

# AFRICAN INDABA

Volume 5, Issue No 1

eNewsletter

January 2007

Dedicated to the People and Wildlife of Africa

## 1 Conservation, Wildlife & Markets

Recommendations from the "Conservation, Wildlife & Markets" conference at the Strathmore Business School, Nairobi, and its implications for Kenya's wildlife policy review

Guest Editorial by Dr Stephanie S. Romañach

Wildlife conservation and wildlife policy are particularly emotive topics in Kenya, often stimulating media coverage and intense debate. In 1977, Kenya imposed a ban on trophy hunting that is still in place today.

The Kenyan government has retained ownership of wildlife as well as user rights for the wildlife resource except for tourism. Despite these policies, Kenya has remained a popular destination among tourists, many choosing to visit the country for its famous parks. However, much of the country is not suitable for tourism because of remoteness, lack charismatic species, or low densities of wildlife. Because alternative wildlife utilization options are not permitted, there is little scope for people living with wildlife to derive revenues from wildlife.

As a result, wild animals are perceived by many Kenyans to be nothing more than a dangerous liability. This perception is enhanced by the increasing frequency and intensity of human-wildlife conflict in Kenya, which is widely publicized in the media. Correspondingly, wildlife populations inside and outside of protected areas in Kenya have experienced serious declines in recent years, and without a change in policy, conservation prospects are bleak. Kenya is currently reviewing its wildlife policy, which could yield major changes and thus improve the prospects for conservation.

In early November, I was invited to a conference on 'Conservation, Wildlife & Markets' held by the Strathmore Business School in Nairobi. I was asked to speak about the potential for trophy hunting to contribute to wildlife conservation and management, and rural development in Kenya. Given that trophy hunting is such a contentious topic (especially in Kenya), I was concerned that discussion would be emotional and unscientific. This concern was amplified when I learned that an animal welfare organization was funding the conference. Thankfully, though, the conference organizers obtained financial support from several organizations, thus ensuring a balanced agenda. The timing of the conference with the wildlife policy review was coincidental, but potentially of great value.

The 3-day conference opened on the morning of the 9th of November with an attendance of 100 – 150 people. There was a line-up of 17 speakers from various backgrounds and specializations, including those practicing law, journalism, economics, and conservation. One of the goals of the conference organizers was

to ensure that the conference did not turn into an emotional, pro-versus anti-hunting debate. Speakers, discussions, and questions focused on the role of markets, property rights, and law for the benefit of effective wildlife policy formation.

One of the first speakers was Richard Leakey, former Director of Kenya's wildlife regulatory agency, Kenya Wildlife Service. The content of Leakey's presentation was a surprise to the audience, given his past position statements. Leakey commented on the unsustainably and large scale of the illegal bushmeat trade. He stressed that hunting (in some form) has never stopped in Kenya despite the ban and is, in fact, widespread and out of control. Leakey went on to say that decision makers should consider a policy to regulate hunting, make hunting sustainable, and to allow people to derive value from wildlife.

The ban on trophy hunting of almost three decades means that most Kenyans have never experienced regulated tourist trophy hunting. Younger Kenyans know only of stories from the

*Continued on Page 2*

### INSIDE THIS ISSUE

1. Conservation, Wildlife and Markets - Guest Editorial by Dr Stephanie S. Romañach
2. Kenyans Discuss Their Wildlife Policy
3. Happy Birthday Selous! Africa's Oldest Protected Area Celebrates 110 years by Dr Rolf Baldus
4. Peter Flack Receives Musgrave Award by G R Damm
5. Freestate Sells Black Wildebeest Hybrids by Gerhard R Damm
6. Caesarean Section on Aardwolf by Ronel Openshaw
7. Hotel Development Threatens Mosi-Oa-Tunya National Park by Gerhard R Damm
8. Oil Drilling to Start in the Selous GR by Dr Rolf Baldus
9. News From Africa
10. The Kipunji Monkey (*Rungwecebus kipunji*)
11. Rowland Ward's Records of Big Game Move Ahead by Richard Flack
12. Keep NGO's out of [Kenya's] New Wildlife Policy Talks by Dr Imre Loeffler
13. "Flack Hunts South Africa" Peter Flack's Documentary DVD reviewed by Gerhard R Damm
14. WWF on "Hunting for Conservation"
15. 2006 PHASA Convention by Gerhard R Damm
16. The PHASA AGM from a Conservationist's Perspective by Dr Peter A Lindsey
17. NAPHA's 2006 AGM by Jofie Lamprecht Jr.
18. NAPHA Trains Hunting Assistants and Camp Attendants by Martina Lamprecht
19. Successful Year 2006 for Conservation Force by John J Jackson III

Continued from Page 1

### 1 Conservation, Wildlife and Markets

previous poorly-regulated and corrupt hunting industry that lacked necessary controls and lacked community involvement.

The goal of my presentation was to provide information on the economic and conservation status of the hunting industry in other countries in Africa so that Kenyans could see what works in other places. I also spoke about how the hunting industry can improve its role in conservation (work done in collaboration with Dr Peter Lindsey, see African Indaba, vol. 4, no. 4, article 12).

After my talk, some of the young attendees commented to me ideas they were not previously aware of, such as: the large-scale economics of trophy hunting, the high prices paid for some wildlife species on the live sale market, and the successes of trophy hunting on communal land in some parts of Africa.

Discussions during the conference made clear that some of the time-tested principles of sustainable use, which are broadly accepted in other East and southern African countries (e.g., landholders having wildlife user rights), are questioned in Kenya.

Some Kenyans feel that conditions and conservation issues in their country are different from those elsewhere in Africa, and that different solutions are needed, but not likely to be found. Others are concerned that Kenya is too corrupt for controlled trophy hunting to work. A further concern about trophy hunting is that it would provide another opportunity for a foreign industry to exploit local resources without reinvesting significantly in Kenya.

Photographic tourism in Kenya suffers badly from leakage of revenues overseas and a failure to devolve adequate benefits to communities. Some Kenyans fear that trophy hunting will operate on the same inequitable basis.

Some of the opposition to hunting in Kenya stems from media and policy influence from western protectionist and animal welfare organizations. Correspondingly, some of the delegates disregarded trophy hunting as an option without giving accurate, relevant, or factual justification for why it would not work in Kenya. The fact remains that most wildlife species are reported to have declined by 40 - 90% since hunting was banned.

A workshop was held on the final morning, designed to allow conference speakers to discuss the conference proceedings and agree on conclusions. These have been submitted to the National Steering Committee for their consideration during the ongoing wildlife policy review process. After several hours of discussion, all present agreed on several points to put forward to the Committee, including: devolution of user rights of wildlife to people living with wildlife to permit the derivation of benefits and thus the creation of incentives for conservation; equitable revenue sharing with communities/landowners bearing the cost of living with wildlife; allowing communities to maximize the value of wildlife (without getting stuck on the issue of whether to legalize trophy hunting); using examples from other parts of Africa to aid in an examination of consumptive use as means to enhance the value of wildlife.

At this stage, the National Steering Committee would benefit from careful examination of the pivotal role played by trophy hunting elsewhere in Africa in creating financial incentives for conservation. Hopefully, the information availed at the conference will lead to new policies that benefit wildlife conservation and the people living with wildlife.

I would like to express my thanks to Raul H. Figueroa for organizing such a timely and well-produced conference.

*Stephanie Romañach is a Research Associate at the*

*Tropical Resource Ecology Programme at the University of Zimbabwe, conducting research in the Savé Valley Conservancy. She earned her doctorate in ecology from the University of California Santa Barbara, and has been conducting field research for the past 10 years. Stephanie has worked on herbivore ecology in the USA, Southern Africa, and East Africa, and carnivore conservation in Southern and East Africa. Her current research includes understanding the dynamics of the bush meat trade and developing means for wildlife areas to protect wildlife while improving the livelihoods of neighboring community members, working to create benefits to local citizens from trophy hunting and ecotourism as incentives for wildlife conservation, and conservation projects on endangered African wild dogs dealing with conflict with game ranchers and livestock owners.*

You can contact Stephanie Romañach at [stephanie.romanach@gmail.com](mailto:stephanie.romanach@gmail.com)

## 2 Kenyans Discuss Their Wildlife Policy

During another wildlife conservation and management policy and legislation workshop in Nakuru in December participants expressed the view that most Kenyans feel that they are not benefiting from the wildlife and tourism sector and that they should be directly involved to achieve a sense of proprietorship. Not surprisingly, it was further suggested that the Kenya Wildlife Service (KWS) to be replaced by a private body to manage and conserve wildlife.

During the earlier conference at the Strathmore Business School (see preceding article by Dr Romañach'), Dr. Richard Leakey had already said in his speech to the participants that *"we should be thinking about how to secure wildlife rights on private land at a market rate"* and in continuation of his presentation, Leakey lambasted the Kenya Wildlife Service in these words *"[KWS] has had 16 years to operate and [which] at the end of the day is in debt, is totally corrupt, has created a very bad political relationship between itself and the communities and which is going nowhere."*

The national steering committee chairman Brigadier Kamunge said at the Nakuru meeting that the suggestions being received across the country would help review policy, the Wildlife Management Act and Sessional Paper which would later be presented to the Minister for Tourism and Wildlife. He further stated that emerging issues like the loss of biodiversity, habitat and fragmentation of land, human wildlife conflicts and competing land uses have made it critical to review the wildlife policy to realign it with current global trends.

*Editor's Note: Please also read Dr Imre Loeffler's opinion (from the East African Standard of November 28<sup>th</sup>, 2006) "Keep NGOs Out of [Kenya's] New Wildlife Policy Talks" on page 13 of this issue of African Indaba.*

**"The man who looks at an animal and sees beauty is a man who has eaten well"**

*University of Zambia employee*

## 3 Happy Birthday Selous! Africa's Oldest Protected Area Celebrates 110 Years

By Dr. Rolf D. Baldus

Neither Tanzania nor the world might take notice of an important anniversary taking place this year: Africa's oldest and largest protected area celebrates its 110<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

### Ivory, Slave Traders and Explorers

The vast Miombo forests of south-eastern Tanzania have been sparsely settled for thousands of years. Hunter-gatherers moved around living on the rich wildlife, fish and trees. A Portuguese explorer who made a journey from Tete to Kilwa in 1616 found very little habitation and referred to these lands as "terra deserta". The mid-19th century explorers described small settlements separated by considerable stretches of uninhabited bush. Small clans lived an isolated life without any larger tribal structures and coherence. Whether these people dispersed to avoid the horrors of the century-old slave trade or whether the slave traders took advantage of naturally dispersed and therefore vulnerable clans is impossible to determine.

The Arab-driven slave trade intensified after the Omani rulers took permanent residence on Zanzibar in 1840. Slaves in their thousands were headed from the interior to the coast each year, on the way to Kilwa, which had been a major slave exporting centre since the middle ages. Another extensively used caravan and slave trade route passed through the north of present-day Selous via Beho Beho and Kisasi towards Bagamoyo. It is reported that large caravans of a thousand men or more passed through every week when the first Europeans visited around 1857. A third caravan route ran from Mahenge along the Ulanga and Rufiji Rivers via Utete, reaching the coast at the Rufiji delta. Baron von der Decken traveled west along the southernmost of these routes in 1860, and noted that the country was thickly populated in places, and generally peaceful, and that slaves came from much farther up-country. However, those traveling along or north of the Rufiji like Burton, Thomson and Johnston reported "the plundering of the country. The plague has now spread like a flight of locusts over the land." (Burton). When William Beardall explored the Rufiji River under the orders of the Sultan of Zanzibar, Sayyid Barghash, in December 1880, he found that Beho Beho village had been burnt the same year by people from Mahenge, who were regularly hunting slaves for the Arabs along the Rufiji. They met little resistance. Chief Korogero had been taken prisoner at some stage and was paying a yearly tribute to the Mahenge ruler. Most villages were deserted and people were hiding in swampy retreats after the harvest.

