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Dedicated to the People and Wildlife of Africa

1 Editor's Comments

Dear Reader:

Quite a lot has happened in the past two months since the last 2005 issue of African Indaba.

In southern Africa the **elephant culling debate** is reaching a fever pitch fueled by the international animal rights organizations and abetted by the media. It seems that especially the printed media at least partially ignore the facts and center their reporting on emotionally charged accusations and pleas from the animal rights factions. They let voices of reason go unheard and unpublished. Undue pressure is piled upon South Africa's Minister van Schalkwyk with the publication of threats of boycott and abstruse comments of "so-called" conservationists.

Let us hope that the minister and the decision makers in SANParks do not buckle under these threats – the other African countries like Zimbabwe and Botswana, with even bigger elephant problems, need to receive a positive signal that scientifically based wildlife management is a sovereign right and duty of Africans. SADC should put its political weight behind South Africa's elephant management policy.

Animal rights groups name elephant culling the "ultimate evil" and thus provide encouragement for the violent fringe – they are applying exaggerated and emotionally charged arguments unsupported by accepted scientific opinion. Their accusations of "bad science" (without supplying the proof, of course), their constant delaying tactics with demands for ever more extremely expensive and ultimately useless "research on research results" are clever moves to con the public!

Please read the elephant articles in this issue of African Indaba, and also have a look at Dr Cumming's essay on the [African Indaba](#) website (click to download file). It is essential that you discuss this issue publicly and take a stand; the public must finally be made aware of the real facts! Inform your colleagues and friends and let them have a copy of this African Indaba.

In November [PHASA](#) held its convention at Mketini Beach Resort in the Eastern Cape. Dieter Schramm, president of the **International Council for Game and Wildlife Conservation (CIC)** presented the key note address to the delegates.

CIC – active in 81 countries around the globe for eighty years – has a unique membership roster with 34 sovereign states, associations, universities, scientists and private members. The CIC works through its national delegations, supra-national commissions and working groups as an advisory body to governments, international conventions and organizations and within the UN system (see also articles number 7 and 14).

Schramm said the [Panel of Experts Report on Hunting](#)

presents a unique opportunity for the South African hunting and game ranching industry to engage in target-oriented discussions with DEAT with the objective that the resulting legislation will become a milestone for the African continent and indeed the world. Schramm offered assistance through CIC for all South African associations in the Wildlife Game. During his visit in South Africa, Schramm also met with representatives of Wildlife Ranching South Africa (WFSA) to discuss the same issues.

Staying with PHASA, I want to draw the attention of the SCI members amongst the African Indaba readers to a **PHASA 14-day-safari donation which will be sold at one of the evening auctions at the [SCI Convention 2006](#) in Reno**. According to PHASA, SCI has agreed to keep only 10% of the auction price for this safari with 90% going back to PHASA. PHASA will use the proceeds to reinforce and expand its **Black Economic Empowerment Program (BEE)**.

The safari will be for 14 full hunting days and include 12 trophy animals. The safari will be outfitted by two PHASA members (7 hunting days/6 animals each) in specially selected hunting areas. All those who are at **SCI 2006** should make a generous bid for this extraordinary safari and thus support **PHASA's objectives in creating innovative opportunities for emerging**

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black professional hunters and outfitters.

Readers will remember my article "[Hunting in South Africa: Facts, Risks, Opportunities](#)" and the section, where I broke a lance for strictly controlled and selective hunting inside protected areas. I do not stand alone with this opinion; it has long since been recognized that hunting can offer a vital contribution to the economics of National Parks without any negative influence on conservation objectives and without reducing the wildlife viewing pleasure of the general public.

Those who disregard this particular option of **"incentive-driven-conservation"** and the positive effects it will have on **Black Economic Empowerment in wildlife management** might produce unwelcome reactions from quarters they rather don't want to be allied with.

Jon Hutton, Chair, IUCN Sustainable Use Specialist Group, wrote in an article titled 'Exploitation and Conservation: Lessons from Southern Africa'...

"that the exploitation of wild species is seen by many industrialized societies as a primitive activity [many] on the margins of the environmental community consider unnecessary and immoral ... their unsophisticated response [is] that markets are bad for conservation. [They] promote preservation – the hands-off management of nature. Hutton speaks in his article about "ecological apartheid and the polarization of the countryside, where elephants and lions have the right of way in protected areas but give way absolutely to man outside" and he quotes the shortfalls of preservationist strategies as (amongst others)

- Making protected areas untenable
- Ensuring conflict around protected areas
- Making wildlife uncompetitive

My proposal for strictly controlled hunting in South Africa's National Parks focused on ways to increase the value of wildlife in the parks system, thus creating an earning potential for substantial amounts of money to reduce the operational deficit and to decrease the burden for the taxpaying public. My proposal will create an effective base for real black economic empowerment in wildlife management and rural employment and last not least make real conservation financially sustainable and less dependent from donor funding and the tax payer.

Opposition to my views was expected. It came from an unexpected quarter though. The SA Hunters' and Game Conservation Association (SAJWV) published an official statement on October 17th (in Afrikaans) totally rejecting hunting in national parks. I did not receive it directly from the association, but through an anonymous email in November, although SAJWV had published my referenced article in the association's magazine (maybe without reading it first).

I wonder whether those who authored the statement have made it clear to their many members that the SAJWV point of view plays well into the hands of those in the Panel of Experts who want to stop hunting even in provincial parks.

SAJWV mentions also that only about 0.5% of South Africans are hunters and that the parks system belongs to all people, yet this very system probably did not have more than 4.5 million visitors in 2005 (including KZN Parks and of course international tourists). This means considerably less than 10% of South Africans are enjoying our national parks (or are able to afford enjoying them), yet as a nation ALL have to foot the bill.

It seems odd a South African hunting association still believes in the bureaucracy and the notorious apparatus of "fortress conservation" or rather "fortress preservation". Under this concept market-based policies (and with it sustainable use of natural resources) were excluded from wildlife management in protected areas.

Fortress Preservation used the argument of "preserving the untouched wilderness". Yet none of the parks within the South African Parks system is untouched by human hand. All are fenced in by wire and people.

One just has to drive along the western boundary of Kruger National Park to see the conflict potential of fortress preservation!

The solution for a sustainable long-term future for South Africa's national parks will be a paradigm shift from preservation towards incentive-driven-conservation. Controlled hunting where it is ecologically sustainable will be a small, yet important building block. It will have positive triple bottom line repercussions. Benefits will accrue to the communities living around the park and to Black Economic Empowerment (social & cultural), there will be the freeing of essential funds from the national budget for national priorities such as AIDS/HIV projects and low cost housing (economic), and last not least conservation will benefit with funds being available for land acquisition and general self-sustainability of the parks.

Robert H Nelson said in the "Independent Review, (Summer 2003)" in an article titled "[Environmental Colonialism – 'Saving' Africa from Africans](#)" that the *"myths of Africa are more attractive than the realities"*. Did SAJWV fall into this trap?

Nelson concludes his article (download it at the link provided) with *"Fantasy sells, and millions of people in [the urban centers of] Europe and the United States enjoy images of the Garden of Eden, whether in Africa or elsewhere in the world. By contrast, the rural people in these areas who are directly affected by the setting aside of park lands constitute a small and less moneyed minority that has less political influence both with their own national governments and in international arenas."*

This is the reason why we have a huge elephant problem in Southern Africa; this is the reason why our parks struggle to balance the budgets: this is the reason why Black Economic Empowerment in wildlife conservation does not advance and last not least this is the reason why utterly necessary "incentive-driven-conservation" struggles to achieve mainstream public recognition.

Time to think and more importantly, time to act, my friends!

All the Best for 2006!

Gerhard R Damm
Editor

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2 Hunting in Tanzania

By Peter H. Flack

Tanzania is one of my favorite countries in Africa. I like the people and love the wildlife. I have hunted there six times over the last 10 years and, altogether, have stayed in 14 different safari camps from the Selous to Serengeti, from Mount Meru to Masailand, from the Rungwa river to Lake Rukwa, from Kilwa to Kigosi, and between the Moyowasi and Malagarasi rivers. The only game animals that Tanzania has to offer which I have not hunted are the East African roan and suni.

During the days when I was working for an African gold mining company, one of our wholly-owned subsidiaries prospected for gold in Tanzania and acquired a gold deposit there which it took through to the final stages of a bankable feasible study before it was sold. On my business visits there I had the opportunity to meet the President of Tanzania, Mr. Benjamin Mkapa, on more than one occasion and, more recently, was retained by the Tanzanian government in a consultative capacity on matters relating to their gold mining industry.

Having said that, I do not presume to consider myself an expert on Tanzania and my impressions of hunting in the country are precisely that, namely, impressions.

Over the last few years, Tanzania, as a whole, appears to have made slow but steady progress under the management of President Mkapa. It is still, however, a heavily indebted poor country and the infrastructure is threadbare. Civil servants are poorly paid and, although this is not an excuse, it is at least a contributory factor behind the endemic corruption which is prevalent in every facet of Tanzanian society. The wildlife industry is no exception. As one professional hunter put it, "Everything is available in Tanzania at a price."

Hunting concessions are still handed out as political favors to individuals who have no knowledge and/or interest in hunting or conservation, let alone local community involvement. This is exacerbated by the fact that these concessions typically have a very short life - a maximum of 5 years - and there is, therefore, no real incentive on the holder to do anything other than extract the maximum advantage from the concession, for the minimum input, in the least amount of time.

Recently, I hunted in the famous Mto-Wa-Mbu concession, popularized by Robert Ruark when he hunted there with Harry Selby. The owner of the concession lives in Dar-Es-Salaam but no one can remember when last he visited. There was no attempt at anti-poaching and his unsupervised staff were untrained, poorly dressed and had allowed the camp to deteriorate into the worst one in which I have ever stayed in Tanzania. On my last day in the concession we caught two poachers who had killed a young fringed-eared oryx and, under the supervision of our game scout, took them to our camp where the so called camp manager refused to charge them and take them into police custody.

Someone had unadvisedly built a permanent dam and additional water point in the middle of the concession. Instead of being forced to move, the water allowed the Masai to stay on and they and their cattle, sheep, goats and donkeys had turned this once beautiful valley, squashed between the Rift Valley Wall and the Simangori Mountain Range, into a grey, powder fine, dust bowl. What little game I saw, was confined to the foothills

of the Rift Valley Wall and the Simangori Mountains where there were remnant pockets of tsetse fly and some water. I was advised, however that the game numbers were usually much higher but had been severely reduced by the drought.

In fact, I do not know whether I was just unlucky or it was a sign of the modern reality in Tanzania, but I have never seen so many signs of poaching. In the Kigosi concession, owned by a local Tanzanian family, who employ three, separate, mobile, radio linked, anti-poaching units, we found four separate bands of poachers within a three hour drive of their main camp, of which our game scout managed to arrest one and confiscate one muzzle loader. Their main problem, however, is that they receive little or no support from either the game department or the authorities.

In the Kilwa concession, immediately to the south of the Selous Game Reserve, where I also hunted on this trip, I counted 14 wood cutting pits, just in the southern portion of the concession. My experience has taught me that virtually all woodcutters, honey gatherers and fishermen poach, with only the severity and commerciality of it varying. To make matters worse, the woodcutters choose only the biggest trees and then use only the first six feet or so of the main trunk (from which they cut planks) and leave the rest to rot on the forest floor. The fact that there was little game in the area I hunted, other than some very aggressive elephant cows and calves and East African bush duikers, seemed to speak for itself. And the poaching was not confined to local Tanzanians. I received three reports of established professional hunters, hunting in depleted areas, deliberately and knowingly poaching in neighboring concessions which had more game. In the one case, the PH concerned (I know who he is), has refined his poaching to the extent that he employs two vehicles. The one carries a driver, tracker and game scout. These people hang and check baits and build blinds in the neighboring concession. Only when the lion or leopard is feeding do they call in the PH and his client and then it's a case of bang, bang and back they scurry to their own concession. Using this method he has poached three lions this year alone which has seriously affected the ability of my informant to conserve the lions in his concession.

