

AFRICAN INDABA

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Dedicated to the People and Wildlife of Africa

Dear Reader

The 13th Conference of Parties of CITES starts debating on October 2nd. The African lion will – quite undeservedly – stand in the limelight of the delegates' attention, although there are many more pressing issues to be resolved. Kenya's proposal to move the lion from Appendix II to Appendix I has been opposed not only by African lion range states like South Africa, Namibia and Botswana, but also by a majority of lion researchers and last not least TRAFFIC. To stay informed, please read not only the lion articles in this issue, but also those of past issues.

Kenya has certainly the least reason for "lecturing and imposing" to/on other African nations about wildlife conservation in general and lion conservation in particular. Dr. Loeffler's article "The Rhetoric and the Reality" and Kenya's dismal records of wildlife and habitat loss are conclusive enough.

[African Indaba](#) had some foresight in this matter and we raised the issue of lion conservation and sustainable use of this charismatic member of the Big Five already in 2003 in our very first issue and continued bringing in-depth articles. Together with John Jackson III of Conservation Force and Dr. Phillippe Chardonnet of IGF, we started to seed the idea of a comprehensive **AFRICA-WIDE LION SYMPOSIUM** already in the last quarter of 2003. This initiative has now become more concrete and we are in the final planning stages of this **LION SYMPOSIUM**, which will be held in Johannesburg in **March 2005**. Prominent lion researchers from Europe and USA and of course from Africa have already signalled their willingness to participate, as well as representatives of the various national African Professional Hunting organizations. The symposium will also have resource economists, government representatives, delegates from national wildlife authorities and most importantly of rural communities of the lion range nations participating in the deliberations. Representatives of international and national conservation organizations will also sit at the tables.

Although we are still in the preparatory stage one can already say that the main topics will be the *identification of the geographical areas where lion conservation is most urgent, and where actions can be taken (and should offer a good chance of succeeding, i.e. be acceptable to local government, communities, administrations, and people, in the short and long term*. The issue of "Problem Animal Control (PAC)" must be tackled as well as "best practices in lion hunting". Finally the participants should come to *"agree on a set of conservation activities that would have the biggest impact on lion conservation"*.

Some articles in this issue deal with those topics. Do yourself a favor and read them – and bring them to the attention of environmental editors of the media. Too many false and totally irresponsible statements regarding the African Lion, i. e. the Nicholl /Kat myth of lions dying of feline AIDS, the myth of having a realistic benchmark concerning lion numbers (depending on the

source, 100 000 or 200 000 lion were stated as having lived in Africa less than two human generations ago), the myth that only 12 000 to 15 000 lion are living today in Africa – rumors which have been launched by armchair protectionists and have been greedily swallowed by the media !

The most vocal supporters of Kenya's proposal are people who exclude the human element from their equation. Mostly they are animal rights advocacy groups conducting campaigns (and spending their funds) in the media; groups who seem to forget that most of Africa's poverty-stricken communities can ill afford the time and money to count lions, attend meetings, or discuss whether or not to allow hungry lions to devour their cattle.

There is no doubt that we have considerably fewer lion today than 50 years ago – but there is even less doubt that we have several more hundred millions of Africans living on the continent and that suitable lion habitat is disappearing fast. Those lion living in Africa today need a pragmatic approach to save and conserve them and their habitat. Therefore, tangible economic values must be attached to the lion and the African people must receive a direct benefit. The African land- and humanscape of the 21st century is different from the situation found in the earlier part of the 20th century – there is no way to turn back the clock.

Gerhard R Damm, Editor

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

1. Editor's Comments
2. Lion Specialists Reject Kenya Proposal
3. Dr Craig Packer's Response to Kenya's Lion Proposal
4. The Geographical Distribution of Roosevelt Sable in East Africa
5. Past Nuclear Tests Could Unlock Africa Ivory Sales
6. [Kenya]: The Rhetoric And The Reality
7. Recovery For Africa's Threatened Rhinos
8. News From Africa
9. NAPHA Starts New Education Initiative
10. Special Premiere of "In The Blood"
11. Peter Pichler Dies in Tragic Accident in Sudan
12. Safari Operator Named In Bribery Report In Zimbabwe
13. Dutch-South African Initiative for African Game Parks
14. CAR Anti Poaching Efforts
15. CITES Provisional Assessment For Kenya's Lion Proposal At CoP 13
16. Facts About Feline Immunodeficiency Virus (FIV)
17. A Hunting Website We Liked
18. European Commission: 2nd NGO Hearing on Lion Trophy Hunting
19. Tourist Hunting And It's Role In Tanzania
20. West and Central African Lion Network

2 Lion Specialists Reject Kenya Proposal

In July the [6th International Wildlife Ranching Symposium](#) brought together more than 200 wildlife conservation and management specialists in Paris to discuss and explore the topic "Wild Fauna: A Natural Resource". After the closure of the meeting a number of lion conservation specialists held a separate meeting and adopted unanimously the following Recommendation, which was sent to the CITES Secretariat, the CITES Animals Committee, the CITES Management Authorities of African Lion Range States, the IUCN Trade Program, the IUCN Species Survival Committee, the Cat Specialist Group, the African Lion Working Group, the IUCN Sustainable Use Specialist Group, the African Large Predator Research Unit, and TRAFFIC.

Taking Note that the first two continent-wide lion surveys were made in 2002, from which, since no previous such surveys had ever been made, no trend in the continental population can be deduced at this time,

Aware however that lion populations are bound to be in conflict with human occupation of lion habitat by settlements or pastoralists,

Encouraging wildlife managers in the African lion's Range States to monitor lion populations in the coming years, developing in the process adapted methodologies for sampling and estimating numbers in representative lion populations, as well as getting a better understanding of their population dynamics under various regional conditions in order to ensure their sustainable utilization,

Aware furthermore that trophy hunting of adult lion males has been, for many years, and continues to be sustainable in most instances, based upon annual quotas which are decided and can be adapted by each Range State as it sees fit and provides economic benefits for to local people who live near lion populations and to wildlife conservation authorities, benefits which would be jeopardized to a great extent were the lion to be listed on Appendix I, due to excessive import restrictions applied in such cases by States such as the USA,

Informed that Kenya is proposing to the forthcoming CITES COP 12 that the African lion (*Panthera leo*) be listed in Appendix I of the Convention,

Considering that the entire international trade in African lions is already fully controlled, as its monitoring in Appendix II of CITES over the last 25 years has amply demonstrated, its inclusion in Appendix I of the treaty cannot be justified,

Concur with the comments published by the Governments of Namibia and South Africa which conclude that the argument and supporting data of the Kenya proposal are inadequate and that the African lion does not meet the biological criteria for Appendix I listing, and therefore,

Recommend unanimously that Kenya's proposal to list the African lion (*Panthera leo*) in Appendix I of CITES be rejected.

3 Dr Craig Packer's Response to Kenya's Lion Proposal

By Professor Craig Packer, [Dept. Ecology Evolution & Behavior](#), University of Minnesota

Editor's Note: The renowned lion specialist and member of the African Lion Working Group, Dr Craig Packer, sent this article to the CITES authorities in response to Kenya's proposal to uplist the African lion to Appendix I at the 13th Conference of Parties in Bangkok.

The Kenyan recommendation is fundamentally flawed since it is impossible to measure long-term changes in lion numbers. The earlier figures were never meant to be taken seriously as population estimates; they were just rough guesses of the order of magnitude of the overall population. Instead of a million lions or ten-thousand, the authors suggested that there were probably on the order of a hundred thousand across Africa as a whole. In contrast, the recent estimates stem from the first systematic attempts to tally all the lions on the continent. Crude guesses were made for each reserve or park, and these guesses were summed up to give a crude total. The two most widely cited totals used different techniques – Chardonnet included hunting reserves; Bauer and van der Merwe did not – and Chardonnet's more inclusive estimate provided a larger number.

I was asked to contribute to the Bauer survey, and I made it clear to the authors that my estimates for Tanzania and Kenya were far too crude to be used for policy decisions. Tanzania has four of the largest lion populations left in Africa (Serengeti, Selous, Moyowosi-Kigosi, and Rungwa-Kisigo-Ruaha), and I only provided rough numbers for Serengeti and Selous. Further, I made no attempt to estimate the number of lions outside the reserves even though there are numerous reliable reports of man-eating lions in many parts of Tanzania each year. Thus, **figures from Tanzania are incomplete, and it is simply wrong to claim that recent surveys show a "dramatic decline" in lion numbers – numbers may well have dropped, but we have a poor idea how many lions live in Africa today, and we'll never know what happened over the past 20-50 yrs.**

The Kenyan report also makes two erroneous claims about the impact of disease on Africa's lions. Canine distemper virus (CDV) did indeed cause a dramatic short-term decline in our Serengeti study population, but the population completely recovered within 4 years and is currently at its all time high.

There are no data whatsoever showing a measurable impact of FIV infection on lion survival or reproduction. We were the first research group to identify FIV in African lions, and Packer et al. (1999) summarized 15 years of data on FIV in the Serengeti lions, finding no difference in survival between animals that were infected at an early age versus those infected at a later age. This situation is essentially the same as for SIV in numerous primates and FIV in pumas. **The consensus among lentivirus experts is that endogenous hosts are unharmed by these viruses:** severe immunodeficiency is only a serious health risk to novel hosts such as humans and domestic cats that have only recently been exposed. The only other pathogen besides CDV that appears to be persistently harmful to lions is bovine tuberculosis (bTB). However, bTB has infected the Serengeti lions for at least 20 yrs, prevalence has never been higher than 5%, and only

Continued on Page 4

4 The Geographical Distribution of Roosevelt Sable in East Africa

By Dr Rolf Baldus

Background

Wildlife conservation, support to protected areas and community-based management of natural resources has been a priority in Tanzanian-German development cooperation since 1987. Monitoring of wildlife populations and trends has been a part of these programs. In order to assess the conservation value of the Selous and Saadani Game Reserves and the surrounding buffer zones, the taxonomic status of the local sable population was regarded as important. The Wildlife Division and [Deutsche Gesellschaft fuer Technische Zusammenarbeit \(GTZ\)](#), the German bilateral development agency, therefore contracted the Berlin based "Institute for Zoo Biology and Wildlife Research" (IZW) to conduct a respective study. The scientists responsible for the study were Prof. R.R. Hofmann, Prof. C. Pitra and Dr. D. Lieckfeldt.

