

AFRICAN INDABA

Volume 7, Issue No 1/2

eNewsletter

March 2009

Dedicated to the People and Wildlife of Africa

Finally a Book on the Selous

Gerhard R Damm

The Selous in Tanzania is a game reserve of many superlatives: it is the world's largest hunting reserve, Africa's oldest protected area, the home range of more than 70,000 elephants and 120,000 buffaloes and so on. Amazingly, not a single authoritative book has been written about this fabulous land of dreams for hunters and nature lovers.

Finally, this has changed. South Africa based Rowland Ward Publishers (Pty) Ltd (www.rowlandward.com) will release a 300 page volume which unites 20 knowledgeable authors. In total these authors spent over a century working in the Selous as wardens, managers, scientists or hunters. I am not exaggerating that this wealth of experience is difficult to top.

Rolf Baldus, the editor, who worked under German Government development programs 13 years in the Selous and with the Tanzanian Wildlife Department, brought the authors together. Gerald Bigurube, now director of Tanzania's national parks, Richard Bonham, a well known guide, Benson Kibonde, Selous' chief warden of many years, Brian Nicholson, the last European warden and one of the "fathers of the Selous", the late Rolf Rohwer, an outstanding professional hunter, Ludwig Siege, a long time German advisor to the warden, and Erasmus Tarimo, now Tanzania's Director of Wildlife, to name only few. The Foreword is written by the late head of the Selous family, Commander Selous, and Dieter Schramm, President of the International Council for Game and Wildlife Conservation (CIC) has penned down the epilogue.

Over 400 photos, maps by Mike Shand from the University of Glasgow and paintings of Selous scenes of the contemporary German wildlife artist Bodo Meier pair up with deeply emotional classical art work of German wildlife painter Wilhelm Kuhnert who travelled and hunted the Selous area in 1905 to illustrate the voluminous piece of work. Topics range from history to conservation, from elephants to wild dogs to birds, from walking safaris to hunting and from poaching to community conservation. Those who know editor Rolf Baldus will know that not even the most sensitive or controversial topics remain untouched. The book contains an immense amount of primary research information on the area, but it is at the same time easy to read and entertaining.

The standard edition will sell at US\$65 and the collector's edition at US\$ 130. A full review of the book will appear in the next African Indaba.

We Are Still Around!

Editorial

You will have realized that African Indaba did not appear on your computer screen in January as usual. Well, the reason was not excessive celebration during the festive season, but just an overload of work with other conservation and hunting issues.

You may know that I have been appointed as chair of the newly formed Trophy Task Group of the CIC (International Council for Game and Wildlife Conservation). In this capacity, I had to prepare for an important international symposium of that group at the University fuer Bodenkultur in Vienna which took place in February. The one man show of African Indaba therefore had to temporarily take the back seat.

Nevertheless, African Indaba is still around and here we are with the first double issue of 2009 - the seventh year of African Indaba's existence.

I hope you enjoy reading this issue and find lots of good and interesting information.

Sincerely

Gerhard R Damm

CONTENTS Volume 7, Issue 1/2	Page
Finally a Book on the Selous	1
We Are Still Around	1
Rhino Wars in Southern Africa	2
Namibia's Elephants	2
CITES, Sustainable Use of Wild Species & Incentive-Driven Conservation [in] Southern Africa	3
Ivory Auctions Revisited	3
Should Trophy Hunting be Allowed in Kenya in Order to Save the Masai Mara?	4
Eastern Cape Hosts PHASA 2008	5
Proposals to Establish the Spiral Horned Antelope Club	6
Extract from the World Conservation Force	
Bulletin January 2009	7
News From Africa	8
Book Review: Recreational Hunting, Conservation and Rural Livelihoods: Science and Practice	9
Larry Norton Fund Raising Exhibition for the Hwange Conservation Society	12
Researchers Point to African Wildlife Successes	13
KwaZulu-Natal Hunting and Conservation Society	
50 th Jubilee Around the Corner	14
The Value in Hunting	15
Conservation Force Admitted as IUCN Member	16
IUCN Antelope Specialist Group Updates	17
Comments on the 2009 Zambezi Valley Auction	17
Rhino Species	19
New Prices for Hunting in Ethiopia	21

For hunter-conservationists and all people who are interested in the conservation, management and the sustainable use of Africa's wild natural resources.

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Rhino Wars in Southern Africa

By Gerhard R Damm

"Bloody assault against SA rhinos" was the title of an article published by The Pretoria News on January 10, 2009; and the author stated that "at least 76 white and black rhinos were killed by poachers in South Africa's reserves, national parks and on private land last year, illustrating the sudden bloody assault on the country's rhino populations for their valuable horns - but the figure may be much higher." The figure of 76 casualties came from a report released by Sonja Meintjes, deputy director of biodiversity compliance at the Department of Environmental Affairs and Tourism (DEAT). In 2007 the total loss - high enough in any case - stood at only 10 poached rhino. "The department cannot comment on the dramatic increase at the moment until investigations that are currently under way by the provincial conservation authorities and SANParks have been concluded." "The various conservation authorities affected are working with the police to investigate these incidents and hope to make a breakthrough soon," Meintjes added.

The article mentioned that unconfirmed reports suggest the number of rhinos killed in the past year is hovering around 100. Whether the figure is now 76 or a 100 - the situation has clearly gone out of hand! Dr Jacques Flamand, the project leader of the WWF/Ezemvelo KZN Wildlife Black Rhino Range Expansion Project, said "there's definitely an onslaught on the rhino that has come up suddenly. I suspect the more affluent Chinese want it (rhino horn) in greater numbers. Those carrying out the attacks are locals most likely working for Chinese and Vietnamese agents."

The Department of Environmental Affairs and Tourism has imposed a moratorium, which came into effect in the meantime, is meant to discourage the poaching of rhino in SA and stem the trade in individual rhino horn to ensure provincial authorities and SANParks maintain consistent protocols for dealing with the trade in rhino horn.

The moratorium is a step into the right direction, but if falls short of the far more stringent measures proposed by the Professional Hunting Association of South Africa during the annual PHASA convention in the Eastern Cape in November of 2008. PHASA proposed *inter alia* that

- each hunting client who wishes to hunt a rhino produces a sworn affidavit that no part of the rhino be used for any commercial purposes,
- a PHASA member appointed by DEAT confirms in writing that proper procedures were followed during the hunt and all legal requirements were met
- the outfitter/professional hunter supply PHASA with a photograph of the hunted rhino together with the hunter
- no trophy or other parts of the rhino be exported without certification of PHASA
- that all control of rhino hunting be national and not provincial

Namibia's Elephants

Kai-Uwe Denker

Some thoughts of an experienced professional hunter

In the last two issues of African Indaba the so-called desert elephants of Namibia received some attention. Kai-Uwe Denker, Namibian outfitter and elephant expert wrote us that the desert is NOT the ideal habitat for elephants and under natural conditions elephant from the central highlands wandered into the desert - especially after good raining seasons - and returned to highlands during the dry season. The highlands are now managed for farming and agriculture and do not form part of the regular elephant habitat anymore. Consequently relatively high elephant concentrations are observed along the riverine gallery forests in the desert regions. The high elephant density leads to over use of limited fodder resources. The vegetation cannot recover, since seasonal elephant movements do not take place anymore; this situation is exacerbated by numerous artificial water holes created by conservation agencies - these waterholes lead to more permanent elephant concentration where they were at least seasonally absent in the past. Already now, an elephant over population along the seasonal river beds is observable. The more northerly elephant populations don't experience the pressures to such a grave extent, since they can move to Etosha with its relatively good fodder availability; the southern populations have to resort to large scale movements over great distances and avoid settled farmland at the same time. There is definitely a population exchange with Etosha elephant in the north, but those in the South, especially the Ugab elephant populations, have no room to migrate.

The EHRA rhetoric is incorrect, that the high elephant calf mortality is a consequence of in-breeding and a low number of bulls. High calf mortality and observable bone deformations are a consequence of scarce fodder availability, lack of minerals and other factors usually connected with what the elephants eat.

It is an entirely different question whether the hunting of elephant in desert regions poses a challenging hunt. In the opinion of Kai Uwe Denker this is not the case.

In conclusion - the problems of the desert elephants are to a not unimportant part to be traced back to the elephant over population in Etosha National Park. Elephants from there migrate, they need new territory. This new territory they encounter now only in desert regions with an unbalanced availability of vegetation suitable for elephant. The settlement of the areas outside these regions through man is effectively preventing the elephant migrations in the rainy and dry season to and from areas with a more balanced and better availability of food supply.

The public should try to understand the linkages between hunting and conservation and the hunters should recognize the necessity of fair, ethical and environmentally sound hunting practices.

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CITES, Sustainable Use of Wild Species & Incentive-Driven Conservation [in] Southern Africa

Max Abensperg-Traun

For a pdf file with the full text of the paper please contact Gerhard@muskwa.co.za

ABSTRACT

Over 30,000 species of animals and plants that are, or may be, detrimentally affected by international trade are listed on the Appendices of CITES (Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Flora and Fauna). The convention aims to regulate transboundary trade in species and their derivatives through a system of permits and certificates, and to ensure that such trade conforms to the principle of sustainability. In the developing world, a considerable component of its biodiversity lives outside protected areas where governments have limited potential to manage wildlife. Based on selected vertebrate and plant species, this paper concludes that: (1) use of wildlife in developing countries is more likely to be an imperative rather than a choice; (2) the legal instruments of CITES have limited capacities to ensure that international trade is sustainable; (3) sustainable use of species is best achieved by gaining the support of affected local communities; (4) community support can be maximized by the devolution of ownership or user rights of species from the state to, e.g., the communal level, and the development of effective economic incentive structures to prevent alternative land-use strategies; (5) countries in southern Africa have pioneered devolution of ownership/user rights to the district/communal level; (6) in combination with effective CITES trade controls, trade opportunities, rather than trade restrictions, are most likely to assist in the development of incentive-driven conservation strategies; (7) to avoid negative incentives and to increase awareness of livelihoods, the international CITES community may need to consider whether CITES Appendix I and II listing decisions should be based not only on biological/trade criteria but also on socioeconomic considerations, if it is in the conservation interest of the species concerned; (8) a strategic cooperation with the Convention for Biological Diversity (CBD) could improve strategies for sustainable trade; (9) while incentive-driven conservation can provide significant longer-term potential for the protection of animal and plant species, it may be most difficult to achieve for species whose high-value products have a long tradition in medicinal use; and (10) the conditions under which incentive-driven conservation is most likely to promote sustainable use need to be clearly identified.

Ivory Auctions Revisited

Gerhard R Damm

Authorities in Botswana described the November 1 ivory auction as disappointing. The Japanese and Chinese bidders were reluctant and finally the auction tally came up to P14 million or US\$7 million. Botswana was hoping its ivory stockpile would realize a considerably higher amount to be used for wildlife conservation, according to Gaborone based CITES desk officer Diana Chimidza.

Despite of 20 companies from Japan present at the bidding, the action was far from competitive since only 7 of the Japanese bidders were active. In a final tally the end the Japanese companies bought 16.6 tons, while the two Chinese companies (Beijing Mammoth Art and China Natural Art & Craft Corporation) who had participated in the sale bought 26.5 tons. Chimidza stated that of its 61 tons of ivory stock pile, Botswana now remains with 18 tons after the auction. Some sources expressed hope that CITES will eventually give them the green light to sell the remainder. However, part of this tonnage (9 tons - accumulated for over a period of 30 years) comes from confiscated illegal ivory.

Organizers were unanimous that at the next auction reserve price will have to be used in order to achieve higher returns. According to CITES 70 percent of the money realized at the auction has to go into elephant conservation, with 30 percent earmarked for community development projects. A trust fund has been created administered by an independent board of trustees. Botswana was among the four southern African countries recently permitted to trade their ivory stockpile. Namibia realized only US\$1.2 from its seven tons. South Africa reported US \$6.7 million from its 47 tons and Zimbabwe netted US\$ 480, 000 from 3,764 tons.