### The "Kaiser" Rules the Rufiji

The Arab slave trade and ivory hunting had gone hand-in-hand since the middle ages. African ivory became so popular and common in Europe that in an early form of globalization the price of walrus-ivory is said to have fallen to low levels in Greenland in the 14<sup>th</sup> century. When Germany, a latecomer to European colonial expansion, declared Tanganyika a Protectorate in 1885, the slaughter of the elephants had already surpassed its peak and elephants were becoming rare. 40 tons of

ivory, the equivalent of some 3,000 elephants, were still exported every year from Zanzibar, Commercial hunters could buy licenses to shoot elephants for their ivory. The German hunter and author Schomburgk, who had traveled on foot and on bicycle all the way from South Africa, traversed the Selous area and shot several elephants along the Ruaha River. The *rinderpest* epidemic had swept through the protectorate in the nineties from the north, drastically reducing buffaloes and antelopes. Fears of imminent extinction of the formerly rich wildlife in German East Africa became widespread in Germany after hunter-conservationists, amongst them Carl Georg Schillings, alerted the public in bestselling books.

Shooting restrictions had already become effective. "Reichskommissar" von Wissmann had started to issue these in 1891, when the first hunting regulations were declared in Moshi District, only six years after the establishment of the Protectorate. The first general Wildlife Ordinance for German East Africa dates back to 1896. Its intention was made clear by the Imperial Governor von Wissmann in a decree: "I felt obliged to issue this Ordinance in order to conserve wildlife and to prevent many species from becoming extinct, which would happen soon if present conditions prevail .... We are obliged to think also of future generations, and should secure them the chance to enjoy the pleasure of hunting African game." Further decrees and implementing regulations were issued in 1898, 1900, 1903, 1905 and 1908 culminating in the comprehensive Wildlife Act of 1911.

The colonial Government meant business. Many a European planter who thought that the bush had no eyes and that they could violate the acts without consequences was taken to court and fined. The files of such court cases are still in the National Archives in Dar Es Salaam. European settlers and hunters were quite frustrated by their own Government, which did not interfere with traditional hunting of local Africans unless it was seen as commercial. Von Wissmann felt that the major threat to African fauna came from the Europeans, but these immigrants, including most famous hunters of the time like Selous, Schillings and Schomburgk, of course held the opposite view.

It was the commercial culling which was considered unsustainable by the Government at the time. In their opinion, even a game-rich country like German East Africa could not preserve its wildlife in the long term if it violated "the most important principle of any wildlife use, namely the sustainability of the off-take", as it was then called in a stunningly modern way. In 1911, therefore, all commercial culling was stopped and hunting was regulated. One of the last commercial ivory hunters was Scottish-born James Sutherland who had assisted the Germans in the Maji Maji war and was rewarded with hunting permits for elephants in the southern Selous area. He always fancied rather intimate relationships with the local womenfolk and met a pitiful end, being poisoned, presumably by a jealous husband, somewhere in central Africa.

### Creating the Reserve in 1896

Governor von Wissmann also decided to protect wildlife by earmarking certain areas where all hunting was to be stopped: "I am planning to create hunting reserves in game rich areas in order that wildlife can find refuge there and sustain their populations. In such areas hunting of game will only be permitted with the explicit prior permission of the Imperial Government. Their

*Continued on Page 4*

Continued from Page 3  
3 Happy Birthday Selous!

establishment should also serve science, in order to conserve such game species which have already become rare in East Africa." In every district the local administration was required to earmark one or two suitable areas. The Governor's office even laid down the size, namely the area created by "ten hours walk in every direction". In such a time a person would walk about 30 km. Every hunting reserve should therefore measure approximately 1,000 km<sup>2</sup>, which is about the size of the Saadani National Park today.

The first two such protected areas were established by a decree of May 7<sup>th</sup>, 1896: *"I declare as 'Hunting-Reserve' the area, which has as its northern boundary the country of Rubeho Beho, in the west the ascent to the Khutu-Plateau (sharply demarcated by the chain of hills extending from Kisaki in a north-southerly direction until they reach the Rufiji), in the south the Rufiji River up to Mtemere (Ramsay's map), in the east the lakes of the steppe up to the village of Mserakera (Kiepert's map)."* This protected area was called different names: Rufiji, Mohoro or Kisaki Reserve. Its size was well over 1,000 km<sup>2</sup> and it lay within what is now called the northern sector of the Selous. Present tourist camps, except Stiegler's Gorge and Sand Rivers, lie inside the original colonial reserve. There were a number of villages within the boundaries of the reserve, such as Beho Beho, and there was no intention to move them out.

The second protected area von Wissmann declared was Kilimanjaro-West in Moshi District. It was later de-gazetted. Governor von Götz subsequently confirmed in a letter that these two areas were the first protected game reserves in the colony and that they were established in 1896. The Selous is Africa's oldest Park in the modern sense and exists continuously until today. Certain sacred areas where hunting was also forbidden had already existed before in traditional African society.

The creation of such a large protected area in German East Africa in 1896 is quite remarkable, as the official German nature preservation movement dates back only to the year 1906 when a nature conservation office was opened in Danzig. This office protected the first nature sites in Germany. Most of them were very small. In German East Africa, however, the authorities had created 15 protected areas by 1911. They covered approximately 30,000 km<sup>2</sup> or 3% of the colony. They were called "hunting reserves", but in fact all hunting was prohibited. Any violation could be penalized with three months imprisonment or a fine of up to 5,000 rupees – ten times the price of an elephant license.

### Shamba la Bibi

Settlement was not excluded, but the Government tried to select primarily unsettled land. The supervision of the hunting reserves was left in the hands of the local chiefs, assisted by one or two African game scouts. Two German foresters were posted at Mount Kilimanjaro and Mount Meru, but the Rufiji Reserve was supervised only by locals. Informers reporting poaching activities were financially rewarded. In general poaching was minimal. Outside the reserve hunting continued and agricultural development was encouraged. At the narrow gorge of the Rufiji River, which the Germans called "Pangani rapids" and which is known today as Stiegler's Gorge, they even wanted to construct a bridge and a dam. The project came to an early end when the engineer, named Stiegler, was killed 1907 near the gorge by an

elephant which he had wounded.

Even today local people and game scouts call the Selous "Shamba la Bibi" which when translated literally means "the field of the lady". It is widely believed and repeated in many publications, that the German Emperor Kaiser Wilhelm II gave the Selous area to his wife Auguste Viktoria as a birthday present. I could not find any proof for this in the colonial files, and generally the Germans documented everything well. It also seems unlikely that the Kaiser would give an area of unknown bush to his wife (who might have felt more insulted than honored!). A more probable explanation for the term was found a few months ago by Bernhard Gissibl, a PhD student from Berlin, in old German files kept in the archives in Dar es Salaam.

Correspondence from 1912 between the District Administration in Morogoro and the Governor's office on another reserve in the "Mkata-Steppe" (north of and partly within present-day Mikumi National Park), it was pointed out that the local people did not understand the difference between a game reserve and a forest reserve. The latter was another category of protected land introduced by the Germans to conserve natural vegetation and to avoid deforestation. Special reference was made to the Rufiji Game Reserve where the same problem would exist.

A young forester who had traveled the Mkata area at length and talked with the people, therefore proposed to distinguish between them by simply pointing out what local people were allowed and were not allowed to do. In a game reserve they could have fields ("shamba"), grow crops, collect firewood and cut trees, all predominantly womenfolk work. Hunting, an entirely male occupation in African society, was not allowed. He therefore suggested "Shamba la Bibi" as a short and snappy phrase to explain what could be done in a game reserve and what not - women's work, not men's.

It was only in the 1920s and 30s that game reserves and national parks were turned into no-go areas which people were prevented from entering unless they had paid for permits. "Fortress conservation" or "fences and fines"-approach were the terms coined for this philosophy, which was to dominate wildlife conservation for the next sixty years, and which was quite different from the original German "shamba la bibi" concept.

### Naming the Reserve "Selous"

Four of these German game reserves later became the nucleus of the Selous. Apart from the aforementioned Rufiji Game Reserve there was the Mahenge Reserve, situated between the Ruaha, Ulanga, Kilombero and Msolwa Rivers and which nowadays forms part of the Selous' eastern or Msolwa sector. Another reserve was the Matandu, along the Matandu river between Liwale and Kilwa. Part of it was later included the Selous. The larger eastern portion was, however, de-gazetted after the Second World War.

The Matesi Game Reserve, south-east of the present Selous, was also dissolved by the British administration. After the first amendments and further expansions in the early 1920s and after the establishment of a Wildlife Division the British Colonial Government named the emerging entity the "Selous Game Reserve".

This was done in honor of the hunter and writer Captain Frederick Courtenay Selous, who had been killed in 1917 at Beho Beho in the reserve where his grave can still be found.

## 4 Peter Flack Receives Musgrave Award

By Gerhard R Damm

Peter Flack – lawyer, businessman, hunter, game rancher, conservationist – this is how he describes himself occasionally, and with a wry grin, *“not necessarily in that order”*, adding that he is a lawyer by training, a businessman by profession, and a conservationist out of conviction. As a little boy of nine, and by own admission, he shot his first buck by accident. And now, as Peter said in his acceptance speech, *“hunting is not just a hobby or occasional pastime for me, although there would be nothing wrong if it were. For me hunting permeates almost everything I do.”*

Peter is known throughout the hunting world – especially when it comes to African hunting. Hunting is Peter's passion and I venture to say that Peter lives to hunt. Born and bred in South Africa, he discovered the thrills of the hunt at a young age and roamed the savannas and bush of his native country for game. Later in life, as he told me once, he wanted to expand his hunting horizons and ventured to Alaska for a hunting trip, quickly realizing however that the northern woods did not kindle his passion as much as the varied landscapes and the game of Africa. Decisive as ever, he determined that the fulfillment of his hunting dreams were to be on African soil.

This determination led to decades of hunting all over the continent in the pursuit of game, large and small, and he still hunts with his signature dogged determination for some elusive trophies in the African jungles and savannas.

His extraordinary achievements now found a just reward. The [KwaZulu Natal Hunting and Conservation Association](#) proposed to the [Confederation of Hunting Associations of South Africa \(CHASA\)](#) that Peter Flack should be the recipient of the coveted [Musgrave Award](#) ([click for photo](#)). The Musgrave Award is conferred by CHASA and a person may receive it only once a lifetime. It is not necessarily given out annually. It is an accolade symbolizing the highest possible honor that can be bestowed on any hunter by the organized hunting sport in South Africa. Its presentation depends solely on the merit of the nominee.

After a long process of evaluating Peter's contribution to hunting and conservation, after scrutinizing his vast collection of trophies at his coveted home at Bankfontein Game Ranch in the Eastern Cape, after interviewing his hunting partners and fellow members from the association, the proud moment finally came during the annual dinner of the KwaZulu Hunters in November 2006. Fred Mulders, president of CHASA, handed the heavy bronze of a crouching bushman with a bow to a visibly touched Peter Flack.

