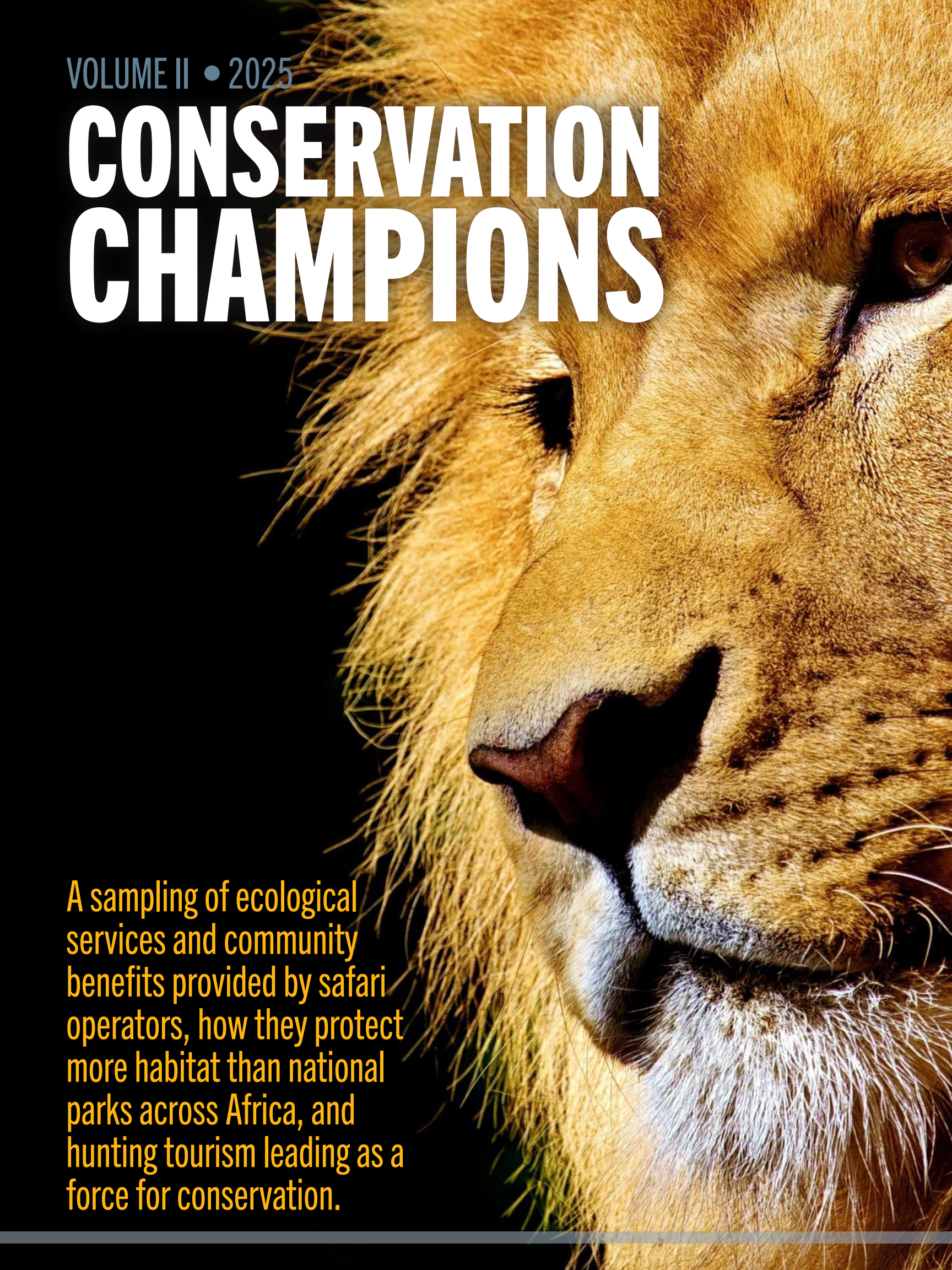


A close-up, high-resolution photograph of a lion's face, focusing on its eye, nose, and mane. The lion's fur is a rich golden-brown color, and its mane is thick and light-colored. The background is dark, making the lion's features stand out.

VOLUME II • 2025

CONSERVATION CHAMPIONS

A sampling of ecological services and community benefits provided by safari operators, how they protect more habitat than national parks across Africa, and hunting tourism leading as a force for conservation.

CONSERVATION BY SAFARI OPERATORS

The primary hunting countries in Southern and Eastern Africa—particularly Botswana, Mozambique, Namibia, South Africa, Tanzania, Zambia, and Zimbabwe—represent the very best conservation success stories in the world.

These seven countries are home to most of Africa's megafauna and biodiversity, along with hundreds of millions of acres of habitat secured by hunting tourism, making them global leaders in conservation.

This unmatched conservation success is led by safari operators, who do much more than just conduct hunts. These “conservation champions” provide an incredible amount of essential funding which is dedicated to species conservation and protection of entire landscapes and other wildlife and ecosystem services. Hunting areas, in the form of game reserves, safari concessions, wildlife management units, private conservancies, and communal land, serve as buffer zones around protected areas such as national parks, increasing the size and management of conserved areas. As a result, the percent of land protected and other effectively conserved areas in Southern and Eastern Africa exceed that of Europe and other regions. These enormous tracts of habitat would be converted, degraded, divided or subject to unregulated exploitation were it not for safari operators and their international hunting clients.

Most importantly, hunting tourism provides incentives for people who often live in day-to-day conflict with wildlife. Benefits generated by hunting, including income, jobs, healthcare, education, infrastructure, food security, and other socio-economic incentives help foster tolerance, stewardship, well-being, and transformative rural development. These benefits empower local communities to effectively manage, utilize, and protect wildlife, resulting in a more valued relationship between people and wildlife. Only through partnership with local communities, aligned with human rights and indigenous culture, will wildlife have a future—and safari operators demonstrate this holistic approach best among conservationists.

Safari operators are the unsung heroes on the front lines of conservation in Africa. They are the link between people and nature and hunters and communities, ensuring all involved benefit sustainably. In managing hunting areas, their conservation and development contributions extend beyond the

Elephant hunting provides “the most efficient and cost-effective form of producing economic benefits for local people that you can find.”