Incidentally, eBay announced that, effective January 1, 2009; it will no longer permit the sale of ivory on the site. Two exceptions are pianos with ivory keys and wood furniture with ivory inlays - if the item was created before 1900.

"Game management is the art of making land produce sustained annual crops of wild game for recreational use. Its nature is best understood by comparing it with the other land-cropping arts, and by viewing its present ideas and practices against a background of their own history."

Aldo Leopold 1933:3

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Should Trophy Hunting Be Allowed in Kenya in Order to Save the Masai Mara?

Kyle Green

The Masai Mara National Game Reserve in southwest Kenya was established in 1974. It was first started for sport-hunting, but in 1977 sport-hunting was outlawed in Kenya. Ever since, poachers have threatened the wildlife and the existence of the reserve. Poachers poached ivory badly during the 1980s. Remember the 'Elephant Holocaust' that was mainly in Kenya? Today it is for the 'bush meat' market. The poachers poach wildebeest for bush meat, but they gouge anything in their path, even the mighty fall to their deadly wire-snare traps. One problem is the lack of law enforcement to protect the animals from poachers. Once this defense is gone, the whole of the Masai Mara, including the precious Mara Triangle, will be vulnerable to poachers.

The Mara Conservancy has tried to raise money through donations, but this is not enough. The lack of funding from lack of photograph tourism has hurt the Masai Mara considerably. And park operations will have to be stopped without this source revenue, leaving the Mara Triangle open to mass poaching. The 'bush meat' market as Stephen Midzi told me, "You must understand that Africa is completely different from any other continent and the original people of Africa lived off natural resources, including wild animals." He goes on. "The bush-meat trade has been commercialized by rich individuals who seek to make more money, but use the poor African man to do the killing." In order to get richer, they sell the meat of the wildlife. The poor Africans are promised payment by their rich 'bosses'.

Lions are killed by the Masai for killing their cattle -- instead of killing the rogue lion responsible. The Masai kill several lions that are not problem animals. Sport hunting would help out with this by killing only problem animals. Lions also get caught in the snares put out by poachers meant for other animals. Poachers use assault rifles as well. This causes mass slaughter of precious wildlife within the Masai Mara National Game Reserve.

Animals such as the cheetah are also affected by the poaching. They live mainly on the gazelles and other medium-sized antelopes that are being killed off by the poachers in the reserve. Leaving them to starve or to stake to cattle, resulting in massive revenge killing by the tribes like the Masai.

As I mentioned earlier in my article, the only solution is through donations. It has helped some, but people are stopping the donations. The question now for people and to the government is: What purpose and what value do these animals have? Currently animals in Kenya have little purpose and, to the legalities, have no value. It is quite simple. If it pays, it stays. Trophy-hunting does exactly this -- it puts a price on the animals' heads and makes animals worth protecting for the government and the local communities. Well, here is a thought: Kenya should lift their 31-year-old ban on sport hunting.

Hunters pay for conservation all over the world, and animals thrive in great numbers as a result. Colonel Jim Corbett, the famous hunter of man-eating tigers and leopards in India and a great leader in conservation, was involved with the Kenyan-based Safariland hunting company during the period of 1948 to 1951. He was a director of the company during that time. Outfitters like Safariland employed dozens of professional hunters. These people looked after the animals by using good judgment and strict standards. And, there is evidence that shows that their practices helped ensure the future of much wildlife. It is not in the interest of the trophy-hunters to see the game ravaged and exterminated. As for the safari companies, they have the same view, as the game provides their income.

The fact remains that it was only after the 1977 hunting ban was imposed, that the wildlife populations began to drop. Poachers then killed almost all the elephants, the white and black rhinoceros, leopards, cheetahs, and various antelope species.

There is proof that when safari operations bring paying clients into an area, the poaching slows down and sometimes stops altogether. It is in the operation's best interest to put out its own anti-poaching teams, adding to the government's anti-poaching patrols. Trophy-hunting is a sustainable revenue the Africans benefit from as well. It pays for schools, hospitals, clinics, water wells and much more. This will make the locals in Kenya stop poaching for food, because the meat will be given to the different communities. It will work as long as the community members can clearly see the benefits of it, and are fully involved. Otherwise it will never change community perceptions if there are no benefits to them. Then the plan will never work.

That is the problem with photograph tourism. You can't eat photographs. And the money mainly goes into the guide's pockets. Yes, it is cheaper, but it only makes the guides rich most of the time. Twenty-three countries in Africa practice sport-hunting, and 18,500 people pay more than \$200 million (U.S. dollars) a year to hunt lions, leopards, Cape buffalo, antelope, crocodiles, etc. The Masai Mara could use this help. Trophy-hunting is of importance in Africa by making financial incentives to promote and retain wildlife as a land use over areas. Kenya is one of the few countries in Africa that does not practice sport-hunting despite the fact it has a wide variety of game animal species that would draw in the trophy-hunters and their fat wallets. The Masai Mara is suffering because of emotional differences. The preservationists feel that hunting will destroy animal populations. But remember that the word conservation means wise use, not to preserve it.

Of course there are people who claim that hunting takes out the best of the species, because hunters target fully grown animals that have been able to adapt best to their surroundings and should be breeding to produce offspring that have a better chance of survival. Well, most safari hunting companies will allow their clients to shoot only animals that are old and out of the breeding cycle. There may have been a few bad 'apples' in the past, but to me the advantages outweigh the disadvantages. After all, hunters care for wildlife more than any other group of

Continued on Page 5

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Continued from Page 4

Should Trophy Hunting be allowed in Kenya?

people. Poachers kill everything -- the young, the old, and the well-fit who is still part of the breeding cycle. In countries like South Africa, Mozambique, Botswana, and in neighboring Tanzania, sport-hunting is being done very successfully.

In neighboring Tanzania, they have the Selous Game Reserve. It is Africa's largest game reserve that was named after hunter-conservationist Fredrick D. Selous after he was killed in World War II by a German sniper bullet in then-German East Africa (now Tanzania). The reserve is chock full of wildlife -- 4,000 lions, 120,000 Cape buffalo, 50,000 elephants, 150,000 blue wildebeests, and an estimated half of all Africa's wild dogs, along with several other species of wildlife. Hunters will pay \$80,000 (U.S.) to shoot one old male lion in the Selous. I think with the lions the Masai Mara has there, it would be good business. Poaching is virtually nonexistent in the Selous Game Reserve because of the large anti-poaching force they have. This is a complete opposite from the Masai Mara National Game Reserve. And most of their revenues come from sport hunting.

The so-called 'animal lovers' say, "The hunters shoot too many animals." But that is what poachers do. Sport hunters use quotas. Quotas ensure that wildlife populations are maintained at a level suitable for the local environment. It makes it where we know how many animals are being killed. In South Africa, for example, they have a yearly quota of five old male black rhinoceroses.

With poaching, it is how many they can kill. Trophy-hunting quotas make it sustainable. I believe the wildlife are going to be killed either way, whether by poachers or by trophy-hunters. Some people claim that trophy hunting quotas are not set with proper knowledge of true animal population sizes and can cause species' numbers to decline. The countries of Africa are improving. Professional Hunter Douglas McNeil told me, "Tanzania officials go out in the different hunting areas and count the number of each games species, the best they can, to make quotas." The use of trail cameras has helped a lot in Africa in order to make accurate settings for the quotas.

The Masai Mara National Game Reserve is in trouble. If the reserve does not find sustainable revenue, fast, the poachers will completely take over and the Mara will be destroyed and lost forever. Poachers will kill more and more animals, until there is little to no wildlife left for anything. For me, the best way to conserve these animals would be to put a price tag to them. Then come up with a system that closely monitors and tracks the effects of sport hunting activities, and ensure that the local communities benefit. It is important that we do what we can, in this time of turmoil, to try to nurture stability and continuity, for Kenya as a whole so we will have the wildlife for preservation.

Eastern Cape Hosts PHASA AGM 2008

PHASA Report

Peter Butland, PHASA President, welcomed all attendees and introduced the Premier of the Eastern Cape who gave a very encouraging speech. The MEC of the province also attended and stayed for lively discussions that followed as questions were allowed. The Premier and MEC of the Eastern Cape both acknowledged the importance of professional hunting to the province and offered their support of the industry. Butland welcomed the overseas delegates and thanked them for their continued support. Shane Mahoney represented Conservation Force Gerhard Damm - CIC Bob Scott and Ben Carter - Dallas Safari Club Diethelm Metzger - NAPHA Joe Hosmer - SCI and the president of the Wild Sheep Foundation Gray Thornton. All were invited to introduce their organizations and discuss topical matters.

Dr Holly Dublin Immediate Past Chairperson IUCN SSC spoke on the topic of "World Conservation and Sustainable Hunting" and called on all to be aware of the challenges and dangers to conservation and hunting worldwide. Gray Thornton and Michael Steinmetz spoke on SA as a hunting destination and highlighted clients' experiences and perceptions. The following were mentioned as concerns - the levels of crime importation of firearms clients' not understanding conversations in Afrikaans etc. They also stressed that South Africa has to realize that we have the whole world in one country and should capitalize on that. S Barber Chairman of the Conservation & Empowerment Fund presented his annual report. A concern was expressed at the disappointing attendance at this AGM and that support continues to be poor.

In the business meetings on the following day, Peter Butland reported on the Sec 16A amendment to the Firearms Control Act. This fact that this amendment has still not been implemented despite promises and the absence of SAPS from the AGM is a huge concern for PHASA.

Craig Hay of the Southern African Wildlife College made a presentation on the work done at the College and the opportunities for PHASA members to have their staff trained there in a variety of disciplines. Wessel Jacobs spoke about the success of PDI PH training provided in the Northern Cape under a PH course specially designed to cater for the needs of illiterate and semi literate candidates.

Richard Spoor an attorney at law from Mpumalanga presented a clear and invaluable insight into the legalities around Land Restitution and Land Reform and the distinction between the two in South Africa. He provided guidelines as to how claims should and should not be approached and the pitfalls and opportunities in the process.

Prof Pieter v Niekerk Chairman of CHASA introduced the subject of the Hunters Federation of South Africa to the attendees. He reported that all the amateur organizations have

Continued on Page 6

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Continued from Page 5
Eastern Cape Hosts PHASA AGM

decided to form a federation so as to speak with a stronger voice and tackle matters of mutual concern. This will mean that CHASA will disappear and all their members will join the Hunters' Federation.

S Barber explained the PHASA Strategy Plan a document which was created during the course of 2008 and forwarded to members for their perusal. This is intended to map the way forward for the association for the next three to five years. It was discussed and accepted.

P Stones presented a paper on how to assist in the initiatives to control the irregular practices alleged around certain rhino hunts. Members supported the proposal but these were not subsequently accepted by the provinces.

The PHASA AGM followed on Wednesday with Peter Butland presenting his President's Report and addressing topics such as engaging with government with other role players becoming the voice of the industry creating a marketing framework creating optimal PHASA structures transforming the industry self administration and the financial position of PHASA. His report was adopted by the AGM. S Barber presented the 2008 Audited Financial Statements and the Budget for 2009. The financial position of PHASA was shown to be sound and the outlook for 2009 satisfactory subject to the uncertainties of the world economic situation.

The concluding Gala Dinner was once again a huge success with 170 guests. Dr Holly Dublin was the guest speaker and entertained everyone with her excellent presentation. Roy Hayes the auctioneer as always entertained everyone and in doing so ensured that a substantial amount was raised at the auction. A record auction revenue of over R 460 000 was raised. PHASA thanks all donors sponsors and buyers for supporting PHASA but the last word of thanks must go to those PHASA members who gave their support by their attendance.

