

# AFRICAN INDABA

Volume 6, Issue No 6

eNewsletter

November 2008

Dedicated to the People and Wildlife of Africa

## The Future of Conservation Hunting in Botswana

Editorial: Gerhard R Damm

It is encouraging to hear Botswana President Ian Khama during his recent address to the Kalahari Conservation Society in Gaborone stating that he will be even more actively involved in conservation issues while president of the country. Under the topic "Meeting environmental and development challenges in Botswana" President Khama said "*the country is endowed with a rich and unique natural heritage which is still remarkably intact. Conservation of flora and fauna goes back in our history through a variety of means of protection, including our traditions*". He added that Botswana are now experiencing the important challenge of how to continue to benefit whilst not diminishing the country's natural resources for future generations.

The country's tourism industry – and that includes both the non-extractive part commonly called photographic tourism, and the extractive industry which includes hunting tourism – is depending on the mentioned natural resource base of flora and fauna. Botswana's conservation cause, however, is not furthered by the non-extractive tourism industry labeling itself as non-consumptive and by the frequent stigmatizing hunting, especially trophy hunting, as "consumptive". An objective analysis reveals that both sectors consume natural resources.

I suggest that the negative impacts on natural habitats and biodiversity of the photographic wildlife industry over the past decades outstrip those of the hunting industry. Just consider the ecological footprint of the expansive lodge-based tourism and the exponentially growing 4x4 tourism from South Africa. Behavioral changes of game, like habituation and interaction with humans are possibly those of least concern to the ecotourists, since it actually enhances the perceived viewing experience. Isn't it however true it takes the "wild out of the wild"?

Far more serious consequences are caused by the disruption of feeding patterns for ungulates, or the preying success for large carnivores like lion, cheetah, leopard and wild dog. All this engenders physiological changes with repercussions on breeding success, growth rate and interspecific interactions.

The hunting tourism business in contrast, with its few operators, a low number of hunting tourists, an extremely conservative quota of game animals (i. e. just over 240 elephants bulls are taken annually from a herd of about 160,000), and the comparatively rustic seasonal hunting camps (when compared to the permanent luxurious tourist lodges), thrives on leaving the resource base as pristine (and wild) as possible, since this wil-

derness is the basis of this business.

President Khama is correctly stating that short term economic development must not dictate beliefs, policies and regulations and that the Botswana must benefit from the country's rich natural capital. His insistence on Environmental Impact Assessments (EIA) is absolutely essential and the announcement that the Botswana government intends to have an independent EIA Commissioner to ensure that all stakeholders comply with the EIA policy is more than welcome.

These EIAs of course should also apply to the mentioned extractive and non-extractive tourism sectors and not only to infrastructural development since objective analysis will reveal the unrelenting and ever increasing pressure on Botswana's wildlife areas through photographic and 4x4 tourism.

In this light, the consultative workshop on the future of the hunting industry, which will be held in Maun when this issue of African Indaba is in the mail, takes on significant importance. The workshop, arranged by the Department of Wildlife and National Parks, will address proposed changes to hunting administration in northern Botswana and the re-zoning of commercial multi-purpose and community wildlife utilization controlled hunting areas (CHAS) to photographic use only. Ngami Times stated

*Continued on Page 2*

Contents Volume 6, Number 6	Page
The Future of Conservation in Botswana	1
Elephant Ivory Auction Feedback	2
Sustainable Hunting Tourism Accepted as Conservation Tool at IUCN	5
Pan-Saharan Wildlife Survey	6
Wilding the Farm or Farming the Wild?	7
News: Rowland Ward USA	8
N#a Jaqna Conservancy Gets International Award	9
Eland Bull Dominance	9
Makgadikgadi Brown Hyaena Project	9
News from Africa	10
Nubian Ibex	13
Hunting behind High Fences – A perspective from Austria	13
Barbary Sheep, Aoudad or Arrui	15
Elephant Conservation in Zimbabwe	17
Kamanjab Farmers in Namibia Fed up	18
Strategy on Lion Conservation on the Cards	19
The Rhino Story: Continued	19
Sustainable Hunting on the Agenda for the World's Biggest Gathering for Conservation	22

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

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

Continued from Page 1

### The Future of Conservation Hunting in Botswana

that this issue has “become a hot potato for the government” and indeed it should be.

There are several good reasons –the current global financial and economic crisis will most likely affect both, human-animal conflict in rural areas, over-exploitation of certain areas due to their scenic beauty and abundance of wildlife through heavy tourist influx, community interests in the CBNRM program and last not least the sovereign will of the Botswana under attack from an assortment of what the Mmegi On-line editor recently called “international eco-terrorists” on the country’s sovereign will to sustainably use its natural resources. Last not least, there is the apparent (and unnecessary) conflict of interest over the exclusive use of land between some operators of photographic tourism versus those who operate hunting safari companies. We should not overlook that in many Controlled Hunting Areas multi-purpose use worked very well over the two decades or so with minimal conflict between the operators. The question is why can’t we apply these positive examples to all areas?

I suggest that the process of reviewing the land use options of many wildlife management areas in the country should rather concentrate on finding ways to make most if not all areas multipurpose (extractive and non-extractive, i. e. hunting and photographic) and to refrain from changing the status of any current multi-use purpose at the next lease renewal. I further suggest that in compliance with the President’s earlier mentioned demand for independent and objective opinion, that the economic and conservation viability of these areas under multi-use management schemes be assessed in objective EIAs. These EIAs will quickly show that the photographic tourism industry, with its self-bestowed label of being “non-consumptive” will have a hard time maintaining this status. Indeed, I would not be surprised, if the derogatively named “consumptive” hunting sector (and I emphasize again that there is no sector which is non-consumptive), would get the better marks, when it comes to the sustainable use of natural resources.

Sustainable extractive use – including hunting - of natural resources is perfectly in line with international conservation efforts. A couple of years ago, IUCN developed the “Addis Ababa Guidelines and Principles for the Sustainable Use of Natural Resources” (complete paper at [www.cites.org/eng/res/13/addis-gdl-en.pdf](http://www.cites.org/eng/res/13/addis-gdl-en.pdf)); these principles have found acceptance not only in the global IUCN community, but also in the Convention on the International Trade in Fauna and Flora (CITES) and the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) as baseline for “**Incentive Driven Conservation**” policy development. Governments, NGOs, landowners and communities were called to implement them at every level.

The European Union took the principles as baseline for the development of a “**European Charter on Hunting and Biodiversity**”, which has been ratified by Europe’s parliamentarians in the meantime. The Charter has three main goals: 1) It presents a set of principles and guidelines to ensure the sustainability of wild resource utilization in Europe, especially through hunting; 2) It recommends guidelines for sustainable hunting

Continued on Page 21

## Elephant Ivory Auction Feedback

Gerhard R Damm

The auctions of over 100 metric tons of legal ivory to China and Japan were recently held in southern Africa. The long-delayed sales of stockpiled ivory in Botswana, Namibia, South Africa and Zimbabwe were being conducted over two weeks under close supervision of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES). The four countries are home to 312,000 elephants, and their stocks of tusks came from natural deaths or the culling of herds to keep the population under control. Namibia opened the bidding on 28 October, Botswana sold its 43 tons on 30<sup>th</sup> October, while South Africa, with the largest sale of 47 tons, and Zimbabwe, 4 tons, followed suit on 6<sup>th</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> November respectively. In total, a whopping 100 tons of ivory will enter the market.

CITES approved the export of the ivory stockpiles of the four African countries because they have been able to establish that elephant populations are now under control and being monitored in an acceptable manner. Proceeds from the auctions are required to be used to fund future conservation initiatives targeting threatened elephant habitat, and community development projects in areas where elephant populations have been interfering with local farming.

The auctions were organized by the governments of the respective African countries and only authorized Chinese and Japanese merchants were permitted to bid. Under the agreement, the ivory is not permitted to be re-exported, even after processing. CITES says it will be working with governments, Interpol and several NGOs to ensure this is the case.

CITES calls the exceptional sale “an African solution to an African problem,” in reference to the problems associated with conservation initiatives that do not take the unique circumstances in different parts of the world into account. “While richer countries can often afford to promote conservation through strict protection, many poorer nations must do so in ways that benefit local communities and bring in much-needed cash for conservation,” CITES Secretary-General Willem Wijnstekers has said in the past.

Critics fear that the exclusive auction to Japan and China, two of the world’s largest ivory markets, has the potential to trigger a bidding war between the two countries. This frenzy, they argue, could inadvertently drive up black market prices and thus create more incentive for poaching. Yet – the predicted “frenzy” did not happen! Other critics point out that the legal sales could boost poaching and illegal trade by making it difficult to distinguish between legal and illegal ivory in the marketplace and drawing attention to the fact that there is still demand for the controversial good.

But CITES representatives disagree with the critics. They say that their close monitoring of elephant numbers in the four countries, combined with the potential for increased wildlife

Continued on Page 3

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

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

*Continued from Page 2*

#### **Elephant Ivory Auction Feedback**

protection provided by the proceeds of the auctions will, in fact, decrease poaching. "Some NGOs are saying that this will increase poaching because demand will be stimulated," says Juan-Carlos Vasquez of CITES. "But we don't have any evidence to indicate that this is the case." Moreover, data collected by the wildlife trade monitoring network TRAFFIC shows that seizures of illegal ivory fell in the years following the last legal sale in 1999.

The prices fetched at the auctions suggest that a bidding war between the two Asian markets did not happen. Prior to these auctions, the first sanctioned ivory auctions since 1999 experts were predicting prices as high as US\$300 per kilo, yet the hammers fell at an average of around half that amount. The tusks being sold come mainly from animals that died naturally. China and Japan are not permitted to export the material. The secretariat of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES), will monitor trade in China and Japan to make sure companies are not mixing illegally sourced ivory with these legal shipments.

#### **Background Information**

While CITES banned all ivory sales in 1989, members agreed in 1997 to allow Botswana, Namibia and Zimbabwe to hold a one-time sale of 50 tons of stockpiled ivory to Japan in 1999. The 1999 auction raised about \$5m for conservation and community projects. Like the current auctions, all of the proceeds were required to be used for elephant conservation activities. Data suggest the 1999 sale did not boost trafficking in illegal ivory.

Three years later – at 12th Meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention in Santiago, Chile – CITES members approved the current sale, in principle, provided participating countries submitted satisfactory data for long-term monitoring. At this November 2002 Conference, several African countries further proposed that this future sale be followed by annual quotas, but the requests were withdrawn before it could be put to a vote. CITES had initially pegged 2004 as the earliest possible date for establishing baseline data for their long-term monitoring systems. But when the CITES Standing Committee met in April of that year, they ruled that the auctions could not go ahead because the countries in question – South Africa, Namibia, and Botswana – had not provided acceptable statistics. Furthermore, Botswana and Namibia had not yet reported on how the proceeds of the 1999 auction had been spent.

The Standing Committee again pushed back the date of the auction at a conference in October 2006, citing insufficient monitoring data. However, at a June 2007 meeting in The Hague, The Netherlands, auctions in Botswana, Namibia, and South Africa were finally approved, with Japan as the sole purchaser.

Zimbabwe – which was initially denied approval due to 'political' reasons rather than monitoring reasons, according to CITES – was later added to the list of countries in 2007. The agreement permitted the countries to auction off stockpiles that had been properly registered by 31 January 2007. This amounts to 43,682.91kg for Botswana, 9,209.68kg for Namibia,

51,121.8kg for South Africa and 3,755.55kg for Zimbabwe.

The move to approve traders from China is a departure from the auction held in 1999, when Japanese merchants were the sole purchasers. The move was met with criticism by some environmental groups, who argue that Chinese wildlife trade controls are not rigorous enough. Nevertheless, CITES approved China in July 2008 in light of the significant progress made in the past six years.

"Having reviewed China's ivory controls and markets on a number of occasions, CITES verifications determined that China's enforcement score was 63 percent in 2008 compared to 6 percent in 2002," CITES said in a press release. "In spite of remaining a potential destination for illegal ivory, like other countries, China has now reached the required verification standards established by CITES." "We implement our international obligations to protect endangered wild animals, and we have always honored our international obligations," China's foreign ministry spokeswoman Jiang Yu told reporters as the auction opened.

Unlike elephant populations in other parts of the world, elephants in southern Africa are listed under Appendix II of the CITES Convention, which permits trade under a tightly regulated permit system. Other elephant populations are listed under Appendix I, which prohibits commercial trade of any kind (i. e. there must be proof that the ivory being sold does not come from poached elephants, that all stockpiles are strictly regulated, that importing countries have strict control systems in place, and that all the proceeds go to elephant conservation and community development programs in the exporting countries). According to the 2007 CITES agreement setting out the terms for the current auctions in southern Africa, further sales from these four countries will not be considered during a period of nine years. This 'resting period' will begin at the completion of the transactions.

