” and indirectly contribute to the welfare of local people. If added value could be secured, it might create an incentive for outfitters to diversify the experience for clients. Such “hunting-in-context” experiences may also improve the image of hunting internationally.

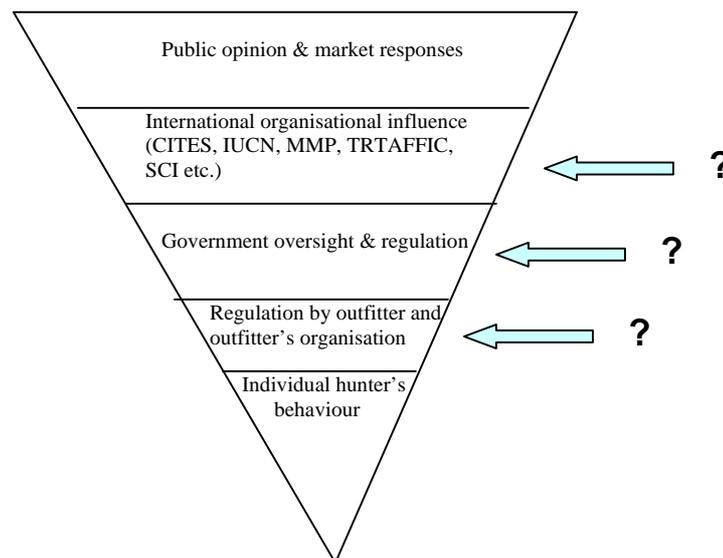
Ecotourism has advanced the concept of “focus on the experience and conditions under which it was gained” well beyond hunting operations that tend to focus on “kills resulting from hunt”. Ecotourism offers model components from which to borrow to create “eco-hunts” wherein hunting is combined with educational components about the biology and management of the species being hunted, the traditional and subsistence hunting techniques, and the cultural relationship of local hunters and hunted species. These dimensions may add depth and meaning to the hunting experience and increase participation from sectors currently under-represented.

Characteristics of desired approaches

The meeting did not identify and agree on a single approach. Several different levels could be targeted – the governance system, hunting operators, regions, individuals, etc. – each requiring a different approach. Some common characteristics of desirable approaches emerged. Strong support was voiced for including social, biological and ethical aspects (including animal welfare and “Fair Chase” principles) into system(s) of certification, standards, guidelines or targets. A proposed system or set of guidance must work from the point of view of the hunting industry (to get them engaged and involved); of local communities (to ensure they benefit); of wildlife biologists (to ensure conservation benefits accrue to species and habitats); and of government systems (to operate with political support). Any system adopted will need resources and training to meet required standards. It should create the most impact for the least resource expenditure. Long time lags may be inevitable and benefits may appear much later than investments. The premise is that value may be added, yet, the awarding of certification is a benefit to be opted for, not used in a regulatory or punitive way. Examples of “good” operators working within a “good” government system may serve as a model for outfitters in other settings. If indeed the market rewards such model systems, others may emulate these early adopters.

Figure 1.

Where is the appropriate insertion point for action to promote ‘sustainable’ hunting?



What is the role of the IUCN/SSC and its SUSG?

IUCN can be an extremely influential body, especially as a result of its unique combination of government and non-governmental members. It has developed guidance on a range of technical issues, such as categorisations for protected areas, categories and criteria for assessing the conservation status of species, translocation and reintroduction and sustainable use. This guidance is adopted and applied across the world. IUCN also has major convening power. It provides a broad forum in which to bring together divergent interests and seek fruitful dialogue towards producing effective solutions. It therefore provides a very appropriate body to promote principles and develop guidelines of good practice in recreational hunting. It also provides a neutral and authoritative counter to those who oppose hunting on *a priori* grounds.