— **Russell Train, former Chair of World Wildlife Fund-United States**

borders of their concessions or private land. These operators secure more habitat than other wildlife-related land uses across Africa, host most of the abundant game populations, provide operating funds to wildlife management agencies, and contribute to rural and national economies. Operators are responsible for protecting their areas, managing the habitat, controlling poaching, recovering wildlife, mitigating human-wildlife conflicts or livestock depredation, and fighting illegal activities. They restore natural habitats and reintroduce species; prevent encroachment, deforestation, and adverse effects from drought; create and operate equitable benefit distribution systems partnering with local communities; and inspire conservation by minimizing and compensating for human-wildlife conflicts. All this activity is paid for by safari operators and their hunting clients—a **conservation force in action** popularly called “**conservation hunting**”.

Safari operators are the heart of conservation success in Southern and Eastern Africa, the original biodiversity economy industry, and pioneers of rewilding. But many benefits from hunting tourism are not known or appreciated by the public or misinformed media. These operators help secure more habitat than all national parks across Africa, including most of the remaining wilderness. Only by knowing their stewardship can one comprehend why Southern and Eastern Africa excels in unparalleled conservation.

This booklet highlights the conservation work and species enhancement programs of a representative sample of two safari operators from each of the seven countries featured. These operators are the real conservation heroes on the front line. Please recognize the operators' service to society, nature, community well-being, and rural development, and share this story of conservation.





BOTSWANA

BOTSWANA

Home to the world's largest elephant population

ETHAKULU SAFARIS

Remote Wilderness In Northwest Botswana

Ethakulu Safaris has managed Controlled Hunting Area (CHA) Ngamiland 4 (NG4), a 2630 km² wilderness in the far northwest of Botswana bordering Namibia and home to indigenous San people. Access is limited and infrastructure is minimal—a reality that long left this region and main village of Cgae Cgae (Xai Xai) beyond the reach of most photographic tourists, other development, or formal wildlife surveys. Ethakulu formed a joint venture partnership with the local community Cgae Cgae Tlhabololo Trust, which is a member of the Ngamiland Council of Non-Governmental Organizations (NCONGO), to manage and benefit from this hunting concession. The hunting operator provides more than 3400 people in widely dispersed settlements their primary source of income, game meat, and road development. Ethakulu is also a lifeline to the indigenous San people and helps preserve their culture.



ELEPHANTS AND WILDLIFE MONITORING

NG4 lies beyond the reach of Botswana's standard aerial monitoring zones, but elephant presence here is undeniable and increasing. Although part of the Kavango Zambezi Transfrontier Conservation Area (KAZA), NG4 was not surveyed during the 2022 KAZA aerial survey. However, neighboring Khauzum National Park and adjacent areas hold an estimated population of about 9000 elephants with frequent transborder movements. Ethakulu Safaris, in partnership with the community trust, is also launching a community-based wildlife and habitat monitoring program.

COMMUNITY CUSTODIANSHIP

Ethakulu Safaris supports officers from the Department of Wildlife and National Parks (DWNP), who accompany the operator on every hunt, by providing fuel, food, transport, and logistics. Poaching in NG4 remains rare. For example, in 2021 only 2 gemsbok were illegally taken and 2 bushmeat poachers encountered, with no reported incidents in 2022. Ethakulu employs 30 people from surrounding villages and pays hunting quota payments directly to the community trust, which reinvests revenue into infrastructure development and essential social services. Meat from every hunt, worth about \$68,000 annually from elephants alone, is distributed to households across the concession, supporting both subsistence food security needs and sustainable local trade. The hunting operator also assists DWNP with problem animal control, particularly in cases involving dangerous game. In a region with minimal infrastructure, even basic improvements matter. Ethakulu helps upgrade water boreholes, maintain roads linking villages to a health clinic, refurbish community campsites, and outfit 2 seasonal fly camp locations rented from the trust—a \$92,000 investment during 2021–2022. A local road-clearing crew is also employed to cut and maintain access across the dense bush.



RESTORING WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT

A domestic hunting moratorium in Botswana's communal areas during 2014–2019 was devastating for both wildlife and communities. Wildlife protection ceased, as the absence of hunting operators left vast areas in northern Botswana abandoned and unmonitored. Community trusts lost their primary funding source, and human-wildlife conflicts increased. Ethakulu Safaris secured a lease for NG4 in the first year it became available. Before the ban, anti-poaching was the community escort guides' responsibility, who also conducted wildlife monitoring and represented the community on hunts.

Their role was suspended during the ban but resumed in 2021 under Ethakulu's operation. Escort guides now again accompany hunts and submit full reports to DWNP, including observations on wildlife movements, habitat change, irregular human presence, and carcass sightings.

PRESERVING INDIGENOUS CULTURE

NG4 is home to indigenous San people, Southern Africa's original bushmen hunters and one of the world's oldest continuous cultures. Often overlooked in modern conservation practices, the San maintain deep ecological knowledge and spiritual traditions rooted in this land. Ethakulu Safaris makes a deliberate effort to support preservation of their culture, assisting community members in marketing handmade curios and selling dried game meat called segwapa. While modest in scale, these efforts offer meaningful economic participation in a region where many people rely on government support. For San women especially, the curio trade provides independence and helps sustain dying artisanal skills. Traditional tanning of wildlife hides with native plants remains central to cultural expression, and these indigenous products are used in spiritual dancing and ceremonial dress. NG4 is an old place with a long tradition, kept alive in part by hunting tourism, and a safari operator committed to ensuring that the cultural fabric of the area does not disappear.



SAVANNA SKY HUNTING SAFARIS

Special Elephant Quotas In NG35

Savanna Sky Hunting Safaris operates in CHA NG35, a 3940 km² block in northern Botswana that includes the regional hub town of Maun and surrounding communal lands just below the floodplains of the Okavango Delta. The broader area is home to about 72,000 people, the majority residing in Maun, while the landscape supports high elephant densities typical of northern Botswana. Savanna Sky currently holds a Special Elephant Quota (SEQ) commencing with 12 for 2021, 10 annually during 2022–2023, and now 11 per year for 2024–2025. This quota allocation from DWNP aims to improve community tolerance of an increasing and abundant elephant population when Botswana re-opened controlled hunting in 2019, and to improve community livelihoods through a sustainable use process. The operator initially managed



NG35 under a 1-year SEQ arrangement purchased at public auction but encouraged DWNP to allocate hunting concessions for longer tenure through an open tender process to allow for meaningful investment in both socio-economic and ecological benefits. Savanna Sky won the tender for hunting rights in NG35 for 2023–2027, allowing for a deeper conservation investment in infrastructure, community empowerment, and habitat maintenance.

