

# AFRICAN INDABA

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e-Newsletter

March 2005

Dedicated to the People and Wildlife of Africa

## 1 Lion Workshops and Symposiums

Guest Editorial by John J Jackson III, Conservation Force

Though the African Lion has been suffering from persecution and habitat disruption, it has not been without supporters. There have been a large number of lion workshops and symposiums in the last few years and more are in the planning stage. The **African Lion Working Group (ALWG - [www.african-lion.org](http://www.african-lion.org))** led off with a series of ongoing meetings since its formation. There have also been numerous local meetings such as the *National Technical Predator Management Conservation Workshop* in Maun, Botswana, in 2001, sponsored by the Government of Botswana, Botswana Wildlife Management Association, and **Conservation Force ([www.conservationforce.org](http://www.conservationforce.org))**, and the periodic meetings of the Large Carnivore Management Association of Namibia (LCMAN).

The most important Chapter of *Conservation of the African Lion: Contributions to a Status Survey*, by Philippe Chardonnet, 2002, is *Driving Forces*, Chapter III (Ed note: for a download of this study go to [www.wildlife-conservation.org/index.php](http://www.wildlife-conservation.org/index.php)). It addresses the growing "challenges" of lion conservation in addition to demography. Immediately upon the completion of the study, now commonly called the *Chardonnet Study*, the leadership of the **International Foundation for Wildlife Conservation (IGF - [www.wildlife-conservation.org](http://www.wildlife-conservation.org))** and Conservation Force that had sponsored it, concluded that a continent-wide workshop was needed to bring all of the stakeholders together to adopt and implement action plans based upon state-of-the-art science to ensure the survival of the African Lion. That all of African workshop was planned for March, 2005, but was way-laid by developments arising from the Kenya lion proposal at CITES COP13 in October, 2004. During that COP in Bangkok the SADC countries tentatively decided to hold four regional workshops and perhaps a fifth final all of Africa workshop. Out of prudence Conservation Force and the International Game Foundation cancelled their long-planned March 2005, workshop.

After the fact, many felt that the costs of four or five workshops, estimated at half a million U.S. Dollars, was extravagant use of funds that would better be spent on the ground. African Resources Trust has had the responsibility of organizing the workshops. Now the workshops have been reduced to two, one for West and Central Africa and a second for East and Southern Africa, and perhaps a third concluding meeting. The proposed

dates of the Central-West Africa workshop is 19 to 21 July, 2005, in Douala, Cameroon, and the SADC Region's workshop is tentatively to be 5 to 9 September, 2005, in Victoria Falls, Zimbabwe. Those are tentatively to be followed by an overall African workshop from 7 to 11 November, 2005, in Mauritius. **Safari Club International (<http://www.scifirstforhunters.org>)** is to be congratulated for unconditionally funding the largest share of the costs of all three and leaving the agenda to others. That stupendous contribution once more demonstrates the commitment of the safari hunting industry to the conservation of Africa's wildlife.

Nevertheless the context of the meetings and who is able to attend them is crucial to their ultimate contribution to lion conservation. That difficult task has been assumed by the **Cat Specialist Group of IUCN (<http://lynx.uio.no/catfolk/sp-accts.htm>)** who in turn has solicited the help of the African Lion Working Group. Hopefully the focus will be on the principle threats to the lion, particularly human and livestock conflict and loss of habitat.

It is really not a CITES issue as trade is negligible and there certainly is no mandate from CITES. The objective, one would hope, is to address more crucial issues rather than be distracted. The focus needs to be taken off of the trade and put where it belongs. We must get focused if this icon of Africa is to range widely.

Though the International Foundation for the Conservation of Wildlife and Conservation Force have abandoned their March

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## 2 Namibian Minister Opens NAPHA Convention

**Speech of the Honorable P.N Malima, MP, Minister of Environment and Tourism of Namibia at the AGM of the Namibian Professional Hunters' Association**

I would like to thank your Association, NAPHA for inviting me to come and officiate at the opening of your Annual General Meeting, as I have also been honored to do in previous years. I am very pleased that over the years an open and constructive relationship has developed between my Ministry and your Association. We consider you as an important part of both the tourism industry as well as the conservation and wildlife management sector in Namibia. There is every reason to expect that we would share many objectives and interests. Our respective roles are different as a Ministry versus an industry, but we have much in common.

Firstly, we both strive for sustainable economic development. Namibia is richly endowed in wildlife as a valuable renewable resource. Trophy hunting, I think we can all agree, is one of the ways to use this resource to further the development of our country, and bring economic benefits to remote rural areas that otherwise may offer few other alternatives. I recognize hunting as a significant source of foreign currency coming into Namibia, and an important source of tax and other revenue for Namibia. With the development of our communal conservancy program, hunting also offers an important source of income for those rural communities that have made the choice to set land aside for wildlife. We until last year had 31 conservancies, and a further 10 have recently been approved. I am very pleased how this program has caught the imagination of our rural communities and that such good progress has been made. I am also pleased to inform you that we allocated wildlife quotas, including hunting quotas to 20 conservancies late last year, which is a clear sign that wildlife has recovered in many parts of our communal lands. We expect that these quotas will enable conservancies to double the amount of income earned compared to the previous year.

Secondly, we both subscribe to the sustainable use of wildlife resources, as indeed provided in our national Constitution. Hunting is the result of good conservation and good wildlife management, and it is in our collective interest to ensure that we use this resource sustainably. Trophy hunting lends itself to being a sustainable way of using wildlife, since this form of hunting is aimed at a small portion of a population, typically the surplus adult males. What may seem to newcomers as a complex set of regulations, procedures, permits and quotas concerning trophy hunting are in fact aimed at ensuring that hunting is sustainable. The indications so far are that we are doing well, with some of the most vulnerable species such as elephants and rhinos increasing. We have seen a very good recovery of wildlife in our conservancies as well, but more attention should be given to the management of species such as black-faced impala, lions and buffalo.

Furthermore, I can confidently say that we both aspire to economic empowerment of formerly disadvantaged people and em-

ployment creation through the hunting industry. Several years ago I challenged this Association, which has more or less been confined to a minority of our society, to open up and embrace those who have previously not had the same opportunities. I was informed of what you have done already, and I look forward to the large number of formerly disadvantaged hunting guides progressing to the professional hunter level, but more can still be done. I am pleased to see some of this new group here in the audience, but I keep on encouraging you to make even more progress.

With the hunting concessions proposed on State land recently, a matter which has not been finalized yet, we have from our side also built in strong incentives for you, the existing operators, to make such progress. This has turned out to be more controversial than we expected, but through partnerships with formerly disadvantaged individuals and groups, you stand to qualify for a significant discount in the costs of acquiring a concession. Here I want to caution that we are not looking for superficial partnerships of convenience. I encourage you to bring in partners with a serious interest in wildlife and tourism and hunting. We will watch this situation closely and do everything we can to avoid that anything but a serious effort towards empowerment will take place.

I am very pleased to hear that several companies are now thinking of benefit sharing with their employees. This is a good way to achieve empowerment. Similarly, I am very pleased to hear that several of you are forming partnerships with conservancies; this is the other main category of people that we wish to benefit from hunting concessions. I am fully aware that both approaches have pitfalls, and we must be prepared to learn through experience. We have undertaken to give further advice in this regard, and we will shortly do so.

A further point in common is our commitment to standards and ethics, and compliance with law and order. I am very pleased to learn that you are developing a code of conduct, and that you are taking a strong stand on ethics in hunting and all aspects of the industry. You can count on our support, and I have directed my Permanent Secretary to adopt an approach of no tolerance for non-compliance with our regulations. We don't want to be in a situation of conflict with you, we do not like prosecuting anyone, and particularly this group of people with whom we have much in common.

Nevertheless, as in any part of our society, there would be those that have short term interests or take chances with the law. I call on all of your members to set an excellent example and comply with all applicable rules and regulations. Only in this way can we maintain our high standards and competitiveness as a hunting destination.

Concerning our position in the world of hunting, I was very pleased to learn that at the recent hunting fair of Safari Club International in the United States of America, that Namibia attracted such attention and that so many people had such good things to say about Namibia, and the professionalism of this industry. I believe that we are now one of the top three hunting destinations in Africa, that our prices and products are competitive and that

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## 2 Namibian Minister Opens NAPHA Convention

many people are also being attracted to visit Namibia as tourists as the result of hunting. In this instance I want to thank NAPHA for actively promoting Namibia, also as a tourism destination, and for its close cooperation with the Namibia Tourism Board. I am also very pleased that your President made himself available to also serve from the end of last year as a member of the Namibia Tourism Board and we value his contributions.

Despite the overall good situation that I have outlined above, there are still some problems. We are still concerned about compliance to regulations, with some people taking short cuts or taking chances. You consider yourselves as the hunting professionals and we expect nothing less, namely that professionals will know and understand the legal framework within which they have to operate. This industry can only grow, and it offers good opportunities for those people who make a long-term commitment to a high standard of hunting and compliance with the law in all respects. There should be no room, however, for people who only have a short term and selfish interest.

A further problem is one of understanding. Trophy hunting shares land and space with other people and land users. Some of our public do not understand what trophy hunting is all about, how compatible with conservation it can be, and how economically beneficial it is. A greater educational effort is necessary, starting with this Association and how its members deal with the public. I can only urge you to treat others with the greatest respect at all times, and to go out of your way to portray an image of responsibility, sensitivity and accountability.

Please take the time to explain your work to the residents, traditional authorities, Regional Councils and other tourism operators in the areas where you are active and visible. Be a voice for conservation and development rather than a group of self-interested people who do business while they can and forget about everything else. You have every right to be part of the mainstream tourism industry in this country, and you should pro-actively make people aware of how responsible you operate.

Collectively we are facing another problem of perception, one often heard in debates about land reform. Some people feel that wildlife and tourism on farms takes place at the cost of farming, and may be a threat to our food production. We understand that farm owners have diversified towards tourism and wildlife for a reason of economic returns. Many people are nevertheless likely to remain skeptical for as long as the benefits from this form of mixed land use are not visibly shared with the broader society. We do not currently have a representative body of game farmers in Namibia, but many of you are also farmers and game producers. Let us jointly look again into how we can address these perceptions. In fact, I want my Permanent Secretary to arrange a meeting in this regard with the Ministry of Agriculture, Water and Rural Development, your Association and the agricultural unions. If employment levels are better on farms that also practice tourism and produce wildlife, let it be known to everyone. If game meat can take an equal place in our supermarkets and provide affordable food for the public, let us see what can be done to achieve this.

I would lastly like to commend NAPHA for its new program of support for rural schools. I think we are all aware that, despite the large Government investment in the education sector, many of the schools in rural areas are under-equipped. Some of the poor results of learners can be directly attributed to the facilities available to schools and teachers, and the hostels that learners use. Your contribution is much appreciated and I urge you to expand your efforts.

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## 3 Letters to the Editor

*African Indaba received an email from Dr Jon Hutton, Chair of the IUCN Sustainable Use Group, in connection with the article "Hunters at the 3<sup>rd</sup> IUCN World Congress in Bangkok". We print Dr Hutton's email verbatim:*

I have to take issue with part of your report on "Hunters at the 3<sup>rd</sup> IUCN World Congress in Bangkok". In it you report that a Hunters Alliance worked with the IUCN SUSG and FFI on the preparation of a symposium on recreational hunting, and that the "key objective" of the symposium is to "show all the positive impact of recreational hunting". In fact, a wide range of interested parties attended our meeting, including some which are very sceptical of sport hunting. As to the objective, it is absolutely NOT the case that we wish to show the positive impact of hunting. Instead, we intend to ensure that the symposium takes a cold, hard and impartial look at claims relating to recreational hunting, both **positive AND negative**. There is absolutely no point in presenting a biased agenda and expecting the scientific community to take the results seriously. We will ensure that a wide range of perspectives are presented and the case for hunting will be judged on its merits as never before. The background to the symposium is as follows:

In the field of conservation, few activities attract more controversy than hunting for recreational purposes. On the one hand, hunters insist that their activity is an important conservation tool, and there is evidence to support this in certain situations. Increasingly, it is also suggested that recreational hunting can provide significant livelihood benefits in remote rural areas where opportunities are few and far between. On the other hand, strong ethical concerns are raised about the morality of hunting for "pleasure" while its conservation and livelihood benefits are hotly disputed.