Draft checklist of follow-up actions

Following a valuable and wide-ranging discussion and the articulation of a variety of questions, the following processes and mechanisms, at various different levels, were suggested for the SUSG and those wishing to be engaged with it to consider and take forward:

Global

- Establish a high level dialogue process to:
 - build relationships and trust at high level between stakeholders
 - enable different stakeholders - operators, producing communities, hunters' organisations, governments, and hunting clients to agree principles or standards for sustainable or conservation hunting
 - achieve this, especially industry "buy-in", may require "ambassadorship" to operators and the conservation case will need to be clarified and synthesised in advance.
- Catalogue "model operations" to:
 - characterise examples of good practice which are grounded and realistic.
- Build public awareness and understanding by:
 - using material presented at the ZSL symposium
 - using abstracts or popularised versions
 - distributing and making outputs widely accessible to lay audiences.
- Promote workshops or side events at major international meetings- e.g. SUSG will be involved in a Recreational Hunting Workshop on 1 July 2007 at the annual meeting of the Society for Conservation Biology in Port Elizabeth, South Africa.

National

- In the CITES context, equip national governments to address hunting issues
 - need to present analysis and briefing to government sources on hunting issues well in advance of CITES meeting (N.B. next CoP is in Netherlands June 2007) –most governments come with voting patterns decided
- In the European Union context, seek support for a defensible hunting position
 - present information in a form useful to decision-makers - most issues data-poor, but compile best that is available

Organisational

- Many organizations, directly and indirectly involved, can examine what they could do to encourage industry self-policing, regulation, professionalism, implementation, and support for efforts to elevate the benefits flowing from hunting activities.

Next Steps?

In terms of process, the SUSG Chair undertook to circulate a draft report of the workshop, a list of participants and a draft checklist of points for follow-up action by 15 December, inviting responses by 15 January.

Thanks to sponsors

CIC (International Council for Game and Wildlife Conservation), Conservation Force, Dallas Safari Club, Safari Club International Foundation, the Sand County Foundation and The Zoological Society of London provided financial and in-kind support for the meeting. Donors present expressed their satisfaction with the balanced considerations and debate.

Annex 1

List of participants

Nicholas	Aebischer	Richard	Lamprey
Rolf	Baldus	Nigel	Leader-Williams
Ivan	Bond	Ray	Lee
Vernon	Booth	David	Lee
Monique	Borgerhoff Mulder	Peter	Lindsey
Robert	Byrne	Andrew	Loveridge
Jim	Casaer	Hector	Magome
Brian	Child	Stuart	Marks
Rosie	Cooney	Giuseppe	Micali
Sandor	Csanyi	Bruce	Mincher
Richard	Davies	Nicholas	Mrosofsky
Abigail	Day	Arthur	Mugisha
Barney	Dickson	Gabriel	Nirlungayuk
Holly	Dublin	Connor	O'Gorman
David	Erickson	HS	Pabla
Marco	Festa-Bianchet	Craig	Packer
Vin	Fleming	George	Pangeti
Lee	Foote	Fritz	Reimoser
Mike	Frisina	Anabela	Rodriguez
Cy	Griffin	Alison	Rosser
Phil	Guillery	Robin	Sharp
Claire	Gupta	Robert	Stuebing
Brahim	Haddane	Naseer	Tareen
Brent	Haglund	Graham	Van Tighem
Kas	Hamman	Kit	Vaughan
Vidar	Holthe	Bill	Wall
Jon	Hutton	Ed	Warner
John	Jackson	Chris	Weaver
Susan	James	Kai	Wollscheid
Mike	Jones	Andrew	Zakharenka
Robert	Kenward	Kolja	Zimmermann
Anthony	King		