Other than the remarkable achievement of having hunted 134 of the eligible 137 species of the African continent, of which 51 are Southern African species (i. e. those indigenous to the lands south of the Kunene and Zambezi rivers), he has also written 4 books and more than 100 articles on hunting. Readers of Man-Magnum, the South African hunting magazine often come across Peter's stories (and some even appeared in African Indaba!).

Peter's books make fascinating reading – starting with his “Heart of an African Hunter – Stories on the Big Five and Tiny

Ten”, recalling his adventures hunting the tiniest antelope to the largest pachyderm or “Tales of a Trophy Hunter in Africa” with stories about his quest for the many sub species of bushbuck and the 42-day back-breaking quest for a dream mountain nyala. Peter's latest book – just coming fresh of the press – is aptly titled “Safari Guide 2007-2008” with detailed information on big game hunting in Benin, Botswana, Cameroon CAR, Ethiopia, Mozambique, Namibia, Tanzania, Zambia and Zimbabwe. These are not the usual run-of-the-mill hunting stories of an overseas hunter coming to Africa once and professing to be an expert on African hunting, they cannot even be compared to those other books of Americans and/or Europeans, even if they had numerous African safaris under their belt. Peter's books are a life time experience of African trophy hunting in the truest sense of the word – he's not a professional hunter, he's just like you and me – searching for these elusive old and mature trophies again and again!

Together with Craig Boddington, Peter Flack also edited what both called “African Hunter II” in honor of the 1975 James Mellon classic. The editors cover 25 African hunting countries and 228 species and subspecies of African game. Peter Flack's latest achievement is a comprehensive DVD about South African Hunting – you can read more in a separate review of this work in this issue of African Indaba.

My two-pence worth of advice for anybody who wants to hunt and even those who already have hunted in Africa – read Peter's books, get his DVD! Here's somebody, who spent the last couple of decades in search of elusive trophies as an amateur hunter, with tons of good advice and hints. It's not the usual “I came, saw and shot stuff”! Peter is meticulous, and when you plan a safari, his experience and knowledge could very well assist in making or breaking it! (All of Peter's books are available from [Safari Press](#), Huntington Beach, Ca, or email [info@safaripress.com](mailto:info@safaripress.com)).

Continuing with Peter's achievements as a hunter-conservationist – he is as passionate about restoring his Bankfontein Game Farm back to its pristine state as he is about his youth development program on Bankfontein – for years now Peter has invited boys and girls to experience true African hunting and he is as meticulous in their training, which he conducts personally, as he is in the preparation of his personal safaris..

In his acceptance speech, speaking to a good four hundred of his KwaZulu Natal hunting friends in November, Peter's proverbial dry humor was mixed with some serious contemplation of African trophy hunting. And since it is better to hear it from the horse's mouth, I give you some extracts from Peter's speech:

*“Hunting has been a passion of mine since I was a little boy and, although almost 50 years have passed since I shot my first buck, throughout the different places I have hunted, the different people with whom I have hunted, the different calibers I have shot, the different animals I have killed, one thing has remained constant - selfish as it may sound - I have always hunted for myself and no-one else.*

*I hunt because it satisfies something deep within me. Yes, of course, I love the camaraderie around the campfire. Yes, of course, biodiversity conservation is a passion and I understand only too well the role that hunting plays as the foundation stone upon which that pillar of conservation, sustainable utilization, is*

*Continued on Page 6*

Continued from Page 5  
4 Peter Flack Receives Musgrave Award

built. Yes, of course, I love the wilderness areas of Africa. They are my church and remind me every time I am there how perfectly our world has been created by Him. But, at the end of the day, when you strip all else away, what remains is this - I hunt because it fulfills something deep within me that I suspect has been engraved on my hard drive and those of my forefathers before me, for thousands of years.

Peter continued "I do not hunt for awards or to win competitions. In fact, I did not keep a trophy of any kind until I was 30. I did not even enter a trophy of mine in any record book until about six years ago. Why, you may ask? Well, firstly, I guess I was just shy. I worried that if I entered an animal in Rowland Ward's Records of Big Game or SCI's Records of Trophy Animals, my friends might think I was showing off or boasting about my good fortune. Secondly, because it was not important to me. As I said before, I hunt for myself and for the deep inner satisfaction that hunting gives me. Yes, I tried for big animals (unless I was hunting for meat for the table), but this was because they were usually more challenging and I soon learnt that, for me, the greater the challenge, the greater the satisfaction that hard earned success gave me."

Peter's speech is too long for this issue of African Indaba, but he still raised a few salient points which I want to bring to the attention of our readers. The most important one is the oftentimes praised or vilified issue (depending on where you stand) of a hunting trophy and of a trophy hunter. Peter's remarks are significant:

"And what is a trophy? Over the years I have learnt that it means different things to different people and becomes a bit like beauty - in the eye of the beholder. I like the definition in my Oxford Universal Dictionary. It says, "anything serving as a token of victory, valor, skill.....a memorial".

One of the things I have learned over the years is the importance of research if you want to hunt challenging animals successfully. Back in the 80s, I computerized the SCI Record Book on an interactive basis. This allowed me to track, on a map of Africa, where the most record book animals of a particular species had been shot. I could similarly see which amateur hunter or outfitter had taken the most of these species and I could use them as references. It didn't take me long to realize what an important conservation tool the record book could be. It was then that I entered all my trophies in both record books - SCI's and Rowland Ward's.

In retrospect, the book I should have computerized was Rowland Ward's. Rowland Ward's is by far the oldest book, having been started by the great taxidermist in 1892 - some 80 years before SCI was even established. It is, therefore, much more comprehensive and, because of its much higher standards (there really only to limit the number of entries into The Book) it does have the subsidiary effect of encouraging us hunters to shoot bigger animals which, by definition, are usually older, have already passed on their genes, are on their own, out of the breeding circle and, therefore, whose death is less likely to stress the breeding herds. And that's good. The Book as we know it today is called Rowland Ward's Records of Big Game and I want you to mentally underline the word "record" as it is used in the sense of a recording not in the sense of world records or biggest and best.

On the other hand, SCI has gone a different route and has actively encouraged members to collect and be competitive. In addition, the SCI measuring system and its lower standards has led to the shooting of many young animals still in the breeding cycle. SCI has awards for grand slams and different groups of trophies, like the spiral-horned antelope, which lead to the award of Pinnacles of Achievements, rings, other awards and, ultimately, their Hall of Fame. While this has had many positive effects, including encouraging people to hunt the less popular animals, there have been, unfortunately, a significant number of negatives, not least unethical conduct in order to win some of these awards."

Peter Flack, never a person to mince words, continues with some rather distressing examples of trophy mania and draws his personal conclusion from some personal experience in Central Africa, "[this] is the totally and utterly unacceptable face of award- and trophy-driven competitiveness!" ...he concluded saying "without wishing to be holier than thou, how can a trophy be a trophy, if there is no victory or valor or skill? How can a competition be tolerated if by its very nature it creates or gives rise to unlawful or immoral or unethical conduct? And I suppose that was at the back of my mind when I said [that] I had mixed feelings when KwaZulu Natal Hunting & Conservation Association called me to tell me that I had been given this award as I believe we really need to guard against any form of creeping competitiveness in our sport.

On reflection, I do not believe that the Musgrave award is a competition and it has not in the past nor will it in the future create any of these harmful side effects and I am therefore delighted to accept it!"

Well, done Peter - I personally, and I am sure the entire South African hunting fraternity, know that you really deserve the Musgrave Award.

Happy Hunting, for the years to come and I hope to share a camp fire with you soon!

## African Indaba eNewsletter

Editor & Publisher: Gerhard R Damm

Postal Address: PO Box 411, Rivonia 2128, South Africa

Email: [gerhard@muskwa.co.za](mailto:gerhard@muskwa.co.za)

Phone +27-(0)11-883-2299, Fax +27-(0)11-784-2074

WEB: <http://www.africanindaba.co.za/>

Opinions expressed in African Indaba are not necessarily those of the publisher and editor. Whilst every care is taken in the preparation of this newsletter, we cannot accept any responsibility for errors. African Indaba eNewsletter is published every two months as a free service to the sustainable use community. Please share it with others who may be interested in the topics covered by African Indaba.

We would like to remind you that archived copies of African Indaba eNewsletter are available from our website.

Subscription requests, comments or article submissions should be sent to: [gerhard@muskwa.co.za](mailto:gerhard@muskwa.co.za) please include your name, full address, e-mail address and organization

## 5 Freestate Sells Black Wildebeest Hybrids

By Gerhard R Damm

The annual game and hunting package auction of the Freestate Department of Tourism, Environmental & Economic Affairs, which took place in April 2006, produces some late waves – it might be even called a tsunami, when considering that at the same time ongoing discussions and consultations in the national Department of Environmental Affairs and Tourism addressed the Biodiversity Act (2004) and the regulations on threatened and protected species.

During the mentioned auction – apparently based on an ad hoc decision in the last minute by Flip Crouse, deputy director of conservation – a group of black wildebeest (according to our information about forty), originating from Maria Maroka nature reserve were sold to a bidder from Namibia.

So far so good, although I personally question the rationale behind selling a clearly endemic South African species like the Black Wildebeest for export to a neighboring country (where this species never occurred naturally).

The matter got an interesting twist, however, when it came to light that the scientific services of the Freestate Department of Tourism, Environmental & Economic Affairs had established long before the said auction that these animals were hybrids between Black and Blue Wildebeest. Staff from Scientific Services of the provincial Department had – after establishing the fact of clear hybridization amongst the Black Wildebeest of Maria Maroka Reserve – recommended that all animals be culled to safeguard the genetic integrity of an important endemic species. During the auction the public and the bidders were allegedly not informed about the hybrid status of a good part of those wildebeest.

African Indaba has been informed by trusted sources that the scientist who established the hybrid nature of the animals by accident found out that the animals were sold alive in July 2006. He then immediately informed the Head of the Department both verbally as well as in several documents and emails about the danger and threat to the genetic integrity of an endemic species. Obviously, this warning had been ignored, just as the earlier request for a complete cull of the population. Eventually, about ninety of the animals were captured alive in September 2006 and a group of them was exported to Namibia. At this stage, the whereabouts of the remaining animals is unknown.

This hybridized group of Black Wildebeest, if released into a property where pure line Black Wildebeest occur, is a clear danger to the genetic integrity of any Black Wildebeest population in South Africa and Namibia.

Apparently, although the department tried to keep the matter quiet and out of the public domain, some South African media have already picked up the issue and reported about the circumstances. Details in these reports were sketchy, though.

It is our opinion that this matter must be addressed with urgency by the national Department of Environmental Affairs and Tourism (DEAT) and the Ministry of Environment & Tourism (MET) in Namibia and a solution must be found. The issue of wildebeest hybridization falls clearly also within the mandate of

the South African National Biodiversity Institute (SANBI), which says inter alia that SANBI must monitor the status of the Republic's biological diversity and the conservation status of all listed threatened or protected species and listed ecosystems. It should be taken up by the Professional Hunters' Association of South Africa (PHASA), Wildlife Ranching South Africa (WRSA) as the game ranchers' representation as well as by the Namibian Professional Hunters' Association. It would be useful if international hunters' associations like the International Council for Game and Wildlife Conservation (CIC), the Dallas Safari Club (DSC) and Safari Club International (SCI) would assist the African associations in condemning such actions.