This Conference and resultant publication will for the first time address many of the issues that are fundamental to an understanding of the real role of recreational hunting in conservation and rural development. It will examine the key issues, ask the difficult questions and seek to present the answers to guide policy. Where the answers are not available, it will highlight gaps in our knowledge and lay out the research agenda for the next decade.

**Jon Hutton, Chair IUCN SUSG**

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1 Guest Editorial: Lion Workshops and Symposiums

2005, workshop plans, they and their many partners have held at least eight workshops and meetings within the safari hunting industry over the past few months.

The first meeting was hosted by **Cullman & Hurt Community Wildlife Project** (<http://www.cullmanandhurt.org>) in Arusha, Tanzania, in December 2004. This was followed with a breakfast presentation at **Dallas Safari Club's Convention (DSC www.biggame.org)**; the **International Professional Hunters Association (IPHA www.internationalprohunters.com)** hosted another workshop at its AGM; two were hosted by **Tanzania Game Trackers** in Las Vegas; and yet another before the AGM of the **African Professional Hunters Association (APHA apha@habari.co.tz)**. Finally the last one in this series of workshops took place before the AGM of the **Tanzania Professional Hunters Association (TAHOA tahoat@yahoo.com)**.

The objective of those meetings has been to solicit the help of safari hunting operators because of the unique opportunity they have to save the lion where they ply their trade. Conservation Force and its partners engaged them in the conservation effort in search of the best safari hunting practices and policies, challenged them to help address the real underlying threats to African Lion such as loss of habitat and lion conflict with humans and livestock.

The safari hunting industry is in a unique position to help itself by saving the African Lion, and we are busy educating and arming them to help do just that.

## 4 What I Tell You Three Times Is True: Conservation, Ivory, History & Politics

A new book by Ian Parker - reviewed by Gerhard Damm

Ian Parker, born in Kenya in 1936, left school at 17 to join up during Mau Mau Emergency instead of reading zoology. He became a game warden in the old Kenya Game Department and set up the Galana Game Management Scheme to allow the Wata elephant hunters to perpetuate their culture. This was probably the first 'community' oriented conservation program of the modern era. 1964 Parker left the Game Department and co-founded East Africa's first wildlife research & management consultancy "Wildlife Services Ltd". With this company, Parker undertook the first large scale elephant culling/research programs in all three East African countries. The company was dissolved in 1976 and Parker went freelance; in the course of the years, he worked for 14 different African governments and agencies.

Ian Parker is a well-accomplished author and publisher. His newest book is a heavy affair of more than 400 pages. His wide ranging narrative, part-historical, part investigative and part auto-

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## 5 Crocodile Hunting: Ethiopia

**African Indaba** received this information directly from **Tadesse Hailu, Head of the Ethiopian Wildlife Department**: "The Ethiopian Wildlife Conservation Department of the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development has authorized a quota of 5 Nile crocodiles each for 2004 and 2005 hunting seasons on the extreme southeastern, southern and southwestern shores of Lake Chamo. The hunting zone is on the opposite side of Nech Sar NP and NOT within the park boundaries. The Ethiopian Wildlife Conservation Department confirmed in writing that the area is currently an open hunting area (not yet designated as a controlled hunting area) whereby all licensed safari outfitters have access to the area upon paying additional 10% of the hunting price to crocodile's hunting price, and hence **Ethiopian Rift Valley Safaris** (Nassos Roussos) and **other licensed Safari outfitters** will use this hunting area in 2005 and crocodile products harvested in the area are legally exportable."

**Anthony Hall-Martin, Director of African Parks (Ethiopia)**, wrote in a letter dated 14 January that "Ethiopian Rift Valley Safaris has a properly formulated and legal concession from the SNNP authorities to hunt a limited quota of crocodiles, of a minimum length of 3m, in Lake Chamo. [The] area lies well outside the boundaries of Nech Sar NP in the southwestern corner of the lake. Several surveys have established that this is the largest crocodile population in Ethiopia, and that it can support the removal of limited numbers of adult crocodiles and hatchlings. The granting of the crocodile hunting concession was supported by the Zonal Authority who represents the interests of the local community. African Parks has agreed to work closely with the SNNP authorities, ERVS and the local communities to manage the fish resources of Lake Chamo in accordance with the draft "Southern Nations, Nationalities and Peoples' Regional Government Fish Resources Management, Development and Control Proclamation". Our interest is to ensure that the utilization of the resources of Lake Chamo, be they crocodiles or fish, is sustainable. I have flown over the ERVS hunting concession, and also been there on the ground. I saw more than two hundred crocodiles longer than 1.5 m in the area. There were also many large crocodiles there, and at the same time the Crocodile Market population was at home."

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## 6 Progress in the Central African Republic

*Editor's Comment: African Indaba reported about the anti-poaching efforts of Joseph Blatz in July 2004. We had now access to an article published in Gnewsletter Volume 23 Number 2, Jan. 2005 ([richardestes@earthlink.net](mailto:richardestes@earthlink.net)) which gives detailed information about the work done and the problems encountered. It is encouraging to see that hunters are actively participating in this project and African Indaba wishes Mr Blatz and his colleagues' success. We will continue to report on their projects. (The article has been edited for space reasons)*

The **Central African Wildlife Trust CAWT** was founded in 2003 as a nonprofit Virginia corporation by five men. In 1996 IUCN commissioned **Joe Blatz** to conduct a survey in Eastern CAR. Blatz found that this area was in dire need of assistance to combat the problems created by poaching. He is presently acting as Executive Director of the CAWT. **Robert T. Rushmore**, a BS in Wildlife Science has first-hand CAR knowledge as a worldwide hunter. **Francois Marchetti** has 12 years experience as a professional guide and hunter in the region. He is intimate with its topography, animals and people. As a PH, he maintains a business that supports the CAR. The local populace depends heavily on the revenue his and other hunting businesses generate. He will conduct and be in charge of the ground anti-poaching force. **Mike Casey** is a media relations consultant and currently the President of TigerComm an environmental public relations firm. **Patrick Collins** has extensive Washington lobbying, congressional, and agency experience.

The mission of CAWT is to empower and assist the people of the Chinko River Basin to re-establish and reclaim local health-care, education, security and the surrounding environment that have been decimated by rampant, criminal wildlife poachers.

At 623,000km<sup>2</sup> the CAR is slightly smaller than Texas and completely landlocked in nearly the exact center of Africa. The population is 3,742,000 (07/04). Formerly the French Colony of Ubangi-Shari, the area was renamed the CAR at independence in 1960. The Chinko River Basin (CRB) – with 95,000km<sup>2</sup> four times the area of the Serengeti – lies along the northeast CAR boundary and shares an international border with Sudan. The southern Darfur region lies directly to the west of the CRB. It is more than 750km from the capital Bangui. This territory is known to ecologists as an ecotone: a sensitive transition area where two major natural habitats meet. The rainforest and savannah are adjacent in the CRB resulting in extraordinary biodiversity.

Prior to 1979, the CRB was home to immense numbers of savannah elephants, many crocodile, and herds of hippo and giraffe. Plains game was present in vast quantities. Commencing in 1979, Sudanese poaching gangs crossed in large numbers, poaching commercially with military weapons. They hunted the larger animals into virtual extinction. Initially their focus was on ivory and bush meat; they exterminated kob, hartebeest, giraffe, hippopotamus, rhinoceros and crocodiles. After the plains game was gone, they focused their attention on the elephant population. They are killing every elephant they find regardless of age, sex or

size, for the ivory and the meat is left to rot.

Pockets of all major species of wildlife, except giraffe, hippopotamus and rhinoceros, are still present and could rebound with expeditious anti-poaching and restoration projects.

The poachers invade villages and steal at gunpoint the meager possessions of the people, raping women and abducting villagers for slave labor. The tribes-people have no guns or ammunition and are powerless. The Sudanese depredations have caused many villages in the hunting concession area to be abandoned in the last 7-8 years. Sudanese nationals have also caused the safari companies to abandon their concessions due to lack of game and fear of confronting dangerous, armed poachers. Hundreds of jobs have been lost and the government no longer benefits from the revenue generated by concession rentals and trophy fees. Since the poachers have driven out nearly all hunting outfitters, the infrastructure is not maintained and passage is difficult. The area is totally isolated for months during the rainy season. The tribespeople and wildlife experience a brief respite during the rainy season as the Sudanese poachers do not usually enter the area during this time.

During its first year of operation (2003-2004) CAWT focused on assessing the area and determine the necessary tools for mounting successful humanitarian and anti-poaching campaigns. Rushmore traveled to the CRB where he joined Marchetti at his hunting concession.

The local people welcome a project that would reduce or eliminate the poachers, provide jobs, a school and medical care to an area that has been isolated for eight years.

The fieldwork confirmed that, with a few exceptions, most of the game has been all but exterminated. The only animals that remain are too difficult to hunt or are undesirable for consumption by Muslims. In the former category are the eland, buffalo, bongo and duikers; and in the latter, the warthogs, red river hogs and waterbuck. In Marchetti's hunting concession the most common animals observed were waterbuck and warthogs. Also noted were red river hogs and blue, red and western duiker. Only a small group of cob and one hartebeest were seen. Numerous tracks of buffalo, giant eland as well as surprising numbers of leopard tracks were evident throughout. Lion were also in evidence. At least 4 separate lion called at night near the camp. From their tracks they appeared to be following herds of buffalo. Fresh elephant tracks were observed but none seen. The elephants roam the areas during the rainy season, but retreat during the dry season into the extremely dense stands of forests and bakkos.

By far the most poaching damage is done by the Sudanese, but the local poachers cannot be overlooked. An EU conservation group, **ECOFAC**, estimates that approx. 480,000 duikers are killed each year to supply the bush meat trade. Legally, the locals have the right to hunt without a license provided they use traditional methods such as non-metallic snares, bows and arrows, etc. If they use firearms, they are required to purchase a hunting license. The Sudanese operate primarily in the dry season, local poachers work year round.

Professional hunters estimate poacher numbers in the area around 2-3,000. They arrive from Sudan after Ramadan and re-

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#### 6 Progress in the Central African Republic

main through the dry season until July. Once in CAR, the poachers usually divide into small groups of less than 10 armed men that are undisciplined but highly skilled in bush craft.

The entire CAR military force amounts to 3,200 men, including 1,000 gendarmes. CAR soldiers contribute to the poaching problem as they shoot any animals they encounter for food own since they are not being paid.. The gendarmerie is generally located in towns and villages, while the military operates outside of the towns along roadways. They both set up checkpoints where they demand money or food. They operate without any effective control from the central government.

The roads are either impassable due to lack of use and absence of bridges or their conditions are unknown. There is an unused airstrip suffering at Trois Rivieres which can accommodate caravan class aircraft. New roads and upgrading/clearing of existing roads/tracks will be necessary.

#### 2005 Initiatives

The medical clinic will be repaired and a medical professional will be hired. One vehicle has been budgeted for use as an ambulance. Medications such as aspirin, Tylenol, anti-malarial drugs and first aid supplies will be provided by CAWT.

The existing school building will be repaired and refurbished and a teacher will be hired. The equivalent of a full elementary education will be offered to individuals of all ages.

Approximately 600 km of 4-wheel drive, double track road with prepared river crossings will be developed mostly for dry season anti-poaching patrol and 6 airfields will be cleared creating employment opportunities for local villagers.

A local Home Guard currently exists but has no weapons and no training. Several observation posts will be constructed for use during the dry season. The Home Guard and the posts will serve as a huge deterrent for any poachers. The Field Force will consist of 24 well-trained rangers, 3 drivers and 3 supervisors. Rangers and supervisors will be trained to US Army standards with modern, efficient protective devices. The Home Guard and Field Force will provide security was not known for nearly a decade. The CAWT initiatives for medical care, education, infrastructure and protection will create local employment to restore pride, respect and community to the.

#### 2004/2005 Proposed Budget

An effective humanitarian and anti-poaching campaign can be introduced for just over \$600,000 in the Chinko River Basin, offering these people long awaited protection from the brutal poaching gangs and enabling them to rebuild their community. This amount will also fund the restoration of the diverse wildlife in the area.

After the initial cost, just over \$400,000 will be needed to cover annual operating expenses. In approximately five or six years, it is expected that the local CAR government will be in a position to assume ongoing administration of the program with minimal outside assistance.

For further details go to: [www.centralafricanwildlifetrust.org](http://www.centralafricanwildlifetrust.org)  
or email [slwjhb@visuallink.com](mailto:slwjhb@visuallink.com)

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#### 4 What I Tell You Three Times Is True: Conservation, Ivory History & Politics

biographical covers almost the entire African continent and is written with passion, humor, sadness and frustration. Parker shares his intimate knowledge of the ivory trade with the reader. The Wata elephant hunt – the story the book starts with – makes already fascinating reading.