ELEPHANT POPULATIONS AND QUOTA MANAGEMENT

The elephant population in NG35 is abundant and stable, confirmed through aerial surveys conducted by DWNP and reinforced by the most recent KAZA survey published in 2023. Annual quota allocations are well regulated by DWNP: tusks



must weigh more than 11 kilograms, and the operator's practice restricts harvests to old male bulls. Age determination is carried out using criteria developed by Mochaba Developments, based on a scientific study: Martin, R.B., Craig, G.C., and Peake, D.A. 2011. The elephants of Northern Botswana: Trophy Hunting, Population Dynamics and Future Management.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AND ANTI-POACHING

Savanna Sky Hunting Safaris employs 19 people, most during the hunting season, providing seasonal income opportunities tied directly to wildlife management. Anti-poaching operations in NG35 are formally conducted by DWNP together with the Botswana Defense Force, and each hunt is accompanied by a community and/or DWNP escort guide who submits a full report at its conclusion. While Savanna Sky's SEQ is not linked to a formal joint venture with local communities, the hunting operator maintains an understanding with surrounding communities and district authorities to assist if cases of poaching or illegal resource use arise, with all incidents reported directly to DWNP. Recorded poaching in the area has historically been low and typically involved subsistence bushmeat hunting for species such as impala, kudu, and steenbok. However, incidents of bushmeat poaching have increased in recent years due to proximity to Maun, and now also includes buffalo, giraffe, and lechwe. Seasonal flooding leads farmers to move more cattle into NG35 for forage, which can increase poaching pressure tied to livestock predation and related conflict. A more consistent presence on the ground by Savanna Sky provides deterrence and ensures rapid reporting of any illegal activity.



MEAT DISTRIBUTION AND PROTECTING LIVESTOCK

Although the SEQ does not require formal community investment, Savanna Sky Hunting Safaris contributes voluntarily to rural development and well-being projects in collaboration with local stakeholders. All elephant meat harvested from the quota, valued at \$68,000 annually, is distributed to communities in coordination with the Village Development

Committee. The operator also provides transport of this meat and villagers when needed. As NG35 is south of Botswana's buffalo fence, the hunting operator collaborates with Village Development Committees to construct predator-proof kraals that enclose livestock at night, reducing human-wildlife conflicts. Horses, which are culturally valued in the area, are likewise enclosed at night to prevent theft, and the kraal initiative has improved monitoring so that any poaching incidents by horseback can be promptly reported to DWNP.



VOLUNTARY SUPPORT FOR DEVELOPMENT AND CONSERVATION

Savanna Sky maintains and clears roads in NG35, employing local labor to improve access, strengthen monitoring, and create firebreaks during the dry season. Financial support is also provided to NCONGO, the regional body supporting community-based natural resource management in northern Botswana, and a local nonprofit, Maun Animal Welfare Society, that provides veterinary services for domestic animals to reduce the spread of rabies and distemper to wildlife. A newly established local organization, Mmila Mela, also received funding for a community upliftment program that provides water, a children's playground, Wi-Fi, and a women's empowerment group. Additional contributions from the operator supported implementation of DWNP's National Elephant Management and Action Plan, underscoring their broader commitment to elephant conservation in partnership with the Botswana government. The operator also funded construction of a shaded and fenced kgotla (traditional court), electrification of village elder housing and offices, and computers to schools in local communities. Savanna Sky places strong value on traditional knowledge in guiding both wildlife and habitat management and effective community engagement, prioritizing local decision-making processes and empowerment—an approach that motivated the operator's pursuit of a longer lease for NG35. Revenues from Savanna Sky's hunting quota are ultimately the primary source of income for the government-mandated Conservation Trust Fund, with 70% directed to conservation and 30% to community projects.





MOZAMBIQUE



MOZAMBIQUE

Nearly 30% of land protected for conservation

SAFARIS DE MOÇAMBIQUE

Panyame Wildlife Conservancy

PROTECTING AN UNFENCED WILDERNESS

Safaris de Moçambique manages the Panyame Wildlife Conservancy, about 2100 km² of unfenced land in Mozambique's Tete Province. Located in the Magoe District, the conservancy is bordered by more than 60 km of the Zambezi River and Lake Cahora

Bassa, an essential water source for the region's diverse wildlife. The habitat is varied, sustaining healthy populations of four of the 'Big 5' (elephant, buffalo, lion, leopard) and numerous plains game species. Established in 1993, Panyame is designated as a Community Conservation Area, meaning it relies on sustainable land use and reinvestment into local conservation efforts by the hunting operator, unlike national



parks which rely on government funding. A key aspect of this approach is hunting tourism, which provides the primary financial support for Panyame's anti-poaching operations, habitat management, and infrastructure development. Without active management from Safaris de Moçambique, wildlife populations would face severe threats, and the land itself would be at risk of conversion to agriculture or settlement. A major aspect of habitat management is safeguarding against deforestation, which the operator achieves by implementing sustainable forestry practices, educating communities, and enforcing environmental laws.