WWF and TRAFFIC have active programs in the countries involved and have been pivotal in developing the rigorous criteria that countries were required to meet before the sale could be allowed and believe that all countries have met the criteria. WWF and TRAFFIC have also reviewed and consider adequate the control mechanisms in place in Japan and China and will continue to monitor closely those controls after shipments take place. "We have no evidence that this one-time sale will stimulate increased poaching or increased illegal trade in ivory," said Dr Susan Lieberman, Director of WWF International's Species Program.

"Following the previous one-off ivory sale to Japan in 1999, analysis of ETIS (the Elephant Trade Information System, a statistical database containing the world's largest collection of elephant product seizure data, which is compiled by TRAFFIC on behalf of the CITES member countries), indicated a decline in the volume of illegal ivory trade for the next five years. According to Steven Broad, Executive Director of TRAFFIC: "The ETIS data strongly indicate a fall in illegal ivory trade levels following the previous 'one-off' ivory sale. Whether this was cause and effect or a coincidence, we don't know, but TRAFFIC and WWF will be watching closely to see what happens to ivory seizure and elephant poaching levels once these auctions have taken place." There is still significant poaching in Central Africa, which feeds the domestic ivory markets in Africa, which is where con-

*Continued on Page 4*

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

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

Continued from Page 3

#### Elephant Ivory Auction Feedback

ervation efforts need to be focused. Poaching in Central and East Africa is not driven by the legal sale from Southern Africa; rather, it is driven by a failure to regulate domestic markets in West Africa, Egypt, and elsewhere "WWF and TRAFFIC believe that attention should be focused on these markets, and on facts rather than conjecture as to what drives poaching and what drives illegal ivory trade", said Dr Lieberman \*(see also <http://www.traffic.org/home/2008/10/28/first-ivory-auction-from-southern-africa-takes-place.html>)

Elephants play an important role in maintaining biodiversity, but no greater than, say, nematodes, which few potato farmers would hesitate to exterminate. Yet, the extinction of soil organisms may well be a greater threat to humanity than the loss of all Africa's elephants. When we argue about elephant conservation, it is important to remain rational. Elephants may have had a role in raising conservation consciousness, but that does not mean their population should be permitted to grow at the expense of other species.

CITES Secretary General, Willem W Wijnstekers attended all auctions and said that a total of 101 tons of ivory was auctioned in the four countries, generating revenues of approximately between US\$14 and US\$15 million. Wijnstekers also held talks with Chinese and Japanese authorities, as well as traders, about the details of further supervisory activities after the ivory arrives in those countries

#### Country Reports

##### Botswana

Botswana's Ministry of Wildlife, Environment and Tourism conducted the invitation-only auction of 43.6 tons of ivory (a modest tonnage compared to the ivory stockpile in the country) to 21 Japanese and 13 Chinese bidders, which saw Chinese bidders buy the bulk of the ivory at Phakalane Golf Estate Resort's Linyanti Hall. Prices varied according to quality. The auction started at 8am and went on until 5pm. Entry into the auction site was by invitation only and the media was barred. After the sale, there was an exclusive cocktail party for the buyers and government at the GICC in the evening. Kitso Mokaila declined to give any details of the auction immediately. The ministry's deputy permanent secretary Edmont Moabi said a statement would be issued later. Botswana is expected to earn between six and seven million dollars but the exact amount had not been released when writing this article.

The editor of Mmegi Online wrote on 29<sup>th</sup> October in an editorial titled "We Should Sell Our Products With Pride" (<http://www.mmegi.bw/index.php?sid=9&aid=18&dir=2008/October/Wednesday29>) "that Botswana, with an elephant population of more than 155,000 accounts for more than 50% of the elephant herd in southern Africa. The herd is growing rapidly, while its range is contracting resulting in the elephant population threatening its very habitat and in elephant/human conflict. He continues stating that in a normal world, one would have expected southern African countries like Botswana, Namibia and South Africa to be rewarded for their exemplary conservation efforts. But the ungrateful eco-terrorists want them to be punished for having such an abundant resource! It has since been

established that this lot's position is based largely on ethical convictions than the facts on the ground. Opposition to the southern African reality is basically seen as a vehicle for fundraising. We could not agree more with Tom Milliken, CITES' director for eastern and southern Africa who early this year noted that Kenya and Mali {who led a lobby that is calling for a 20-year moratorium of ivory trade} have an appalling record of making illegal ivory seizures. The fact is that [Botswana] needs funds generated from the sale of ivory - not only for conservation but also for the communities that live with the elephants."

##### Namibia

In the first ivory auction in a decade on 28 October 2008 Namibia sold 7.2 tons of ivory tusks within a record time of 15 minutes to unnamed Chinese and Japanese bidders in the one-off sale, fetching a total of \$1.3 million at an average price of \$164/kg (2.2 pounds). The media was not allowed to witness the sale. The auction was held behind closed doors in Windhoek. Namibian government officials announced at a press conference later that the Chinese buyers bought 3.84 tons of ivory at a price of US\$176/kg, while the Japanese bought 3.38 tons at US\$151/kg.

Proceeds will go to the Game Product Trust Fund created in 1999 to promote conservation in communities where elephants range. Most of Namibia's elephants are found outside protected areas and have to compete for land and resources with communities, which often leads to conflict between people and the animals. "Without a way of benefiting from elephants, elephants can only be seen as a liability or loss to rural communities, who lose significant subsistence crops and even human lives," Leon Jooste, Namibia's deputy minister of environment and tourism, told reporters. Wijnstekers added, "there is no proven scientific explanation that ivory sales lead to poaching." The remaining tusks of the nine-ton stockpile will be distributed to communities involved in making traditional jewelry.

##### South Africa

On November 6<sup>th</sup> approximately 47 metric tons of stockpiled ivory divided into 63 lots were auctioned. Buyers were bidding off brochures after they had visited the stockpile in Kruger National Park for a private viewing session. In his opening statement Dr David Mabunda, CEO South African National Parks (SANParks), said: "We fully appreciate and embrace our responsibility to ensure that we stamp down on poaching of any kind and so we intend to use considerable amounts of the funds we raise today towards increasing our anti-poaching capacity". The sale of the South African stockpile fetched approximately US\$6.7 million. The average price for the 63 lots on auction was US\$142/kg. The sale will also improve conservation through the employment of additional game rangers, obtaining more vehicles, erecting elephant proof fences where needed, purchasing of equipment. Community development projects will centre on communities affected by the presence of elephants. Dr Mabunda said conservation agencies have done extensive planning to ensure that the proceeds of the sale will be used according to the specifications. "There is no argument that this money will go a long way towards enhancing conservation research, boosting our enforcement capabilities and helping communities who

Continued on Page 5

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

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

Continued from Page 4  
Elephant Ivory Auction Feedback

share land with elephants," he said. The money allocated to the specific programs and projects within the CITES stipulations will be monitored in accordance with the Public Finance Management Act (PFMA) and National Treasury Regulations.

### Zimbabwe

Zimbabwe has some of the 3,000 elephant tusks inside the state ivory warehouse in Harare. Zimbabwe's sale of almost 4 tons of ivory Monday raised \$450,000 for conservation in a country whose economic crisis has left authorities battling to maintain vast reserves and protect elephants, rhinos and other game. The funds from Zimbabwe's sale will be used for elephant conservation and to help authorities better manage the country's national parks, said Morris Mtsambiwa, director-general of the Zimbabwe Parks Authority. At least 29 groups from China and Japan countries participated in the auction that was conducted at a city hotel in Harare.

---

## Sustainable Hunting Tourism Accepted as Conservation Tool at IUCN WCC

CIC Press-Release

The CIC held a well-attended workshop on 9<sup>th</sup> October introducing participants of the World Conservation Congress to the concept of sustainable hunting tourism, identifying hunting as one component of the larger tourism economy and emphasizing the need to develop standards and criteria in support of this sustainable use activity. The workshop addressed the question: In what way do we need to manage hunting tourism to fulfill the criteria for sustainable development? By way of example three invited speakers showed best sustainable use practices from Europe, Africa and Asia that incorporate conservation, social, economic and cultural values of sustainable hunting tourism.

Sardar Naseer Tareen (Director, Society of Thorgar Environmental Protection, STEP, Pakistan), Carolina Lasén-Díaz (Secretary of the Bern Convention, Council of Europe) and Dr. Nigel Crawhall (Director of Secretariat, Indigenous Peoples of Africa Coordinating Committee, IPACC, Namibia) were interviewed by CIC's CEO Kai Wollscheid and asked about their approach. These three programs included the rescue of the threatened Markhor in Pakistan, the development of the *European Charter for Hunting and Biodiversity* and the engagement of local communities through the Namibian Conservancy. These efforts were reviewed by Prof. Shane P. Mahoney (Sustainable Development & Strategic Science Division, Department of Environment and Conservation, Newfoundland), who also highlighted the importance of hunting in the development of human culture and in the conservation of wildlife generally. Prof. Mahoney emphasized that people are and have always been part of the natu-

ral world and depended upon wildlife for their existence. The society of today, however, is increasingly disconnected from the natural world, which has resulted in a loss of understanding of its rules and processes.

The workshop closed with a lively debate, where non-hunters also had the opportunity to share their concerns about the role of hunting in today's ecosystems. Reference was made from WWF representative regarding the role of political stability in successful conservation activities. Hunting tourism revenues can be re-invested in conservation whereas protected area entry fees often are not re-invested. Participants agreed that the hunting industry needs appropriate standards and scientific protocols for monitoring hunting's conservation benefits and impacts. Hunters have to be more open in collecting and sharing transparent data on their hunting trips to support such surveys.

Dr. Crawhall highlighted during the discussions that "many indigenous people don't look for thousands of tourists to visit their region to get sufficient income – hunting tourism can generate much more money than photographic tourism, with much less visiting tourists". More benefits with less impact!

Sustainable hunting tourism is not the only solution for the conservation of species, it was stressed, but it has to be considered as one of the most successful and economically viable approaches to the long-term preservation of animal populations, including in some cases, threatened species.

---

### The IUGB organizing committee for the Moscow IUGB Congress requests submissions of reports and publications (see also page 20)

#### Congress Sections Topics

1. Game animals taxonomy and genetics
2. Ranges and their dynamics, population size and structure
3. Physiology, bioenergetics and feeding
4. Game animal behavior, adaptation and social system
5. Population management in game mammals and international commercial projects
6. Ungulates and carnivorous mammals, their role in ecosystems
7. Cycles in population dynamics, factors and reasons
8. Rare species conservation, modern methods and approaches
9. Large mammals monitoring, goals and effectiveness
10. Game bird ecology, monitoring and internat. Cooperation
11. Game animal diseases, environment pollution
12. Hunting evolution, history, culture and ethics – new viewpoints
13. Hunting management, organization, and economic significance

#### Symposia and Workshop Topics

1. Wolf and man
2. Mountain species of game animals
3. Wild animals introduction, reintroduction, and captive breeding

Contact: [report@iugb-moscow2009.ru](mailto:report@iugb-moscow2009.ru)

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

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

# Pan-Saharan Wildlife Survey

## Sahara Conservation Fund PR

With support from HM the Crown Prince of Abu Dhabi, through the Morocco-based Emirates Center for Wildlife Propagation (ECWP), SCF is developing a ground-breaking initiative to identify and address the top conservation priorities across the entire Sahara. The Pan-Saharan Wildlife Survey (PSWS) is a science-based initiative to assess, prioritize and fast-track conservation action with an underpinning philosophy of directly linking field-based research, data collection and analysis with concrete on-the-ground action. Lack of up to date information and data is limiting the ability of Saharan nations to conserve desert fauna, access international support for conservation,

The Pan-Saharan Wildlife Survey will prioritize action and deployment of available resources, and ensure sustainable use of wildlife. As reflected in the IUCN Red Data List (see below) there is also great urgency and a need to scale up action across the entire Sahelo-Saharan region. PSWS will also provide a wealth of up to date information on species abundance and distribution, conservation threats and habitat condition. This will contribute directly to national initiatives under the Conventions on Biological Diversity, Combating Desertification and Climate Change. PSWS will establish a scientific basis for decision-making on consumptive and non-consumptive uses of wildlife, help identify sites suitable for reintroduction projects, support the implementation of regional action plans, such as that of the Convention on Migratory Species (CMS) for Sahelo-Saharan Ungulates, permit the development of standardized data collection methods and protocols, provide an opportunity for hands-on training and skills development of local conservation staff, and support international efforts to list and raise support for the conservation of endangered species (IUCN Red Data List, Global Mammal Assessment, etc.). The project will be rolled out in stages with initial surveys already agreed with partner agencies in Niger and Senegal (Source: Sandscript October 2008, the newsletter of the Sahara Conservation Fund SCF [scf@bluewin.ch](mailto:scf@bluewin.ch)).

