



## “SERVING THE HUNTER WHO TRAVELS”

*“Hunting provides the principal incentive and revenue for conservation. Hence it is a force for conservation.”*

### Special To The Hunting Report World Conservation Force Bulletin

by John J. Jackson, III

#### DATELINE: IRAN

### Hunt Warning.... US Government Ban Affects Trophy Imports

**T**here have been a number of articles and advertisements offering Iran hunts in this past month. What they innocently fail to mention are the longstanding Presidential Embargoes prohibiting transactions by US citizens with Iran. There is no exception or exemption for sporthunting trophies. A willful import of any trophy, or even a tourist item from Iran, is a major felony with penal consequences far greater than violations of the Endangered Species or Lacey acts. The punishment can be a fine up to \$50,000 and 10 years of imprisonment per offense. The embargo is administered by the Office of Foreign Assets Control within the Treasury Department. Hunters who have directed their inquiries to the US Fish and Wildlife Service and/or the Department of Agriculture have gained little insight and, in fact, appear to

have been given wrong, or confusing, information. There is an exemption for “accompanied baggage for personal use,” but both the government administrator of the embargo and the legal counsel for the Office of Foreign Assets Control have separately said that personal use items do not include tro-



phies carried on your person. It is intended to cover toothpaste, clothing, luggage itself and other personal items, not tourist items, art, decorations, trophies, etc. There is a procedure whereby you can get a license to do a “prohibited transaction” but the transaction must be shown to be for a good cause. Perhaps having a benefi-

cial effect on a well-documented conservation program could be proven to be a “good cause,” but this idea has not been tested at this point. Without such a license, it is a crime to knowingly import a trophy from Iran! Nevertheless, the purpose of Conservation Force is to find practical solutions to such conservation impasses, so we will continue to search for a remedy. In fact, as this issue goes to press, Conservation Force is forming an Iran Task Force to review this problem. Contributions of information are welcome.

#### DATELINE: CANADA

### News... News... News Ontario Closes Spring Black Bear Hunting

**T**he Natural Resources Minister of Ontario, John Snobelen, announced on January 15 that he intends to permanently end the spring black bear hunt. Despite rumors, the decision is not yet final. It has been published in the Public Registry and is open to public comment until Feb-

ruary 20. The proposal is to close all bear hunting this spring which is scheduled to run from April 15 to June 15. The Ministry announcement states that “...Ontario has one of the largest populations (of bear) in North America, estimated at 75,000 to 100,000,” but proposes to close the hunt because “...it will not tolerate cubs being orphaned by hunters mistakenly shooting mother bears in the spring.... Stopping the hunt is the only protection for the animals.” This is a subjective, moral judgment not a biological one. This is a decision to eliminate spring sporthunting for thousands of hunters to spare a few cubs. It will reduce the operating revenue of the ministry. Moreover, far more bears will have to be taken wastefully in problem animal control, including females. Though the decision is a moral, not a biological decision, it will have detrimental management impact. It is a value judgment that bear offspring are worth more than the spring recreational interest of sportsmen and the revenue of outfitters and rural people. It most definitely has an animal rights basis and is intended to serve this special interest at the cost of everyone else. Of course, animal rights organizations are taking full credit after lobbying to end the spring bear hunt for a decade. Timely comments of protest must be received before the deadline of February 20, 1999. Comments must contain the “EBR Registry Number: RB9E6001” and must be addressed to: The Hon. John Snobelen, MNR, 6<sup>th</sup> Floor, Whitney Block, 99 Wellesley Street West, Toronto, Ontario, M7A 1W3. Fax 705-755-2117. Tel. 705-755-1902. Some issues worth raising about the closure are: 1.) It is biologically unnecessary; 2.) It will increase animal problems and problem animal costs; 3.) It will cause economic hardship to outfitters and local communities; 4.) It overlooks the nature and importance of the spring hunting experience; 5.) It puts animals before people; 6) It wastes a valuable, renewable resource. It is important to be polite and avoid being an “Ugly American” in your comment. Thank the ministry for considering your comment.