Annex 2

Summaries of Presentations

I. Conservation Hunting - Dr. Lee Foote (North American Chair SUSG) and Dr. William A. Wall (Alaska Village Initiatives)

Presentation Overview

- In recent professional colloquia (Christchurch, NZ; Edmonton, Canada; London, UK) recognition of conservation hunting (CH) as a form of recreational hunting is emerging wherein sustainability and conservation-perpetuating activities are explicitly integrated into the ecological, social and economic aspect of recreational hunting. With acknowledgements to CBNRM and pioneering CAMPFIRE programs, tenets defining CH are:
 - Empowerment and accountability of all wildlife users.
 - Equitable sharing of benefits amongst all local people.
 - No harm to species survival, genetic quality or regional distributions.
 - Employment of local people where possible.
 - Recognition that CH is a conservation process, not just a harvest strategy.
 - Involve local quota setting to the extent feasible by governmental regulation.
 - Governance that is supportive and interactive.
- The potential influence on local economies, cultural exchanges, international relations, and global perceptions of hunting can be disproportionately large however.
- If good behavior on the part of outfitters can become cost effective it will likely permeate the industry.
- Some recommendations include: Make recreational hunting explicitly a green activity; Professional hunters should be facilitators and not insulators between visiting hunters and local people; Incorporate cultural exchange as part of the hunt packages by trading wisdom and skills both ways across cultures; Showcase local knowledge and expertise; Involve village women's as well as men's input; Be "real-world" strategic over land uses and recognize tradeoffs with livestock, cropping and dwelling areas; Be expansive and pay employees well; Use incentives and dis-incentives to steer behavior; Borrow the best from other forms of tourism and recognize that what is being purchased is an experience, not only hides and horns; Recognize that hunting work holds meaning beyond income for most hunt employees; Incorporate research and formalization to make the process adaptive.

II. Wild Species Resources (WISPER) - Jim Casaer (ESUSG)

Presentation Overview

- A draft guidance document for European small (< 100 ha) common land and estates for recreational hunting with benefits resulting from (a) avoiding eradication of species, (b) dealing with over abundant species such as boar and deer, (c) facilitating trophy management, (d) minimizing impacts of invasive species.
- This work is responding to social acceptability of residential hunters (not the hunting industry) and the role of hunting in relation to other human activities such as farming, tourism, forestry, as well as maintenance of biological communities.
- Proposal aims to evaluate and incent species conservation, animal welfare issues, economic growth, and societal acceptance. Clear specification that this is *not* primarily a trophy management regime.
- Tenets include: Coordination amongst neighboring management units; animal movements by season; reintroduction related to alien species; management planning and bag recording for adaptive management; predator regulation, improve local employment and service involvement; strive for a fair cash return to landowners and communities; involve local hunters; reduce suffering of animals hunted; remain aware of public sentiments; preserve the cultural, historic and artistic values.

III. Hunting client preferences: implications for certification of hunting operators - PA Lindsey, R Alexander, L Frank, A Mathieson, and S Romanach

Presentation Overview

- Trophy hunting is critical to African conservation by generating >\$US 200 million annually, supports 1.4 million km² wildlife range, encourages wildlife conservation where ecotourism is not possible.
- Trophy hunting is generally sustainable and yields incentives to protect endangered species and improve habitat.
- Leakages (financial losses to country) are lower than for ecotourism, (e.g.) 33% of Tanzania's hunting revenues go to state vs. 8% of ecotourism dollars.
- Hunting industry has Social, biological and ethical problems.
- Social problems – failure to allocate sufficient revenues to communities; corruption; hunting block allocations; excessive citizen quotas.
- Biological problems – unscientific quota setting; negative population effects in some species/areas; pressure for larger quotas and smaller hunting blocks as well as game ranches; introduction of exotic species; breeding of aberrant varieties such as albino lines and odd colorations; predator removals.
- Ethical problems – Unacceptable practices such as shooting from vehicles; taking females and young; luring animals from parks; hunting with hounds; canned [small fenced area] hunts; put-and-take hunting; spotlighting/baiting.
- Client preferences were analyzed and ranked in this descending order: Quality outfitter → wilderness feel to hunting area → trophy quality → large hunting area → diversity of trophies → attractive scenery → cheetahs present → guaranteed trophies.
- When hunting operators were asked what they thought hunter preferences were they prioritized similarly but greatly overestimated the perceived importance of a guaranteed trophy and underestimated the value of cheetahs presence.
- Hunters chose 333 km² as the minimum desired hunt area; Operators chose 94.7 km² as the minimum.
- Hunting block sizes ranged from Zambia (mean = 10,500 km²) to South Africa (mean = 48 km²).
- Conclude it is very hard for inexperienced hunters to make informed choices from web sites or even talking to outfitters.
- Clients more concerned with experiencing aspects of biodiversity not related to hunting than operators realized.
- Clients less willing to hunt under circumstances detrimental to conservation than operators realize.
- Clients would likely select for operators who hunt in a “conservation-friendly” manner than those who do not.
- Clients generally can't distinguish conservation merit amongst operators.
- Certification may aid hunters in distinguishing quality of outfitters.
- Client preferences have potential to drive outfitter decisions.
- Problems of certification include: Competing certification groups; excessive input from profit-driven private sector; uncertainty as to who constitutes “local communities”; not clear what “adequate benefits” means; social programs may take bulk of conservation support.
- Questions of “ethical hunting”, land tenure rights, fairness of comparison across wide operator conditions;
- Hunting industry cooperation would help public and government believe sincerity of industry's conservation intent.
- Need education within the hunting industry; better wildlife population data; improved regulation within the industry; clearer stronger laws;