The following persons were elected as PHASA office bearers and Committee members:

- Eduard Katzke - President-Elect**
- Stephen Barber - Vice-president**
- Russell Field - Vice-president**
- Richard Lemmer - committee member**
- Hermann Meyeridricks - committee member**
- Hans Vermaak - committee member**
- Barry York - committee member**

Latest News

Conservation Force Chairman John J Jackson III was elected to the Executive Committee of the World Forum of Sport Shooting Activities (WFSA) and chosen to Chair the *Committee on Temporary Transit of Sporting Firearms*.

Proposals to Establish the Spiral Horned Antelope Club

Peter Flack

I was reading Sherwin Scott's article in the December issue of Sports Afield pleading for unity among American sheep hunting organizations, when something which he wrote rang a bell with me. He said, "What members want is to share in each other's company, camaraderie, and swap a few stories whether by phone, magazine, or in person. Of course, conservation and raising money are important...."

It reminded me of what hunting clubs and associations were all about and how this sharing and camaraderie were missing from some of the clubs of which I was a member. Maybe I was partly to blame. Maybe it was that some of the clubs did not talk or write or phone about issues that really interested me – like the spiral horned antelopes which have been such a passion for, and have dictated the hunting of, so many people.

Well, I wanted to swap stories "by phone, magazine, or in person" with people who were passionate about the spiral horns. For example, I wanted to hear from hunters who have had good or bad hunts and why that was so; who had hunted with good or bad PHs and why they were one or the other; who had hunted areas that were producing good or bad quality animals and why; who may have tips for both beginners and experienced hunters alike and, of course, to see their photos.

To test the waters, I first wrote to a number of men and women around the world whose opinions I value, to find out whether there was an appetite for the club and, if so, to ask for advice as to how it should be structured. Some of the issues I raised with them were the following:

Should aspirant members have already successfully hunted one or more of the spiral horns before they could be eligible to join? And, if so, how many? I initially suggested that at least three of the nine member group should have been successfully hunted first. The broad consensus was against this view and people felt that anybody who was interested in the spiral horns should be allowed to become a member regardless of whether he had already successfully hunted one or not.

However, if members wanted to submit photographs of spiral horns they had successfully hunted – something everyone wanted to encourage - it was felt that the animal should first be measured by an official Rowland Ward or SCI measurer and the photograph be accompanied by a copy of the entry form required for entry into the relevant record book in order to avoid subsequent embarrassment or misinformation being provided to members. In the case of Rowland Ward, this form can be downloaded from the company's website.

Should the club issue certificates or something similar to recognize those members who have successfully hunted all nine members of the spiral horned family? For example, called the Full House Award or something similar.

Ditto for those who have hunted all or substantially all

Continued on Page 7

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Continued from Page 6

Proposals to Establish the Spiral Horned Antelope Club

(say 17) of the 21 sub-species of spiral horns recognized by Rowland Ward's Records of Big Game that are currently available to be hunted on license: Bushbuck (Abyssinian, Arusi, Chobe, Harnessed, Masai, Nile and South African); Bongo; Eland (Cape, East African and Livingstone's); Lord Derby's or giant eland; Greater Kudu (East African greater, Southern greater, Northern greater); Lesser Kudu; Common Nyala; Mountain Nyala; Sitatunga (Northern, Western and Zambezi). For example, called the Royal Flush Award or something similar.

Alternatively, should no awards be considered at this time? All of those I contacted were unanimous on this issue – no awards! Without exception, even those involved in very senior positions in hunting organizations, were unanimous that awards were the source of many if not most of the problems within a hunting organization. Keep it simple, informal and friendly they wrote. A place where likeminded people can exchange news and views and seek objective and unbiased information of interest to all those fascinated by the spiral horns.

Should the club keep matters completely informal for the time being or should a rough constitution be drafted for consideration by members? At this stage, most of the people contacted were in favor of informality. Depending on the subsequent popularity of the club, issues such as a constitution and office bearers, could and should be addressed at a later stage.

I have discussed my thoughts on SHAC with Jane Halse, the managing director of Rowland Ward, who has offered the club access to their website for the publication of deserving photos and also Gerhard Damm, editor and publisher of African Indaba, who has offered us space in his monthly e-newsletter/magazine for members of SHAC to air their views in public when they have something significant to share.

In the meantime, I would be happy to co-ordinate the news, views and queries, initially on an informal basis, and look forward to hearing from all spiral horn enthusiasts on anything to do with these quite amazing and challenging animals. I can be reached at peterflack@mweb.co.za

Extract from the World Conservation Force Bulletin January 2009

John J. Jackson, III

The following article is an extract from the World Conservation Bulletin January 2009 – the WCB is published by Conservation Force and distributed as a public service by The Hunting Report*. For more information about Conservation Force please go to www.ConservationForce.org

USF&WS Stricter CITES Regulations

In September 2007 the International Section of the USF&WS adopted 98 pages of what we described as "the most draconian internal regulations of any nation in the world." (See December 2007 World Conservation Force Bulletin - <http://www.conservationforce.org/publications.html>) Those regulations were phased into effect in 2008 and have caused a series of problems that continue to plague the international hunting community. It should be noted that the Bush Administration studied the underlying regulations for almost seven years but ultimately permitted the International Division of the USF&WS to adopt them, over the objection of the international hunting community, with only minor revisions.

The regulations have caused one problem after another. First, the insistence that exporting countries inspect, inventory and validate each item, including signing and sealing, on the export permit form at the time of export caught a number of developing nations by surprise. We have not figured out what purpose this serves when the items are trophies. Some countries had to add the verification/certification to the bottom of the export permits they issued. Many others had to add personnel and the verification practice to their trophy export protocol.

Even today CITES trophies are being shipped separately from non-CITES items because of the need to wait for a CITES officer to inspect and validate the CITES export permit. In the past year, shipments backed up for many months while forms were revised, which in turn caused errors due to the break in regular routines. Shipments were made with import permits that had expired and even without tags being attached or not attached in the new manner specified. (Be forewarned, markhor have to be tagged "through the skin," like leopard, not the horns, as one would expect and is the custom and practice of Pakistan.) The failure to include on the inventory list any part of a shipped animal has led to seizure of those unlisted parts. In

Continued on Page 8

African Indaba eNewsletter

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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.

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

For hunter-conservationists and all people who are interested in the conservation, management and the sustainable use of Africa's wild natural resources.

The distribution of African Indaba is supported by the International Council for Wildlife Conservation CIC and Conservation Force

Continued from Page 7

Extract from the World Conservation Force Bulletin January 2009

2008, the Law Enforcement Division of the USF&WS began seizing CITES listed trophies that were "worked," or considered by them to be converted into utilitarian items and therefore no longer "trophies" according to the definitions set forth in the new USF&WS regulations. The surprise was the treatment of Appendix II white rhino and southern African elephant parts as Appendix I items because they were no longer considered "trophies" and only "trophies" are allowed on Appendix II under the annotations to those downlistings. Thus the basis of the seizures has been the failure to have an Appendix I import permit, though it is not clear if the Division of Management Authority will grant a permit for personal items made from animal parts the Service no longer treats as "trophies." The seizures we know of have been rhino feet buckets and a tail swish, as well as surface-etched or scrimshawed elephant tusks that otherwise are the same size, shape, weight and marked trophy indicated on the export permit. One seizure is still pending but suggests that beautification to make a trophy more attractive is considered to be "utilitarian." Note the USF&WS mandate that the purpose code on the export permit for worked items must be "P" for "personal use," not "H" for "hunting trophy."

This requirement continues to be difficult for exporting authorities in other countries to accept and apply. Even the USF&WS inspectors that seize the trophies call them "trophies." Worse is a problem not yet brought to resolution. The USF&WS regulations now specify that import and re-export permits must be obtained in each transiting country where trophies are being transported through if the transfer is not "immediate" within that country. This is unprecedented. There have been tons and tons of trophies on hold in RSA under customs control/ bond while in transit to the USA from Botswana, Mozambique, Zambia and elsewhere while this is being sorted out. Others have been seized or turned back by US Customs. The shipments of tons of additional trophies are waiting for resolution of the problem before being exported at all.

As Conservation Force begins the New Year with a multitude of tasks and projects for the benefit of hunting and conservation, your continued support is needed. In tough times it is even more important to invest where you trust and get the most for your money. John Jackson was and is the most ardent defender of your rights and has lodged important successes in the past. Please consider that many more issues are to be solved and mail your tax-deductible contributions to Conservation Force, PO Box 278, Metairie, LA 70004-0278.

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News From Africa

Africa/ USA

In this column we report about denials by the US Department of Interior, Fish and Wildlife Services, for the imports of trophies from sport hunted Cheetah (Namibia), Black Faced Impala (Namibia) and elephant (Cameroon and Mozambique). Read the respective country snippets in this column. John J Jackson, Chairman of Conservation Force says of these denials by the USF&WS that "it's unfortunate these suits are falling on President Obama's shoulders. They should not have been necessary at all had the last Administration fulfilled its promises and legal obligations. We have been lied to for much too long. Our responsibility to the natural resources calls us to arms". You can expect to hear more about Conservation Force's pro bono efforts to defend the rights of US hunters on these pages.

For more details about Conservation Force and information on how to donate much needed funds for the pending and future legal fights against unjust administrative processes please go to the CF website <http://www.conservationforce.org/>. You can also read the monthly Conservation Bulletin of Conservation at The Hunting Report – details at <http://www.huntingreport.com/> .

Cameroon

The Deng Deng National Park is approximately 224 square miles in size, which is roughly the size of Chicago's city limits. Deng Deng is the second National Park created by the Cameroonian government in the last three months, and is the latest in swift actions taken to help protect the country's abundant but threatened wildlife. Aside from the gorillas, the park will also shield a rich population of chimpanzees, elephants, buffaloes and bongos. Before these latest conservation efforts, Cameroon has had difficulty maintaining its status as a member nation of the (CITES). The country has one of the highest rates of deforestation in Africa, clearing around 220,000 hectares of forest a year, which has also fuelled a steady bushmeat trade. Just three months ago, Cameroon also formed the trans-boundary Takamanda National Park, which shares its border with Nigeria's Cross River National Park, home to some of the most endangered apes in the world. Meanwhile, Deng Deng National Park is home to the world's most northern population of

Continued on Page 10

Although there is ambiguity in the concept, sustainable use is a key contemporary issue in the conservation of nature and natural resources and critically important for conservation

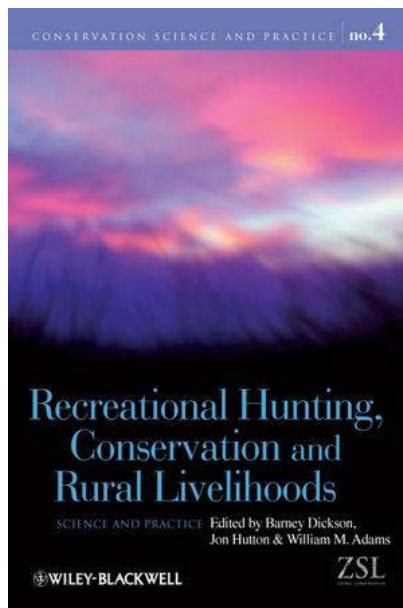
**Holly Dublin
Outgoing Chair, IUCN, Species Survival Commission
Chair, SSC African Elephant Specialist Group**

For hunter-conservationists and all people who are interested in the conservation, management and the sustainable use of Africa's wild natural resources.

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Book Review: Recreational Hunting, Conservation and Rural Livelihoods: Science and Practice

Barney Dickson *Fauna & Flora International* Jonathan Hutton *UNEP-WCMC* Bill Adams *University of Cambridge*



Recreational hunting has long been a controversial issue. Is it a threat to biodiversity or can it be a tool for conservation, giving value to species and habitats that might otherwise be lost? Are the moral objections to hunting for pleasure well founded? Does recreational hunting support rural livelihoods in developing countries, or are these benefits exaggerated by proponents? This book explores these debates about recreational hunting thoroughly, with respect to its history, scale, biodiversity impacts, and social context. It discusses recreational hunting in both the developed and the developing world and brings together different perspectives on issues of science, ethics, livelihoods, policy, and governance. The contributors analyze the major challenges that recreational hunting faces and consider how the practice may evolve in the future. This volume will be of interest to policy-makers, researchers, and practitioners who are concerned with the interface between recreational hunting and conservation.