FRONTLINE DEFENSE AGAINST POACHING

Safaris de Moçambique's 40-member anti-poaching unit (APU) is the frontline defense against wildlife and environmental crime. Most scouts are local recruits conducting high-risk foot patrols cooperatively with the community-based Tchuma Tchato program, local police, and Guarda da Fronteira (Border Police) to dismantle poaching networks. Tchuma Tchato is an initiative modeled after CAMPFIRE in adjacent Zimbabwe. Poaching control has achieved great success. For example, during a 3-month period, scouts completed 38 patrols, removed 302 snares, and arrested poachers in Bawa and Nyadewe. Snares remain an indiscriminate threat to wildlife. In 2023, the hunting operator expanded its force by adding 4 female scouts, who, after 6 weeks of training with Mozambique's Provincial Police Command, became fully certified rangers licensed to carry firearms. This expansion, supported by Jim Green Footwear's donation of patrol boots, strengthened the conservancy's ability to protect its wildlife. Beyond land-based threats, Safaris de Moçambique also assists in combating illegal fishing along its 160 km border with Lake Cahora Bassa, where unregulated netting depletes fish populations and disrupts the aquatic



ecosystem. Illegal fishing threatens local livelihoods dependent on healthy fish populations for sustainable food sources and business. Daily surveillance by boat patrol at the Mbadzi River outpost are highly successful at curbing illegal netting, and reinforcing Panyame's broader conservation strategy that safeguards both land and water. The hunting operator also maintains 1000 km of roads in the concession, which act as firebreaks and allow operational activities.



SECURING WATER ACCESS

Off the lake, water scarcity is a major challenge at Panyame, especially during Mozambique's dry season, which forces wildlife into fewer areas and increases grazing competition. To mitigate overgrazing, Safaris de Moçambique operates an ongoing water borehole project, recently drilling 3 new solar-powered boreholes, providing a year-round water source that enhances resources for wildlife. This investment aids in wildlife monitoring and behavior analysis and is critical for long-term ecosystem stability as climate change-induced drought increases. The hunting operator has built and maintained a total of 20 solar-powered boreholes across the area, including to ensure stable water sources for local communities.

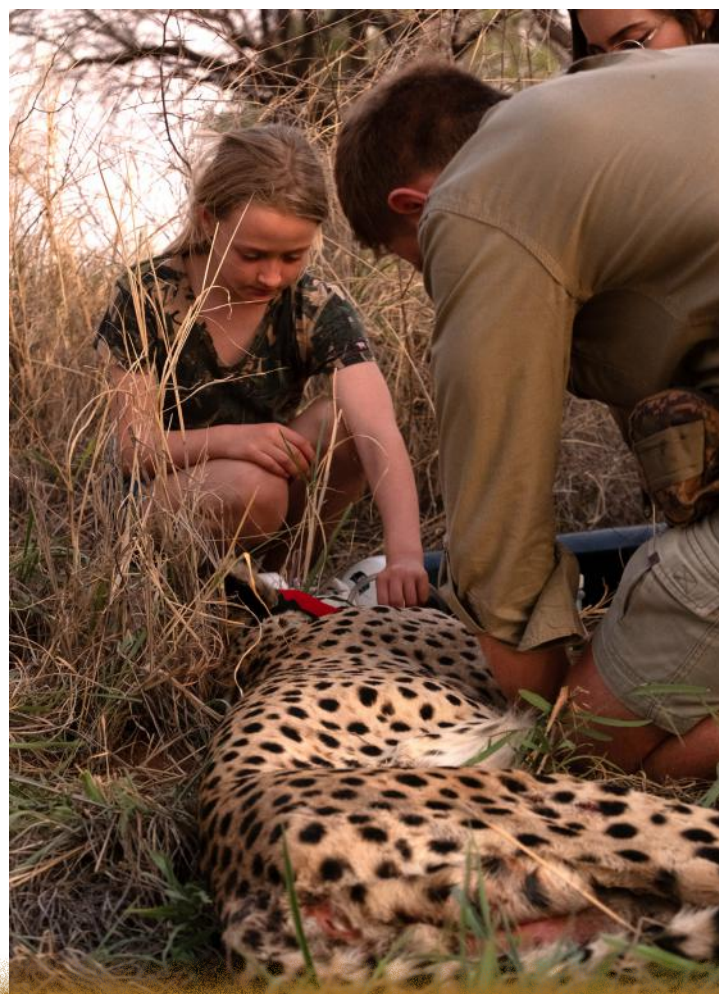
EMPOWERING LOCAL COMMUNITIES

Conservation at Panyame is not just about protecting wildlife—it's about ensuring that benefits of conservation reach local communities. About 10,000 people live in 25 villages outside the conservancy. Lawfully acquired game meat from hunting tourism is given to families, providing an essential source of protein in rural areas where food security is a challenge. The

value of 20 tons of game meat is estimated to be \$200,000 per year. The hunting operator also steps in during crises. In response to an unprecedented drought in 2024, the operator donated 30 tons of maize to affected families. With failed crops and severe food shortages, this support was vital in sustaining the communities that share this land with wildlife. In response to near-daily cases of malaria, human-wildlife conflicts, and other medical emergencies such as complications during childbirth, Safaris de Moçambique donated an ambulance to the local clinic. The Panyame conservancy employs 70 total people, mostly from local communities, in infrastructure development and road maintenance. These jobs indirectly support about 400 community members, providing stable incomes and reducing incentives for poaching.

A HISTORIC CHEETAH REINTRODUCTION

In 2025 in collaboration with Safaris de Moçambique and with support from The Origins Foundation, 16 cheetahs were translocated from private reserves in South Africa to Panyame in Mozambique. The cheetahs were carefully monitored in bomas before being released into the wild and tracked using telemetry and GPS collars. The hunting operator also plans to collar and monitor lions in the area and establish an ecological monitoring unit. This project is one of the largest cheetah reintroductions in history and a story of return, resilience, and hope for cheetah conservation across Africa.



LUWIRE

Lugenda Wildlife Reserve

A CONSERVATION SUCCESS STORY

The Lugenda Wildlife Reserve is a globally recognized model for wildlife conservation and community development. Known as Luwire, the reserve is a 4450 km² area within Mozambique's Niassa Special Reserve (42,000 km² total). Since 2000, the reserve has experienced a fivefold increase in wildlife populations. Lions, for example, were once scarce but are now estimated at 200 individuals, representing about 20% of the Niassa Special Reserve's total population. This success is no accident—it is the product of rigorous conservation work, sustainable hunting practices, and deep community engagement.

COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE REFORM: LIFE THROUGH WILDLIFE PROGRAM

One of Luwire's most transformative achievements has been overhauling community governance. Historically, hunting revenue distribution was centralized and could be ineffective, with funds rarely reaching individuals or fostering meaningful community improvements. To rectify this inequity, Luwire partnered with the University of Florida's 'Life Through Wildlife' program to directly empower local communities, including the 5200 people living in Luwire's area.