Last year, a safari company arrested one of these delinquent professional hunters and his client at gun point when they caught them red handed poaching in their concession. To date, nothing has happened to the guilty parties. This year, at the usual pre-season government briefing of the PH fraternity, they were warned not to do this in future on the grounds that it is not the client's fault (which is usually true) and that the embarrassment caused is bad for the industry. If this is not a license for the unscrupulous PHs to carry on poaching, then I do not know what is.

My other cause for concern relates to the trend of not only dividing up the original hunting concessions into smaller and smaller blocks but, at the selfsame time, giving these smaller blocks larger animal quotas than the original block had. For example, Lake Natron originally had a quota of seven lesser kudu. It has subsequently been divided into a number of blocks, shared between six safari outfitters, each with a quota of twelve lesser kudu. Now, if the determination of these quotas was based on regular, scientific, helicopter game counts, for exam-

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2 Hunting in Tanzania

ple, then no-one could or would argue. However, this is not the case and, although the game scouts should have a reasonable idea of game density in their concessions, this is by no means certain and I have never seen any game scout formally counting game and recording it. In addition, their views can easily be influenced by the normal Tanzanian way of doing business.

Having said that, however, there are a number of major, longstanding, safari outfitters in Tanzania and here I think of the likes of Messrs. Pasinisi, Hurt and Samaras, as well as companies like Tanzanian Game Trackers and that owned by Mr. Tudor Jones who have introduced voluntary, self imposed quotas and trophy limits, for example, instructing their professional hunters, under threat of dismissal, not to shoot any lion under the age of six years old. Their clients have also accepted a levy on their trophy fees which has helped fund both anti-poaching and local social upliftment programs in the hunting concessions concerned. But these are people and companies with a long term commitment to hunting, conservation and community involvement in Tanzania.

I think I am correct in saying that Tanzania not only hosts the largest game reserve in Africa, the Selous Game Reserve, which measures some 4.8 million hectares, but has the largest percentage of its land under game. What this amounts to, combined with the prevalence of tsetse fly and the absence of infrastructure, plus the long and proud history which hunting has in the country, is that Tanzania is the most sought after African trophy hunting destination today, despite the fact that it is the most expensive one.

It is still the area which sets the benchmark for traditional tented safaris that, for the most part, have the best trained, most friendly and obliging staff in the form of waiters, cooks and skinners, although it has never ceased to amaze me how poor the overall tracking skills are in Tanzania. You would have thought, given the huge amount of hunting that takes place in the country, that the level of tracking skills would be on a par with that of Namibian bushmen or rain forest pigmies, but it is not. On more than one safari, the best tracker in our hunting team has been my professional hunter. I have even seen a Tanzanian tracker following an eland spoor in the firm belief that it belonged to a buffalo.

Contributing to the high costs of hunting is the fact that government never loses an opportunity to gouge the visiting hunter. There is a conservation fee of USD100 per day, a charge of USD120 per imported firearm and the hunting licenses, which come in 7, 16 and 21 day packages, cost USD 450, 600 and 600, respectively. These charges are all increased regularly and there is no sign that this trend will cease.

Government trophy fees were also increased this year after having remained the same for many years and a kudu, for example, now costs USD 1465, which I think is very expensive. Not that I have a problem with government charging fees. After all, in a free market system, the market will ultimately regulate and place a limit on the sums that can be extracted from the customer.

What bothers me, however, is that I do not believe that even a fraction of the funds so raised go back into conservation, let alone such seemingly obvious causes as anti-poaching. I do not want to mount this hobby horse again, but I can't help mention-

ing the repeated comments which I heard from well experienced Tanzanian professional hunters. Time and again they said that, in the recent past, they had hunted in concessions with good game numbers, covering a broad cross section of species. Now the areas were no longer viable to hunt as commercial meat poachers had denuded the area.

On the one hand, Tanzania sits on a wonderful, renewable and sustainable wildlife resource which can be of benefit to the country as a whole and, particularly, the poorer rural areas, for years and years to come. On the other hand, while seeming ever ready to milk this source of funds, the government seems to do little or nothing to protect this resource let alone introduce measures to ensure its growth. For example, the Mweka Wildlife College on the slopes of Mount Meru was one of the few areas where you could hunt Harvey's duiker, Masai bushbuck and neotragus moschatus moschatus, the other sub-species of suni and different to Livingstone's suni which is found predominantly in South Africa and Mozambique. This area was closed to hunting, I believe, because of corruption and poaching and, although some half a dozen years or so have gone by, there is not the slightest indication that government has resolved these easily surmountable problems and reopened the area.

Tanzania is the only place where the dedicated trophy hunter can find Roosevelt's sable, Patterson's eland, Masai bushbuck, Harvey's duiker, fringed-eared oryx, Southern Grant's gazelle, Thomson's gazelle, Robert's gazelle, Coke's hartebeest, Kirk's dik dik, topi and Southern gerenuk to mention but a few indigenous species.

Although it is more difficult than it used to be, it is still also a place where a fit, hardworking, walk and stalk hunter can find really big buffalo and full maned lions. My professional hunter in Tanzania this year, Schalk Tait, has shot 6 buffalo over 45 inches in the last four years with the biggest measuring 49½ inches and the second biggest 47 inches.

I sense though, that like many other African countries, the precious, renewable wildlife resources in Tanzania suffer, at best, from incompetent, benign neglect and, at worst, from a deliberate, calculated, corrupt program to suck the life blood out of its wildlife assets, in the fastest possible way and by whatever means. If it were not so sad, it would make me unspeakably angry.

South Africa hosts 2007 Annual Meeting for the Society for Conservation Biology

The Nelson Mandela University of Port Elizabeth has been selected for 2007 SCB Annual Meeting. One of South Africa's most noteworthy accomplishments over the past 20 years has been the successful growth of private game keeping and government assisted establishment of game reserves. The National Parks system has always been one of the best in the world. Conservation biology practiced in South Africa has long reflected the principles to which SCB members ascribe

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3 Tanzania Development Partners Group (DPG)

Editor's Note: The [Tanzania Development Partner Group \(DPG\)](http://www.wildlife-programme.gtz.de/wildlife/download/dpgwildlifebrief.pdf) consists of the bilateral and multilateral partners that provide development assistance to Tanzania. The partners have analyzed the Tanzanian wildlife sector and presented their findings to the Government. The following text is from www.wildlife-programme.gtz.de/wildlife/download/dpgwildlifebrief.pdf

The Wildlife Sector with Emphasis on Tourist Hunting

1. Summary

The Wildlife Sector, apart from having an intrinsic environmental value, is important for Tanzania in terms of its present and potential revenue generation, as well as for communities in providing food security and income. However, the sector is suffering from sub-optimal management, with unsustainable growth, loss of revenues, and limited participation of communities. At the same time wildlife is disappearing from many places outside protected areas. Resistance to reforms exists amongst the current private sector and parts of Government, who benefit from the current situation. Actions have been taken, but comprehensive reform is still lacking. Such reform should include introducing market-based competition amongst the private sector in order to increase revenues without intensifying exploitation of the resource. Reform is also needed to involve communities in decision making procedures and sharing of benefits from utilisation of wildlife on their land. In short, governance in the sector can be improved. DPG is recommended to raise these issues with the Government of Tanzania, and also in relation to discussions on how the wildlife sectors can contribute to growth, revenue, and poverty reduction objectives as articulated in MKUKUTA (National Strategy for Growth and Reduction of Poverty and better known by its Kiswahili acronym of MKUKUTA (*Mkakati wa Ku-kuza Uchumi na Kuondoa Umaskini Taifa*)).

2. The Issues

Tanzania's wildlife is one of the richest and most diversified in Africa, with several of its protected areas and wetlands internationally renowned as World Heritage Sites and RAMSAR sites (Convention on Wetlands of international importance). Creation of protected areas was for long seen as the solution to the successful conservation of wildlife and environmental sustainability (*Editor's Note: Millenium Development Goal MDG 7: see also http://www.unv.org/infobase/facts/04_05_20DEU_MDG_7_ph.htm "Ensure Environmental Sustainability"*), and Tanzania has devoted over 20% of the land exclusively for wildlife, upon which much of the tourism industry is now based. Nowadays community involvement is increasingly recognized as a means to conserve wildlife resources and benefit communities. Despite this positive picture, Tanzania's great reservoir of wildlife is increasingly under threat, and opportunities lost for its contribution to growth and poverty reduction. Management of the Wildlife Sector is split between the National Parks (TANAPA), Ngorongoro Conservation Area Authority (NCAA) and the Wildlife Division (WD), under the Ministry of Natural Resources and Tourism (MNRT). Income generation by TANAPA and NCAA is primarily

through game-viewing tourism, while income generated by the WD is primarily through hunting tourism (80-96% of the revenue collected). Hunting for meat is also undertaken for subsistence by local communities, but often illegally.

The Wildlife Sector provides an important source of revenue, but the contribution of the Wildlife Sector is not well reflected in the GDP. For instance, Hunting and Forestry jointly contribute 2 to 3 % of the GDP under the total agriculture contribution, while Trade, Hotel & Restaurants contribute 16.8%. The real contribution of the Wildlife Sector is estimated at between 7% to 10% of the Tanzanian GDP. Wildlife is also an important source of income (and plays a role in food security and nutrition) in many remote and poor rural areas. Development within the Wildlife Sector provides one of the few options to economic development of these areas.

Revenue generation from the tourist sector (over 80% non-consumptive tourism) has shown a growth of approximately 30% per annum during the 1990s, which was one of the fastest growth rates in the world. It has however levelled off since the end of that decade, due to local and international terrorist events in 1998 and 2001 respectively – but also due to the major tourist destinations in the north of the country reaching their carrying capacity. There remains considerable potential for growth of tourism in lesser-known destinations such as the Southern Circuit where poor access hinders development. Localized overcrowding by tourists in the Serengeti National Park has prompted the Board of the Tanzania National Parks (TANAPA) to propose drastic increases to park entry fees. This may encourage a better utilization of alternative areas, but may also encourage tourists to visit wildlife destinations elsewhere in Africa. Instead of increasing direct tourist fees beyond a psychologically acceptable threshold, TANAPA could indirectly achieve similar revenues through developing effective lease arrangements with lodges established inside the parks. That will not be the focus of this brief, which concentrates on hunting.

The hunting industry has grown considerably in the last two decades and Tanzania is now one of the leading hunting destinations in the world. Despite impressive growth, there remains much scope for improved management, with increased revenue collection, and community benefit from the participation in utilization and protection of the resources. At present, sustainability is not always realized, as the WD increasingly pushes the industry towards hunting at unsustainable levels (hunting opportunities (concessions) are sold at minimal rates while income is generated primarily from trophy fees, i.e. killing of animals. To increase revenues the Wildlife Division opts to increase quota (= % of animals to be killed), which in many cases already exceed sustainable levels of offtake), revenues are lost, and rural communities see minimal benefit from an industry that operates on their land. One example is that trophy fees for key species are significantly lower in Tanzania compared to neighbouring countries. One of the reasons that this situation can persist is that procedures are made complex and difficult for outsiders to understand, and only a small core of experts within Wildlife Department (WD) are able to truly understand and direct the industry.