Contents:

Notes on contributors.
Acknowledgements.
Preface.

Part 1 Conservation and Hunting.

1. Conservation and hunting: friends or foes? N. Leader-Williams.
2. An overview of recreational hunting in North America,

- Europe and Australia Robin Sharp and Kai Wollscheid.
3. Recreational fisheries: socio-economic importance, conservation issues and management challenges Robert Arlinghaus and Steven J. Cooke.
4. The ethics of recreational hunting Barney Dickson.

Part 2 Science.

5. The science of sustainable hunting E.J. Milner-Gulland, Nils Bunnefeld and Gil Proaktor.
6. Guns, sheep and genes: when and why trophy hunting may be a selective pressure Marco Festa-Bianchet and Ray Lee.
7. Science and the recreational hunting of lions Andrew Loveridge, Craig Packer and Adam Dutton.

Part 3 Livelihoods.

8. Sportsman's shot, poacher's pot: hunting, local people and the history of conservation William M. Adams.
9. Exploitation prevents extinction: Case study of endangered Himalayan sheep and goats Michael R. Frisina & Sardar Naseer A. Tareen.
10. Community benefits from safari hunting and related activities in southern Africa Brian T.B. Jones.

Part 4 Policy and Practice.

11. Conservation values from falconry Robert E. Kenward.
12. Gamebird science, agricultural policy and biodiversity conservation in lowland UK Nicholas J. Aebischer.
13. The re-introduction of recreational hunting in Uganda Richard H. Lamprey and Arthur Mugisha.
14. Does recreational hunting conflict with photo-tourism? Richard Davies, Kas Hamman and Hector Magome.

Part 5 Governance.

15. When does hunting contribute to conservation & rural development? Bill Wall and Brian Child.
16. Recreational hunting and sustainable wildlife use in North America Shane Patrick Mahoney.
17. The development of a recreational hunting industry and its relationship with conservation in southern Africa Vernon R. Booth and David H.M. Cumming.
18. The influence of corruption on the conduct of recreational hunting N. Leader-Williams, R.D. Baldus and R.J. Smith.

Part 6 Regulation and Certification.

19. Regulation and recreational hunting Alison M. Rosser.
20. The application of certification to hunting: a case for simplicity Brian Child and Bill Wall. Conclusion.
21. Conservation, Livelihoods and Recreational Hunting: Issues and Strategies William M Adams, Barney Dickson, Holly Dublin and Jon Hutton. Index

Recreational Hunting, Conservation and Rural Livelihoods: Science and Practice Hardcover • 384 pages • January 2009 ISBN: 978-1-4051-9142-5 £85.00 / €119.00 / \$170.00 Order from John Wiley & Sons Ltd., 1 Oldlands Way, Bognor Regis, West Sussex, PO22 9SA, United Kingdom, email cs-books@wiley.co.uk or order online at www.wiley.com

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Continued from Page 8

News from Africa

western lowland gorillas. This good news for gorillas is coupled with recent efforts by The Cameroon Ministry of Forest and Wildlife to collaborate with the Wildlife Conservation Society to finally begin enforcing restrictions that ban the transportation of bushmeat to urban markets.

Cameroon

In February, The US Department of the Interior, Fish and Wildlife Service, made a final administrative decision to deny the import of sport hunted elephant ivory from the year 1998 on grounds that no government sponsored comprehensive elephant management plan existed in the country at that time and maintained the denial. The Cameroon elephant import appeals were orally argued before the director in 2002 by John J Jackson III of Conservation Force. Conservation Force had succeeded in getting the trophies imported in 1995 and 1997. Those denied now are the trophies taken in 1998 and afterwards.

Botswana

Communities in wildlife areas are very concerned about activities of the Department of Environment, Wildlife and Tourism which threaten the future of hunting in Botswana. They echo the sentiments of professional hunters and safari operators voiced at a workshop in Maun in November 2008. Stakeholders complained about a lack of transparency and the need for further consultation. The communities feel that any restriction on hunting tourism would jeopardize employment and skills development. There were calls for authoritative and comparative studies of the effect of sport hunting and photographic tourism on wildlife.

Chad

Researchers conducted two sample surveys this year of African elephant populations in Chad's Zakouma National Park. Both counts indicate that there may be just a thousand members of the species left in this 3,100-square-kilometer refuge. That represents a significant decrease from 2005, when the population was estimated at 3,885. In 2006 conservationists counted 3,020 elephants. After the 2006 census, nearly 120 elephant carcasses leftover from ivory poaching were discovered in herds in and around park. 2007 was the worst year on record for poaching, according to WCS pilot Darren Potgieter, who conducts aerial anti-poaching patrols and censuses. "It was all-out war," he said. "We lost five guards and one army lieutenant, compared with six guards and two regular employees in the preceding 16 years, and hundreds of elephants." Because some elephants leave Zakouma during their winter migration, the 2008 numbers—from both the Chadian government, in conjunction with the European Union, and the Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS)—are rough estimates. WCS will conduct a full census next spring, when elephants have migrated back to the park and its replenished water sources. The organization's director for Africa programs, James Deutsch, said "A thousand is our best educated guess," and "It would be pretty surprising if the number was above 1,500." The 2008 population estimates are based, in part, on reports of poaching and the

discovery of at least 300 elephant carcasses.

Dubai

The International Union for Conservation of Nature and United Nations Environmental Program confirm the Dubai Desert Conservation Reserve's position as the regional benchmark for sustainable development and conservation. This wildlife reserve which makes up nearly five per cent of Dubai's land area is certainly the most actively researched and carefully managed conservation area in the region. The DDCR proved its eligibility as a result of its groundbreaking work in developing sustainable tourism practices, the successful re-introduction and protection of the Arabian Oryx, the Arabian and Sand Gazelles and a wide variety of other mammal species, as well as conducting extensive vegetation surveys and indigenous flora re-seeding programs. Ongoing research projects include a camera trap programme to monitor and record the full biodiversity of the DDCR, as well as supplying data on such locally threatened species as the Gordon's wildcat and other predator species.

Ethiopia

The Ethiopian government has approved an increase in trophy fees, effective February 18, 2009. The new regulations concerning wildlife utilization and sport hunting stipulate increases in government license fees for all endemic species, including mountain nyala and Menelik's bushbuck. The Mountain Nyala trophy fees have tripled from \$5,000 to \$15,000 and Menelik's Bushbuck went from \$2,000 to \$6,000. Licenses on other species have doubled. The fees are effective immediately, although it is reported that outfitters who already paid for their clients' licenses at the old rate will not have be affected for the fees paid. Any fees not yet paid will be charged at new price. The Ethiopian Professional Hunters Association is meeting with the Wildlife Conservation Authority in March and hope to negotiate some amendments to the new laws. (Source The Hunting Report). See also special article on page 21.

Germany/Africa

The major annual hunting show in Germany, the "Jagd und Hund" in Dortmund closed early February with new records. **640 exhibitors and 72,000 visitors had been recorded and business was described as normal and good.** Africa was well represented, in particular game ranches, outfitters and professional hunters from Namibia and South Africa, Germany's main hunting destinations in Africa. The Namibian professional Hunters Association (NAPHA) was there with an own booth together with the Namibian Tourist Board and Air Namibia. Uganda was represented for the first time. A high powered Tanzanian Government delegation was present during the show and announced later that Tanzania considered having an official representation of their Wildlife Division next year

Mozambique/USA

In February, The US Department of the Interior, Fish and Wildlife Service, made a final administrative decision to deny the import of sport hunted elephant ivory from the year 2000 on

Continued on Page 11

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Continued from Page 10

News From Africa

grounds that no government sponsored comprehensive elephant management plan existed in the country at that time. That concluded a 12-year long Conservation Force initiative to establish the import of elephants from the single best program in Mozambique, the CAMPFIRE-type program in Tete Province, established with funding from the USF&WS and Ford Foundation. The Service admitted in the denial letter that sport hunting could have a positive effect on elephant conservation, but maintained the denial giving as primary reason Mozambique's failure to have a satisfactory management program for the rest of the country. The reasons for the denial were not defensible. If they go unchallenged, a lot more hunting is at risk than the Mozambique elephant. According to John J Jackson III of Conservation Force, this unprecedented requirement that has no regulatory basis. The miniscule quota in Mozambique highlights the extreme resistance towards import of trophies from any new area. (Mozambique only had a quota of 12 and wasn't allocating half of those.) The International Division of the USF&WS has outright stated that it is not a public service; it is a regulatory division that does not favor permitting. This attitude is choking international wildlife conservation and it is an embarrassment to the U.S. around the world. The denials reflect an attitude and unlawful policy, not science.

Namibia/USA

In February, The US Department of the Interior, Fish and Wildlife Service, made a final administrative decision to deny the import of Namibian cheetah. Those cheetah were taken on a CITES quota from the best managed cheetah population in the world. It ends a 17-year effort by the world conservation community, including the Cat Specialist Group of IUCN, to establish the trophy import of cheetah into the United States from Namibia. Also in February, the Service made a final administrative decision to deny the import of the black-faced impala trophies from Namibia. It was only a few years back that the Assistant Secretary of Interior represented that the imports were a sure thing and an easy call. This was the thanks for 17 years of conservation work initiated and supported by Conservation Force's Chairman John J Jackson III that has unquestionably been the greatest effort for the conservation for black-faced impala. John Jackson said "it's been undone by an act that doesn't provide benefits for foreign species or better said by those who determine how the ESA is administered."

Namibia/USA

Dr. Laurie Marker, founder and Executive Director of the **Cheetah Conservation Fund (CCF)**, was awarded \$50,000 by the Tech Museum of Innovation at the Tech Awards gala, held Nov. 12. The award recognized CCF's Bushblok program, which uses a high-pressure extrusion process to convert invasive, habitat-destroying bush into a clean-burning fuel log, an economically viable alternative to existing products such as firewood, coal, lump charcoal and charcoal briquettes. Plans are underway to use the biomass to power electric plants to help

energy-dependent Namibia manufacture its own electricity. Clearing invasive bush helps restore millions of acres of Namibian savannah to its original state and improve the habitat for both the cheetah and its prey.

Namibia

The Minister of Environment and Tourism would like to inform the prospective bidders, companies and the general public that due to circumstance beyond its control the auction of nine trophy hunting concessions which was scheduled to take place on the 19th December 2008 at Windhoek Country Club Resort & Casino, has been postponed. The Ministry regrets any inconvenience caused by this postponement. The public will be informed at appropriate time, of any future development. Signed: Kr. K. Shangula, Permanent Secretary

Namibia

Dr Kalumbi Shangula, Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Environment and Tourism, said "The ministry sees trophy hunting as an effective way of harvesting wildlife populations in a sustainable manner and removing animals that are too old to reproduce from wildlife populations, whilst providing the maximum revenue from the wildlife resource". He said trophy hunting can play a beneficial role in Namibia's rural areas as a means of creating employment, empowering formerly disadvantaged Namibians, contributing to the management and control of human/wildlife conflicts and providing meat for distribution to traditional authorities and rural communities.

Namibia

A trophy hunting agreement, valid for three years with an option of renewal, between an outfitter and the Mayuni, Mashi, Kwando and Wuparo conservancies in the Caprivi Region generated N\$1.8 million for the conservancies last year. In November 2008, Chief Joseph Tembwe Mayuni of the Mashi Traditional Authority, and chairperson of the Mayuni conservancy, made a presentation on community-based wildlife management at the European Development Days (EDD) in Strasbourg, France. He said conservancies in Namibia are a dual tool for reducing poverty and preserving natural resources and wildlife in rural areas. Chief Mayuni said the income from trophy hunting is shared by the four conservancies and the agreement was approved by the Ministry of Environment and Tourism. The Community-Based Natural Resources Management (CBNRM) program has led to communities appreciating and conserving their natural resources because they are deriving benefits from them and is aimed at contributing to the alleviation of unemployment and poverty reduction by managing and maintaining our wildlife said Chief Mayuni.