Parker talks about the heroic efforts of Kenya's game wardens, the Mau Mau insurgency and how the "generals" were later granted Ivory collection permits by the government, he gives his view of how and why Kenya closed all hunting in 1977, and he critically discusses conservation and those involved in it. His remarkable investigative skills probe deep into a tangle of historic events, colonial game management, corrupt politicians in post-colonial governments, the unsavory side of the involvement of conservation bodies and he leads us to uncomfortable conclusions. This book is a "must-read" for those who want to look behind the scenes and you will not put it down, once you started.

400 pages, soft cover, with many historical and rare black & white photographs

Available at **Librario Publishing Company** via the Internet at [www.librario.com](http://www.librario.com) (ISBN Number I-904440-38-X) or order from **Brough House**, UK at Fax +44-1343-850-617

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## 7 South African Draft Legislation: Large Predators

The Department of Environment and Tourism (DEAT) has called for public comment on the proposed legislation relating to the management of large predators to be submitted by March 15<sup>th</sup>. Since the closing date of the submissions is after publication of this newsletter edition we refrain from publishing comments in order not to influence the process. We will bring you a summary in our next issue.

One comment, however, seems to be in order now: Carte Blanche showed another piece on Sunday February 25<sup>th</sup> with some movie footage of a horrible killing of a "canned" lion. It is astonishing that the killer had the guts to show his face! Some sordid boasting of a lion breeder about having sold all his lion for 2005 to overseas "hunters" completed the picture of the "ugly hunter". The entire footage obviously aimed at influencing the public comment process.

The canned lion shooting industry has done serious harm to the good reputation the South African professional safari hunting has earned over decades. It created the perception that South African Nature Conservation and South African Hunting Operators/PHs compromise ethical standards provided sufficient money changes hands. Therefore it has to be put on record that even several years ago all South African hunting organizations strongly opposed and continue to oppose the canned shooting of large carnivores and repeatedly urged DEAT and the provincial authorities to bring it to a halt as rapidly as possible.

## 8 Hunting for Conservation in Cameroon

By Jeff Sayer, WWF

On the edge of the rainforest in southeast Cameroon, Baka pygmies from the village of Lantjoue are having a party. Everyone is dressed in their finery and the drums are beating. A feast of yams, plantains, freshly caught fish, and a big pot of antelope stew is spread out in the village school room. The reason for the party? The arrival of new desks and equipment for the school, paid for by a community hunting project that the villagers set up with help from global conservation organization WWF.

"It may seem surprising to find a conservation organization supporting hunting," says WWF's Leonard Usongo. "But commercial hunting for bushmeat has become such a problem here that we had to try something new to control it. One approach is regulated hunting." Lantjoue is typical of the small communities on the fringes of Cameroon's rainforest. The Baka and Bantu people have lived here for generations, growing crops, working in the logging concessions, and hunting and gathering in the forest.

"The people here have always hunted for their own needs," says Usongo. "But in the last couple of decades new roads have been opened, mostly for logging, and there are lots more trucks heading for the cities. Local hunters can sell bushmeat to passing truck drivers for more money than they could ever have dreamed of a few years ago. This has fuelled a huge increase in hunting, including some animals that are endangered — like gorillas." The truck drivers sell the meat in the markets of Yaoundé and Douala. The trade is so lucrative that it has attracted people from other parts of the country, who now poach animals in the forests. "We tried working with Cameroon's Ministry of Environment and Forests to stop the trade," says Usongo, "but there are too many trucks and too many roads."

The new approach is to help local people manage hunting. Instead of government-imposed rules aimed to discourage hunting for the bushmeat trade, the villagers of Lantjoue can instead regulate their own hunting quotas in a defined village hunting zone.

One incentive to keep wildlife abundant is foreign trophy hunters. Among many other species, the forest around Lantjoue is home to the elusive bongo antelope (*Tragelaphus euryceros*). Trophy hunters are prepared to pay large sums of money for one of these magnificent animals with spiraling horns. These rich foreigners want to be sure that they will find a bongo during a fairly brief visit. If the villagers can guarantee this, then the trophy hunters will come to their forests. Under the project set up by WWF, the villagers must limit their own hunting and ensure that lots of bongos can be found in their forest. The trophy hunters pay a large license fee, part of which is returned to the villagers to pay for improvements such as the equipment for the school. Diopim Akanda, the village chief, is happy. "As long as we can keep outside poachers away, we can find enough animals for our food and still attract the foreign hunters, who pay us more than we could get selling bushmeat to passing truck drivers."

A small group of Baka pygmies have set up a camp next to

the village, and act as guides for the trophy hunters. "The pygmies have an astonishing knowledge of wildlife," says Usongo. "It's fascinating to spend a day in the forest with them. You see things that you would never see on your own; they understand the habits of the animals amazingly well. There are gorillas, chimpanzees, and a wealth of other species to be seen. We hope that in the future, ordinary tourists will come to shoot with their cameras rather than with guns".

Adjacent to the village hunting zone is a large logging concession run by a Belgian family. Manager Jules Decolvenaere has also joined forces with WWF. "We are keen to get our timber certified under the Forest Stewardship Council (FSC)," he says. "We think that we already meet most of their standards for environmentally and socially responsible forest management. We also try to protect wildlife but it is very difficult, and conservation groups will criticize us if poachers come into our concessions." Decolvenaere welcomes the new village hunting zone and supports the WWF initiative. It's also a matter of professional pride for Decolvenaere. "My family has been working these forests for over 30 years," he says. "We are keen to demonstrate that our industry can be good for the forest and good for the local people."

To help the efforts to restrict hunting, the logging trucks returning from the cities now bring frozen meat back to the concessions. Decolvenaere says, "we pay our staff well and we want them to share our goal of being a responsible environmental company — so we practice good logging and we protect wildlife".

Leonard Usongo is enthusiastic about the new developments. "We used to put all our efforts into national parks but it was difficult to get much local support," he says. "This area is too remote for most tourists so the parks don't do much for the local economy. Now we are trying to conserve the broader landscape. "The national parks still exist of course. But now we also work with concessionaires to improve the management of logging operations and with local people to ensure they can get jobs and also continue to harvest the things they need from the forest."

Jill Bowling, who manages WWF's global Forest Programme, believes the work in southeast Cameroon has potential in other parts of the world. "If we want our conservation programs to be sustainable in the long-term then they have to make sense to local people," she says. "Just setting aside vast areas of forest and closing them to people cannot work."

WWF's approach now emphasizes a balance between protecting, managing, and restoring forests — which makes a lot more sense to local partners in poor countries than just protection alone. Diopim Akanda agrees. "All our traditions and culture are linked to the forest," he says. "So we care about the forest — but we also want education, jobs, and health clinics. And if the local economy doesn't thrive then our children will move to the cities and only the old people will stay here." "Thanks to this project, we can find work in the concessions, we can guide the trophy hunters, and we can still hunt for our own needs," he adds. "We hope in the future that more tourists will come and that we will be able to share with them our knowledge of the forests and our culture."

Jeff Sayer is Forest Conservation Advisor at WWF International - *Reproduced with permission from WWF.*

## African Indaba received many encouraging notes in 2004 – here are a few!

Thank you for providing Indaba. It's the best source of "what's happening in Africa" that I know of!

**Gary Smith, Editor, Handgun Hunter Magazine, USA**

Many thanks. It is very useful for us.

**Ali Kaka, Director East African Wildlife Society, Kenya**

I have been advocating a hunting and use-based conservation strategy for India for many years. [Now] I am seeing an increasing number of people ready to listen and exclaim that they had never thought on those lines. I get a lot of useful material and arguments in your journal to support my contentions!

**Dr. H.S. Pabla, Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, India**

Please send [African Indaba] to the members of A.P.H.A. I believe that the African Indaba contains so much information that is very interesting and of great relevance and importance to the members. With best wishes to you and African Indaba,

**Adam Hill, African Professional Hunters Association**

The Newsletter will keep me up-to-date on developments in wildlife management in the region.

**Lloyd Mubaiwa, Senior Forestry Expert, SADC Secretariat**

Thanks for your informative newsletter.

**Rudolph Makhanu, Kenya Wildlife Working Group, Nairobi,**

Keep up all your good work. It makes for fascinating reading and I certainly do use it in my work

**Ashwell Glasson, Conservation Corporation, South Africa**

Thank you for the informative work in the newsletter.

**Kenneth Ware, Forest & Wildlife Management Services, USA**

Very relevant to what we are working with in Caprivi – Community based natural resources management and having communities become more involved in the hunting industry.

**Richard Diggle, IRDNC, Katima Mulilo/Namibia**

What I normally do is to print out the whole news letter, read it carefully and then make sure that it gets passed around the office for key people before it goes to our small library. Here, African Indaba does have a big following!

**Dr. Taye Teferi, WWF African Rhino Program, Harare**

I think you do an excellent job of editing the newsletter. While I am not a hunter I am a non-practicing scientist running a safari company and believe that your newsletter is well balanced and very readable.

**Kevin Leo-Smith, Kwando Safaris, Botswana**

I am very impressed. Thank you so much. This is very helpful. Your newsletter is fantastic. Do you write all of it? What a load of work that must be!

**Richard Graham, Field & Stream, USA**

## 9 East African Wildlife Society

From the speech of the Chairman of EAWS, Dr. Imre Loeffler, at 47th Annual General Meeting held on 19th December 2004

The history of conservation and of what I shall call environmentalism can only be understood in the context of an emotion laden moral crusade, a pseudo religion with strong anti-development, anti-progress, anti-technology notions. The movement lacked philosophy, lacked organizing principles, often even rationality and has broken into many sects that bitterly oppose each other. Conservation was pitted against development, wildlife; even forests were exceptionalized, put outside the mechanisms of economy. By being a matter of faith rather than thought, by concentrating on individuals rather than species, by putting law enforcement above all conservation tools, and by being perceived as pro-animal and anti-people, conservation in East Africa has failed. Those who incessantly accuse governments, the wildlife authorities, the politicians, the "greed" of people, particularly landowners, should pause and ponder the fact that the various environmentalist sects and their churches – the many NGOs – are equally to blame for the decline of wildlife and the disappearance of forests.

The outstanding contribution of this Society to the conservation in the last few years is the rationality of its approach. Central to this philosophy is the recognition that conservation must be incorporated into development and that unless wildlife is husbanded and it creates income it is doomed.

To oppose wildlife husbandry in the non-protected areas is paramount to condemn the game there. Hence wildlife husbandry should be made legal, sustainable, ecologically and economically rewarding. Some will take offence at this statement. Indeed the office is receiving numerous correspondence implying that the Director and the Chairman intend to solicit for the re-introduction of sport hunting. Neither the Director nor the Chairman are hunters. Both recognize, however, that in many countries the desire to hunt in perpetuity has saved species. The Society will continue to debate sport hunting and will continue to monitor the activity in Tanzania and in Uganda. In the meantime we shall advise against the re-introduction of sport hunting because in an environment that is corrupt, lacks professionalism, lacks concepts and mechanisms of supervision, sport hunting is bound to become exploitative and detrimental to wildlife...

### Annual Budgets of Animal Rights Organizations

Animal Legal Defense Fund	\$ 3,208,308
Animal Welfare Institute	\$ 1,260,416
Doris Day Animal League	\$ 2,570,372
Fund for Animals	\$ 7,358,158
Humane Society of the US	\$67,272,795
In Defense of Animals	\$ 2,304,433
PETA	\$16,414,174

... and how much of that is spent for conservation or for the benefit of rural people in Africa?

Source: [www.ampef.org](http://www.ampef.org)



## 10 Tupa Nyuma Hunting

By Ian Parker

**Editor's Comments:** *We must differentiate between the hunt, deeply rooted in the evolutionary history of mankind, and the hunter. The hunt is not a bad thing because some hunters misbehave. And some hunters do misbehave (just like some lawyers, some doctors, some government members, some anti-hunters, some conservationists, in short, some of every conceivable group of people). The percentage of hunting misfits seems to be larger in Africa than in Europe or North America. The reason is simple – because the hunting laws and regulations are strictly enforced there and anyone breaking them suffers dire consequences. What we need in Africa are comprehensive modern game & hunting laws and their strict enforcement. The US Lacey Act and certain EU regulations are useful examples! An internationally recognized certification and standardized norms for hunting operators, hunting concessions and hunting laws would also assist!*

Hunting has underpinned conservation policies over so great a span of history and across so wide a range of cultures that this record, alone, makes a powerful case to continue it. Today, worldwide, it is still by far the greatest use of wild animals which simply restates the case. If illustration in detail is called for, then for sheer scale and an impact on habitats at a continental level, the record of Ducks Unlimited in the USA must be one of conservation's great achievements.

