



AFRICAN

INDABA

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SCI African Chapter Newsletter

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Dedicated to the People and Wildlife of Africa

1 African Indaba – Your Newsletter from Africa

Members and friends of Safari Club International and the SCI African Chapter need regular information about the issues concerning hunting and conservation on the continent. The past two years have seen substantial changes in the dealings of the hunting fraternity in general and the SCI African Chapter in particular with a number of large conservation NGOs like the Endangered Wildlife Trust (EWT) and the Worldwide Fund for Nature – South Africa (WWF-SA); and all of these changes have been positive. It is vital that the membership of Safari Club International, especially those residing on the African continent, know about these changes and even more important, actively support the efforts.

It is also important that the African Chapter is seen as a complimentary force by the other hunting organizations on the continent – our objectives are broad based cooperation and complimentary actions with our friends from all African professional and sport hunting associations. We want to show our and their members that it is possible to concentrate and cooperate on issues.

This task involves hard work and trustworthy commitment by a small circle of dedicated volunteers. Despite of the voluntary engagement, running the African Chapter incurs expenses and programs in conservation and education swallow additional funds. We have househanded frugally with the not inconsiderable proceeds from the African Chapter Millennium Raffle, but these funds do not last forever. Therefore we need more members and their financial contribution. Our new Associate Program has been designed to create a regular income for the Chapter. Read about this program in this issue and convince your friends and business associates to sign up! Do also join us at our AGM on March 1st (details see page 4)!

African Indaba will also report about controversial issues and is intended to serve as a forum for debate. This will make the newsletter not only an interesting and readable publication, but most importantly assist in finding solutions to pressing problems.

The SCI African Chapter's vision tries to encompass the broadest perspectives of hunting in Africa. With **African Indaba** as **YOUR** newsletter we now have a tool covering the entire African continent and all hunting and conservation related subjects – therefore please let us have your contributions, comments, suggestions and critique.

Enjoy this inaugural issue!

Gerhard R Damm - President, African Chapter

2 Hunting in Klaserie, Timbavati, Umbabat and Balule

Summary of results of a study undertaken by International Conservation Services White River, Mpumalanga/RSA for DFEAT

Trophy hunting has long been practiced in the Associated Private Nature Reserves (APNR), a conservation unit that comprises the Klaserie, Timbavati, Umbabat and Balule Private Nature Reserves. It has also been a contentious issue and concerns have been expressed regarding its potential negative impact.

In response to these concerns, prolonged discussions took place among APNR owners and extensive consultations were made with the Department of Finance, Economic Affairs &

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3 WWF-SA in Discussion with Hunters

Several months of preliminary talks between the SCI African Chapter and WWF-SA finally resulted in an historic meeting between representatives of WWF-SA, CHASA, PHASA and SAGRO at the Southern African Wildlife College (SAWC) near the Orpen Gate of Kruger National Park.

WWF-SA and SCI African Chapter had already agreed on forming a strategic partnership. During an earlier visit at WWF-SA headquarters in Die Boord, Gerhard Damm had met with all staff of WWF-SA in a session of questions and answers relating to safari hunting in Africa.

A follow-up workshop, including this time participants from TRAFFIC, EWT and the Game Rangers Association was held on October 17th at Zulu Nyala Country Manor, Chartwell, Johannesburg. Further meetings will follow in 2003. **African Indaba** will report about the progress.

Cooperation with the worldwide conservation leader WWF is of essential importance and the partners see hunting as one of the many tools of biodiversity conservation. This is a cornerstone of the policy of the African Chapter.

4 News from Africa

Botswana

Botswana's parliament is debating to either cull or translocate a number of the country's elephants. The country's elephant population now stands at 120 000, increasing annually by about 6 000 calves.

Member of Parliament, Ponatshego Kedilwe, proposed a motion that: "In view of the serious threat to the environment posed by the unacceptably high population of elephants in the country, the government is requested to earnestly embark upon a program of elephant culling and /or translocation."

The motion was countered by a concern that the sale of existing ivory stock -approved at a recent Conference of Parties of the Convention on Trade in Endangered Species (CITES) meeting - could be blocked if the country restarted culling.

Namibia

The Namibian cabinet announced the new following board members of the Namibia Wildlife Resort (NWR), appointed for a three-year term:

Simwanza Simenda, the acting Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Environment and Tourism, Angeline Nauta Sinvula of the Ministry of Finance, Mbapeua Muvangua from the Ministry of Lands, Resettlement and Rehabilitation, Elia Shikongo from the Law Society of Namibia, Walter Bottger from the Tour and Safari Association of Namibia and Willem de Wet of the Hospitality Association of Namibia. Sebulon Chilihlo Chicalu's nomination as representative of a workers union was approved in December by the Namibian Cabinet.

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5 Facts: Tourist Spending

The average African visitor to South Africa spends around R1000 a day, yet the average British visitor spends under R600. African tourist flying to Johannesburg fork out about R7 billion a year and of the 6 million tourists visiting the country, some 4 ½ million are from Africa. Tourism contributes about 4% to the country's GDP. Ironically, South Africa spends all its money on attracting European tourists, yet the African tourist is spending nearly twice as much.

South Africa's tourism future clearly lies more in Africa than in Europe, the US or the Far East. The non-African overseas visitors book and pay their flights, accommodation and tours in their home countries, whereas the average African tourist does all the bookings in South Africa, brings with him cash dollars and spends it all! (Source: Pricewaterhouse-Coopers SA).

How does this relate to hunting?

The hunter – foreign or local – spends considerably more per day in the bush than the non-hunting ecotourist. Available figures indicate that about 9000 tourist hunters left around R1 billion in the country and the local hunters contribute additionally a whopping R1.5 billion.

Does that give you a different perspective for the highly acclaimed conservation contribution of the overseas ecotourist? Please also read Peter Flack's article "Go For the Kill" and the summary of the "Economic Analysis of Commercial Consumptive Use of Wildlife in Botswana" in this edition of **African Indaba**.

African Indaba will continue to research the issue and keep you informed!

Important Information – Membership Dues

Due to the very volatile exchange rate of the South African Rand versus the US-Dollar we advise all members to pay renewal membership dues in US-Dollars directly to the SCI Tucson head office by credit card. Although we try to keep up with the exchange rate development the deteriorating Rand in 2002 resulted in losses for the Chapter, and the recent positive development may result in higher Rand payments for the member. Although we adapted our Rand rates again, we are unable to foresee the future exchange rate development.

If you have questions, please contact
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SCI African Chapter – African Indaba Newsletter

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News from Africa

South Africa

Dieter Ochsenbein, member of the Executive Committee of SCI African Chapter and SCI International Director has been elected as the new president of the Professional Hunters' Association of South Africa (PHASA) at the 25th Anniversary AGM of PHASA. With his election, the already excellent ties between the African Chapter and PHASA should be strengthened even more.

Dieter Ochsenbein is a well known taxidermist with his company Highveld Taxidermists and a widely travelled international hunter. He has been a driving force in the talks about the South African CITES implementation project and many other task forces.

Congratulations on your election, Dieter!

South Africa

Cape Peninsula National Park staff have been shooting individual Himalayan Tahr rams on Table Mountain recently prior to the resumption of a full culling program in April 2003.

Friends of the Tahr, who are opposed to the culling program took the matter to the Public Protector, who negotiated a six-month moratorium to investigate alternative methods of removal. The moratorium expired on October 1, 2002. The Tahr population may have increased by as much as 40% during the past two breeding seasons, when no culling occurred, after having been contained to relatively low levels over the foregoing 20 years by regular culling operations.

In a recent "Tahr position" statement, SA National Parks chief executive Mavuso Msimang said the organisation reaffirmed its position that the Tahr were having a "significant negative impact" on the ecosystems of Table Mountain and should therefore be removed in accordance with the Cape Peninsula National Park's publicly approved strategic management policy. "We consider shooting to be the most appropriate and humane way of removing the animals," Msimang said.

Angola

Fears that Angola's Giant Sable Antelope was extinct have been proved groundless, according to Prof. Wouter van Hoven and a crew from Oracle Television. Pretoria University's Centre for Wildlife Management, the Kissama Foundation of Angola and the Augustinho Neto University in Luanda undertook the special survey in August. IUCN Antelope Specialist Group chairman Dr. Richard Estes came along too.

