



“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

Study Analyzes Work Of NGO's In African Wildlife Conservation

The first study ever conducted analyzing the expenditures/activities of NGOs in Africa has been completed. It is quite revealing. It reflects well on Conservation Force and poorly on most animal rights type organizations. It compares the level, geography, reach and, to some extent, the diversity of activities of non-governmental organizations.

The study compares and analyzes the activities/expenditures of 281 NGOs for the years 2004, 2005 and 2006. It does not include donor agencies, governmental or intergovernmental organizations like USAID, UNEP, GEF and Overseas Development Assistance to Africa (ODA), which alone had 30 billion dollars in expenditures in 2004. NGO expenditures that have existed without comparative analysis until this study pale in comparison to donor agencies.

The number of NGOs in Africa “grew in the 1980s and blossomed in the 90s.” The number of NGOs increased by 55 in the 1980s, by 80 in the 1990s and by 52 in the early 2000s.

Two-thirds (187) of the NGOs have come into existence since the 1980s, yet no one has analyzed them as such. Their activities across the continent are patchy or selective geographically. Only 18 of the NGOs work in more than five countries. Their total expenditures



in Africa are just over \$200 million. The top 10 organizations of the 281 account for more than half of that total expenditure and WWF, the largest, accounts for more than the next two highest NGO spenders in Africa combined.

The top 10 in financial expendi-

tures were, in order, WWF International, Conservation International, Wildlife Conservation Society, African Wildlife Foundation, Peace Parks, Jane Goodall Institute, Fauna and Flora International, Frankfurt Zoological Society, African Parks Foundation and Dian Fossey Gorilla Fund International. Their annual expenditure average varied from \$42,708,026 for WWF International down to \$4.2 million for Dian Fossey Gorilla Fund International. The next eight organizations expended between 1 and 2 million U.S. dollars per year on average and the remaining 263 organizations expended less than 1 million per year. The Humane Society International (HSUS's international division) was 13th from the bottom with an annual average expenditure of \$33,608. Some organizations obviously make far more noise than expenditures, but we know that already.

WWF International far excelled and is unquestionably the leading NGO in Africa. Its average expenditures were double the next highest. It expended \$42.7 million, compared to

\$20.2 million by Conservation International, \$17.3 million by Wildlife Conservation Society, \$14.6 million by African Wildlife Foundation, and \$10 million by Peace Parks.

WWF also exceeded in the number of African countries it was working in (geographic map or reach). It worked in 44 African countries compared to Wildlife Conservation Society in 19, African Wildlife Foundation in 11, three organizations that worked in 10 countries and others in fewer countries. Conservation Force was one of those three organizations that tied for 4th place in geographical reach.

So how did Conservation Force compare? It is one of those new NGOs that came into existence in the 1990s. It tied for 4th place in the number of different African countries it worked in during the 2004-2006 period: 10 countries. Only three NGOs worked in more countries, i.e. had a larger geographical conservation map. It certainly was recognized as an African wildlife conservation organization, unlike others separated out because conservation was not their primary activity.

Conservation Force was the leading sportsmen’s conservation organization in Africa. It had the greatest conservation activities, the greatest expenditures, the lowest relative overhead and the greatest geographical coverage by far of any hunting-based organization. No others were close enough to compare.

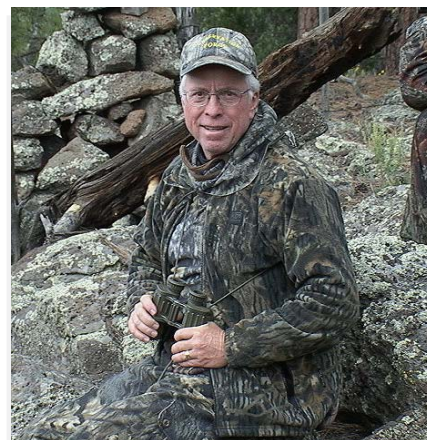
Compared to all 281 NGOs, Conservation Force ranked 21 in expenditure without overhead (20 to 21 depending on year) and 25th (23rd to 25th each of the three years) with overhead included. It ranked from 21st to 25th on average when overhead was included because the overhead of the 24 bigger spenders was relatively greater than Conservation Force’s lower overhead ratio to expenditures. Some view the relatively lower overhead as good, but others think we should be expending more on fundraising and increasing staff to better represent the hunting world’s conservation interest, especially as the leading hunting-related conservation organization.

Conservation Force is the leading

sportsmen’s conservation NGO in Africa just as it was designed to be. That is because it is a family or consortium of organizations joining together to combine resources for the people and wildlife of Africa we hold so very dear. Up to 160 partners support what we do. The study shows that Conservation Force has put an average of \$458,188 in direct expenditures on the ground (\$455,505, \$369,558, \$549,500 for 2004-2006) and \$570,408 average when overhead is included (\$483,132, \$534,478, \$693,615 for 2004-2006). Of course, some hunting organizations were not tabulated for various reasons, but rest assured none of those compare to the Conservation Force family of organizations. It is only a fraction of what our sector needs to invest in “smart” projects that further the interests of sportsmen and women. It is a meek sum indeed in comparison to the approximately \$200 million spent each year by all 281 NGOs. In fact, the total sum from all NGOs is meek.