Why hunt? What are its rewards? How does it equate with the injunction "thou shalt not kill" that underpins the modern world's "United Nations" culture? The most fundamental and widespread reason for hunting is still for food. Even where the main drive is recreation, most quarry is eaten. How does killing equate with a general ethic against it? Therein lies nature's great enigma: life needs death to sustain it. That might sound a trifle Irish, but with the possible exceptions of simple forms around volcanic fumaroles in the ocean deeps, all living things depend directly or indirectly on the deaths of other forms. Nutrient chains may have few links, as in active predation, or many involving complex decomposition where plants are concerned, but nothing can change the fact that living depends on death. A great marlin will surely die and why it should be 'right' for a tiger shark to prey on it and 'wrong' for me to do so, is moot. The bottom line, philosophically, is that we are both predators. After that point, views diverge irreconcilably. Suffice it that, even in this soft modern world and regardless of the arguments for and against, hunting is still the most general and powerful force for conserving.

I have hunted widely. As a brat collecting butterflies, I hunted. Still the same brat collecting birds for Kenya's National (then Coryndon) Museum, I hunted. At both levels I did so, not because I had to, but because I wanted to and securing the rare specimen was enormous reward that added to the sheer fun of the activity. Later, and with a .22, this extended to duiker and bushbuck.

I confess that as an adult, hunting mammals for recreation faded away. Taking lion, leopard, rhino, hippo and elephant certainly produced occasional moments of excitement (as does driv-

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## 11 News from Africa

### Angola

On February 12<sup>th</sup>, the Angolan Press reported that "a specimen of the extinction-feared giant sable antelope was said to have been spotted by the provincial director of the Kuando-Kubango Forest Development Institute, F. Dala and a Rádio Nacional de Angola journalist at Luiana Wildlife Park in south-eastern Kuando-Kubango province." Dala stated that "he saw the black antelope during an air trip over Luiana park, totally black and with curved horns" and was seconded by the RNA journalist.

**African Indaba** received an email from **Pedro Vaz Pinto (Catholic University of Luanda)** that there can be no question that the animal spotted from the air was a *Hippotragus n. niger* or common sable, since the observed area has always contained this sable sub-species. Vaz Pinto's statement was supported by a third observer on the aircraft. This witness said "they saw a normal sable and [he was] surprised to see the false news".

The Giant Sable *Hippotragus niger variani* occurs only in Malanje province in and around the Cangandala National Park. Vaz Pinto and his fellow researchers are in fact trying to obtain proof that pockets of this rare and beautiful antelope still exist in an ongoing project funded by **Shikar Club** and **Dallas Safari Club**.

### Botswana

The value of top-of-the-line concession hunts was evident when Rann Hunting Safaris ([rannsafaris@yahoo.com](mailto:rannsafaris@yahoo.com)) offered 30-day, lion-only safaris to Botswana for a whopping \$131,975 at the SCI Convention. The total includes \$2,500 daily rate, \$10,500 concession fee, a trophy fee of \$20,000 and \$10,000 Resource Utilization Fee. Rann Safaris was sold out through 2006 on the second day of the convention.

### Kenya

On 26<sup>th</sup> January KWWG Trust Chairman Omara Abae Kalasingha sent an open letter to His Excellency, the Hon. Mwai Kibaki MP, President of the Republic of Kenya, regarding the **GG Kariuki Bill** (see African Indaba 3/1). For space reasons African Indaba cannot reprint the letter; readers who want to receive it should write to [Gerhard@muskwa.co.za](mailto:Gerhard@muskwa.co.za) for a copy.

Kalasingha argues that "most Anglophone countries in Africa have similar wildlife laws to [Kenya]. That none have such monumental problems as we do, suggests that it is not so much the laws which are bad, as the manner in which they are applied here. Failure to correctly interpret and enforce the wildlife laws is rooted in the mismanagement of KWS. The present Wildlife Act is not perfect. However, with some minor modification, which is what the GG Kariuki Bill provides, despite its defects, it is workable and the Bill will resolve the immediate crises."

### Mozambique

The African Wildlife Foundation and the Mozambican Ministry of Tourism (MITUR) signed a Memorandum of Understanding in October 2004 to solidify and formalize their longstanding partnership to improve Mozambique's wildlife conservation. The 600,000 ha Parque Nacional de Banhine will be one of the top conservation priorities under this partnership.

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**10 Tupa Nyuma Hunting**

ing on Kenya's roads), but it was not something that I was ever moved to do for fun. As a warden where this hunting was routine work, in which quick, slick killing was professionally called for, the recreation did not figure. This is in contrast to professional hunters with clients where excitement is the product on demand. The exceptions were buffalo. Charging around on the heels of buffalo in the densest vegetation in the wake of a pack of dogs was exciting. The victim was never taken unawares, by the time one caught up with it (or them), it was very angry, very active, and recognized the source of its problems as soon as it set eyes on you. Not many of us were engaged full-time in this activity, but of those who were, the number who got 'bent' was high. Only one other form of hunting topped it for sheer excitement and the volume of adrenalin sent flooding through the system – and that was hunting an armed and alert human who could see you coming and was as keen to do you mischief as you were to do him.

Make no mistake: the all-out thrill of hunting something dangerous is the same thrill in all-out physical fighting. It re-appears in highly doctored forms in competitive sport generally. Its great rewards are internal, totally personal and have to do with the psyche. Only those who have also experienced them and the self-confidence they impart can appreciate them. Of course this is why trying to explain hunting on film invariably fails so badly: it is not a spectator sport. All that comes across is killing an animal which, like all death, is a grotty event. I have written the foregoing to make a point. While no great hunter myself, I understand a bit about it. One way or another, I have certainly hunted more than most, and it is from this point of view that I comment below on some of the hunting which is taking place in Africa today.

Among the many impulses that lead a person to hunt big game is to acquire a sense of achievement: to have done something difficult and possibly experienced physical danger. That being so, the modern white hunter starts off at disadvantage. Lets face it, killing a lion or a buffalo with a spear is an infinitely greater achievement than shooting it with a rifle. It calls for greater bravery and physical prowess. Yet, while it is still done widely by black people in parts of Africa, it is illegal and I only know of a couple of white compatriots who have hunted thus. Nevertheless – taking big game with a spear sets the measure against which killing something with a rifle must stand.

This brings me to the *tupa nyuma* hunters. The Kiswahili verb *tupa* means to throw, cast or fling. The adverb *nyuma* means after, behind, at the back of or in the rear of. The *tupa nyuma* hunters are those professionals (and their clients) who shoot animals from a vehicle, drive up to the victim and shout to the staff in the back *tupa nyuma!* then drive on to the next victim. This form of hunting – if indeed it is hunting – must be the nether pole to taking one's quarry with a spear. It calls for no bravery, no physical prowess and, if it induces a sense of achievement in its practitioners, then it merely establishes what pathetic standards they hold.

It is said that 80% of game animals shot in Tanzania, Zimbabwe and South Africa are shot from motor vehicles. I cannot

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**11 News from Africa****Niger**

In September 2004 a team tried to inventory the Addax in the Termit Massif and the Tin-Toumma Erg in Niger. Other species like Scimitar-horned Oryx, Dama gazelle and Dorcas gazelle were also targeted. Dr. H. Planton indicated to the press that a small population of Addax estimated around a hundred was confirmed. Wildlife numbers in Niger have diminished significantly during the last 20 years. Scimitar-horned Oryx have very probably disappeared from Niger; Dama gazelles are on the way to extinction; Dorcas gazelle, the most common in Niger, has the status of "extremely vulnerable". Niger's 1998 Law Nr. 98-07 regulates hunting and the protection of wildlife; however, significant arrivals of hunters from Arab countries and non-respect for the laws on species hunted and hunting quotas are threatening wildlife survival.

**South Africa**

Land claims "could kill Kruger National Park" as African communities dispossessed under apartheid have claimed at least a quarter of the land in KNP, including its headquarters at Skukuza. If all the claims were validated, they "would probably cost the park its survival as a national park and an international icon", said SAN Parks communications head Wanda Mkutshulwa.

**Tanzania**

The reform of the Tanzanian hunting industry was advertised as the topic of a public discussion of the Wildlife Conservation Society of Tanzania (WCST) in Arusha. This national NGO supports sustainable use of wildlife, and the regular public lectures normally cover all aspects of wildlife conservation in the country. However in this case, intervention by the Chairman of Tanzanian Hunters Association (TAHOA) and the Director of Wildlife left the WCST Arusha branch with no choice but to call off the public discussion at the last minute.

In a subsequent letter to all members of TAHOA, the chairman strongly stressed how all members are satisfied with the current hunting system in Tanzania. This is remarkable and contradicts a "Call for Compliance" dated 20 August 2004 that was personally signed by the Director of Wildlife. This document was sent to every hunting operator and PH in the country, explaining the urgent need for the law to be respected. The Director cited problems that include "Professional Hunters failing to pay serious attention to the law, hunting of substandard trophies, disrespect of hunting block boundaries, wounded animals left in the field and the use of unauthorized and unacceptable weapons." (Both letters are with African Indaba)

**Tanzania**

*The Society for Environmental Exploration (UK) and the University of Dar es Salaam* is currently conducting research into the large mammal population of the Kilombero Valley. Estimates suggest that this area contains somewhere between 70% and 75% of the world's remaining Puku (*Kobus vardonii*). The 2002 aerial survey suggests that the population has declined by 66%. The researchers blame the bush-meat trade and increased human settlement. Kilombero Floodplain was one of the finest unprotected

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**10 Tupa Nyuma Hunting**

verify the statistic, but it originated from among hunters themselves. I have personally heard well-known PHs acknowledge that most of their clients' quarry is taken from a vehicle. They argue that as the client has paid to shoot an animal – or will pay the landowner whatever the going rate is for the animal – it is up to him to then take that animal as he sees fit. If it is from a vehicle, then so be it, then it is up to his professional hunter to get the vehicle as close to the quarry as possible.

And then there is 'canned' hunting in which animals – predators usually – are bred literally as domesticants, before being turned loose before a sportsman to shoot. While this appears to be a South African speciality, its apogee was surely that instance reported by *Newsweek* a decade or more ago from the USA, where a 'hunter' was presented in succession with a chained lion, a chained tiger and a chained cheetah, and which he shot in turn. That he was highly excited make no mistake. He fainted three times during the 'hunt'.

Hunters often say that the actual kill is but small part of hunting's thrill. The attraction lies in exercising the skills of tracking, stalking and getting close to the quarry, being 'out in the bush' and the ambience of getting away from it all. However, all this is rendered so much old 'cobblers' when animals are shot from vehicles or in virtual domestication. In all such cases, there is no skill, no tracking, no stalking and the sole ambience is that of sitting inside a motor vehicle. In such circumstances it is obvious that the **sole** reason it is indulged in, is to kill something.

PHs taking clients killing like this aim to satisfy the client as efficiently as possible. How clients can be satisfied by this *ersatz* 'hunting' they must explain to themselves. Suffice it that many are elderly and infirm and quite unable to physically partake in any sport that would entail running. Here note that, like football, mountaineering, or skiing, real hunting is primarily a youthful activity. While fit people may carry on into middle age, these fields are closed to old age. Money and the internal combustion engine give geriatrics access to much of Africa's game: but it is not hunting.

What is all this about? Because, like many of my contemporaries in Kenya, I support hunting as a primary cause for conservation, but I cannot find anything admirable in the *tupa nyuma* hunting so prevalent in Africa today.

The principle that it doesn't matter so long as it brings in the cash, also underwrites prostitution. Pimps and *tupa nyuma* hunters share that in common and it has contributed substantially to anti-hunting feeling in Kenya. Ironically it has greatly diluted support for hunting from those who would otherwise have come out foursquare for it. What can be done to rectify matters? I'm not sure. Perhaps publishing an annual Pimps' Roster of all the *tupa nyuma* hunters and their clients' names in African Indaba might be a disincentive? I'm not so sure, however, because if the hunters themselves don't have an internal barrier against this sort of activity, then they will always be predisposed to continue and hope to get away with it.