Several aerial surveys of the Luando Reserve by helicopter delivered no sightings of the antelope, since presumably the antelope are very sensitive to the presence of helicopters and avoid the sound at all cost. However, interviews with people in the area revealed that the Giant Sable Antelope were often sighted in the Luando Reserve. The expedition then changed tactics and started with ground surveys on foot in the Candalaria National Park. This proved to be the right decision, and three separate sightings of Giant Sable Antelope were recorded, said Prof. van Hoven. The first sighting was of two adult bulls, followed by a single adult bull and a third sighting of two sub-adults. Many tracks as well as dung, including

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Hunting in Klaserie, Timbavati, Umbabat and Balule

Tourism (DFEAT) in the Limpopo Province. APNR was requested by DFEAT to undertake a scoping study before further issue of hunting permits would be considered by the Regulatory Services Division of the DFEAT. As a result, the APNR appointed ICS as an independent professional organization to undertake the necessary scoping study.

After being severely depleted during the 19th and first half of the 20th century, game numbers within the APNR have greatly increased since establishment of the various Private Nature Reserves. Removals from culling or hunting played a comparatively little role in population trends, since variations in animal numbers are in response to environmental events. For buffalo and impala, higher stocking rates were recorded in the APNR before the removal of fences between the APNR and the KNP in 1994. The implication is that if movement of these species took place it would have been from APNR to KNP. Elephant numbers have increased in the APNR as a result of influx from the KNP following the removal of the fences.

Based on the legal status of wildlife, on the fact that healthy game populations occurred in the APNR before the fence with the KNP was dropped, and on the fact that substantial migratory movement does not occur, the game in the APNR cannot be considered a National Asset. Additionally, many African precedents exist for hunting within conservation areas or on the borders of Protected Areas, including National Parks. In the APNR hunting is primarily used to generate income for management purposes, and is not applied as a population control mechanism. Furthermore, APNR hunting quotas have been declining steadily from 1997 until the present season. Current APNR hunting levels are very low in relation to commonly used quota systems for the same species elsewhere in Africa and in all probability do not impact negatively on the KNP, nor on overall APNR game populations. There is, however, a high probability that the current age-structure of buffalo with a reduced age-class of 8+ year old bulls (as a result of the 1992 drought) cannot at present withstand the 'normal' trophy hunting quota that has been applied over the last 5 years. This situation might improve over time as the larger amount of animals that were born subsequent to the drought come to maturity. Quotas should thus not be fixed simply as percentage of the population but should also be based on sex and age composition. The limited data available on trophy size suggest that buffalo hunting has not had a detrimental effect on horn size. If horn size is used as a proxy for genetic 'fitness', then preliminary indications are that trophy hunting is not impacting negatively on genetic aspects of the population.

There is a high probability that the hunting of male lions without proper mitigation with regard to social position, age etc., could result in disruption of prides ultimately leading to further losses beyond that incurred by hunting;

For the APNR/KNP system as a whole, the loss of animals through hunting is negligible in comparison to removals which take place for research and live capture (in the case of buffalo and elephant), and losses from dispersal (in the case of lion) into adjacent areas outside the system, where they are mostly destroyed. The cumulative effect of hunting on top of

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News from Africa

those of adults and juveniles, were also recorded in the area and identified by known Giant Sable expert Dr. Estes.

"This expedition has proven that there is definitely a viable breeding population of the enigmatic Giant Sable Antelope in the Cangandala National Park," said van Hoven. Further ground surveys of Luando and Cangandala are being planned, with the aim of establishing the numbers and distribution of the Giant Sable Antelope.

The SCI African Chapter supports the efforts with a grant of R10,000.

South Africa – Germany

The German hunting magazine "Jagen Weltweit", read by more than 40,000 German speaking hunters who enjoy hunting on all continents, brought an editorial by Deputy Chief Editor Günter Mensching in its issue #5/2002.

"Not all news which reach us from the southern tip of Africa are bad – but most of them: poaching and the plight of white Zimbabwean farmers, famines and droughts in Zimbabwe, Malawi, Zambia; Sam Nujoma's threat directed to the white farmers of the former German colony finally embark on a land reform, etc."

"If it weren't for the SCI African Chapter and its president Gerhard Damm, we could not print two success reports. One is mentioned in telegram-style on our news page (Giant Sable in Angola), but the other one deserves to be mentioned at a prominent place in the editorial. At a workshop of the SCI African Chapter with participants from WWF-SA, PHASA, SAGRO and the Southern African Wildlife College, the representatives of these organizations agreed that the sustainable use of wild game and safari hunting indeed contribute to nature conservation. The public needs to be informed about this contribution. And the organizations got down to details and agreed that hunting oriented subjects should be included into the syllabus of SAWC, and hunting experts, selected by the committees of the hunting organizations – should take part as lecturers. Our congratulations on this agreement! This is something we can only dream of in Germany!"

It is very encouraging to hear that the work of the African Chapter is recognized by a large independent hunting magazine from Germany!

Africa – Argentina

During a recent visit in Argentina, Gerhard Damm was hosted by our friends from the SCI Argentina Chapter and presented a paper about hunting and conservation issues in Africa together with part 6 of the documentary video "The African Game" to more than 60 members.

The South American hunting magazine **Vida Salvaje** interviewed Damm the next day about the African Chapter Environmental Education project and brought a brilliant four page article in its December issue about the work of the African Chapter.

Argentina is an excellent hunting destination with a quickly developing game ranching industry. Those who want to know more can contact the SCI Argentina Chapter at sciarg@hotmail.com.

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Hunting in Klaserie, Timbavati, Umbabat and Balule

the listed factors is considered negligible as the other factors operate at orders of magnitude larger than the hunting and as none of the species involved are at a threshold of minimum viable population size. Hunting could be considered a traditional attribute of the local culture. Hunting was practised for centuries in the APNR area prior to the creation of the reserves, and would probably have resulted in the killing of many more animals for the purpose of food and for the protection of crops rather than for revenue generation and hunter satisfaction. The off-take would probably have been less selective than in sport hunting as practised today (no emphasis on old males). There was probably a greater emphasis on passive hunting techniques such as snares and pits. Active hunting would have included the use of dogs.

The management effort and level of pro-active monitoring of game populations and veld condition in the APNR are consistent with or superior to equivalent practices in government agency administered conservation areas. A no-hunting alternative requested by some people, would result in pressures for alternative forms of income generation. A change in land use, the re-erection of fences, or lowered management standards in the APNR due to a lack of funds, would not only have a local negative impact but would also impact negatively on the adjoining KNP.

Concerns remain regarding the APNR decision-making transparency and quota setting, as well as how decisions are communicated to stakeholders. The existing systems for record keeping, data bases, and auditing are inadequate to allow easy access, analysis and audit. Therefore, a holistic approach is required to mitigate negative impacts, optimize conservation benefits and maximize acceptance by all stakeholders.

An EIA should be conducted to focus on specific elements, including the development of appropriate procedures for the determination of quotas, for the selection of target animals, for decision-making, and for the monitoring of compliance. This EIA should consist of four species modules (for buffalo, lion, elephant and impala), all of which will form the basis for a fifth module – a wildlife management system for the APNR according to ISO 14001 standards.

Given the low probability of a negative impact by hunting and the higher probability of a negative impact under the no-hunting alternative, trophy hunting should be continued during the period while the EIA is being undertaken. The 2001-2002 quotas (which are at an all-time low) should be used as guidelines for the 2002-2003 season.

African Indaba will keep you informed!

SCI African Chapter AGM 2003

Notice is hereby given for the AGM to be held on **March 1st 2003 (15.00h to 17.00h) at Zulu Nyala Country Manor, 270E Third Rd, Chartwell (Johannesburg), phone 011-708-1969, email zncmres@zulunyala.co.za**

All Members are invited. Imperative RSVP for attendance at phone 011-883-2299, fax 011-784-2074 or email to gerhard@muskwa.co.zaf

An Agenda is available on request

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News from Africa**South Africa – Mozambique - Zimbabwe
Great Limpopo Transfrontier Park**

This transfrontier park covers South Africa's Kruger National Park, the Gonarezhou park in Zimbabwe, and the Limpopo National Park in Mozambique. The treaty, establishing what will become the largest wildlife reserve in Africa was signed by the presidents of the three countries on 9 December. According to the administrator for the Mozambican side of the park, Gilberto Vicente, the Ministry of Tourism completed the draft plan for the management of what were once "hunting areas 16 and 17" in Gaza province. It is being revised by the other bodies involved in setting up the transfrontier park". Several sub-committees deal with, among other matters, finance, wildlife management, and staff training. The management plan has among its objective the creation of a pilot wildlife monitoring area. The government has imported over a thousand animals of various species from South Africa, in an attempt to restore the Gaza wildlife, after the devastation the area suffered during the war of destabilization.