Due to the generous support of Dr. R. Kock (Veterinary Unit of Kenya Wildlife Service) it was possible for the first time to collect tissue samples of nominate *Hippotragus niger roosevelti* for analysis in the Shimba Hills Nature Reserve in Kenya. For comparison, samples were also collected from the sable antelopes of the Selous and Saadani Game Reserves, Western and Southern Tanzania and Northern Mozambique.

The scientific results of the research were published amongst others by Baldus (1998), "The Eastern Tanzanian Sable Antelope is *Roosevelt*" (Gnusletter. IUCN Species Survival Commission. Vol.17, No. 2.), by Pitra, Hansen, Lieckfeldt & Arctander (2002) "An Exceptional Case of Historical Outbreeding in African Sable Antelope Populations" (Molecular Ecology, 11(7), 1197-1208) and by Pitra, Lieckfeldt & Baldus (2004) "Spatial Distribution of Roosevelt sable Antelope (*Hippotragus niger roosevelti*) in East Africa" (in preparation).

Research Results.

DNA analysis and comparison of the different samples collected proved that the sable antelopes living between the following border lines can all be regarded as belonging to the subspecies *roosevelti*:

- Northern boundary: Shimba Hills National Park in South Eastern Kenya.
- Western boundary: Western boundary of the Selous Game Reserve.
- Eastern boundary: Indian Ocean
- Southern boundary: Ruvuma river (Tanzania – Mozambique border)

Within these boundaries no evidence of hybridization with the Western and Southern sable types could be found. This means that *roosevelti* is an isolated and genetically clearly identifiable subspecies.

The subspecies has been exterminated in some parts of its former range, e.g. in South-Eastern Kenya except Shimba Hills (approx. 100 - 200 animals).

The analysis of further samples from Northern Mozambique will reveal whether these sable are indeed all of the Southern type, as our present knowledge indicates. Further analysis of

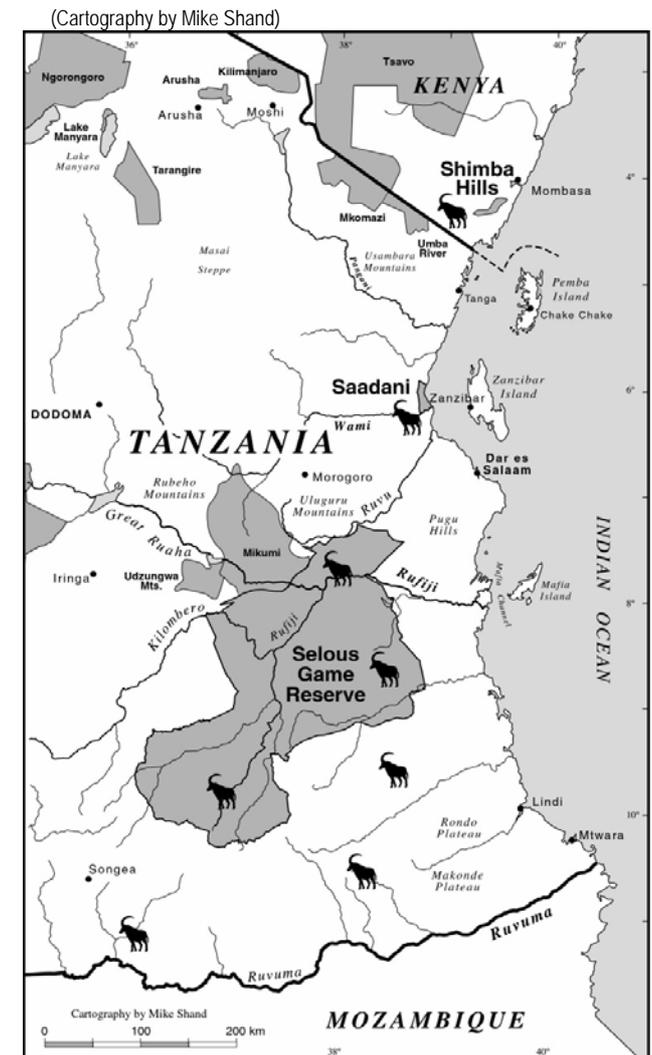
samples from the western buffer zone of the Selous (including the Kilombero valley) might indicate that these sable are still *roosevelti* and the western distribution might not be limited by the Selous boundary, but more around 50 to 100 km west along the escarpment to the central highlands. It is also possible that the two subspecies have interbred there. But for any practical purpose this is rather insignificant.

Practical Consequences for Hunting Trophies

There is no hunting of sable neither in Kenya nor in Eastern Tanzania north of the Ruvu River. Therefore sable trophies originating from hunting blocks in the following areas can be regarded as *roosevelti*:

1. Selous Game Reserve
2. Northern buffer zone of Selous between Ruvu river and Selous
3. Eastern buffer zone of Selous between coast and Selous boundary
4. Southern buffer zone of Selous between Ruvuma river (Mozambique boundary) and Selous

We estimate the total number of sable in this area as between 7,000 and 12,000, at least half of which live outside the Selous Game Reserve. The subspecies is not endangered in Tanzania and can be hunted on a sustainable basis. It is protected by law with the exception of sable hunted by tourists in official hunting blocks and on the basis of a quota given by the Wildlife Division. There is no resident hunting for sable.



Continued from Page 2
3 Dr Craig Packer's Response to Kenya's Lion Proposal

four animals (out of hundreds) have become seriously ill with the disease.

In contrast to the large outbred Serengeti population, the lions of Hluhluwe-Umfolozi Park (HUP) and Ngorongoro Crater are both highly inbred, and both populations are highly susceptible to infection: bTB poses a more serious health risk to the HUP lions than in the Serengeti, and the Crater lions have suffered three major disease outbreaks in the past 10 yrs (1-2 of which were CDV). "Fresh blood" was introduced into HUP in 1999 and a similar translocation will be undertaken in the Crater in early 2005. If disease resistance is improved by the restoration of genetic diversity, it will be important to find the revenue to finance similar activities in other small lion populations. Reclassifying lions to Appendix 1 would be irrelevant to restoring genetic diversity to small populations in National Parks (e.g. Amboseli, Nairobi, Manyara) and harmful to lions in smaller hunting reserves in southern Africa since there would be little economic incentive for the hunters to manage their inbred lion populations.

The Kenyan recommendation states that quotas set for lion trophy hunters in Tanzania are unsustainable. However, there is no evidence for this assertion. **Lion offtake in Tanzania has been nearly constant for the past 10-15 yrs, indicating relatively stable lion population sizes for the country as a whole.** Although we do not know how many lions exist throughout the country, **the number is very likely to exceed 10,000-15,000 animals**, so a total offtake of around 200 lions is less than 2% of the total.

The most important flaw in the Kenyan recommendation is that it plays down the fact that lions are dangerous animals that kill people and livestock. Rural Africans face real threats from lions, and they retaliate to livestock losses or personal injury by trying to remove the "problem animal." The number of lions killed by vengeful humans each year is far greater than from any other cause. In the first six months of 2004, one of my students, Bernard Kissui, documented the deaths of 21 lions around Tarangire National Park that were speared after killing livestock. The Tarangire lions follow the migration during the wet season, and most if not all of the victims originated from within the National Park. Another student, Dennis Ikanda, has found that 6-7 lions are killed by Masai each year in the Ngorongoro Conservation Area; most of the victims had followed the wildebeest migration and originated from Serengeti National Park. **The true extent of lion killings from problem animal control (PAC) is unknown since most cases are never reported to wildlife authorities.** But extrapolating from Tarangire and the NCA, the number must be far greater than from trophy hunting, and PAC also results in the deaths of adult females as well as males.

The overall reduction in the lion's geographical range over the past century has resulted almost entirely from PAC. I know of no cases where lions have been extirpated from a hunting reserve, but lions are now missing from large parts of Africa where human populations have increased in rural areas. Reclassifying lions to Appendix 1 will not directly protect lions from PAC. The most likely outcome would be to reduce the tolerance of local communities: **any serious reduction in lion trophy hunting would diminish the economic incentives to coexist with lions.** Finally, a loss in revenue to trophy hunters would decrease their abilities to invest in any form of protection for the lion populations

on their concessions.

Lions are indeed likely to decrease in numbers across Africa over the next few decades, but reclassifying them to Appendix 1 would be a serious mistake. The primary threat to the lion is from PAC rather than from international trade. The most important step that CITES could take would be to guide park managers, wildlife authorities, and hunting concessionaires with practical techniques for reducing the impact of PAC.

5 Past Nuclear Tests Could Unlock Africa Ivory Sales

Editor's Note: [TRAFFIC](#) recommended (Bull. Vol 20 No 1) that "since an elephant ivory market will always exist, CITES Parties should devise strategies and policies that will permit a sustainable international trade of elephant ivory while concomitantly including economic disincentives to poach" – isn't that what sustainable consumptive use is all about?

The conflict between those who want to lift the ban on ivory sales and those who want to keep it is about to take a new turn. Nuclear physicist Elias Sideras-Haddad says he can determine when an elephant died as well as its age by a new tusk carbon-dating technique - a process made possible by above-ground nuclear tests of the past. Verifying when an elephant died could enable African countries to resume ivory sales through regulations which could stipulate that only tusks from animals dead for a specified period of time could be sold. His method relies on traces of carbon 14 which became abnormally abundant in the atmosphere globally with early nuclear weapons tests. The amount of carbon 14 in the atmosphere peaked in the mid 1960s when such testing was banned and has since been decreasing - though it will not reach pre-testing levels for about another 20 years. With accelerator mass spectrometry, a tusk's root and tip are examined to determine when its owner was born and when it expired by matching the traces of carbon 14 with the amount known to be in the atmosphere at certain times. The initial experiment was conducted on 3 tusks at the Californian Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory and Sideras-Haddad presented his peer-reviewed work with colleague Tom Brown at a conference in Japan 2 years ago.

"We can impose particular time constraints for (the ivory) trade. For example, we can say that you can only trade ivory from elephant that died 10 years ago," he said at Johannesburg's WITS University. If you are a poacher and you killed an elephant yesterday you will have to put the tusk in the cupboard for 10 years before you are allowed to trade". The method can be used with another application which can determine an elephant's diet from its tusk and therefore tell where the animal originated.