**DATELINE: ZAMBIA**

**News Analysis**  
**Private Group Having**  
**Impact In Kafue Park**

**A** remarkable private conservation group has emerged in Zambia’s Kafue National Park. Its General Manager, Stephen Sindern Forster, describes it below and reveals some startling complexities of antipoaching efforts in that part of the world. He writes: “The Kafue National Park, together with its surrounding game management areas, covers approximately 80,000 square kilometers of the Kafue Basin in West Zambia, making it one of the largest conservation areas in Africa. Despite its outstanding features in terms of biodiversity of both flora and fauna and its stunning beauty, only traveling hunters and a few insiders really know and appreciate it. At present, an unsustainable illegal offtake of all its resources threatens the very existence of the park. The communities living around the park have always and still do live out of the park. Due to their mode of production, which could be adequately described as a hunter and gatherer economy with only a few sedentary, sustainable farming enterprises, the average household of 5.5 persons needs a large area of about fifty hectares for its sustenance. They depend to a remarkable extent on the forest and its products - timber for energy and building; honey; herbal medicine; and, of course, game and fish. Their use of the park never posed a threat to the resources, as long as population pressure was low and traditional restrictions strong. Nowadays, however, due to modern medicine, strong immigration into some of the surrounding districts and the influx of war refugees from Angola, local population has increased to the point that the park no longer produces enough animals. This, in turn, has led to escalating conflict between the local population and those involved in wildlife-based consumptive and non-consumptive tourism and conservationists.

**JOHN J. JACKSON, III**  
*Conservation Force*



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**Editor/Writer**

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**Publisher**

Don Causey

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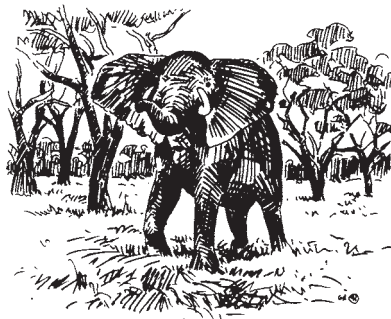
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## “Serving The Hunter Who Travels”

There are reports that in the northwestern part of the park tourists have been shot at by combat-experienced commercial poachers wielding semi-automatic weapons. It is known that several wildlife police officers have been killed in the last few years by poachers. It is no wonder that the Park fails to generate enough income to sustain its management. During the 1980s, only two enterprises invested in the Park. The number investing in the park and its adjacent game management areas has risen to some 33 at this point. Nonetheless, wildlife management professionals reckon that it takes about \$80 (US) to fully protect a square kilometer per year, which means \$6.4 million (US) would be needed for the whole park. At present, the two commands of the Department of National Parks and Wildlife Service (NPWS) are chronically underfunded and underequipped to do their duty. All totaled, only 249 NPWS officers are assigned to protect the Park, and their morale is undermined by living amongst poaching neighbors, by the issuance of Special Licenses to high-ranking government officials, by broken promises and by weak legal defense in case of casualties arising during arrests. The failure of the officers to stem the tide of poaching has made it very hard for lodge managers and tour operators to survive, especially in light of the fact that NPWS is also not able to meet its responsibility to maintain roads. In 1996, some stakeholders undertook an effort to create an organization that would represent their concerns and build a platform for joint operations with NPWS. What they created was KANTIPO - Kafue Anti-Poaching Company Limited by Guarantee, a non-profit private organization registered under the provisions of the Companies Act. At present, more than 50 percent of the tourism operators in and around the Park are members, as are a number of conservation-minded lawyers, an officer of the Zambian Anti-Corruption Commission, the Warden of the NPWS Northern Command, representatives of conservation organizations such as Care for the Wild and management experts. KANTIPO

is fully endorsed by NPWS and has been commended by the new minister of tourism for its conservation efforts. The strategy of KANTIPO combines a balanced mix of repression of illegal offtake in the protected areas and prevention around the protected area. With the help of friendly organizations, KANTIPO helped NPWS protect approximately one quarter of the Park during the 1997-98 wet season by providing equipment such as tents, radios, kitchen utensils, food rations and emergency drug kits; and by arranging transport for six base camps in the Park. KANTIPO members themselves usually do not participate in direct law enforcement. They only support law enforcement, unless they hold office of honorary rangers, who are equally empowered to make arrests. Members have the right to in-