The CIC pointed out already – in its submission to DEAT concerning protected and threatened species – that the Black Wildebeest and its continued survival as an important endemic species (although accorded "least concern" status in the IUCN Red Book), faces grave dangers of hybridization and that it should be the responsibility of the national and provincial departments to establish procedures which would avoid the problems.

Already in 2005, African Indaba brought an article by Dr Kas Hamman (African Indaba Vol 1, Number 5 "Can Current Trends in the Game Industry be Reconciled with Nature Conservation"), where the author called for uniform national policies to eliminate hybridization and where he highlights the dangers to the integrity of the national conservation objectives by fertile black/blue wildebeest hybrids. In his article, Hamman saw the origin of the problems on the side of game ranching, the present case, however, reveals that the problem originates within the administration of a provincial conservation authority.

In the same issue, African Indaba featured an article titled "Black Wildebeest Hybridization Workshop Report". This workshop was organized by (would you believe it?) the Freestate Department of Tourism, Environmental & Economic Affairs with participation of the University of Pretoria, the Animal Genetics Laboratory at the Agricultural Research Council and provincial nature conservation agencies from other provinces., facilitated by the IUCN Conservation Breeding Specialist Group and the Endangered Wildlife Trust. One of the outcomes of the workshop said that South Africa is not considered to be complying with its obligations in terms of the Convention on Biodiversity with respect to hybridization.

**Yale University, UNEP and leading science publishers launched an initiative to make global scientific research in the environmental sciences available online in the developing world for free or at nominal cost. Through Online Access to Research in the Environment (OARE) they will offer one of the world's largest collections of scholarly, peer-reviewed environmental science journals to public and nonprofit environmental institutions. Institutions eligible to enroll in OARE include universities and colleges, research institutes, ministries of the environment and other government agencies, libraries and national nongovernmental organizations.**

**OARE will also provide important Abstract and Index Research Databases, A complete listing of collaborating institutions is available at [www.oaresciences.org](http://www.oaresciences.org).**

## 6 Caesarean Section on Aardwolf

By Ronel Openshaw

On 24 September 2006, an aardwolf female was found in a trap on one of the neighbouring farms to Laohu Valley Reserve. The 33,000 hectares of Laohu Valley Reserve have been established by Stuart Bray and his wife Li Quan by putting together 17 defunct sheep farms. Since 2002 there was a remarkable habitat recovery. It is located on both sides of the Orange River, in the Free State and Northern Cape Provinces. The Free State part of the reserve alone is the largest privately owned game reserve in that province. A number of indigenous species like blesbok, black wildebeest, zebra, ostrich and springbok have been reintroduced since its establishment. The main purpose of the reserve is the South China Tiger Project in conjunction with the State Forestry Administration of China (see also African Indaba Volume 3/Number 6).

The aardwolf female had been in the trap for more than two days and her front paw was completely mangled with the bones having been crushed. The only one humane thing to do was to destroy the animal. Only then was it discovered that she was pregnant. The staff of Laohu Valley Reserve performed a caesarean section and delivered three slightly premature aardwolf pups – two females and one male.

Not knowing how premature these pups were and taking into account that they did not have the opportunity to suckle from the mother, their chances of survival were considered very slim. Newborns have a very weak immune system and suckling from the mother provides them with the crucial colostrums present in mother's milk.

The three tiny aardwolf weighed 200g each, the claws were already fully formed and they were covered in fur, indicating that they would have been born within a day or two had the mother survived. The crucial period would now be the next 48 hours, getting them to drink and to urinate and defecate. Not having small enough bottles to bottle feed them, syringes were used and a mixture of fresh, full cream cow's milk with an egg yolk added was given to them over the first 24 hours. Furthermore they were stimulated by hand with cotton wool, dipped in warm water and within a few hours they were urinating. It took 2 full days before they defecated.

By day 8 their eyes started opening. By day 14 they were becoming more active, crawling around and climbing over one another, but still sleeping most of the time. After 14 days, the feeding intervals were extended to every 4 hours and at 6 weeks they were started on solid food consisting of milk powder and puppy chunks.

At 8 weeks of age, one of the females contracted canine distemper and died within 8 hours. The other two were fine when the report was written and were inoculated with a killed vaccine. A decision regarding their future will have to be made soon. Simply taming them and turning them into pets is not in their best interest. They are wild animals and domesticating them is fun for humans but unnatural to wild animals.

Source: Courtesy of the "Save China's Tigers" Project – for details go to <http://www.savechinastigers.org>.

## 7 Hotel Development Threatens Mosi-Oa-Tunya National Park

By Gerhard R Damm

The Wildlife and Environmental Society of Zambia, WECSZ has raised major concerns over the impacts of the Legacy Holdings Zambia LTD proposed Hotel and Golf Estate Project. Ali Shenton, Vice-Chairman of the Livingstone Branch of WECSZ outlines the objections in a submission to the Manager Inspectorate of the Environmental Council of Zambia (additional information under "Zambia" in News from Africa, African Indaba Vol4/6, Page 14).

In the long document, WECSZ states that the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) for the project, submitted by Legacy Holdings, is actually a project document detailing what is to be done, but it does not detail the strategic environmental impacts of such a development to the region as a whole. Many of the facts used in the EIA document are out of date, irrelevant to the site and to the region and are not factual (agricultural statistics, rainfall statistics, employment figures and birdlife). WECSZ labels the claim that *"The Mosi-Oa-Tunya Hotel and Country Club Estate will be an environmentally sensitive tourism development along the banks of the Zambezi River as well as the Maramba River"* as incomprehensible.

The submission of WECSZ states that "no amount of mitigation will change the fact that the 220 ha area will be irreversibly changed, the natural environment destroyed and the damage to the park as a whole, and to regional conservation development, devastating. The proposed development would cut the Mosi-Oa-Tunya Park and the World Heritage site into two separate parts with serious implications for the planned improved bio-diversity of the park."

For a multi million dollar investment in an internationally sensitive and crucial conservation area, the EIA for Legacy is seriously lacking in serious data and assessment. One of the major negative environmental impacts of the Legacy Holdings Development will be the disruption to elephant/animal corridors. Elephants frequent the area between Sun Hotels and the Maramba river, their passage hindered by increasing tourist activity and the developments built to support tourism. The area in question is the last remaining intact area of good vegetation outside of the Park where elephants are free from human pressure. It is crucial that this area remains undeveloped and conserved as a route for animals from the Park and for those crossing the river to travel to the gorge and the Mukuni area.

Recent satellite data to track elephant movements have shown that elephants use the entire area of the proposed Legacy Holdings site, not just a corridor along the Maramba river. The Legacy proposed "elephant corridor" along the Maramba River is simply not viable: elephants do not walk in straight lines and the area is not a walkway but a feeding ground. Preserving a corridor will not preserve the functioning of the crossing point as the entire area needs to be preserved.

UNESCO's World Heritage Committee has already ex-

*Continued on Page 9*



## 8 Oil Drilling to Start in the Selous Game Reserve

By Dr. Rolf Baldus

According to press articles the American based Dominion Petroleum Company has entered into production sharing agreements with the Government of Tanzania. The agreed areas will cover four onshore permits totalling 10 million acres at Mandawa, Kisingire, Lukuliro and in the Selous Game Reserve. Mandawa and Kisingire are close to the Selous GR and Lukuliro extends into the Selous. A special protection zone for black rhino is situated within this area.

Dominion's Chief Executive Officer, Mr. Mike Garland said in Business Week that Tanzania is the best new address for petroleum exploration. Under the agreements, Dominion will drill four wells which the company will select from an initial number of 16 prospects already identified. The drilling programme is due to commence in late 2006. The company has amassed a collection of historical data covering the acreage.

On the basis of its analysis, using modern technologies not available to earlier explorers, Dominion believes the region offers a significant exploration potential and that earlier fruitless attempts to hit oil were hampered by bad planning and poor geological reasoning. The company estimates 1.1 billion barrels of oil equivalent.

The Selous Game Reserve is an UNESCO World Heritage Site since 1982 and Africa's largest and at the same time one of its most important protected areas. It has around 50 hunting blocks within its boundaries. Such hunting finances 90 % of its management and conservation budget. The reserve was established in 1896 and over the years enlarged to its present size of about 48,000 sqkm. Oil drilling is not in line with its status as a World Heritage Site, and it can be expected that UNESCO will investigate the matter. Around 1980 oil prospection by Shell had led to widespread ecological destruction, amongst others in the form of geodesic lines of a length of several thousand kilometres. This destruction is still to be seen today. The work force and transport access into the hitherto inaccessible reserve had also initiated and facilitated the slaughter of over 60,000 elephants and 3,000 rhinos. In the late eighties Shell donated several uniports made from corrugated iron sheets valued at about 20,000 US\$ via WWF as a sort of compensation.

Recently the Government of Tanzania attracted criticism for uranium prospection and for granting prospecting licences for valuable stones in the reserve, but work has not started yet. This would also contradict Tanzania' obligations according to the UNESCO World heritage Charter. The then President of Tanzania, Benjamin Mkapa, had said three years ago in a meeting with a CEO of a major international conservation NGO, that he would personally object to prospecting for minerals in the reserve, but could not guarantee this in the case of oil.

**Conservation is more than simple preservation. It is wise management. And in the case of wildlife resources, it is the management of a supply of riches that will never end if cared for properly.**

*Continued from Page 8*

7 Hotel Development Threatens Mosi-Oa-Tunya National Park

pressed its concerns to the Zambian authorities over what it sees as the level of "uncontrolled, urban development, pollution and unplanned tourism development" in the protected park.

The London Times reported on December 2<sup>nd</sup>, that tour & safari operators in Europe and Africa are considering a boycott of the Legacy Group's other 21 hotel & tourism properties in Africa, if the group moves ahead with the controversial development project.

A final decision based on the developers' environmental impact assessment is expected by December 15.

For the full text of the WECSZ document go to <http://zambiaconservation.blogspot.com/2006/11/wildlife-and-environmental.html>

## 9 News From Africa

### Liberia

The country's 11.3 million acres of forest represent 45% of its landmass and half of the remaining forest cover in West Africa. The forests in Liberia are home to 2,000 flowering plants, 150 species of mammals, 620 species of birds, 125 known reptiles and amphibians, and more than 1,000 described insect species. Western chimpanzee, forest elephant and the pygmy hippo live there. In October 2006 the Liberian president signed a forestry reform measure that protects certain forests and regulates others for both community benefit and commercial logging. Balancing these multiple uses is the result of the Liberia Forest Initiative.

### Namibia

Six more communal conservancies were recently proclaimed, bringing the number of communal conservancies in the country to 50 covering 14 per cent of Namibia's land mass. The six new conservancies are the Kunene River Conservancy in the Kunene Region, Audi Conservancy (Kunene), Sobe Conservancy (Caprivi), Balyerwa Conservancy (Caprivi), Ohungu Conservancy (Erongo) and Ondjou Conservancy in the Otjozondjupa Region.

Conservancies are being created under the Ministry's Community-Based Natural Resources Management (CBNRM) program, which gives rural people rights to benefit from the natural resources in their areas. The Kunene Region has the largest number of conservancies in the country (18), followed by Caprivi with 9 and Otjozondjupa with 7. The biggest communal conservancy is the N#Jaqna Conservancy in the Otjozondjupa Region, which covers 9 120 square kilometers.