Dr. Sideras-Haddad says his new technique will put an end to poaching - though one reason he wants to see the ban lifted is sure to provoke outrage from animal welfare groups. A Greek who came to South Africa 20 years ago, Sideras-Haddad wanted to find a poacher-proof way to restart ivory sales so his beloved Kruger National Park could raise revenue and could cull elephants again. He says that any tusks from culls could be placed in storage for 10 years to relieve fears that poachers could try to use them as an excuse to mix illegal supplies into the market.

Source: The Namibian, Windhoek, July 15, 2004

6 [Kenya] – The Rhetoric and the Reality

They are poles apart, at least where conservation in Kenya is concerned ...

By Dr. Imre Loeffler, Chairman of the [East African Wildlife Society](#)

My last message in [SWARA](#) (*Editor's note: the Journal of the East African Wildlife Society, published in Nairobi, Kenya*) was upbeat: after the Amboseli Workshop there was hope the Society would have a close working relationship with Kenya's Minister for Environment and with the Kenya Wildlife Service (KWS). That hope is still extant.

My Trusteeship of KWS has been terminated. While it was potentially useful for the [East African Wildlife] Society's Chairman to sit on the KWS Board (and to be the Chairman of that Board's Conservation Committee), it became evident that the Board has no function, since the Ministry treats the KWS as though it were just one of its departments.

Meanwhile, in the forest sector, chaos reigns. People are not allowed to collect firewood even – and yet no one tells them how – to cook. People who had been encouraged to plant trees are not allowed to harvest the trees on their own land, while the illegal charcoal trade is flourishing. Thanks to the Presidential Ban on tree cutting in force since 1999, the condition of Kenya's plantation forests is deteriorating through a combination of neglect and irregular harvesting, resulting in losses to the Government amounting to hundreds of millions of shillings. The notorious excisions have still not been revoked. The Forest Department is still crippled by the dismissal of most of its senior foresters, and the shamba system, in being chased out of the forests, is without the people who were planting and tending the seedlings.

Poor Kenya. Uganda at least has a functioning and respected Wildlife Authority, as well as a Forest Authority – and a Minister who is continually in contact with the Ugandan Wildlife Society, who consults, discusses, and who is also accessible. Tanzania is also better off now than Kenya: it has sensible policies at least – although, sadly, these are not always followed punctiliously.

Further south in Africa, the forest and wildlife sectors are generally functional, with the exception perhaps of Zimbabwe, wracked as that country is by protracted turmoil. Most countries in the wider region believe in and practise sustainable use. The one exception is Kenya, where – not surprisingly perhaps – the bushmeat trade (the wildlife equivalent of charcoal burning) is thriving.

What is never in short supply in Kenya is bombast, platitudes and dramatic announcements on issues. Take afforestation: by 2009, we are told, 10% of Kenya will be afforested (this, when forest cover today is limited to barely 1.5% of the country's area). 'How', you ask, 'will this be achieved?' No one, though, will bother to answer such a mundane question. Yet there is still hope. Members of Parliament from areas of Kenya that do still have intact forests and wildlife, now realise that sustainable utilisation, rather than recourse to outright bans, is the best conservation tool. And moves are now afoot to bring appropriate motions before Parliament. Moreover, there has already been a forestry workshop, attended by more than half of these parliamentarians. And very soon, there will be another – to discuss the utilisation of wildlife.

Perhaps the tide will turn, and people will come to accept that, without providing economic benefits, conservation cannot suc-

ceed. For now, Kenya is the last remaining bastion on the entire eastern half of the African continent for conservation concepts of the old fashioned kind. And it is the NGOs concerned mainly with animal welfare and animal rights – and not with people – that are mobilizing their resources to stop Kenya from embracing husbandry as the way forward for wildlife and forest management.

All these matters are discussed regularly at the Society's monthly public meetings. But the attendance at these meetings is sometimes depressingly poor. Here, then, is a plea from your Chairman: Please come along – and listen, learn, contribute, debate, and help to shape the future! For the Society's main role is one of formulating policies for the future.

Many conservationists are fixated on the past, and would like to see Africa, if not the world, restored to the state that it was in a long time ago. Such nostalgia does not help to shape the future. For today's planning has to take into account the realities of demography. By 2020 there will be 50-million Kenyans, and altogether some 140-million East Africans. There will not be very much space left for wildlife in non-protected areas – unless the husbanding of wildlife is allowed to become a quasi-agricultural activity. The pressure on protected areas will also mount, and unless there areas generate income in a variety of ways and share that income with the people in surrounding neighbourhoods, it is inconceivable that parks and reserves will survive intact. If people in 2020 are as poor as people are today, then environmental degradation will continue, no matter what the laws say – and no matter how many NGOs make a living from trying to prevent this.

As long as conservation and development are pitted against each other, or are perceived to be in opposition, conservation will lose out. Instead, conservation must become a part of development and intertwined into the economy. Reason must prevail over sentiment. If we do not succeed in this, then wildlife in Kenya will disappear. This is the message we try to get across to the Ministry, to the KWS, to the old timers – and to the general public. Ours is a huge task. And there will always be drawbacks. But we must not let such setbacks discourage us. Nor should we sacrifice our civility, our wit ... our smiles. For, in the end: We shall prevail.

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7 Recovery For Africa's Threatened Rhinos?

Courtesy: [WWF](#)

Africa's critically endangered black rhino could be on its way to recovery if present trends continue. That's according to new estimates announced by the African Rhino Specialist Group (AfRSG) of the IUCN Species Survival Commission and WWF. The white rhino also appears stable at much higher numbers than the black rhino. The black rhino suffered a drastic decline from about 65000 in the 1970s to only 2,400 in the mid 1990s. The latest findings show black rhino numbers have increased to just over 3600, a rise of 500 over the last 2 years. The white rhino population, down to just 50 individuals 100 years ago, now stands at 11000. While the continuing increase in continental black rhino numbers since the 1990s is encouraging, 2 African rhino subspecies still face a high risk of extinction. The northern white rhino has been reduced to a single, small population of just over 20 animals in DR Congo. It is highly vulnerable because of the emergence of organized poaching. In Cameroon, the western black rhino is in an even worse state with only a few animals scattered widely. "One of the greatest challenges facing the future of rhinos is maintaining sufficient conservation expenditure and field effort," says Taye Teferi, WWF's African Rhino Coordinator. "Illegal demand for horn, high unemployment, poverty, demand for land, wars, the ready availability of arms and internal instability also pose a threat to rhino populations." At its recent meeting at Tsavo West National Park, Kenya, the AfRSG addressed security issues and poaching as well as improved biological management to enhance population growth rates. Although overall rhino populations are recovering, there are also growing signs of increased poaching affecting particular populations in a number of countries.

The single most important cause for the catastrophic decline of rhinos in the last quarter of the 20th century has been the demand for their horn in the Middle Eastern and Eastern Asian markets. In medieval Europe it was fashioned into chalices believed to have the power of detecting poisons, in the Far East, and in the many East Asian communities elsewhere, the horn is used as a fever-reducing ingredient in traditional Chinese medicine; and in the Middle East it is carved and polished to make prestigious dagger handles.

The meeting, co-sponsored by WWF and the SADC Regional Program for Rhino Conservation, concluded with an appeal to the international conservation community to increase funding support to African rhino management authorities. "Despite concerns that conservation funding is also declining at the very time when it is needed the most, the increasing spirit of cooperation among all those involved in rhino conservation is good. It has resulted in improved management of our populations and in the restoration of rhinos in countries where they had been lost," said Dr. Martin Brooks, Chairman of the AfRSG.

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8 News From Africa

Angola

Pedro Vaz Pinto (Catholic University of Luanda) accompanied by Brendan O'Keeffe and two microlights piloted by South African Bateleur pilots left for central Angola mid September. The expedition will use sophisticated technical equipment to finally "re-discover" the remaining herds of the Giant or Royal Sable (*Hippotragus niger varian*). Funded by hunter-conservationists from around the world, in particular the Shikar Club (UK) and [Dallas Safari Club](#) (USA), the expedition will remain in the area for approximately 3 weeks. We will keep our readers informed!

Botswana

We have been informed that the Permanent Secretary for the Ministry of Environment has stated in Kasane in August that the Statutory Instrument banning the killing of PAC (problem animal control) lion is to be revoked

Botswana

A 25-year-old guide at Nxabega Lodge in the Okavango Delta was killed and devoured by a lion in July. He was with clients on a game drive when the incident occurred. The guide had stopped the vehicle and went into the bush to relieve himself when the lion attacked.

Botswana

Former Botswana president, Sir Ketumile Masire, agreed to serve on the Board of Trustees of the African Wildlife Foundation (AWF). AWF is an international conservation organization headquartered in Washington, DC but exclusively focused on the African continent. The organization's program is not just about wildlife but also about the broader context of sustainable human development, using wildlife as one of the continent's most unique resources. Over 80% of AWF staff is African. The AWF office in Kasane is staffed by 7 Botswana conservationists and serves as a regional head office for offices in the neighboring countries. "I support the African Wildlife Foundation because AWF has believed from the beginning that Africans are the ideal stewards of Africa's natural resources," said Masire.

Mozambique

The provincial government of Niassa is concerned over what it should do about the 5 tons of ivory it has in stock. Environment Minister John Kachamila deferred a decision to the outcomes of CITES CoP 13.

Mozambique

Poaching in Mozambique's Limpopo National Park (PNL) is now "under control", according to the park administrator Vicente. The PNL is Mozambique's contribution to the Greater Limpopo Trans-Frontier Park, alongside the Kruger National Park in South Africa, and the Gonarezhou Park in Zimbabwe. Vicente said it was coordinated work between the PNL's own game wardens, wardens in the Kruger Park, and South African and Mozambican border police that had cut down the number of poachers operating in the PNL. Meanwhile the plans to restock the PNL with animals from South Africa are continuing. By the end of August the number of animals moved from South Africa into the PNL will have reached 3,000, and it is planned to raise this number to 6,000 by 2008. 10 white rhinoceros were introduced into the PNL. Currently the most common large mammals in the park are zebra, impala and wildebeest. Plans are also under way to remove the people

Continued on Page 9

9 NAPHA Starts New Education Initiative

A new committee of the [Namibia Professional Hunting Association \(NAPHA\)](#), named "Social Upliftment Committee" embarked on a first project initiative. Seeing an urgent need to help schools/hostels hosting children of previously disadvantaged people the committee initiated "Hunters Support Education" project.