Oman

The Arabian Leopard, a critically endangered animal, finds shelter in Oman's Jabal Samhan Nature Reserve. In 1985, four leopards (two males and two females) were the first captive group to be caught and bred as part of successful conservation

Continued on Page 12

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Continued from Page 11

News From Africa

program. In June 1997, their natural habitat - Jabal Samhan, located in the north-eastern arid mountain range of Dhofar – was declared a Nature Reserve by Royal Decree. Smaller and much lighter in color to its African counterpart, the Arabian leopard weighs between 20 – 30 kilograms. Also solitary in character, the male leopard roams a wider range of territory and the cats mostly prey at night. Other rare species of Oman are the Arabian Oryx at Jiddat Al Harasis and the Arabian Tahr Wadi A'Sreen.

Spain

At the World Conservation Congress in October 2008 in Barcelona the most comprehensive assessment of the world's mammals according to The IUCN Red List of Threatened Species, revealed that the IUCN has confirmed an extinction crisis, with almost one in four at risk of disappearing forever. The new study to assess the world's mammals shows at least 1,141 of the 5,487 mammals on Earth are known to be threatened with extinction. At least 76 mammals have become extinct since 1500. The real situation could be much worse as 836 mammals are listed as Data Deficient. With better information more species may well prove to be in danger of extinction.

But the results also show conservation can bring species back from the brink of extinction, with five percent of currently threatened mammals showing signs of recovery in the wild. The African Elephant (*Loxodonta africana*) moved down from "Vulnerable" to "Near Threatened", although its status varies considerably across its range. The move reflects the recent and ongoing population increases in major populations in southern and eastern Africa. These increases are big enough to outweigh any decreases that may be taking place elsewhere.

United Kingdom



The British auctioneers Tennants brought high class hunting trophies from all over the world under the hammer in November. The superb black rhino shoulder mount (nr 1310) attracted high interest and after a ten-minute duel of bidders, achieved a price of Euro 78,000. The successful bidder came from the Far East and even less attractive rhino horns garnered high prices and went – without exception – to the Far East. It is highly unlikely that the Far Eastern bidders will exhibit the hunting trophies at their homes or in museums. What a pity that

Continued on Page 13

Larry Norton Fund Raising Exhibition for the Hwange Conservation Society

Gerhard R Damm

Larry Norton has been invited by the Hwange Conservation Society to undertake a fund raising visit to the U.K. in March 2009. As a prelude to this fund raising effort, a number of wildlife paintings (not all African) are on offer. 10% of the proceeds of sales of original oil paintings will go to the Society, primarily for waterhole restoration. Paintings are available as soon as an acceptable bid price is reached. Please contact sara@larrynorton.co.za for images of the available art work.

Twelve Original Oil Paintings and two Prints (Fine Art reproductions on Canvas) are available. Reserve prices for originals range between US\$ 3,000 and US\$ 10,000 and for prints US\$ 450 (one limited edition of 700) and US\$ 220 (one open edition).

Larry Norton's web site: www.larrynorton.co.za
 Hwange Conservation Society, www.hwangecons.org.uk



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Continued from Page 12

News From Africa

these superb rhino trophies will most likely be lost to the world and end up in traditional Chinese medicine, despite of the ban for commercial use in CITES.

USA

Emphasizing the importance for continued partnerships and close cooperation among the global sustainable hunting community, Dieter SCHRAMM, President of the International Council for Game and Wildlife Conservation (CIC), addressed the members of the Dallas Safari Club (DSC) at their annual Gala dinner, 7th to the 11th of January 2009. Invited by the current President of DSC, Mr. Bob SCOTT, to attend the DSC's annual Convention, President SCHRAMM congratulated the members of DSC for their outstanding work in promoting conservation and education, as well thanking them for their generous hospitality – of which Texas is so famous for! The Dallas Safari Club has been an active member of the CIC since 2006.

Zambia

The Reclassification and Effective Management of the National Protected Areas System (REMNPAS) project is executed by the Ministry of Tourism, Environment and Natural Resources through the Department of Environment and Natural Resource Management and the Zambia Wildlife Authority (ZAWA). The Global Environment Facility (GEF), the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the Government of the Republic of Zambia are jointly funding the project. In order to achieve effective management of the national protected areas system, the project has three main areas of intervention with the objective to install appropriate policy, regulatory and governance frameworks to provide new tools for public/community/private/civil society PA partnerships; to strengthen institutional capacities for PA system management including enhanced capacities for PA representation, monitoring and evaluation, business and investment planning and PA system planning; and to expand PA management options through development and field-testing of new Protected Area Categories based on innovative public-community-private management partnerships.

Zambia

The Bangweulu Wetlands Management Board has commenced planning its law enforcement operations in the proposed Chikuni Community Partnership Park. A number of Village Scouts under the employment of six Community Resources Boards and ZAWA officers will be seconded to the Management Board. The Board has asked ZAWA to provide for instructors to screen and train existing Village Scouts to determine which are to be seconded to the Board. The Board has submitted a recommended 2009 hunting quota for the Bangweulu Game Management Area to ZAWA for consideration and approval (REMNPAS Newsletter Nov. 2008)

Zambia

African Parks has developed a Business Plan for the management of the Chikuni Community Partnership Park and the Bangweulu Wetlands Management Board for the next five years. A meeting was held in Mpika where 35 representatives from six chiefdoms gave input to the Business Plan. The Plan is now due for ratification by the Bangweulu Wetlands Management Board before implementation. His Royal Highness Chief Chiundaponde has allocated a site for the construction of offices and scout accommodation for the Bangweulu Wetlands Management Board.

Researchers Point to African Wildlife Successes

African success stories show wildlife and people can both win

[International Institute for Environment and Development](#)

The first major attempt in a decade to show how wildlife conservation and sound management can aid African development reveals plenty of win-wins, say researchers and practitioners who will unveil the results today (8 October) at the IUCN Congress in Barcelona.

The success stories appear in the proceedings of a conference held in March, which will be launched at a side event Chaired by Juliette Biao, Minister for the Environment and Nature Protection, Benin, at the invitation of the French government and attended by France's Ambassador, Laurent Stefanini. "Wildlife conservation and sound management can deliver development benefits for local communities in African countries," says Nesbert Samu of the African Wildlife Foundation. "This publication shows what is possible and highlights the importance of sharing best practices between different countries and regions."

This can be controversial. Rich hunters are willing to pay €10,000 or more to shoot an elephant or a mature lion, money that would go a long way to supporting local livelihoods and conservation of these species but which would collide head-on with Western values on biodiversity conservation. International organizations tend to see biodiversity conservation as an end in itself but rural farmers in Africa tend to see it as a means to an end, as an investment that generates income, food or well being. The March conference in Niamey, Niger, was the first attempt in ten years to gather experts from French and English speaking

Continued on Page 14

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Continued from Page 13

Researchers Point to African Wildlife Successes

African countries that are working on conservation and development projects.

It was organized by the Zimbabwe-based Bio-Hub initiative which regional NGOs set up in 2005 with funding from the French government (French Global Environment Facility) to promote wildlife conservation and sound management as a development opportunity and share information between projects in Eastern and Southern Africa. "Much progress has been made in Southern Africa," says Sebastien Le Bel, Director of the Bio-Hub program. "We need to work out how to spread the positive lessons to West and Central Africa, which are less rich in wildlife than the East and South."

Namibia for example has devolved the right to manage wildlife and plants to local communities through Communal Conservancies that now cover 14% of the country and hold 12% of the country's population. Cash income for communities from the sale of wildlife products, ecotourism, hunting and use of plants has increased 10 fold between 2000 and 2006. In 2007, direct incomes to conservancies reached €2.3 million. Meanwhile wildlife is thriving and increasing well outside the borders of Namibian National Parks.

Illegal hunting has been largely eradicated. The total gross value of tourism and wildlife products was estimated at €270 million in 2005 — more than double that of agriculture. Communities spend their incomes on clinics, school bursaries, water installations or support for HIV & AIDS orphans or other measures for community benefit. They also provide resources and support directly to household in well-established conservancies.

For a long time conservation has excluded people and often ignored their rights to land use and livelihoods, such as when they are excluded from national parks. Local communities are often seen more as potential poachers, rather than partners for conservation and development. "A key outcome of this project is that communities can protect local wildlife and improve their livelihoods at the same time. These objectives do not need to compete," says Laurent Stefanini, Ambassador for the French Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

"By showing how empowerment of local communities to directly manage their own wildlife resources can work, desertification and climate change could be addressed in the same way" said Jamie Skinner of the International Institute for Environment and Development, IIED.

For a copy of the report in English or French, please consult <http://www.biohub-africa.org/>

NOTES

Bio-Hub's mission is to integrate conservation and development through a unique pan-African partnership which promotes innovations, transfer of skills, technology and knowledge through incentive based approaches Bio-Hub provides information, technical and institutional support services to wildlife agencies and community based organizations, and promotes best practice through networking and exchange. In

this framework, an international workshop was organized in Niamey (March 2008) gathering practitioners, researchers and donors from 12 African and 6 European countries. This initiative was co-funded by the French Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs, the French Global Environment Facility (FFEM), CIRAD, EU and IUCN Regional Office for West Africa. One of the main outputs of this event was the launching of a network bridging specialists from Central, Western and Southern Africa.

KwaZulu-Natal Hunting and Conservation Society 50th Jubilee around the corner

Adri Kitskoff

The conference centre at the Assegai Hotel in KwaZulu-Natal was packed to capacity as members gathered on 8 November 2008, not only to get an update on the Association and its activities, but also to bid on Ezemvelo KZN Wildlife hunting packages (an annual feature of the AGM). Stepping up to the podium for the second year in a row as President, John Harris re-iterated the Association's pledge to look after all the interests of its members. With finances looking 'healthier than predicted', due in part to the growth in membership, John urged all members to continue with the recruitment drive. 'I challenge each member to bring at least one new member,' he said. 'There are major beneficial and financial implications to a large membership as well as the extra weight of numbers when we negotiate with Government.'

However, it was the upcoming Jubilee Year celebrations and the importance of setting the norms and standards to regulate hunting in South Africa which dominated the proceedings.

Norms and standards

With her cap on as the Association's Executive Officer as well as that of CHASA vice-president Adri Kitshoff stressed the importance of the latter. With 22 member associations and almost 18 000 members CHASA has a major role to play in the unification of the groups (including those with specialist disciplines). 'We can't go into collaboration with others if there's no unity,' she said. 'The establishment of norms and standards as well as standardization of training material is essential for the formation of a Hunters' Federation. There's some hard work ahead but we believe it is the right move.'

Jubilee

Over the years the KZN Association, with one of the largest membership bases in South Africa, has grown stronger and stronger... and is now preparing for its 50th year Jubilee celebrations. Looking back one could only smile as John Harris pointed out that the KZN Association's 1964 AGM was held at the Royal Hotel with a grand sum of 41 guests and three 'no

Continued on Page 15

For hunter-conservationists and all people who are interested in the conservation, management and the sustainable use of Africa's wild natural resources.

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Continued from Page 14

KwaZulu Natal Hunting and Conservation Society

shows'. 'The bill came to R213,'he said, 'with subs at R4pa and a loss at the end of the year of R3'. Guest speaker – AP Austen-Smith, the Association's first chairman spoke about the inaugural meeting. 'There was no big game hunting in Natal in those days,' he said. 'There were also no game farms to speak of – the only wildlife was in the game reserves.' 'I am privileged to have been part of the formation of the Association (in 1959), where the joining fee was two guineas, and Ladysmith was the first branch.'