The Mozambican side lacks the developed tourist infrastructures that can be found in the South African and Zimbabwean components of the park. Sources say that a basic minimum of infrastructure will be in place by the end of 2003.

Vicente said that, after the plan is approved by the government, it should attract both Mozambican and foreign companies to invest in the Limpopo National Park.

Editorial Comment: The African Chapter and SCI's Conservation Committee should engage the Mozambique authorities as well as the Peace Parks Foundation in a constructive dialogue in respect of including selective trophy hunting in the management options of this tremendously valuable conservation area. In particular with respect to the initial idea of "multi-use zones" within and adjoining the park, their limited "eco-tourist value" and the rural indigenous population living within the park's borders on the Zimbabwean and Mozambique sides.

Uganda

The Rhino Fund Uganda (RFU) is seeking US\$400,000 this year to work on the Rhino Sanctuary in Nakasongola district where the black and white rhinos will be bred. This fund would among other activities help to construct an electric fence around a portion of the 70 square kilometre sanctuary, which would initially be the holding ground for the rhinos. Yvonne Verkaik, RFU executive director, said that they had written a proposal and submitted it to the European Union. The rhinos should later be taken to their original habitat in Kidepo Valley and Murchison Falls National Park.

Rhinos became extinct in Uganda two decades ago due to massive poaching and civil war effects. Captain Joe Roy of DAS Air Cargo donated the land where the sanctuary is to be established. Roy also offered equipment to put up facilities for the rhinos at the sanctuary.

Editorial Comment: The Rhino Fund Uganda should take advice from Ezemvelo in KwaZulu-Natal regarding the success story of both rhino species in South Africa and the role that sport hunting played in establishing viable populations.

6 Go For The Kill

Peter H Flack

Peter H Flack, an accomplished author of hunting essays and books had this article published in the prestigious South African business weekly "Financial Mail", (Vol 169, No 3, December 6th 2002). Peter is a true hunter-conservationist and an outspoken advocate of trophy hunting. Peter Flack is also a life member of Safari Club International and the SCI African Chapter.

South Africa today has more game and more land under game management than at any time in the past 100 years. For the past 10 years, land under game has increased at a compound rate of 5.6% or some 500,000 hectares annually and the situation continues to improve.

Prof Theuns Eloff of Potchefstroom University – who is the source of these statistics – believes it has been proven that the reason behind this conservation revolution is hunting.

This situation is in stark contrast to times as recent as the 1960s, when wildlife in SA was under huge threat. The Blue Buck and the Quagga were already extinct. Bontebok had been reduced to about 19, while there were fewer than 90 Cape Mountain Zebra. Black Wildebeest existed on only three farms in the Free State and there were probably fewer than 30 White Rhino in the country.

In his doctoral thesis, Prof. P C du Plessis of Pretoria University blamed this decline on drought; the depression; two world wars; the massacre of game by government in the mistaken belief that it harboured the Tsetse Fly; and in the commercial shooting for meat, skins and ivory. Modern-day trophy and meat hunting has placed a commercial value on wildlife, which has made it an economic proposition for farmers to change from domestic livestock to game. At present, there are nearly 5,500 registered game farms, covering about 11.1 million hectares, which is nearly double the amount of land protected in national parks and provincial reserves. According to Eloff, this represents an investment of about R16.5 billion by the private sector in conservation.

PHASA CED Gary Davies says more than 9,000 international trophy hunters visited the country last year. Of these, 1183 visited the Eastern Cape and, according to statistics provided by the provincial government, they shot about 8,900 animals and spent almost R120 million in the province – about R100,000 per hunter!

If these figures are extrapolated – and one must remember that most of the hunts in the Eastern Cape are less expensive plains game hunts, as opposed to the more expensive big game hunts – then these international hunters brought in nearly one billion Rand of foreign exchange. To this must be added the estimated one and a half billion Rand that local hunters, who are predominantly meat hunters, spent on daily rates, game, 4x4s, guns, ammunition, bows, arrows, taxidermy fees and related items during the same period.

This burgeoning industry supports a string of linked businesses such as game capture; culling; exotic game breeding; game auctions; taxidermy and ecotourism ventures. Like the mining industry before it, each job on a game farm gives rise to many more supportive industries.

Last year 80,000 animals were harvested in SA by profes-

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7 SCI African Chapter Company Associate-Donor Program

Companies cannot be members of the African Chapter as defined in the SCI Bylaws. We have therefore created an Associate-Donor program for any company with its usual place of business on the African Continent.

By becoming a Company Associate of the African Chapter, professional hunting operators, outfitters, game lodges and ecotourism businesses, the firearm industry and trade, taxidermists, in fact any company with an interest in sustainable use can show their dedicated support of the constitutional objectives and projects of the African Chapter. A mere R500.00 per year will make your company a **SCI African Chapter Company Associate-Donor**. Your association will assist the African Chapter to continue its ambitious programs in conservation and hunters' rights protection. See last page for application details.

The African Chapter will publish the names of all new company associates in each issue.

8 An Opinion from IUCN

“Now that I am free to state my own position on hunting without weighing in on one side or the other while acting as moderator of the debate, I would like the record to show that I thoroughly agree with Rod East's pro-hunting arguments as expressed in the *African Antelope Database 1998*. Sport hunting is the life blood (an irony when the blood is that of the hunted animals!) of most government and private protected areas outside parks and strict nature reserves. The goal that must always be kept in view is to save as much wildlife habitat from being destroyed as possible, by all possible means.

I know that the growing animal rights movement is hurting rather than helping wildlife conservation. Their activists are part of the problem and not the solution. It is one thing to have scruples about killing animals – as a student of behaviour I place the highest value on living animals and refrain from hunting them. But, attempts to ban hunting, make conservation that much harder, and ignore the biological reality that every normal population produces a surplus which, if not kept in check by mortality equal to the rate of increase, would soon outstrip its resources. Although I have never followed through, for many years now I have thought of importing and selling the biltong of the common African antelopes as a means of funding ASG action plans for endangered species. The biltong package would help to counter animal-rights doctrine by stressing the sustainable use of this natural surplus.”

Dr. Richard D. Estes - Chair (IUCN Antelope Specialist Group, February 2002)

Dr. Estes is the author of numerous scientific works about African antelopes and their predators. His book "The Behavior Guide to African Mammals" (obtainable through Russell Friedman Books, Halfway House) should be in the library of all hunters.

9 SCI African Chapter Frequently Asked Questions

What is the difference between the SCI African Chapter and the SCI Africa Office?

The SCI African Chapter is a registered non-profit organization in the Republic of South Africa. Membership is open to any member in good standing of Safari Club international.

The SCI Africa Office is a staff department of SCI, fully paid for and maintained by Safari Club International. Organizationally the Africa Office is under the direction of the SCI Washington DC Office (Dr. Rick Parsons).

Who determines the policy of the SCI African Chapter?

As a volunteer organization with a South African registered constitution the policy of the African Chapter is determined by its members through the elected Chapter Executive Committee within the bylaws of Safari Club International.

How much does it cost to be a member of the SCI African Chapter?

The membership fee options are shown in detail in the box on page 10 of this **African Indaba**.

Any individual member (national or international) in good standing of Safari Club International can also be a member of the SCI African Chapter. In order to fulfil its obligations as determined in the Chapter Constitution the Chapter EC has decided to charge a fee over and above the membership fee charged by Safari Club International.

This fee is EXCLUSIVELY used to further the aims and objectives as prescribed by the constitution. No part of this fee goes towards ANY remuneration of chapter volunteers.