NAPHA members recognize that hunters have to invest in the future of Namibia by creating better living conditions and education for all. And Namibia's children need the assistance of the hunters! All over Namibia, teachers and staff of educational institutions try their utmost best to keep up with basic education. They instil moral values into their pupils such as respect, discipline and responsibility that are inherently important to create a better society in this country. Against many odds like poverty, alcohol abuse and lack of responsibility by parents of these pupils as well as the lack of even basic equipment, they keep on "going the extra mile".

The new NAPHA committee appointed "area managers" who are responsible to establish the various needs of different schools in their respective regions. There is great enthusiasm amongst all involved establish a long-term project.

The project objectives are:

- Uplifting basic educational conditions in schools/hostels of our target group
- Creating a better living and future for these children which could reflect positively later in life
- Creating opportunity of better jobs by advanced equipment in. library books, computers, etc
- Through officially publishing/advertising this project create awareness of the public that hunters are positively contributing to the welfare of Namibia and its people
- Influence other organizations/businesses to contribute or start similar projects for the benefit of the people of our country

[Dallas Safari Club](#) (DSC) has already donated US\$ 2,500 to give the necessary impetus to start the project; other organizations and individual from the hunting world have been approached to assist with funds. All donations marked "Hunters support Education" will be for the exclusive use of for project related expenses. Although the projects initially will target schools/hostels accommodating children of workers/hunting assistants/hunting guides of hunting farms and outfitters all other children attending these institutions will benefit too. NAPHA appointed volunteer area managers will establish the basic needs of the educational institutions together with school principals and staff and the project funds will be used to finance the purchase of the identified material.

NAPHA urgently appeals to all hunters for assistance with this project. Any individual, corporate or organization support will be appreciated. Every cent donated will be spent on the project – there are no administration costs – all NAPHA volunteers donate their time and cooperate with an underlying passion to help.

Anybody interested in this project can contact Mrs Gudrun Heger, Chairperson "Social Upliftment Committee" or NAPHA at otjiruse@mweb.com.na at napha@mweb.com.na.

10 Special Premiere of "In the Blood"

During the International Cultural Film Symposium: "Exploring Our Relationships with the Natural World" September 9 - 12, 2004 in Missoula, Montana, the International Wildlife Media Center (IWMC) highlighted the Theodore Roosevelt's legacy of conservation. On September 11th was the premiere at the Roxy Theatre of the award-winning film, **In the Blood**, by George Butler, which deals with hunting and conservation issues in Africa. The symposium additionally featured other films, lectures, panel discussions and special presentations that explored and expanded our understanding of how people and their cultures live in the natural world.

The International Wildlife Media Center and International Wildlife Film Festival at the Roxy Theatre has also announced that it will receive almost US\$80,000 from the Seattle-based Murdock Trust, a foundation that supports a variety of non-profit organizations throughout the United States. The grant will enable the year-round Wildlife Media Center to begin preservation of a rare and unique film and video collection called the EarthVision Media Library.

The IWMC mission is to foster appreciation and understanding for wildlife and natural habitats through accurate and honest wildlife films and other media.

Please contact IWMC for more information or if you have questions about the programs, facilities, annual festival, or would like to get involved in some way!

Physical location & mailing address: 718 S. Higgins (Roxy Theater) Missoula, Montana 59801 Tel: 406.728.9380, Fax: 406.728.2881, email IWFF@wildlifefilms.org

11 Peter Pichler Dies In Tragic Accident In Sudan

By Gerhard R Damm

The Austrian Peter Pichler died on June 20th in a motor accident near Yei town in southern Sudan. He was just 53 years old. Just days before I had shared a campfire with Peter in the Lake Mburo concession in Uganda and we talked intensively about the sustainable use of wildlife in Uganda and Sudan. Peter, a hunter, gun-smith and owner of Zwilling Safaris Uganda came from Graz in Austria, but his passion was with Uganda's wildlife! Uganda's New Vision paper reported that his wife Gabriele Pichler and their only son Peter Pichler as well as relatives and friends flew in from Austria and other corners of the globe to pay their last respect at his resting place in the remote Ugandan village of Kyambura. "When I die, please bury me at Kyambura game reserve. I love Kyambura and its people. It's there that I can rest peacefully," Pichler wrote in his will.

Pichler was the Manager of Kyambura Game reserve from 1992 up to 2002 and introduced a pilot project for trophy hunting and generous revenue sharing with the local community. Wildlife thrived under his prudent management, but the Ugandan conservation fraternity sidelined him stating that his company Zwilling

Continued on Page 8

Continued from Page 6
11 Peter Pichler Dies in Tragic Accident in Sudan

Safaris contravened the management plan of Kyambura and when his contract ended in 2002, he had to leave the reserve despite of vigorous protest from the local people. Pichler recently rejected an offer from wildlife authorities to relocate to Kaiso Tonya Wildlife Reserve, saying it was run down by poachers.

Pichler came to Uganda in 1991 to Kyambura game reserve at a time when the local community and the game reserve animals were erstwhile enemies. The livelihood of the locals depended on hunting and the sole hunting ground was the game reserve. "He taught us to love animals. His 10 years with us proved that animals and people can live amicably. He compensated those whose gardens were destroyed by the wild animals. We were born hunters and hunting was part of life here. Our biggest problem was wild animals, which used to destroy our crops. In reiteration we would kill them. However, we abandoned this habit after Peter's coming," Mama Chaama Schola Ntama Watuwa, a peasant in Bushenyi said. "Prior to his arrival, animals in the reserve were close to extinction, but the number increased by hundreds when he took charge. He encouraged the local people to support the game reserve for their own benefit."

"Under his leadership the animals in the reserve multiplied and the game reserve flourished while poaching drastically reduced. It was quite expensive for him as he employed about 20 rangers and game wardens whom he paid from his own pocket," Karl Wipfler, Honorary Consul General of Austria in Uganda said. Pichler was a crusader for sustainable wildlife utilization which in his vision, works only if the community relates mutually and benefits from the reserve. He believed that it's the locals who could protect the reserve and in return benefit from it.

"He had a vision, which he shared with us - a vision to manage wildlife, make sure it prospers and benefit people as well. Everywhere you met him he talked about wild life. Unfortunately he has not lived to realize this dream but he was committed to it and as wild life authority we have missed a great man," Arthur Mugisha the Executive Director Uganda Wild life Authority (UWA) mourned.

Mourners on Sunday braved the hot afternoon to lay Peter Pichler's remains to rest in Kyambura. He was buried on the edge of Kibwera Crater Lake near his former Nsere Camp. During the funeral, UWA chief Arthur Mugisha said Pichler was the first person to be buried officially in Uganda's protected areas. He said Pichler believed that people would protect wildlife if they had material benefits from it. *(Editor's note: ... and Peter proved that sustainable utilization works and results in better conservation and larger numbers of wildlife – outside of protected areas!)* Those with a real concern in Ugandan wildlife lost an indomitable ally. I could feel Peter Pichler's passion in our frequent telephone conversations and finally, when I had the chance to meet the man face to face at the campfire in Lake Mburo. He was a man of vision and love for Uganda, her people and wildlife. We can just hope that there are some people in Uganda who will continue his work.

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12 Safari Operator Named In Bribery Report In Zimbabwe

A senior National Parks game ranger has been implicated in a bribery case involving Z\$55 million to allow a South African safari operator to conduct illegal hunting, reported the Zimbabwean Independent on July 16th. Documents in the possession of the newspaper show that Thomas Chimedza was paid Z\$55 million by **Out of Africa Adventurous Safaris**, a South African and US registered firm, which wanted to conduct safaris in Matetsi Unit 1, Gwayi and Hwange area. National Parks authorities have investigated the case and concluded that Chimedza was bribed to allow the illegal hunting. Chimedza, however, denies the charge. The documents reveal that on May 13th, Leonard Nhidza, principal warden for investigations and security wrote a report to the acting director-general that "*in view of the investigations currently under way in relation to the bribery allegations against senior ranger Chimedza in Matetsi, it has been established that the officer seriously compromised himself by accepting money from Out of Africa*". The investigations have secured documentary evidence to the effect that Chimedza received money in check and cash from the safari operator". As a result of the bribes, Chimedza allegedly allowed the South African firm to use electronic lion calls at night, spotlights and trophy laundering. "Through trophy laundering, **Out of Africa** was allowed to hunt on Matetsi Unit 1 but the hunting returns would reflect as if the animals were hunted on some other private properties, Chimedza has denied any wrongdoing, saying the payments were made for hunting activities he conducted for the Safari company. **Out of Africa** was also reported by the London Daily Telegraph to take hunters to Sikumi Tree Lodge formerly owned by Thys de Vries and now occupied by Zimbabwe's information minister, Jonathan Moyo.

Out of Africa has already been named in a number of highly questionable affairs regarding the company's hunting activities in Zimbabwe!

Did you know?

The core of Burchell's zebra society is a breeding group or harem with a single breeding stallion, up to six mares and their young. Females in such a group are normally not related, since all maturing male and female offspring is cast out from the group. Stallions and their harems often band together to form larger, albeit loose-knit, herds. It is thought that stallion coalitions are formed in these larger herds as common defence against female-raiding bachelor groups.

This social structure makes management and hunting of Burchell's zebra rather complicated, since the consequences of removal of dominant stallions are not yet clearly understood. The impact on the birth rate has been established however – remove a harem's stallion, and the birth rate of the harem mares will drop for at least two years, whilst young and inexperienced bachelor stallions fight for control of the herd. As a consequence hunters should not hunt dominant stallions from established harems, but look for roaming bachelor stallions.

(Source Jessica Snyder Sachs, National Wildlife Federation, Feb/Mar 2004)

Continued from Page 6
8 News From Africa

living in the park and resettle them. Resettlement is due to begin in 2005.

Mozambique

The Gorongosa National Park is to receive 500 elephants from Botswana during the second half of 2004 as part of its restocking program. Afonso Madope, national director for conservation areas said that the program is dependent on the outcome of negotiations with donors for funding – at least 2,000 US dollars per animal. Wildlife in Gorongosa suffered a decline in the 1980s, due largely to massive poaching during the civil war. The Mozambican authorities had counted about 7,000 elephants in 1979, a number that dropped to only 111 in 2001, while the population of impalas dropped from about 10,000 in 1979 to only 38 in 2001.