### Namibia

The Kyaramacan Association of the San people living inside the Caprivi National Park, which will in future form part of the Bwabwata National Park, gave N\$1.2 million to the Government's Game Products Trust Fund (GPTF). The fund finances conservation projects and compensates the families of people killed by wild animals in communal conservancies. According to the agreement signed between the Government and the association, 50 per cent of the income generated from trophy hunting

*Continued on Page 10*

## 10 The Kipunji Monkey (*Rungwecebus kipunji*)

**Editor's Note:** *The story of the discovery of the Kipunji monkey has been put together from information published under [www.wcs.org/tanzania](http://www.wcs.org/tanzania) or [www.kipunji.org](http://www.kipunji.org) websites of the Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS). WCS works in the Southern Highlands of Tanzania to document and protect its wealth of biodiversity. This latest discovery adds to a long list of endemic species (over 120) which are found only in this remote area. The article has been reviewed by Dr Tim Davenport*

In early 2003, Dr Tim Davenport, who directs the Southern Highlands Conservation Program and the Tanzania Program of the Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS) in Tanzania and members of his team, Noah Mpunga, Sophy Machaga and Daniela De Luca heard rumors about a shy monkey known as Kipunji. Local hunters in villages around Mt Rungwe had informed them. They first assumed that this was the Sykes monkey or one of the many spirit animals that are part of Wanyakyusa culture. Yet, the team's curiosity was awakened and they first saw an unusual monkey in May 2003, but because of the terrain, thick secondary forest and the animal's highly cryptic nature, subsequent sightings were infrequent and poor.

It was not until December 2003, during work in the contiguous Livingstone Forest (now part of the new Kitulo National Park), that the team clearly observed the monkey at closer quarters, and Davenport recognized it as a new species of monkey. In July 2004 the same species was also found in Ndundulu Forest in the Udzungwa Mountains by research biologists Trevor Jones and Richard Laizzer. Jones was joined in Ndundulu by Ehardt and Conservation International's (CI) Dr Tom Butynski and they recognized that the monkey was an undescribed species. The two separate teams learned of each other's work in October 2004 and joined forces to write a description for the journal [Science](#).

The monkey was originally classified as a type of managabey, a medium sized primate found in the forests of Africa. However, worldwide collaboration between the WCS team in Tanzania and scientists from the Field Museum, Yale University and the University of Alaska Museum led the scientists to state that the rare monkey is in fact so unique and it warranted the creation of a new genus, *Rungwecebus*. The exciting new discovery is based on molecular and morphological analysis of a deceased monkey found in a farmer's trap, as well as direct observations from the field. These new findings, published in [Science](#), mark the first new monkey genus discovered in over 83 years.

The taxonomic name of the Kipunji, *Rungwecebus kipunji*, recognizes the location where the animal was first discovered – Rungwe – and the monkey's local Kinyakyusa name – Kipunji – used by a handful of hunters around Mt. Rungwe. Its estimated body size is between 10 to 16 kilograms and mature animals are approximately 90 centimeters in length. The diet of the monkey consists of fruit, flowers, leaves and bark. The animals have a particularly unique call known as a "honk-bark". The Kipunji is found in forested habitats over about 70 km<sup>2</sup> of Rungwe-Livingstone region in the Southern Highlands, and over 3 km<sup>2</sup> of

Ndundulu Forest Reserve. It seems that the Kipunji is extremely rare, with only 500 - 1000 individuals estimated in the wild.

The arboreal Kipunji is characterized by long whiskers and a high crest of hair on the tip of its head. It lives in social groups of 30-36 individuals, and to date, 16 groups have been identified in the Rungwe-Livingstone area while 3 are found in the Ndundulu Forest Reserve. The scientists suggest that the Kipunji may form polyspecific associations with other species of primates such as black and white colobus.

The monkey has long been known by the hunters who climb into the mountains to hunt. However, these days it seems that only the older generation are aware of the animal. Kipunji monkeys are hunted by humans for meat as well as due to their perceived threat as crop-raiders. Kipunjis are preyed upon by Crowned Eagles and leopards.

The challenge now is to try and conserve the Kipunjis. The threats are considerable. Logging, hunting and unmanaged resource extraction are common in the Rungwe-Livingstone forests. The narrow forest corridors linking Mt Rungwe to Livingstone, and joining the northern and southern sections of Livingstone are all degraded. Without intervention, these forests will be fragmented, resulting in isolated subpopulations of the monkey. The easternmost animals are probably already isolated.

---

*Continued from Page 9*  
News From Africa

should be handed to the GPTF. The N\$1.2 million check was handed over to Deputy Prime Minister Libertina Amathila and Environment and Tourism Minister Konjore by the Chairperson of the Kyaramacan Association, Bosta Mautu.

The minister said MET was finalizing the memorandum of understanding with the association to ensure the co-operative management of the park and the deputy prime minister called on communities living inside State parks to emulate the good example set by the San people of the Caprivi National Park. "Lodges and national parks should open their doors for the benefit of our people," she said.

### South Africa/China

Following the international workshop hosted by the State Forestry Administration (SFA) in Beijing in December 2005 on the Chinese Tiger Reintroduction Project, SFA formally issued the announcement of the Chinese tiger reintroduction project in March 2006. The pilot reintroductions sites in Zixi of Jiangxi Province and Liuyang of Hunan provinces have been approved. This project has also been listed in China's 11th five-year plan (2006-2010). An initial investment of an estimated US\$20 million is needed for each pilot reserve for habitat restoration, reintroduction of prey and predators historically found in the areas, fencing, infrastructure set up and tiger reintroductions. **Save China's Tigers** team is working in conjunction with the Chinese government to raise funds for the establishment of the reserves and manages a Chinese Tiger Breeding Center at Laohu Valley Reserve in the Freestate/Northern Provinces of South Africa (see also "Aardwolf" article in this issue), presently hosting three Chinese Tigers (one male and two females), with a further male expected to arrive from China soon. The tigers live in highly secured camps on the reserve. For more detailed information on

*Continued on Page 12*

# 11 Rowland Ward's Records of Big Game Move Ahead

By Richard Flack

Every hunter in the world has probably heard of Rowland Ward's Records of Big Game, now in its 27<sup>th</sup> Edition.

Indeed, "The Book", as it is known, is the one universally accepted and objective source which establishes what a trophy animal really is, whether you are hunting in Australia or America, Brazil or Botswana, China or Czechoslovakia.

Over the years trophies have been entered into it by some of the greatest names in hunting. In the 18th century you can find the renowned names of Selous, Oswell and Gordon Cumming, for example. In the 19th century, Maydon, Powell-Cotton, Stigand and Lyell entered their trophies and, a bit later, you can find many entries under the names of C.J.McElroy, the founder of SCI, and fellow Americans like Elgin Gates and Elmer Keith to name but a few. In fact, the names of those who have entered animals in The Book read like a Who's Who of royalty, and the rich and famous.

But did you know that Rowland Ward was started by a taxidermist with the same name some 114 years ago? And that from these early beginnings the company has grown into a publishing business, a DVD producer, a Guild of Field Sportsmen and more. The company has published The Sportsman's Handbook (which actually pre-dates The Book), various registers and 13 reading books by leading hunters and authors. It has also co-produced hunting DVDs and offers a range of sporting clothing, accessories and regalia as well as maps and art.

Rowland Ward joined forces with the Guild of Field Sportsmen, an organization established four years ago by Robin Halse, to uphold the age old, noble, hunting traditions and ethics as well as allowing like-minded sportsmen to belong to Rowland Ward, a name that they can be proud of and one in which they can find their hunting home.

Although "The Book" covers hunting around the world, it is true that Africa has always been the key hunting continent and African entries outweigh those from the rest of the world by, on average, three to one. This African focus also finds expression in the maps and art Rowland Ward produces and in the hunting clothing and gear which the company offers to discerning sportsmen and women, as they are specifically designed for African conditions.

By 2005, the Halse family had owned Rowland Ward for 12 years. In that same year, during a strategic and action planning exercise, the management team of the company recognized that it was time to re-visit the Rowland Ward brand and, in fact, to re-look at the industry as a whole in which the company operated. To this end, Rowland Ward employed two young businessmen, a chartered accountant and a marketing and sales consultant who, in conjunction with Rowland Ward's own staff, spent the next five months doing just that. It was an expensive, time consuming and often unsettling exercise conducted on three continents but, at the end of the day, the consensus was that it had been long overdue and well worth the effort.

Based largely on this research, the current 2006 strategic

and action planning exercise identified the following five main objectives:

- Expand Rowland Ward in the USA;
- Expand Rowland Ward in Europe;
- Grow Rowland Ward's product and service range;
- Grow Rowland Ward's Guild of Field Sportsmen; and
- Improve the Record Book and access to it.

Ambitious but realistic tasks and goals, some of which are already well under way and bearing fruit. Rowland Ward has employed a new management team to assist in the exciting challenges that lie ahead.

In addition, the Halse family, as well as three, like-minded, passionate hunters and conservationists; Peter Flack, GT Ferreira and Mark Bristow, who are also experienced businessmen and game ranchers, have agreed to invest in the share capital of the company to help ensure that it has what it needs to implement these far reaching aims.

There is a fresh enthusiasm running through a rejuvenated Rowland Ward company which is as relevant, if not more so, today, than it ever was. We are all excited to be a part of this and, while Rowland Ward will, in all likelihood, remain small in the overall hunting scheme of things, it will, in keeping with its century's old tradition, nevertheless, play an important, if not vital role, in upholding the traditions of ethical trophy hunting which is, in turn, key to the sustainable utilization of game animals around the world.

With Rowland Ward's cash flow strengthened by the new investments, customers can look forward to an increase in the number of DVDs and books produced and published by Rowland Ward as well as a wider range of clothing and accessories.

You can also expect a new Rowland Ward website, which will go live in January 2007, with electronic access to the "The Book", a "world class" eCommerce shop and exclusive pages for Guild members and official Rowland Ward measurers.

With this impending growth, Rowland Ward will, however, maintain the superior quality it has always delivered. Rowland Ward will never publish or produce merely for the sake of having something to sell. All the books, DVDs, clothing, accessories, maps and art first of all meet the standards that are inherent in what the company has come to stand for over more than 100 years. Their publication or production by Rowland Ward is a guarantee of that.

For more information about Rowland Ward, please contact Richard Flack, Marketing Director, Rowland Ward Publications RSA (Pty) Ltd at email [info@rowlandward.com](mailto:info@rowlandward.com) or visit their website at [www.rowlandward.com](http://www.rowlandward.com)

Please send comments, letters to the editor and/or submissions for articles to: [gerhard@muskwa.co.za](mailto:gerhard@muskwa.co.za)

Correspondence must include full name and postal address, e-mail address; if applicable, also organization and URL.

Continued from Page 10  
News From Africa

Save China's Tigers, the projects, progress reports and events, please log on: [www.savechinastigers.org](http://www.savechinastigers.org)

#### South Africa

In November business people and conservationists gathered in the Waterberg in memory of Paul van Vlissingen, who had died in October. He left SA and five other African countries a rich legacy. Van Vlissingen poured millions of euros into transforming cattle farms in the Waterberg into game reserves in cooperation with SANParks. Van Vlissingen's cooperation with SANParks inspired the establishment of [African Game Parks](#). African Parks operates: the Liuwa National Park in Zambia, the Majete National Park in Malawi, the Nech Sar and Omo parks in Ethiopia, the Dungenab and Sanganeb Marine National Parks in Sudan and the Garamba National Park in the DRC. An important success factor in all African Parks reserves has been to ensure that local communities benefit from conservation.