Efforts to introduce transparency and competition in the sector, and in other ways improve the hunting industry have been

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3Tanzania Development Partners Group (DPG)

resisted by the WD (probably due to influence by some elements of the private sector). For instance, a policy and management plan for tourist hunting was developed, signed and accepted by the Director of Wildlife in 1995, but has never been implemented. The plan includes a comprehensive reform of the tourist hunting industry, which involves introducing competition and incorporating communities as decision-makers with access to significant funds generated from hunting. Other examples are recent attempts to curb open discussions on the way forward and a disregard of unfavourable data.

3. Impacts

Mismanagement in the Wildlife Sector and in the hunting industry specifically, impacts the country in the following ways:

Poverty

Despite the Wildlife Policy of 1998, which gives provisions for the development of Wildlife Management Areas (WMAs) managed by local communities, it is these communities (the legitimate land-holders) who are excluded from the decision making processes in the areas of, who hunts, how much, what is hunted, and even whether hunting should be allowed on their land. Tourist hunting in WMAs is able to provide funds for remote and poor communities managing WMAs, and thereby contribute to poverty reduction and equity in benefit sharing from hunting. Furthermore, communities could legally engage in hunting for meat for their own consumption. According to some studies, two-thirds of rural Tanzanians claim that wildlife meat is their most important source of protein. Studies of pilot WMAs show that WMAs can provide up to Tshs2.2 million (ca US\$ 1,200) annually per village. Attention should be given though to equity in the distribution of benefits accruing from WMAs or other community involvement in wildlife management, as the larger profits are presently earned by middlemen and other outsiders. Still, the development of WMAs is seriously delayed, with no formal establishment of WMAs to date. This contradicts central government policies and directives (including actions under MKUKUTA). The likely cause of this is general hesitation among some hunting operators to accept the WMA concept (the unfortunate side effect of this delay is that some communities are frustrated and increasingly look towards other more unsustainable land use options for their livelihood development. The result is that wildlife is not being protected and is disappearing from community land).

Sustainable Growth

There is no effective monitoring of wildlife populations in the hunting areas, and there is therefore no certain knowledge about the sustainability of the Wildlife Sector. While growth in non-consumptive wildlife tourism is possible in the southern part of the country, potentials for growth in hunting may be limited. Indications are that the current hunting levels of key species are unsustainable in certain areas, and the quality and age of key species being hunted has declined. Legal hunting for meat by communities may not have reached unsustainable levels. The unsustainable levels of hunting key species is in part due to the lack of an objective system for quota setting for hunting, and many hunting quotas are issued that allow unsustainable levels of hunting. Hunting also takes place 'above' quotas. The general

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4 Boone and Crockett Club Statement: Ethical Hunting Versus Unethical Shooting

Canned Shoot Statement: [Boone and Crockett Club](#) has been a highly respected conservation leader and proponent of ethical Fair Chase hunting of North American big game since 1887. The Boone and Crockett Club's Board of Directors and its membership have unanimously adopted and approved a position statement on "Canned Shoots" because of the growing concern among hunters and the increased public interest.

Ethical Fair Chase Hunting: The Boone and Crockett Club, in its [Fair Chase Statement](#), advocates any hunting that is "the ethical, sportsmanlike and lawful pursuit and taking of any free-ranging wild game animal in a manner that does not give the hunter an improper or unfair advantage over the game animals."

Unethical "Canned" Shooting (Improperly referred to as "canned" hunting): The Boone and Crockett Club condemns the pursuit and killing of any big game animal kept in or released from captivity to be killed in an artificial or bogus "hunting" situation where the game lacks the equivalent chance to escape afforded free-ranging animals, virtually assuring the shooter a certain or unrealistically favorable chance of a kill.

Genetic Manipulation of Game Animals: The Boone and Crockett Club condemns artificial and unnatural enhancement of a big game species' genetic characteristics. Unacceptable practices for genetic enhancement include, but are not limited to, artificial insemination, controlled or unnatural breeding programs, cloning, and translocation of breeding stock for canned shooting purposes.

Public Perception: The Boone and Crockett Club is greatly concerned that the non-hunting public may confuse ethical, fair chase hunting with canned shoots, genetic manipulations and other related practices, which the Club condemns.

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3 Tanzania Development Partners Group (DPG)

lack of respect for the law by the members of the private sector (e.g. hunting above quotas) has prompted the Director of Wildlife to issue a Call for Compliance to all hunters in 2004. However, no serious effort to prosecute violations has been observed.

Revenue

With no objective or transparent system for the allocation of hunting concessions to the private sector, concessions are leased at administered prices far below the true market value irrespective of size, quality or income potential. This is done by a few key government officials, who maintain a high level of control with the awarding of concessions. This represents a large loss of income to Tanzania, and more specifically the WD (estimated at more than US\$7 million). For instance, the number of hunting clients in Tanzania has gone up while the income to WD has remained the same. Moreover, many concessions (up to 70% of all concessions) are leased to hunting operators without the capacity to market or manage their own hunting operations. The system thus promotes subleasing to foreigners with a result that much of the income generated by the industry never benefits the country.

4. Analysis

The current management of the Wildlife Sector and specifically the hunting sector is an example of shortcomings in governance, but serves well the short-term interests of some of the present hunting concession holders and a few government officials. There is therefore a strong resistance to reform. The present system endangers the long-term sustainability of the use of wildlife. It provides neither the Government nor the communities what is due to them according to Tanzanian law. Instead it serves the interests of a minority in the private sector and the government. It is a misallocation of resources resulting from a non-market system which is administered at the discretion of a few individuals. The opening up of the Tanzanian economy to a market-based system has not yet found its way into the Wildlife Sector.

5. Action Already Taken

A number of initiatives have been taken by Government and development partners within the field of monitoring, quota setting, improved revenue generation and retention. None of these schemes has so far been successful at providing a comprehensive solution to the fundamental problems. Examples are:

- At the request of the MNRT the financial administration of the Tourist Hunting Section was computerised in the mid-nineties with financial assistance from a donor. This system would have greatly increased transparency and reduced potential for fraud. It was finalised in 1998, but never applied.
- A report on the Tourist Hunting Industry has recently been produced (2004). This study is the first and only presentation of empirical economic data for Tourist Hunting in Tanzania. This study is confidential, copies have been presented to the Wildlife Division, but there has been no response.
- A database has been developed for tourist hunting in the Selous Game Reserve from 1988 to present. A monitoring of hunting trophy quality has been introduced in the Selous Game Reserve since 1998 with results recorded into this database. The database (without trophy monitoring) has

been expanded for game reserves in north-western Tanzania.

- An unsuccessful Kenyan proposal in 2004 to raise the African lion to Appendix I of CITES has prompted the Wildlife Division to introduce minimum requirements for legal hunting of lion trophies. Similar requirements are in place for elephant and leopard trophies, although undersized trophies continue to be exported, (minimum weight of a single elephant tusk is set, minimum body length of leopard and minimum age of lion trophies are established). However, the recent requirements for lion introduce an opportunity to promote certification in the industry and introduce its reform on the international stage, in a similar manner to certification in the Forestry industry.
- Retention schemes, whereby 50% of the income generated from hunting within remains with the management, have been established in Selous Game Reserve, Rukwa Game Reserve and the game reserves of north-western Tanzania in response to GTZ and the European Union interventions.

6. Solutions

Despite many problems, cessation of the hunting industry is not a solution. Without a formal hunting industry, wildlife offtake levels would certainly be higher than present, as past experience has shown and legal revenues will be denied to the Ministry of Natural Resources and Tourism for managing wildlife areas

However, the Wildlife Division needs to implement an effective reform of the tourist hunting industry that will lead to good governance by realising the revenue potential of the industry, while sharing benefits and reducing poverty, and implement the existing WMA concept.

An internal government review by the Ministry of Finance into the Wildlife Division's management might be an effective means to bring about change of the financial control of the industry. This should include a review by the Tanzanian Revenue Authority (TRA) into the taxation procedures of the private sector involved in hunting (with emphasis on subleasing). A comprehensive reform must however also include at least the following aspects:

- Effective market-based competition between hunting operators is introduced, where they bid against each other for concessions. However, recognising the strong resistance to this particular issue, alternative allocation procedures could be an option. Alternatively other criteria may be additionally considered so that the highest bidder does not necessarily qualify. The effective market-based competition should be accompanied by control of subleasing, independent monitoring, and introduction of certification.
- Local communities are important decision makers for setting hunting quotas and for allocating concessions on their land. Moreover, local communities receive and manage hunting revenues generated on their land. While WMA regulations should be implemented, specifically these regulations need to stipulate clearly the sharing of benefits and duties associated with tourist hunting with communities. The correct allocation and utilization of resources can lead to significantly higher levels of revenues for the Government and benefits for communities, which should be used as a yardstick for measure of the effectiveness of reform.

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 3 Tanzania Development Partners Group (DPG)

7. Recommendations to DPG

The DPG is recommended to raise these issues with Government of Tanzania, not only in relation to discussions of the wildlife sector, but also in other relevant discussions of the growth and revenue potential, poverty reduction measures, and good governance of Tanzania.

This is in line with the MKUKUTA, which recognizes the important role of natural resources and specifically the contributions from the Wildlife Sector towards sustainable development of the country. The following sections of Annex 1 of MKUKUTA (see <http://www.tzdac.or.tz/Mkukuta/Mkukuta%20Page.html>) demonstrate the importance of the sector:

Cluster 1: Growth and Reduction of Income Poverty	
Goals	Targets
Goal 2: Promoting Sustainable and broad-based growth	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reduced negative impacts on environment and people's livelihoods • Reduced land degradation and loss of biodiversity
Goal 4: Reducing income poverty of men and women in rural areas	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increased contributions from wildlife, forestry and fisheries to incomes of rural communities
Cluster 2: Improvement of Quality of Life and Social Well-being	
Goal 3: Access to clean, affordable and safe water	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Soil, forest and aquatic ecosystems that people depend upon for production and reproduction conserved • Reduction of land degradation and loss of biodiversity

As mentioned earlier, the first step could be a review by Ministry of Finance (and TRA) of the hunting sector including taxation procedures applied in the hunting industry, the financial status and management of the Wildlife Division. Change could be lobbied regarding the following fundamental aspects:

1. Poverty reduction

Rural communities on whose land much hunting takes place need to be included in the decision making process and to benefit from the use of their resources if poverty is to be reduced in these remote and poor areas.

2. Sustainable growth

Utilization of wildlife resources through tourist hunting needs to be sustainable. Monitoring procedures need to be implemented to inform about sustainability. Growth may be possible in non consumptive wildlife tourism and hunting for meat, but not in the hunting of key species.

3. Revenue collection

The Tanzanian Government needs to introduce transparency in the sector. Essential decisions on the allocation of Tanzania' national assets, such as wildlife resources, must be based on objective market based criteria. When that happens, the true market value of the resources can be obtained by Government, rather than individuals.

5 The Cat Conservation Trust and the Black Footed Cat

By Richard & Marion Holmes

Editor's Note: Hunters and Farmers in South Africa are requested to cooperate with the Holmes' in their conservation efforts for the small African cat species. The Black Footed Cat project needs input from these persons. African Indaba readers are asked to cooperate.

The Karoo Cat Research done by IUCN cat specialist Dr Mircea Pfeleiderer has been conducting research for the last twelve years on the species of the African Wild Cat (*Felis libyca*), the Small Spotted Cat or Black Footed Cat (*Felis nigripes*), the Caracal (*Profelix caracal*) and recently the Serval (*Leptailurus serval*). The research is centred on behavior but includes many more aspects of the life of these cats, be it in the wild or in captivity.