Namibia

The Namibian Cabinet announced in June that it had given the Ministry of Environment and Tourism (MET) approval to introduce a loan scheme to provide breeding stock of wildlife species to emerging farmers on freehold or resettled farms. MET says this initiative will form part of its rare species management program. This week Cabinet also endorsed a wildlife auction to raise funds for conservation purposes. Government expects to make approximately N\$4.5 million from the sale. Wildlife farming is being viewed as a means to supplement traditional forms of land use and to diversify the use of natural resources on farm lands, but many farmers simply do not have the capital to purchase wildlife for restocking purposes. MET's Director of Scientific Services P. Lindeque commented that guidelines for prospective participants in the program were being developed and applications would be invited soon. Appropriate fencing would be a pre-requisite before recipients were provided with viable groups of breeding stock. Within a given time period the initial number of animals would be removed and the farmer would be left with the remainder. The Government says that sufficient numbers of certain species are available in protected areas to be captured for sale.

Namibia

The Namibian association of Community-based Natural Resources Management Support Organization (NASCO) has thrown its weight behind Namibia's plea to CITES to be allowed to trade in ivory once a year. The Ministry of Environment and Tourism argues that Namibia's elephant population was safe and growing and that the country be allowed sell an annual 2 000 kg of raw ivory to generate money for elephant conservation, community conservancies and development programs. This position is supported by NASCO. The Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Environment and Tourism, Dr Malan Lindeque, said he believed Namibia had a strong case "based on scientific information". Botswana, South Africa and Swaziland have also petitioned CITES to allow them to trade in ivory once every year.

South Africa

The DST Centre of Excellence for Invasion Biology (CIB) at the University of Stellenbosch will study of the influence and control of invasive plants and animals. It will support current local initiatives that already focus on addressing invasion biology. Invasive species have spread over 10 million hectares of veld in South Africa. According to the Department of Water Affairs and Forestry, 7% of our potential water sources go to waste because of the influence of invasive plants. Invasive species could lead to the extinction of indigenous plants and animals.

For further information contact Prof Steven Chown, Depart-

ment of Zoology, Faculty of Science, University of Stellenbosch, e-mail: slchown@sun.ac.za or visit www.sun.ac.za www.nrf.ac.za

South Africa

Mail & Guardian reported on July 9th that South African professional hunter Hugo Ras is selling "canned" elephant hunts to clients. Police and conservation officials are said to be investigating the "hunting" of a bull within hours of its delivery. Ras is reported to have said that the bull had broken out of a camp and was shot by a US "hunter". 3 other bulls have allegedly been delivered to Orion Safari Lodge near Rustenburg and Ras claimed to have obtained a hunting permit from the NW authorities before their arrival at Orion. The clients are said to be charged up to \$50 000 for an elephant. The operator's own costs in buying the elephants and moving them to the hunting destination are unlikely to amount to more than \$15 000. The bulls were allegedly bought by Ras from the Sabi Sands game reserve. Sabi Sands has sold about 80 elephants to private buyers in the past 2 years and plans to sell off more family groups

Mail & Guardian also reported that Ras has faced a number of charges of illegal hunting in Limpopo and KwaZulu-Natal. According to M&G, Limpopo officials say they are investigating him in connection with further irregularities in that province. They are also trying to find out the fate of 4 lions Ras has moved to Orion. The lions were wild-caught at a reserve in Limpopo and sold under the condition that they must be free-ranging.

African Indaba could verify that Hugo Ras is NOT and NEVER has been a member of the Professional Hunters' Association of South Africa (PHASA).

South Africa

The Limpopo Tourism & Parks Board held its first game auction on July 17th with a record turnover of Rand 19.5 million. A total of 3600 heads of game were auctioned, but the final analysis reveals that only a few game species could match or exceed the average RSA auction prices of 2003. Only roan and buffalo were significantly and tsessebe slightly up on the 2003 prices, whereas the more common antelope species were significantly down. This reconfirms our earlier analysis that the live game market in South Africa is contracting.

In US-Dollar terms the 2003 average exchange rate stood at just over 7.50, whereas 2004 puts the dollar at about 6.50. Measured in dollar-terms, live game prices have dropped significantly.

South Africa

Dr. Phillippe Chardonnet, Director of the International Foundation for the Conservation of Wildlife (IGF) and author of "Conservation of the African Lion: Contribution to a status survey" has been accepted as the newest member of the African Lion Working Group (ALWG – IUCN/SSG). Dr. Chardonnet's 2002 study can be downloaded from the web at www.wildlife-conservation.org/. ALWG unites the foremost lion scientists worldwide. For details about ALWG please contact the Chair, Mr. Sarel van der Merwe, PO Box 12451, Brandhof 9324, RSA, T:27-51-405-8484, F:27-51-405-8473 Email mwnatura@mweb.co.za Web : www.african-lion.org

Tanzania
30 scientists from Southern and Eastern African countries (Namibia, Botswana, South Africa, Zimbabwe, Tanzania and Kenya) attended the Global Cheetah Census Workshop at Ndutu Lodge in Tanzania. Participants agreed that 6 different methods are suitable for censusing cheetah - questionnaires/carnivore atlas (Dr. Flip Stander), photographs taken by scientists, photo-

Continued on Page

13 Dutch-South African Initiative for African Game Parks

African Parks the brainchild of Dutch multi-millionaire and nature conservationist, Paul van Vlissingen. The scheme has won the support of an extraordinary range of groups and individuals, including former South Africa president Nelson Mandela, the US State Department and even the World Bank. The plan came about after van Vlissingen had a discussion with Mr Mandela in 1998. Mr Mandela told him that Africa had so many other priorities, including education, social services and treating HIV/Aids, that there were few resources left over to provide for the continent's wildlife. As a result, many game parks are being badly neglected, offering little to nature conservation or to the people of Africa.

The Dutch tycoon, whose family runs the Makro chain of wholesalers, argues that many African protected areas exist only on paper, with underpaid rangers looking after parks that have been poached bare. The scheme was to found a private company, African Parks Management and Finance Company, to take them over. Although it is a company, it is designed to bring together public and private resources, says van Vlissingen. The state could bring in expertise, scientists, animals from other national parks and land, and I could bring in management expertise and the drive to make it go," he explains.

Now it has contracts to run five parks in four countries: Liuwa Plain and Sioma Ngwezi in Zambia; Majete in Malawi and Marakele in South Africa and now Nech-Sar in Ethiopia. All are in remote areas of their countries. All were in a poor state before the company took over their management. Sub-Saharan countries said to benefit from the plan are Zambia, Malawi, Uganda, Kenya and Mozambique. After successfully starting in Marakalele in South Africa he is looking further afield and he already has a contract to run two parks in Zambia, Sioma Ngwezi and Liuwa Plains. Sioma is described by the Zambian tourism authorities as "completely undeveloped and rarely visited", and there is clearly much for the company to do. In Malawi the company has a 25-year management agreement to run the Majete, a government-owned reserve in the south of the country. Here again the park is in a poor state.

African Parks is currently negotiating to take over other nature reserves in Mozambique, Uganda and Kenya.

14 CAR Anti-Poaching Efforts

Source: IWMC (August Newsletter)

Jennifer Hile, of the National Geographic Channel, reported in a televised feature on August 11th that there is a very promising new factor in the Central African Republic that should cut down on wildlife poaching in the near future (African Indaba reported about Joe Blatz's efforts already in the July issue).

Up through the 1980s, hordes of Sudanese, using military weapons and traveling on horseback, exterminated all the rhinos and most of the elephants, then turned to small game until it was depleted to the point of unprofitability. The poaching had been carried out because there were markets in North Africa for the ivory and bushmeat. Finally, poachers come in smaller numbers to take the remaining game and to terrorize and rob local people. The Central African Republic government has had too few re-

sources to attend to the crimes against its people and wildlife in the remote Chinko River Basin, and so it appeared that there was no hope for the region.

Happily, now there is someone who can make things right again. Joe Blatz, an American, has been given the CAR government's blessing to train and arm the local population. Now they will be able to defend both themselves and their wild resources. Blatz is a co-founder of the Central African Wildlife Trust, or CAWT, an organization based in Millwood, Virginia. He has experience in this field; in 1989 he helped train over 700 Tanzanians to deter poachers in that country. The operation there was such a success that he left it as soon as the local people were handling poachers on their own. The IUCN noted Blatz' victory for wildlife there, and in 1996 asked him to assess the similar problem in the Central African Republic, where he now has been given the go-ahead to train a local anti-poaching brigade in a similar manner.

Joe Blatz will set up a school, a medical center, and a "home guard" of men who will protect their village and range out into the bush on anti-poaching patrols. They will have guns and trucks, and Blatz is training them in paramilitary tactics and modern communication techniques. He is confident that these people, oppressed for centuries by gangs of Arab raiders, can now learn to protect themselves and their native territory, so that their game resources can recover.

It has been noted that the Chinko River basin is an extremely rich habitat for the diverse African wildlife that poachers have nearly eliminated. Once poaching is deterred, the elephants, rhinos, hippos, and small game should be able to recover here. An ongoing crime against people and nature can and will be halted, thanks to the CAR government, the IUCN, the Central African Wildlife Trust, and not least, thanks to Joe Blatz, a man with an unusual name who is endowed with unusual vision and courage. He is a man who is making a difference.

Subscription requests for the free monthly IWMC newsletter should be sent to: iwmc@iwmc.org (Please include your name, e-mail address and organization).

15 CITES Provisional Assessment for the Kenya Lion Proposal at CoP 13

The proposal aims to transfer the African populations of the lion *Panthera leo* from App II to App I. The supporting statement quotes population estimates of 16,500 to 30,000 lions on the continent, of which the large majority occur in East and Southern Africa. In its comments as a range State, Namibia notes however that the supporting statement does not present information from a recent continent-wide survey of lions in Africa, which would suggest that higher numbers remain. Trade in specimens is mostly limited to trophies and skins exported mainly from Tanzania, South Africa and Zimbabwe. *(Editor's note: There seems to be some obvious – and possibly significant – double counting with respect to South Africa, since a good number of sport hunted lion trophies are exported from Tanzania and Zimbabwe to South Africa and then re-exported again. Additionally, most lion exported as "hunting trophies" from and originating in*

Continued on Page 11

Continued from Page 10
15 CITES Provisional Assessment for the Kenya Lion Proposal ...