spect the camps they support, however, and to discontinue support if discipline does not improve. The laws of Zambia, as in any other civilized country, require investigations into cases where poachers have been wounded or shot by wildlife police officers. In Zambia, however, due to weaknesses in NPWS, there has been no effective mechanism to prevent officers from staying in jail for extended periods in the wake of such incidents. KANTIPO has in its organization a legal wing, which provides legal aid for deserving wildlife police officers. In 1997, KANTIPO got three officers, who had stayed for more than three years in prison, cleared from murder charges in three months. This past year, KANTIPO turned its attention to strengthening its contacts in the communities around the Park. A high priority has been as-

signed to the creation of environmental education camps in the Park. The target communities are identified by analyzing the patrol reports of wildlife police officers. The communities of origin of the poachers arrested in the Park get highest priority for wildlife education of both children and adults. These communities also get the benefit of KANTIPO's support of any of their wildlife-compatible projects. For the 1999 dry season, the following types of projects have already been identified in priority communities: installation of tree nurseries for energy, building materials for local fruit and medicinal trees, introduction of fish dams, introduction of apiculture, and support of any undertaking that brings forest products nearer to the homestead, thus making it unnecessary to go into the protected areas. The comparison of anti-poaching statistics prior to, during and after KANTIPO's interventions will show which particular project will be most conservation effective. KANTIPO's 1998-2000 action gives more information on planned operations and a detailed budget for each. Apart from supporting 13 anti-poaching units in the park and adjacent game management areas, KANTIPO expects to invest heavily in community education and development once the 1998/99 wet season is over. The total cost of the program is approximately \$900,000 (US), and KANTIPO has so far secured about \$400,000. The support is coming mostly from the same organizations that supported KANTIPO during the 1997/98 wet season. Most say they got excellent reporting and accounting for their contributions. Anyone else interested in helping KANTIPO should contact me, Stephan Sindern-Foster, KANTIPO General Manager, PO Box 34 089, Lusaka, Zambia. Tel/Fax: 011-260-1-29-50 04 (from the US).”

### Briefly Noted

**Zambia Crocodile:** There has been a delay in issuance of CITES permits to export crocodile sport hunting trophies from Zambia. At my request, Ken Stansell of the US Fish & Wildlife Service met with the new director from

Zambia as a courtesy to help unravel the problem. It appears that through error the crocodile tags that Zambia received from the CITES Secretariat’s administrative offices in Europe are those for commercial/captive breeding, not those appropriate for sport-taken trophies. There are two kinds of tags, and Zambia only received the commercial kind. This is merely an administrative mistake that will be resolved successfully in due course.

**CAMPFIRE Director:** Stephene Kasere has been selected as the new director of CAMPFIRE. He takes over from the late Taps Maveneke who was killed in a vehicle collision in August. There were 150 applicants for the position. The African Resources Trust (ART) has also appointed Dr. Cecil Machena to succeed Dr. Jon Hutton as the new director of ART. Dr. Machena has been acting director (research) in the wildlife department of Zimbabwe where he started as an ecologist 16 years ago. His Ph.D. is in fisheries science.

**Gun Suit Costs New Orleans A Bundle:** The New Orleans lawsuit against the shooting industry has already cost the city \$145,000,000. The SHOT (Shooting, Hunting and Outdoor Trade) SHOW has canceled its convention which was to be in New Orleans in 2000 and was expected to draw 35,000 attendees and have \$145 million economic impact on the metropolitan area. The show is now expected to be in Las Vegas. The city may also lose the SHOT shows scheduled in New Orleans in 2001, 2004, 2011, 2016 and 2019. With inflation and other factors, the economic loss to the city can exceed one billion dollars!