#### Uganda

The EU has cut funding to a Ugandan sugar company because it plans to destroy 7,000 ha of scarce natural forest to expand its sugar estate. President Museveni ordered an feasibility assessment in August of giving away a quarter of the protected Mabira forest reserve to the Sugar Corporation of Uganda for clearing. The plan has proved hugely controversial, critics saying the deal threatens hundreds of unique species confined to dwindling patches of rainforest.

#### Uganda

The Uganda Wildlife Authority (UWA) called the private sector, local governments and individuals to invest in wildlife ranches. UWA has identified Sango Bay as wildlife reserve. The area is rich in buffalo, sitatunga, bushbuck, giant forest hog and many primate species. A UWA spokesperson said that the move would increase animal populations and bring wildlife closer to the people. "The majority of Ugandans consider wildlife as a nuisance because they don't see any usefulness in it. We want them to get revenue from wildlife", she said.

#### Zambia

The Zambia Wildlife Authority (ZAWA) has arrested 3 businessmen for being in possession of fraudulent safari hunting licenses. The men were nabbed in Lundazi by ZAWA officers

## 12 Keep NGOs Out of [Kenya's] New Wildlife Policy Talks

By Dr Imre Loeffler

Recently, the Vice-President Mr Moody Awori spoke on wildlife policy. The occasion was a ceremony at which IFAW (International Fund for Animal Welfare), as it frequently does, donated gifts to the Government in exchange for influence.

The nation's wildlife policy is being revised and the animal right activists and welfare organizations are distressed lest Kenya follows other East and southern African countries and adopt a new wildlife policy based on "wise use".

Awori, talking about the numbers of wildlife, is reported to have said: "We should allow nature to regulate." The sentiments were echoed by Dr Manu Chandaria, an IFAW trustee and board member. He waxed lyrical and said: "Let us give wildlife freedom to move and survive!" With these words, he bizarrely handed to the Vice-President Sh10 million to be used to erect a game fence in Laikipia and equipment needed to capture wildlife.

Romantics may talk about the wisdom of nature regulating itself, including wildlife numbers, yet Kenyans do not want wildlife to interfere with agriculture. This is the view held by the farming and pastoralist populations, including their representatives such as Laikipia West MP Mr GG Kariuki, who, in initiating the wildlife policy review process, pointed out that wildlife and agriculture do not mix.

The only people who appear to want wildlife roaming and multiplying freely outside protected areas are Awori and foreign animal welfare organizations, animal rights' activists, Chandaria and groups of urban Kenyans who are not threatened by human-animal conflicts. But Kenyans, who suffer the brunt of wildlife invasion and damage, fence, dig ditches and use all manner of deterrents - fires, spotlights, noise bombs and chemicals - to deny habitat to wild animals.

Millions of shillings are spent to translocate animals from areas where wise nature has allowed them to multiply to the detriment of man, their own environment and even their future. The sad thing is that wildlife numbers continue to decline because of the failure of policy, precisely the kind Western animal welfare NGOs have pressed on Government over the years.

Kenya has lost about 60 per cent of its wildlife in 40 years. Lately, the destruction has accelerated. While politicians and NGO chiefs organize workshops and symposia to talk endlessly on nature, our stewardship, biodiversity, heritage and so forth, wildlife is being exterminated.

It is being chased, shot, trapped, speared, snared and poisoned in increasing numbers. The situation is aggravated by the large game on non-protected land [where it is] at the mercy of landowners. Only a fraction of the non-protected wildlife areas are suitable for tourism.

As long as the people, who presently compete with wildlife, do not have direct legally obtainable benefits, they will continue to destroy it. If the current trends are extrapolated, it is likely that by the time Kenya Vision 2030 is supposed to be realized, there

### Lion Report from the Johannesburg Workshops 2006 Available Now

Download your copy of this important report, prepared by the IUCN SSC Cat Specialist Group from the African Indaba Conservation Hunting Page

[Regional Conservation Strategy for the Lion \*Panthera leo\* in Eastern and Southern Africa](#)

(iucn\_lionreport\_2006.pdf)

File Size 2.38 MB

Continued on Page 13

Continued from Page 12

12 Keep NGO's Out of [Kenya's] New Wildlife Policy

will be hardly any wildlife left in the non-protected areas.

Policy failure is the result of foreign wildlife NGOs, their local acolytes and successive governments, including their agencies such as the Kenya Wildlife Service (KWS).

Unless wildlife is well taken care of, it will disappear. Wildlife husbandry means looking after game so that it thrives and only then can it be harvested. The regions suitable for wildlife would be teeming with game if husbandry was allowed on a sound business footing.

Wildlife husbandry would make more money for Kenya than flowers do and at the same time be environmentally sound and help rehabilitate devastated land. Yet the Vice-President, who spoke of nature so warmly and seemed to have made promises in return for gifts, pledges which prejudice the outcome of the ongoing wildlife policy review, also dwelt on management.

Contradicting himself, he called on KWS to "scientifically manage animals". Indeed! What is required is scientific and economic management of wildlife. Having left matters to "nature" for decades, we lost more than half of our wildlife, incurred enormous environmental damage and paid an incalculable opportunity cost.

The wildlife policy struggle is increasingly tedious. What is so galling is that, by ignoring the plight of the people and neglecting their interests, the animal rights' and welfare groups hurt the people and wildlife.

Instead, Kenya promises to continue with a policy that has obviously failed in exchange for paltry gifts. Lake Nakuru is drying up; Lake Naivasha is dying as is Lake Victoria. Silting is rife in Lake Baringo and Lake Turkana is shrinking. The Government excises forests and settles people, allows invasion of protected areas and contemplates destroying wildlife habitat for dodgy sugar business. Turning attention to shortcomings of environmental policies would be more useful than sentimental foreign philosophies.

This article first appeared in "The East African Standard" (Nairobi) on November 28, 2006

## 13 "Flack Hunts South Africa" – A Documentary DVD

Reviewed by Gerhard R Damm

During the PHASA AGM in November I was privileged to receive the master copy of Peter Flack's newest DVD. It is a real treat to watch – Peter goes into great detail to create a realistic summary of hunting in South Africa today.

His comprehensive and detailed 2 ½ hour documentary breaks new ground for hunting films. It shows the viewer and tourist hunter from overseas what to expect on a hunting safari in this country.

Professionally filmed and edited by an award-winning team on the new High Definition format, the camera follows Peter Flack (an 11<sup>th</sup> generation South African, author, game rancher and highly experienced African hunter – see also page 5 "Peter Flack Honored With Musgrave Award") across the vast and

beautiful landscapes of South Africa.

In two parts the documentary presents an A-Z coverage of hunting in South Africa and is filled with essential information, useful not only for the first time visitor, but also for those who have hunted in this country before.

The camera follows Flack through immigration at Johannesburg's Oliver Tambo Airport, explains customs and firearm importation procedures and continues with a look at South Africa's business hub, showing Johannesburg's hotels, shops and sights. Next Flack leaves for the four major hunting habitats where most of the hunting occurs. From the coastal forests and thorn thickets of KwaZulu-Natal the viewer is transported to the red dunes of the Kalahari Desert, before continuing with the tree savannah region of the Lowveld and the semi-arid inland plateau of the Great Karoo in the Eastern Cape.

Flack's four hunts take the keen observer after the iconic game of each region. Kudu, nyala, e bushbuck and common reedbuck are hunted in KwaZulu-Natal. The Kalahari Desert yields gemsbuck, red hartebeest and springbuck. In the thorny thickets of the Lowveld, the hunters follow the tracks of waterbuck, blue wildebeest and impala and finally, in Peter Flack's beloved Karoo, the hunt is on for black wildebeest, springbuck, blesbuck, mountain reedbuck and grey rheebuck.

This 6,000 mile trip around South Africa shows the very different habitats and the variety of indigenous game species the country has to offer.

In another section, Flack deals thoroughly with adequate safari clothing and equipment, medical questions, firearms and ammunition, trophy measurements, etc. The DVD even includes a section about those venomous creepy crawlies with which you want to avoid closer contact and concludes with a section on taxidermy and trophy care visiting one of the country's leading taxidermist companies.

There is only one conclusion – "Flack Hunts South Africa" is a superbly made documentary, which should be essential viewing for all hunters who contemplate to go on safari here.

The DVD complements Flack's "Safari Guide 2007-2008" published by Safari Press and continues Flack's DVD series (5 DVDs are available: Flack Hunts ... Cameroon, Namibia, Tanzania, Chad and Ethiopia). All DVD's are much more than a collection of one-shot animal kills. Flack meticulously records his safaris as a complete experience – the camps, the staff, the habitats of the regions, flora and fauna and of course his exciting quest for the game he pursues!

Peter Flack's books and DVDs can be ordered by email at [sales@rowlandward.com](mailto:sales@rowlandward.com) or write to Rowland Ward, PO Box 2079, Houghton 2041, South Africa. Online orders at [www.rowlandward.com](http://www.rowlandward.com). US Customers contact Rowland Ward toll-free at 877-424-3220 (phone) or 877-456-2203 (fax) or email: [RowlandWard@wwdb.org](mailto:RowlandWard@wwdb.org)

**"Voluntary adherence to an ethical code elevates the self-respect of the sportsman, but it should not be forgotten that voluntary disregard of the code degenerates and depraves him." –**

**Aldo Leopold (A Sand County Almanac, 1949)**

## 14 WWF on “Hunting for Conservation”

WWF Annual Review 2005

<http://assets.wwf.ch/downloads/wwfannualreport.pdf>

*Editor's Note: The following text has been taken verbatim from the 2005 Annual Report “Working Together” of WWF.*

At first glance, trophy hunting may seem a controversial way to achieve conservation, and one that goes against the instincts of some conservationists. However, the revenues generated from selling hunting rights can provide strong incentives for local communities to reduce poaching and conserve their wildlife.

This is particularly the case in Africa, where people have not been allowed to benefit from the sometimes dangerous species they are forced to coexist with. As a consequence, poaching is rife and wildlife habitat is frequently replaced with livestock and cropland. WWF recognizes that communities will not conserve their wildlife unless they can benefit from its presence. Therefore, under appropriate conditions, the organization supports properly-managed hunting programs. Since 1998, trophy hunting has formed part of the overall effort by WWF in Namibia to help local communities improve their living standards.

Through the income generated by hunting concessions, schools have been upgraded and teachers paid, grinding mills and water pumps acquired, and food and employment secured. The whole program is owned and run by the communities, who keep the meat from the hunt for their own use. Very conservative quotas – ranging from 0.5 to 2 per cent of the game populations – are established by government scientists and other conservation experts and are controlled by strong regulations. But in practice the numbers removed are lower and, as a result, there is no biological impact on resident wildlife.

In Namibia, the income provided by the small number of trophies taken has helped to create an incentive for community members to maintain wildlife in their area. More than 150,000 community members are now participating and game numbers are increasing at unprecedented rates

*There is much concern these days about the taking of wild animals for sport, but against that must be placed the protection given to wild habitats and many other wild species in the process of keeping game ... as with everything in nature, it is all a question of balance and this balance can only be achieved by knowledge and understanding ...*

HRH The Duke of Edinburgh  
(Foreword to “The Nature of Game” by B. Hoskyns, 1994)

## 15 PHASA Marks Successful 2006

Report from the [PHASA](#) Annual Convention

By Gerhard R Damm

South Africa's professional hunters and outfitters met for their 29<sup>th</sup> Convention and AGM at the Drakensberg Sun/KwaZulu-Natal in November. International guest included Gray Thornton of [Dallas Safari Club](#), Kevin Anderson of [Safari Club International](#) and John J Jackson of Conservation Force; Gerhard Damm, publisher of [African Indaba](#) represented the [International Council of Game and Wildlife Conservation \(CIC\)](#), and Kassie Kasselmann represented [SA Hunters & Game Conservation Association](#).