South Africa are in fact "canned lion". These lion come from captive breeding and their "hunting" (as objectionable as the practise is) has no influence whatsoever on wild lion conservation. The few (in our opinion less than 10 per year) wild lion trophy hunted in South Africa come from carefully managed wild populations and their harvesting does not compromise lion conservation in this country). Illegal international trade seems very limited. The information does not indicate that the wild population of the species is small, or that each of the subpopulations is very small. The species' range is reportedly over 7 million km². It is unclear what levels of declines in numbers of individuals in the wild can be projected, but the proposal indicates that the species is increasingly rare outside protected areas as a consequence of direct persecution of problem animals, reduction of prey basis, livestock grazing, disease and political instability in some range States. Overall, it seems that the species does not meet the biological criteria for inclusion in App I. The supporting statement suggests that certain hunting quotas, particularly in Tanzania, are set at unsustainable levels and are considered unenforceable. It argues that an App I listing would mean that Parties should have to submit export quotas in compliance with Resolution Conf. 9.21 to allow the CoP to review and eventually adopt these quotas. In fact, exporting States would be able to continue to export hunting trophies of this species without recourse to the Conference of the Parties even if the species were included in App I (*Editor's note: It would however complicate and for some countries even completely obstruct lion trophy imports, due to national legislation*). If current levels of international trade were a concern, it might have been expected that this fact would have been picked up in the Review of Significant Trade, conducted by the Animals Committee in collaboration with the CITES Secretariat. To date this has not been the case. 3 of 4 range States that responded to Kenya's invitation to comment on its proposal oppose the inclusion of African lion populations in App I (*Editor's note: Namibia, Botswana and South Africa*). As indicated in the proposal, it appears that the long-term conservation of this species mostly depends on better protection of its habitat and prey base, particularly outside protected areas, and reduction of human-wildlife conflicts, including giving value to lions through tourism and well regulated trophy hunting.

16 Facts About Feline Immunodeficiency Virus (FIV)

From a FACT-Sheet published by IUCN Cat Specialist Group, African Lion Working Group, SSC Veterinary Specialist Group

Editor's Note: This finally puts the mark of irresponsibility and un-scientific work on Kate Nicholls and Peter Kat. The media reported extensively about their alarmist, albeit unfounded statements concerning FIV mortality of Botswana's lions and Nicholls and Kat cleverly used the easily influenced emotions of unsuspecting citizens to further their ends - especially collect funds! African Indaba congratulates the scientists for their candor in exposing the Nicholl/Kat scheme for what it is!

Feline immunodeficiency virus (FIV) is a lentivirus that infects

both wild and domestic feline species and is closely related to human immunodeficiency virus (HIV). Species-specific strains of FIV have been isolated from the domestic cat, puma, lion, leopard and Pallas' cat. In the domestic cat, the virus is present in blood and saliva, and biting is believed to be the most common way the virus is transmitted among the cats.

Domestic cats infected with FIV develop changes in the numbers of T lymphocyte cells over a period of months to years analogous to those seen with HIV/AIDS in people. While FIV infection is usually associated with abnormal T lymphocyte counts, this does not necessarily result in a compromised immune system. Some infected domestic cats develop clinical problems resulting in increased mortality, while others show no signs of illness and have a normal life expectancy.

FIV infection in wild African lions has not been associated with overt clinical signs and there is no evidence that FIV infection results in increased mortality.

Some FIV-infected captive lions have displayed the same changes in T lymphocyte counts as exhibited by infected domestic cats but there is little evidence that infection results in clinical signs or increased mortality. **African lions in eastern and southern Africa have the highest prevalence of FIV infection of any wild feline with nearly 100% of adults infected in several areas. Although recognized only in the last few decades, FIV has been present in wild lion populations for prolonged periods, possibly many thousands of years.**

The most detailed studies of FIV have been conducted on the lions of the Serengeti National Park in Tanzania, where the lion strain was first recognized in the mid-1980s. Long-term studies of individuals sampled in the 1980s and 1990s showed no difference in survival between animals that were infected at an early age vs. those infected at a later age. During a severe outbreak of canine distemper virus (CDV) in the Serengeti in 1994, FIV-infected animals were no more likely to die from CDV than animals that were not infected with FIV. In addition, the Serengeti lion population has doubled over the past 10 years, so these lions are clearly vigorous despite the ubiquity of the virus.

The lions of KNP South Africa are infected with FIV at a similar rate (and for at least as long) as the Serengeti lions. Accordingly, it is unlikely that FIV alone represents a health threat to Kruger lions.

The prime health threat to the Kruger lions is considered to be the recent spread into the population of bovine tuberculosis (bTB) caused by the bacterium *Mycobacterium bovis*. *Mycobacterium bovis* causes disease in felids regardless of their FIV status. Whether the course of *M. bovis* infection in FIV-infected lions is different has not been determined.

Although bTB and CDV can cause serious health problems in lions, it is unlikely that FIV poses a serious threat to lions where FIV has been present for extended periods of time. Of the lion populations tested to date, only those in Etosha National Park, Namibia and Hluhluwe-Umfolozi Reserve, South Africa (and satellite populations of these established by translocations) have tested negative. However, recent testing suggests that these populations may be infected with a different strain not detected using earlier methodologies. If any of these populations are truly FIV-negative, these lions may not be resistant to FIV induced disease as they have not had a chance to adapt to the virus during evolution. Therefore, when translocating lions between populations, prudence suggests not to introduce FIV-infected lions into FIV-negative lion populations.

Continued from Page 6
8 News From Africa

graphs taken by tourists, camera trapping, radio telemetry and counting tracks (spoor frequencies). 6 working groups discussed these survey methods in detail to identify which should be applied in which of the rangelands.

South Africa, Botswana and Zimbabwe will focus on indirect sampling methods, like camera trapping. The National Parks of Kenya and Tanzania are suitable to work with direct observations, questionnaires and photographs. In the Serengeti the local scientists know almost every individual cheetah thus providing reliable data on true cheetah density. It appears that Namibia already has the most comprehensive data base on its cheetah population (mark and recapture, questionnaires, spoor tracking, radio telemetry). In future, Namibian organizations (mainly CCF and OWR) will concentrate on counting spoor frequencies; regarding the study design and statistics they will be assisted by the University of Pretoria. **Conservation Force** sponsored the participation of Namibian researcher Harald Foerster (Okatumba Wildlife Research Center).

Zambia

A woman has been killed and several others injured after being attacked by a rabid hyena. The hyena bit a number of villagers, leaving twenty people with multiple injuries. A man finally killed it. According to a senior veterinary research officer, the hyena is suspected to have been in the final stages of rabies.

Zimbabwe

Matabeleland North governor Mpfu has appealed to tourism minister Nhema to be allowed to hunt in the Railway Block No 40 & 41 in Hwange alleging that the National Parks authority had "something personal against him". Earlier this year, the High Court ruled against Mpfu's continued hunting in the Railway Block. Mpfu's lawyers said the ban on hunting was a blanket ban. "The worry about lion population could be controlled by way of a restricted quota. Mpfu needs your urgent intervention; otherwise the benefit he ought to have realized through the land reform program is being destroyed before his own eyes. Further and significantly, our client requests that he be allowed to conduct hunting operations only in respect of farm 40 and as for 41 the ban can continue if the ministry feels there is need."

In October last year, National Parks and Wildlife Authority director-general, Dr Mtsambiwa, imposed a hunting ban on farms in the Hwange area over fears of the declining lion population. The ban covered farms 39, 40 and 41. Farms 40 and 41 belong to Mpfu while 39 are owned by Endoline Safaris.

Zimbabwe

The chief warden of the National Parks and Wildlife Management Authority, Lovemore Mungwashu, has stepped down after 23 years of service due to alleged interference in day-to-day running of his department by chairman Mothobi. It was reported that things came to a head early July when the chairman dressed him down in front of juniors during a meeting. Mothobi said that the allegations against him were unfounded.

Zimbabwe

Runaway prices are changing the way people live and die in Zimbabwe, a once relatively prosperous nation now ravaged by the world's highest inflation rate. Economists and international donors say mismanagement by President Robert Mugabe's authoritarian regime – especially economic disruption related to his controversial policy of seizing white-owned farms – is behind an

17 A Hunting Website We Like

Information in this article is reproduced with permission from the [TGTS/WWS](#) website and the [TGTS/WWS Lion Page](#)

Editor's note: Although it is not customary for African Indaba to write about specific safari operators, we feel that the contents of the articles on the TGTS/WWS websites are noteworthy because of their explicit insistence on Fair Chase and sound management practices. In particular Petri Viljoen's explanations about sustainable lion hunting are worth to be read. If the practice on the hunting fields is consistent with the statements made on the website, then we really a good example of "best practice".

General Information about Hunting in Tanzania

Your professional hunter will expose you to the widest variety of game species, landscapes and habitat in all of Africa: the ingredients to make your safari the experience of a lifetime. Legendary Adventures is committed to maintaining a long tradition of ethical hunting. Our professional hunters are fully aware of Tanzania Wildlife Hunting Regulations, which are strictly observed. Hunting plays a crucial role in conserving vast areas of Tanzania' wilderness. However, it will only be able to continue to do so if hunting is conducted in a responsible and ethical manner. Hunting is only done on foot, for male and mature specimen only and your Professional Hunter will decide whether the animal is of good trophy quality. We believe it is important that both our clients and our outfitter's Professional Hunters be proud of the way in which hunts are conducted.

Although Tanzania is renowned for its excellent trophy quality, it is primarily the thrill of the chase that should motivate you to come on safari with us. Apart from collecting aged trophies during your safari, we want you to remember your safari for the unique atmosphere of the African bush, the people, animals, skills, sights, smells and sounds that you encounter while in Tanzania.

You will need to be reasonably fit, capable of carrying your own firearm for extended periods and willing to walk to seek your intended trophy. You will be hunting aged male specimens only, and we ask that you accept the judgment of your Professional Hunter when it comes to trophy quality. Our guarantee is to endeavour to provide you opportunities to shoot top quality trophies in a fair and sportsman-like manner.