The SCI Chapter EXCOM has set this fee in 1995 at US\$20.00. The same fee is still applicable today. The ZA-Rand fee has changed due to exchange rate variations and stands at time of print at ZAR 180.00 per year.

How are my membership fees used?

The total membership fee (annual), i.e. SCI fees of \$80 and African Chapter fees of \$20 are split exactly in this way. SCI Headquarters in Tucson/USA receive \$80 and these funds are used for covering the cost of magazine and newspaper printing and shipping, as well as other costs and programs of the organization.

Besides a yearly market related remuneration of the book-keeping and auditing company BDO Spencer Steward (Johannesburg) Inc. the \$20 (R180) Chapter dues are exclusively used for

- Conservation Projects
- Youth Education and PR Projects
- Wildlife Management Research Projects
- Stationery, Postage and Printing Costs

Why should I pay extra for being a SCI Chapter member?

An effective organization incurs expenses, conservation and educational programs are costly and our advocacy for your hunting rights does not come free (see also page 7). The organizational and financial strengths resulting from high

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10 How our funds are spend

Membership dues are our regular income. Your additional payment of \$20 (R180) goes directly into these projects. This answers also the often raised question **“why should I pay \$100 (R900) and others pay \$80 (R760)”** – As a SCI African Chapter member you actively support grass root actions were they matter and count!

Further income came from the 1998 dinner and auction and the SCI African Chapter Millennium Elephant Raffle 1999/2000.

Catuane Game Guard Program (Mozambique) in cooperation with EWT	R 40,000
SA Firearms Legislative Fund and SAGA	
KZN Advertisement Contribution	R 17,000
Economics of Safari Hunting in Botswana (in cooperation with BWMA)	R180,000
Giant Sable Re-Discovery in Angola	R 10,000
Environmental Education Project for schools in Southern Africa	R150,000
Various smaller projects (1998-2002)	R 60,000
Contribution to SCI Headquarters	R 15,000

In cooperation with WWF-SA the African Chapter is developing a **hunter's funding scheme in support of the Southern African Wildlife College (SAWC)**. Details about this highly visible and important project called the **“Southern African Conservation Education Trust (SACET)** are on page 15. More in future issues of African Indaba.

SCI & SCIF Position Statement and Mission

Considerable work was put in the development of these ideas during a number of working sessions of staff and volunteers of SCI/SCIF in the United States during 2002. The African Chapter fully subscribes these outcomes and congratulates the originators on their good work.

Safari Club International (SCI) Position

Safari Club International is the leader in protecting the freedom to hunt and in promoting wildlife conservation worldwide

Safari Club International (SCI) Mission

To Protect and Preserve Our Hunting Heritage through Wildlife Conservation, Education, Legislative and Humanitarian Efforts

Safari Club International Foundation (SCIF)

Safari Club International Foundation funds and manages worldwide programs dedicated to wildlife conservation, outdoor education and humanitarian services

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Go For The Kill

sional culling teams (*and not trophy hunters – editor*), registered with the state veterinary authorities. The healthy, low fat, low sodium, low cholesterol meat was exported from three local abattoirs registered with the European Union. Increasingly, game meat can be found in local butcher shops, delicatessen and restaurants. Even so, SA's game meat production is a drop in the ocean when compared with New Zealand's, which exported game meat from over 504,000 red deer in 2001, earning more than 1 billion Rand in foreign exchange. Likewise Germany, where about 1.3 million roe deer are culled annually (*the culling in Germany is actually very similar to sport/trophy hunting, since the German hunter removes these animals from natural systems under the ancient German hunting ethics – editor*). In fact, there is reliable information to support the contention that more roe deer are killed annually on the German roads than all of the Springbuck culled and hunted annually in South Africa.

That the government is not taken the industry seriously can be seen by the advanced state of decay that it has allowed the state veterinary department to fall into, despite of this service being the key element for a healthy game industry. At the opposite extreme, the ministry of transport engraved the following insensitive and inaccurate statements on the pillars in the international departure hall of Johannesburg International Airport, which after extolling the virtues of the people who hunted with spears, bows and cameras, stated: “Gun Shot ... but the game was no longer fair when man got a gun. The battle plan changed and the Big Five no longer had control over their kingdom. No longer was survival based on strength and stamina. Trade and trophy reigned supreme. Merciless slaughter and threat of extinction rained down on African soil”.

If this animal rights claptrap correctly reflects the current thinking of government, then the chances of emulating countries such as New Zealand are between slim and none – and the slim just emigrated to Zimbabwe.

11 SCI African Chapter Membership Questionnaire

We are updating our members' database and we are especially interested in including the email addresses and web sites.

Future issues of African Indaba and all relevant Chapter news, as well as alerts and periodical information could be made available to members at the flick of a key on the computer. If you want to receive African Indaba on your computer, let us have your email address. It would safe considerable costs in printing, copying and mailing for the Chapter. Funds, which then can be used to further our constitutional objectives in conservation and protection of the rights of hunters!

Please take some time and complete the form on the last page and fax the form to the indicated address. Thank you for your cooperation!

Continued from page 6

SCI African Chapter – Frequently Asked Questions

membership numbers facilitate our networking efforts with other African sport and professional hunting organizations as well as with conservation NGOs and government agencies in relation with the African Chapter's work in Africa.

Does the African Chapter compete with other local hunting organizations?

Definitely not – the South African hunting associations organized in CHASA, as well as the other professional and sport hunting organization in various countries of Africa fulfil important roles for all of us. SCI African Chapter wants to complement the efforts of these associations and therefore considers close cooperation and exchange of ideas as fundamental. Our own expertise centers in the international aspects of hunting and conservation as well as global networking.

The African Chapter is positioned well for negotiating and cooperating with non-hunting conservation organizations in Africa.

What are the main points of the Constitution of the SCI African Chapter

The African Chapter is a voluntary association of hunters and persons supporting the principle of conservation through sustainable use of nature, the protection and maintenance of biodiversity, the education of its members and the public in the objectives of conservation and the protection of the right to hunt and to bear and possess firearms.

The principal objective of the Chapter shall be to engage in, promote and raise funds for nature conservation.

SCI African Chapter Fair Chase Definition

Every sport hunter shall pursue an animal only by engaging in fair chase of the quarry. Fair Chase is defined as pursuit of a free or enclosed ranging animal possessed of the natural behavioural inclination to escape from the hunter and be fully free to do so.

A sport hunted animal should exist as a naturally interacting individual of a wild sustainable population, located in an area that meets both the spatial (territory and home range) and temporal (food, breeding, and basic needs) requirements of the population, of which that individual is a member. Sport hunted animals should, wherever possible, be sustained within an ecologically functional system.

The animal is to be hunted without artificial light source, not from any motorized mode of transport and in an area that does not by human design concentrate animals for a specific purpose or at a specific time, such as water-holes, salt licks or feeding stations. No ethical hunter shall take female animals with dependent young.

12 SCI African Chapter Launches Environmental Education Resource Mate- rial for Schools

The flagship project of the SCI African Chapter was launched during the World Summit on Sustainable Development. After intensive preparation work, the Chapter Youth Committee presented the "Sustainable Use in Africa" Poster as well as the accompanying textbook "The Conservation Game – Saving Africa's Biodiversity". Book and poster compliment each other and are further enhanced by the video "The African Game" which ran on the Sundays prior to the summit on SABC3. The SCI African Chapter and a group of its members have not only invested more than 2 years of work into this, but also considerable funds. **The objective is to make this resource package available to all schools and environmental teachers in South Africa free of charge.** In the meantime more than a 1500 sets of the first print-run of 5000 copies have already been distributed by the chapter.

EWT, TRAFFIC South Africa and the WWF-SA all enthusiastically support the project along with PHASA. The logos of these organizations appear together on the cover of the book. The Confederation of South African Hunting Associations has also pledged support.