Although the first committee had no idea of wildlife management enthusiasm abounded. Austen-Smith paid a visit to Oregon State in the USA where he received tremendous assistance from the head of publicity of the Oregon Game Commission – Ron Schaller. In return, Schaller paid a visit to South Africa on the KZN Association's 10th anniversary bringing new ideas on game and wildlife management and the breeding of waterfowl.

What of the next 49 years? Austen-Smith believes that a review on the question of land use, wildlife management and hunting needs to take place as well as the introduction of game to communal areas where traditional hunting can take place in a controlled manner with no detrimental effects.

Two predominant thoughts arose out of the AGM with regards to the Jubilee, namely, 'that we must make sure that we cater to both the members and the broader public'; and that a commemorative book be published (which Cut Papers who print the Nyala News have offered to print as a donation to the Association).

Exciting times lie ahead as preparations for the 2009 Jubilee festivities begin to take shape. Keep your eyes peeled for information as they are unveiled.

The Value in Hunting

Cole James

Every year folks from all walks of life participate in hunting. From the poorest redneck to the high brow elite, young and old, men and women all enjoy hunting. Some are strictly trophy hunters only going for the big buck, tom turkey or whatever their fancy. Some of us hunt for the combined thrill and also the harvest of meat for the winter.

Hunting is a great way to teach responsibility to youngsters. Most state conservation departments require hunter safety/education classes before anyone can partake in hunting. You learn why there are bag limits, weapons safety, why a particular game is in season and what times, and the learning goes on.

As a child I got my first hunting experience at the age of 10. My uncle gave me a quick safety rundown on his .22/.410 over under, which is a great small game and bird firearm. We went pheasant hunting and I later learned that a lot of pheasant hunting is done with dogs, apparently at 10 years old I was the

Continued on Page 16



**INTERCONTINENTAL SANDTON
SUN AND TOWERS
JOHANNESBURG**

**8TH MAY 2009
(see page 18 for exciting auction items)
Endorsed by Dr. Ian Player**

PHASA, with the financial backing from the PHASA Conservation and Empowerment Fund and with the support of the Peace Parks Foundation and the SA Wildlife College is holding the 3rd gala fundraising evening to raise internationally recognized bursaries for select students from all ethnic groups, to study Wildlife Management at the Southern African Wildlife College at Hoedspruit. This college is administered and funded jointly by WWF-SA and the Peace Parks Foundation and trains wildlife managers from all Southern African countries.

**For enquiries and tickets contact Mariaan at
Tel: 012 667 2048
E-mail: info@phasa.co.za**



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Continued from Page 15

The Value in Hunting

dog. It was a lot of fun and as I grew a little older my step dad bought me a .22 cal rifle for small game which I used to pass the time.

At the age of 14, I took my hunters education course to be able to hunt Whitetail Deer. For 4 years I never really understood the complexities of deer hunting. All I knew was that I was freezing to death every year. When I turned 18, I joined the Marine Corps, went off to North Carolina and met up with an avid hunter, who became a good friend of mine. He was a bow hunter and taught me about tracking, where they bed down, game trails and compound bow safety and use. I bought my first bow, and got my first spiked buck.

All these years I have hunted deer, some years produce and some don't, though I still believe Missouri has the best Whitetail hunting. This whole week I had seen a few but none I could get a bead on. On Saturday I had seen a nice size buck about 300 yards away to the east, my stand faces North West. My heart was pounding out of my chest, my muscles tensed and by the time I got situated he was gone down in the creek. I walked the creek for about an hour trying to scare him up, but Bucks are smart, they don't really panic and will lie for hours.

It was ready to go get warm and eat. I was upset, sour and had thought of just giving it up all together since I didn't harvest any last year either but decided to stick it out another hour. To my surprise, about 45 minutes later a good size doe came running through the open field. (Doe are not like Bucks during the rut, they will run like crazy at the first hint of danger and will go across open fields, making them easier targets). My heart started beating ferociously as the cold wind entered my eyes making them start to water, my back tensed up. I followed and with a slow steady squeeze, I dropped her with one shot.

I tagged and dressed the deer. My step dad and I process our own venison making our own sausage, cut our own steaks, loins, and grind our own burger. The meat saw, grinder and attachments my step dad bought years ago were a great investment. You can save yourself around 200 bucks a year or more depending on your harvest if you process yourself. I brought home around 150 dollars worth of meat for the price of about 50 bucks. Even if you enjoy hunting but don't need the meat, most conservation departments work with local food kitchens to take your deer and will pay for at least half or more of the processing fee.

I can't wait to share this experience with my son in the future. The lessons learned from hunting can be priceless. You get to spend quality time with your son or daughter, they learn firearms/weapons safety, and the responsibility that comes with hunting, from field dressing, cleaning/skinning, to processing and there are no video games involved, just you, your kid and the outdoors.

Conservation Force Admitted as IUCN Member

By John J Jackson

Conservation Force has been admitted as a member of the International Union for Conservation of Nature. IUCN is the world's oldest and largest global environmental network with more than 1,000 government and NGO organizations and 11,000 volunteer scientists in more than 160 countries.

Conservation Force's membership application has been pending for several years and other organizations such as Safari Club International have been denied membership on more than one occasion. The admission process is difficult as applicants must document that they are primarily conservation organizations. They must share the mission of the IUCN for a just world that values and conserves nature. One's mission must align with the IUCN's to "conserve the integrity and diversity of nature and to insure that any use of natural resources is equitable and ecologically sustainable."

IUCN has a professional staff of over 1,000 in 80 offices around the world with headquarters in Gland, Switzerland. It holds World Congresses every four years that go on for two full weeks. It works on literally thousands of global projects. No one else can claim that. Its membership is made up of both governments (110) and the NGOs (over 800). IUCN is an official observer at the UN General Assembly and has major commissions, including the Environmental Law Commission, the Environmental, Economic and Social Policy Commission and the Species Survival Commission.

One of IUCN's renowned specialist groups is the *Sustainable Use Specialist Group*. This group originated the modern concept of "sustainable use" that has become a household word today. John Jackson and Conservation Force board members have been on that Group from its inception in the early 1990s. There is no doubt that this modern concept would not have the reach and effect it has had the IUCN not been its birthplace. As an individual I've long served on a number of the Specialist Groups of IUCN, including the Antelope Specialist Group, Deer Specialist Group, and Sustainable Use Specialist Group. Conservation Force Board Member Philippe Chardonnet is the Co-Chair of the Antelope Specialist Group and member of the Cat Specialist Group. The African Lion Working Group that Philippe and I serve on is an affiliate of IUCN's Cat Specialist Group. There is no doubt in my mind that the IUCN is one of the most important forums in the world and our membership will help us further the conservation of wildlife and wild places even better.

This development coincides with the recent news that Conservation Force is one of the leading conservation NGOs in Africa. A study documented that Conservation Force was 19th from the top out of 280 expatriate NGOs operating in Africa and one of only a few operating in the greatest number of countries on the continent.

For hunter-conservationists and all people who are interested in the conservation, management and the sustainable use of Africa's wild natural resources.

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IUCN Antelope Specialist Group Updates

More than 25% of the world's 91 known antelope species are threatened with extinction, according to an update of the IUCN Red List, an authoritative index of threatened animal life. The status of several antelope species has become worse since the last complete assessment, in 1996, the International Union for the Conservation of Nature said. "Unsustainable harvesting -- whether for food or traditional medicine -- and human encroachment on their habitat are the main threats facing antelopes," said Philippe Chardonnet, director of the International Foundation for the Conservation of Wildlife. Five species are in the highest category of threat, critically endangered: the dama gazelle, Ader's duiker (*Cephalophus adersi*), the Saiga antelope (*Saiga borealis*), Hirola (*Beatragus hunteri*) and Addax (*Addax nasomaculatus*). The Scimitar-horned Oryx (*Oryx leucoryx*) is already extinct in the wild, but there are ongoing efforts to reintroduce it. The Dama Gazelle (*Nanger dama*) and Addax are both reduced to tiny remnant populations, highlighting the dire situation for wildlife in the vast expanse of desert and savannah of the Sahelo-Saharan region.

Nearly 70% of antelope species are not threatened, including some in areas densely populated by humans. India, for example, is home to four species of antelope of which only one is classified as facing extinction. "Despite the pressure of living alongside 1.2 billion people, antelopes are doing well in India," says Dr David Mallon, co-chair, with Chardonnet, of the IUCN Antelope Specialist Group. The springbok, a native of southern Africa, is the only antelope species whose numbers have increased over the long term, mainly as a result of the game ranching industry, the study found.

Comments on the 2009 Zambezi Valley Auction

Vernon R. Booth

On the 6th of March the 2009 Zambezi Valley Hunting Camps were auctioned at the Stewart Room of the Meikles Hotel in Harare in an auction conducted by KM Auctions, Graniteside, Harare. African Indaba thanks Mr. Vernon Booth for providing our readers with concise and quick information about the development in this important hunting destination.

Disclaimer

The data presented here was recorded from the information provided by the auctioneer at the time of the sale of the individual lots during the auction of the Zambezi Valley Hunting Camps. These data have not been verified against the official results recorded by the Zimbabwe Parks and Wildlife Authority or the auctioneer and whilst all efforts were made to record the value of the final sale, it is possible that some results were incorrectly recorded. The data presented here should therefore be considered as a price guide and not the official

documentation.

Combined overall total for Nyakasanga and Sapi 2007 - 2009			
Total	2007 ¹	2008 ²	2009
For hunts US\$	\$870 662	\$756 106	\$423 100
For animals US\$	\$403 627	\$326 230 ³	\$130 410
Grand Total (US\$)	\$1 274 289	\$1 082 336⁴	\$553 510

¹ Based on an exchange rate of US\$1: Z\$6,500 as applied by the Zimbabwe Parks and Wildlife Authority

² Based on the Feb/March 2008 Old Mutual Inter-market Rate of US\$1: Z\$70,000.

³ Data for the prices of extra animals sold in Sapi is incomplete.

⁴ Minimum incomes as a result of not including all the revenue from the sale of the extra Sapi animals.

General Comments:

- Auction attended by approximately 120 people – large number of South African agents and bidders
- All lots sold in United States dollars (US\$) following the "dollarization" of the Zimbabwe economy. US\$: Rand exchange rate of R9.78: US\$1 was quoted by Barclays Bank who was in attendance at the auction.
- No lots were reserved for local Zimbabwean buyers.
- Two lots (N4 and N5) were not offered for auction.
- All buyers were required to pay 15% VAT plus 4% administration charges on the sale of the lots. Foreign buyers were advised that they could claim the VAT charges back from ZIMRE upon export of the trophies.
- Bidders were informed by Zimbabwe Parks and Wildlife Authority that no other hunting would take place out of the Chimutsi Camp. They were also assured by the DG that no interference was anticipated from "management" hunting being undertaken by the Authority.
- Other conditions announced by the Director General during the auction were: A successful bidder of two camps can hunt the bag from one period in another e.g. N19 (in May) and N30 (in September)
- The DG agreed to include two extra bait impala with each leopard (Lots 10 – 14) on offer in Nyakasanga

NYAKASANGA CAMPS (Average)	Overall average 1987 – 2008	3-Year Average 2006 – 2008	Average 2008	Average 2009
Mangwande Camp (N1 - N9)	\$8 547	\$15 660	\$12 058	\$4 972
Chibonde Camp (N10 - N18)	\$8 255	\$13 933	\$13 017	\$6 883
Muturo Camp (N19 - N30)	\$6 830	\$13 052	\$15 091	\$6 759
Chikondo Camp (N31 - N42)	\$5 983	\$12 233	\$8 269	\$5 150
Average Nyakasanga 1 4-day camps	\$8 401	\$14 797	\$12 537	\$5 928
Average Nyakasanga 10-day camps	\$6 378	\$12 433	\$11 051	\$5 673
Est. overall total Income	\$6 694 606	\$1 694 183	\$490 899	\$242 850

Continued on Page 18

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Auction Items

A pair of elephant tusks. The last elephant permit taken out to hunt an elephant in South West Africa by Peter Capstick with professional hunter, Volker Grellman. This donation includes a signed copy of the book about that safari, written by Capstick, "SANDS OF SILENCE: On safari in Namibia", a copy of the video professionally filmed on the safari and an array of completely authentic Ju / Wasi Bushmen artefacts presented to Capstick by his trackers. Certified documentation pertaining to the hunt will accompany the donation and a gun slip made from the self same elephant skin.

