



SPECIAL SUPPLEMENT

*"Hunting provides the principal incentive and revenue for conservation.
Hence it is a force for conservation."*

World Conservation Force Bulletin

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Study Documents Significant Hunting Operator Contributions to Wildlife & Communities

Conservation Force recently released a study conducted over the summer that documents the previously unmeasured and unaccounted for benefits of safari hunting. These are the activities and expenditures that hunting operators and their clients contribute above the fees paid to wildlife authorities. This is the first study to capture anti-poaching, community investment, habitat protection, and other expenditures on such a scale – 27 companies representing 40% of hunting areas in Tanzania. The study captures



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the essential role that hunting serves in growing lion prey and habitat, anti-poaching, and local tolerance, which addresses the primary threats to lion survival. It demonstrates why Tanzania has the most lion, and frankly, why countries that rely on conservation hunting as a management strategy in Southern and Eastern Africa have far more lion

than the rest of Africa combined.

At the urging of the Tanzania Hunting Operators Association, operators literally opened their books to Conservation Force's contractor,

Matt Boguslawski (a young Texas attorney and licensed PH), who spent two months in the field, with managers and personnel of the hunting operators, collecting proprietary operating information, then writing summaries with related photographs, charts, graphs and analysis. Over 2,700 pages support the summary Operator Enhancement Reports.

That is the good news. The bad news is really bad. The system is collapsing because approximately 30% (and growing) of the hunting blocks in Tanzania have been surrendered back to the government because the operators cannot afford to operate in those blocks without lion and elephant hunting revenues. That is 45 blocks out

SHORT SUMMARY OF OPERATOR ENHANCEMENT REPORTS

Twenty-seven safari hunting operators, owned and marketed by thirteen parent companies and together protecting over 121,423 km² in Tanzania, provided data to Conservation Force describing their contributions to anti-poaching, community assistance, habitat protection, wildlife monitoring, and more. In the 2013-2015 period, their contributions to anti-poaching, community assistance, and habitat protection alone topped \$9.8 million. That \$9.8 million in conservation spending is over and above any government fees, and has largely been unaccounted for and overlooked by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, the media, and the general public. Yet that funding represents obvious "enhancement" (benefits) supporting the African lion in the wild.

These contributions are immense, but they are still under-representative. Not all safari hunting operators provided data to Conservation Force. For example, the well-documented anti-poaching program of the Friedkin Conservation Fund is not included in that \$9.8 million. Conservation Force also discovered that U.S. hunting clubs have funded over \$1 million in lion research since 2010. Taken together, and supported by over 2,700 pages of source documents, it has become clear that licensed, regulated hunting in Tanzania pays for most lion conservation in that country.

This short summary highlights the primary findings of Conservation Force's study, which focused on the past three years (2013-2015).

of 157 and approximately 73, 817 km² removed from management and the benefits measured above. That is an area greater than Tanzania's national parks (just under 58,000 km²).

Worst, the Community Wildlife Management Areas (WMA's) being developed as wildlife corridors are in dire straits, as virtually all hunting operators have had to withdraw their participation. WMAs were expected to increase the habitat under protection, but that growth is now in jeopardy.

If this decline continues, the whole management regime can expect to collapse. The primary revenue base of the new Tanzania Wildlife Management Authority was to be from safari hunting. The industry's pending collapse hangs out to dry the third largest elephant population and the largest lion population in the world.

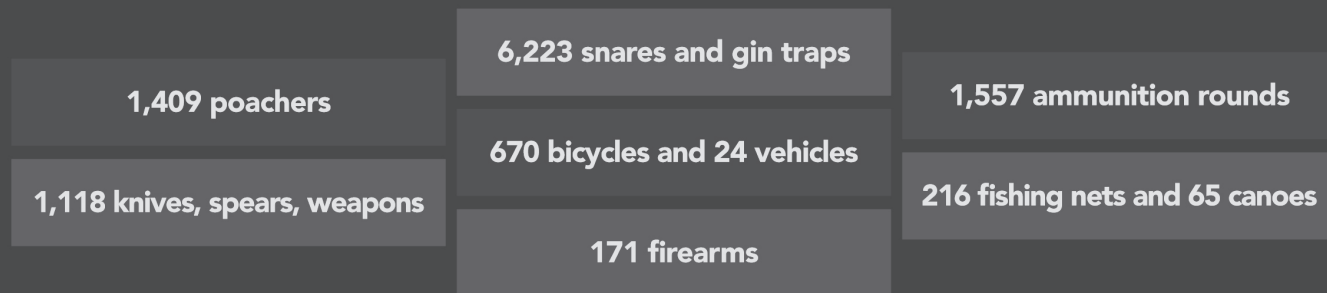
US Fish & Wildlife Service (FWS) administration of the Endangered Species Act (ESA) threatened listing and special rule for both lion and elephant

are the problems. We appealed the denial of elephant import permits without success and have been hard-pressed to get FWS to process lion import permits for anywhere for a full year, except a handful of token imports from the Republic of South Africa issued in late October. We have made the FWS aware of the damage they are causing, and we can only hope they will respond appropriately, given the clear evidence of "enhancement" in the data Conservation Force collected. ■

CONTRIBUTIONS TO ANTI-POACHING

All 27 hunting operators deploy anti-poaching units in their concessions. Their teams are accompanied by at least one government game scout with the authority to arrest, whose salary is paid by the operator. All operators surveyed maintain **year-round** anti-poaching patrols. Eleven operators maintain specific patrol records and recorded **7,170 patrol days**, representing **19.6 years** of anti-poaching patrols. These 11 operators reported the arrests or seizures listed below.