We have made a strong commitment as a company to work only with outfitters in Tanzania who operate with a high level of respect for the natural resources entrusted to them. Professional hunters exercising judgment in the field, and clients interested in meaningful field experiences must collectively share the responsibility of being custodians of nature's gift to mankind. Everyone must also share the responsibility of upholding and promoting the ethics of sport hunting and the laws of Tanzania. To accomplish this, the local outfitters will focus on utilizing precious resources in a manner that does not negatively impact the sustainability and natural replenishment of animals and habitat. An animal should be harvested only when it is determined by the PH that it can be collected humanely and without detrimental impact to the sustainability of the wildlife population. The PH will make judgments in the field that take into consideration many factors that contribute to the overall success of the safaris they conduct, as well as the long term viability of TGTS & WWS.

The company has a primary interest in ensuring the safety of its

Continued on Page 16

Continued on Page 13

Continued from Page 12
17 A Hunting Website We Like

clients, working with the local outfitters to uphold the laws of Tanzania, and providing clients with an excellent safari experience. Clients are therefore advised of these additional regulations to the Tanzania Wildlife Conservation Act, 1974 No. 12 1974 which clients will be asked to follow while on safari:

1. Clients' firearms must be unloaded onboard any vehicle.
2. No hunting of any description or sighting of rifles within 1 kilometer of any camp.
3. There should be minimum waste of the meat of trophy animals and where possible, meat should be distributed to the local people.
4. Proper effort must be made to track and follow all wounded animals.
5. The PH is responsible for interpreting, implementing and observing all Tanzanian laws and company policies. At no time should the PH be pressured to deviate from the laws of Tanzania or company policies.
6. Only aged animals can be collected, irrespective of whether they are to be used as bait or retained as a trophy. Professional Hunters are responsible for making this determination.
7. Only male animals may be hunted. In the event that a female or immature leopard or lion is shot, be this deliberate or accidental, you will be required to pay double the published game fee. Under no circumstances will any such trophy be exported from Tanzania (see also following article "Choosing the Right Lion").
8. Any observer wishing to hunt an animal or bird must upgrade to hunting client status or purchase a Companion Hunt. Non-hunting observers may not shoot animals on a hunting client's license.

Choosing the right lion

By Petri Viljoen

The lion is one of the principal trophy species sought by safari hunters and therefore the continued presence of lions in hunting areas is critically important to the safari industry. Lions have a complex social behaviour that places them at relatively high risk for being over-exploited in the absence of sound population management strategies.

Lions have a unique social organization and behaviour is unique, particularly co-operative behavior. It differs from that of other members of the cat family, which are not distinctly social. A lion pride is the basic unit consisting of resident females accompanied by their off-spring, and adult males, the pride males, which share an area, the territory and interact with minimum aggression. Females may be recruited into the pride. A lion pride is not a cohesive social unit as not all members are together all the time. Lion groups could therefore either be a sub-group of a pride or all the members of a pride together. Sub-adult females may remain in the pride for their entire existence but some leave the pride. However young male lions leave the pride at about three years of age and on reaching maturity may become pride males of another pride by expelling the pride males.

Following a pride-takeover, pairs of males will remain with the pride for an average period of 18 months while male coalitions will maintain pride tenure for periods of over 40 months. Cubs may be killed by the new pride males, thereby reducing the time before the offspring of the new males are born, thus increasing the re-

productive success of the new males. During this period the pride males have exclusive mating opportunities with the pride females. Males defend their ranges from male intruders and females from females. Females in a pride tend to come into estrus simultaneously and give birth synchronously. Litters are therefore borne at approximately the same time and are thereafter raised communally. Infanticide could therefore potentially affect a range of cubs of various ages from several females. A male lion is sexually mature from about two years of age, but not fully adult until about four. Males may continue to grow until about seven or eight years and their manes are usually not fully developed until about five or six years. Because lions are non seasonal breeders and also highly infanticidal they complicate management strategies. The effect of selective removal of specific individuals presents a real challenge to the effective management of lion populations. The annual removal of some adult male lion may in some situations be advantageous, but in others detrimental to specific lion populations. For example, the removal of non-resident aged males may reduce male-male competition and therefore result in increased territorial male tenure and cub survival. However, removal of resident (or territorial) male lions may potentially disrupt the social system, leading to increased rates of infanticide, and occupation of territories by immature males with resultant reduced reproduction.

To minimize the potential effect of selective removal of males during safari hunts, TGTS/WWS have for several years implemented a strategy as far as the hunting of lion is concerned. The positive results of this strategy are now seen.

18 European Commission Hearing: Lion Trophy Hunting

By Manolo Esparrago, FACE

On 29th July, following a hearing on 9th June, the European Commission and the Dutch Presidency gave several conservation and animal welfare NGOs the opportunity to make an input to the preparation of CITES CoP 13. The Commission was represented by Mr Garcia (Head: Environmental Agreements and Trade Unit).

Several anti-use movements took part in the hearing, including the *International Fund for Animal Welfare (IFAW)*, *Greenpeace*, the *Species Survival Network* and the *Eurogroup for Animal Welfare*. The conservation movement was represented by *TRAFFIC*. In favour of "conservation through sustainable use" were the *World Conservation Trust (IWMC)* and *FACE*.

Mr Garcia presented the Commission's proposal for a Decision approved by the *College of Commissioners* which will express the EU position with regard to CoP13. The Dutch representatives stated that the Council would examine the Proposal with a view to reach an agreement on the 24th of September. The Dutch Presidency will formally represent the EU during CoP13.

During the hearing the FACE representative focused on the Kenyan proposal to uplist African Lion from App II to App I. This proposal, in practical terms, would amount to a ban on trophy hunting and would seriously compromise lion conservation.

- FACE criticized the Kenyan claim that there has been a decline in the number of lions, based on an inappropriate comparison between a mere educated guess in 1996 (Nowell and

Continued on Page 14

Continued from Page 13

18 European Commission Hearing: Lion Trophy Hunting

Jackson) and a conservative estimate in 2004 (Bauer & van der Merwe). Furthermore, the Kenyan proposal omitted reference to Chardonnet's comprehensive survey (2002).

- Kenya's claim that hunting quotas are unsustainable is based on the erroneous assumption of a decline in lion population. In their response to the Kenyan proposal, several range states, such as Botswana, Namibia and South Africa, assert the sustainability of their hunting quotas. If, as claimed by Kenya, lion quotas set by Tanzania are unrealistic, then the most sensible strategy would be through the significant trade review process for App II listed species and for appropriate consultation with Tanzanian authorities (the significant trade review process seeks, in cooperation with the Managing Authorities of exporting countries, to identify and solve problems related to App II species avoiding the drastic consequences of a transfer to App I).
- The main threat to the conservation of lion populations is human population growth and expansion, and, as a consequence of this, agriculture, livestock leading to vengeful killing by local communities when humans or cattle have been attacked. These threats must be dealt with at national level and have little to do with the purpose of CITES, which is to ensure that international trade in specimens of wild animals and plants does not threaten their survival. As Namibia has pointed out, neither of these threats will be addressed through an App I listing.
- Trophy hunting, on the other hand, offers great economical incentives for the local communities and does not represent a threat to lion conservation. If lion trophy hunting were stopped, lions would have no economical value outside national parks and they would be regarded only as a threat to humans and livestock.
- The Kenyan proposal does not explicitly call on a total ban on hunting trophy, but the App I listing would have the same consequences. Experience shows that App I listing greatly affects non-commercial trade.
- To give a European perspective, FACE commented on how easy it is to favor, from distant countries, the protection of dangerous and damaging animals if one does not have to coexist with them. The problems faced in Europe with species far less dangerous and damaging, like the wolf, show that local communities are reluctant to tolerate and conserve a species when the cost of it outweighs the benefits.

Mr J. Bernay, representing the *World Conservation Trust*, supported the FACE position. The anti-use NGOs supported an uplisting of species in to CITES' App I as the best means to attain conservation. According to them (especially *IFAW*), an inclusion in App I would send the right message to the range states.

Mr. Garcia was clear in indicating that CITES implementation is particularly difficult for developing countries. Therefore, if we are not selective in the use of CITES, we will be putting too much pressure on the system. He reminded that the purpose of CITES is to regulate significant international trade. If a species is endemic but there is no such significant international trade, then the Convention will not apply; it will be up to the range states to adopt the necessary measures for conservation. The Commission also acknowledged the important role of trophy hunting for species conservation.

On the specific issue of the Kenyan proposal for Lion, the Commission's Proposal for a Decision (subject to approval in the Council) states that *"the Community is not fully convinced that App I listing of this species is the best means to address the problems concerning its conservation. The Community will work to achieve an outcome on this issue that will have the support of all range States."* The Commission adopts an *open position* with regard to Kenya Proposal. In any case, the Commission considers that *"given the types of specimens in international trade, the proposal does not demonstrate that this trade is the main cause of decline."*

Although FACE has focused on the Kenyan proposal for Lion, these are the positions of the European Commission in relation to Elephants and White Rhino:

- *"Concerning elephants, the Community is unwilling to agree to resumption in commercial ivory trade until it is satisfied that there are adequate mechanisms in place to ensure that there will not be no resulting increase in illegal killing of elephants"*. Mr Garcia confirmed this view expressing his concern about the Namibian proposal for an annual quota of ivory. With regard to this Namibian proposal, the Commission's considers that *"a decision on annual quota is premature but trade in leather goods could be considered"*.
- Swaziland proposes a transfer of its population of White Rhino from App I to App II for the exclusive purpose of allowing international trade in live animals to appropriate and acceptable destinations and hunting trophies. The Commission considers that this proposal is *"subject to establishment of an export quota for hunting trophies"*. Mr Garcia declared that that it has to be confirmed that a sustainable quota is possible.

ZATSO ASSISTANCE

ZATSO have recently spent too much of their own resources and time in trying to assist clients who hunted with people who are NOT members of ZATSO. In future ZATSO will not be able to assist with unsent trophies, poor quality or any other complaint, unless the client has hunted with a Member of ZATSO.

ZATSO wish to warn clients planning to hunt next year in Zimbabwe that they should consider their choice of operator carefully. Although South African and other companies may act as agents to sell hunting in Zimbabwe, **they may not conduct the hunt themselves unless they are registered and licensed with the Zimbabwe Tourism Authority, and the hunt must be under the control of a Zimbabwe licensed and registered PH.** If in doubt ZATSO are very happy to answer queries and our membership appears on our website: www.soaz.net or email Sally Brown at zatso@mweb.co.zw.