The hunters in Africa are asked to put their weight behind this ambitious project. The SCI African Chapter would like that each hunter buys at least one copy and personally delivers the resource set to a school or to local youth groups like boy scouts, etc. Hunting outfitters and professional hunters may also want to involve their overseas clients, since a good part of the misconceptions about conservation in Africa originates overseas. If the material would find entrance into American schools quite a few of these misconceptions would not even start growing. **Your purchases will in turn assist the chapter in continuing to distribute free copies to needy schools and help finance further work in this project like the production of interactive CD-ROM's and a website.**

This is your chance to do your share to show the role hunting plays in conservation. Those who are in the schools now, will eventually determine whether hunting as we all know and love it will continue to be with us. The material consists of:

- A soft cover textbook "The Conservation Game - Saving Africa's Biodiversity" (Size A4, 287 pages, with 34 figures and extensive resource annexes)
- A full color poster "Sustainable Use in Africa" (Size 1000x700mm, with a map of Africa's vegetation zones and many photographs relating to the chapters in the book)

and is available for purchase at a set price of R75.00 plus R10 for postage. For bulk orders of 100 sets or more, a discount of 20% is applicable and plus transport charges at cost (**see also last page for ordering details**)

13 Africa Geographic's Ian Michler - an anti-hunter?

Ian Michler's regular column called "Diary" and his ubiquitous articles like "To snap or snipe" or "Hunting – The rotten business" as published by the glossy magazine **Africa Geographic** indicate at least certain anti-hunting sentiments. His recent comments to a letter from Graeme Pollock are falling in the accustomed line. What astonishes me, however, is the fact that Michler states "...the magazine is comfortable with the role it plays regarding the relevant issues concerning Africa's wildlife and its conservation and it will continue to promote ecotourism".

I do not find Michler's name in the impressum of **Africa Geographic** – mentioned there is Peter Borchert as publisher and Editor-in-Chief. So why is Michler speaking for the "magazine"? I had the pleasure to meet and discuss the issues with Mr. Borchert some months ago in company of Peter Flack and Gary Davies. Although it seemed that we did not succeed in convincing Mr. Borchert that hunting is indeed significantly contributing to conservation, we detected an open mind and willingness to explore the subject further with us and people (like Dr. Rob Little of WWF-SA and Prof. Gerhard Verdoorn of EWT) who know the facts and whose objectiveness leaves little room for doubt.

Michler does not seem to have that objectiveness – at least he is NOT taking any positive arguments in favour of hunting into account, and if he – on rare occasions – lists some, he always finds a way to use a sarcastic comment. Michler should openly state his objective – and I suspect it will be quite in line with animal rights organizations like PETA, FALCON, HSUS, etc. It seems to me that the duty of a journalist is to inform the reader and not to disguise a personal opinion or preference as irrefutable fact. If Michler is dead against any hunting, he should say so, without resorting to pseudo-scientific arguments. At least his readers would know clearly where he stands! That knowledge moves ahead is recognized by all who have relinquished their membership in the "Flat Earth Society". To sarcastically reject an economically important, culturally significant and scientifically appropriate wildlife management tool such as hunting on emotive and/or prejudicial grounds is as wrong as the unethical and anti-conservation practices of some people who rather should not be called hunters.

In case Michler would accept the role of hunting as recognized by conservation organizations like WWF-SA and EWT, he should enter into a qualified dialogue with the hunters. We would welcome such a dialogue, since civil society requires open communication.

Maybe Michler should be also afforded the opportunity to read the various statements of WWF-SA and EWT regarding hunting. I could also give him a copy of a significant letter of Dr. Ian Player. If he then continues to insist writing loop-sided attacks on hunting he is putting himself clearly into the corner of animal rights organizations, who certainly have nothing in common with serious conservation organizations like WWF and EWT.

Gerhard R Damm

14 New SCI African Chapter Honorary Life Members

The African Chapter takes great pleasure to announce that three dedicated hunter-conservationists have been nominated HONORARY LIFE MEMBERS of the African Chapter in recognition of their generous support of the cause of hunting and conservation in Africa.

All three nominees have unselfishly contributed their services and products towards the great success of the SCI African Chapter Millennium Raffle. A great 21 day elephant safari through Johan Calitz, a incomparable oil painting by Kobus Möller and a superb .500 double rifle by Butch Searcy were the main draw cards of the raffle.

Thank you, Johan, Kobus and Butch – we really appreciate your generous donations. The work of the African Chapter would not have been possible without your assistance!

HONORARY LIFE MEMBERS

Johan Calitz, Outfitter and PH
Kobus Möller, Wildlife Artist
Butch Searcy, Gunmaker

15 The death of a dream - One Zimbabwean farmer's story

For more than four decades, Larry Norton and his family farmed the same stretch of land in northern Zimbabwe. Here, he tells the devastating story of the pressures that forced him to leave 15 August 2002.

I sit in a storage shed in Harare, surrounded by the chaotic elements of our life and home and our piles of possessions, and try to reflect on the past few days. Last Thursday, 8 August 2002, we evacuated our farm - Dahweye - in the Mvurwi region of Mashonaland in north-east Zimbabwe, about 100km from Harare, abandoning the home in which three generations of our family had lived for almost half a century. After two years of mayhem, we could not go on. The government-sponsored land invasions had begun in March 2000, shortly before our 14-month-old son Oscar died from cancer. We were unable to spend his last days on the farm because of the trouble. He died in an apartment in Harare surrounded by refugee farmers from Macheke, where in April that year David Stevens, a supporter of the Movement for Democratic Change (MDC), was the first white farmer to be killed. Since that time we have lived through the unparalleled destruction of country and economy, under the corrupt and dictatorial rule of President Robert Mugabe and his Zanu-PF party. Our farm has been a microcosm of the battlefield. My mother and father came north from South Africa in the 1950s. They worked as managers on various farms and borrowed money to purchase Dahweye in 1957. They nearly went

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Safari Club International Membership Options

Membership Category	SCI US\$	SCIAC US\$	Total US\$	Total R
International Member (1 Year)	\$80	\$20	\$100	R900
International Member (3 Years)	\$225	\$50	\$275	R2475
Sportsman's Advocate Member (1 Year)	\$30	\$20	\$50	R450
Safari Cub (1 Year)	\$35	Nil	\$35	R315
Family Member (1 Year)	\$100	\$30	\$130	R1170

The dues indicated in column "US\$-SCI" are retained by SCI; the dues under "US\$-SCIAC" are retained by the SCI African Chapter. The total dues can either be paid directly via credit card to SCI USA on application or upon receiving the renewal notice or alternatively they can be paid through the African Chapter. International members who are not member of the African Chapter can apply for membership directly with the African Chapter.

Important Notes:

1. SCI has a "Company Membership", which is of special interest to hunting operators and outfitters who exhibit at the SCI Convention. The company membership is compulsory for exhibitors. The cost is US\$55.00 p. a. Company members are excluded from being chapter members as per SCI bylaws.
2. **The SCI African Chapter has created the category "Chapter Associate" for companies and individuals who want to support the SCI African Chapter. For details read the box on page 10, "African Chapter Associate Program".**
3. There are other SCI Chapters in Africa (SCI Africa Bo-hunters, SCI Eastern Cape and SCI Namibia). Members of these chapters may elect to be also members of the African Chapter by paying the additional African Chapter dues. Their primary chapter membership will not change.
4. The **combined SCI/SCI-African Chapter** membership entitles the member to the following benefits:
 - **International Member:** Safari – The Journal of Big Game Hunting, Safari Times, SCI-AC Newsletter
 - **Sportsman's Advocate:** Safari Times, SCI-AC Newsletter
 - **Safari Cub:** Safari Cub Journal, SCI-AC Newsletter
 - **Family Member:** one each per household of: Safari - The Journal of Big Game Hunting, Safari Times, SCI-AC Newsletter
5. Safari Cubs are boys and girls who have not yet completed their 18th birthday; family membership includes the principal member, his/her spouse and all children who have not yet completed 18th birthday. SCI-AC membership is free of charge for Cubs
6. **Read "Important Information – Membership Dues" on Page 2 of this Newsletter.**

Contact: SCI African Chapter, email gerhard@muskwa.co.za phone 011-883-2299 in case of questions. See also application/renewal form on the last page of **African Indaba**.

16 SCI African Chapter and other Hunting Associations in Africa

The African Chapter congratulates the executive committees and members of other African sport hunting associations, in particular those organized in the Confederation of South African Hunting Organizations (CHASA) on their excellent work done during 2002. Their tireless efforts are significant and essential for the future of sport hunting on the continent. CHASA's untiring fight for our rights to bear and possess firearms must be particularly commended.