Buffalo hunt in the Timbavati Game Reserve.

Buffalo hunt and non-trophy elephant (30lbs) in the Klaserie Game Reserve

5 Nights in the Tshugulu Lodge in Mapungubwe National Park donated by Peace Parks Foundation

Plains game safari in Swaziland.

Kruger National Park game capture.

Zimbabwe Parks and Wildlife 14 Day Hunting Safari in the Nyakasanga Safari Area, D Mangwande Camp – Hunt No. N5, Camp Ref: QN 204418 from 08 to 21 July 2009. Trophies included one each: buffalo bull; hippopotamus, warthog, spotted hyena, impala, male and female, Serval and four baboon

Zimbabwe Parks and Wildlife 14 Day Hunting Safari in the Nyakasanga Safari Area, D Mangwande Camp – Hunt No. N4, CAMP Ref: QN 204418 from 21 June to 04 July 2009. Trophies included one each: elephant bull, spotted hyena, impala male (2) and female (1), grysbuck, baboon (4), serval, francolin, dove, Guinea fowl (4). Proceeds to be used to buy training material such as books, computers, lecture presentation materials etc to benefit students training at Mushandike College of Wildlife Management (MCWM).

Ngala Private Nature Reserve to support of the Southern African Wildlife College a package for 4 people for 2 nights at &Beyond Ngala Safari Lodge including accommodation at Ngala Safari Lodge with an option to join the night chorus and eat & sleep out in smart tents on one night, all meals and superb house wines and local drinks in a variety of fun and/or romantic settings, private guide, tracker and game drive vehicle for the duration of the stay, unlimited walking access with your highly qualified walking guide to the entire reserve with options for tracking big game on foot. This reserve is a paradise for rhino, buffalo and elephant. Ngala has some of the most senior guides and trackers in the industry and you are guaranteed an incredible time.

Continued from Page 17

Comments on the 2009 Zambezi Valley Auction

Table 2: NYAKASANGA Trophy Animals (Average)

Type	Overall average 1987 – 2008 US\$	3-Year Average 2006 – 2008 US\$	Average 2008 US\$	Average 2009 US\$
Elephant Bull	\$12 831	\$19 037	\$18 245	\$7 214
Leopard	\$2 773	\$5 176	\$5 457	\$3 000
Lion	\$14 306	\$31 310	Not Sold	\$5 500
Buffalo Bull	\$4 077	\$7 446	\$7 762	\$4 269
Buffalo Cow	\$2 592	\$2 592	0	0
Bushbuck ♂	\$358	\$314	\$233	\$408
Hippopotamus	\$1 594	\$3 718	\$4 007	\$2 000
Warthog ♂	\$285	\$242	\$144	\$294
Zebra	\$665	\$932	\$621	\$763
Impala ♂	\$70	\$116	\$56	\$188
Impala ♀	\$50	\$63	\$40	0
Waterbuck	\$1 084	\$561	\$376	0
Crocodile	\$2 391	\$3 663	\$2 129	\$1 900
Hyaena	\$105	\$38	\$80	\$290
Birds	\$202	\$108	Not Sold	\$500
Est. Total	\$4 377 595	\$1 010 697	\$280 730	\$130 410

Table 3: Summary of Sapi Section

NYAKASANGA CAMPS (Average)	Overall average 1987 – 2008 US\$	3-Year Average 2006 – 2008 US\$	Average 2008 US\$	Average 2009 US\$
Shamoshonga Camp (S1 - S9)	\$8 888	\$13 892	\$10 852	\$5 800
Kamole Camp (S10 - N18)	\$8 227	\$13 330	\$11 602	\$6 978
Kasoma Camp (S19 - S31)	\$7 033	\$10 215	\$6 711	\$5 019
Average Sapi 14 day camps	\$8 803	\$14 244	\$11 358	\$6 555
Average Sapi 10-day camps	\$6 723	\$10 215	\$6 711	\$4 260
Average Sapi 8-day camps	\$4 594	N/A	N/A	N/A
Est. overall total Income	\$5 147 922	\$2 518 257	\$265 207	\$180 350

Note: Average Trophy Animal Data are only available for trophy elephant in 2008. The long term average trophy value for all other species is only available for the period 1987 – 2007 and for 2009.

Continued on Page 19

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Continued from Page 18

Comments on the 2009 Zambezi Valley Auction

Type	Overall average 1987 – 2008 US\$	3-Year Average 2006 – 2008 US\$	Average 2008 US\$	Average 2009 US\$
Elephant Bull (2008 Data)	\$9 587	\$11 829	\$12 167	0
Leopard	\$3 742	\$3 164	No Data	0
Lion	\$7 844	\$11 483	No Data	\$11 500
Buffalo Bull	\$1 674	N/A	N/A	N/A
Bushbuck ♂	\$359	\$476	No Data	0
Kudu ♂	\$633	\$794	No Data	0
Hippopotamus	\$1 016	\$1 561	No Data	\$1 400
Warthog ♂	\$191	\$212	No Data	0
Zebra	\$616	\$735	No Data	0
Impala ♂	\$128	\$202	No Data	\$149
Impala ♀	\$102	\$156	No Data	\$133
Waterbuck	\$997	\$1 926	No Data	0
Crocodile	\$2 155	\$5 530	No Data	\$1 900
Birds	\$274	\$185	No Data	0
Est. Total	\$2 065 362	\$253 947	\$36 500*	\$22 275

A: Total income from the sale of 3 elephant trophies in 2008.

General Observations:

- Bidding for all lots was slow. Some camps and extra animals were put up for rebidding up to three times before the bid was accepted.
- The overall estimated gross income generated from Nyakasanga and Sapi was down by approximately 50% compared to 2007 and 2008:
- Gross income for the Nyakasanga camps (~US\$242,850) is less than that achieved in 2008 (~US\$499,423)
- Nyakasanga extra animals: Gross income also lower (~US\$130,410 vs. US\$280,730).
 - Only two of the five leopards were sold (Lots 12 – 13): rejected bids ranged from US\$1,500 to US\$3,000.
 - Solitary buffalo males continue to hold their value and fetched prices equivalent to a 10-day buffalo hunt (~US\$5,500).
 - Initial bids for elephant trophies ranged from US\$9,000 and were only sold after a 4th round of bidding at the reserve price of US\$10,000. Two lots of trophy elephant were not sold.
- Gross income for Sapi Camps continues to decline year-on-year: 2006 (~US\$443,502) 2007 (~US\$371,238), 2008 (~US\$265,207) and 2009 ~US\$180,250.
 - Hunt lots that included only one buffalo varied from US\$4,800 to US\$9,000 depending on the duration and time of year.
 - Lots S13 – S18 (Kamote camp, 14 days) that included an elephant bull but no buffalo sold for US\$6,700 –

US\$7,750. In contract some of the 10-day elephant hunts offered at Kasoma Camp (lots S22 – S31) fetched US\$10,000.

- The overall quota on offer (both the hunting bags and extra animals) was greatly reduced when compared with previous years. For example, several hunt lots included one buffalo whereas in previous years there were two on offer. The structure of the bags (e.g. 1 x buffalo, 1 x impala, 1 x grysbok, 4 x baboon, 3 x guinea fowl, 1 x francolin and 1 x doves/pigeon) were not attractive, especially if more than one hunter is being accommodated during the camp.
- The auction continues to offer species such as porcupine, bushpig, jackal, baboon and serval (that latter will probably never be seen in the Valley) that do not attract bids and therefore wastes a great deal of time during the auction. A far better strategy would be to make these trophies available (including animals such as warthog and impala) at a fixed rate. The successful bidder can then purchase as many as he requires against a pre-defined quota e.g. 5 impala/camp

Rhino Species

Dr Kees Rookmaaker, <http://www.rhinosourcecenter.com>

The Rhino, officially Rhinoceros, is one of the five surviving species of odd-toed ungulates in the family Rhinocerotidae of the Perissodactyla. The [Black Rhino](#) and the [White Rhino](#) are native to Africa, while the [Indian Rhino](#), [Sumatran Rhino](#) and the [Javan Rhino](#) occur in Asia.

The Rhinoceros belong to the few remaining mega-fauna surviving today and are characterised by their large size. All species can weigh more than a ton with the White Rhino being the second largest land mammal weighing up to 2,700 kg. All rhinos are herbivores, but some are specialised in browsing, while others are grazers. Rhinos have 1 or 2 horns, have a thick skin made of collagen arranged in a lattice structure and have a relatively small brain. Unlike other mammals of the Perissodactyla order the African Rhino species lack front teeth and rely on their lips to tear off grass or leaves while their molar teeth grind food.

Although rhino horn is made of keratin, the same material as in hair, it's thought to be an aphrodisiac in traditional Chinese medicine. The horn is also used for dagger handles in most Yemen and Oman. Because of this, rhino horn is very valuable and illegal poaching has caused rhino numbers to drop rapidly. Also habitat loss has caused most Rhino species to the brink of extinction. According to CITES three of the five species, the Sumatran, Javan and Black Rhino are 'critically endangered'. The Indian Rhino is listed as 'endangered', while only the White Rhino has been saved from the brink of extinction due to conservation efforts. At this moment the most endangered species is the Sumatran Rhino, because of its rapid decline. Of this species only 275 survive, but the Javan Rhino is even rarer,

Continued on Page 20

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Continued from Page 19

Rhino Species

with only 50 surviving, but this population is stable. The Indian Rhino species counts 2,600 individuals, the Black Rhino 3,610 and the White Rhino 14,500. Several subspecies like the Northern White Rhino and the Eastern Black Rhino has been declared extinct in recent years, although some may survive.

Black Rhino - *Diceros bicornis*

The **Black Rhinoceros** is an herbivorous browser that belongs to the order of the Perissodactyla. It's one of the two species of Rhinos native to Africa and its current range includes Southern and Eastern areas of Africa. There are about 3,610 Black Rhino still left in the wild, but it has been estimated that there were about 70,000 in the late 1960s. The Black Rhino has seen the most drastic decline of all rhino species, because of poaching and habitat loss. But due to conservation efforts numbers are stabilising and slowly rising, although tremendous effort is still needed to secure the future for the Black Rhino. There are four subspecies of Black Rhino, but the West African Black Rhino (*Diceros bicornis longipes*) is tentatively declared extinct.

Black Rhino Facts

- Weight: 800 - 1,350 kg (1,750 – 3,000 lbs)
- Height (at shoulder): 1,4 – 1,7 m (4,5 -5,5 ft)
- Length (head and body): 3,0 – 3,8 m (10 – 12,5 ft)
- Anterior Horn length: 0,5 – 1,3 m (1 ft; 8 in – 4 ft; 4 in)
- Posterior Horn length: 0,02 – 0,55 m (1-22 in)
- Lifespan in wild: 30 to 40 years
- Lifespan in captivity: 35 years. The oldest recorded animal lived 44 years 9 months in a zoo.
- Characteristics: pointed hooked upper lip (prehensile lip)

Black Rhino Behaviour

- Black Rhinos may reach speeds of 50 km/h (28 m/h)
- Black Rhinos are usually portrayed as the most aggressive of all Rhino Species
- Males are mainly solitary and probably territorial.
- Female home ranges overlap and are less solitary
- Home range size dependent on habitat, sex and age and varies greatly
- Black Rhinos browse for food in the morning and evening and sleep or wallow during the hottest part of the day.