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**11 News from Africa**

wildlife areas in Africa. (Source Gnusletter, Vol23/2)

**Tanzania**

Belgian Technical Cooperation plans to develop an integrated management plan for the new Kilombero Valley RAMSAR site. Huge numbers of livestock brought into the valley by commercial pastoralists pose a major threat, however. Exact figures are unknown but could be several hundred thousand cattle, particularly in the dry season. These large numbers of livestock are displacing Puku and other species. Buffaloes that were once estimated at 40,000 now probably do not exceed 6,000

**Uganda**

African Indaba received an email from Tonny Kirungi, principal of the Uganda Wildlife Training Institute. Gerhard Damm met Tonny in June 2004 and held an impromptu lecture about "Conservation through Use" for about 50 students of the Institute. Later **African Indaba** sent 20 books "The Conservation Game – Saving Africa's Biodiversity" for the students. Tonny writes "*this is to acknowledge receipt of 2 boxes of books. Your "Conservation Game" text book is being referred to here as the conservation bible*".

**Uganda**

Uganda Wildlife Authority (UWA) chief Dr. Arthur Mugisha has given notice to resign as the executive director of UWA after having worked in the wildlife service for 16 years in different capacities. Mugisha is will work with Flora and Fauna International, a non-governmental Organization based in the United Kingdom

**Zambia**

The rapid spread of the alien invader *Mimosa pigra* threatens the Lechwe population on the Kafue flats. The operators of the Lochinvar NP lodge have manually cleared an area close to the camp. The Zambian Wildlife Authority (ZAWA) has not implemented any control measures yet. It appears that the problem is entering an exponential phase with each plant producing about 200,000 seeds. If nothing is done, the loss of habitat will have a severe impact on the Lechwe and waterfowl populations. ZAWA does not have the funds or capacity to implement a control program and this would be an ideal project package for a donor organization to adopt. (J. Anderson, [conserva@global.co.za](mailto:conserva@global.co.za))

**Zambia**

H. Kabeta of the Zambia Wildlife Authority expressed concern about government's allocation of title deeds to foreigners in GMAs without consultation of ZAWA. The Lusaka Post published a report that allocating land to foreigners in GMAs causes management conflicts and requested clear guidelines on the issuance of title deeds, since the Wildlife Act has no such provision, whereas the Land Act permitted it with permission from ZAWA.

**Zimbabwe**

The Herald reported that Parks and Wildlife Management Authority has urged farmers to venture into wildlife farming to generate foreign currency for the county since wildlife farming was the most profitable enterprise despite current economic hardships.

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3 Letters to the Editor

In February **African Indaba** has received two letters relating to our article “**Saliem Fakir and IUCN-SA**”. One letter came from **Saliem Fakir, Director of IUCN South African Office**, the second letter came from **Bertrand Baron des Clers, Paris/France, Member Emeritus of IUCN/SSC and former Director of the International Foundation for the Conservation of Wildlife (IGF)**. Readers who have not read the full story underlying these letters should check African Indaba Vol 2/1 (A reply to an anti-hunter).

We publish both letters unedited for our readers to form an opinion

#### Letter of Mr Saliem Fakir

It is my hope that you will publish my response to your vitriol. I am quite certain you have a deep misunderstanding of my views and my position. I don't want to belabor you with its complexities. I want to respond to factual matters in your article. It is not as you say the meeting arranged by IUCN-SA and ESSA was an attempt to corner the Professional Hunter's Association (PHASA) and I sought to discredit the hunting community.

Perhaps you were not informed either that I did not attend the whole meeting. I left after an hour. IUCN and ESSA send out a wide call for participation we do not prescribe who should attend -- we provide a free space for thought unlike your article which seems rather one-sided and fearful of the thoughts of others. I and neither any of my colleagues orchestrated --as you want to put it across--a deliberate attempt to gather the animal rights' groups against the hunting fraternity.

One of the vocal participants wrote me the next day to apologise for making it difficult for me to chair a balanced discussion given that there were quite vociferous anti-hunting voices in the group. She wrote, to quote her email: “*Saliem - apologies for being so hostile to the hunters yesterday, and congratulations to you for skillful chairing.*” Why would she write this if I was attempting to 'discredit' the hunters?

Secondly, we did post a summary report. It's on our website: [www.iucnsa.org.za](http://www.iucnsa.org.za), if you had only asked perhaps your impression of what went on would be more informed and not based on callous ignorance. The purpose of the meeting was to have an open session on what are the main ethical issues associated with hunting. This meeting provided us with a good basis to organize a more public meeting where different points of view will be aired.

Not long before this we also organized a public meeting in RAU on elephant culling--where about a 100 people attended. At that meeting we had speakers from different perspectives, and neither did we go about 'renting a crowd' like you would want your readers to believe. We believe strongly in creating open public spaces for civil debate as they are rare.

Mr Damm I would recommend that you not mischievously personalize these issues and take time to study people's opinions rather than let your bias run amuck.

On the whole I enjoy reading some parts of your newsletter--its pity that your personal vitriol against me and obsession to de-

monize me has to sully the professional stature of the newsletter and your own character. Perhaps one day you will invite me to state my case and that of others, and then I am certain your journal will be more informative and we all will be the better for it irrespective of whether we agree or not.

Regards,  
**Saliem Fakir**

#### Letter of Bertrand Baron des Clers

I have been following in your columns the strange and erratic development of the initiatives taken under the banner of IUCN by the Director of the South African section of that venerable organization. I have found the positions taken by this person to be incongruous and certainly not within the mandate of a national employee of IUCN such as Mr. Saliem Fakir.

I believe that, in view of my four-decade long collaboration with IUCN International and its various Commissions, I am probably qualified to outline for the benefit of your readers what IUCN is about, and how it stands on certain issues such as sustainable use of wild fauna and flora, hunting, culling and conservation.

IUCN is a membership organization, and it is the membership that decides on strategy, policy and the moral code which should be observed in the complex task of conserving nature and natural resources worldwide, while respecting the variety of human traditions and values, recognizing the diversity of civilizations.

IUCN is a tolerant association, more than 50 years old, regrouping governmental and non-governmental bodies having many different backgrounds and approaches, but agreeing on participation in a joint constructive effort to promote conservation. Some years back, it was however decided to create an admission committee to which new members' candidacies are submitted to all the membership. This move was taken to allow refusing admission to organizations which were opposed to IUCN's Goals and Objectives, in other words, which had no positive input to propose, but only negative positions.

Of course, IUCN employees are expected to express their loyalty to the organization they are working for, expressing in their conduct the same tolerant approach. Post-apartheid South Africa is a living example of a multiracial society, tolerant of minorities, which makes it an example for the world.

It seems however from Mr. Fakir's behavior and initiatives that he prefers to encourage conflict and the expression of intolerance of minorities towards one another. This is neither in the spirit of IUCN, nor of South Africa, and certainly does not represent a positive input to conservation. .

We only need to see Mr. Fakir's two recent initiatives, which he justifies in saying that “*We believe strongly in creating open public spaces for civil debate as they are rare,*” where he convenes members of the public to participate in a meeting last November to debate on the “*Ethics of hunting*”. The word “ethics” has been grossly misused and therefore misunderstood: it is defined in the Oxford Dictionary as “The Science of Morals”; it is therefore meaningless to convene to a debate about “ethics” be-

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3 Letters to the Editor

tween people who have conflicting moral values, e.g. hunters and anti-hunters.

The same would be true of a "debate" between Vegetarians/Vegans and meat eaters, unless teetotalers are not invited, and after intolerant shouting at each other (is that a debate?), participants could at least enjoy having a few drinks together. Some religious sects, like the Djain of India, have a dogma which condemns the killing of even the smallest living creature, and we have seen on television how the priests of that sect ensure that the floor and the ground are swept clean of any living being so as to avoid being trodden upon. Nobody has any right to object to such moral values, but when we are informed that the sweeping operation is carried out by slaves of the religious leader, how many Africans would today tolerate slavery as an acceptable moral value?

So, one is left pondering as to why Mr. Fakir convenes purposely such conflicting participants to "debate" on elephant culling, "ethics" of hunting, etc., since,

- The meetings are obviously useless since they can only fail to reach a consensus and have the perverse effect of firing up sentiments of intolerance within society,
- They do not provide solutions, e.g. address and solve the now publicly obvious problem of the destruction of forests and biodiversity in National Parks and Reserves by over-abundant elephant populations in SA's KNP, Zimbabwe's Hwange NP and Botswana's Chobe NP; the only feasible and proven solution being that of culling surplus animals and selling the products thereof on international markets in order to pay for culling/management/conservation costs. Watching the butchering of thousands of elephants, just as butchering of millions of domestic livestock or poultry, are not for the faint-hearted, but if the products of the cull improve the socio-economic conditions of rural people, there is nothing immoral about harvesting elephants. In the case of the NP's listed above, culling is necessary.

The ferocious opposition to the culling of elephants comes from animal rights organizations, whose moral values reject the killing of "those endangered gentle giants" and condemn any wildlife use, regardless of the costs to local people and of the ecological catastrophe occurring in front of our eyes,

So maybe Mr. Fakir is just doing all this to attract attention?

We can only guess that, since the World Conservation Congress of all IUCN members has approved, a few years ago already, first Guidelines and then the Principle of Sustainable Use of Wildlife -- just as international treaties such as CITES and the Convention on Biological Diversity have, Mr. Fakir must be acting on his own initiative, with an obvious conflict of interest between his personal ambitions and his loyalty to IUCN.

I can only urge him to reflect upon this situation and decide whether he wants to go into politics or genuinely work for conservation. The choice is his, but he must make it.

**Bertrand des Clers**

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11 News from Africa

The spokesperson said that "on medium-sized to large properties, sport hunting has contributed significantly to foreign currency inflows in the country," and that income could also be generated from meat sales, photographic safaris, canoeing, and fishing apart from sport hunting. Of doubtful benefit is the statement that a farmer could venture into wildlife farming with a minimum of 500ha. Such small properties would certainly chase foreign hunters to other destinations.

#### **Zimbabwe**

The Parks and Wildlife Management Authority stated that Zimbabwe earned Zim\$12 billion from the last hunting season; Zimbabwe has 545 registered hunters, the majority of whom are white and were taught professional hunting by their parents. The Authority plans to assist blacks to enter the hunting industry. In May 2004, the Authority established a hunting safari firm, Mgun-dumu Safaris, at Matetsi near Victoria Falls.

#### **Zimbabwe**

"Hwange National Park has now an elephant population of about 50,000 (1997: 31,600 - 2001: 44,500). Best scientific evidence suggests that more than approx. 12,000 would lead to a loss of biodiversity. Although the management of the park rests squarely on the shoulders of the Wildlife Management Authority, the power to determine the fate of Hwange's elephants and the park's diversity shifted into the hands of a global public represented through a multitude of national and international organizations that has assumed great authority with little knowledge or responsibility and which cannot be held accountable for what happens. Hwange and its elephants have become a global commons and a tragedy is in the making!"