In 2024, Luwire implemented a revolutionary financial model, distributing \$40,000 in direct cash transfers to 1205 households across 16 sub-communities. Each household received \$32, and rather than a centralized bureaucracy dictating its use, the funds were directly managed by the beneficiaries, through face-to-face participatory budgeting sessions.

This grassroots approach, which changed one of the fundamental ways in which Luwire's communities benefit from engagement in conservation, has amplified communities' trust and local investment in conservation, as well as proving to be an effective boost to the local economy.

Two community facilitators and a manager were hired to support community self-governance and financial management. Transparency in governance improved dramatically, alleviating long-standing, community skepticism toward management



of revenue from wildlife. Furthermore, local leaders are now positioned to play an active role in conservation decisions, embedding sustainability in their communities—thanks to Luwire's work.

EMPLOYMENT, EDUCATION, AND OPPORTUNITY

Luwire employs more than 200 Mozambican staff, which bolsters local economies and transforms livelihoods. Beyond this employment opportunity, Luwire spearheads major advancements in education and healthcare. The safari operator's education initiatives include rebuilding and expanding local schools and teacher housing. The operator also prioritizes healthcare infrastructure, funding reconstruction of a maternity clinic, nurse housing, operation of ambulance





services, and a partnership with MozMed Flying Doctors who make monthly visits to the area. In 2024, over 5,000 kg of game meat was provided to communities. Two 3-hectare plots, with solar powered irrigation systems and protective electric fencing, ensure sustainable, climate smart agricultural production. Honey production now flourishes, generating income for 40 community members who manage hundreds of hives. Duck farming has similarly taken off, with 300 ducks distributed to 100 participants, promoting sustainable poultry production. Additionally, 12 community members underwent training in hospitality for community camp tourism. Luwire purchases building materials from local suppliers, hires local artisans for construction projects, sources vegetables and fish from the Mussoma and Mecula markets, sponsors sports teams, and has trained electricians and welders to foster new employment opportunities. An elephant sculpture constructed by trained artists using confiscated illegal equipment is a source of pride for Luwire and local communities.

ANTI-POACHING AND INCOME DIVERSIFICATION

Luwire operates one of Africa's most effective anti-poaching programs, integrating community engagement with high-tech monitoring and extensive patrol coverage. The numbers speak for themselves: in 2024 Luwire conducted 242 foot patrols covering 14,099 km, 168 vehicle patrols covering 16,800 km, and 40 motorbike patrols covering 2,433 km—together representing almost 70,000 man hours.

Results of these efforts are extraordinary. Over the last seven years, these measures have altogether eliminated large scale



and organised poaching and severely limited any other forms of it. In 2024, only one wire snare was detected, a testament to the effectiveness of the safari operator's deterrence strategies. Of 58 carcasses examined across all species, just four were attributed to poaching—a stark contrast to many other areas across Africa, and to a prior elephant poaching crisis across the East Africa region. SMART and EarthRanger technologies support Luwire's anti-poaching operations, along with equipment which includes 2 Land Cruisers, 8 motorbikes, 4 boats, a Bat Hawk aircraft, Garmin GPS devices, satellite phones, and a radio communication system.

A problem animal control team also responds to concerns, patrols fields especially during harvest season, and educates communities on the prevention of human-wildlife conflicts. The backbone of this success, however, is the operator's community-based security approach. Luwire created a network of conservation stewards who are deeply invested in protecting their homeland and its wildlife by employing 58 anti-poaching scouts, many from local villages.

CONSERVATION AND COMMUNITY BALANCE

Luwire invests at least \$250,000 annually in community development and enables wildlife populations to flourish by effective anti-poaching, including along the southern border of



the Niassa Special Reserve. However, if international trade bans were enacted and restrictions on lion imports from Mozambique persist, the financial stability that underpins Luwire's conservation efforts will be irreparably damaged and future development progress will be limited. Hunting tourism is not the problem, it's the solution and Luwire's achievements in Niassa must be recognized.





NAMIBIA



NAMIBIA

Astounding recovery of the world's largest black rhino population

AFRICAN HUNTING SAFARIS

Conservation Through The Act Of Hunting

Across Namibia's varied landscapes, from communal conservancies to private freehold land, hunting tourism remains a central pillar of wildlife conservation. One of the longest-running and most disciplined hunting operations in Namibia founded in 1989, African Hunting Safaris combines decades of experience in government and communal conservancy concessions in their stewardship of Erongo Mountain Nature Sanctuary. The operator focuses on fair chase, selective hunting. Each hunt is deliberately planned around the pursuit of a single mature, post-prime animal, emphasizing ecological sustainability over quantity or convenience. Hunters engage closely with the terrain and develop a deep familiarity with the species they pursue. There are no non-indigenous animals or



fences, and no vehicles used to gain advantage. The challenge is real, and success depends entirely on intimate knowledge of wild systems. With this approach, hunting is an effective management tool and form of participation in nature that is rare in modern nature-based tourism.



A PROTECTED LANDSCAPE

The centerpiece of African Hunting Safaris' operation is the Erongo Mountain Nature Sanctuary, a private wildlife reserve established in 1998 in Namibia's western escarpment. Covering 1800 km² of wilderness, the sanctuary serves as a stronghold for native species including greater kudu, Hartmann's mountain zebra, gemsbok, klipspringer, leopard, and a variety of small carnivores and birds. During the past two decades, the safari operator reintroduced key species including the endangered and endemic black-faced impala and black rhino—conservation milestones made possible through a sustainable use hunting model.



HABITAT MANAGEMENT ACROSS DIVERSE CONCESSIONS

Beyond the private Erongo sanctuary, African Hunting Safaris conducted hunts in government concessions and communal conservancies across Namibia, including Tsiseb Conservancy home to the iconic Brandberg Mountain, where native species like black rhino continue to thrive in free-ranging populations. Hunting in communal conservancies supports long-term land tenure by giving local communities a direct stake in wildlife, reducing pressure to convert wild lands into agriculture or livestock grazing. Across these areas, African Hunting Safaris' approach to hunting remains consistent: authentically targeting only older males that have passed their peak reproductive years to minimize ecological impact while maximizing the conservation value of each hunt.