Species	Status
Scimitar Horned Oryx	Extinct in the Wild
Addax	Critically Endangered
Cheetah	Vulnerable
Fennec	Data Deficient
Rüppell's Fox	Data Deficient
Lappet-Faced Vulture	Vulnerable
Sudan Bustard	Least Concern
Dama Gazelle	Critically Endangered
Dorcas Gazelle	Vulnerable
Striped Hyena	Lower Risk
Pale Fox	Data Deficient
Ostrich	Least Concern
Nubian Bustard	Near Threatened
Spurred Tortoise	Vulnerable



**INTERCONTINENTAL SANDTON  
SUN AND TOWERS  
JOHANNESBURG**

**8TH MAY 2009**

**Endorsed by Dr. Ian Player**

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

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



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

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

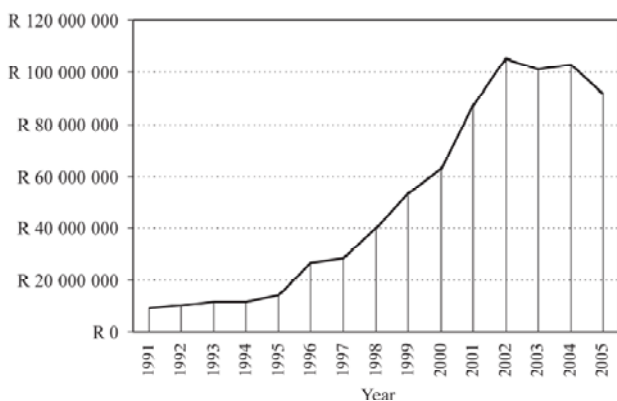
# “Wilding the farm or farming the wild”? The evolution of scientific game ranching in South Africa from the 1960s to the present

Jane Carruthers FRSSAf, Department of History, University of South Africa, P.O. Box 392, Unisa, 0003 South Africa, e-mail: [carruej@unisa.ac.za](mailto:carruej@unisa.ac.za)

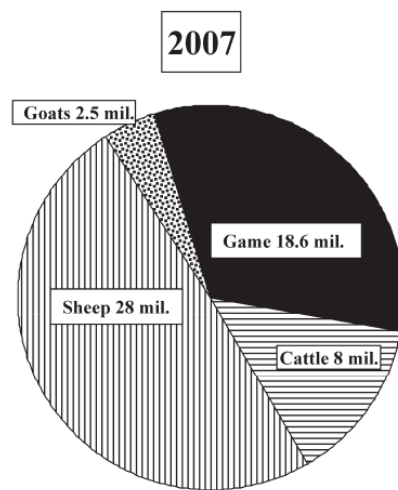
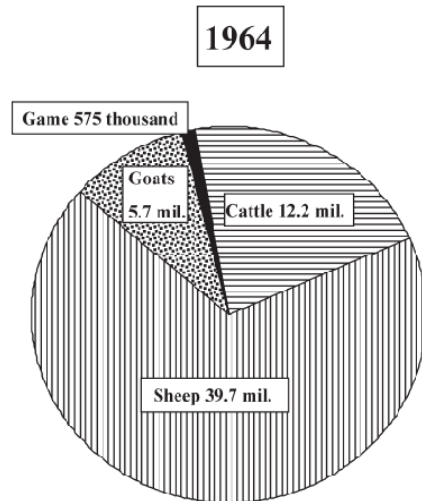
*Editor's Note: This important paper of some twenty pages gives ample information about the historic development of game farming in South Africa and about its present status. Essential reading for all hunters and conservationists who want to understand some aspects of the South African Wildlife model. It has been published in the "Transactions of the Royal Society of South Africa Vol. 63(2) pages 160-181". In addition to the valuable information in the article the reader will find an extensive list of references for further reading.*

**Abstract:** This article analyses in some detail the scientific developments relating to extensive game ranching for meat production in South Africa from the 1960s onwards. Initially it recalls how game was utilized in South Africa in the nineteenth century and then reflects on the rise of the modern livestock industry and its detrimental effect on the herds of game that survived in the region into the twentieth century. The roles of scientists from different regions – Britain, the United States and South Africa – are identified and their respective scientific contributions to the wildlife industry evaluated. The narrative is situated within the context of a rise in environmental consciousness in the mid-twentieth century and the recent challenges that have faced the formal agricultural and pastoral sector in South Africa.

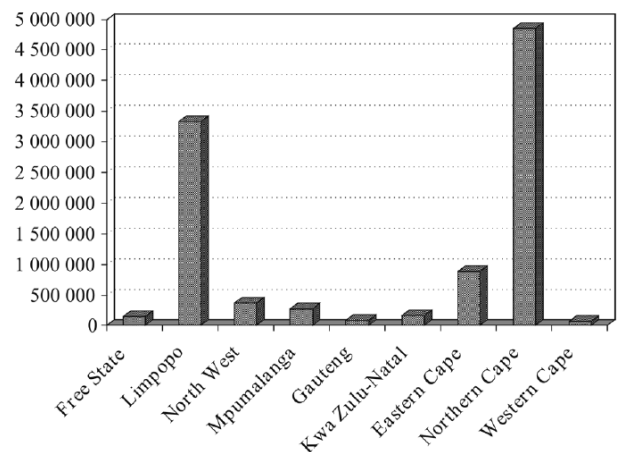
**Key words:** game ranching, South Africa, wildlife conservation, game management.



Total turnover of game auctions in South Africa, 1991–2005 (Du Toit 2007: 52).



Change in numbers of domestic animals to game between 1964 and 2007 (Du Toit, 2007: 25–26)



Area of exempted game farms in South African provinces in 2000 (Van der Merwe & Saayman, 2004: 104)

Continued on Page 8

Continued from Page 7

### Wilding the Farm of Farming the Wild?

**Jane Carruthers concludes her paper with these words:**

*The game ranching revolution has changed the face of the South African landscape with the scientific research conducted by animal scientists, zoologists and ecologists who acted collaboratively rather than competitively in the 1960s, 1970s and 1980s. In this regard, the role of individual scientists and ranchers in confronting and resisting bureaucracy was crucial.*

*The partnerships that were forged between nature conservation agencies and individual scientists generated important savanna studies that have been of great benefit to the country's sustainability and environmental health (Féron, 1995; FAO, 1997, 2007). With new subjects, new sciences and technologies – such as capture and immobilization – evolved in accordance with market forces (Norton-Griffiths, 2007). The fact that those scientists were engaged with the private sector and disseminated their findings widely added to the body of knowledge and created new organizational structures. Novel ideas around ecology and wild ungulate management filtered down to the public, producing debate as well as information.*

*The distinction between the management practices on private farms and state land was eroded. Moreover, the legal relationship between wildlife, private property and humans altered with the need, and indeed the desire, to utilize wild animals productively. In South Africa today there is more game than there was forty years ago and perhaps even as much as there was when early traders, trekboers, explorers and travelers ventured into the interior in the early nineteenth century. The major difference, however, is that the game is not free for the taking, nor does it occur on public or communal land. While the ungulates themselves have not generally been tamed or domesticated, the distinction between wild and tame has, for the many reasons explained in this paper, become less clear-cut. By conceptualizing game as a commodity, by giving it an economic value both within the formal protected estate and on private land, the number of wild animals has increased and the threat of extinction except in national parks,*

**HIGHLY recommended reading!**

## News: Rowland Ward USA

Haskell Stricklen

In September Rowland Ward announced the relocation of the North American offices from Fredericksburg, Virginia to Dallas, Texas. As the new Vice President for Rowland Ward, North America I am happy to announce the move is complete and as of September 1st the offices are up and running!

Centrally located at 6390 LBJ Freeway, Suite 106, Dallas TX 75240 and with new office hours, 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. CST, we believe our new location will make us more accessible to our customers and more visible and active in the North American hunting community.

Our new offices will include a Rowland Ward showroom, the first in North America! Scheduled to open in mid October, the

showroom will allow customers to view our range of authentic African hunting clothing and accessories, exclusive Rowland Ward regalia, as well as a comprehensive range of hunting books, DVDs, art and much more. In addition to the showroom, the new offices have facilities to measure trophies, conduct official measurer training courses and accept and process entries into Rowland Ward's Records of Big Game.

### "The Book" Update

As part of what is Rowland Ward's most comprehensive re-evaluation in its 117 year history, the company is gearing up to expand and improve its record book, particularly its lesser known Volume II, devoted to trophies taken in North America, Europe and Asia. To that end, Rowland Ward has forged an alliance with the Wild Sheep Foundation to reintroduce itself to the indomitable band of sheep and goat hunters worldwide. By increasing the scope and accessibility of its record book, hunters around the world will have the opportunity to enter their trophies alongside some of the greatest hunters and adventurers of all time, including the likes of Frederick Courteney Selous, William Cotton Oswell, Herb Klein and Gordon Cumming.

The proposed final changes to the Records of Big Game will be made available for comment by the hunting and conservation communities in 2009.

It is important to note that Rowland Ward is not expanding in North America to compete with established and respected organizations that already have record books. On the contrary, it hopes to work alongside and complement the good work of these organizations to promote ethical hunting and conservation. And, in keeping with its history, Rowland Ward will actively promote ethical hunting and, as its Guild of Field Sportsmen grows globally, will look to put its weight behind projects which support and encourage ethical hunting, conservation and the education of our youth.

Please feel free to contact us at [haskell@rowlandwardusa.com](mailto:haskell@rowlandwardusa.com) for more information on the "new" Rowland Ward.

## African Indaba eNewsletter

Editor & Publisher: Gerhard R Damm  
Postal Address: PO Box 411, Rivonia 2128, South Africa  
Email: [gerhard@muskwa.co.za](mailto:gerhard@muskwa.co.za)  
Phone +27-(0)11-883-2299, Fax +27-(0)11-784-2074

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

Opinions expressed in African Indaba are not necessarily those of the publisher and editor. Whilst every care is taken in the preparation of this newsletter, we cannot accept any responsibility for errors.

African Indaba eNewsletter is published every two months as a free service to the sustainable use community. Please share it with others who may be interested in the topics covered by African Indaba.

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

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

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

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

## N̄a Jaqna Conservancy Gets International Award

N̄a Jaqna Conservancy in the Tsumkwe area is one of the 25 winners of the Equator Prize 2008 presented at the Equator Prize Award Ceremony during the International Union for Conservation of Nature's world conservation congress in Barcelona, Spain.

The Equator Initiative's technical advisory committee picked the San-led conservancy for its outstanding accomplishments in ecological management and social empowerment and presented the prize to Nico Tijmunga and Dominic Muema of the N̄a Jaqna Conservancy.

The Equator Initiative is a union between United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and partners from civil society, business, governments and communities to help build capacity and raise the profile of grassroots efforts to reduce poverty through conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity.

The prize forms part of four core focal areas of the initiative's activities, representing a prestigious international award that recognizes outstanding local efforts to reduce poverty through the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity.

"N̄a Jaqna's work is one of those unique examples of community action at its best. Yet, often such local achievements go unnoticed and without due recognition. The Equator Prize provides a way to honor and celebrate the most commendable efforts of local leaders in Namibia in conserving their natural resources while strengthening their communities," said Simon Nhongo, UN Resident Coordinator and Resident Representative of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) in Namibia.

A joint statement from the UNDP and the Working Group of Minorities in Southern Africa (WIMSA) said the award pays tribute to the ability of the local !Kung, Ju/'hoansi and Hai//om San to translate the traditional knowledge of their ancestral environment into modern conservation. "It also is an implicit acknowledgement of Namibia's communal area conservancy program as a world leader in community-based natural resource management, which combines wildlife conservation with the principle of community benefits," said the statement.

N̄a Jaqna, named after the buffalo thorn tree, covers an area of 9,120 square kilometers. The conservancy was registered in July 2003 and has approximately 7,000 inhabitants and 2 650 conservancy members.

Its enterprises include a tourist rest camp, trophy hunting, community forest, craft sales at the rest camp and a devil's claw project. The conservancy is also in the process of applying for leasehold land for two other tourist campsites. A committee of eight men and four women manages the conservancy. WIMSA, UNDP Global Environment Facilities Small Grants Programme and other local non-governmental organizations support the conservancy.