Prospective clients should note that laws concerning title deeds have not changed. Under these laws the landowner who holds the title deeds is to issue the permit for animals to be shot. If these laws are broken legal compensation will be sought from the client by the title deed holder..

Yours sincerely
Sally Bown
ZATSO

Continued from Page 12
8 News From Africa

annual inflation rate now close to 400%. That's down from a peak of 600% earlier this year but remains the highest in the world, with Turkey a distant second at 60. As recently as 1997, inflation in Zimbabwe was 18%. The country prospered and developed into a regional breadbasket after Mugabe led the country to independence in 1980. But the economy began to falter in the late 1990s and has teetered near collapse since 2000, when political violence and often-violent farm seizures disrupted agriculture and tourism. Erratic rains have placed an additional burden on Zimbabwe's agricultural sector, which once accounted for a third of the country's foreign-currency earnings. Unemployment is estimated at 70%.

Zimbabwe

The security of workers and wildlife at Hippo Pools Wilderness Camp is under serious threat from poachers and suspected Zanu PF activists who are wreaking havoc in the camp, allegedly working in cahoots with National Parks employees said Iain Jarvis, owner of the Hippo Pools project. He stated that unidentified people armed with rifles and obviously people engaged in hunting accompanied by National Parks personnel, visited the camp and fired several shots on June 15th.

The National Parks and Wildlife Authority leases the no-hunting 10 000-hectare camp to Jarvis. The camp is part of the 74 000 hectare Mufurudzi Safari Area under National Parks management. Jarvis alleges that Cloud Masaraure, a Mufurudzi game warden, is using Zanu PF youths and local poachers to intimidate camp workers and tourists who visit the camp. In October 2003, invading Zanu PF youths forced tourists to flee in the middle of the night. Jarvis' lawyers wrote Masaraure a letter warning him to desist from his activities. Jarvis confirmed that Masaraure transported Zanu PF youths in a National Parks vehicle.

Zimbabwe

The people of the Binga region on the fringes of the Hwange NP claim that they are made even poorer by animals whose presence does not benefit them in any way. "The elephants come first, followed by other big game. Many people have been trampled by elephants, killed by hyena and lion or gored by buffalo "a Binga community representative said.

Hwange NP is home to about 40,000 elephants - nearly half of Zimbabwe's total. Environmentalists and Government worry that the number of elephants far exceeds the carrying capacity and threatens biodiversity in the fragile Kalahari sands ecosystem. Officials of DNPW in Hwange say the huge elephant population is responsible for the premature drying of water sources.

The management of animals outside the game park is the responsibility of CAMPFIRE, which works in conjunction with rural district councils. Charles Jonga, a senior CAMPFIRE official acknowledged that the human-animal conflict has worsened, blaming also human encroachment into wildlife habitats, like the Gwayi and Zambezi valleys.

Emmanuel Koro from Africa Resources Trust (ART) pointed out that the problem of human-animal conflict extended beyond the Zambezi Valley to many other communities living close to game parks in Zimbabwe.

Zimbabwe

In a letter to the South African *Farmer's Weekly* a prominent figure in the Zimbabwe conservation field, who, due to sensitivity of his views wishes to remain anonymous describes how poach-

ing and even legal hunting is decimating the game population in the country. "The wildlife population in Zimbabwe is under serious threat. The only hope is for sanity to return to the country before complete extinction of many of the wildlife species. We have the additional problem in that the DNP (Parks) has bowed down to politics and have issued 'permits' for certain people to hunt on their allocated plots, even though the farmer-owner is still there. Looking at some of the figures, the numbers are completely unsustainable and we do know of some who have turned it into a massive meat-harvesting business, completely disregarding the 'quotas'. They are looked after as long as the right people get the meat," he said.

Zimbabwe

The Zimbabwe Parks and Wildlife Management Authority Board has set up a Board of Inquiry to investigate irregularities in the wildlife industry. This follows allegations of irregularities in the wildlife industry that resulted in the Authority Board placing one of its Directors (Mr. Vitalis Chadenga) on forced leave to facilitate investigations into these allegations. **The Parks and Wildlife Management Board appeals to the public and all stakeholders to assist the Board of Inquiry by providing any relevant information they might have.** The Board of Inquiry comprises of: Dr. S. Sakupwanya (025 3838 or 011 727 382) Mr. M. Townsend (011 771 363 or 883146) Mrs. R. Mukogo (301270 or 011 756025) Mr. F. Mudzamiri (757878 or 011 862207). **Written submissions can also be deposited with the Director-General at:** The Parks and Wildlife Management Authority Head Office, Cnr. Borrowdale Road and Sandringham Drive, Botanical Gardens, Harare. (P.O. Box CY140, Causeway, Harare. Fax: (263)4-724914) The Authority wishes to thank in advance all those people who will assist in this process.

Vitalis Chadenga was arrested last month for allegedly capturing wild animals worth about Z\$198 million without a permit and defrauding his employers of about Z\$3,5 million. He has since been granted Z\$500 000 bail.

Zimbabwe

Headman Sibanda, a Hwange safari operator dragged Environment and Tourism Minister Francis Nhema to court on allegations of corruptly awarding the Deka Pool Safari concession without going to tender to a company whose director is reportedly linked to the minister. Sibanda alleges also that the Sengwa Safari Area concession was irregularly granted to Tent Peg consortium. Nhema, the Parks and Wildlife Management Authority and Harare-based firm Asitroc Investment (Private) Limited were served with High Court papers beginning of August to rescind the hunting concession awarded on June 13 2003 to Marble Dete, one of the directors of Asitroc. Sibanda wants the High Court to cancel and set aside the lease agreement Nhema allegedly awarded to Asitroc in Matabeleland North. Nhema has in the past categorically denied the charges. Officials at the Parks and Wildlife Management Authority confirmed receiving the High Court papers but refused to comment, saying the matter was before the courts

... and from France

Yves BURRUS has been elected by the IGF Board as the new President of the IGF Foundation on Thursday 24 June 2004. Yves Burrus was the IGF's Treasurer for the last 2 years and a Member of the IGF's Board for the last decade. Yves Burrus was used to work together with the late Founder-President Prince Abdorezza, who is greatly missed in IGF and by all hunters and conservationists who knew the Prince.

19 Tourist Hunting And Its Role In Development Of Wildlife Management Areas In Tanzania

By R.D. Baldus* and A.E. Cauldwell**

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Keywords: Hunting, Wildlife Management Area, Community conservation, Tanzania.

Abstract

Tourist hunting in Tanzania has developed over a long period and is a principle source of income for vast areas of the country. The industry has demonstrated an impressive growth in recent years and is an important source of foreign exchange to Tanzania but little information is available on the industry. The Wildlife Division of the Ministry of Natural Resources and Tourism has developed a command system of control that favours a select group of hunting outfitters with reduced income generation and the exclusion of rural communities who are the legitimate holders of the land upon which hunting takes place. Concessions are leased at fixed rates far below the market value, and many to companies without the necessary marketing capacity. A system of subleasing mostly to foreigners has thus developed. Low rates are achieved and much of the hunting income that is generated never enters Tanzania and cannot be taxed. The Wildlife Policy (1998) describes the development of Wildlife Management Areas (WMAs) that are managed by the local communities. Tourist hunting is the landuse option that will provide the major source of funds for WMAs. The development of WMAs is delayed and there is no effective schedule for sharing of benefits from tourist hunting with the rural communities on whose land much of the hunting occurs. Outfitters are vaguely required to contribute towards protection and support local communities, but set in a manner that cannot be effectively evaluated. There is a general hesitation among outfitters to accept the WMA concept and effectively empower local communities. International and local pressures will grow and demand change. The Wildlife Division needs to be proactive through implementing effective reform of the tourist hunting industry, but this is only possible if:

- Effective market-based competition between outfitters for concessions is introduced;
- Control of subleasing is implemented;
- Local communities are the principal decision makers for allocation of concessions and quota setting for hunting on their land, and they receive and manage the funds generated on their land.

Download the full text at: http://ildlife-programme.gtz.de/wildlife/download/hunting_wma.doc

Dr Baldus presented this paper at the 6th International Game Ranching Symposium in Paris (July 2004)

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Trophy hunting in the Namibian economy: an assessment: research article

Humavindu, Michael N.; Barnes, Jonathan I.

Abstract: Data derived from several sources were used to determine basic economic values for the trophy hunting industry in Namibia for the hunting season in 2000. Some 3640 trophy hunters spent 15 450 hunter-days, taking 13 310 game animals. Trophy hunting generated at least N\$134 million (US\$19.6 million) in direct expenditures, or gross output. Gross value added directly attributable to the industry was conservatively estimated at some N\$63 million (US\$9.2 million). Trophy hunting constitutes at least 14% of the total tourism sector and is a significant component of the Namibian economy. Some 24% of the income earned in the trophy hunting industry accrues to poor segments of society in the form of wages and rentals / royalties. About 21% of income generated is captured by the government, through fees and taxes. Trophy hunting is an important contributor to development. More research on the economics of the industry is needed.

20 West and Central African Lion Network

The lion-network, **ROCAL (Reseau Ouest et Centre Africain pour la conservation du Lion**, translated West and Central African Lion Network) was formed by a number of lion researchers during a lion conservation training course for francophone Africa in Garoua/Cameroon two years ago. After a slow start it finally came to live and action.

ROCAL is intended to complement the African Lion Working Group (ALWG) and provide an additional forum for communication about lion conservation, in French and focuses on west and central Africa. The founder members of ROCAL envision immediate action over the next five years in order to promote the long term conservation of lion populations across West and Central Africa and to promote management aimed at maintaining long term viability while reducing human-lion conflict and in a way contributing to the sustainable development of the region.

In their mission statement ROCAL sets the following objectives:

- The conservation of lions within the context of the various countries and in the sense of Agenda 21 and the Convention on Biological Diversity: conservation, **sustainable use and equitable sharing of benefits**
- Harmonization of research and action protocols to allow for comparison between areas
- Exchange of information and experiences
- Preventing further fragmentation of lion populations in contiguous ecosystems, among others by contributing to the establishment of transfrontier protected areas

For more information about ROCAL please contact: Hans Bauer, email h.bauer@freeler.nl