In our view, the sportsmen community needs to be on par with at least the top five NGO organizations in Africa. Perhaps Conservation Force can do that by turning hunting areas/concessions into conservation units like the Cullman & Hurt Community Wildlife Conservation Project in Tanzania (<http://www.cullmanandhurt.org>). Conservation Force stands ready to set up similar conservation units with other reputable hunting operators on an area-by-area basis in Africa and around the world. Robin Hurt clients have been donating 20 percent above their trophy fees. Jeff Rann’s clients were donating \$10,000 above the safari price before Botswana stopped issuing lion licenses. Other clients with other operators are donating random amounts for dedicated projects in which Conservation Force is acting as the fiduciary and public charity partner. We can do more and intend to.

Conservation Force has also positioned itself to provide leadership, direction and advocacy in conservation circles. The higher our conservation expenditure, the better we will be able to do that. The primary issue is not how many members we have, but what



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is the level of activity/expenditures. Those that pay get to play. We are not yet where we must be. Frankly, our impact is shamefully marginal at this time. We need the help of all those that care. Tax deductible contributions can be made to Conservation Force at P.O. Box 278, Metairie, Louisiana, 70004-0278.

The report is the first comprehensive study of conservation organizations on the continent. It was prepared by Katherine Scholfield of Newcastle University and Dan Brockington of the University of Manchester, 29 July 2008. It can be downloaded from <http://www.sed.manchester.ac.uk/idpm/research/africanwildlife>. It is entitled *Non-Governmental Organizations and African Wildlife Conservation: A Preliminary Analysis* by the Developing Areas Research Network.

DATELINE: TANZANIA

News... News... News

**Elephant Permit
Crisis Averted**

The Division of Management Authority of USF&WS stopped issuing elephant trophy import permits for Tanzania at the first of Tanzania’s safari season. The disruption was due to a snafu within the International Affairs Office of USF&WS that went on for more than a year. Elephant trophy import permits are now once again being issued.

Over a year ago the Branch of Permits sent a questionnaire to the Director of the Wildlife Division of Tanzania about the status and management of Tanzania’s elephant. Tanzania filed a thorough and detailed response, but it was lost within the International Division for more than a year. When permits were not forthcoming this spring and early summer, hunters and operators started complaining, as did Tan-

zania and Conservation Force. A number of hunters were on the verge of canceling their safaris, but we prevailed upon them not to because surely the permits would ultimately be issued. Many believed that import permits were required by Tanzania before a hunting license could be issued, which is a longstanding belief that apparently is not entirely correct. Regardless, those that took their safaris were permitted to hunt. The complaints lead to Tanzania’s response surfacing within USF&WS. The import permits were subsequently issued after the Division of Scientific Authority and Division of Management Authority made their nec-



essary findings of “non-detrimental” under their CITES regulations and “enhancement” under their special elephant trophy ESA regulations.

The incident gave us quite a scare as it was effectively a closure of elephant trophy imports from Tanzania without prior notice or fanfare. It is not the first time responses to elephant questionnaires have been lost within the International Division according to other African wildlife departments. Cameroon, Mozambique and Zambia permits have been denied or delayed for the same exact reason in the past. Likewise, the permit applicants and the foreign wildlife departments did not know of it until complaints were made. There is convincing evidence that responses were sent in each instance and

the African authorities produced their early responses in each case.

Second, the International Division has its own self-imposed biological and management criteria for trophy imports of CITES Appendix I listed species like elephant that conflict with CITES Resolutions to facilitate trophy trade. It also has its own self-imposed “enhancement” requirement under the ESA for elephant imports.

The irony of the closure of imports while it lasted is that Tanzania has the second largest and best managed elephant population in the world. The elephant population in surveys conducted in 2006 estimated elephant populations at 141,646, yet the quota is only 200 bulls. That is a great deal larger than the upper limit of 100,600 elephant established as the desirable number in Tanzania’s current Elephant Management Plan of 2001. Tanzania has one of the largest expanses of protected areas of any country in the world, 28 percent of land surface area, and its elephant actually occupy 49 percent of the total land surface. One population in the Selous is the largest in the world and is growing.

The Selous population is increasing at the rate of 5.8 percent while Tanzania’s overall population is increasing at 3.8 percent. As far as enhancement, in 2006 the hunting community raised over one-half million dollars for anti-poaching to protect elephant in Tanzania with the help of Gerard Pasanisi, Past-President George Bush, Dallas Safari Club and others at special fundraisers across the world. Tourist hunting has been one of the accepted pillars of wildlife and habitat conservation in Tanzania for well over 100 years and Tanzania said so in its response. We are indebted to those who came to Conservation Force in time to address the issue early in Tanzania’s hunting season before more harm was done.