The keynote address on the opening days was presented by none less than celebrated conservationist [Dr. Ian Player](#) ([click link for photo](#)). A game ranger of note within the former Natal Parks Board, he may well be considered the “father” of the white rhino conservation success story. He spoke highly of hunters and the conservation role they have played both in the United States and South Africa and cited Teddy Roosevelt. Dr. Player held his audience spell-bound and his statement that “genuine emotion-driven people are working for a cause [and] those driven by sentimentality [are] simply dangerous” gave room for animated discussions of the participants afterwards.

Keith Matthee, PHASA's consulting ECE pointed out that PHASA has to look for strategic partnerships nationally and internationally. An important factor is a pro-active stance of the organization and of individuals towards getting the PHASA house in order and communicating achievements to the public via the media. PHASA's stand on disciplinary issues has been noted and welcomed by government, the police, all international hunting associations as well as the media and our members. PHASA's leadership in the concerted action of all South African hunting organizations during the negotiations with DEAT has contributed towards effective solutions.

Dr Pieter Botha of the Department of Environmental Affairs gave a synopsis of tourist hunting in South Africa. Hunters from 80 countries visited South Africa in 2006; more than half originated from the United States, but hunting in South Africa experiences exponentially strong growth in the European Union. Botha mentioned that 379 lion have been legally killed in the country in 2006, thus contributing approximately 6.5 million Rand in “trophy” fees. The Northwest Province provides the bulk of the lion shooting with 272, followed by the Eastern Cape, the Free State and KwaZulu-Natal with around 30 each. (*Editor's Note: DEAT is drafting new legislation to ban canned lion shooting, a practice which PHASA as an organization flatly condemns since years. In view of the overall economic contribution of professional hunting towards the national economy, the income from canned lion shooting is negligible although a canned shooting ban will hit lion breeders and those safari operators who conduct canned lion killings rather hard individually*).

Limpopo province topped the provinces as prime hunting destination, although the Eastern Cape is catching up fast. Generally it was felt that the statistical information still lacks depth and accuracy, since a number of provinces did not or only partial

*Continued on Page 15*

Continued from Page  
15 PHASA Marks Successful 2006

submit reports in time.

When President Stewart Dorrington opened the PHASA AGM, he received a thunderous round of standing applause for his able leadership of the organization during the past two years. Dorrington highlighted PHASA's cooperative work with the government, especially with DEAT for the new hunting legislation and SAPS in the Firearms Control Act. He commended Senior Council Advocate Keith Mathee's input in the wrangle for proper legal texts and thanked the group of individuals who contributed to the PHASA legal fund. Dorrington singled out Dallas Safari Club as single highest contributor with US\$ 10,000. Dallas Safari Club knows where and when action is needed, said Dorrington. The legal fund was the basis for PHASA's constructive action and leadership role, which led towards establishing a lot of good will between hunting organizations and DEAT. PHASA is now looking forward towards the DEAT final documents.

Dorrington highlighted PHASA's growing international network. As a member of the International Council for Game and Wildlife Conservation (CIC), PHASA is at the forefront of top level policy making. Dorrington participated at the CIC General Assembly in Cyprus and later in the year at the Brussels CIC workshop to establish framework, criteria, principles and guidelines for sustainable hunting tourism. Dorrington also participated in a symposium in London on "Recreational Hunting, Conservation and Rural Livelihoods: Science and Practice" and the follow-up meeting on "Standards and Certification for Recreational Hunting", organized by the IUCN SUSG, the Zoological Society of London and the CIC. An important outcome of this meeting, according to Dorrington is the intention to use South Africa in a pilot project to establish measurable criteria for hunting tourism. PHASA will benefit substantially from the constant dialogue with IUCN, CITES and decision makers in the EU and this will certainly influence PHASA's political position with the South African government, said Dorrington. He mentioned that the PHASA disciplinary system was highlighted by a speaker at the London symposium as an example of what PH associations and government authorities in Africa should be doing.

Dorrington closed his speech recognizing Dallas Safari Club as the largest contributor to PHASA's *Conservation and Empowerment Fund* and finally he called on PHASA members to become more proactive in portraying hunting to the public as a good conservation practice. The PHASA executive committee for 2007 consists of: Stewart Dorrington (president), Peter Butland (president elect), Melville du Plessis, Stephen Barber, Russell Field, Howard Knott, James Quin, Arthur Rudman, Paul Stones, Hans Vermaak and Gerhard Damm (co-opted)

Gray Thornton, Executive Director of Dallas Safari Club highlighted the achievements of PHASA and the good cooperation with Dallas Safari Club in his key note address at the PHASA Black Tie Gala Dinner which concluded the convention. Thornton added a thought of importance ... *"The essence of hunting is not measured in inches or points, but rather in the spirit of the chase, and the noble nature of the game pursued."* Thornton said further, *"for 16 or so years I've heard discussion from PHASA members and other associations of how there is too much emphasis on the Record Books and where each trophy places in those books. I wholeheartedly agree. But when are we really going to do something about that?"* Thorn-

ton's question remains unanswered yet, but PHASA has made some important steps towards in this direction.

During the following Awards Ceremony (*for photos please click the links*), PHASA President Elect Peter Butland presented Gerhard Damm of African Indaba with the ["PHASA Wildlife Utilization Award"](#). Past president Ian Goss was honored for distinguished service with the ["Coenraad Vermaak Bronze"](#). EC member Arthur Rudman presented the ["Nature Conservation Officer of the Year Award"](#) to Jaap Pienaar (Eastern Cape Conservation) and last not least Darren Baker of Coenraad Vermaak Safaris received the [Uncle Stevie Award](#) for the best trophy taken in the 2006 season, an African Leopard with skull measurements of 10 6/16 (length) and 7 12/16 (width) taken by Robert Hawkey. Herman Coetzee took possession of a beautiful Krieghoff Double Rifle on behalf of Peter Thormahlen Safaris. Lady Luck had smiled on Thormahlen as the winner in a draw from a pool of those outfitters who contributed to the [PHASA Conservation & Empowerment Fund](#).

The auction – ably conducted by the ever witty Roy Hayes – brought the record amount of almost half a million Rand into PHASA's coffers. Most contested were the two donations for convention booths of Dallas Safari Club (DSC) and Safari Club International (SCI). The DSC donation went for R80,000 and SCI's reached R75,000 at the fall of the hammer. [Krieghoff's Classic Side-by-Side Rifle](#) fetched R61,000 and a DSC Life Membership valued at \$1000 closed at an incredible R21,000; last not least the "Famous Old Hunter Shiraz, Vintage 1987" went to a lucky bidder's collection for R10,500!

---

## 16 The PHASA AGM from a Conservationist's Perspective

By Dr. P.A. Lindsey

Trophy hunting is of vital importance to conservation in Africa by virtue of creating financial incentives for the retention of wildlife as a land use over an area of approximately 1.4 million km<sup>2</sup>, or five and a half times the size of the UK. There are, however, a number of key problems which presently prevent trophy hunting from being as effective a conservation tool as it could be. Because trophy hunters are custodians over such vast areas, 'getting hunting right' is of absolutely key importance for conservation, and something that I believe should be a key focus for conservationists and hunters alike.

This belief led me to start working on the topic of trophy hunting and conservation in Africa. When I started working on this issue, I had two primary objectives:

- to raise awareness within the scientific community and among the general public of the vital role played by hunting to conservation efforts in Africa, and
- To try to develop ways of enhancing this role.

Given this background interest, I was pleased to receive an invite to the recent Annual General Meeting of the Professional Hunters Association of South Africa (PHASA) in the Drakensberg. The trip was sponsored by the International Council for Game and Wildlife Conservation (CIC).

Continued on Page 16

Continued from Page 15

#### 16 The PHASA AGM from a Conservationist's Perspective

In South Africa, trophy hunting has been particularly important for conservation, having provided much of the stimulation for the shift to game ranching and the resulting increases in wildlife populations, and having been largely responsible for the recovery of endangered species such as white rhino, Bontebok, black wildebeest and cape mountain zebra. Sadly though, there are also several problems associated with the hunting industry in South Africa. These include well publicized issues such as canned lion shooting and put and take hunting, and less obvious problems such as the widespread introduction of exotic trophy species, cross breeding of closely related species, and the persecution of non-huntable predators such as wild dogs and cheetahs to protect trophy animals. I have long held the opinion that hunters not do enough to address problems associated with the hunting industry and to regulate the activities of unscrupulous operators. Consequently, I was very interested to attend the PHASA AGM and see to what steps, if any, organized professional hunting in South Africa is taking to address some of the problems currently affecting the hunting industry there.

I believe that professional hunting associations in Africa could and should play a key role in regulating hunting operators and thus enhancing the conservation role of the industry. However, this potential can only be achieved given three pre-requisites are fulfilled:

- a) professional hunting associations must have a strong commitment to conservation,
- b) membership to these association must be contingent on good conduct by the hunting operators, and
- c) expulsion of an operator from these associations due to poor conduct must significantly affect their ability to do business.

I came away from the PHASA AGM greatly encouraged by steps being taken towards effective self-regulation by PHASA, specifically because these pre-requisites for effective regulation appear to be falling into place. Firstly, it was evident from the discussions that PHASA and the majority of PHASA members present are committed to conservation and best hunting practices. Secondly, PHASA has taken disciplinary action against unscrupulous hunting operators and worked to have them expelled from the association. Thirdly, by developing cooperative partnerships with the organizers of the US hunting conventions (where the majority of marketing of hunting safaris is conducted), the threat of expulsion from PHASA is becoming a genuine deterrent against unacceptable hunting practices.

Hunting conventions form a bottle-neck through which much of the industry has to pass to sell hunts, and so convention organizers have a potentially vital role in assisting in the regulation of the hunting industry. Dallas Safari Club (DSC) has made the decision to prevent South African hunting operators who are not members of PHASA from attending their convention. This means that to get the chance to sell hunts on the Dallas platform, hunting operators have to be members of PHASA which means they have to abide by the standards of conduct required by PHASA. In future, this kind of regulatory approach could be complemented with incentives such as optimal booth placement for operators with good track records in conservation terms. Gaining clarity and consensus among hunters and conservationists in terms of what activities constitute best practice for conservation

is an important next step.

In summary, the PHASA AGM was encouraging to me from a conservationist's point of view, because there was evidence of the hunting industry taking responsibility for self-regulation. I believe that the future of the hunting industry is by no means secure. The general public is becoming increasingly uncomfortable with the idea of hunting animals for sport and most people do not understand the conservation role of hunting. At the same time, the protectionist fraternity has been effective at publicizing problems in the hunting industry to foster anti-hunting support. To help ensure the long term future of hunting in Africa, the hunting industry must visibly work to rid itself of unscrupulous elements and work to become an indispensable and conservation tool, recognizable to all.