For the lasts six years the Karoo Cat Research has been working closely with *Karoo Pred-a-tours*, owned by Richard & Marion Holmes, to not only breed these small cats in captivity for selective release into suitable wild habitats, but also to inform and educate the public about the important role these animals play in bio-diversity conservation.

We have established a non-profit trust to run this operation. The Cat Conservation Trust is registered with the Master of the High Court (Registration number IT1239/2004). We have just received confirmation of PBO status (public Benefit Organization) - PBO Exemption number 930 016 368. The founding trustees are Richard and Marion Holmes. The patrons of the trust are Dr Mircea Pfeleiderer and Dr Kevin Robertson. Dr Robertson is a well-known wildlife veterinarian and author (*Editor's Note: "The Perfect Shot"*). The other trustees, Mr Philip Gerber, is our chartered accountant and Mr Mahlathini "Kooos" Sihelegu is our cat man that has been involved with the cats from the beginning of the project

Certain of the research facilities, including cat enclosures, are open to the public and tours are held of the facilities. We also address farmers individually and collectively at functions to promote bio-diversity and its usefulness to farming. Our facility and project has been hosted in the media on several occasions.

In April this year, after many weeks of anxiously waiting for the permits to be approved by Eastern Cape Nature Conservation, we sent most of last years kittens off on their road to freedom when Kwandwe Private Game Reserve came to fetch them. It was a bitter sweet moment. First a litter of small spotted cat kittens that were successfully raised by their mother were released after spending 3 weeks in an acclimatization boma on the reserve. Both litters of African wild cat kittens born last year were also released by Kwandwe onto their reserve. The older female was collared by Dr Douw Grobber and will be monitored by the Phd student currently on the reserve. This release was screened on SABC TV news on 04 June.

Another world leading authority on the black footed/small spotted cat, Dr Alexander Sliwa of the Wuppertal Zoo and Black Footed Cat Studbook keeper, has recently visited our facility and

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5 The Cat Conservation Trust and the Black Footed Cat

is pleased with our progress and offering assistance where necessary. We have been requested by Dr Sliwa to take part in collecting invaluable data for this species. The black footed cat is very difficult to breed in captivity and has a high fatality rate. Kidney failure accounts for 70% of all fatalities in captive cats – namely AA Amyloidosis. There is terminal kidney function loss when black footed cat starts drinking in captivity. In the wild they get all their fluid from the prey animals they consume. A healthy wild black footed cat never drinks.

First clinical signs of amyloidosis are detected through elevated blood values. A method for pre-mortem AA-Amyloidosis recognition was developed. Unfortunately, Dr Sliwa has found that some wild cats sampled also have elevated blood values and could therefore also be at risk of this disease. Post-mortem testing is done from all organs. The aim of this testing is to find out about the onset of the disease in individuals of different lineages, and if there is a sex and age related influence of the disease.

Objectives and Request for Assistance:

- Collect hair and blood samples and conduct subsequent DNA fingerprinting analysis to determine the degree of relatedness (inbreeding), or possible sub-specific status of the population.
- Study the blood chemistry of free-ranging cats to answer questions encountered during captive breeding and to collect baseline data.
- Determine whether animals in the wild are affected by AA-Amyloidosis
- Look at distribution of black-footed cats in all provinces, also Namibia, Botswana.

Anyone who comes across a dead black footed cat is requested to contact us for information on what samples etc are needed and how to preserve them. We are also requesting any confirmed photographic sightings of live black footed cats in the wild to be forwarded to us together with all the information of date, place, time etc.

Contact Details: Richard & Marion Holmes, Cat Conservation Trust, PO Box 713, Cradock 5880 South Africa, Phone (048) 8812814, email: holmes@intekom.co.za

... to measure and retain the rich biodiversity of Africa ... we need to break with traditional thinking to catalyze a new vision and join hands in new partnerships!

Nelson Mandela

6 News From Africa

Congo (Republic)

A blanket ban on hunting in Congo has made life difficult for the indigenous hunter-gatherer Baka community, living in the rain forests near the timber-concession areas in the north. Some Baka have warned that the ban resulted in increased malnutrition among children and vulnerable adults. Congolese Wood Industries (CIB) which controls ca 1.3 million hectares, government and the Wildlife Conservation Society are enforcing the animal poaching ban within the concession areas. This has jeopardized the Baka traditional way of life and threatens food security. Edmond Mondzoumbé, a Baka leader said, "We have the feeling that the people who work for wildlife conservation have decided to kill us." He stated that government, CIB and WCS should be seeking a compromise that supports sustainable wildlife management and conservation while preserving Baka livelihoods and customs.

Botswana

The Minister of Environment, Wildlife and Tourism, Pelonomi Venson, informed parliament that the 2006 hunting season will include a quota of 31 lion and 270 elephant.

Namibia

The African Wild Dog, Okamatapati, Otjituuo and Ozonahi conservancies with a total population of about 24 000 and covering an area of 1.6 million hectares, were launched on 20.9.2005 by Minister of Environment and Tourism Konjore. These communal areas have now joined a 42 strong conservancy community consisting of conservancies located in Caprivi, Erongo, Hardap, Karas, Kavango, Kunene, Omusati, Otjozondjupa and Oshikoto. Namibia Nature Foundation CEO Chris Brown said Namibia was successful in CBNRM because it had clear complementary objectives such as unlocking the economic potential of wildlife, tourism and forest products, creating incentives to manage wildlife and other natural resources sustainably, supporting and promoting the establishment of local management and developing institutions as well as correcting discriminatory imbalances of the past. Since the start of the program, wildlife numbers have increased and rural communities have rights, training and skills to manage their own natural resources and institutions. In addition, said Brown, the money the communities have been earning since the start of CBNRM has increased from N\$6 million in 2001 to an anticipated N\$18 million in 2005.

South Africa

Eastern Cape Land Affairs and Agriculture MEC Gugile Nkwinti has sparked controversy with game ranchers by attacking them as "elitist". Mantis Group chairperson Adrian Gardiner, owners of the famous Shamwari Game Reserve, said in a comment to Nkwinti's remarks that game farming had increased both employment and wages. However, Nkwinti told a newspaper that his comments were not about jobs, but about Africans' access to, and ownership of, land. The Eastern Cape Agricultural Research Project (ECARP) later released a research report arguing that game farm development undermines land reform. The report stated that the game farming and hunting industry has expanded by between 50% and 60% in the Makana and Ndlambe municipalities over the past five years and called for an immedi-

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ate moratorium on the expansion of game farms in Makana, Ndlambe and Sunday's River. ECARP's Lali Naidoo said that "land for redistribution purposes is becoming [a] scarce commodity." The ECARP report says that because land is getting scarcer and more expensive, Africans have a shrinking chance of becoming landowners. It suggests people are losing livelihoods and secure tenure because cattle ranches are being converted into game farms.

South Africa

Investigative reporter Ian Micheler stated that 3,000 lion are held in captive breeding operations. Around 500 cheetah and 250 wild dog are being held, many caught illegally in the wild. There were as many as 60 tigers, as well as jaguars, pumas and grey wolves. Michler said the investigation was difficult as both the industry and some provincial conservation authorities were reluctant to cooperate. The "hotspots" were the Free State, North-West Province and Limpopo, but the industry in the Eastern Cape was growing fastest. Of concern was also the selective breeding of animals with recessive genes: white lions, king cheetahs and black leopards. "And I saw with my own eyes lions and tigers being kept in the same cages in an attempt to get them to breed," Micheler said.

South Africa

The 130 square mile Welgevonden Private Game Reserve in Limpopo has destroyed a lioness and its four cubs. Two other private reserves - Entabeni, also in Limpopo and Phinda in KwaZulu-Natal - said they will be forced to cull if the surplus cannot be sold. Madikwe a provincial reserve in North West confirmed it is an option they will have to consider. All say that lion numbers have grown beyond carrying capacity - and they cannot sell them because there are too many on the market. The reserves are using implanted contraceptives in lionesses to control numbers, but this is not totally effective. Hunting is a possible solution for the 10,000-acre Entabeni reserve. "The first option is to sell them," manager said. "If we don't find anybody, the second option is to hunt them. If permission for that is denied, we'll have to cull them."

South Africa

In the 2006 season Mpumalanga Parks Board conducts trophy hunting in the following provincial nature and game reserves: Loskop, Mahushu Shongwe, Songimvelo, Nooitgedacht Dam, Barberton, Verlorenvallei, SS Skosana, Swadini (Blyde River Canyon) and Ohrigstad as well as 3 cattle/game projects Mabusa, Mdala, and Mkhombo. Tenders were called for the trophy hunting packages from qualified, registered hunting outfitters. The tenders will be adjudicated by a Tender Committee of the Mpumalanga Parks Board. While maximum income generation is important, there are other criteria specific to each reserve, which have to be satisfied. The track record of the outfitter will be an important factor to be considered. The concessions will be allocated to the successful bidders by December 23rd, 2005. The hunting season will commence on the 1st of April and go to the 31st of October.

Zimbabwe

The Masoka community in the Dande Valley is located on the banks of Angwa River, about 50km north of Mushumbi

7 CMS and CIC Join Hands for Conservation of Migratory Species

CIC Press Release

The UNEP [Convention on Migratory Species](#) (CMS) and the [International Council for Game and Wildlife Conservation](#) (CIC) have signed a formal Partnership Agreement at the CMS Conference of the Parties COP8 in Nairobi on November 20th, 2005. "This agreement will be a real tool in hand to make sure that the dynamic and successful alliance between the two global conservation bodies can grow from strength to strength." says Robert Hepworth, Executive Secretary of CMS.

CMS and the CIC share many common values. Hepworth explains further: "CMS and CIC also build real bridges between all people with a stake in maintaining healthy, well managed and sustainable populations of wild animals and birds. This is the key route to reaching the targets for reversing the trend of biodiversity losses by 2010, which all the Governments of the world agreed at the Sustainable Development Summit three years ago, and confirmed at the UN Summit in New York in September 2005."

8 What the Kidunda Dam will Destroy

By Dr. Rolf D. Baldus

Editor's Note: Dr Rolf Baldus wrote this article as foreword to Tanzania Wildlife Discussion Paper No. 45 "What the Kidunda Dam will Destroy: Ecological and Socio-economic Value of Gonabis, Selous Game Reserve Tanzania" by Devesh Rustagi. In 2000, the World Commission on Dams under the leadership of Prof. Kader Asmal, looked at the good, the bad and the ugly impacts on dams around the world and published a report in 2001. This report recognized the fact that dams produce benefits for societies, but that they also lead to the irreversible loss of species, ecosystems and cultural diversity. The world cannot say "We did not know!" – and we need to focus the attention of the Government of Tanzania to this fact! The World Water Council's statement "there is a water crisis today – it is a crisis of managing water so badly that billions of people and the environment suffer" puts the finger into the wounds which Kidunda Dam will create!

Download the full text of the paper from <http://www.wildlife-programme.gtz.de/wildlife/publications.html>

The Selous Game Reserve is Africa's oldest (established in 1896) and largest (ca. 50,000 km²) protected area. Due to its extraordinary global importance it was declared a World Heritage Site in 1982 by UNESCO. The Reserve went through many ups and downs, most notably the breakdown of management and the poaching crisis of the 1970ies and

80ies, reducing the rhinos from over 2,000 to not more than

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Pools. The 350 families mainly work the fragile soils by planting sorghum and rapoko. As a bush community, they are allowed to hunt a few animals for consumption. Masoka villagers have an immense understanding and passion for wildlife utilization, which has benefited many of the country's rural dwellers more than any other developmental funding.