Black Rhino Reproduction

- Gestation period: around 15 to 16 months.
- Birth intervals per calf: 2.5 to 4 years.
- Female sexual maturity: at 4 to 7 years
- Male sexual maturity: at 7 to 10 years
- Newborn weaned: at 2 years

Black Rhino Distribution

- Pre 20th century numbers: several hundred thousand.
- Current numbers in wild: 3,610
- Current numbers in captivity: At the end of 2004, there were 277 black rhinos in captivity. Through the past 200 years

(until 1998), there have been 775 animals recorded in zoos, of which 292 were born in captivity

- Habitat: grasslands, savannahs and tropical bushland.
- Historic Natural Range: Southern and Eastern Africa (from Namibia, through Zambia up to Ethiopia, and all countries to the East) and in a East to west running belt from Ethiopia to Guinea (Southern edge of Sahara)
- Current Range: In several National Parks primarily located in Namibia, South Africa, Zimbabwe, Zambia, Malawi, Tanzania & Kenya.

Black Rhino Diet

- Black Rhinos are browsers and primarily feed on leafy plants, branches & shoots
- Black Rhinos are known to eat up to 220 different species of plant.
- Black Rhinos can live up to 5 days without water.

Common Names

- **Black Rhinoceros:** The term black was probably chosen to distinguish it from the [White Rhinoceros \(*Ceratotherium simum*\)](#), although the species are not distinguishable by color.
- **Hook-Lipped Rhinoceros:** The narrow upper lip of the Black Rhino is adapted to feeding from trees and bushes and is perfect for ripping of leaves.
- **Prehensile-Lipped Rhinoceros:** Refers to the same characteristic hooked-upper lip.
- **Other names:** view a list of [Black Rhino Vernacular Names](#)

Scientific Name

The scientific name for the Black Rhino is *Diceros bicornis*. *Diceros* being from the Greek *di* for "two" and *ceros* meaning "horn". *Bicornis* is from the Latin *bi* for "two" and *cornis* meaning "horn". Throughout history the Black Rhino has been referred to using quite a lot of different scientific names. View a list of [Black Rhino Scientific names](#).

Subspecies

- The **South-central Black Rhino (*Diceros bicornis minor*)** is the most numerous of all Black Rhino subspecies.
- The **South-western Black Rhino (*Diceros bicornis bicornis*)** is better adapted to dry climates and occurs in the arid savannas. The main difference with the others subspecies is the large and straight horn.
- The **East African Black Rhino (*Diceros bicornis michaeli*)** prefers highland forest and savanna habitat. It also has a longer, leaner, and curved horn and its skin is more grooved.
- The **West African Black Rhino (*Diceros bicornis longipes*)** is the rarest and most endangered subspecies, with only 10 surviving in 2003. But on July 8, 2006 the subspecies was declared to be extinct.

Continued on Page 21

For hunter-conservationists and all people who are interested in the conservation, management and the sustainable use of Africa's wild natural resources.

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Continued from Page 20

Rhino Species

White Rhino Facts

General information

- Weight: 1,800 - 2,700 kg (4,000 – 6,000 lbs)
- Height (at shoulder): 1,5 – 1,8 m (5 -6 ft)
- Length (head and body): 3,8 – 5 m (12,5 – 15 ft)
- Anterior Horn length: 0,94 – 1,02 m (37 in – 40 in)
- Posterior Horn length: up to 0,55 m (up to 22 in)
- Lifespan: 40 to 50 years
- Characteristics: wide upper lip and a noticeable hump on the back of its neck.

White Rhino Behaviour

- White Rhinos may reach speeds of 50 km/h (28 m/h)
- White Rhinos are semi-territorial and more social than the Black Rhino
- Males are mainly solitary and territorial, sometimes satellite males share territories.
- Female are more social, as well as sub adults.
- White Rhinos graze during the morning and evening and sleep or wallow during the afternoon.

White Rhino Reproduction

- Gestation period: around 16 months.
- Birth intervals per calf: 2 to 3 years.
- Female sexual maturity: at 6 to 7 years
- Male sexual maturity: at 7 to 10 years
- Newborn weaned: at 2 months (may continue suckling to over 12 months)

White Rhino Distribution

- Pre 20th century numbers: 100
- Current numbers in wild: 14,500
- Current numbers in captivity: 777
- Habitat: tropical and subtropical grasslands, savannas and shrublands.
- Historic Natural Range: Southern White Rhino subspecies in Southern Africa (Namibia, Botswana, South, Zimbabwe & Mozambique) and the Northern White subspecies in Central Africa (Northern Congo, Southern Sudan & Western Uganda)
- Current Range: In several National Parks primarily located in Namibia, South Africa, Zimbabwe & Kenya.

White Rhino Diet

- White Rhinos are grazers and primarily feed on grasses
- White Rhinos can live up to 4 to 5 days without water.

Common Names

- **White Rhinoceros:** Although its name suggests it's colour to be white, the colour of the rhino is in fact greyish-brown. Most sources will tell you that the term white is derived from the Dutch 'wide', which describes its wide upper lip or wide spread occurrence. There is however no proof of this as there is no reference to Wyd-Renoster or any other name of this kind in literature. It's therefore highly unlikely that the term 'White' in White Rhinoceros has been derived from a Dutch or Afrikaans word. The exact source of the white in White Rhino is still unknown. See [Rookmaaker, L.C., 2003](#)

for more theories.

- **Square-Lipped Rhinoceros:** The wide upper lip of the White Rhino is adapted to grazing and is perfect for tearing of grass.
- **Other names:** view a list of [White Rhino Vernacular Names](#)

Scientific Name

The scientific name for the White Rhino is *Ceratotherium simum*. *Ceratotherium* being from the Greek *cerato* for "horn" and *thorium* meaning "wild beast". *Simum* is from the Greek *simus* meaning "flat nosed". Throughout history the White Rhino has been referred to using quite a lot of different scientific names. View a list of [White Rhino Scientific names](#).

Subspecies

- The **Southern White Rhino** (*Ceratotherium simum simum*) is the most numerous of all White Rhino subspecies.
- The **Northern White Rhino** (*Ceratotherium simum cottoni*) is the rarest and most endangered subspecies, with only 10 surviving in Garamba National Park, Congo. The main difference with the Southern White Rhino is its larger horn, which can be up to 2 m long.

New Prices for Hunting in Ethiopia

Retnuh Acirfa

Hunting in Ethiopia was never cheap, first and foremost because of the high costs of safari outfitting. In the wake of reforming the wildlife conservation set-up of the country the newly founded EWCA, the Ethiopian Wildlife Conservation Authority, has raised the hunting fees considerably. The Mountain Nyala, *Tragelaphus buxtoni*, the flagship of any Ethiopian safari, to be found only in the highlands east of the Rift valley, formally priced at 5,000 US\$, costs now 15,000 US\$. Menelik's Bushbuck, *Tragelaphus scriptus meneliki*, another of the endemics that occurs in the same environment, now 6,000 US\$. In addition, there is a 100 US\$ daily conservation fee, a gun license fee of 100\$, and increased block fees for the outfitters.

Ethiopia is a country with a long and outstanding hunting tradition. The so called "general bag" was never really on offer, but instead highly specialized hunts. The species that attract hunters the most are endemic, which means they occur only in Ethiopia. Two other game animals, Beisa Oryx, *Oryx beisa beisa*, (New Trophy Fee US\$ 2,000), and Soemmerring's Gazelle, *Nanger soemmerringii soemmerringii*, (New Trophy Fee US\$ 2,400) can presently be hunted only in this country.

Yet, for the trophy hunters who want to complete a collection of spiral horned antelopes, Mountain Nyala and Menelik's Bushbuck are a "must".

Well known among hunters of Africa is the great Elephant rush to Ethiopia in the 1980s, which yielded a number

Continued on Page 22

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Continued from Page 21

New prices for Hunting in Ethiopia

of 100 pounders from the Misan Teferi Area at a time when anywhere else in Africa 100-pounders had become virtually unavailable. Sadly, draught, civil strife and resettlement have since then led to the loss of this famous hunting block.

Ethiopia is also the home of the Walia Ibex (*Capra waliae*). It occurs only in the Simien mountains in the north of the country. The last legal Walia hunt was carried out by James Mellon on one of his legendary safaris in the sixties. He hunted with a special license of Emperor Haile Selassie, as can be read in his classic "African Hunter". Since then the Walia is under strict protection, which, as so often, has not prevented poachers to take their share of the rare animals. But the Walia numbers have been increasing in recent years and now stand at around 700. Maybe an occasional special auction hunting license for a post-prime Walia ram could raise some much needed funds of several hundred thousand US dollars for the conservation of this endemic Caprinae species.

In the southwestern part of the country, hundreds of thousands of White-eared Kob (*Kobus kob leucotis*) migrate from the Sudan to Ethiopia every year, in a spectacular migration, only to be compared with the wildebeest migration of the Serengeti in Tanzania. Tiang (*Damaliscus korrigum korrigum*) and Nile or Mrs. Gray's Lechwe (*Kobus megaceros*) follow the migration in their tens of thousands. At the moment there are no hunting blocks in this particular area. EWCA considers however to allow the hunting of a limited number of these game species. Presently the only ones profiting from the no-hunting situation of are the poachers, who kill an estimated 5,000 to 10,000 individuals of these animals per year for the pot. With a trophy fee of 4,000 US\$ for White-eared Kob and 7,000 US\$ for Nile Lechwe these animals could provide considerable incentives for wildlife conservation in the area, especially when some of the proceeds could be channeled as economic benefit to local population, in a similar fashion like the very successful Torghar project for Markhor and Himalayan Ibex in Pakistan. The Torghar example could of course also be applied to the Walia Ibex.

The Government expects that the price increases, recently endorsed by the Council of Ministers, will lead to increased income and thus to more funds for wildlife conservation. The outfitters are of a different opinion and fear cancellations and a decrease in bookings. Especially the hunts on Mountain Nyala might be negatively affected, says Nassos Roussos, the doyen of the Ethiopian professional hunters. The number of hunting safaris to Ethiopia is presently to a large extent determined by the number of Mountain Nyala available on quota. Only few hunters would visit Ethiopia to exclusively hunt other species like Beisa Oryx, Northern Gerenuk (*Litocranius walleri sclateri*) and Soemmering's Gazelle. A decrease in bookings of Mountain Nyala hunts could have negative repercussions for the whole industry and thus diminish instead of increase the funds available for wildlife conservation.

Fact is that there have not been any price adjustments since the reopening of the hunting 15 years ago. EWCA is ready to monitor how the new prices will affect bookings.

Safari za Mwituni A Journey into the Wild *Picturesque Impressions on Tanzanian Wildlife*



German wildlife artist Bodo Meier exhibits his work under the patronage of the CIC at the Zoological Research Museum Alexander Koenig, one of the major nature history museums in Bonn, Germany. His technique was once described in the American Wildlife Art Magazine as "blurring the line", a painting method, which differs considerably from the naturalistic approach of American wildlife art. Although Bodo Meier's painting technique features the subject with naturalistic accuracy, outlines are blurred color impressions with the eye, the face or body of the animal often as focal point. The 40 paintings of the exhibition present 12 years of Africa experience. The spectrum of Bodo Meier's works is very broad: paintings on birdlife, large mammals, especially wildebeest and zebra on their seasonal migration in the Serengeti; the rainforest at the Grumeti River, the landscapes of the Selous, its Miombo-forests and the Rufiji River.

**Zoological Research Museum Alexander Koenig
Adenauerallee 160,
53113 Bonn**

The exhibition will run up to 26 April 2009.

Tuesday to Sunday 10 am - 6 pm

Wednesday 10 am to 9 pm

On Mondays open only on Holidays, otherwise closed

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