---

## 17 Namibia Professional Hunting Association AGM 2006

By NAPHA Vice President Jofie Lamprecht

The [Namibia Professional Hunting Association \(NAPHA\)](#) held the 33<sup>rd</sup> Annual General Meeting in November at the Windhoek Country Club. The participants were welcomed by NAPHA President Danie Strauss. The Honorable Minister of Environment and Tourism, Reverend Willem Konjore, officially opened the meeting, and had a very positive message to convey to NAPHA members and invited guests. Minister Konjore said that "Namibia has a proud hunting heritage." The Minister continued to say the following, as summarized from the official speech:-

"Trophy Hunting in Namibia has developed from an almost unknown industry in the early 70s, to an important and respected role player in our country's tourism and wildlife conservation portfolio... the number of wild animals on private land has increased more than threefold... the income generated from trophy hunting has made game an asset, rather than a liability in competition with domestic stock ... Ethical, fair chase and sustainable trophy hunting is therefore truly a resounding success as an extremely effective conservation tool..."

"Recent independent studies have shown that Wildlife Utilization is in fact one of the most lucrative forms of commercial farmland utilization in Namibia."... "Farmers who practice trophy hunting...make a great contribution towards the Namibian nation building process through job creation and the generation of much needed foreign currency..."

"On 31<sup>st</sup> March 1990, our country did not have one single Previously Disadvantaged Namibian as Professional Hunter... Through the excellent work of the NAPHA Executive and the Education Committees, working in partnership with the Eagle Rock Hunting Academy, we now have 102 fully trained and qualified Previously Disadvantaged Hunting Professionals... Well done, NAPHA!"

"I am also aware of the remarkable work that the NAPHA 'Hunters Support Education' program under the Social Upliftment portfolio has done during the past year... Nine rural schools benefited through the donation of photo copiers, text-

Continued on Page 17



Continued from Page 15  
17 Namibian Professional Hunters' Association AGM 2006

books, stationary, sports' equipment, mattresses and blankets, to mention but a few of the items that have helped to improve not only the quality of education, but also the quality of the lives of the learners in these remote areas."

"Apart from this NAPHA portfolio, I am also aware of individual hunting operators, all NAPHA members, who have private schools to educate the children of their farm employees."

"My Ministry, working closely with NAPHA members, has had great success with the communal conservancy programs, which has allowed for the registration of 50 communal conservancies covering a total area of 118,704 square kilometers, or 14% of Namibia's total surface area... In many cases, trophy hunting is the primary source of income for these often marginalised and remote communities."

"Trophy hunting, both as a commercial industry as well as a wildlife management tool holds superior advantages for these communities, who often find themselves in direct competition with wildlife for the natural resources within their areas."

"The new Concession Policy and the eagerly awaited Human Wildlife Conflict Management Policy will be approved shortly, and implemented as soon as possible."

The Honorable Reverend Willem Konjore then declared the 33<sup>rd</sup> NAPHA AGM open. An award ceremony followed the Minister's opening, and the Conservationist of 2006 Award was presented to Anton Esterhuizen for his work with the [Integrated Rural Development and Nature Conservation \(IRDNC\)](#) in Namibia's communal conservancies. The Most Active NAPHA Member 2006 Award went to Jurgen Matthaei, for his many years of support and hard work for NAPHA. The prestigious 'Medal Sales Award' recognizes the NAPHA member who sold the most medals in 2006, which forms a huge part of NAPHA's income. [Ojiruze Hunting](#) won this award, and it was presented by Richard Lendrum (African Sporting Gazette ASG). ASG donated a beautiful buffalo bronze as floating trophy as well as advertising space to the value of N\$ 15 000.00.

NAPHA also welcomed international guests including Gray Thornton of [Dallas Safari Club](#), Conservation Force Chairman John Jackson III, [PHASA](#) President Stewart Dorrington, African Sporting Gazette publisher Richard Lendrum and Ben du Plessis a veterinarian from South Africa.

The closed session kept members busy with adopting various small changes to the NAPHA constitution as well as discussing the proposed stream-lining of the current hunting professional classifications.

#### Achievements by NAPHA in 2006 included:

- promotion of Almut Kronsbein as NAPHA CEO;
- workshops presented by the NAPHA's Education Committee;
- NAPHA's Social Upliftment Committee spending N\$ 70,430 on copiers, mattresses, text books and stationary for 9 disadvantaged schools around Namibia;
- Attending meeting, workshops and representing Namibia's hunting industry internationally at various levels.

#### NAPHA's current membership status is as follows:

38 Big Game Professional Hunters, 98 Professional Hunters, 144 Master Hunting Guides, 78 Hunting Guides, 37 Extraordinary Members, 3 Honorary Member, 28 Sponsoring Members

and 1 Corporate Member, making a total of 427 members

NAPHA wishes to thank out-going NAPHA president Danie Strauss for his hard work in his 2 year presidency. After a successful 2006, NAPHA looks ahead for the challenges of 2007 and the future.

A new team has been appointed by the AGM and consists of the following NAPHA members:

<b>NAPHA President:</b>	<b>Diethelm Metzger</b>
<b>NAPHA Vice-President:</b>	<b>Jofie Lamprecht</b>
<b>NAPHA Treasurer:</b>	<b>Johannes Brand</b>
<b>Executive Committee Members:</b>	<b>Ernst-Ludwig Cramer</b>
	<b>Johann Louw</b>

NAPHA wishes to thank all the sponsors of the AGM, and recognizes the international support from various organizations.

## 18 NAPHA Trains Hunting Assistants and Camp Attendants

By Martina Lamprecht

The NAPHA Education Committee held a 2 day Educational Workshop for Hunting Assistants and Camp Attendants on the 29th and 30th November.

The program included an HIV/AIDS Course presented by the AIDS Care Trust - ACT, which covered information on the situation in Namibia, basic information on HIV/AIDS; advice for positive living, as well as information on the availability of ARV Treatment.

The Hunting Assistants then went on to do an intensive skinning and caping course, presented by master taxidermist van Rooyen Strydom of Nyati Wildlife Art.

A Cookery Course was presented for the NAPHA Camp Attendants by Antoinette de Chavonnes Vrugt of Gourmet Caterers, including detailed, hand-on demonstrations on preparing exciting and delicious internationally appealing starters, main courses and desserts, focusing on the use of easily obtainable, local ingredients. The meat was sponsored by the Meat Board, and all the other ingredients by the newly opened Super Spar.

International Freight Way Airfreight Logistics (IFN) and Nyati Wildlife Art made considerable cash contributions towards the costs of the workshop.

During the certificate presentation, Honorable Dr. Becky NdjozeOjo, Deputy Minister of Education, stated that "she was delighted to be associated with NAPHA and to share in the empowerment occasion of the educational workshop" The deputy minister concluded saying that "whenever and wherever we need a strong foundation for whatever we do, empowerment of the work force is the answer. Learning is said to be from cradle to grave, and this venture has proven that learning is and can be lifelong."

A total of 71 NAPHA registered Hunting Assistant and Camp Attendants participated in the educational workshop.

## 19 Successful Year 2006 for Conservation Force

By John J Jackson III

Four of Conservation Force's Board Members were honored in 2006: The awards bear testimony to the quality of their contribution. Baron Bertrand des Clers, who sadly passed away suddenly in October, received the Peter Capstick Hunting Heritage Award at the Dallas Safari Club Convention; the African Professional Hunters' Association bestowed the prestigious "Ox of Okavango Award" on John Jackson; Dr James Teer received the Wilder Conservation Award and the Professional Hunters Association of South Africa recognized Gerhard Damm with the PHASA Wildlife Utilization Award 2006. Apart from these awards, Conservation Force's "Smart Projects" continued to be successful:

- Together with some of the world's foremost lion scientists, CF developed and funded the brochure "**A Hunter's Guide to Aging Lion in Eastern and Southern Africa**" to advance best hunting practices. [Safari Press](#) will publish and market the Lion Guide in early 2007.
- [Dallas Safari Club](#) and Conservation Force drove the hugely successful **Presidents' Gala Banquet** in October. The joint patrons, former presidents George H W Bush and Valery Giscard d'Estaing animated 260 guests to raise in excess of USD 250,000 for conservation in Tanzania.
- The **King of the Altai Monument**, in homage to Mongolia's wild rams, conceived and sculpted by artist Rick Taylor and funded by Conservation Force supporters was unveiled in front of the Natural History Museum in Ulan Bataar.
- CF participated in 6 major process-building international projects to further hunting as a key component of conservation: In Bonn/Germany and Brussels/Belgium, CF formed part of an international team called by the [International Council for Game & Wildlife Conservation \(CIC\)](#) to develop "**Principles, Guidelines and Criteria for Sustainable Hunting Tourism**". In London, the symposium on "**Recreational Hunting, Conservation and Rural Livelihoods: Science and Practice**" and the follow-up meeting on "**Standards and Certification for Recreational Hunting**" was organized by IUCN SUSG, the Zoological Society of London and the CIC was co-sponsored by CF. A detailed submission towards the development of "**Norms & Standards for the Regulation of Hunting in South Africa**" was presented to DEAT on behalf of Conservation Force and the International Council of Game & Wildlife Management (CIC). In North America Conservation Force sponsored the reestablishment of the "IUCN North American Sustainable Use Specialists Group" and funded the development of "**Conservation Hunting Principles**".
- **African Lion** projects of CF included x-raying teeth of hunted lion in Botswana to photographing and aging the entire lion population of Kruger National Park. CF board members serve on the **African Lion Working Group** and contributed to the **African Lion Workshops**.
- In the **USA** CF is continuing advocacy for the importation of key trophy species. John Jackson argued administrative

appeals for the applications of all **Mozambique and Zambia** elephant hunting trophies, filed appeals in the pending **black-faced impala** cases and initiated the filing of the first **Markhor** import permit from Pakistan.

CF continues two **Argali** initiatives to facilitate trophy imports from Mongolia, Tajikistan, Kazakhstan and China. and presented comprehensive comments against the proposed **listing of polar bear**.

CF documented detailed objections to the **USF&WS International Affairs Program** governing the import of CITES listed species. Our Ranching for Restoration program expanded with ranchers from Texas funding an **anti-poaching program to protect Red Lechwe** in Zambia in partnership with ZAWA and WCS.

- CF board members serve on the IUCN Deer & Antelope Specialist Groups. We initiated the **Eld's Deer Trust Fund** and partner with [Murulle Foundation](#) in the **Ethiopian Mountain Nyala project**.

These and other projects and initiatives not listed here show how Conservation Force serves the global hunting community. For 2007 Conservation Force is right now finalizing a new initiative in partnership with **WWF-LIFE Namibia** to expand hunting on an area close to 29 million acres of wild and beautiful land in the north of the country. (Editor's note: We will bring a comprehensive article about the WWF-LIFE conservation hunting projects in the next issue of African Indaba)

### The Enviropedia 2007

The voluminous Enviropedia of more than 500 pages is a fascinating guide promoting an ethical and environmentally sustainable planet. In the "A-Z Encyclopedia", environmental topics, current conditions and key challenges to achieve a sustainable environment are explained by respected specialists and highlighted with excellent illustrations. The "Sustainable Development Guide" looks into this topic with a unique collection of articles representing a variety of thought provoking opinions. Last not least, the extensive networking directory is easily the most comprehensive listing of Southern African organizations that are involved in this sector and the foremost hunting organizations are amongst them

**For the first time this year the Enviropedia features exhaustive articles about "Hunting and Related Issues" and "Wildlife Management" authored by African Indaba editor Gerhard Damm.**

The Enviropedia (544 pages, soft cover) is available at R295 (US\$42 or Euro 32) inclusive of postage within South Africa. You can order your copy by email [info@enviropedia.com](mailto:info@enviropedia.com); fax your order to +11-(0)21-786-3171 or visit the website at [www.enviropedia.com](http://www.enviropedia.com)