Briefly Noted

Mongolia Argali Season Dates Become an Issue: Several hunters had their argali hunting trophies seized or

refused U.S. entry in May and June, 2008. The USF&WS Division of Management Authority is limiting import

of Mongolian argali hunting trophies to those taken within certain dates. This year, argali must be taken from

June 1, 2008 through March 31, 2009, for example. Those taken in April or May will not be importable even if Mongolia chooses to hunt those months as it did this year.

Import permits have not specified particular dates, but the condition will now appear on the face of the permits in the future. Those that shipped their trophies back this May and June must be issued new import permits because their permits expired at the end of June. In effect, they will be using 2008-09 quotas for importation of argali taken in the 2007-08 season. That 2008-09 quota is not available to another hunter, so the total offtake is reduced by one animal in each instance, i.e. two import permits and quotas for one argali. The Service states it never intended importation of trophies taken in April through June because that is lambing season, but the Mongolian authorities want operators in the field year-round and state it has no effect on lambing as the trophy males are apart that time of the year. The Service states it has been denying import permits when the application specifies that the date of the hunt was after March, yet few knew this and hunts have been taking place later and trophies imported without incident until now. Here at Conservation Force, we still have the rationale under review, but advise readers that they must now take their hunts within the dates that will be on the face of the import permits issued in the future. Hopefully those that took their argali this spring and early summer will ultimately not suffer consequences from the confusion.

It is important to remember that the argali is listed as threatened. Though threatened listed species that are protected on Appendix II of CITES ordinarily don't require import permits, in this instance the International Office of the USF&WS adopted a special rule in lieu of listing Mongolia argali as “endangered” under the ESA. The Division of Management Authority has a great deal of discretion and authority and will continue to exercise that oversight until the special rule is satisfied. Only then will import permits under the terms and conditions and quota

selected by the USF&WS not govern. **Change in Migratory Bird Permitting:** The USF&WS has issued a final rule that importation of migratory game birds lawfully hunted in a foreign country no longer requires an import permit. It covers migratory game birds in the families *Anatidae*, *Columbidae*, *Gruidae*, *Rallidae* and *Scolopacidae*. *Anatidae* are swans, geese and ducks; *Columbidae* are pigeons and doves; *Gruidae* are cranes; *Rallidae* are rails, gallinules and coots; *Scolopacidae* are sandpipers, phalaropes and allies. A more specific list of the birds and waterfowl in each family can be found in a taxonomic list of the Migratory Bird Treaty Act at MBMO's homepage, <http://www.fws.gov/migratorybirds/intrnltr/mbta/taxolst.html>. In short, it is all waterfowl, doves and pigeons.

The new regulation is entitled *Migratory Bird Permits; Revisions to Migratory Bird Import and Export Regulations, 73 FR 47092, August 13, 2008*. The rule is effective September 12, 2008. A permit is currently required to import such species, but the new rule eliminates the need for a permit under the Migratory Bird Treaty Act. This should not be confused with permitting requirements that are still required under CITES or ESA-listed bird species. The pertinent part of the new regulations reads as follows:

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(b) Game bird exception to the import permit requirements. If you comply with the requirements of parts 14, 20, and 23 of this subchapter B, you do not need a migratory bird permit to import or possess migratory game birds in the families Anatidae, Columbidae, Gruidae, Rallidae, and Scolopacidae for personal use that were lawfully hunted by you in a foreign country. The game birds may be carcasses, skins, or mounts. You must provide evidence that you lawfully took the bird or birds in, and exported them from, the country of origin. This evidence must include a hunting license and any export documentation required by the country of origin. You must keep these documents with the imported bird or birds permanently.

The primary purpose of the revised rule was relaxing of “pet passports” for export/import of falconry birds. Those interested in falconry should consult the regulation.

CIC Paris Conference: The 56th General Assembly of the CIC (International Council of Game and Wildlife Conservation) is to be held in Paris, France April 29th through May 3, 2009.

Born from an Austro-Hungarian initiative in 1910, the CIC was registered in Paris back in 1930 and since then it has gained global recognition as a unique advisor in the field of sustainable hunting and conservation of wildlife. Today, CIC is recognized by the Austrian Government as an international non-governmental and non-profit organization, working in the public interest.

France has 1,300,000 hunters - more than any other European country. Hunting was a privilege of the nobility, but since the 1789 French Revolution it has been open to the entire French population. What other hunting society can attest to having had a right to hunt-based revolution?

The conference venue will be the Hotel Meridien. CIC Members and partners interested in attending should contact Chrissie Jackson at cjackson@conservationforce.org as she is the Head of the CIC U.S. Delegation.