Arrests or Seizures



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published periodically free of charge for subscribers to The Hunting Report, 12182 SW 128 Street, Miami, FL 33186. All material contained herein is provided by famed wildlife and hunting attorney John J. Jackson, III with whom The Hunting Report has formed a strategic alliance. The purpose of the alliance is to educate the hunting community as well as pro-advocacy of hunting rights opportunities. More broadly, the alliance will also seek to open up new hunting opportunities worldwide and ward off attacks on currently available opportunities. For more information on Conservation Force and/or the services available through Jackson's alliance with The Hunting Report, write:

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Operators fund these anti-poaching patrols primarily from hunting revenues and secondarily from client contributions. Anti-poaching expenses include: scout salaries and bonuses, and rewards for informants in the villages; vehicles (Land Cruisers, motorcycles, boats, custom anti-poaching vehicles, aircraft purchase or rental, etc.), fuel, and maintenance; cell or satellite phones and high frequency radios; uniforms; firearms and ammunition; tents and rations; road opening and maintenance; and support and equipment for government anti-poaching units. Examples of support for government scouts include a \$31,500.00 equipment donation in 2015 to the Maswa and Selous Game Reserves, donation of 7,000 liters of diesel (over \$9,000.00 value) to the Rungwa and Kizigo Game Reserves, and construction of a bridge costing over \$4,800 to improve access to the Makawasa Game Post.

The 27 safari hunting operators spent
\$6,717,160.65
 for anti-poaching and road opening.

The sample operators also paid **\$24,712,029.00** in government fees. These fund the Tanzania Wildlife Division's operating budget and are the primary funding for the Tanzania Wildlife Protection Fund and the new Tanzania Wildlife Authority. They support approximately 80% of ordinary government anti-poaching. These funds are usually "accounted for" in government reporting, unlike the operators' other anti-poaching spending, which is encouraged by but in addition to government requirements.

CONTRIBUTIONS TO COMMUNITY SUPPORT

The sample operators enforce wildlife laws through their anti-poaching patrols, but prefer to incentivize compliance with wildlife regulations and appreciation for wildlife as an asset through community benefits, employment, and education. The 27 operators focused their efforts in education, healthcare, village life, and food and water security, among other things.

The 27 safari hunting operators spent
\$3,125,830.00
 on community investment and support.

Community Support Examples

Education \$337,764

Examples: Constructing 24 classrooms, 3 teachers' homes, 3 school latrines, 2 libraries, 2 school labs, and 1 school kitchen, and equipping the same; funding \$62,278.00 in school fees...

Healthcare \$254,238

Examples: Constructing 2 clinics and 2 dispensaries; conducting monthly vaccine clinics; installing solar power in a maternity ward; treating 1,575 eye ailments; providing hundreds of wheelchairs...

Village Benefits \$158,239+

Examples: Constructing 6 government offices; funding community celebrations; funding football clubs; installing solar panels for village homes and offices; delivering iron roofing...

The sample operators installed or rehabilitated water infrastructure and provided thousands of gallons of water during the worst of the drought. In addition, to enhance rural food supplies, most of the reporting operators have company policies by which they share large percentages of harvested game meat with local villages. In addition, at least six of the sample operators share hunting revenues directly with local villages. These six shared **\$231,712.00** in cash incentives, which link hunting off-takes directly with community welfare and encourage rural residents to value dangerous game animals. In addition, at least 10 of the sample operators have agreements with the communities surrounding and within their concessions, which deter retaliatory lion killings by compensating community members for livestock killed by lion and other predators.

The operators reported **1,241** permanent jobs and **250-450** seasonal jobs, most of which are staffed by local residents.

CONTRIBUTIONS TO HABITAT PROTECTION

The operators' teams patrol against timber poaching and cattle encroachment in addition to meat and fish poaching. Eighteen operators recorded their timber and cattle seizures: **14,687** planks, **115** logs, **97** saws and chainsaws, and **six** trucks loaded with planks, as well as over **Tsh 231,760,000.00** in cattle fines and removal of **74,712** head of cattle from their concessions. By combatting threats to the concessions, which buffer the national parks, the operators protect the parks themselves. Examples of additional habitat support include drilling boreholes and constructing dams to increase wildlife access to water, and drilling boreholes to provide water outside the concession for Masai community use and decrease human-wildlife conflicts.

Habitat Seizures Examples

14,687 planks

Tsh 231.8 million in cattle fines

74,712 head of cattle

Learn
More

Licensed, regulated hunting in Tanzania provides secure habitats for lion and their prey base and secure livelihoods for humans living with lion.

Find out more: www.conservationforce.org/news-updates-alerts.

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