SCIENTIFIC OVERSIGHT AND ETHICAL STANDARDS

This hunting model is backed by a rigorous commitment to scientific management. African Hunting Safaris helped establish the Erongo Verzeichnis, a working group that developed Namibia's Age-Related Trophy Measurement System endorsed by the Namibia Professional Hunting Association. This system encourages harvest of older, post-prime animals and discourages taking immature or potentially genetically significant individuals. This emphasis on age, championed by African Hunting Safaris, is widely adopted across Namibia as a conservation tool. To further support science-based management, the hunting operator established the Ameib Scientific Station in the Erongo Mountains. This facility hosts ecologists and provides a base for long-term research focusing on six disciplines: archeology, anthropogenic effects, botany, mammals, reptiles and amphibians, and ornithology. Key projects include documenting prehistoric rock art; studying animal densities in arid areas; developing tree, bird, reptile, and mammal lists for the Erongo Mountains; and conducting mammal research in the region. Current studies include black rhino behavior and habitat use, population dynamics of kudu under disease pressure, and interactions between small carnivores like black and slender mongooses. Other projects of the Ameib Scientific Station include investigating the role of rock hyrax in food webs and long-term monitoring of black eagle nesting behavior. Researchers have also collected data on elephant tusk development and predator-prey dynamics involving humans and other apex species.

INTEGRATING HUNTING WITH CONSERVATION OBJECTIVES

In the Erongo Mountains, African Hunting Safaris recovered endangered species and continues to protect one of Namibia's most ecologically diverse landscapes. This operator offers a working model for how hunting tourism, done selectively, ethically, and with ecological understanding, safeguards entire ecosystems and funds leading research for the hunting industry. Hunting tourism is not a sideline to conservation, it is the driver behind successful models like African Hunting Safaris' work in Namibia.



ONDJOU SAFARIS

Connecting Conservation Areas

Ondjou Safaris has operated for more than 15 years in Namibia and now across 4 distinct hunting areas, including the 287 km² Dzoti Conservancy in the country's northeast Zambezi Region. Bordered by Mudumu and Nkasa Rupara National Parks in Namibia and Chobe National Park across the Linyanti River in Botswana, this area is one of the most ecologically dynamic corners of the country where international boundaries, national parks, and communal land meet in an important wildlife corridor. Ondjou holds a renewable hunting concession lease with the conservancy since 2010. Hunting tourism from the safari operator plays a critical role for Dzoti, a conservancy that extends the footprint of protected areas, buffers adjacent parks, and anchors a conservation presence in the area.

WILDLIFE MONITORING AND SUCCESS

Ondjou Safaris provides boots-on-the-ground monitoring in Dzoti Conservancy, generating data and ecological insight needed to understand wildlife patterns, habitat dynamics, and ecological health in this critical conservation zone. Regular wildlife monitoring in Dzoti through bi-annual game counts and community game guard patrols confirms a stable population of about 500 elephants and 10 lions, with dense and increasing



numbers of key prey species.

WILDLIFE THAT WORKS FOR PEOPLE

Roughly 2000 people live across 6 villages in Dzoti, with another 1000 people residing outside the conservancy. Ondjou Safaris pays annual quota-based fees to the conservancy (and 100% of trophy fees), which funds jobs, social services, and infrastructure development projects from hunting revenue. The operator employs 15 people and an additional 47 are employed by the conservancy as game guards, coordinators, and local staff. Their work is made possible largely through Ondjou's hunting fees that accrue and are managed directly by the conservancy. All legally harvested game meat is distributed to residents according to a formal conservancy-approved distribution plan. A portion of hunting revenue of the conservancy is allocated to a human-

wildlife conflict mitigation account, from which consolation payments are made to families affected by animal-caused damage. The safari operator also offers additional education and training opportunities for community members, including first aid, welding, maintenance, cooking, and trophy care which are valuable skillsets in the area.



DIRECT INVESTMENT IN ANTI-POACHING

Ondjou further supports a 15-person anti-poaching team in Dzoti, which conducts 2 patrols per month across the conservancy. Another third of all hunting fees are allocated directly to anti-poaching, which funds equipment and field supplies ranging from rifles and GPS units to tents and mosquito nets, and assists the conservancy with a patrol vehicle, fuel, and driver on a regular basis. The safari operator also offers cash rewards for information leading to arrests and convictions and maintains consistently low rates of poaching.

TANGIBLE LOCAL STEWARDSHIP

One of the largest and most remote villages in Dzoti Conservancy, Malengalenga is located 70 km from the nearest town and 110 km from the closest hospital. At a local school, children walk from far-off villages through wild areas, with risk of encountering elephants, lions, or other hazards. Some students were sleeping in tents outside the school to avoid the dangerous daily journey. In response, Ondjou Safaris built a permanent dormitory to house about 60 children. Buildings were constructed with long-lasting materials and designed specifically for the environment and needs of the school children including mosquito protection in this malaria zone, toilets, showers, bunk beds, and lockable closets. This project created temporary jobs during construction and now offers students a safe, clean place to stay during the school week. Future goals for the hunting operator include supplying bedding, hygiene items, and maintaining the facility. This single community project captures the ethos that runs through Ondjou Safaris' work using funds from hunting, and donations from hunting clients, to meet rural development needs in places



where other investment is limited. Additionally, the operator teaches students about sustainable use conservation and how revenue from hunting tourism is reinvested in the community, including taking children on game drives and wilderness experiences. Ondjou's work in Dzoti is a model of environmental education that is tailored to the area and building a generation invested in protection of wild areas around them.

CROSS COUNTRY CONSERVATION

Across Dzoti Conservancy and many of Namibia's communal conservancies, wildlife is inseparable from local socio-economic opportunity and proof that hunting tourism supports long-term rural investment. This conservancy is just one of 4 areas where Ondjou Safaris is actively working, and the others are also successful conservation models. King Nehale Conservancy runs along the northern fence of Etosha National Park, where Ondjou's hunting operation serves as a critical mitigator of human-wildlife conflicts. Mbonde Wildlife Reserve and Leadwood Nature Reserve are both privately operated hunting areas where Ondjou generates conservation funding through use-based agreements that keep the land intact and productive. Taken together, these 4 areas secure more than 1000 km² under active management by this exemplary safari operator.