IV. Setting standards through concessions, tenders and contracts - Chris Weaver (WWF, LIFE, Namibia)

Presentation Overview

- Purpose of conservancies is to empower local communities to manage and benefit from natural resources in sustainable ways.
- Opportunities for Trophy hunting, own-use hunting, shoot and sale, premium hunting, live game sales
- Namibia has 23 conservancies benefiting from 16 hunting concessions & there is much potential for expansion.
- Conservancy income has grown steadily from <\$N 1 Million in 2000 to >\$N 7 Million in 2006.
- Namibia grants rights to the conservancies for : Right to ownership of game, right to income from sale of game for trophies or products; rights to tourism
- Concession tendering can encourage (a) sustainable use, (b) competitive prices, (c) transparency, (d) employment and training targets, (e) community empowerment.
- Accountability through contracts comes from agreed upon (a) duration of contract (b) offtake levels, (c) payments and schedules, (d) Hunt management procedures, (e) conditions in case of breach of contract.
- Operational guidelines specify management, social issues, reporting
- Need a code of ethics, code of conduct, consumer awareness, professional hunter associations, peer awards.

V. Environmental and Social Certification Systems - Phil Guillery (Forest Standards Certification)

Components of a Certification System

- Standards and standard setting process
- Accreditation and recognition (certificates)
- Governance structure
- Capacity building, education, training and marketing
- Operations/business management

Criteria for an independent 3rd party certification system

- Compliance with international norms and standards
- Balance of economic, ecological, and equity dimensions
- All stakeholders have meaningful participation
- Objective performance standards adapted to local conditions
- Free of conflict of interest and transparent decision-making
- Reliable independent assessment of performance
- Continuous improvement in management
- Cost effective
- Voluntary

Source: FSC Principles and Criteria; Forest Certification Assessment Guide. WWF/World Bank

Elements of a credible standard

- Legal
- Respects tenure, use rights, indigenous rights community relations workers rights
- Recognizes multiple benefits from the land
- Mitigates environmental impacts
- Maintains critical habitats
- Uses a management plan for effective monitoring and assessment

Source: FSC Principles and Criteria; Forest Certification Assessment Guide. WWF/World Bank

Development

- Core group moves forward with lead organization and steering group
- Feasibility study – scope- feedback- final draft- consultation- decision to proceed - fund raising- business plan- implementation

What are “standards”?

- Principle = a fundamental requirement of good management that applies everywhere
- Criteria = adds meaning without being a direct measure of good management
- Indicators = specific outcomes or levels of performance measures during evaluation
- Verifiers = evidence that confirms compliance with indicators but doesn't define level of performance.

VI. Savannas Forever Tanzania - Drs. Craig Packer and Susan James (Savannas Forever, Tanzania and Madison, Wisconsin)

Presentation Overview

- Proposed a certification governance concept with 5 nodes around a central certification council. Nodes were (a) Independent auditors, (b) Socio-cultural reps from communities, (c) Business reps from tourism/hunting, (d) Conservation reps from NGOs, government & academe, (e) Savannas Forever for implementation
- SF certification objectives are (a) practical tools for human and animal benefits, (b) performance and effectiveness monitoring, (c) engaging and linking private sector with rural communities, (d) open transparent management
- Recognition of human stress in hunting areas based on health and children weights, time since last meals.
- Found Tarangire, Tanzania for example, had big wildlife conflicts with humans at lower income/ subsistence levels. Also crop damage, land confiscation, diseases, boundary conflicts, absence of communication, shooting near villages, chasing herders out of hunting area.
- Need health services, schools, clean water.
- Lion and buffalo hunting can generate local funds if done sustainably and income distributed fairly.
- Need to expand to Selous and Western Tanzania, improve communication, convene stakeholders, facilitate certification system.
- Need to evaluate community conservation; inspect and monitor lion, leopard, buffalo offtake, train PHs, keep bushmeat offtake at reasonable level.