## Eland Bull Dominance

Gerhard R Damm

Scientists from the Zoological Society of London and the University of Copenhagen reported in the journal BMC Biology that the depth of the clicking sounds produced by walking eland bulls correlates to body size and are signals to show the bulls' fighting potential thus establishing mating rights. The sound is thought to be made as a tendon in the animals' legs slips over one of the leg bones, and can be heard from hundreds of meters away. "The tendon in this case behaves like a string being plucked, and the frequency of the sound from a string correlates negatively with both its length and diameter," said Jakob Bro-Jorgensen. That means that the sound signals how large - and thus how fighting fit - the Eland bulls are. The bulls can thus establish mating rights among each other while avoiding actual fights. The unusual approach adds to the list of signals that are known in Eland bulls to provide an indication of their status, like the dewlap under their throats which indicates age, and the darkness of their hair which indicates levels of aggression

---

## Makgadikgadi Brown Hyaena Project

The Brown Hyaena is the third rarest carnivore in Africa and occurs only in southern Africa. Over 95 % of the wild population of about 8,000 lives in Botswana, Namibia and South Africa where they survive in arid areas, are primarily nocturnal, timid, and rarely seen. The Makgadikgadi Brown Hyaena Project was established in 2000 to assist Botswana's Department of Wildlife and National Parks (DWNP) with the management and conservation of this rare and little studied Hyaena. The project's goal is to gather information on the ecology of the brown hyena which will further the conservation and management of the species, as well as increase our understanding of human/wildlife conflict. The project aims a) to acquire an in-depth understanding of the clan structure and population dynamics of the Brown Hyaena in the Makgadikgadi; b) to use scent marks, develop a methodology to accurately estimate Brown Hyaena density anywhere within their range; c) to examine the energetics of the Brown Hyaena as this affects mortality and birth rates, the two most important parameters of population sustainability; and d) to investigate the impact of the Makgadikgadi game fence in preventing the movement of the brown hyena out of the National Park and into cattle areas.

### Interesting Brown Hyaena Facts:

- Walks about 35 km in a night, sometimes as far as 60 km.
  - Not vocal and communicates by leaving double scent marks (about 100 times a night).
  - Has territories varying from 200 km<sup>2</sup> to 1,500 km<sup>2</sup>.
  - Will rarely kill anything larger than a springhare and survives from eating carrion, and also small mammals, insects, reptiles, eggs and fruit.
- 

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

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

## News From Africa

### Angola

Pedro vaz Pinto reported visiting both Cangandala and Luando. In Cangandala the cameras showed the well-known four to five pure adult female giant sable and five sable/roan hybrids, including the four youngest animals, two male calves born in 2006 and two females in 2007. We suspect that there were no calves born this year. In Luando people in all villages felt encouraged with the ongoing program. The shepherds had found lots of spoor and frequent signs of sable and they located 8 natural salt licks! In October the shepherds in Cangandala came across the skull and bone remains of a mature giant sable female with teeth well worn. On his next visit vaz Pinto will have another attempt at capturing the first sable.

### Botswana

Dr Trevor Mmopelwa, the Director of Wildlife in the Botswana Ministry of Environment, Wildlife and Tourism stated that the lifting of the ban on lion hunting will depend on the rate of buildup of the lion population. He further said that "research to date, indicates that while the lion population in Botswana remains fairly satisfactory, in certain areas near protected areas, notably Khutse Game Reserve, Central Kgalagadi Game Reserve and the Kgalagadi Transfrontier Park, conflict between humans and predators is on the rise. It is in these areas that the number of lions being killed has caused concern. Several mitigation measures, including fencing, are being considered to reduce the conflict." He also stated that the suspension of lion hunting has allowed his Department an opportunity to focus its resources on the challenge of the loss of lions in defense of livestock. "Lions continue to be killed as problem animals in certain hotspot areas. Research being undertaken in these areas suggests that comprehensive strategies are needed to address this problem. The department is currently finalizing the Predator Management Strategy, which will holistically address predator conservation and management throughout Botswana. The issue of utilization of large carnivores including lions will be addressed in the context of the strategy," Mmopelwa concluded.

### Botswana/South Africa

The construction of the Pula 4 million Botswana and South African single entrance gate and Kgalagadi Transfrontier Park (KTP) is expected to be complete by November 2008. The Kgalagadi Transfrontier Park is Africa's first trans-border conservation area and was officially opened in May 2000. The area was formerly known as the Mabuasehube-Gemsbok National Park on the Botswana side and the Kalahari Gemsbok National Park in South Africa. The park is a popular tourist destination because of its 4x4 wilderness trails and its unique and fragile eco-system.

### CAR

Air France and KLM refuse to accept hunting trophies as cargo. ACP (French PH Association) is working to find a solution and plans to meet with top management officials of the airlines

to lift the ban. There may be a boycott against Air France and KLM in the cards. CAR outfitters used Libyan Airlines to move trophies but some shipments have been held up in Tripoli and trophy shipments from CAR are backed up.

### DR Congo

Okapis were last seen in the DRC 50 years ago, and the images are the first to capture the animal in the wild of the DRC's Virunga National Park. "To have captured the first-ever photographs of such a charismatic creature is amazing," said Noelle Kumpel, manager of the Bushmeat and Forests Conservation Program at the Zoological Society of London, which took the pictures. "The photographs clearly show the stripes on their rear, which act like unique fingerprints," said Thierry Lusenge, a key member of ZSL's survey team in the DRC.



"We have already identified three individuals, and further survey work will enable us to estimate population numbers and distribution in and around the park." ZSL said the images prove the okapi still thrives in the park despite threats to its survival, which include poaching, deforestation, military camps inside the park, and the influx of refugees at the park's borders. The study involved 18 cameras set up around the park by the ZSL and the Congolese Institute for Nature Conservation.

The animal's exact status is still a mystery, however, and it remains under threat, the ZSL said. Okapi meat reportedly poached from the park is now regularly on sale at the nearby town of Beni -- and if hunting continues at the same rate, okapi could become extinct within the park within a few years, the ZSL said. For more information go to <http://www.zsl.org/field-conservation/news/first-ever-pictures-of-african-unicorn,514,NS.html>

### DR Congo/USA

A 3year partnership to integrate health, population and environmental needs for rural communities in Kenya, Nepal and the DR Congo was announced by the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), Johnson & Johnson, and World Wildlife Fund (WWF) at a signing of a Memorandum of Understanding today. Thousands of people in these three nations will benefit from this partnership through activities that include family planning, obstetric health, and HIV/AIDS education together with community-based natural resource management and conservation education. This partnership builds on the success of the "Healthy Communities, Healthy Ecosystems" project between WWF and Johnson & Johnson, and USAID's Popula-

*Continued on Page 11*

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

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

Continued from Page 10  
News from Africa

tion-Health- Environment Program.

### Ethiopia



This picture on the previous was sent to us by Jason Roussos, son of Nassos (**Ethiopian Rift Valley Safaris**). The lesser kudu on the right was picked up by Jason in Ethiopia last year. The longest horn is 38 inch. Notice the length of the horns as well as the depth of the curls. The horns are pictured next to one of Jason's client's lesser kudu horns. This tremendous trophy was shot on the exact same trip as the "picked up" horns were discovered. The client's lesser kudu was measured at 32 6/8 inches. (Source: Rowland Ward's Guild of Field Sportsmen Member information Newsletter – if you want to know more about the Guild please contact Scott Rodwell [scott@rowlandward.com](mailto:scott@rowlandward.com)).

### Namibia

The Cheetah Conservation Fund (CCF) has started offering international courses on cheetah management practices as a central source of information and training for wildlife conservation professionals. More than 30 conservationists from different countries such as Iran, Niger, Botswana and Kenya took part in the courses on integrated livestock and predator management and cheetah conservation biology to promote a unified and systematic approach to cheetah conservation. The courses focused on building capacity to conserve cheetahs and their ecosystems. Over the next three years, CCF will hold five more month-long training courses; in addition, at least 120 community development officers/agriculture extension officers from cheetah range countries will be trained in two-week training courses held twice per year. CCF has spent the past two decades developing integrated livestock and wildlife management methods and has fostered the formation of conservancies to benefit both people and wildlife.

### Namibia

Robin Lines of the Wild Dog Project suggested urgent action to save Namibia's African wild dog (*Lycaon pictus*) population from extinction in his 2008 report. He said that Namibia has only about 300 wild dogs left and the population is declining at a rate of 10% a year. The report recommends wild dogs be re-introduced in protected areas such as Etosha National Park.

Namibia has an important, yet declining population of African wild dogs, representing between four and nine per cent of the total free-ranging population of 3 000 to 5 000 dogs on the continent. There are fewer than 32 breeding packs in Namibia, most of them outside protected areas. In the past 100 years, the African wild dog population has declined by 98 per cent and its range reduced by 95 per cent. Threats to the population include habitat loss, hunting and poisoning by humans, disease spread from domestic animals and isolated populations.

### Namibia

The Ministry of Environment and Tourism has selected more than 20 farms from 7 regions (Omaheke, Hardap, Otjozondjupa, Karas, Kunene, Erongo and Kavango) from 190 applications to be the first beneficiaries of the Wildlife Breeding Stock Loan Scheme. The availability of game in protected areas, the drought spell in the country, farm size versus current game present on the farms, fencing and water provision, regional representation and prior commitments of the game capture team of the ministry were some of the factors considered when selecting the farms. Five species of game, namely zebra, springbuck, oryx, ostrich and eland will be translocated to the farms.

### Namibia

An 82-kg leopard was taken by American trophy hunter at the farm Gurub in the Khomas Hochland in September. The big cat was about 10 years old and 2.2 meters long

### South Africa

Two Cape Town-based scientists, Dr Samantha Petersen, a biologist with WWF-South Africa and Dr Ross Wanless, of Bird Life International's global species program, have taken top honors in an international conservation award. There were submissions by 32 candidates from 18 countries for the award, sponsored annually by National Geographic Deutschland, Deutsche Lufthansa, Zoological Research Museum Koenig and CMS (Convention on Migratory Species). Dr Morné du Plessis, chief executive of WWF-SA and a former director of the FitzPatrick Institute, said the awards were important. "They demonstrate not only the scientific expertise in WWF and in South Africa's scientific community, but also highlight the growing concern over the impact of human activity on marine resources."

### South Africa

One hundred years ago there were eight subspecies of tiger. The Bali, Javan and Caspian tigers are now extinct while the Siberian, Bengal, Sumatran, Indo-Chinese and South China tigers are all critically endangered. Save China's Tigers is trying to do as their name suggests, and they have a [website](#) that describes their project: "Save China's Tigers"- a UK, US and Hong Kong based charity founded in 2000 by Beijing born and bred Ms Li Quan, is the only charity in the world outside China with a mission to save the Chinese Tiger from extinction. One of her organizations main projects is 're-wilding' tigers. This means training zoo-kept tigers for re-introduction into the wild. This is taking place in South Africa. Why South Africa? There are sev-

Continued on Page 12

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

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

Continued from Page 11

## News from Africa

eral reasons... First, ... for tigers to live naturally, each animal need at least 15 square kilometers of land. It is very hard to get 15 square meters of land for ONE tiger in China, not to mention a population of several tigers. However in Africa, Li and her husband have been able to purchase over 300 square kilometers of bankrupt farm land at a relatively low price compared to China. The project will use South African experts to train conservation officers from Chinese Nature Reserves and to instruct Chinese managers in eco-tourism management to improve reserve management quality, and prepare for high quality wildlife eco-tourism in China and will assist China to set up a Pilot Reserve, based on the successful principles of African wildlife reserves as the new home for the Chinese Tigers, after they are wild trained and gained ability to survive in wild conditions.

### Sudan

The US Treasury Department's Office of Foreign Assets Control (OFAC) has denied import permits for trophies from Sudan. OFAC is the government agency enforcing economic sanctions implemented by the US State Department.

### Tanzania

Arusha regional commissioner Isidore Shirima has defended hunting firms against the criticism of some civic society organizations, saying they have contributed enormously to the development of villages surrounding their hunting blocks. Shirima mentioned Robin Hurt Safaris which last year spent \$8,194 on developing 13 villages located around its Burko hunting area in Monduli district. The villages are Arkaria, Arkatani, Eluwai, Emairete, Enguiki, Lendikinya, Lepruko, Lasimongori, Mbvaashi, Mfereji, Mti Mmoja, Noonoto and Orkeswa. Each village got \$630 and local authorities received a quarter of all the hunting fees generated. Shirima was speaking after presenting a report to Vice-President Shein who was visiting the region.

### Uganda

Marauding elephants in northern Uganda have added to the challenges faced by civilians trying to rebuild their lives in the wake of 20 years of civil war, destroying their crops and prompting some to return to displaced people's (IDP) camps they had only recently left. Local leaders have vowed to kill the elephants marauding in the area. Area residents accused the government of prioritizing wildlife over the welfare of returning. Uganda's wildlife senior conservation officer, Stonewall Kato, said that in recent years there has been an explosion in the number of elephants in the park, forcing some to stray out in search of water and food. Kato said an estimated 1,500 elephants stray out of the park to villages yearly.

### USA

Poachers beware! Stiff sentences are a rule in the United States and it is suggested that similar rules be introduced in the African hunting states for infringements of quotas, shooting outside proclaimed concessions, etc; it could assist in giving safari hunting a better name:

A Redding, California hunter admitted in Portland's U.S. District Court that he illegally killed a trophy bull elk in LaGrande and committed other hunting crimes in 2006. Ronald Ray Jurin pleaded guilty to a felony wildlife charge as part of a plea in which he will serve three years' probation, pay a \$50,000 fine and agree never again to fish or hunt in Oregon. Jurin, 37, acknowledged that he did not have a tag that would have allowed him to hunt and kill the trophy elk in eastern Oregon's Wenaha Hunt Unit, according to the U.S. Attorney's Office in Portland. The California man admitted in federal court that in 2006 he committed three other illegal acts -- hunting three bears before the season began, killing a cow elk without a tag and using an artificial light to kill a whitetail deer with a cross-bow -- federal prosecutors reported.