It is for these very reasons that SCI African Chapter does not want to be perceived as an organization which competes with these associations for membership. We believe that we have complimentary functions within the mutual objectives of biodiversity conservation and protection of the right to hunt. The grass root work and the intimate knowledge of local affairs of local sport hunting associations are as essential as the work on a continental scope of the African Chapter within the family of Safari Club International.

The economic significance of local sport hunting is an important factor for the game ranchers in Southern Africa. It is also a fact that local sport hunters will continue to hunt – also when international tourist hunters might be adversely affected by the present insecurity in international tourism.

On the other hand – the substantial economic contribution of relatively few high spending tourist hunters is a significant argument in the debate "does hunting contribute to conservation". Both – the local and the tourist hunter have their irreplaceable place in this equation.

Our meetings with representatives of our sister organizations during the past year have shown ample scope for positive cooperation, work sharing and coalition building.

In our opinion each member of the African Chapter should also be a member of a local hunting association (contact details see page 13).

The SCI African Chapter – on the other hand - would like to invite all those members in good standing of local hunting associations who have an interest in safari hunting beyond the borders of their own country to become individual "Associate-Donors" of the African Chapter. The box on page 11 gives details. Please use page 16 for your application.

African Chapter Associates will receive the bimonthly newsletter **African Indaba**.

**ORDER YOUR SET OF THE
ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION
RESOURCE PACKAGE
NOW
SEE LAST PAGE FOR
ORDERING DETAILS**

SCI AFRICAN CHAPTER ASSOCIATE-DONOR PROGRAM

We have created two CATEGORIES of SCI African Chapter ASSOCIATES-DONORS:

1. Company Associate-Donor

Open to all companies with their principal seat of business on the African continent. Annual subscription rate is set at:

- Company Associate-Donor R 500.00

2. Individual Associate-Donor

Open to all individuals with their principal place of residence in Africa. An associate personal member **MUST BE** a member in good standing of a recognized African sport hunting association. Proof of valid hunting association membership must be submitted on application and with each annual renewal.

- Individual Associate-Donor R 150.00

The COMPANY ASSOCIATE and INDIVIDUAL ASSOCIATE Program does not include international SCI membership. The Associate-Donor Program is also open for regular SCI and African Chapter members.

All associates will receive the bi-monthly AFRICAN INDABA NEWSLETTER by mail or e-mail

**JOIN THE ASSOCIATE-
DONOR PROGRAM
NOW – AND CONVINC
YOUR FRIENDS THAT
THIS IS IMPORTANT
FOR THE FUTURE OF
HUNTING**

Your support is essential!

For details and application forms contact
SCI African Chapter

Phone: 011-883-2299, Fax 011-784-2074

Email: gerhard@muskwa.co.za

or use the form on the last page of the African
Indaba Newsletter

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The Death of a Dream

broke, and for a time my father lived in a tent made from fertilizer bags while he opened up a tobacco farm in virgin bush. It was in an area described on the map as "Terra Incognita", but he made enough money there to pay off the loan. We returned to Dahweye in the mid-1960s. I was born in 1963. Over the next 40 years, my parents developed Dahweye and later Braidjule Farm into fully irrigable units, farming tobacco, maize, wheat and cattle. A game-farming operation on the marginal parts of the farm resulted in massive herds of wildebeest, zebra, impala, eland and tsessebe. Excess animals were sold to expand the wildlife business. My father conducted more than 3 decades of pasture research work and perfected legume/grass pastures in the harsh wetlands, increasing carrying capacities twentyfold. For him, the farm was not his own, it was a heritage for us, and our children. Every cent was reinvested in dams, irrigation and development.

In 1999, Sara and I decided to build our home in the Dahweye Game Park, not far from where we were married. The old farm cottage we had lived in was falling apart and we decided to develop the wildlife and tourism potential by building a guest lodge and launching a safari operation. It was not to be. Soon after our magnificent home was complete, Oscar's long illness disrupted our plans. The land invasions put an end to them. Our last day on the farm was a nightmare. We still had tons of household goods and machinery to move. Early in the day Zanu-PF youth and settlers illegally broke through the homestead fence to erect a flag near the lorry we were packing up. The police were called in and the mob was dispersed as far as the gates of the security fence, where the police officer advised that they should watch us in case we tried to steal anything. (Once a farmer has received a Section 8 - a final notice to quit farming - he may not remove certain assets from the farm.) They lit fires and hacked the word "Zimbabwe" into an old Msasa tree standing at the gate. The waiting media were made unwelcome by the police. During our last drive around Dahweye, my father said it looked as empty of wildlife as when he had first seen it. Finally we stopped to collect a bag of soil to take to Cape Town.

As my father watched, tears rolled down his face. Finally, we paid off the staff and at my father's request bowed our heads in a prayer of thanks for the long years we had lived and worked together. We had left the workers some cattle and hardware to assist in their new lives. My mother sobbed and tears burned in my eyes as we said goodbye to these people and left them to their fate. Mum locked the house for the last time. At last, our final convoy of 4 vehicles left the rubbish-strewn thatched house that had been a family home for 46 years. We drove towards the gate. The mob locked the gate as we approached. Sensing a bad situation, my father, in the lead vehicle, did not hesitate; he revved the engine and smashed through the gate.

We left Dahweye, without looking back, our beloved farm empty now of cattle, game and equipment, in parts burned out and already derelict. Alive only with the sound of axes and dogs. Irrigable land lies fallow, the dams stand full of water and soon the spectre of hunger will stalk the empty fields, as settlers dig for mice beneath the weeds. The night we left the

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The Death of a Dream

main pump for the housing area was stolen, and the mob broke into my studio and office and my parents' home, which I hear is to become a beer hall.

The Dahwe we have known and loved is dead. Many impressions come to mind as I try to recall the events of the past 2 ½ years. First, I recall my son Oscar's memorial service, held at the same rock altar in the game park where Sara and I were married and where our children were christened. It is a naturally sacred place. As the service began two fish eagles appeared overhead, circling and ululating their haunting cry, witnessed by the 250 people gathered below. By April this year, resettlement pressure on Dahwe was growing. Zanu-PF youth, who could not be paid for their work during the presidential election, were allocated our farm instead. The youth base commander began to build his hut at the rock altar. Our workers were appalled at an act so sacrilegious to traditional culture that they appealed to him to stop. But this was clearly a psychological strategy designed to cause us maximum pain. For the next 3 months Sara and the children would have to go past this obscenity on their way to school. Huts multiplied across the game park. We watched our game in despair, wandering amid the chaotic resettlements, surrounded by dogs, people, huts and fires. Pillars of light rose into the night sky from the settlers' fires. Entire segments of the country were consumed in an orgy of burning. By a small miracle we obtained a game capture permit from the authorities. In a dramatic operation, over 5 weeks, we captured, saved and sold about 180 tsessebe, 75 zebra, 60 wildebeest, 3 eland, 85 impala and 12 ostriches. We had already lost animals to poaching and I am convinced that many of the settlers in our game park came with meat in mind.

Our children attended Barwick Primary School, not far from our farm. Teachers there have described the deep trauma that they have observed in farmers' children who, over the past 2 years, have been silent victims of the baying mobs and the daily humiliations their families have endured on the farms. The ever-present anxiety they observe in their parents is silently taken in. I have often seen our own children trying to work out ways to protect us from the daily dramas. During the weekends and holidays, security briefings on the farm radios do not allay their fears.

When things have been bad children have expressed fear at returning to boarding school as they have to leave their parents alone on the farms. There have been times during this ordeal that have been worse than others. When farms were being burned and looted in the nearby districts of Chinhoi, Mhangura, Doma and Hwedza, we waited, expecting the worst. Some members of our family were trapped in their home, unable to escape as their neighbours were being ransacked. Packed suitcases and food rations stood in the hallway at all times, in preparation for a hurried exit. The house was emptied long ago of sentimental objects and photographs. As a community we tried to plan for worst-case scenarios. Community plans for the evacuation of schools were, and still are, realities that those in farming areas face on their own.

Before Oscar died, we planted a little Christmas tree that we had bought for him in Cape Town. The day before we left the farm, we dug up the tree and replanted it beside the children's ward of St Anne's Hospital, Harare, where the nuns

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17 Economic Analysis of Commercial Consumptive Use of Wildlife in Botswana

Extracts from the executive summary. The project has been funded partially by the SCI African Chapter in cooperation with the Botswana Wildlife Management Association (BWMA).