SOUTH AFRICA



SOUTH AFRICA

Private ownership of wildlife brought species like black rhino back from the brink

BUFFALO KLOOF

Pioneering Conservation Through Sustainable Utilization



At Buffalo Kloof, the vision for conservation is clear: balance the needs of wildlife, the environment, and local communities to create a thriving ecosystem. Beginning with a 2000-acre property largely devoid of wildlife in South Africa's Eastern Cape, Buffalo Kloof has grown into a 54,000-acre (about 219 km²) conservancy and a model for integrating hunting tourism, habitat restoration, and community engagement to support long-term sustainability. The conservancy is located within one of Southern Africa's most biodiverse regions including a thicket biome that stores millions of tons of carbon annually. Since its inception, the conservancy has reclaimed farmland, reintroduced species including black and white rhino, elephant, cheetah, buffalo, and various antelope, and restored ecosystems to support more than 50 species of mammals and 350 birds. This commitment to restoring ecological balance through sustainable use hunting tourism creates self-sustaining herds in healthy ecosystems and protects some of Africa's rarest plant species.

A HAVEN FOR ENDANGERED SPECIES

Buffalo Kloof is a sanctuary for some of Africa's most endangered species. In 2010, white rhinos were reintroduced and have since established a robust population. By 2019, the

conservancy partnered with the World Wildlife Fund and other organizations as part of South Africa's Black Rhino Range Expansion Project, becoming custodians of the first black rhinos on communal land. This population is increasing, and the conservancy aspires to protect more than 100 black rhinos in the future. Intervention is rare but necessary to safeguard endangered species. For instance, when an anti-poaching team spotted an injured, limping rhino, veterinarians were called to remove a sharp piece of wood lodged in its foot, ensuring the animal's recovery and safety. They also make use of AI-equipped collars to effectively monitor rhino movement and behavior. These efforts highlight both the challenges of protecting rhino and the hunting operator's commitment to conservation. In 2017, Buffalo Kloof reintroduced 12 elephants to the Kowie River Valley—a monumental conservation feat returning elephants to the region after a 150-year absence. Recently, 2 young elephant bulls from Tembe Elephant Park were translocated to enhance genetic diversity, bringing in large-tusk genetics, and to alleviate population pressure in their original range. Complementing these efforts, the conservancy rewilded captive-bred cheetahs in collaboration with Ashia Cheetah Conservation. Since 2018, 4 cheetahs have been successfully reintroduced, with 1 female raising 11 cubs within her first 3 years in the wild. Two cheetahs are equipped





“If Africa loses its endangered species, it will lose the mystery that surrounds it. It will become the forgotten continent. To take care of them and to protect them is the responsibility of us all.”

with radio collars, aiding research and monitoring efforts while providing scientific data on the species’ recovery. These conservation efforts, along with anti-poaching initiatives, are funded largely by Buffalo Kloof’s hunting operation and ensure that a delicate ecological balance is maintained to protect the future of the conservancy’s rich biodiversity.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AND EMPOWERMENT

Beginning in 2015, the success of Buffalo Kloof’s conservation efforts was deeply rooted in its partnership with local communities. Working closely with the indigenous Xhosa Yendella Community, the hunting operator fostered a mutually beneficial relationship. Buffalo Kloof invited the community to join a portion of their land to the conservancy to enable the community to receive benefits from wildlife and aid in its custodianship. Through long-term land lease agreements, communal land was integrated into the greater Buffalo Kloof conservancy, providing employment opportunities, financial and

food security for local families, and a larger area managed for conservation. This holistic approach ensures that conservation efforts are effective and inclusive.

A LEGACY OF CONSERVATION

Buffalo Kloof is more than a conservancy, it’s a movement to redefine conservation in South Africa. Starting with a barren landscape, it grew into a thriving ecosystem supported by ethical hunting tourism, community partnerships, and ongoing rewilding projects. Without hunting tourism, the safari operator would need to cover the landscape in photographic lodges to generate the same revenue for conservation. In 2018, the operator incorporated communal land, state land from South African National Parks, and neighboring properties into the conservancy’s protected area, furthering Buffalo Kloof’s commitment to the region. The operator’s commitment to conservation will help ensure the protection of Africa’s wildlife and habitats for generations to come.

GREATER KUDULAND SAFARIS

From Cattle To Conservation

Located in northeast South Africa, Greater Kuduland Safaris is more than a hunting destination, it is a pioneering conservation success story. Spanning more than 50,000 acres (about 200 km²) of protected land, the reserve features diverse landscapes including koppies, baobab forests, and vast woodlands. With 4 generations of custodianship and 3 of professional hunting experience, Greater Kuduland Safaris stands as one of the largest and most successful privately managed wildlife reserves in South Africa. The hunting operator's generational passion for conservation was recently illustrated in The Origins Foundation's "Success Untold" documentary film. www.youtube.com/watch?v=R6zVu0F2t48

REWILDING AND RESTORING ENDANGERED SPECIES

Originally a cattle ranch, the safari operator's vision in the 1970s to transform a wildlife-depleted area into a sanctuary led to remarkable success. By fencing the property, existing wildlife populations were protected while translocations introduced new species. With habitat management as the foundation, populations flourished and revenue from hunting tourism was reinvested into further reintroduction efforts facilitating return of black and white rhino, elephant, buffalo, roan, and sable. In a groundbreaking achievement, Greater Kuduland Safaris introduced the first disease-free buffalo population in South Africa, free from tuberculosis and foot-and-mouth disease. A rigorous testing process required multiple rounds of collection, transport, and analysis in the United Kingdom



before confirming disease-free status, setting a precedent for future conservation breeding programs. These successes also contributed to growth of Greater Kuduland's game auction, the longest running in South Africa and possibly the world, which provides wildlife for other reserves while funding ongoing conservation efforts.