Through the Communal Areas Management Programme for Indigenous Resources (CAMPFIRE) initiative the community built a clinic, a school, 2 grinding mills, 2 rest camps, a borehole and upgraded the link to the Mushumbi-Kanyemba Road. The community also erected a solar powered fence around their homes to protect their small plots from wild animals. The rest camps cater for overnight accommodation and safari hunting.

CAMPFIRE Director Charles Jonga praised the important aspects of community rights in wildlife utilization in reducing poverty and conflict between people and wildlife as much as being a conservation strategy. Success is determined by decentralization of control over natural resources to the community and the willingness/capacity to adopt natural resources management as a development strategy. Insecure ownership rights and a Government policy framework that does not adequately address this issue are obstacles. Zimbabwe's wildlife belongs to the State therefore the legislation only confers user-rights over wildlife to both the owners of private land and occupiers of State land, Jonga said..

In 2004, Masoka village had a hunting quota of 9 elephant, 60 buffalo, 3 lion, 5 leopard, and several species of plains game. The 2001 Aerial Census Report, Guruve district reported about 3,000 elephants and elephant hunting quotas need to be reviewed. Between 2002 and 2003, Masoka earned about US\$95,000 from safari hunting. For the first quarter of 2004, the community earned US\$60,170. In 1996, Masoka stopped distributing CAMPFIRE income as individual cash dividends, opting for essential infrastructure development and establishment of income generating projects through collective decision-making. " We have experience in developing the wildlife harvest quota each year," said Masoka resident Mr Shepherd Chaukwa. One of the biggest lessons from Dande is that pro-poor conservation can be advanced through innovative experiences of such communities.

Zimbabwe

Associated Press reported in November that President Bush is targeting the US accounts of leading government officials in Zimbabwe. Bush had signed an executive order blocking all property and financial holdings in the United States owned by 128 people and 33 institutions in Zimbabwe (the complete list at <http://www.ustreas.gov/offices/enforcement/ofac/sdn/t11sdn.pdf>) . It bars U.S. citizens from having financial dealings with them, expands the Executive Order of March 2003, adds 53 people and applies to their immediate family members. It also allows the departments to expand the list without presidential order. The EU has imposed sanctions on Zimbabwe that include banning Mugabe and other officials from traveling to EU countries.

Zimbabwe

Crocodiles killed 13 people in the first 10 months of 2005, according to the annual report of CAMPFIRE. Elephants killed

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8 What the Kibunda Dam Will Destroy

a hundred and elephants from over 100,000 to less than 30,000.

Since the late 1980ies management has been revitalized under the Selous Conservation Program, cooperation between the Tanzanian and German Governments. The Reserve stands financially on its own feet, as it is now allowed to retain half of its income from hunting and photographic tourism. The Tanzanian Government has vowed to honor this financial agreement even after the Selous Conservation Program came to an end in 2003.

Under the same program the Wildlife Division moved from the traditional concept of "Fortress Conservation" towards the involvement of rural communities in the management and sustainable utilization of wildlife on their land. Practical pilot projects started in the late 1980 around the Selous, and today this approach is embedded in the Wildlife Policy of Tanzania.

The oldest Pilot Wildlife Management Area (WMA) is the JUKUMU, an association of 22 villages which collectively manage the Gonabis area. The benefits so far are limited to an annual concession fee of a tourist lodge within the WMA, a legal supply of bush meat on quota basis, revenues from the sale of this meat within the community, voluntary donations from hunting companies, the occasional sales of crocodile skins etc. The real money would come as soon as the WMA is fully registered and receives "wildlife-user rights" under the law. Tendering the hunting and tourism rights in Gonabis could fetch US\$100,000 to 200,000 p a. The communities know this and their patience is running out.

Before the start of the WMA scheme, Gonabis was under imminent threat of losing its wildlife and biodiversity. Poaching for bushmeat and ivory was rampant, and isolated shifting cultivation took place along the Selous boundary. To protect these scattered fields elephants were shot along the Mgeta River. The benefits from all this exploitation were minimal, unsustainable and shared only by a few people.

Over years a dialogue was held with the communities, land use plans were developed in a participatory manner and finally a "Community Based Organisation", JUKUMU, was created. The objectives were two-fold:

- to allow long-term benefits from a sustainable use of natural resources in Gonabis, thereby reducing poverty and
- to conserve natural resources and biodiversity of Gonabis

Management of the new scheme was placed in the hands of democratically elected committees, with practical control and law enforcement in the field becoming the responsibility of village game scouts in cooperation with the Selous' own security forces.

The conservation activities, including the work carried out by village scouts, are financed mainly from JUKUMU's own income. Gonabis has a tremendous biodiversity value, which has so far not been tapped. Although completely unresearched as yet, we know from aerial surveys that it has the highest densities of the Niassa wildebeest (extinct in its southern range), zebras, giraffes and other large herbivores in the whole Selous ecosystem. The 250 km² hold a buffalo population of 3,000, a quickly growing elephant population with big tuskers showing up again, and endangered animals like wild dogs and the occasional cheetah. I myself have tracked rhino three km south of the Gonabis boundary in the Selous. Being a temporary wetland Gonabis offers

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grazing until late in the dry season and it is therefore an indispensable extension for the wildlife of the Northern Sector of the Selous.

This area, with its variety of vegetation, its lakes and channels, its mountain ranges and savannahs is scenically and in terms of wildlife numbers and variety the most attractive area in the whole Reserve. It has therefore been developed for tourism and has 9 lodges offering high-class, low volume tourism. Gonabis is indispensable for the big mammals of the northern Selous, which migrate here regularly. Without Gonabis there would be fewer wildebeests, buffalos, zebras and impalas and fewer lions and wild dogs in the tourist sector of the Reserve.

However, Gonabis is endangered. In 1993 the managers of the Selous Game Reserve and the Selous Conservation Program learned from a newspaper article that a large dam across the Ruvu River was being planned at Kidunda, about nine km east of Gonabis. The resulting lake would have covered most of Gonabis and parts of the Selous along its northern border. It would also have necessitated the eviction of around 16,000 to 20,000 people. Plans were well advanced, but after the Japanese Government, which was to be the financier of the dam, learned about the probable ecological consequences, the project was shelved, and Japan has no intentions to take them up again.

Since then the World Bank has been contacted and preparations for the dam have been going on for seven years now. The Bank has mixed experiences with such large dams and has become sensitive to ecological and social consequences, knowing that they are under critical international observation. The public in Tanzania, however, has been led to believe that agreement on the dam has been reached already and that it will be built. With such self-fulfilling political statements obviously facts shall be created irrespective of the results of a future Environmental Impact Analysis which the World Bank will apply as a normal procedure.

The Kidunda Dam is planned as a water reservoir for the supply of water to Dar es Salaam. The city certainly has a chronic undersupply of water. The reasons are an insufficient supply of water from the Ruvu, a defunct pipe system, an inefficient distribution and billing system and an equally inefficient and disorganized public water service provider. An effort to privatize the water services recently failed, mainly for political reasons. To increase the supply of water is therefore only one factor in a complex set of necessary actions. The question remains whether the Kidunda dam – apart from its clearly negative ecological and social consequences – is in any way a sensible option.

First of all, there have been other possible sources named, like the Rufiji and the Wami Rivers or a reservoir in the Ruvu close to Dar es Salaam. Also a dam in one of the narrow gorges of the Uluguru Mountains and in particular deep ground-water etc are quoted as alternative options.

As a layman I have, secondly, never understood how this extremely flat pan, called Gonabis, without any elevations or low lying parts, can be suitable for a water reservoir at all. The name "Gonabis" in the local Kutu language means a kind of low – lying, flat place. The resulting lake will be extremely flat and consequently large. Evaporation and siltation will be very high. The

Gonabis ecosystem is extremely dynamic, as I have observed over twenty years since I saw it for the first time in 1986. I have seen the Mgeta River changing its bed by up to 10 km north on two occasions in the 1990ies. We also observe that the water intake has become visibly less in the dry season recently. This might be a result of the ongoing destruction of the Uluguru Mountain vegetation, and the conservation of these mountains is a pre-condition for any effort to obtain water anywhere in the area. Third, the supply route for water to Dar es Salaam is very long, and the water will therefore be costly.

Finally, the whole social impact of such a dam has not been considered yet. Apart from major resettlement rural communities would lose an area which they have managed as a kind of private nature reserve for nearly two decades now. They have never been involved in any kind of decision making as far as the dam is concerned, and the project was completely new to them when we informed them via JUKUMU. So far they are in total opposition. Gonabis has never been subjected to any type of ecological research. The paper "What the Kidunda Dam will Destroy: Ecological and Socio-economic Value of Gonabis, Selous Game Reserve, Tanzania" was prepared by a post-graduate student as part of his participation in the internship program which we run jointly with the Wildlife Division.

It was prepared in a time span of only three months and field research was hampered by rains and difficult access to Gonabis. Nevertheless the results might be useful as a first analysis of the ecological and socio-economic values of Gonabis – values which would be lost if a dam is built. I hope that more in-depth scientific studies will follow.

Elephantine Dilemma

Elephants in southern Africa recovered from a population low of a few thousand in 1900 to more than 250 000 today.

What problems do they cause? What's the solution? Dr David Cumming presents some of the concerns in his article "[Elephantine Dilemma](#)" ([Quest1 \(2-05\)](#)).

Cumming says in the article that "A harvest of 5,000 elephants from a population of 200,000 elephants could generate US\$40 million a year – enough to protect and manage 200,000 km² of protected area at a rate of \$200/km². National parks in Mozambique and Zimbabwe are currently operating on budgets as low as about \$5 and \$10/km².

He also says that the ecological and economic questions can be examined and analyzed scientifically. But, ultimately, management decisions have to do with public choice, governed by the worldviews and the values of those who influence and take decisions.

As a service to readers we have included Dr Cumming's article on the African Indaba webpage – it is essential that you read it!

9 Indigenous Trees for Life in South Africa

Hundreds of rural families in KwaZulu-Natal - many of which are child-headed households - are creating a little income by growing indigenous trees from the seed they find and using the young trees as currency. A range of 'Tree Stores' will organize barter arrangements between the communities who grow the trees and suppliers of surplus goods that can be used for barter.

The "Indigenous Trees for Life" project is spearheaded by the Wildlands Conservation Trust, and grew out of the 'Indigenous Trees for School Fees' project. This project began last year with a simple idea: encourage children who live near indigenous forests to gather the seeds from indigenous trees, plant them and sell the young trees in order to pay their school fees. The sale of the trees was assured by means of generous donations from Unilever and Investec, which bought the trees from the youngsters and sold them on to nurseries and landscaping companies. The young tree-growers were quickly dubbed "Treepreneurs" for their enthusiasm. In the middle of 2005 - The Qhubeka (Motive Power Movement), donated 10 bicycles to the project for tree-bartering and 10 youngsters 'bought' themselves brand new bikes with the trees. IN December 2005 one hundred new bikes were handed over to children from the KwaJobe community in an expansion of the project. The bicycles are sponsored by Axiz Computers as part of a social responsibility program. The Wildlands Conservation Trust is also negotiating with Unilever for their surplus production to be made available to the 'Tree Stores'. A supermarket chain is also willing to make donations in the form of food vouchers in exchange for trees. The project is due to be expanded next year into other geographical areas such as Richard's Bay, Sokhulu and Umhlanga.

For information contact Charmaine Veldman at 084-5565885.