### Vietnam

Police arrested a man accused of smuggling five rhinoceros horns weighing nearly 18 kilograms into the country. Customs authorities at Tan Son Nhat Airport detected five horns believed to come from rhinos in the man's checked luggage as he arrived in Ho Chi Min City on a flight from South Africa in January. The horns were immediately seized, but the man was not arrested until the horns were confirmed to belong to white rhinos. The horns are worth an estimated 200,000 dollars.

### Zambia

Sixteen Village Scouts successfully completed 90 days of training at the Nyamaluma Wildlife College in Eastern Province. The Passing-Out Parade was witnessed by Her Royal Highness Chieftainess Chiyaba, the Community Resources Board Chairman and the Chairman of the Lower Zambezi Conservation Trust. The newly trained and motivated scouts will form the core team in law enforcement efforts in the proposed Chiawa Partnership Park (Source: REMNPAS Newsletter 8/8).

### Zambia

ZAWA signed a Memorandum of Understanding with African Parks for the management of West Lunga National Park. The project will initially focus on effective management and tourism development in the National Park and it is anticipated that it will gradually extend its activities in the neighboring Game Management Area and their resident communities. A funding proposal has been developed and submitted to the German Government for assistance in carbon sequestration through effective forest management (Source: REMNPAS August 08).

### Zimbabwe

Tom Milliken of TRAFFIC, an international organization that monitors the illegal trade in wildlife, said there had been a "major increase in poaching" for food in the country. "As the economic situation worsens, hunger and poverty in rural areas is greater than ever," he said. Milliken warned that organized syndicates who targeted rhinos for their horns were reversing gains made to boost their numbers. Mtsambiwa, the parks official, acknowledges rhino poaching is "out of control."

---

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

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

## Nubian Ibex (*Capra nubiana* Cuivier 1825)

Gerhard R Damm

The Nubian ibex (*Capra nubiana*, Cuivier 1825 - *C. n. ty-pica*, *arabica*, *bederi*, (SW. Arabia), *mengesi*, (S. Arabia) and *sinaitica* are considered synonyms) are smaller and more lightly built than other ibex subspecies, and the billies have narrower horns, with prominent outer ridges and a rounded outer edge and a often knobby appearance of the transverse ridges on the inner edges of the horns. These splendid horns curve up, back and down in an impressive semicircle and in old males sometimes forward at the tips. Horn length may exceed 125 centimeters. The largest horns ever come from a captive animal from the Khartoum Zoo (1969) with 138.5 centimeters (54 ½ inch). A wild specimen from the Red Sea Hills measured slightly less with 129 centimeters (50 ¾ inch). Both specimens had relatively small basal circumferences between 18 and 19 centimeters. Trophy heads in the 100 centimeter class (40 inch) can be considered good.

Body length varies between 105 and 125 centimeters, and they attain a shoulder height between 75 and 85 centimeters. Adult ram can weigh up to 70 kilograms.

The coat of the Nubian Ibex is of light sandy color or yellowish brown with lighter hindquarters. The undersides are a dirty sandy white; the same color appears the outer sides of the legs around the knees and above the hooves. The upper side of the tails is darker and it has a black tip. Males have an intermittent dark stripe on their front legs and a long dark dorsal stripe, as well as long, dark beards. The ears are longer than those of the Alpine Ibex.

The Nubian ibexes' light, smooth, shiny coats are thought to reflect a large amount of incoming solar radiation, which allows them to remain active throughout the day, even during hot summer afternoons. In late autumn and winter, the male's neck, chest, shoulders, upper legs and sides becomes dark brown to almost black.

Nubian ibex dwell in dry, desert mountainous terrain in altitudes between 200 and 1,850 meters asl. In Egypt the Nubian Ibex occurs east of the Nile, in the mountains of the Sinai Peninsula, in the hills of the Red Sea coast from the south of Cairo right to the Gebel Elba CA which is under territorial dispute with Sudan. In Eritrea there may be a population at the border with Sudan. In Sudan there are small populations in several areas within the Red Sea hills. In Israel, they occur in three major centers in eastern and southern Israel. In Jordan, Nubian Ibex is confined to the rugged terrain of the northeastern escarpment of the Dead Sea. In Oman the distribution is patchy and extends in isolated populations along the coastline in rugged terrain. Saudi Arabia has some isolated populations along the border with Jordan, and in the central regions. In Yemen they exist in the remotest regions of the Hadramawt. Nubian ibex in Israel and on the Arabian Peninsula tend to be somewhat smaller than those from Africa, and have shorter, thinner horns. Nubian Ibex have been successfully introduced into the United States.

In the summer, Nubian Ibex move farther up the moun-

tains to avoid the heat, and come down to lower elevations in the winter. In spring, they come down from the cliffs to the rocky uplands to reach new grass. They feed year-round on grass, shrubs, acacia, and roots. Unlike most desert animals, the Nubian ibexes drink almost daily. The Nubian ibex have special grooming habits that involve the Tristram's Grackle (*Onychognathu tristramii*), a member of the starling family. Flocks of these black birds peck at the hides of the ibex herd. There is only one grackle per ibex and the grackles often compete for each ibex.

Nubian ibex reside in single sex herds, with offspring remaining with their maternal herd for their first three years. Mating occurs during October. Gestation lasts about five months and the one young or sometimes twins are born in March. Sexual maturity is reached at two to three years, and offspring then leave their natal herd.

Nubian Ibex are severely threatened by competition with livestock and feral camels in Egypt and Saudi Arabia, and from feral donkey populations in Oman. The small size of remaining Nubian ibex populations and their isolation from each other is another cause for concern, since this limits opportunities for normal dispersal and genetic interchange.

### Trophy scoring

The minimum horn length for Rowland Ward is presently at 26 inch (=86 cm), but a revision of the measurement method for Caprinae has been announced. Trophy Classification: RW Minimum: 35 (= 89.0cm); Highest: 54 ½; Introduced Populations: 35 (= 89.0cm); Highest: 42 7/8. SCI: Highest 121 2/8

### Additional Information

Vernacular Names: German: Nubischer Steinbock; French: Bouquetin de Nubie; Spanish: Capra Nubiana; Arabic: Beden; Hebrew: Je'el

IUCN Red List Status: ENC2a; CITES Status: Not Listed; USF&WS Status: Not Listed; EU Status: Not Listed  
Distribution (States): Egypt, Ethiopia, Israel, Jordan, Oman, Saudi Arabia, Sudan, Yemen

---

## „Hunting“ behind High Fences – a Perspective from Austria

Translated by Gerhard R Damm

**Editor's Note:** This position paper was issued in September 2008 by the Förderungsvereins für Umweltstudien (FUST) in Achenkirch/Tirol ([www.fust.at](http://www.fust.at)). Members of FUST are Dr. Michl EBNER, Chair Hunting Intergroup of the European Parliament, Prof. DI. Dr. Friedrich REIMOSER, Forschungsinstitut für Wildtierkunde & Ökologie and Prof. Dr. Dr. Sven HERZOG, Wildökologie, TU Dresden. African Indaba submits this position paper as a contribution to the discussion.

Escape proof fenced enclosures where game is "hunted" have hundreds of years' history in Europe. They are defined as

*Continued on Page 14*

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

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

Continued from Page 13

### Hunting behind high fences – a perspective from Austria

estates of up to several thousand hectares, where game, especially hoofed game, is held, often in higher densities, to facilitate harvesting. Today, this is connected with commercial objectives, i. e. to realize higher income.

Specially developed breeding, feeding, transport and marketing techniques now facilitate the manipulation of wild game in a way, which is in opposition to the principles of modern sustainable hunting and the ethical viewpoint of large parts of society. The lack of differentiation between sustainable hunting and other activities often also called „hunting“, creates an unfavorable public sentiments towards hunting per se. In order to clearly differentiate and segregate the two activities two principles of sustainable hunting are of assistance (see also „Principles, Criteria and Indicators of Sustainable Hunting“ at <http://www.biodiv.at/chm/jagd>): 1) Hunting is the harvesting of unfenced game which is self-reproducing and 2) the natural genetic diversity of game is enhanced through adequate hunting methods. These two objectives have the following consequences:

Ad (1): As a matter of principle the killing of game within escape proof fenced areas under intensive agricultural production schemes – irrespective of the local legal basis – cannot be called hunting. Such taking of game cannot be included into the evaluation of sustainability. Large high fenced areas with extensive production conditions/schemes can, however, just as hunting under free range conditions, use hunting relevant sustainability criteria. Taking into account societal acceptance, it is however recommended to clearly distinguish between game hunting under free range conditions and game hunting behind high fences, i. e. to distinguish two different activity fields. „High fenced hunting“ is therefore to be defined for example if it takes place in areas, where fences or walls or other artificial hindrances prohibit constantly the genetic exchange with game on neighboring properties.

The above mentioned principle of sustainability also includes that „no game from intensive breeding facilities will be hunted“. This should eliminate the following scenarios: Certain hunting areas release game (including birds) from breeding facilities prior to a „hunt“ into free range areas in order to immediately obtain higher harvesting ratios. This is especially true for pheasants, mallards, wild boar and in some western European countries also for red legged partridge. But it can also be observed for antlered game like the red deer. In some occasions these animals are being brought close to the position of the „hunters“ in order to „liberate“ them during the „hunt“. It has also been observed that the number and species of animals to be „killed/hunted“ is being pre-booked and with hoofed game also the respective trophy quality (points). Game, particularly red legged partridge and pheasants, which is released in this manner, does have only a very small chance to survive under free range conditions, if it survives the „hunt“ at all.

The trade in and the releasing of game from intensive breeding facilities does not form part of the sustainability principle in hunting. This is, however, not the case when autochthonous game animals are released under appropriate animal welfare and species-specific conditions in order to built or main-

tain self-reproducing and self-sustaining populations under scientific supervision. Hunting of such populations after release needs to be suspended for an appropriate period of time and any subsequent hunting of such populations must take care of not targeting the majority of these animals.

Save for a few well substantiated exception, neither the commercial sale nor the release of game from high fenced breeding enclosures for the sake of killing (also called erroneously hunting) can be considered in accordance with the principles of today's principles of sustainable hunting. In addition, some countries have explicit legislation against such practice: Germany for example does prohibit the hunting (in the legal sense, i. e. with legal hunting weapons) of game from high fenced enclosures and such acts are subject to penalties like suspension of hunting rights for up to five years.

Ad (2): The sustainability principle contains the axiom that „*autochthonous game populations must not be diluted by introducing of non-autochthonous game*“. Non-autochthonous are all those species, which are not, or have not been indigenous to such areas. This includes all game, which does not belong to the natural potential game inventory of the respective habitat. Specifically, this includes all game which has reached the country with human assistance after the base reference year of 1492 (the discovery of the Americas).

We do not include originally existing game species, which have been exterminated or of which populations have ceased to exist. However, we specifically target the introduction of non-autochthonous game species for the sake of „genetic manipulation“, or for the artificial increase of species diversity. The release of such animals is problematic under aspects of natural genetic diversity and the well-being of autochthonous game species and does not correspond with the criteria of sustainable hunting.

### Conclusion

Under consideration of the mentioned principles of sustainable hunting

- a) an appropriate expression for the killing of game in high fenced enclosures or aviaries needs to be coined and such activity should not be called „hunting“; thus the killing of game in high fenced enclosures (*translator's note*: also called „estate-hunting“ in English) would be automatically excluded from hunting sustainability considerations;
- b) the commercial sale of game from such enclosures or aviaries for the sake of killing such animals under free range conditions is not acceptable;
- c) game from high fenced enclosures or aviaries should not be released for killing;
- d) non-autochthonous game should not be released into free range.

**"The conservation of our natural resources and their proper use constitute the fundamental problem which underlies almost every other problem of our national life"**

**Theodore Roosevelt**

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

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

## Barbary Sheep, Aoudad or Arrui (*Ammotragus lervia* Pallas 1777)

Gerhard R Damm

Genus *Capra* and Genus *Ovis* share a series of characteristics in the Barbary Sheep (*Ammotragus lervia* ssp). In general aspect Aoudad resemble a robust goat with the long head, short legs and the long tail, hairless underneath. As other sheep species, Aoudad have a haired chin, a short erect fringe on the back. Their behavior resembles that of sheep.