*Quote from Mike Jones (SASUSG)*

**... and finally – observe the Lacey Act, or suffer the consequences!**

4 US hunters who hunted in British Columbia with an unlicensed guide were charged under the Lacey Act, when they brought their trophies into the US. **The Lacey Act makes it illegal to bring a trophy into the US or across a state line if it was taken in violation of local law.** Darren Leggett was sentenced to 4 months home confinement, 2 years probation, fined \$10,000 and forced to pay \$20,000 restitution to USF&W. A Dakota rifle and a mounted stone sheep were forfeited. In BC he was fined C\$5,850 and received a 5-year Canada-wide ban on hunting. Bret Roderick got a \$30,000 fine and a 6-year hunting ban. He forfeited a Dakota arms rifle and a mounted mountain goat. Larry Pagel and Fred Souders each got a \$18,000 fine. Saulnier, the unlicensed Canadian outfitter/guide was given the harshest sentence ever issued in BC for illegal hunting activities. After pleading guilty to 22 counts of violating wildlife statutes, he was sentenced to 6 months prison, fined C\$20,000 and banned from hunting anywhere in Canada for 10 years. This includes a ban on possessing wildlife, firearms and archery equipment. A second Canadian, Kirk Porayko was sentenced to pay C\$8,000, forfeited his rifle on top of 5-year hunting ban. Source: **Hunting Report** ([mail@huntingreport.com](mailto:mail@huntingreport.com))

# 12 Africa's Contribution to Convention Auctions

By Gerhard R Damm

Donations Africa	US 2005 Donor Valuation	% of 2005 Total	US 2004 Donor Valuation	% of 2004 Total
Cameroon	\$59,000	2.3%	\$50,600	1.7%
Central African Republic	\$42,000	1.6%	\$13,000	0.4%
Botswana	\$104,250	4.0%	\$77,600	2.6%
DR Congo	\$32,880	1.3%	\$0	0.0%
Ethiopia	\$14,500	0.6%	\$28,350	1.0%
Mozambique	\$49,050	1.9%	\$22,280	0.7%
Namibia	\$73,045	2.8%	\$60,580	2.0%
South Africa	\$426,001	16.3%	\$544,062	18.3%
Tanzania	\$113,220	4.3%	\$123,244	4.1%
Zambia	\$10,550	0.4%	\$22,700	0.8%
Zimbabwe	\$93,146	3.6%	\$15,100	0.5%
<b>Total Africa</b>	<b>\$1,017,642</b>	<b>38.9%</b>	<b>\$957,516</b>	<b>32.2%</b>
Donations other Continents	US\$ 2005 Donor Valuation	% of 2005 Total	US 2004 Donor Valuation	% of 2004 Total
Austria	\$34,800	1.3%		
Russia	\$30,350	1.2%		
Spain	\$110,250	4.2%		
Turkey	\$13,250	0.5%		
Greenland	\$8,150	0.3%		
United Kingdom	\$12,000	0.5%		
<b>Total Europe</b>	<b>\$208,800</b>	<b>8.0%</b>	<b>\$243,015</b>	<b>8.2%</b>
Mongolia	\$5,400	0.21%		
Australia	\$98,645	3.77%		
New Zealand	\$210,730	8.06%		
<b>Total Asia/Pacific</b>	<b>\$314,775</b>	<b>12.0%</b>	<b>\$451,460</b>	<b>15.2%</b>
Argentina	\$304,470	11.65%		
Mexico	\$86,010	3.29%		
Panama	\$9,145	0.35%		
Costa Rica	\$2,675	0.10%		
Brazil	\$10,000	0.38%		
Paraguay	\$5,500	0.21%		
<b>Total South/Central America</b>	<b>\$417,800</b>	<b>16.0%</b>	<b>\$422,207</b>	<b>14.2%</b>
United States	\$500,797	19.16%	\$637,588	21.44%
Canada	\$154,124	5.90%	\$261,357	8.79%
<b>Total North America</b>	<b>\$654,921</b>	<b>25.1%</b>	<b>\$898,945</b>	<b>30.2%</b>
<b>Total Other Continents (excl. Africa)</b>	<b>\$1,596,296</b>	<b>61.1%</b>	<b>\$2,015,627</b>	<b>67.8%</b>
<b>Total All Continents</b>	<b>\$2,613,938</b>	<b>100.00%</b>	<b>\$2,973,143</b>	<b>100.0%</b>
<b>% Variation of Total 2005/2004</b>		<b>(-12.082%)</b>		

As in 2003 and 2004, African Indaba has analyzed the hunting donations for the **SCI Annual Convention 2005**. The total value of hunts donated by African outfitters and professional hunters again far surpasses those of other continents. Despite of the depreciating US currency, the African Professional Hunting community again used the annual SCI marketplace to showcase their hunts. The total donor-valuated African hunts at SCI's auction surpassed the 2004 total by about 60,000 dollars and climbed over the one million dollar mark. However, the effect of the depreciating dollar on the livelihoods of the African Professional Hunting community cannot be overemphasized. In their respective "home currency" – SA Rand, Namibian Dollars, Pula, Shillings, etc. – all suffered serious economic setbacks.

Africa's contribution to the total (hunting) auction valuation increased to 38.9% (2004: 32.2%). South Africa's Rand/Dollar exchange rate obviously have hit the local hunting industry especially hard, since the total value of South African donations dropped from \$544,000 in 2004 to \$426,000 in 2005. Nevertheless, it almost matched the donations originating from the United States. The US outfitter-donated hunts reached \$500,000 (2004: \$637,000). The USA narrowly defended 1<sup>st</sup> place with a share of 19.2% of the total, followed by South Africa with 16.3%, Argentina with 11.7% and New Zealand with 8.6%

Comparing the continents it is notable that the overall donor-valuated hunts for auctions at SCI 2005 sum up to \$360,000 less (12.1%) than 2004. Europe reduced its donations by \$34,000, Asia Pacific by \$137,000, South America by \$5,000 and North America by \$244,000 – **Africa was the only continent to increase by \$60,000!**

Other articles, products and services on auction at SCI included art, firearms, books, clothing, equipment, furniture, jewelry, etc. We did not evaluate these items in 2004. Their total for 2005 exceeds 1.6 million dollars (donor valuated). We have also not analyzed the origin (country) of these donations, but assume that the majority comes from within the USA.

African safari operators also donate hunts and safaris of substantial value to **Dallas Safari Club, Houston Safari Club**, to the **Foundation of North American Wild Sheep** – and many **SCI chapters** for fundraising purposes. In total, the African donation values for all these organizations, inclusive of SCI, are estimated to surpass again the 2.5 million dollar mark in 2005. **The importance of the outfitters and safari operators from the African continent for the budgets of American hunting organizations is undeniable**, even when bearing in mind that the outfitters retain a certain percentage of the overall auction proceeds (some donations are for 100% of the value of the auction proceeds).

When evaluating the figures one has to take into account, however that the actual auction results often do not meet the donor valuations. This fact has repeatedly prompted comments from safari operators that an "inflation" of auction hunts is very often damaging their marketing efforts in as much as the convention participants look only for below market price bargain hunts. **African Indaba** therefore repeats the suggestion that there is a need to apply a stricter reserve price policy on auctioned safaris in or-

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# 13 NAPHA Annual General Meeting

By Joof Lamprecht Jr. (NAPHA Executive Committee)

The 31<sup>st</sup> **Namibia Professional Hunting Association (NAPHA)** AGM was held at the Windhoek Country Club Resort on February 16<sup>th</sup> & in Windhoek, Namibia. The opening session was a grand affair. It was attended by almost 300, with the special guests in attendance: The Honorable Philemon Malima, Minister of Environment and Tourism (MET), the Permanent Secretary of MET, Dr. Malan Lindeque, Mrs. Jackie Asheeke, CEO of the Federation of Namibian Tourism Associations (FENATA), Mr. Charlie Kokesh, CEO of Dakota Arms, USA and delegations from Dallas Safari Club, Conservation Force, Safari Club International and PHASA. Minister Philemon Malima opened the AGM with very positive words. He praised NAPHA for the ongoing good work as well as the friendly and open relationship with MET. He discussed the future objectives of MET, with education and empowerment being at the forefront of his efforts. Charlie Kokesh of Dakota Arms, the main sponsor for the NAPHA AGM, addressed the issue of "How does the USA see Namibia as a hunting destination", stressing the importance of big game hunting as well as the black rhino for hunters from the US. Jackie Asheeke followed discussing 'How does hunting compliment tourism', a humorous presentation of the important roles consumptive and non-consumptive tourism play in Namibia's tourism.

The prestigious "**Most Active NAPHA Member Award**" was awarded to **Volker Grellmann**, for his lifelong commitment not only to Namibia, but NAPHA, specifically in the fields of education and big game hunting. **Dr. Pauline Lindique** was recognized as "**Conservationist of the Year**" for her tireless efforts at CITES to ensure approval of a quota for trophy hunted black rhino.

**Dallas Safari Club** has in the last year donated US\$10,000 to NAPHA's "Hunters Support Education Program", a program that supports rural schools. Supplies such as books, copy-machines, mattresses, cleaning materials are just some of the goods that were presented to various schools across the country. **Safari Club International** donated US\$2,500 and **SCI Bavarian Chapter** US\$1,300 towards this project. A local fishing operator generously donated N\$10,000. The NAPHA medal program raised a further N\$30,000 towards this important social responsibility program. For each NAPHA medal sold to visiting hunters N\$10 go towards the program. More information about the Hunters Support Education project can be obtained at the NAPHA ([napha@natron.net](mailto:napha@natron.net) or [napha@iwwn.com.na](mailto:napha@iwwn.com.na))

After the grand opening, closed committee & working sessions followed. The following main topics were discussed:

- **NAPHA Sub-committees**

**Carnivore:** New CITES leopard quota of 250 up from 150; proposed guidelines for hunting leopard with dogs were forwarded to MET.

**Bow Hunting:** Offered two bow hunting guide courses for NAPHA members in 2004, 26 participants successfully completed the course. A new policy document was created pertaining to bow

hunting laws in Namibia; this document will be finalized in 2005 and forwarded to MET.

**Education:** The NAPHA Camp Attendant Workshop was successfully launched in 2004. This project is to train camp staff in the hunting community. The second workshop was held in February 2005. A successful 2-day workshop was held for Hunting Assistants, Camp Attendants and New Members in 2004, with various lecture topics. A Hunting Guide course was again offered for Previously Disadvantaged People, which was a well attended and delivered excellent results.

**Big Game:** All Big Game Professional Hunters in Namibia were consulted on a strategy for big game hunting in Namibia. A document was prepared and successfully presented to MET. This document will be used by MET when setting the new rules and conditions for the new Government Concessions, expected to be auctioned in the second quarter of 2005, for hunting to start in the 2006 season.

**Meetings with MET:** Regular meetings took place with various officials. The cooperation we receive from the Ministry is commendable and is being maintained. In many cases NAPHA is consulted on various issues and the association is being considered as a credit worthy and professional organization. In summary the following issues were addressed and pursued with MET: Discipline within the hunting industry; government hunting concessions and their future; education matters; various legal issues.

**Airlines:** NAPHA is continually in contact with various airlines to obtain information regarding baggage and rifle transportation.

**Namibia Tourism Board (NTB):** Regulations were gazetted for all Trophy Hunting Operators, with operators having to register their operations with the NTB. The NTB is committed to promoting the Namibian hunting industry worldwide.

**Namibia Agricultural Union (NAU):** NAPHA is affiliated to the NAU, who is very involved in establishing land reform policies for Namibia, and ensuring that the reform policies are inline with the constitution of the country. Internationally NAPHA has been actively correcting misconceptions surrounding the sensitive issue of land reform.

**FENATA:** The main issues that were supported by FENATA were rifle import regulations into SADC countries; regulations of foreign exchange; eco-rating system for tourism enterprises; operational elements like crime control, VAT refund, passport control etc. FENATA hosted a tourism forum to establish a transformation charter on Broad-based Black Economic Empowerment (BBEE)

**Windhoek International Airport:** It was noted that the firearm import control at the airport is stable and passport procedures control are improving since FENATA addressed the issue.

**PHASA:** The relationship and cooperation with PHASA is very good and worth mentioning. Close cooperation took place, especially on rifle import regulations into South Africa

**NAPHA Code of Conduct:** NAPHA is in the final stages of establishing our Code of Conduct.

**Membership Status:** NAPHA's membership stands just under 500 members in all categories.

**Public Relations and Marketing:** NAPHA attended the following shows in 2004 and 2005: Dallas Safari Club, Safari Club Interna-

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13 NAPHA Annual General Meeting

tional and Dortmund Jagd & Hund

**Statistics from MET:** In the 2003 season 4778 hunters from 71 counties visited Namibia. The top 4 countries of origin were Germany, USA, Austria and France. This represents a slight decrease of 0.8% compared to 2002.

In closed session, the following points were discussed:

**Motions:** The issue of problem lions around Etosha National Park was discussed. This issue will be addressed in the year to come. Hunting predators with hounds was discussed at length. A sub-committee was created to formulate a proposal for MET.

**General points of interest:** Funding was approved, as well as an increase in membership fees in order to employ a full time CEO for NAPHA. Frank Heger (President), Joof Lamprecht Jr and Winfred Dornhofer have 1 year of service on the Executive Committee; Danie Strauss and Diethelm Metzgar were voted in as new NAPHA EC members

The AGM was productive and positive; many decisions to improve hunting in Namibia for the year to come were made. NAPHA will continue to be proactive and hard working in 2005, and we wish all hunters and hunting professionals a successful year ahead.

**Latest: We have just been informed that Frank Heger resigned as president of NAPHA effective 01. March 2005**

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12 Africa's Contribution to Convention Auctions

der to avoid selling valuable safaris at below-cost-prices and thereby compromising buyer/seller relations before and during a safari.