10 Bibliography: Selous Game Reserve (Revised 2005)

By Dr. Rolf D. Baldus

Editor's Note: Rolf Baldus and his co-authors have compiled an extremely valuable bibliography on the Selous. The extensive list of books, articles and documents covers the broadest possible aspects and whether you are planning a photographic or a hunting safari in Tanzania, you will find in-depth information there.

The Selous Game Reserve and its neighborhood are the focus of considerable conservation and development efforts. The reserve itself is one of the largest protected wilderness areas in the world and offers only limited access for wildlife viewing and controlled hunting tourism. Declared a World Heritage Site under the World Heritage Convention, the reserve is surrounded by large areas of sparsely settled bush with some subsistence cultivation. These peripheral lands are increasingly the subject of

efforts to reconcile the conflicting interests of subsistence cultivators and the wildlife alongside which they live. The level of interest in the Selous and its recent development made it useful to compile a list of all literature that relates to the Selous Game Reserve and its environs and to update it. Considering the nature of the area's recent history, it is not surprising that much of the literature is in the form of unpublished Government typescript reports and memos, or unpublished papers by other agencies.

There is also a variety of literature stretching back to the 19th century, which relates to the area now covered by Selous Game Reserve and its buffer zones. We have included books, articles in scientific and other journals and magazines, grey literature and important typescripts, but no newspaper articles. The main objective of compiling this bibliography is to remove the necessity of laborious literature searches. The bibliography may also be of interest to the serious tourist and nature lover. We have tried to check as many works as possible ourselves, in order to make sure that they are, in fact, of relevance to the Selous Game Reserve. We are aware of the fact that not all bibliographical data are totally complete. This was, however, unavoidable, as not every title was accessible in the original. As this list is certainly incomplete, the authors would be pleased to learn of any omissions or additions. For this 2005 revision I have updated and extended the first and second bibliographies, which were published as SCP Discussion Paper No. 17 in 1994 and as Tanzania Wildlife Discussion Paper No. 28 in 2001. All new entries are marked after the author's name with *. I thank Philbert M. Ngoti for typing the additions.

The Bibliography on Selous Game Reserve 2005 (Tanzania Wildlife Discussion Paper No. 44) can be downloaded at www.wildlife-programme.gtz.de/wildlife

11 NAPHA Appeals for Hunting Concessions

Source: New Era (Windhoek), November 24, 2005

The [Namibian Professional Hunting Association](#) (NAPHA) has made an impassioned plea to the Ministry of Environment and Tourism (MET) to address the delays in allocating concessions, which has caused the tourism industry as well as the State to lose potential income of about N\$30 million. The delay in allocating concessions has had a negative impact on the national economy as communities, airlines, hotels, the retail industry, the big game hunting operators as well as the State lose out, said Marina Lamprecht, chairperson of the NAPHA Education Committee. She was speaking at the opening of the 3rd NAPHA education workshop, which was officiated by MET Minister, Willem Konjore.

Another concern raised by NAPHA is the delay in granting permission for the hunting of the black rhino in accordance with the MET proposal for which it received support from CITES. Namibia and its neighbor, South Africa were allowed to each kill five black rhinos per year. The two countries told the 13th CITES

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meeting that only male black rhinos over 30 years old would be targeted, arguing that aging dominant males often prevented younger males from mating, leading to inbreeding and a population slowdown. But the delays in granting permission to hunt black rhino, said Lamprecht, has given Namibia's neighbors the benefit of currently being the sole provider in the hunting industry.

"These issues are currently of great concern to trophy hunting in Namibia. The first matter concerns big game concessions on State land. Our industry is desperate for information on the status quo," she said. Asking the minister to intervene on behalf of the association, Lamprecht said: "We understand that the process is currently caught up in the approval stage as part of the broader national concessions policy."

While recognizing and appreciating good policy, Lamprecht said she understood that the regulations had already been formulated and that areas and quotas have been earmarked. Konjore said although the losses were not something one would wish to happen, giving licenses and concessions needed the legal framework that would level the playing and competition grounds. He promised to address the situation. He further said that MET was developing a tourism concession policy, which includes the trophy hunting and tourism concessions for previously disadvantaged members of society. "I hope you will be part of the group of previously disadvantaged Namibians who might be land owners one day, owners and operators of your own hunting business that will be able to benefit from this policy and the entire tourism sector," said the minister to the workshop participants.

He noted that the workshops of the association have provided industry related training and the social upliftment of skilled and semi skilled employees, who in the past were not given due recognition for their role in the Namibian trophy hunting industry. The training is for hunting assistants and camp attendants, aimed at equipping them with meat working skills, taxidermy process, table service, stock control, housekeeping, laundry service and other tourism related skills. Amongst others, the workshop presented lectures on the importance of consistent, high quality service at all levels of the trophy hunting business; the challenges and costs of developing and maintaining the necessary infrastructure; and the ever increasing need for effective marketing of a trophy operation.

12 African Elephants: How to Die?

By Jacques Berney

For some months, and actually perhaps for years, South Africa has been confronting what appears, (although it should not) to be a serious dilemma: should culling of elephants be resumed in the Kruger National Park? It was stopped there in 1995 after long debates with animal rights groups such as IFAW and HSUS, which offered so-called compensations in the form of grants to buy land to translocate some animals, or to experiment with methods of contraception for them. Although the Minister of

the Environment has not given formal approval, it appears that the decision to resume culling has now been made. Through *African Hunting Info*, we have learned that the Minister and officials of the South African National Parks have recently visited some key countries in Europe, to explain to representatives of governments and NGOs why elephant numbers need to be reduced and, we presume, to get some assurance that South Africa shall not be criticized too strongly, when culling starts again.

At the same time, dramatic reports are coming from the also famous Hwange National Park in Zimbabwe, where at least 50 elephants have died and many more are expected to die due to serious lack of food and water. This region, like others in southern Africa, is once more suffering a serious drought. Although officials of Zimbabwe have suggested the translocation of elephants from Hwange to Namibia, *African Hunting Info* has reported that the Namibian director of parks and wildlife management refuses; there is no way for Namibia to accommodate more jumbos; they have enough elephants of their own.

These two situations have to be considered at the same time, as they are parts of the same problem. How can elephant populations be managed, when it is evident that their numbers are becoming excessive in view of the habitat available? While the population of the Kruger NP was for years maintained around 7000 elephants, it has steadily grown after the ban on culling. In spite of actual translocations and the opening to new grounds, including through the elimination of fences at the border with Mozambique, it has probably doubled by now. In Hwange NP, where the capacity is estimated at around 45,000 elephants, the population has soared to more than 75,000. Such densities are not without serious consequences on the habitat, especially in the case of negative climatic events, drought in particular. This has detrimental impacts on other species and on the elephant itself, as now evidenced in Zimbabwe. A solution should be found before very serious disasters occur there and elsewhere in similar circumstances.

This kind of problem is indeed not specific to either the African elephant or to southern Africa. Many countries throughout the world are confronted with similar problems, e.g. in Europe with wild boars, foxes and deer, in North America with deer, beaver and seals, in Australia with kangaroos and some parrots. In all these countries, the problem has not turned to a dilemma. It is simply and logically understood, in particular by governments, that these species have to be managed and, to prevent their demographic explosion, that they must be hunted or culled. Except for seals, this does not raise large campaigns of protest, if any. Regarding foxes, as an example, animal-right groups may be using them to produce posters and pamphlets but this is not to campaign against their hunt but against the use of their pelts because these groups are opposed to the fur industry in general. The United Kingdom is or was an exception, due to the traditional dog hunting. Few of these groups propose contraception for wild boar or deer, nor do they consider those species as endangered contrary to what they claim for the African elephant. Why this difference in attitude? Because they know well that their protests would remain without any effect on the authorities and, above all, would result in a complete failure in terms of fund raising. The elephant, on the other side, what a godsend! Millions of dollars have been collected to 'save' elephants, although

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not much has reached the range countries to assist them to conserve the species.

Therefore, we shall strongly support South Africa, as well as other countries such as Zimbabwe, when they resume culling where necessary to prevent African elephant overcrowding and the destruction of its habitat. There is no need to ask for permission from other governments or especially, from NGOs, to manage their own game. The former are not telling them whether hunting should be allowed or not on their territories and while the views of NGOs might be taken into consideration, they should not dictate the final decision. Similarly, the governments of these African countries should not listen to NGOs that are blackmailing them by claiming that it would be against tourism interests to cull elephants because international tourists would boycott them. Hunting and culling may perfectly coexist with tourism when properly conducted, as demonstrated in many places, including in Kruger NP before 1995. Concerning contraception, which is still considered by some NGOs as a potential solution, to suggest that a species should be prevented to breed is blatantly indecent from people who describe it as in danger of extinction. To close waterholes, as also proposed, does not inspire better feelings.

In addition, it should not be forgotten that before the culling ban in Kruger NP, elephants were providing considerable quantities of meat for the local human population, and other products of high value on the international markets. The economic return from culling, although it is not without costs, is far from negligible and is a benefit to the conservation of the elephant, of other species, and to local communities sharing the same habitats. This supposes however that it is possible to trade internationally in these products. For that reason CITES should finally agree that countries which have been the best protectors of their populations of elephants have to be allowed to manage them in their (the countries' and the elephants') best interests.

If these countries still have doubts on their rights in this matter, they should ask the relevant governments how they would react if they were pushed to ban any use of wild boar, deer or kangaroos.

Source: www.iwmc.org/newsletter/newsletter.htm

13 A Perfect Paradise Lost: Gough Island

In his talk at the Ellerman Resource Centre Prof Kevin Gaston from Sheffield University provided a glimpse into the natural history of Gough Island during the 9th biennial Ellerman Commemorative Lecture of the Department of Botany and Zoology at Stellenbosch University.

Although Gough Island has not been inhabited by humans over the last century, the approximate 250 landings on the island have had clearly evident effects. Prof Gaston, chair of Biodiversity and Macroecology from the University of Sheffield focused on the impact which accidental visits, sealing, whaling, and potential guano harvesting and diamond prospecting have had,

specifically in the context of invasive alien species introductions.

For example, the effects of the common house mouse, introduced by sealers in the 18th century, on the bird populations of the island made headlines recently when it was observed that house mice are eating living birds. The first alien plant species was noticed by Hänel in 1998, which led to a large-scale study identifying alien species and investigating their effects on the native species. The effects have been shown to be extensive, especially in insect communities.

Prof Gaston proposed that humanity seek to preserve these relatively "unspoiled" areas and suggested that two major issues should be addressed. Through education the public should be made aware of these natural jewels and be made to understand their importance. The second issue is securing the funding necessary for the preservation of these areas. New models for the financing of these endeavors should be devised, or current models should be used more effectively, as it is much easier to lose a paradise than to regain it.

Prof Gaston's lecture coincided with the launch of the book "Gough Island- A Natural History" which he co-authored with Ch. Hänel and Prof S Chown, director of the DST-NRF Centre of Excellence for Invasion Biology. The book, which details the natural history of Gough Island and its changing ecosystems, retails at R285 and can be bought from the www.sun-e-shop.co.za website.

14 CIC: Core Competence for Sustainable Use Options

The [International Council for Game and Wildlife Conservation \(CIC\)](http://www.cic.org) is a politically independent advisory body internationally active on a non-profit basis. With its renowned scientific capacity, the CIC assists governments and environmental organizations in maintaining natural resources by sustainable use. CIC is unique in its diversity: it unites Member States (mostly represented by the Ministry responsible for wildlife management and conservation), universities, organizations engaged in hunting, as well as individuals such as private members and scientific experts from 81 countries.