The body is quite thick and sturdy. The short, bristly outer coat of the Aoudad is rufous, sandy or tawny brown with occasional dark brown areas about the head and the forequarters. The chin, belly and inside of the legs underparts are moderately lighter to whitish and a circular spot of white hair frequently occurs on the head between the horns. A variability in color tones is notable amongst the subspecies. Both sexes have a heavy fringe of hair on their throat, although in males this extends down the neck to encompass the brisket bifurcating there into "chaps" and going down the front legs of mature rams. The chaps are peculiar to the Aoudad. On the back a short erect fringe of stiff hair goes from the neck to the withers. The head is relatively long; the ears narrow and evenly tapered; the small nose is black. The tail is fringed.

The thick horns are present in both sexes; they are elliptical and keeled in cross section, with a fairly broad frontal surface and show numerous shallow and uniform rings although in older individuals these may be worn down, causing the horn surface to look smooth. The points are directed inwards or inward and downward. Horn length in rams rarely exceeds 88 centimeters, with basal diameters of 35 centimeters. Ewe horns are about one third smaller and shorter. The horns are often used to ram acacia trees and shake them so that the nutritious pods fall down.

The Barbary Sheep or Aoudad (*Ammotragus lervia*) is indigenous to the Sahara and its sub-Saharan fringes. It can be found in suitable habitats throughout the region, from the Atlantic coast to the Red Sea, and from the Mediterranean Atlas Mountains to the escarpments of the northern Sahel. It is amazing how such a big mammal, where adult males may weigh up to 145 kg, manages to survive in some of Africa's most arid regions, receiving little or no rainfall for several years at a time, e.g. Jebel Uwein at the Egypt/Libya/Sudan border.

This doesn't mean that Barbary sheep don't drink at all but that they are able to satisfy their water requirements through the plants they eat. When water is available, after rainfall or from springs and mountain pools, they do, something that makes them extremely vulnerable to hunters, especially during the hot season. Traditional hunters will set foot traps in the vicinity of drinking holes and build blinds from which to shoot passing animals. Despite their adaptations, Barbary sheep are heavily affected when vegetation disappears and whole populations may suddenly disappear. When conditions are good, however, the

sheep breed well, reacting rapidly to favorable circumstances, giving birth to twins and even triplets.

As typical rock dwellers, the sheep find the food and water other grazers cannot reach in deep canyons and on high plateaus. Aoudad are not selective in their diet, using shrubs, succulent forbs, creepers and grasses depending on season and availability.

In the Moroccan High Atlas, they can be found as high as 3000 m in areas with lots of snow. In the Red Rea Mountains of Egypt, they share the habitat with the local mountain goat, the Nubian Ibex. Typically, Barbary sheep will shelter from the mid-day heat and from wind under boulders, in caves or on sheltered plateaus. They love to dust themselves in specially excavated scrapes. If disturbed, they quickly flee for rocky slopes and safety. Out of the mountains, when they come into wadis to feed or cross between rocky outcrops, they are very vulnerable.

Barbary sheep live in extended families and there are also male bachelor herds. They move over big distances and can colonize suitable areas readily. This is the case in southern Tunisia where protected populations in Bou Hedma and Dghoumes National Parks were able to re-colonize mountain ranges from which they were wiped out some 50 years ago. In large protected areas, such as the Ahaggar and Tassili National Parks in southern Algeria, Barbary sheep populations are healthy and may number several thousand head. But in spite of the resilience and rock-loving habits, Barbary sheep are extremely vulnerable and many small, isolated populations have either been wiped out by hunting or are in a critical state. The spread of automatic weapons throughout the Sahara, coupled with insecurity in many mountainous areas, has resulted in serious declines in many places. Although globally the Barbary sheep is listed as Vulnerable in the IUCN Red List of Threatened Species, this does not reflect the situation locally, where the status is often quite dramatic.

Nomadic people of the Sahara depended on Barbary sheep for meat, hide, hair, sinews and horns and the species was considered to be of greater value to the economy of the Ahaggar Tuareg than any other type of game.

At the 2000 Taxonomy workshop of the IUCN-SSG Caprinae the delegates felt that the subspecies *angusi*, *blainei* and *fassini* may not justify subspecific status and should possibly all be reclassified as *fassini*. The subspecies *omatus* from Egypt may be extinct (although some may survive in captivity), while the *saharensis* subspecies is likely valid. The subspecies are distinguished mainly based on their distribution in North Africa and there may be zones of hybridization where subspecies ranges meet or overlap (i. e. in the Air and Tibesti).

The **Atlas Barbary Sheep** (*A. l. lervia*) occurs in the mountains of Morocco and Tunisia, the northern part of Algeria, in the Saharan Atlas Mountains and the Central Sahara Tassili n'Ajjer and Ahaggar and all the surrounding mountainous areas.

The **Saharan Barbary Sheep** (*A. l. saharensis*) has a very large geographical distribution area, including the southern parts of Morocco, Mauretania and Western Sahara, the southern parts of the Algerian Sahara, southern Tunisia, southeastern Libya, Sudan, Mali, and Niger. In Chad it is present in the Tibesti

Continued on Page 16

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

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

Continued from Page 15

**Barbary Sheep, Aoudad or Arrui (*Ammotragus lervia*)**

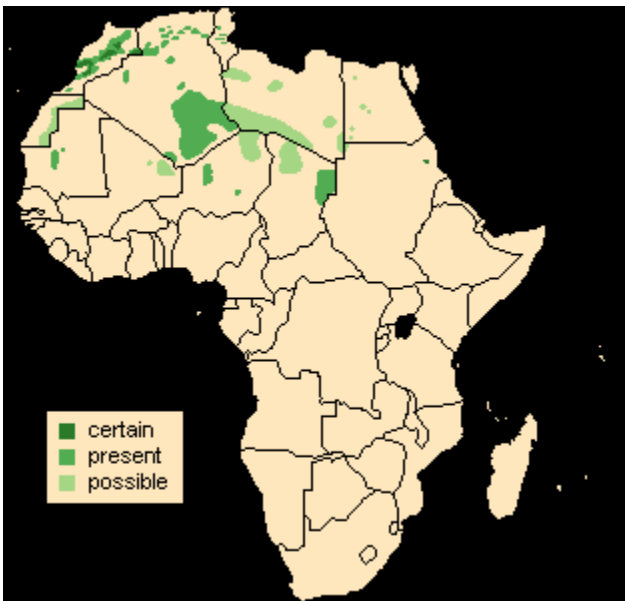
Mountains and in the sandstone massifs of Ennedi on the Jef-Jef plateau. In the north, the distribution limits coincide with the tropic of Cancer and in the south about latitude 145°N.

The **Egyptian Barbary Sheep (*A. l. ornatus*)** is most likely still present in a few areas in central Egypt and at the Sudanese border.

The **Libyan Barbary sheep (*Ammotragus lervia fassinii*)** occurs in northwestern Libya and southern Tunisia. At Fom El Khanga near the Algerian border there may be a pocket of Atlas Barbary Sheep. In Mali the Saharan subspecies may still occur in remnants on the northeastern border. Probably viable populations of this subspecies do also exist in L'Adrar de Mauritanie. In Morocco it is found in dispersed populations throughout the mountainous regions except in the Rif. The color of the pelage is reportedly paler than the other subspecies.

The **Air Barbary Sheep (*A. l. angus*)** still occupies all the massifs of the Air and Asben Massifs in Niger and there may be an isolated population in the extreme southern corner of the country. It is also occurring west of the Adrar des Iforas in Algeria and east to Tibesti in Chad.

Sudan is the home of the **Kordofan Barbary Sheep (*A. l. blainei*)** in an isolated region in the northeastern part of Sudan in the Red Sea Hills near Jebel Egrim. It was introduced into the Sabaloka reserve on the Sixth Cataract of the Nile and has been reported in Libya.



Range Map (Redrawn from Shackleton, 1997)

The larger free ranging populations in the **United States** are located in Palo Duro Canyon of the Texas Panhandle, the Canadian River Gorge, Canyon Largo and Hondo Valley of New Mexico and Santa Lucia Mountains of west central California.

Sightings have been reported from Oklahoma and Colorado. Introduction of some of these populations was done in the late 1930s, but some authors claim that the Aoudad has been first introduced in the early 1900s.

In **Spain**, Aoudad have been successfully introduced on public land and in private game reserves. Arrui are present in the South and Southeast of the country in the Sierra Espuña, Sierra de Cabras and Sierra de Burete near Murcia (introduction 1970), the Parque Nacional de la Caldera de Taburiente. On the Canary Islands, Arrui have expanded since 1972 into most remote and mountainous regions. In Andalusia and Castilla La Mancha, Arrui occur on a number of private reserves. The Aoudad in **South Africa** occurs on some large game ranches and Provincial Reserves, especially in the Free State and the Eastern Cape (usually behind escape proof fences).

Presumably the subspecies introduced into the United States, South Africa and Spain was *Ammotragus lervia lervia*

**Trophy scoring**

The minimum horn length for Rowland Ward is presently at 26 inch (=86 cm), but a revision of the measurement method for Caprinae has been announced. Rowland Ward lists Aoudad in Volume 1 (Africa) as free ranging indigenous. The largest trophy is a ram from the Ennedi Mountains in Chad – the horns were picked up by Edmond Blanc in 1947. Length of longest horn is 34 5/8 inch with a 13 inch base circumference. The top trophy from introduced populations in South Africa measures 34 1/2 inch, however, since all Aoudad in South Africa are introduced exotics, it is presumed that all specimens under this listing are from high fenced enclosures.

Spain and USA have some free ranging populations; Rowland Ward lists in Volume 2 (Rest of the World) a trophy from Colorado as largest with a 35 1/2 inch long horn and a trophy from Mexico with 34 1/2 inch horn length. The largest trophy from Spain is recorded with 29 1/2 inch in Rowland Ward, but the Spanish Junta Nacional de Homologacion lists a trophy with 370 points CIC, which presumably will have a much greater horn length.

**Additional Information**

Other Languages Vernacular Name(s): German: Maeh-nenschaf, Maeh-nenspringer; French: Mouflon africain, Mouflon a manchettes; Spanish: Aoudad, Arrui; Arabic: Arrui

IUCN Red List Status: VUA2cd; CITES Status: App II; USF&WS Status: Not Listed; EU Status: Annex B to Regulation (EC) No. 338/97 (North American Populations)

Distribution (States): Algeria, Chad, Egypt, Libya, Mali, Mauretania, Morocco, Niger, Sudan, Tunisia, Western Sahara, Introduced in Spain, Mexico, USA (Texas, New Mexico, California, Colorado)

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

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

# Elephant Conservation in Zimbabwe

Dr. M.Z. Mtsambiwa

Dr. M.Z. Mtsambiwa is Director General of Zimbabwe Parks and Wildlife Management Authority in Harare, Zimbabwe (E-mail: [mzmtsambiwa@zimparks.co.zw](mailto:mzmtsambiwa@zimparks.co.zw))

## Introduction

Elephant conservation remains one of Zimbabwe's main success stories. Of late due to reason beyond our comprehension this conservation initiative is under spotlight with varied opinions being expressed. This is manifesting itself in form of various misconceptions about the state of elephant conservation in Zimbabwe, including accusations of staff involvement in poaching.

The Zimbabwe Parks and Wildlife Management Authority therefore wishes to set the record straight by informing our valued stakeholders of the elephant management programs on the ground to hopefully stop all the misinformation that is doing the rounds.

## Elephant Population Status

The current national population is about 100,000 with an average growth rate of 5% and of this Hwange National Park and its environs alone hold about 50,000 while Mid-Zambezi Valley, Sebungwe and the South East Lowveld hold 30,000, 15,000 and 5,000 respectively. These figures are based on aerial surveys undertaken jointly by the Zimbabwe Parks and Wildlife Management Authority and World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF).

## Utilization: non consumptive and consumptive

There are two programs for the sustainable utilization of elephants in the country: (i) **non-consumptive** (photographic, elephant rides) and (ii) **consumptive** (trophy hunting and management off-take). **Consumptive utilization is all based on an approved quota** with the exception of problem animal control which is responsive to rogue animals whose numbers annually cannot be predicted.

There is also a deliberate policy to carry out these programs i.e. consumptive and non consumptive, **in isolation of each other recognizing the different clientele ethics involved**. Trophy hunting which annually utilizes **500 animals that are declared to CITES each year as 1000 tusks to allow for exportation of trophies** takes place in designated places as follows:

- State hunting safari areas 145 animals
- Private land mainly conservancies 115 animals
- CAMPFIRE in communal areas 210 animals and
- Forestry areas 30 animals

**No trophy hunting takes place in National Parks which include Hwange, Gonarezhou, Chizarira, Mana Pools, Matusadona, Kazuma Pan, Zambezi** where elephants are found.

The management off take, unlike trophy hunting, **takes place in any protected area where elephants occur including the national parks stated above and involves both trophy and non trophy animals but the trophies are not for export in any way**. The ivory from such an initiative ends up in central ivory stores at the Parks and Wildlife Management Authority Head Quarters properly recorded with a distinct serial number, area of origin, cause and date of mortality and size (length and weight). In order not to change the population structure (age and sex) **management off takes are not selective such that trophy animals are also taken but as stated above their ivory is not for export in its raw form**. It is sold on the domestic market through regular auctions to registered ivory manufacturers in line with 1997 CITES COP 10 Resolution which allowed Zimbabwe to engage in highly controlled domestic ivory trade.