VII. Hunting, Tourism and Sustainability - Kai Wollscheid (CIC Sustainable Hunting Program)

Presentation Overview

- Need to maintain a larger, longer time frame perspective.
- Find unifying themes, theories and best practices.
- Work with our own industries.
- Recognizes that tourism is travel for recreation or leisure and the services that support them. The distance traveled does not alter this definition.
- Hunting tourism is a complex market sector that involves travel and transport; landscape/destination; accommodations; food and beverage; mobility and infrastructure; and the actual hunting activity (which is one of six elements).
- Ecotourism is the responsible travel to natural areas that conserves the environment and sustains the well being of local people.

- Hunting may conflict or support these basic tenets.
- Recommends the Addis Ababa Principles and Guidelines that contend sustainability of use of biodiversity will be maintained if there is: supportive and linked governance at all levels; empowerment and accountability of local users; adaptive management with local knowledge; equitable sharing of benefits for local people; transparency and international cooperation; public awareness of benefits.
- CIC has a program on sustainable hunting tourism that will develop and apply a set of principles, criteria and indicators to measure and support sustainable hunting tourism.
- Steps – (1) Develop principles, guidelines and criteria (Global), (2) Develop indicators and ownership (Regionally), (3) Implement pilot projects, dialogues, round tables (Regionally), (4) Implement pilot projects, dialogues and round tables to test and create best practices and ownership (Regionally), (5) Develop code of conduct or certification options and charter (Global), (6) Conduct PR campaign (Global).

VIII. A Charter for Conservation through Falconry - Dr. Robert Kenward (ESUSG)

Presentation Overview

- Falconry generates knowledge, skills, education and resources for conservation. However, concerns about negative impacts, which are easily rendered negligible for species conservation, can make this minority activity vulnerable to pressures that prevent realization of conservation value and can even act perversely.
- A solution, based on knowledge of how falconry has developed under different regulatory regimes, is a charter that recommends how governments and falconers can work together to benefit human societies and conservation of biodiversity.
- The Charter for Conservation through Falconry invokes AAPG principles, notably for supportive governance at all levels (1), empowerment of users (2), avoidance of perverse incentives (3), adaptive management based on traditional knowledge and monitoring (4) with education and public awareness (14).
- It was drafted by ESUSG members with between them > 55 years experience of falconry issues internationally, followed by review in a panel of conservation ornithologists and raptor experts outside ESUSG, and more user-consultation.
- The Charter contains 7 principles, namely to
 1. Encourage cooperation between falconers and other conservation interests.
 2. Maintain environments that support robust populations of raptors and prey.
 3. Ensure that use of raptors and prey is sustainable.
 4. Encourage falconry techniques that are likely to benefit wild populations.
 5. Maintain wild populations of native species with adaptive gene pools.
 6. Hold the welfare of raptors and their prey as a primary consideration.
 7. Favour regulations that maximise conservation benefit.
- For each principle, there are implementation guidelines for government and falconers that are advisory and hence non-binding, in total 15 and 13 respectively, e.g. for Principle 1 that “harmonious relations are most likely if regulators and wildlife managers: create structures inclusive of all interests; encourage public understanding of conservation benefits from falconry; seek opportunities & give incentives for cooperation between different interests; use all possible measures to avoid & resolve conflicts; and if falconers: seek opportunities to benefit human & wildlife populations; assist development & acceptance of effective regulations.”
- There was limited time for discussion but it is hoped that the Charter for Conservation through Falconry can be taken forward through cooperation between ESUSG and the International Association for Falconry and Conservation of Birds of Prey.