Hunting operators from all over the world make their donations for business reasons; they want to get PR exposure with the convention participants. Nevertheless, the generosity of Africa's professional hunters and safari outfitters is not reflected adequately in "what Africa gets back". A lot of dollars which find their way into African conservation projects, African hunting advocacy and African PR-work are, in my opinion, often spent without coordination and without seeing "the bigger picture".

I have mentioned in articles published in **African Indaba** that I perceive a lack of (or will for) coordination between the large North American hunting organizations. Narrow-minded egotistical reasons and possibly also individual personal short-sightedness still prevent a desirable large scale co-operation of the world-wide hunting community in Africa and elsewhere. It is high time for a change – the antis are showing us how! Africa is the economically poorest continent; therefore **African "incentive based conservation" must be made the joint objective of a worldwide Hunters' Alliance along a coordinated plan, a clear road map and cooperating with research scientists, wildlife managers, African governments and rural African communities.**

*(All figures of the analysis are based on lists and donor valuations as published in the SCI Auction Catalog).*

## 14 SCI African Chapter Dies

After a prolonged death-struggle the Special Meeting of Members, duly called as per the constitution of the African Chapter resolved unanimously to voluntarily relinquish the Chapter status with SCI and to wind up the Chapter. Causes for the demise were a lack of interest to participate in Chapter affairs by the members resident in Africa and a pronounced reluctance of SCI to make use of the considerable knowledge and the vast local connections of the Executive Committee members of the Chapter at all levels with politicians, nature conservation authorities and NGOs in Africa. The Chapter president Gerhard Damm and the Chapter Executive committee submitted their resignations with the undertaking to bring the Chapter affairs to an orderly close.

The SCI African Chapter posted some notable achievements during the past years: The international Millennium Raffle for a \$100,000 elephant safari with Johan Calitz in Botswana including a personalized Searcy Double Rifle, the publishing and distribution of 5200 books "The Conservation Game – Saving Africa's Biodiversity" and the "Sustainable Use Poster" to secondary and tertiary institutes of learning and several wildlife colleges, the first combined workshop of hunting associations and conservation NGOs in South Africa and last not least a R100,000 donation to the Southern African Wildlife College.

## 15 Game Sales Statistics for South Africa 2004

South Africa is arguably the most important market for the sale of life game in Africa and in the world. **African Indaba** is publishing now in the third year statistical figures based on the research by **Prof. Theuns Eloff** of the Potchefstroom Campus of the University of the Northwest. We would like to take the opportunity to thank Prof Eloff for the permission to publish the material on pages 17 and 18 of this newsletter.

A quick analysis of the figures shows a stagnating trend in total heads of game sold and in its monetary value in South African Rand since 2002. Due to the significant revaluation of the South African Rand against the US-currency (average rates for 2002: 10.52, 2003: 7.57 and 2004: 6.31 – *presently below 5.90*) the US-Dollar values have, however, increased correspondingly.

Limpopo province again emerged as the most important game market with a share of almost 34% of the 2004 total. KwaZulu-Natal, formerly solidly occupying the second rank with the famous Ezemvelo Game Auction dropped to 4<sup>th</sup> place in 2004 (share 9.4%) behind North West with 18.2%, Freestate with 12.7% and Mpumalanga with 9.5%. It is significant, however, that Limpopo's volume increased from 6802 heads of game sold in 2003 to 9163 in 2004, whilst the monetary results dropped from 39 million Rand in 2003 to 35 million Rand in 2004. In the other provinces significant variations in heads of game sold and values realized were also observed. According to Prof. Eloff a major factor in this development was the marketing of rare and valuable species.

Statistical information on the next two pages



<b>Game Sale Statistics South Africa 2002 to 2004</b>									
<b>US-\$ prices at average annual ZAR-US\$ exchange rates (2002: 10.5204, 2003: 7.5693, 2004: 6.3057)</b>									
English Name	Scientific Name	Average 2002 ZAR	Average 2003 ZAR	Average 2004 ZAR	% Var ZAR 03:04	Average 2002 US\$	Average 2003 US\$	Average 2004 US\$	% Var US\$ 03:04
Blesbuck	<i>Damaliscus pygargus phillipsi</i>	763	742	747	0.7%	73	98	118	20.8%
Blesbuck, White	<i>Damaliscus pygargus phillipsi</i>	1,077	1,253	1,122	-10.5%	102	166	178	7.5%
Bontebok	<i>Damaliscus pygargus</i>	6,227	8,520	9,300	9.2%	592	1,126	1,475	31.0%
Buffalo	<i>Syncerus caffer</i>	116,624	119,511	148,867	24.6%	11,086	15,789	23,608	49.5%
Bushbuck Limpopo & Cape	<i>Tragelaphus scriptus sylvaticus</i>	2,826	2,725	2,429	-10.9%	269	360	385	7.0%
Bushpig	<i>Potamochoerus porcus</i>	300	-	2,700	-	29	-	428	-
Cheetah	<i>Acinonyx jubatus</i>	-	-	32,000	-	-	-	5,075	-
Duiker, Blue	<i>Cephalophus monticola</i>	-	2,800	3,700	32.1%	-	370	587	58.6%
Duiker, Grey	<i>Sylvicapra grimmia (subsp)</i>	1,035	1,049	2,191	108.9%	98	139	347	150.7%
Duiker, Red	<i>Cephalophus natalensis</i>	-	4,800	-	-	-	634	-	-
Eland Cape	<i>Tragelaphus oryx</i>	5,059	4,475	4,390	-1.9%	481	591	696	17.8%
Eland Livingstone	<i>Tragelaphus oryx</i>	11,907	11,214	10,188	-9.1%	1,132	1,482	1,616	9.1%
Gemsbok	<i>Oryx gazella</i>	3,696	3,774	3,519	-6.8%	351	499	558	11.9%
Giraffe	<i>Giraffe camelopardalis</i>	14,780	14,506	13,933	-4.0%	1,405	1,916	2,210	15.3%
Grey Rhebuck	<i>Pelea capreolus</i>	3,574	4,000	4,333	8.3%	340	528	687	30.0%
Grysbuck, Cape	<i>Raphicerus melanotis</i>	500	1,700	-	-	48	225	-	-
Hartebeest, Cape	<i>Alcelaphus buselaphus caama</i>	3,440	3,483	3,360	-3.5%	327	460	533	15.8%
Hartebeest, Lichtenstein's	<i>Alcelaphus lichtensteini</i>	n/a	75,000	70,000	-6.7%		9,908	11,101	12.0%
Hippopotamus	<i>Hippopotamus amphibius</i>	44,111	40,000	31,625	-20.9%	4,193	5,285	5,015	-5.1%
Hyena	<i>Crocuta crocuta</i>	-	-	500	-	-	-	79	-
African Wild Dog	<i>Lyaon pictus</i>	8,000	9,500	-	-	760	1,255	-	-
Impala, Southern	<i>Aepycerus melampus</i>	740	675	638	-5.5%	70	89	101	13.5%
Impala Black	<i>Aepycerus melampus</i>	141,429	100,000	86,000	-14.0%	13,443	13,211	13,638	3.2%
Impala Black Faced	<i>Aepycerus m petersi</i>	-	1,050	3,000	185.7%	-	139	476	243.0%
Klipspringer	<i>Oreotragus oreotragus</i>	5,171	4,725	3,833	-18.9%	492	624	608	-2.6%
Kudu	<i>Tragelaphus strepsiceros</i>	2,380	2,211	2,032	-8.1%	226	292	322	10.3%
Lechwe, Red	<i>Kobus leche leche</i>	10,938	15,491	14,009	-9.6%	1,040	2,047	2,222	8.6%
Leopard	<i>Panthera pardus</i>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Lion	<i>Panthera leo</i>	32,357	22,991	6,314	-72.5%	3,076	3,037	1,001	-67.0%
Nyala	<i>Tragelaphus angasi</i>	8,444	6,617	6,503	-1.7%	803	874	1,031	18.0%
Oribi	<i>Ourebia ourebi ourebi</i>	7,500	-	5,000	-	713	-	793	-
Ostrich	<i>Struthio camelus</i>	1,140	1,089	1,193	9.6%	108	144	189	31.5%
Porcupine	<i>Hystrix africae australis</i>	246	190	-	-	23	25	-	-
Reedbuck, Common	<i>Redunca arundinum</i>	3,863	4,459	4,419	-0.9%	367	589	701	19.0%
Reedbuck, Mountain	<i>Redunca fulvorufola</i>	1,271	1,460	1,274	-12.7%	121	193	202	4.7%
Rhino, Black	<i>Diceros bicornis ssp</i>	451,667	-	131,667	-	42,932	-	20,881	-
Rhino, White	<i>Ceratotherium s simum</i>	192,383	148,133	112,750	-23.9%	18,287	19,570	17,881	-8.6%
Roan	<i>Hippotragus e equinus</i>	131,500	130,333	149,521	14.7%	12,500	17,219	23,712	37.7%
Sable	<i>Hippotragus n niger</i>	93,572	90,697	61,618	-32.1%	8,894	11,982	9,772	-18.4%
Scimitar Horned Oryx	<i>Oryx dammah</i>	18,800	14,750	14,333	-2.8%	1,787	1,949	2,273	16.6%
Springbuck, Black	<i>Antidorcas marsupialis</i>	1,209	1,130	912	-19.3%	115	149	145	-3.1%
Springbuck, Common	<i>Antidorcas marsupialis</i>	520	603	523	-13.3%	49	80	83	4.1%

<b>Game Sale Statistics South Africa 2002 to 2004</b>									
US-\$ prices at average annual ZAR-US\$ exchange rates (2002: 10.5204, 2003: 7.5693, 2004: 6.3057)									
English Name	Scientific Name	Average 2002 ZAR	Average 2003 ZAR	Average 2004 ZAR	% Var ZAR 03:04	Average 2002 US\$	Average 2003 US\$	Average 2004 US\$	% Var US\$ 03:04
Springbuck, Hartwater	<i>Antidorcas marsupialis</i>	5,200	7,630	<b>2,703</b>	-64.6%	494	1,008	<b>429</b>	-57.5%
Springbuck, Kalahari	<i>Antidorcas marsupialis</i>	796	761	<b>865</b>	13.7%	76	101	<b>137</b>	36.4%
Springbuck, White	<i>Antidorcas marsupialis</i>	3,270	2,604	<b>2,819</b>	8.3%	311	344	<b>447</b>	30.0%
Springbuck, Copper	<i>Antidorcas marsupialis</i>	-	-	<b>8,000</b>	-	-	-	<b>1,269</b>	-
Steenbuck	<i>Raphicerus campestris</i>	1,778	1,659	<b>1,305</b>	-21.3%	169	219	<b>207</b>	-5.6%
Suni, Livingstone's	<i>Neotragus moschatus</i>	n/a	3,957	-	-	-	523	-	-
Tsessebe	<i>Damaliscus lunatus lunatus</i>	17,760	16,739	<b>19,123</b>	14.2%	1,688	2,211	<b>3,033</b>	37.1%
Warthog	<i>Phacochoerus aethiopicus</i>	884	718	<b>720</b>	0.3%	84	95	<b>114</b>	20.4%
Waterbuck, Common	<i>Kobus defassa ellipsiprymnus</i>	6,255	5,563	<b>4,989</b>	-10.3%	595	735	<b>791</b>	7.7%
Wildebeest, Black	<i>Connochaetes gnou</i>	2,721	1,639	<b>1,797</b>	9.6%	259	217	<b>285</b>	31.6%
Wildebeest, Blue	<i>Connochaetes taurinus</i>	2,324	1,785	<b>1,631</b>	-8.6%	221	236	<b>259</b>	9.7%
Zebra, Burchell's	<i>Equus burchelli</i>	4,564	4,543	<b>4,590</b>	1.0%	434	600	<b>728</b>	21.3%
Zebra, Cape	<i>Equus zebra zebra</i>	16,347	18,315	-	-	1,554	2,420	-	-
Zebra, Hartmann's	<i>Equus zebra hartmannae</i>	14,467	18,000	<b>17,953</b>	-0.3%	1,375	2,378	<b>2,847</b>	19.7%