The safari industry contributes positively to the development criteria contained in Botswana's National Development Plan 8 with respect to three important national policies:

- Promoting rural development, employment and economic opportunities in remote rural areas
- Promoting economic diversification and reducing national dependence on exploitative industries (i.e. mining).
- Operating in an environmentally sound, sustainable way including minimizing the loss of biodiversity.

The turnover of the safari hunting industry in 2000 is estimated at nearly BWP 60 million. 47% are generated from daily fees, 35% from trophy fees, and the balance from other levies, tips, etc. The spatial distribution of economic activity with the industry is unique and especially in connection with the rural economy, highly significant. Almost 30 million Pula remain in the district, whereas 15.3 million Pula stay in the country, with only 14.8 million Pula being externalized. The per capita contribution of hunting *in the districts where hunting is conducted* is worth more than 10 times the per capita contribution of the industry to Botswana as a whole, making sport hunting a vital component in the rural economies of remote areas. Additionally the distribution of meat from hunted animals forms a critical component of food security, which is not available through any other tourism related economic activity. Compared to the photographic safari industry, the figures for safari hunting show that a much higher portion of funds are a) paid and collected in Botswana and b) remain at district level. The per capita spending of the safari hunter is much higher than the ecotourist – and most importantly, the average photographic tourist's total expense is for "pre-paid package deals" which include airfare, accommodation, etc. These payments – if they find their way into Botswana – very rarely reach district level.

Safari hunting is a legitimate and economically efficient land use and under some circumstances can match or surpass other forms of rural economic activity, including photographic tourism and livestock production. The coexistence of both photographic safaris and hunting is desirable and achievable with careful spatial planning and zoning, as demonstrated in several existing concessions.

J. I. Barnes points out that large areas of Botswana have low or very low wildlife viewing tourism potential and that if safari hunting was closed down over 75% of the land area in the north could potentially be used for other economic activities like livestock production with the subsequent threats to biodiversity conservation and wildlife.

The safari industry in Botswana has recognized that a better image with the public at large will help to counter some of the long term threats from the anti-hunting lobby. Strategic alliances with key stakeholders from conservation NGOs and rural communities are of importance.

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The Death of a Dream

(who remember Oscar from his stay there) have decided that it will be decorated each Christmas, and that from now on it will be called Oscar's Tree.

It is hard to describe the courage I have witnessed in my own family. My dad and mum, 73 and 64 respectively, humorous even amid the destruction of all they have loved and worked for, battling to finish the job of packing up their home and farm. Sara, my wife, determined even under these adverse circumstances to raise money for the Red Cross Children's Hospital, which looked after Oscar. She trained for the London Marathon on farm roads throughout the mayhem, ran the marathon and raised £7,000 for the hospital. My daughter Megan, who is 11 years old, a rock for all of us, always smiling and unfazed. My five-year-old son Ben, who cried often for the loss of his beloved farm, decided that we should make crosses and scatter them around the farm and throughout our house to protect it in our absence. Madeleine, who is six months old, is one of the few people in Zimbabwe, oblivious to its woes, who has smiled through it all.

The unreported daily acts of courage and integrity by farmers in this impossible time must be mentioned. Their lonely vigils against the forces of intimidation have been humbling to observe. One day, I hope it will be recognized. Even now, impossible labour laws and propaganda have in some situations turned the labourers against them. Farmers are barricaded into their homes by labourers demanding pay and gratuities few can afford. In the past 2 years, I have seen young men take on the visage of battle-weary soldiers, with lined faces and grey hair, as they strive to protect family, friends and defenceless farm. I have seen their desperation as the authorities and so-called new landlords have prevented them from moving their own equipment, livestock and household goods from their seized farms. I was told, categorically, by a war veteran leader in front of a mob of 200 people, that we would not move one thing off our farm. Fortunately, he failed. Now that we are in Harare, and off the farm, there is time to try to analyze what we have been through. We are sharing a house with another displaced family, the Mitchells from Beitbridge. Billy's father collapsed and died from a heart attack soon after they received government papers of acquisition earlier this year.

One thing I have learnt, as we try to make sense of these terrible events, is that it is impossible to judge any farmer or farming community by the course of action they have followed. Each farm and farmer has faced a unique circumstance. All have fought lonely battles against overwhelming odds, outgunned by the full force of state machinery. We don't want sympathy. Many farm workers, rural black people and opposition supporters have faced worse. Some of us can move from here. I, at least, have another trade, as a wildlife painter. Others have no options. The government has, by its own definition, attempted to conduct an ethnic cleansing of the farmland. White farmers, by nature of their race, have been targeted for displacement at a time of fast-approaching and unparalleled starvation. Why? Why, 20 years into Zimbabwe's nationhood, this sudden assault? The answer lies, of course, in two bloody and farcical elections, the results of which have failed to impress the world.

No one disputes the need for viable, transparent land reform, although it's significant to note that about 60% of

white-owned farms were purchased after independence, under Zimbabwean law.

The parallels between watching Oscar die from cancer and our beloved Dahwye's slow destruction are profound. The grief process of watching that which you love slowly destroyed is the same. My soul will always be in Dahwye. It holds my earliest memories and those of my children - and no one, by decree or destruction, can ever take that away.

CONTACT INFORMATION – HUNTING ASSOCIATIONS IN AFRICA

Confederation of Hunting Associations of SA (CHASA)
PO Box 184, Bethal 2310, RSA, phone: 017-647-5882, fax: 017-647-4057

Consult CHASA for a listing of all affiliated South African sport hunting associations and contact these associations directly for membership information.

Professional Hunters' Association of South Africa (PHASA), PO Box 10264, Centurion 0046, RSA
phone 012-663-2417, fax 012-663-7212, phasa@pixie.co.za,
www.professionalhunters.co.za

Eastern Cape Game Management Association (ECGMA), POB 1344, Uitenhage 6230, RSA, phone & fax: 041-922-7618, ecgma@global.co.za www.ecgma.co.za

African Professional Hunters' Association (APHA),
PO Box 24919, Nairobi, Kenya, phone 254-2-891809,
fax 254-2-890818, ravn@swiftkenya.com

Botswana Wildlife Management Association (BWMA),
Private Bag 095, Maun, Botswana, phone 267-686 2673, fax
267-66-2671, trophy@info.bw

Nambian Professional Hunter's Association (NAPHA),
PO Box 11291 Windhoek, Namibia, p 264-61-234455, fax
264-61-222567, napha@natron.net www.natron.net/napha

Zimbabwe Professional Hunters and Guides Association (ZPHGA), P.O. Box 7240, Harare, Zimbabwe, 263-4-708878/9, fax 263-4-794015, pangeti@zct.co.zw (Exec. Dir.) keiray@zoi.co.zw (Chairman)

Tanzania Professional Hunters' Association (TZPHA)
PO Box 3483, Dar Es Salaam, Tanzania, phone 255-22-2666-6174, fax 255-22-2667-692, tzpha@hotmail.com

Professional Hunters' Association of Zambia (PHAZ)
Postnet 184, Pte. Bag E835, Lusaka, Zambia, phone 260-1-251-946, fax 260-1-251-946, suedale@zamnet.zm

If your association is not included, or if address details have changed, please contact African Indaba, gerhard@muskwa.co.za

18 WWF-SA Position Statement on Sustainable Use

WWF aims to conserve nature and ecological processes by:

- preserving genetic, species and ecosystem diversity,
- ensuring that the use of renewable natural resources is sustainable now and in the longer term,
- and promoting actions to reduce pollution and the wasteful exploitation and consumption of resources.

The theory of sustainable consumptive use of renewable natural resources is based on two assumptions:

- that all natural systems on Earth are currently impacted by the activities of humans, and
- that the existence of humans is dependent on the use of natural resources.

It is essential that humans must understand and manage the rates of consumptive use of renewable natural resources to ensure the sustainability of these biological resources.

In considering a position on sustainable natural resources WWF-SA uses the following guidelines:

1. Activities which involve the sustainable consumptive use of natural resources should focus on the management of renewable natural resources.
2. Non-renewable natural resources, on the other hand, must be treated as irreplaceable and therefore require strategies involving minimal and optimally efficient use and the quest for alternative resources.
3. The levels of consumptive use of renewable natural resources must ensure no decline in future stocks of those resources. The measurement of decline must be determined according to trends in quantity and quality, where quantity refers to the size and demographics of populations and quality refers to the genetic structure of populations.