**Polar Bear Tidbits:** As reported elsewhere in this issue, the US Fish & Wildlife Service Office of Management Authority has finally approved polar bear trophy imports from Lancaster Sound and Norwegian Bay. Conservation Force filed a formal comment and took other strategic steps to move the rule that took 11 months from its proposal. Other polar bear areas that remain unapproved have been “deferred,” not disapproved.

However, there are indications that it will be years before other areas are approved, particularly the popular Baffin Bay population which is shared with Greenland. Conservation Force will continue to monitor and support all efforts to broaden the area of imports, though ultimately it may require legislative action and sophisticated lobbying by the likes of Ron Marlenee



and the Sportsmen’s Caucus.  
**Non-Resident Hunter Lawsuits:** Conservation Force continues to be very involved in the fight out West to restore equity to non-residents in the allocation of hunting rights. Things are really hopping in the Wyoming case as this issue goes to press. Trial has been set for April, and cross motions for summary judgment are expected to be decided in March. Dis-

covery is complete. The non-resident and outfitter plaintiffs took 10 depositions of commissioners, biologists and experts. The witnesses basically agreed that the preferences for residents over non-residents are being driven by resident pressure to keep the resource for themselves and hunt prices low. The discrimination is not biologically mandated, rather it is politically motivated. Elk license numbers for non-residents, for instance, were capped at 7,250 many years ago, and have not increased even though elk populations have almost doubled and are more than 40 percent above management objective. Most of the elk are in “general areas,” where residents can purchase licenses over-the-counter without limit or quota, while nonresidents must compete for a limited number of licenses in a random draw that has an average of 10 to 12 percent success rate. Approximately 78 percent of the license revenue comes from non-residents, half of the land is federal land and a quarter of the elk and deer migrate from state to state. Nevertheless, resident organizations have been thriving on the fight to protect against the perceived intrusion of non-residents into Wyoming resident hunting. As this is being written, several retaliatory bills are being proposed in the state Legislature to protect residents’ special interests even further. This litigation to protect residents was even a primary issue in the gubernatorial election a few months back. The immediate past majority whip of the State House of Representatives has actually filed an affidavit stating that there is no hope in the state political arena for non-residents being given more licenses. Meanwhile, the immediate past director of the Game Department itself, who is one of the experts for the non-resident side, has stated for the record that the discriminatory schemes are politically based protectionism, not biologically necessary. All of this is economic protectionism at its worse. It hurts everyone for the economic protection and benefit of some residents who want to prolong hunting cheaply and without quotas for themselves. - John J. Jackson, III.

#### Conservation Force Sponsor

The *Hunting Report* and Conservation Force would like to thank International Foundation for the Conservation of Wildlife (IGF) for generously agreeing to pay all of the costs associated with the publishing of this bulletin. IGF was created by Weatherby Award Winner H.I.H Prince Abdorreza of Iran 20 years ago. Initially called The International Foundation for the Conservation of Game, IGF was already promoting sustainable use of wildlife and conservation of biodiversity 15 years before the UN Rio Conference, which brought these matters to widespread public attention. The foundation has agreed to sponsor Conservation Force Bulletin in order to help international hunters keep abreast of hunting-related wildlife news. Conservation Force’s John J. Jackson, III is a member of the board of IGF and Bertrand des Clers, its director, is a member of the Board of Directors of Conservation Force.



International Foundation for  
the Conservation of Wildlife

## **MEMO**

To: Jim Young, Print N Mail  
From: Nilton Aquino, The Hunting Report  
Re: Print run for February 1999 Conservation Force Supplement  
Date: February 4, 1998

Jim,

Here's the file for the February 1999 issue of the Conservation Force Supplement, to be inserted in the February 1999 issue of The Hunting Report. Don't forget to insert John Jackson's picture on page 2. Please fax "blue lines" for approval ASAP.

Total print run is 4,300. That includes 3,973 copies for insertion into The Hunting Report (active circulation); and 50 copies to be shipped directly to John Jackson. The remaining 277 copies are to be shipped to us here in Miami. As usual, bill John Jackson for all costs relating to Conservation Force.

Please call if questions.

Nilton