The strength of CIC is its federal structure, consisting of 39 National Delegations that are active on local level while they support the 10 Commissions and 5 Working Groups, which act beyond political boundaries.

With the participation of CIC experts from all parts of the world, these Commissions and Working Groups address technical issues, undertake projects and develop recommendations within their areas of specialization. The administrative organs of the CIC consist of the General Assembly, the Council and the Executive Committee. The legal seat is located in Vienna and the Executive Office operates from Budapest.

The CIC is actively assisting governments in wildlife policy and law development, cooperates with UN organizations such as UNEP, FAO etc. as well as IUCN and all prominent international environmental conventions with relevance to wildlife conserva-

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14 CIC: Core Competence for Sustainable Use Options

tion and management. Under the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) and the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES), the CIC enjoys the status of an Intergovernmental Organisation (IGO).

In a most recent development on November 20th 2005, the UNEP Convention on Migratory Species (CMS) and CIC have signed a formal Partnership Agreement at the CMS CoP 8 in Nairobi.

Robert Hepworth, Executive Secretary of CMS said after the signing ceremony "CMS and CIC also build real bridges between all people with a stake in maintaining healthy, well managed and sustainable populations of wild animals and birds. This is the key route to reaching the targets for reversing the trend of biodiversity losses by 2010, which all the Governments of the world agreed at the Sustainable Development Summit three years ago, and confirmed at the UN Summit in New York in September 2005."

At the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biodiversity (CBD) in Malaysia in 2004, 188 states agreed on a comprehensive catalogue of principles and guidelines for the use of biological diversity, the so-called Addis Ababa Principles and Guidelines (AAPG), which the CIC has co-developed. AAPG provide a framework for assisting stakeholders on international, regional, national and local levels, as well as institutional levels such as the UN System, Conventions, Governments, development agencies, local and indigenous communities, resource managers, the private sector and NGOs, on how to ensure that their uses of biodiversity will not lead to its long-term decline.

At the 3rd World Conservation Congress (2004) the AAPG were adopted by IUCN and CITES incorporated AAPG into its work at CoP 13 in Bangkok.

AAPG apply to any consumptive or non-consumptive use of biological diversity and is a practical guiding tool for the implementation of the African Convention on the Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources ("African Convention"), which already incorporates modern schemes of conservation and strengthens the role of "Incentive-Driven-Conservation".

In November 2004 IUCN Congress, CIC closely cooperated with Game Rangers Association of Africa, EWT and SANParks on their recommendation on sustainable consumptive use of wildlife and recreational hunting in Southern Africa. IUCN adopted the recommendation, "accepting that well-managed recreational hunting has a role in the managed sustainable consumptive use of wildlife populations" and "condemning the killing of animals in small enclosures where they have little or no chance of escape."

CIC was substantially involved in the drafting, promotion and successful adoption of a number of other motions like:

- Ratification/Implementation of the revised African Convention
- Management of large terrestrial herbivores in Southern Africa
- Humane trapping standards

At the 5th IUCN World Parks Congress (2003). CIC pointed out the role hunting and appropriate forms of wildlife utilization play for sustainable financing of Protected Areas and rural development. The FAO regarded the CIC initiative very important and provided full support to the final document, which was

adopted by the Congress.

After having created the "CIC Coordination for International Wildlife Management Education" in 2001, CIC organized the symposium "Bridging Continents for Wildlife Management Education" in Istanbul, Turkey in 2002 with the heads of wildlife management departments of various universities in world attending. This CIC experience will be valuable for African Governments especially in the context of Black Economic Empowerment (BEE).

Other significant CIC activities:

- CIC and China (Ministry of Forestry & Department of Wildlife Conservation) agreed to cooperate on the development of a hunting policy and legislation
- In Afghanistan, CIC cooperates with UNEP and the Government on a political, legal and practical base for long-term conservation and sustainable use of wildlife
- The "CIC Sustainable Use Commission" works with the evolving definition of sustainable use and cooperates in the IUCN Sustainable Use Specialist Group and other international and regional forums like CITES.
- The "CIC Commission on Traditional Hunting – Hunting with Hounds" informs the public about this traditional form of hunting as ancestral ways of hunting that had adapted to the changing times symbolizing the essence of ethical hunting
- The "CIC Commission on Tropical Game" promotes management ideas, which will ensure the use of wildlife as a renewable resource, and provide a steady income for the local population
- CIC and its Russian delegation organized the 1st Baikal Symposium in Irkutsk in 2005 to start an initiative to stop the decrease of certain game species due to unsustainable use. Therefore the principles of sustainable use were consequently promoted as a chance as well as a challenge for hunting, ecotourism and nature conservation in Russia's Far East
- At the international conference in 2004, "[Tourism and Development: The Win-Win Performance](#)", CIC cooperated with GTZ (German Technical Cooperation) the German Federal Office for Nature Conservation, the WWF, the tourism research sector as well as experts from different GTZ projects dealing with hunting and rural development in a discussion forum "[Hunting Tourism – A Red Rag?](#)" to evaluate the possibilities that regulated and sustainable forms of hunting tourism can offer to achieve the aims of nature conservation and development.

The characteristics of hunting tourism are comparable to those of ecotourism" was one of the main outcomes

For more information about CIC, please contact CIC Director General, Mr. Kai Wollscheid, at the CIC Administrative Office in Hungary

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CIC webpage <http://www.cic-wildlife.org>

15 Elephant Management & Owners Assn. Symposium

Editor's Note: The [Elephant Management & Owners Association](#) (EMOA) incorporates elephant owners and managers and other interested persons. EMOA promotes, monitors and advises on all aspects of elephant management, conservation and welfare.

Membership provides the opportunity to become part of a network between elephant owners, scientists, specialists and conservation bodies. Members can participate in workshops and are kept updated by newsletters and meetings aimed at broader knowledge and awareness of elephant issues. Members are also encouraged to play an active role and have input into policies, strategies and legislation concerning elephant conservation and welfare. Website: <http://www.emoa.org.za/index.htm>

The symposium in October was attended by 150 delegates. Over half of these stayed for the workshop following 2 days of presentations. The workshop delegates were split into 5 groups, each with a facilitator, and with an even spread of interests. All groups discussed the same topics focused on the development of a strategy for elephant conservation in South Africa:

1. Are we able to ensure the conservation of elephants and biodiversity with our current management approach?
2. What do we expect our status of elephant conservation to be in 20 - 30 years?
3. What is our long term vision?

Summary of Salient Points:

- Immediate action is necessary to solve current problems of elephant overpopulation which many owners, private and official, are experiencing before the vegetation is irreparably destroyed.
- A long term vision for sound elephant conservation and management within South Africa is necessary.
- A National Strategy is essential to strive towards sound elephant conservation. Based on this strategy policies can then be developed.
- Biodiversity is the fundamental issue at stake and therefore any elephant strategy must be based on retaining or even re-establishing biodiversity.
- There is a great lack of awareness (political, communities, international) on problems around elephant management and conservation issues that include biodiversity.
- There is lack of consistency of elephant management policies among Provinces, creating additional problems and diverse levels of implementation and management of elephants.

Short Term Vision:

Population reductions in overpopulated areas must be implemented. Culling is perceived as the most viable immediate population reduction tool for short-term solutions.

Long Term Visions:

- In 20 years SA will have effectively conserved its elephants as part of its associated biodiversity and National responsibility for the benefit of present and future generations of people in South Africa.
- Through a network of conservation areas, genetically viable

metapopulations will be able to move freely. Local elephant population control has to be implemented where necessary, using all available tools such as translocation, contraception, sustainable utilization. There will be proper scientific consultation on elephant management decisions (e.g. stocking rate, range areas, translocation etc).

- The entire population of SA linked in harmony with biodiversity conservation, using elephants as the flagship species.
- Increase the size of undivided land available to elephants, maintaining general biodiversity and sustainable use in the process.

Strategic plans:

- Assessment of elephant conservation opportunities in terms of historical range & available habitat.
- Population models to assess - numbers, locality, and possible corridors (i.e. links between reserves).
- National target (overall national objectives) and priorities in terms of what needs to be addressed first.
- Raising awareness in political, communal and international arenas.
- Interaction and information with other range states. Align with other policies and legislations.
- A National Policy needs to be in place.

Action Plans:

- The current management crisis has to be dealt with first.
- Principle of best practices in accordance with international conservation management ideals need to be followed.
- Different interest groups need to participate.
- Socio economics and ethics of elephant management must be considered: Benefits to role players (communities, Government, etc) to have elephants need to be promoted.
- Rural communities must be part of any process.
- Research on linkages, corridors required.
- Develop capacity in elephant management.
- Continue research.
- Educate stakeholders
- Develop and ensure proper implementation of guidelines. This has to be guided by the mission statement, informed by best practices and aligned with a National strategy.

Guidelines for the in situ translocation of African Elephants for conservation purposes

The IUCN/SSC AfESG Guidelines for the in situ Translocation of African Elephants for Conservation Purposes is available, in pdf format, on the AfESG web site. These guidelines provide informed advice to decision-makers in African range state governments, managers on the ground, non-governmental organizations, donors and other practitioners wishing to re-introduce or supplement African elephant populations for the primary purpose of conserving the African elephant in the long term.

See African Elephant Specialist Group (AfESG) web site for details: <http://iucn.org/afesg/tools>

16 IPHA International Professional Hunters' Association

By Paula McGehee

The [International Professional Hunters' Association](#) (IPHA), one of the oldest such organizations of its kind in the world, was born out of a get-together in France in 1967, where it was agreed that an international association should be established to give professional hunters a voice worldwide.

Involved in this first meeting were Baron Alexis von Goldschmidt-Rothschild, Francois Edmond-Blanc, Bertrand des Clers and Harry Tennison. Subsequently, at an international gathering in Monte Carlo in 1968, the idea was discussed further as it had become apparent that such an international association to represent professional hunters was needed. It was agreed that the new association should be built around and have a similar structure, bylaws and constitution as the East African Professional Hunters' Association. IPHA was subsequently established in 1969. It maintains its secretariat in Texas for its four hundred members from some thirty-one countries around the world.

The mission of IPHA and its worldwide members is to advise, educate and facilitate public enjoyment of the natural world. IPHA embraces sound conservation practices, sustained utilization of renewable resources, access to public lands and ethical hunting practices. IPHA is pledged by its bylaws to insure the highest level of professionalism and integrity to the benefit of recreational sport hunters and outdoor enthusiasts around the world.

Eduardo de Araoz, the new President, was elected at IPHA's 2005 AGM. He is a member of IPHA since 1993 and was a founder member of MUNDICAZA a Spanish safari consultancy and now owns CAZATUR operating from Madrid, Spain. Eduardo has committed himself to making IPHA a larger, stronger and more effective association by establishing ties with other associations and clubs in international hunting.

Current IPHA Officers are: Eduardo de Araoz (Spain), President; Beth Jones (USA), Senior Vice President; with Vice Presidents – George Caswell (USA); Brooke Chilvers Lubin (France); Dan Frederick (Canada); Joe Klutsch (USA); Mark Kyriacou (Botswana); Alexander Lisitsin (Russia); Russ Smith (USA); Hans Vermaak (South Africa); and Ron Young (USA).

For details about IPHA contact

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South Africa – 3rd Black Rhino Hunt

This safari was conducted by Coenraad Vermaak Safaris in the 50,000 hectare Pilanesberg National Park. The park has a very healthy and abundant Black Rhino population. The hunt was for one of four old rhino bulls game scouts had monitored for years. The revenue earned by the Park will be put back into Black Rhino conservation programs! This finally was the first true "Fair Chase" hunt for Black Rhino. Let us hope it will serve as example for the future!