<b>Development of Game Sales in South Africa 1991 to 2004</b>							
Year	Game Sold	% Change	Turnover in ZAR	% Change	US\$ @ av. Ex-Rate	% Change	Av. Exrate \$-R
1991	8292	-	R 8,999,871	-	\$3,477,673	-	2.5879
1992	9546	15.1%	R 10,859,969	20.7%	\$3,875,239	11.4%	2.8024
1993	11449	19.9%	R 11,732,596	8.0%	\$3,591,354	-7.3%	3.2669
1994	11096	-3.1%	R 11,705,605	-0.2%	\$3,297,539	-8.2%	3.5498
1995	9171	-17.3%	R 14,335,894	22.5%	\$3,952,440	19.9%	3.6271
1996	11340	23.7%	R 26,559,667	85.3%	\$6,180,691	56.4%	4.2972
1997	12077	6.5%	R 28,526,052	7.4%	\$6,191,221	0.2%	4.6075
1998	14354	18.9%	R 40,017,946	40.3%	\$7,231,418	16.8%	5.5339
1999	15455	7.7%	R 53,705,823	34.2%	\$8,784,360	21.5%	6.1138
2000	17702	14.5%	R 62,960,451	17.2%	\$9,076,820	3.3%	6.9364
2001	17282	-2.4%	R 87,000,473	38.2%	\$10,105,993	11.3%	8.6088
2002	20022	15.9%	R 105,192,180	20.9%	\$9,998,876	-1.1%	10.5204
2003	19645	-1.9%	R 102,420,445	-2.6%	\$13,531,033	35.3%	7.5693
2004	21101	7.4%	R 104,547,756	2.1%	\$16,579,881	22.5%	6.3057

<b>South African Game Sales 2003 &amp; 2004 (Province)</b>									
Province	Game Sold 03	Game Sold 04	ZAR 2003	ZAR 2004	\$ 2003 @ av exrate	\$ 2004 @ av exrate	% of Total Turnover	Auctions 03	Auctions 04
Limpopo	6802	9163	R 39,233,645	<b>R 35,412,934</b>	\$5,183,259	\$5,616,019	33.9%	29	21
North West	3802	3577	R 15,372,390	<b>R 19,065,857</b>	\$2,030,887	\$3,023,591	18.2%	10	9
Mpumalanga	149	353	R 759,650	<b>R 9,913,700</b>	\$100,359	\$1,572,181	9.5%	1	3
Gauteng	327	385	R 5,877,650	<b>R 5,147,400</b>	\$776,511	\$816,309	4.9%	2	1
Northern Cape	2569	1222	R 7,226,020	<b>R 4,180,275</b>	\$954,648	\$662,936	4.0%	6	3
Eastern Cape	254	1483	R 2,235,300	<b>R 7,717,140</b>	\$295,311	\$1,223,836	7.4%	1	3
KwaZulu-Natal	1572	2228	R 17,062,750	<b>R 9,857,250</b>	\$2,254,204	\$1,563,229	9.4%	1	1
Freestate	4170	2690	R 14,653,040	<b>R 13,253,200</b>	\$1,935,851	\$2,101,781	12.7%	9	6
<b>Total</b>	<b>19645</b>	<b>21101</b>	<b>R 102,420,445</b>	<b>R 104,547,756</b>	<b>\$13,531,030</b>	<b>\$16,579,881</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>59</b>	<b>47</b>

## 16 Death of a Species?

By Hadia Mostafa

**Editor's Note:** *We have edited this article for space reasons.*

Foreign hunters in Egypt's Western Desert slaughtered what may have been the last slender-horned gazelle [*Gazella leptoceros*] in the world in early 2004. A handful of Bedouin hunters from Al-Daba explain that this used to be one of their best hunting grounds. Ali Mustafa, one of the hunters, explains that as recently as 1990, Abu Hadayer was home to all three desert gazelle species native to Egypt, including the slender-horned gazelle. In fact, it may have been home to some of the last remaining slender horned gazelles in North Africa. Once the most common species of desert gazelle with a habitat ranging from Algeria eastward to Libya, Egypt, Chad and perhaps Sudan, the slender-horned was listed as an endangered species by IUCN in the 1960s. By 1996, IUCN listed the species as critically endangered. The Bedouin hunters of Abu Hadayer say that a combination of increased hunting and habitat destruction forced the local slender horned gazelles to more remote areas. That population, experts say, may represent the largest share of the world's remaining slender horned gazelles.

Today, it may very well be extinct. According to eyewitnesses in the local Bedouin community and a senior field official at the Egyptian Environmental Affairs Agency with firsthand knowledge of the events, a seven-vehicle expedition led by a Gulf Arab Minister of Interior successfully hunted down as many as 42 slender-horned during its 22-day stay in the Western Desert in January and early February 2004.

The sources claim the hunting took place in several areas east of the Qattarra Depression, including the Shiyata and Umm El-Ghozlan areas inside the Siwa Protectorate. Under Egyptian law, it is illegal to hunt inside a protected area, and to hunt an endangered species that is protected under international law.

The Bedouin in the area tipped off Dr M Foda, the Egyptian Environmental Affairs Agency's head of Protected Areas. Foda, in turn, put in a call to Dr Saleh, vice-president of the private environmental consulting firm EQI (Environmental Quality International). Saleh says he quickly reached his Bedouin contacts in the region and asked them to collect evidence of what was taking place. Within a matter of days he had the skin and head of a slender-horned gazelle in his office. An official at the Gulf embassy in question confirmed that his nation's Minister of Interior was in Egypt for "tourism purposes" during the time the hunting took place. He had no specific comment about whether the minister's party hunted while here.

The alleged number of 42 gazelles from the Bedouin report is so large relative to the estimated slender-horned gazelle population in Egypt that many experts have problems accepting that it is accurate. Eyewitnesses in the area, however, are adamant that a local shepherd counted discarded gazelle feet to come up with the total figure.

"It's very difficult to establish population counts on gazelle," Richard Hoath of American University in Cairo says. "Surveys can only be done by following tracks and feces. But if there are any

left right now, they are few." Hoath noted that the slender-horn is "now limited to an area southwest of Fayoum, if indeed it is not extinct in Egypt. If it survives, the Egyptian population could make up a significant proportion of the remaining global stock." Experts are uncertain whether there are any slender horned gazelles remaining in Libya.

The only action Minister of State for Environmental Affairs Mamdouh Riyadh has taken so far has been to ask his staff to send letters to the nation's governors telling them that hunting of any sort is illegal. "

The Gulf Interior Minister's hunting party was not the first to take advantage of Egypt's lax enforcement of environmental and conservation laws, and it probably won't be the last. "There were three or four hunting parties in the Western Desert right in February 2004," Saleh said. A senior EEAA field officer supported that assertion, saying, "We know of a Bahraini sheikh with 22 vehicles and a Saudi emir and his 12-car entourage, who came soon after. They come fully equipped with their cars, tents, generators, and enough food to last for weeks at a time."

Ali Mustafa says he and his Bedouin witnessed at least 15 different hunting expeditions in their area in 2003, all of them, he says, from the Arab Gulf. "All kinds of gazelle were once plentiful," Mustafa says. "Every 10 kilometers you could spot a few of them. Now, the visitors from the Gulf have finished them off and there's nothing we can do about it. We're not benefiting in any way from this," he quickly adds, "The sheikhs from the Gulf bring their own Bedouin guides from outside the area and take what doesn't belong to them."

Officials from the EEAA from Cairo to the Marsa Matrouh governorate and all the protectorates in between deny having issued hunting permits for the Gulf minister or to any other group of Arab dignitaries.

Egyptians can obtain desert safari permits from the Border Patrols intelligence section, while foreigners must apply through the Ministry of Defense's military intelligence agency. Both types of permits must pass by the EEAA for approval before they are issued. A source at the EEAA claims the Ministry of Defense charges foreigners \$500 for each day they spend in the desert, while expeditions from the Gulf pay for a two-month stay regardless of how long they actually plan to camp. What generally happens with the permits is that expeditions get official permission for desert tourism, not hunting. Questions have also been raised about how Gulf hunters are able to bring their firearms and falcons into Egypt in the first place. According to CITES to which Egypt has been a party since 1978, it is illegal to bring in and take out falcons.

Things started to deteriorate in the 1980s says renowned naturalist Dr. Ibrahim Helmy. He claims to have details of several incidents in which environment officials trying to do their jobs in that period were forced by local police authorities to look the other way while VIP hunters had their way with Egypt's wildlife. A clampdown on illegal hunting came in late 1996, when Nadia Makram Ebeid was appointed the nation's first Minister of State for Environmental Affairs. A 1997 report on biodiversity by the

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### 16 Death of a Species?

United Nations Commission on Sustainable Development suggested that Egypt was starting to move in the right direction. Helmy asserts that the new system of protectorates that set up community guards from the local Bedouin populations was effective.

But it hasn't been an all-around success story. While protectorates in Sinai have managed to exercise a degree of control, the Western Desert protectorates have not. According to the Bedouin in Daba and Matrouh, illegal hunting has been on the rise in the past two to three years, peaking at a record high in 2003.

Saleh claims that since the EEAA was formed, two more species have become critically endangered: the cheetah and the slender horned gazelle. According to Hoath, all three species of gazelle in Egypt – the slender-horned, the Dorcas, and the mountain gazelle of northeast Sinai - are declining. Helmy claims that the oryx, which he last spotted in 1970, has become extinct.

If the Bedouin are right, the slender-horned may have just followed suit. Hoath also notes six species of wild cats, including the cheetah, the leopard, and the sand cat, that are either critically endangered or perhaps completely extinct. The striped hyena has undergone decline, and the wild ass, as well as the wild boar, are gone. The houbara bustard, which is globally threatened, is another prime target for the Gulf hunters.

As for the slender-horned gazelle? Only time will tell whether it is, in fact, extinct.

**Source:** <http://www.egypttoday.com> for the full article by Hadia Mostafa "Egypt Today - The Magazine of Egypt"; also published in Gnusletter Volume 23 Number 2, Jan. 2005 (Richard D. Estes, 5 Granite Street, Peterborough, NH 03458, USA, Email: [richardestes@earthlink.net](mailto:richardestes@earthlink.net) )

## 17 IUCN/SSC Antelope Survey Update

The 80 page Antelope Survey Update N° 9 – Nov 2004 of the IUCN/SSC Antelope Specialist Group for the west and central African regions has been released and is available for purchase for interested parties. This report – with an introduction of ASG Chair Dr Richard Estes – is an important milestone in African antelope conservation. Drs. Bertrand Chardonnet and Philippe Chardonnet, International Foundation for the Conservation of Wildlife (IGF), Co-chairs of the Antelope Specialist Group's Central and West African Region, are continuing the work of the New Zealander Rod East, who published the first eight updates.

The current issue focuses on 2 regions of the African continent, West and Central Africa. Precise information for these 2 regions is scarce and not readily available in publications. The study focuses on the savannah wildlife, since forest wildlife is a rather different topic as such, even though both savannah and forest wildlife communities are indeed sympatric in some forested

facies of the savannah landscape. The publication covers a number of important issues in little known areas, which are nevertheless of considerable interest to the travelling sportsman. A small selection of authors and topics will certainly wet your appetite:

- Aerial census of wildlife in Niokolo Koba National Park, Senegal by Geoffroy Mauvais & Ablaye Ndiaye
- An update of the status of antelopes in the Gambia, by Alpha O. Jallow, Ousainou Touray & Mawdo Jallow
- Western giant eland (*Tragelaphus derbianus derbianus*) presence confirmed in Mali and Guinea by Serge Darroze
- A few data on the sahelo-saharan gazelles in the Tamesna region, Mali, by François Lamarque & Bourama Niagaté
- Aerial census of wildlife in Pendjari Biosphere Reserve, Benin, by Pascal Rouamba & Bernard Hien
- The wild ungulate community in the Niger W Regional Park, by Fabrice Hibert, Marie-Noël de Visscher & S. Alleaume
- An update on the status of important large mammal species in Gashaka Gumti National Park, Nigeria by Aaron Nicholas
- Sahelo-Saharan Interest Group Antelope Update: Chad, 2001 and Niger, 2002, by T. J. Wachter, J. E. Newby, et al.
- Aerial survey of addax in Termit area, Niger, September 2004, by Hubert Planton & Maurice Ascani
- Aerial census of large mammals in Zakouma National Park, Chad, by Charlie Mackie
- An update on the status of korrigum (*Damaliscus lunatus korrigum*) and tiang (*D. l. tiang*) in West and Central Africa by Bertrand Chardonnet

You can obtain the Antelope Survey Update n°9 Price: 15 Euros + postage (France: 1.9 €; Europe: 5.4 €; Africa: 5.8 €; America: 7.2 €) from the **International Foundation for the Conservation of Wildlife**, 15 rue de Téhéran 75008 Paris, France email [igf@fondation-igf.fr](mailto:igf@fondation-igf.fr)

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