Management off takes are for ecological reasons to manage surplus animals since elephants at very high densities as is our situation have a high propensity to destroy the very habitat that is the basis for their survival. As they destroy the habitat they also pose serious loss of other biodiversity.

At the moment in Zimbabwe the management off take **is utilized for training, staff rations, support for state and other functions, sale to crocodile farmers and where possible live sales for restocking. Meat is also sold cheaply or given free-ly to communities to supplement their protein requirements**.

The management off take involves an approved quota country wide of 1000 animals representing approximately 1% of the population as compared to the 5% annual growth rate stated above. This implies that this off take has no effect whatsoever on the elephant population. **Moreover over the years we have never harvested even half of the approved quota**.

In April 2007 prior to CITES COP 14 in The Hague SADC Ministers responsible for Wildlife Management approved the Southern Africa Elephant Management Strategy which **recognizes culling as one of the main tools for effective population control**. However, in the event that the Authority needs to undertake culling, all the political, ecological and other considerations including thorough stakeholder consultations would have been met.

At the moment and in preparation for a possible requirement to control elephant population through culling the Authority has **embarked on a training exercise for its staff thorough engaging some experienced professional hunters using part of this management quota**. This training involves hunting, recovery and processing of elephant products and gathering of scientific data.

However it appears that this training process has not gone down very well with some of our stakeholders resulting in the perception that trophy hunting for commercial purposes is taking place in National Parks. Furthermore accusations of rampant poaching or complicity in poaching by staff have also arisen resulting in staff frustration and low morale.

In response the Authority has deemed it fit to suspend this programme with immediate effect to allow for reviewing of

*Continued on Page 18*

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

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

Continued from Page 17

### Elephant Conservation in Zimbabwe

lessons learnt in line with adaptive management principles which guide the Authority. It is important to state that this programme has to go on as rations for and training of staff has to be undertaken if we are to meet our conservation goals. The Authority has also to supply meat to other stakeholders as stated above.

**We invite all stakeholders with information on poaching by staff or complicity in poaching to provide such information to the office of the Director General** to facilitate any investigations where necessary. It is our sincere hope that this statement will enlighten our valued stakeholders and help correct the perceptions about this programme. Please do not hesitate to contact us for any further information regarding the program.

---

## Kamanjab Farmers in Namibia Fed Up With Destructive Elephants

Brigitte Weidlich

Commercial farmers in the Kamanjab area northwest of Outjo are losing patience with herds of elephants reclaiming their previous roaming routes and habitat on which commercial farms are now situated. The former Kaokoland and Damaraland, now incorporated into the Kunene and Erongo Regions in northwestern Namibia, are regarded as the last wilderness of the country with freely roaming elephants, the endangered black rhino and giraffe in rivers, valleys and open plains, making spectacular viewing for tourism, an important income for rural communities. "There are 950 elephants moving around Kamanjab, Twyfontein, Uis and as far south as Kalkfeld and as far north as the Hoanib and Hoarusib rivers in the Kunene Region," Helmke von Bach, a commercial farmer near Kamanjab, claimed. They are moving from the communal areas to our farms to get water because virtually every water hole in the communal land is occupied by people and the elephants are driven away", Von Bach told the annual congress of the Livestock Producers' Organisation (LPO) last week. "Others move out of the Etosha National Park, because there is an overpopulation of elephants, 3 000 of them are in Etosha," according to him.

However, MET's, Netumbo Nandi-Ndaitwah two months ago told reporters 360 elephants were in the northwestern parts of Namibia, being those adapted to the arid conditions along the Skeleton Coast. The total population currently stands at 16,000 animals, according to MET figures.

Von Bach added that Government had reduced providing diesel fuel for generators to rural communities to draw water from boreholes, leaving them dry, forcing elephants to destroy fences, farm gates and zinc storage dams in order to drink at (commercial) farms. "Some 50 years ago, the elephants, which were on commercial farmland around Kamanjab, were lured to Etosha, which did not have a fence. There were far fewer bore-

holes on communal and commercial farmland than today and thus half a century ago far less elephants due to limited water supply." Von Bach told the delegates the many water points created by commercial farmers and those by Government for communal farmers let elephants multiply at a rate of 6% annually. "In Etosha the elephant population increases by only 3%."

Farmers had huge infrastructure damage as elephants destroyed not only fences and gates, but also ripped out underground water pipes. "They bend over wind pumps and rip holes into the walls of zinc dams with their tusks, so that their little calves could drink the water," Von Bach stated. Trees and shrubs were also damaged. "We must find an amicable solution for everyone, elephants, farmers and for tourism," he told the LPO congress.

Ben Beytell, Director of Parks and Wildlife Management in the Ministry of Environment and Tourism told the LPO that his Ministry recently received a study on elephants in the affected regions and expert proposals for a comprehensive sustainable elephant management plan. "We must further establish the economic value of elephants with regard to tourism and trophy hunting," Beytell said.

One issue Von Bach criticized was that the Ministry did not recognize conservancies on commercial farms. "There are many such conservancies and we have an association, but we failed to obtain recognition, despite many attempts," Von Bach said. "Our conservancy near Kamanjab for instance proposed to the MET that we manage the elephants on our farms ourselves, but that was not permitted. We also proposed to have at least 100 elephants caught and translocated to game parks in Angola at our own cost, it would not have cost MET a cent and the Angolans would have received the animals for free, but again Government did not want that," a frustrated Von Bach told the Namibian, a Windhoek based newspaper.

Since peace came to Angola in 2002 after a protracted civil war, tourism has picked up tremendously. Both the LPO and the Namibian Agricultural Union (NAU) will commission a joint study on elephant conflicts on commercial farms. Elephants in the former Kaokoland were virtually wiped out by South African apartheid government and military officials, including the late President John Vorster, who shot several elephants in the Hoanib River driven towards him with military helicopters. Severe poaching in the eighties and droughts decimated the few remaining herds to almost zero.

Dedicated conservation measures by non-governmental organizations in the past 23 years, together with the Namibian Government since Independence in 1990 allowed elephant populations to bounce back. Last year, the Global Environment Fund (GEF) of the United Nations made a grant of US\$34 358 available to the NAU and the Namibia National Farmers Union (NNFU) over a three-year period to find ways of mitigating Human-Elephant conflict in the Kalkfeld and Kamanjab areas. The project aims to assist communal and commercial farmers to minimize the human-elephant conflict. This is to be done through the production of chillies as a deterrent and a non-lethal alternative. Communities are trained on how to monitor elephant movement thus ensuring sustainable elephant management.

Source: The Namibian (October 2008)

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

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

## Strategy on Lion Conservation on Cards

Wezi Tjaronda

Experts are meeting in Windhoek to map out a strategy that will guide Lion Conservation in Namibia. The lion in Namibia is not only the country's most threatened and endangered species, but also one of the most vulnerable large mammals.

Namibia is required to develop a strategy like other lion range states. The strategies follow a debate to restrict trade in trophies at the CITES Conference of Parties 13 held in Bangkok four years ago, which highlighted the need for a pan-African consensus on the way forward for lion conservation. Rangeland states agreed to hold workshops, which would develop lion conservation strategies.

Strategies are currently being developed in Mozambique, Zambia and Namibia, while Zimbabwe already has a strategy in place. The workshop is the first step towards developing management strategies that ensure long-term lion populations and improve sharing of benefits derived from lions.

Director of Scientific Services in the Ministry of Environment and Tourism, Fanuel Demas, said the workshop was long overdue because Namibia is one of the African Lion range states with significant lion populations. It is estimated that Namibia had between 560 and 890 lions between 1999 and 2004. Demas, who was speaking on behalf of the permanent secretary, Dr Kalumbi Shangula, said lions are indispensable assets, which contribute to the country's economy. "The strategic goal is further to recognize lion potential for providing substantial social, cultural, ecological and economic benefits," said Demas.

Apart from attracting tourists, lions prey on domestic livestock and cause economic and human life losses. The need for strategies resulted from a proposal from Kenya and Mali, who wanted the lion to be transferred from CITES Appendix 2 to Appendix 1 because of the decrease in the lion population over the years but Namibia and South Africa were opposed to the proposal because of the long-term negative effects it would have on local communities such as increased human-lion conflict. According to Demas, lion mortalities in Namibia are as a result of social conflicts, shooting especially on sub-adults, natural mortalities such as drought and killings by other prides.

A study carried out in the Kunene Region noted that survival rate was high for the 1 to 4-year age group. The 3 to 4-year age group had a higher risk of dying because they were involved in the human-lion conflict, while those between four and 16 years were wiser and avoided conflict. Although statistics are that 25 lions per year are killed along the southern boundary of the Etosha National Park, a farmer farming in the area said many farmers do not report lion kills. The farmer said most lions being killed were sub-adults because they were pushed away due to their being problematic.

The two-day workshop has brought together representatives of the farmers' unions, wildlife foundations, lion researchers, conservancies, game farms, non-governmental organizations dealing with conservation and professional hunters.

## The Rhino Story: Continued

Gerhard R Damm

I refer to my article in the previous African Indaba "African Rhinos: A Near Disaster May Lead to a Sustainable Future".

Various interest groups in South Africa aired proposals to have trade in rhino horn legalized. In my understanding, some of these proposals aimed at privately held legal rhino horns as well as at a future potential harvesting of horn through dehorning from privately owned rhino; other proposals, made already at various stages in the past years, concerned the large stocks of rhino horn (from natural deaths and from confiscated illegal rhino horn) held in government vaults. In this context – a "**CITES Notification to the Parties (No. 2008/059): Tiger-breeding operations**" may be of interest, since it deals with a similar dilemma:

At its 14th meeting (The Hague, 2007), the Conference of the Parties adopted Decision 14.69 as follows: *Parties with intensive operations breeding tigers on a commercial scale shall implement measures to restrict the captive population to a level supportive only to conserving wild tigers; tigers should not be bred for trade in their parts and derivatives.* This matter was raised at the 57th meeting of the Standing Committee (Geneva, 2008), at which time the Committee called for relevant Parties to submit reports on the subject, which could be reviewed at its 58th meeting.

The Secretariat further requested that the Parties concerned consider the following guidance in relation to the terms used in the Decision:

- "trade", in the opinion of the Secretariat, may be regarded for the purposes of this Decision as referring to both domestic and international trade;
- "intensive operations" may be regarded as operations focused exclusively or primarily on the frequent production of tigers;
- "commercial scale" may be regarded as a level of production that enables a breeding operation, or is intended to enable it, to derive a substantial proportion of its revenue from the production of tigers, including, but not limited to, sale of parts and derivatives; and
- "a level supportive only to conserving wild tigers" may be regarded as a level determined solely by the objective of contributing to the long-term conservation of the species in the wild, having regard to the need to preserve the genetic diversity of existing subspecies and populations.

Such Parties are also encouraged to take the following issues into account during implementation and reporting:

- a) the establishment of a national individual animal registration process, incorporating a marking system using, for example, microchips or DNA profiling;
- b) the segregation of sexes to prevent further breeding;
- c) the development of a strategic plan, incorporating deadlines, for the phasing-out of intensive breeding operations on a commercial scale or their conversion

*Continued on Page 20*

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

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

Continued from Page 19

**The Rhino Story: Continued**

- to operations devoted solely to the conservation of tigers; and
- d) the development of a policy with regard to what will happen to tigers currently in intensive breeding operations.

**Let us analyze how this would concern the African rhino:**

It is a known fact that the success of rhino conservation in Southern Africa and the surging numbers of especially white rhino came from a concerted effort, where government nature conservation agencies and supportive national legislation worked together with a willing private sector – the game ranchers – to pull the white rhino back from the brink of extinction. Hunters played an important supportive role, after some populations of white rhino were downlisted to CITES Appendix 2 and legal trophy hunting added substantial economic value to the privately and publicly held rhino. Without legal trophy hunting, the renaissance of the white rhino would have been much slower. This fact was duly recognized and acknowledged by leading rhino conservation bodies like the IUCN African Rhino Specialist Group and eventually led to re-opening of black rhino hunting subject to stringent conditions in the hope of eventually repeating the same success story for this species.

Unfortunately, some loopholes in the system have led to abuses in the recent years. Bogus hunters from the Far East suddenly developed a massive interest to “hunting” rhino and some individuals in the private sector jumped on the opportunity to earn quick and easy money. Prices for bona-fide white rhino hunting surged beyond imagination. Not surprisingly, after seeing this price development, a call came to breed and hold white rhino for horn harvest. Yet for some unknown reason, strong opposition to registering privately owned live rhino and rhino horn from mortalities never abated.

