

Safari hunters are conservationists

Commitment to producing wildlife runs deep in the spirit of safari hunting. **Bridges of Support** allows you, the hunter, to join efforts in Zambia to safeguard wild animals and their habitats while helping build community capacity to adopt land use practices conducive to wildlife production.

The need for this programme came about because of the unfortunate ban on Zambia's safari hunting from 2001 to 2002. Important safari revenues stopped flowing to communities to help rural livelihoods, causing many to question why land should be set aside for hunters seeking some of Africa's last remaining wild areas. The ban also cost Zambia the financial resources needed to sustain wildlife law enforcement. As a result, untold numbers of animals were lost from both poaching and increased human pressures on wildlife habitat.

In 2003 safari hunting resumed. Its return has triggered new partnerships to revive wildlife numbers and to reclaim Zambia's reputation as one of the truly great hunting destinations in Africa. With 10-year hunting lease agreements, safari operators can now help oversee the management and restoration of wildlife in their hunting areas.

With your help, the safari hunter, and with the strong alliance of partners committed to its success, **Bridges of Support** will target the most cost-effective ways to reduce threats to wildlife and promote community commitment to wildlife production. Safari hunters are passionate people and care about wild places and wild animals, and they also care about the people who ultimately are asked to keep their land safe for wildlife. The generosity of safari clients who hunt Zambia and contribute to **Bridges of Support** can make safari hunting a shining star for wildlife conservation in Africa.

Leading conservationists endorse Bridges of Support

John Jackson, Conservation Force (former SCI President)

I personally know the leaders of this program. They have years of dedicated service to wildlife conservation with enormous experience in safari hunting. This program needs every hunter's support.

Don Causey, Hunting Report (leading authority on safari hunting)

Bridges of Support demonstrates what hunters can do for wildlife conservation. It will allow a rapid and cost-effective way for getting conservation funds directly to the field where it is most needed. Capable people with experience in their hunting area will ensure its use will promote wildlife conservation. It is a program that is long overdue. Congratulations Zambia!

Richard Ruggiero, US Fish & Wildlife Service (Directs Elephant Conservation Fund)

My recent visit to Zambia has convinced me beyond any doubt how important this program could be for wildlife conservation in Zambia. If hunters really care about the future of wildlife in Africa, they will not hesitate to support the Bridges of Support initiative.

James Deutsch, Wildlife Conservation Society (African Program Director)

Matched with practical ways to enhance wildlife conservation under the guidance of qualified people, Bridges of Support can offer Zambia an invaluable way to perpetuate this country's wildlife heritage for many generations to come. It represents one of the best ways hunters can make an impact on conservation in Africa.

SAFARI HUNTING PARTNERSHIPS FOR CONSERVATION

Building Bridges of Support to Hunting Areas in Zambia

A unique programme for funding wildlife conservation - keeping safari hunting a lasting tradition in Africa and a viable land use option for rural communities in Zambia

Safari Hunters who care about Africa's wildlife can extend their help to Zambia through a model program that allows them to make a donation to the hunting area of their choice in support of carefully designed efforts to increase wildlife production. Hunters originating from the USA can make their donations tax-deductible through a leading conservation organization based in the USA.

Called **Bridges of Support**, the program builds critically important partnerships among the key stakeholders committed to wildlife conservation in Zambia's safari hunting areas. Architects of this program include the Professional Hunters Association of Zambia, the Zambian Safari Operators Association, and the Wildlife Conservation Society headquartered at the Bronx Zoo in New York. Working in close collaboration with local community authorities and the Zambia Wildlife Authority, funds raised target the most cost-effective ways to improve wildlife conservation in safari hunting areas in Zambia.

Be a partner to **Bridges of Support** and help give wildlife a lasting future in Zambia. Thanks!



(from left, representing the principal partners of Bridges of Support, Dale Beatty, Pres. Professional Hunters Ass., Teddy Mulonga, Pres. Safari Operators Ass., Dale Lewis, Country Director, Wildlife Conservation Society)

How **Bridges of Support** works

Safari hunters experience Africa and its rich wildlife potential when hunting Zambia and learn about the problems and challenges facing wildlife conservation on this continent. During their hunting experience and fire-side chats with their hunting guides, a safari hunter may decide to support conservation efforts in a particular area. **Bridges of Support** offers the hunter a way to do this with a guaranteed assurance of funds reaching the chosen hunting area in Zambia. For every dollar raised, 85% is spent in the hunting area, 10% supports the safari operators and professional hunters associations, and 5% supports the administrative costs of the program.

Hunters make donations in the following ways:

- US-based hunters seeking a tax-deduction for their donation should use a cheque made payable to Wildlife Conservation Society, stating on the cheque that the full amount is for Bridges of Support and for a selected hunting area. The cheque is left with either the Professional Hunter or sent directly to:
Wildlife Conservation Society/Bronx Zoo
Attn: Susan Hannah
185th St. & Southern Blvd.
Bronx, NY 10460 USA
- Hunters not concerned about the tax status of their donation should make their cheque payable to **Bridges of Support** with reference to the area the money is meant for. The cheque is then left with the Professional Hunter.

100% of all funds received by Wildlife Conservation Society is remitted to a local Zambian account named, **Bridges of Support**, and all other cheques are paid directly into the same account. Details from each cheque: who donated, how much and where funds will be used are entered into a database managed jointly by the three principal partners of the program, who also serve as account signatories. Upon their joint-approval on activities supported for a given area and in consultation with community and Government authorities, the funds are then transferred to a local account for project support in the hunting area.

How funds are spent

Qualified stewardship for helping solve conservation needs in Zambia's hunting areas come from all the participating partners of this program. These needs currently emphasize the following:

- an effective deterrent to illegal hunting
- alternative livelihoods for local poachers
- hunger and lack of income among households living in wildlife areas.
- habitat improvement and wildlife restocking in selected areas where such problems occur.

Zambia has pioneered important ways to address these problems and from this pilot work, valuable lessons on how to increase wildlife production at the lowest unit cost possible will be applied to help direct investments by Bridges of Support. Wildlife Conservation Society has been a leader in these efforts. Examples include:

- Employment of local residents as village scouts, trained to police and monitor wildlife in their own area. With supervision, village scouts reduce wildlife protection costs by 60% while enhancing law enforcement results.
- Recruitment of known poachers into a program that offers new skills and inputs to earn income from livelihood activities other than poaching.
- Community-based land use planning to reduce threats to wildlife habitat
- Promotion of economic incentives for households to comply to these land use plans
- Innovative ways to intensify food production while reducing land pressure on wildlife.

Collaboration by the principal partners with community and Government authorities help ensure the most cost-effective and accountable use of funds donated to Bridges of Support.

For more details or requests on how you would like your funds used:

- Safari Operators Ass.: gbcross@zamnet.zm
- Professional Hunters Ass.
- Wildlife Conservation Society: WCSZambia@uuplus.com