17 New Book About Wildlife, Livestock and Human Health

Experts from East and Southern Africa have some grass roots ideas for tackling the immense challenges Africa faces at the interface between wildlife, domestic animal and human health. Around the world, domestic and wild animals are coming into ever-more intimate contact. Without adequate scientific knowledge and planning, the consequences can be detrimental on one or both sides of the proverbial fence.

These interactions remain of critical importance to the long-term ecological and socio-political security of national parks and other protected areas and grazing lands worldwide. Issues like bovine tuberculosis in South Africa's KNP merit more attention than they have received to date.

A new book, **Conservation and Development Interventions at the Wildlife/Livestock Interface: Implications for Wildlife, Livestock and Human Health**, features some of the most innovative conservation thinking in Africa today and provides concrete examples of the significant role animal health plays in both environmental conservation and economic development.

The publication, and the related initiative "Animal Health for the Environment And Development (AHEAD)" that the Wildlife Conservation Society, the IUCN Species Survival Commission Veterinary Specialist Group, and partners have helped launch, focus on several themes central to the future of wildlife, animal agriculture and people. These include competition over grazing and water resources, disease transmission, local and global food security, zoonoses (diseases transmitted from animals to humans), and other potential sources of conflict.

Addressing these issues is of critical importance to Africa's people and its wildlife heritage. Animal health issues, and their implications for human health and livelihoods, must be addressed by regional development or conservation strategies if they are to succeed.

"We hope that conservation and development colleagues from within and, as importantly, outside of the health science professions will find this volume thought-provoking, insightful, practical, and applicable to their daily work," says Dr. Steve Osofsky, Senior Policy Advisor for Wildlife Health for the Wildlife Conservation Society and the book's editor. "As socioeconomic progress demands sustained improvements in health for humans, their domestic animals, and the environment, we hope we've been successful in drawing attention to the need to move towards a 'one health' perspective— an approach that is the foundation of our conservation work, and a theme pervading this unique volume," he added.

Osofsky, S. A. et al (eds.) 2005: "Conservation and Development Interventions at the Wildlife/Livestock Interface: Implications for Wildlife, Livestock and Human Health". IUCN, Gland, Switzerland and Cambridge, UK, 220 pp. Available IUCN Publications Services Unit, 219c Huntingdon Road, Cambridge CB3 0DL, UK Tel: +44 1223 277894; Fax: +44 1223 277175 E-mail: books@iucn.org. Additional information – including the book as free downloadable PDF – is available at www.wcs-ahead.org or www.iucn-vsg.org and www.iucn.org/themes/ssc/pubs/AHEAD.htm

18 A Splendid New Book: AGRED's Gamebirds of South Africa

This very well made book about field identification and management of Southern African gamebirds by P J Viljoen is superbly illustrated by Penny Meakin. Published by the [African Gamebird Research Education and Development Trust](http://www.agred.com) (AGRED) the book features 62 species of gamebirds, including guineafowl, francolin, partridge, quail, sandgrouse, duck, geese, snipe, bustard and korhaan. Some species are no longer hunted, but they are discussed to emphasize their conservation.

The very informative and easily understandable text includes identification keys, which guide the reader in diagnosing difficult species, and illustrations of feathers, enabling the enthusiast to recognize the presence of gamebirds from feathers often found in the veld.

For the first time, there are also underwing illustrations for several species included. The chapter on game bird management is the most authoritative summary yet published on South African gamebirds. It is the embodiment of vast knowledge, retaining in its simplicity a practical approach for the landowner. There is also a comprehensive listing of reference works.

Gamebird conservation and wingshooting is still a stepchild of conservation in South Africa, although it has a huge potential for drawing the global community of wingshooters to the many opportunities South Africa has to offer. This book is an excellent information source for the overseas' shooting enthusiast to learn more about the exciting richness of the subcontinent. Simply a "Must Buy"!

AGRED's Gamebirds of South Africa – Field Identification and Management by P J Viljoen and illustrated by Penny Meakin, 302 pp, published by AGRED – The Gamebird Research Education and Development Trust (2005), P O Box 87070, Houghton, 2041, South Africa, website www.agred.com ISBN Number (Standard Edition) 09584943-3-9.

19 Major Conservation NGOs: Action Needed in Managing Elephant Numbers

Following dedicated sessions with Minister Marthinus van Schalkwyk on Monday 28 November, **seven national biodiversity and environmental NGOs (BirdLife-SA, Botanical Society of SA, Elephant Managers & Owners Association, Endangered Wildlife Trust, Wildlife & Environment Society of SA, Wilderness Foundation and WWF-SA) comment that elephants should be managed**

South Africa is internationally recognized as a leader in National Parks and wildlife management. South Africa also has pre-eminent wildlife managers working within our National Parks on the mandate given by the people of this country to protect and maintain our biodiversity assets. Such has been the success of

wildlife management, including all but eradicating poaching, that today elephant populations have expanded dramatically, despite numerous relocation projects over many years. Evidence suggests that these populations now need carefully considered management intervention to address the impacts of elephants on other species and ecosystems. Sustaining our rich biodiversity is the fundamental responsibility at stake and therefore any elephant management strategy should be based on retaining or where necessary re-establishing biodiversity and functioning ecosystems. Unfortunately, there is a great lack of awareness locally and internationally that elephants are significant habitat engineers and therefore the need for their management and the associated responsibility of conserving all other components of biodiversity along with elephants.

There are several management options available, such as expanding land suitable for elephants, immuno-contraception and culling, to maintain or manage elephant populations when these start impacting on associated biodiversity and ecosystems. These options have varying levels of effectiveness and impacts across populations and particularly in time. Many of these options are visionary, but current evidence suggests that we do not have the luxury of excessive time delays. Some populations have grown to such an extent, thanks to South Africa's excellent wildlife management, that immediate action is necessary. Whilst it is understood that conservation biologists are not in unanimous agreement of the necessity of immediate intervention in the Kruger National Park in particular, park management has to be accountable to the people of South Africa to maintain biodiversity, as mandated by the country's Biodiversity Act, a legal instrument developed to assist with implementing our obligations under the international Convention on Biological Diversity.

Therefore, as the custodians 'on the ground', if park management advocates the precautionary principle in favor of avoiding biodiversity loss as a management necessity, they should be allowed to do so, using whatever means they can show to be ethical and appropriate. Culling is currently considered the most viable short-term tool in the absence of any other feasible alternative. However, long-term solutions must also be pursued in a management strategy, and indeed it appears that immuno-contraception may in time become a tool for consideration to maintain numbers, if not reduce them. Other options such as range expansion will take significant financial resources, stakeholder negotiations and time, even where there is still space available for elephants. None of these single management options are likely to provide the total ongoing solution.

It is further unfortunate that numerous organizations have emerged which are campaigning for funds on the back of "saving the elephants". While we appreciate these actions of sentiment focused on individual elephants, we are not convinced that these efforts are in the best interest of wildlife management nor of elephant populations in particular in South Africa. Individual animal protection and indeed single species conservation where that species' survival is not threatened is a luxury we can ill-afford given the pressing need to address biodiversity and ecosystem conservation. Stakeholders are required who will take full responsibility to participate in rational, scientific debate regarding overall biodiversity conservation within a context of environmental sustainability.

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19 Major Conservation NGOs: Action Needed in Managing Elephant

The seven national biodiversity and environmental NGOs therefore recognize the dire need for organizations such as South African National Parks, which are mandated to manage and conserve South Africa's indigenous biodiversity and wildlife heritage, to undertake programs which address the threats posed by species which negatively impact on their environment.

We therefore support SANParks in its efforts to control and manage elephant populations, and any other species, which pose a significant threat to the continued existence of indigenous and endemic species in their environment, and believe that SANParks is obliged to address this issue, in terms of their obligations to the country and in terms of South Africa's national, as well as international obligations.

20 South Africa in Top Spot at SCI's 2006 Reno Convention Auctions

By Gerhard R Damm

It is the time of the year again, when all eyes are turned towards North America and the annual conventions and gun shows. The SCI convention has grown in leaps and bounds during the last decade and exhibitor donations keep rolling in. The 2006 convention is likely to break all records, at least in terms of items (and values) offered for auction during the event.

According to Safari Times Vol17/72 the total of all hunt donations reached more than 3.3 million dollars – up from 2005 by 26.5 percent.

The non-hunt auction items shot up by incredible 51 percent to almost 2.5 million dollars giving the SCI auctions during the 2006 convention a total value of 5.8 million dollars.

Although these figures are based on donor valuations (the fall of the hammer might reveal other amounts), and most donors do not make 100% donations, SCI is bound to reap in a nice little treasure after deducting auction costs and reimbursements to donors.

Let us hope that those who lead SCI will use the funds to advance in a cooperative way together with other hunting organizations. In a joint strategy the combined funds of a hunters' alliance will be far more effective to further the objectives we all stand for.

South Africa claims the top spot in Africa and the World with \$534,000 in hunt donations, beating the hunting companies from the United States for the first time, although only narrowly. Third place honors go to Argentina with \$406,000. Africa leads again the continental evaluation with \$1.27 million which make up for 37% of the total value in hunt donations, North America follows as distant second with \$924,000 and 27% share of the total and South America is in third position with \$580,000 and 17% share. Detailed evaluation spreadsheet on www.africanindaba.co.za.

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6 News from Africa

12 people. One person was killed by a buffalo and one by a hippo making a total of 27 Zimbabweans killed by wildlife. Many of those killed by elephants were subsistence farmers trying to protect crops. There was no fatal lion attack on humans last year.

Zambia

29 people have been killed by wild animals in the first eight months according to statistics released by the Zambia Wildlife Authorities (ZAWA). People have been mauled by lions and trampled by elephants and hippos.

21 Out of Africa Adventurous Safaris

Two American hunters have delivered formal complaints (signed and notarized) against Out of Africa Adventurous Safaris to SCI Ethics Committee and to PHASA; they also informed the [Hunting Report](#).

According to posts on the Accurate Reloading Forum it seems that USF&W also took an interest in the case (the discussions on AR make interesting reading – check at <http://forums accuratereloading.com/groupee/forums/a/tpc/f/1411043/m/397102143>).

The information made available by the two hunters reveals that OoAAS employed (or still employs) a professional hunter, Geffert Pretorius, who has been convicted by a court of law in South Africa of wildlife violations in connection with the theft and shooting of a white rhino (see also African Indaba Vol2/6 – November 2004). Geffert was present at the Zimbabwean safari of the two mentioned American hunters in 2005.

Additionally African Indaba received the following statement from PHASA: *“During the past year or so PHASA has received a number of complaints against people who own or work for “Out of Africa”. The latest complaint was against Janneman Groenewald, Dawie Groenewald, Glenn Janse van Rensburg and Nico Janse van Rensburg. PHASA is not in a position to verify whether any of these men have been representing to anyone that they are members of PHASA. However, to avoid any confusion, PHASA wishes to inform you that Janneman Groenewald, Glen Janse van Rensburg and Nico Janse van Rensburg are not members of PHASA. Accordingly, PHASA is not able to take any action against them as in terms of its constitution, PHASA only has authority over its members. Thus any complaints against them must be lodged with Nature Conservation and/or the South African Police Services and/or the relevant authority governing the particular area. If PHASA can be of any assistance as regards any contact details for any of these persons/bodies it would be willing to assist.*

Dawie Groenewald is at present a member and various hearings are going ahead against him. Obviously due process requires that all members be presumed innocent until the contrary is proved.”