The mentioned loopholes opened the potential that horn from poached rhino (i. e. from Zimbabwe) could ingeniously be legalized, although I submit that only individuals with high criminal energy would avail themselves of the opportunity. Nevertheless, the upsurge in rhino poaching in Southern Africa may be seen in connection with the increased demand from Far Eastern bogus hunters. This development – and the foreseeable reaction of the Parties at CITES – certainly threatens all efforts made by conservation agencies, the private sector and the global hunting community to conserve both white and black rhino.

The Professional Hunters’ Association of South Africa has to be commended again for their quick and decisive action in this matter. Further informal proposals have already been tabled and these proposals include for example that the hunter submits a sworn affidavit before the safari that no part of the rhino will be used for commercial purposes and that both horns of the successfully hunted rhino be micro-chipped; further, that all trophy parts be transported to a registered taxidermist who in turn would inform Nature Conservation authorities of the receipt, etc.

I suggest that the acknowledgement of the necessity and the speedy implementation of a national register of each individual privately owned white and black rhino would probably also

improve the situation. The private sector, i. e. the hunting safari operators and the game ranchers and the public sector (provincial nature conservation authorities and DEAT) should cooperate to drive the registration process, possibly incorporating a marking system with microchips and DNA profiling. The private sector should additionally create meta-populations of rhino on private land thus ensuring genetic diversity by considering conservancies instead of holding segregated rhino populations on individual properties. These steps would unite all stakeholders – the private sector, DEAT and conservation NGOs like WWF-SA, and strengthen long-term rhino conservation.

The value of rhino – in all terms, be it intrinsic, for non-extractive use like photo tourism or economic for extractive use through sustainable hunting methods – will be safeguarded, albeit the recent crazy price spikes will disappear. This will also reduce the major economic incentives for poaching here and in neighboring states.

It stands to reason to believe that the international community – and in particular the Parties to CITES – will not permit the private commercial trade in rhino horn. Not soon, if ever, and any efforts into that direction will not only meet strong opposition, but will eventually even jeopardize the limited use of rhino horn as hunting trophy and thus also jeopardize the economic value of today’s Southern African White and Black Rhino.

Nevertheless, national authorities like DEAT could and should initiate serious talks with CITES and introduce appropriate proposals at the next Conference of the Parties to allow limited once off trade opportunities to approved buyers for the rhino horn held in government stocks.

This exercise could be done very similar to the recent auctions of elephant ivory – on one hand to lower the price of illegally trade rhino horn, and on the other hand to obtaining direly needed funds for rhino conservation and anti-poaching measures. Once proper national inventories and appropriate markings of all live rhino are established and international bodies like TRAFFIC have put into place appropriate control mechanisms, these once off sales could prove to be of real benefit.

## XXIX International Union of Game Biologists (IUGB) Congress

17-22.08.2009, Moscow, Russia

**«Wildlife management is one of the most  
significant ways of wildlife preservation»**

**Scientists, wildlife specialists, representatives of government authorities, social unions and associations of game biologists, patrons and investors in rational use of game animals, conservation and improvement of their habitat all over the world will gather in Moscow**

<http://www.iugb-moscow2009.ru/eng/>

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

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

Continued from Page 2

### The Future of Conservation Hunting in Botswana

tourism in Europe to implement those principles; 3) It also recommends best practices for European hunters with regard to conduct, proficiency, safety and ethics. During the recent IUCN congress in Barcelona members of the world's largest conservation body have recognized the pioneering effort led by the Bern Convention and key stakeholders such as BirdLife International, the Federation of Associations for Hunting and Conservation of the European Union (FACE) and the International Council for Game and Wildlife Conservation (CIC). For the complete text of the Charter go to [www.cic-wildlife.org/index.php?id=332](http://www.cic-wildlife.org/index.php?id=332). In this context please also read "Sustainable Hunting Tourism accepted as Conservation Tool" on page 5 of this issue.

A publication recently published within the technical series of the International Council for Game and Wildlife Conservation (CIC), which explores global best practices in sustainable hunting, can be very well used in tandem with the Charter. Together with the input of regional experts from the extractive and non-extractive industry camps as well as from bona-fide conservation NGOs, it certainly should be of significance in the evolutionary processes of a wildlife policy for Botswana. This would also be perfectly in line with the ongoing Strategic Review of Wildlife Economics and Large Carnivore Conservation Management currently being conducted in which land use, economics and large predator management and conservation and human/predator conflict issues in Botswana are addressed.

The **International Council for Game and Wildlife Conservation (CIC)**, which represents governments, scientific institutions hunting associations and leading conservation experts in almost 90 countries and cooperates with UNDP, FAO, CITES, etc. continuously assists regulatory authorities in the evolution of local policies for wildlife conservation and hunting with a set of **Principles, Criteria and Indicators (PCI)** as a modern approach which allows measuring and evaluating of the status quo and future scenarios sustainable use options in an objective and transparent way (see also <http://www.cic-wildlife.org/?id=121>).

The future conservation and Community Based Natural Resource Management (CBNRM) policies in Botswana depend on an open-ended and holistic, but most of all, objective approach which should first of all aim at filling the trenches between the country's extractive and non-extractive wildlife industries. Both can and must coexist, not side by side in single-purpose management units, but together in multi-purpose management units in order to fully and yet sustainably use the natural resource potential of the area in question. The concept of multiple use zones surrounding core protected areas has been accepted internationally in multilateral environmental agreements (MEA)<sup>1</sup> as responsible land use system. These MEAs recognize hunting as one measure of "integrating people more effectively with wildlife". Conservation hunting will not materially affect animal numbers and animal mortality, since in semi-arid ecosystems species populations rise and fall mainly in response to rainfall and the subsequent availability of browsing and grazing, predation pressure and other environmental factors.

Protectionist circles (and also many operators of photographic safari camps) maintain that hunting causes a detrimental impact on population genetics. However, trophy hunters search

for animals with large trophies – animals which usually are old and likely to die anyhow through predation, climatic influences, territorial fights, etc. Old animals have also successfully participated in the breeding process during many seasons or are already naturally excluded. The genetic loss for the species population will therefore be minimal if any. All these arguments may still not convince outspoken adversaries of extractive sustainable use and "Incentive Driven Conservation". They consider the killing of wild animals is brutal, uncivilized and anachronistic. Killing animals to save them seems counterintuitive, but it takes a healthy productive population to produce a few large trophy male lion or elephants. This brings us to *the* core issue in the debate: many non-hunters object not to the hunt but to the conclusion of the hunt, the moment when an animal is killed. The "killing part" is usually the only focus of by non-hunters. This one-sided concentration unfortunately sets the stage, but fails to address the multi-layered conservation issues.

Most wild animal populations produce more animals than their habitats can support. These surplus animals die through a variety of mortality factors that regulate population numbers within habitat limitations. Clinically speaking, killing animals through regulated hunting is in fact the removal of excess animals that would otherwise be lost to natural mortality – if well regulated, there is no net loss to the population of the targeted species and no impediment of sensible wildlife viewing.

It is worthwhile to direct the attention of the reader to the writings of the Scottish economist Adam Smith, in "The Wealth of Nations" ...*that the invisible hand of the market translates the pursuit of self-interest into a public benefit.* In other words, in pursuing one's own interest, the common good of society is promoted more effectively than by consciously and directly working for it. Incentive-driven-Conservation has a theoretical basis in Smithian economics and appears to be a means to solve the *Tragedy of the Commons*. It enhances ecological, economic and social objectives and, the trophy hunter, with his wish to continuously experience the spectrum of emotions when hunting, will use the resource "sustainably", i. e. in a way that there is always sufficient game to satisfy his desires. The symbiosis of game custodian/owner and hunter benefits society and, last but not least, national and international conservation efforts. Even those who disagree with the trophy hunters' motives owe a vote of gratitude to the men and women whose love for hunting were and is a powerful conservation force.

Multi-use management units are obviously not first choice for photographic operators – but their insistence on exclusive use does not only limit the sustainable use potential of the area (usually the effective area used by game viewing operators is a fraction of the total available area) but it also puts the economics of such areas at considerable risk, i.e. during the current global financial crisis with a forecasted considerable drop in global tourism. Some companies are already reporting cancellations – particularly from the United States - equal to about 20% of their future bookings.

Probably the main stumbling block for a concerted action is to be found in the interaction (or the lack of it) between safari hunting and non hunting ecotourism activities.

The simplistic solution of mutually exclusive zoning can-

Continued on Page 22

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

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

Continued from Page 21

### The Future of Conservation Hunting in Botswana

not compete with layered multi-use solutions. Examples of eco-tourism and hunting impacting negatively upon each other are, of course, existing. Poorly regulated and/or unethical hunting definitely impacts negatively on the behavior of game. Indiscriminate shooting, particularly into herds, from vehicles and close to roads or tracks may make game animals wary of humans and vehicles. Other conflicts between hunting and tourism operators can be traced back to poor communication and insufficient tolerance, knowledge and sensitivity by individual staff members involved on either the hunting or tourism side (Stalmans, Atwell, Estes et al, 2003<sup>2</sup>). They state that conservation hunting and game viewing can be managed successfully together in the same unit to achieve conservation goals and have greater economic benefits. Keys to such compatible wildlife use are:

- Species- and habitat appropriate hunting quotas for prime or post-prime males only;
- Use of appropriate hunting and photographic tourism protocols that minimize disturbance to game;
- Use of temporal or spatial zoning to avoid visual or auditory impact of hunting on game viewing tourists;
- Different overnight and catering facilities for hunters and game-viewing tourists;
- Discrete transport of carcasses and location of slaughtering facilities;
- Strict communication and behavioral protocols between hunting and ecotourism staff to avoid conflict.

Strict hunting regulations and concise protocols governing conservation hunting are of utmost importance. In Botswana, the hunting industry organized in the Botswana Wildlife Management Association (BWMA), has publicly stated that its members are committed to abiding by their Code of Conduct, the Department of Wildlife and National Parks (DWNP) Wildlife Conservation and National Parks Acts as well as the hunting and licensing regulations at all times.

With good will on both sides, appropriate protocols, scientific backing and factual information for the public, non-extractive and extractive use options of wildlife could very well form an encompassing symbiotic relationship for the benefit of wildlife and people in Botswana.

#### Footnotes:

<sup>1</sup> MEAs relevant for hunting: Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), Convention on Migratory Species (CMS), Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES), African Convention on the Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources. International organizations of relevance for hunting are: UN Food & Agricultural Organization (FAO), UN Educational and Scientific Organization (UNESCO), International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN). Significant documents: Addis Ababa Principles for the Sustainable Use of Biodiversity and IUCN Recommendation CGR3.REC007 "Application of the IUCN Sustainable Use Policy to sustainable consumptive use of wildlife and recreational hunting in southern Africa"

<sup>2</sup> "Hunting in the Associated Private Nature Reserves" (environmental impact assessment process), final scoping report, February 2003, Marc Stalmans (PhD), Basher Atwell (PhD), Lyndon Estes (MPhil). Contact: [stalmans@ics-consulting.co.za](mailto:stalmans@ics-consulting.co.za)

## Sustainable Hunting on the Agenda of the World's Biggest Gathering for Conservation



IUCN  
World  
Conservation  
Congress  
Barcelona 2008

During the 4th World Conservation Congress (WCC) of the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN), October 5th – 15th, 2008, over 8000 conservationists, politicians, scientists and experts were gathered in Barcelona, Spain, to discuss conservation and sustainable development issues. This is the largest gathering of its kind and is amongst the most influential forums for the development of policies and programs to address urgent and critical issues of biodiversity conservation.

The CIC – International Council for Game and Wildlife Conservation i represented hunters from over 84 countries at this major event. With a strong delegation represented in Barcelona, the CIC promoted sustainable hunting during the Forum and stood for the interests of its membership during the Member's Assembly.

In addition, the CIC formed a voluntary group of like-minded, pro-wildlife use IUCN Members in order to pool resources and share information during the very busy days of the WCC. This group brought together representatives of over 60 organizations from different parts of the world for daily briefings to ensure strong representation and coordinated action of participants who are advocates for conservation through use of biodiversity

During the first week the CIC is addressed two main issues. First, it shared its experience about safeguarding the diversity of wildlife in the agricultural sector at the knowledge café on "The results of a 4-years project Habitat Fallow-Land".

Second, the CIC brought hunting tourism up on the agenda in a workshop titled "Sustainable Hunting Tourism – a valuable tool for conservation & sustainable development!" to address the question: In what way do we need to manage hunting tourism to fulfil the criteria for sustainable development. This event presented the CIC's approach to develop "Sustainable Hunting Tourism" and the stakeholders involved will show best practice examples from Europe, Africa and Asia in order to increase the understanding on the conservation, social, economic and cultural values of sustainable hunting tourism.

*The CIC as a longstanding IUCN member actively contributing to the work of the Sustainable Use Specialist Group of the Species Survival Commission.*

[News and reports from the World Conservation Congress](#)

---

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

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