The fundamental requirement for sustainable use is that the resource is managed so as to capitalise on usable surplus stocks, the removal of which must compensate natural mortality, thus mimicking natural rates of population turnover.

Two additional considerations are pertinent to the management of renewable natural resources: although the species is normally the unit of biodiversity conservation, the unit for monitoring of sustainable use should be the subspecies; emphasis should not only be on threatened species, but also on abundant species so as to determine and evaluate use levels and to pre-empt declines of stocks.

WWF-SA therefore supports the proactive *in-situ* management of plant and animal populations and the sustainable consumptive use of surplus stocks. This position is however based on the requirement of sound scientific knowledge of population ecology, population turnover rates and the ecological carrying capacity of resource systems. WWF-SA will not normally support or partake in any activities which have an emphasis on individual plants or animals or on *ex-situ* conservation activities.

19 WWF-SA Position on Animal Rights

ANIMAL RIGHTS AS A THREAT TO CONSERVATION

As the population of the wealthy "developed" nations move ever further from their daily interactions with Nature, they move into a realm where simplistic "animal rights" approaches/solutions to mankind's interaction with wildlife become ever more appealing to "the man in the street". WWF-SA believes that the conservation community completely underestimates how devastating this trend could be, if allowed to proceed unchecked. This attitude can lead to mismanaged or unmanaged systems; for example (A) the lack of control of introduced invasive alien species which can threaten the future viability and biodiversity of the invaded ecosystems, (B) the lack of control of overabundant large native herbivores in protected areas where their uncontrolled population growth similarly reduces the viability and biodiversity of the protected ecosystems, and (C) the issue of opposition to the sustainable consumptive use of native wildlife populations - where allowing this use might be of fundamental importance in ensuring that native species and untransformed ecosystems survive in areas where human needs will otherwise drive these areas into alternative land usage under which ecosystems are transformed (e.g. cultivated) and/or native wildlife is replaced with domesticated livestock.

By failing to recognize, and then face head-on, the enormous strategic challenge posed by the growth of the animal rights movement, the conservation community could seriously impair its ability to influence for the better the fate of the natural world in the decades to come.

WWF-SA is continually on guard to ensure that our own conservation policies continue to be driven by genuine conservation imperatives and not by animal rights agendas.

Contact Details – Conservation Organizations

The Wildlife and Environment Society of South Africa (WESSA), PO Box 394, Howick 3290, RSA, mjp@futurenet.co.za, www.wildlifesociety.org.za

Endangered Wildlife Trust (EWT), Private Bag X11, Parkview 2122, RSA, ewt@ewt.org.za, www.ewt.org.za

Worldwide Fund for Nature – South Africa (WWF-SA), PO Box 456, Stellenbosch 7600, RSA, criley@wwfsa.org.za, www.panda.org.za

TRAFFIC East & Southern Africa, Private Bag X11, Parkview 2122, RSA, trafficza@uskonet.com

Namibia Nature Foundation, PO Box 245, Windhoek, Namibia, nnf@nnf.org.na, www.nnf.org.na

Kalahari Conservation Society, PO Box 859, Gaborone, Botswana, www.delin.org/kalahari

20 Southern African Conservation Trust (SACET)

In Africa, rampant poverty has become a major threat to the region's natural areas, which in effect hold the key to job creation and prosperity through its natural treasures. The actions of Africa's rural people who live cheek to jowl with wildlife, as well as those of their urban counterparts who have very no or very little direct contact with wildlife, and less with wildlife management options, are determined by their attitudes, which stem from their understanding, ultimately shaped through education. Therefore the best which can be done to protect the environment and apply proven management techniques, is to teach the young generation the reality of conservation issues.

As a hunting organization, the SCI African Chapter has made an all-important first step with its Environmental Education Resource Package (see separate article in this **African Indaba**).

Non-hunting conservation associations have however engaged in this subject for quite some time already. WWF-SA in particular has shown vision with its support of the Southern African Wildlife College (SAWC) near the Orpen Gate of the Kruger National Park. SAWC is a registered Section 21 company which was built with an initial grant of the German Development Bank and funds from WWF-SA supporters and opened in 1997. SAWC receives no government subsidy. Today the College offers integrated Certificate and Diploma courses for students from all over Africa and customized practical short courses for a wide spectrum of participants from overseas' universities to local schools. More about 1200 students have graduated from the College so far. The objectives of the Southern African Wildlife College are

- To build capacity of professionals in the field of conservation and environmental management
- To provide protected area managers from Africa with the motivation and relevant skills to manage their areas and wildlife populations sustainably and in a culturally acceptable manner
- To be recognized worldwide as a center of excellence in conservation education and training in Africa.

In order to cover a substantial part of the annual operating costs of the College and similar training initiatives, WWF-SA was instrumental in creating the Southern African Conservation Education Trust (SACET). During its first funding phase, a total of R7 million has been secured for SACET through donations and pledges. The target is to raise a capital amount of R60 million in the next 3 years. Although SACET has its own Board of Trustees, WWF-SA is responsible for the financial management and remains the main funding organization of the trust.

During the year 2002 the SCI African Chapter and WWF-SA entered into a series of discussions, which culminated with a meeting at the College end July 2002. In order to broaden the perspective of such discussions, the Chapter involved already at an early stage representatives from PHASA, CHASA and SAGRO. During the meeting, the participants agreed on common objectives and strategies to eliminate unethical hunting practices to educate the public at large about

the role of hunting in conservation, and to include hunting related subjects into the curriculum of the College.

The participating hunting organizations considered the meeting a great success and the outcomes highly desirable objectives for the future. We cannot but underline the importance of a coordinated cooperation of hunting associations with WWF-SA! As a first step, SCI African Chapter made 100 of its Environmental Education Resource Packages available for College students and will continue to supply new students with that material.

A second – and potentially much more important step – is the vision of WWF-SA to approach a number of sectors in Africa for support of reaching the earlier mentioned capital amount of R60 million in the Southern African Conservation Education Trust. WWF-SA identified the following sectors

- Game Lodges
- Women in Business
- Black Business
- Media
- Hunters & Game Ranching

and approached SCI African Chapter president Gerhard Damm to champion this project within the hunting fraternity. The combination of the target sectors opens excellent opportunities to engage the other sectors in a broad dialogue about the conservation contribution of hunting.

As a target locally raised funds of R300,000 from hunting associations, individuals and companies associated with hunting seem to be achievable and – once this local target is reached further international funding from the worldwide hunting community can certainly be leveraged. The key messages of the fundraising activities through hunters and game ranchers would be the “promotion of sustainable use of wildlife resources” and a public message that hunter-conservationists and conservationist of WWF-SA work closely together (as a first outcome of this budding cooperation WWF-SA endorsed the SCI African Chapter publication “The Conservation Game – Saving Africa's Biodiversity” and permitted the use of the Panda logo on the textbook. The positions of WWF-SA on sustainable use and on animal rights (see previous page) are anyhow practically identical with those of all hunting organizations.

Donations to SACET are tax deductible and tax rebate certificates are issued. Donations are also exempt from estate duty and donations tax. Donors will receive the regular **Ukhozi Newsletter** and an annual audited report. PHASA, CHASA and SCI African Chapter are considering to provide substantial seed funding to reach the local target amount of R300,000 and we are confident that the concerned hunter-conservationists in Africa will assist in reaching the total. Pledge Forms for donations starting from R1,000 can be obtained from the African Chapter.

Please consider this unique opportunity to not only reach a broad public, but also to show that we hunters support strategic alliances! For more details, please contact the SCI African Chapter, PO Box 411, Rivonia 2128, RSA, phone 011-883-2299, fax 011-784-2074, email gerhard@muskwa.co.za .

SACET-Trustees: L Richardson (WWF-SA), Countess Sylvia Labia (WWF-SA), Y. Katerere (IUCN), J. Chafota (WWF-ROSA), Prof. W. van Riet (PPF), L. Sefu (DNPW, Malawi), N. Chapman, Dawn Mokhobo