PIONEERING PANGOLIN RESCUE

Greater Kuduland Safaris is one of the few official release sites for highly endangered pangolins rescued from poachers in the illegal wildlife trade. As the most trafficked mammal in the world, every pangolin rescued is a victory for the species. Once recovered from poachers, pangolins undergo intensive rehabilitation before being reintroduced into the wild. This process includes strict observation, weight checks, and gradual rewilding before they are released with GPS collars for daily monitoring. Burrows are carefully tracked, and every effort is made to keep individuals on the property for protection. One of the program's greatest milestones was the first documented



pangolin pup birth, providing invaluable scientific insight into lactation behaviors, maternal care, and pangolin behavior. This initiative has been extraordinarily successful, with more than 20 rescued pangolins in care at one point. The program at Greater Kuduland is currently managed by a PhD student studying pangolins, and the safari operator plans to expand the wildlife monitoring team in the future.

LEOPARD PROTECTION AND RESEARCH

Through extensive scientific monitoring, Greater Kuduland Safaris documented at least 44 individual leopards within the reserve, an exceptionally high concentration. Conducting active leopard research is challenging, given the species' elusive nature, yet the hunting operator committed 5 years of intensive camera trapping and analysis using 20 strategically placed trail cameras. Because leopards make kills approximately once a week, their large population is testament to the reserve's abundant prey base. While quotas have not been issued by the South African government in recent years, leopards remain at high risk of retaliatory killings due to livestock predation. As a result, protected reserves like Greater Kuduland play a critical role in ensuring the species' long-term viability.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AND ANTI-POACHING EFFORTS

Once a widespread issue in the region, poaching of predators in community cattle lands was drastically reduced through Greater Kuduland Safaris' employment opportunities, community engagement, and game meat distribution. In 2024 alone, the hunting operator donated 18 tons of meat to local communities and supported initiatives such as water pump installations and funding football teams. While poaching is now rare, a recent incident underscores the need for the operator's continued vigilance. Thanks to strong ties between the operator and local leaders, these challenges are swiftly addressed, and community cooperation remains a key pillar of Greater Kuduland Safaris' success.



ELEPHANT MANAGEMENT

An influx of elephants from neighboring Zimbabwe has exacerbated an overpopulation challenge, damaging fences and threatening established elephant populations. While Greater Kuduland successfully reintroduced elephants to their reserve, increasing elephant numbers now require active management to prevent habitat degradation. To mitigate potential damage, the hunting operator employs non-lethal population control by darting females with birth control annually. This approach is both essential and costly, adding to the already high financial demands of maintaining elephant habitat, fencing, and anti-poaching measures. These efforts are funded exclusively by the hunting operator, without which elephant conservation on this scale would be unachievable.

CONSERVATION BEYOND HUNTING

The conservation success of Greater Kuduland Safaris is entirely funded by hunting tourism, which protects wildlife habitat and biodiversity, encompassing endangered and common species alike. The operator made the return of rhinos possible and continues to fund their protection through dehorning efforts, which is still necessary to deter potential poaching. With more than 30 large mammal species, 4 endangered species, and a total game count exceeding 5000 animals, Greater Kuduland is a leading example of conservation through sustainable use. Without this hunting operator, jobs, food security, and essential social services for local communities would vanish, as would the reserve's biodiversity and ecological integrity.





TANZANIA

KILOMBERO NORTH SAFARIS

Safeguarding Tanzania's Wild Frontiers



Since 1994, Kilombero North Safaris has built a conservation presence that today covers more than 6 million acres throughout the iconic safari destination of Tanzania. These areas span a wide geographic range and include some of the country's most ecologically important wildlife corridors and buffer zones from Kilimanjaro and Ruaha to the greater Serengeti, going as far south as the Selous. In every concession, Kilombero North Safaris is responsible for protecting habitat, supporting local governance, and maintaining full-time conservation activities. Today, they stand as the largest hunting operators in Tanzania, and all of Africa. Out of their many concessions, 4 areas have been profiled here—Enduimet, Mkupule-Kinyangesi, Lunda, and Makao—representing a combined 1,588 km² and demonstrating the scale and substance of Kilombero North Safaris' species enhancement programs and community benefits.

ENDUIMET WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AREA

At the western foot of Mount Kilimanjaro, Kilombero North Safaris began operating in the Enduimet Wildlife Management Area (WMA) in 2023. Spanning 751 km² of the WMA, the hunting block is managed as a long-term concession that benefits more than 39,000 people across 11 surrounding villages. The concession lies along the Kitendeni corridor, a critical migratory route linking Kilimanjaro National Park with West Kilimanjaro, Arusha National Park, and Kenya's Amboseli ecosystem. During the wet season, elephants, buffalo, zebras, and wildebeest rely on the area as a breeding ground. Improved habitat conditions from the safari operator's enhancement have led to a steady rise in elephant and lion numbers, tracked through game counts, with seasonal movements expanding deep into the WMA. As wildlife abundance increased, so too have incidents of human-wildlife conflicts, prompting the operator to fund mitigation efforts and develop a compensation fund. Scientific studies on elephant migration strengthened the research base while guiding adaptive management. The operator also purchased motorcycles for scouts to monitor the lion population. Kilombero North Safaris employs 40 local staff,

in addition to building and maintaining boreholes that separately serve wildlife, livestock, and local communities (5 total and 10 water dams by 2027). Anti-poaching is a top priority, as the operator provides vehicles, motorbikes, a radio system, GPS units, cameras, smart phones, and other equipment; supports Tanzania Wildlife Management Authority rangers; and directs 55% of trophy fees toward protection. These investments have sustained a drop in poaching incidents since hunting operations began, and in 2023 the operator constructed a \$250,000 anti-poaching training facility to serve the broader landscape. On top of contributions required under contract with the community and by government regulations, Kilombero North Safaris annually provides an additional \$100,000 for education fees for 200 children from primary school to university, \$20,000 for community development, and \$5,000 for human-wildlife conflict mitigation, alongside discretionary support to a local orphanage. This commitment includes a goal of paying fees for 110 college students by 2032. A \$30,000 annual block fee is also paid to the wildlife management agency each year. These examples are just a few of Kilombero North Safari's conservation investments in the Enduimet WMA, which are key to rural development, fighting against illegal activities, and long-term habitat security.

MKUPULE-KINYANGESI, WAGA WMA AND LUNDA COMMUNITY AREAS

Within the Mbomipa WMA, one of Tanzania's largest and most ecologically diverse community-managed landscapes, Kilombero North Safaris manages 3 distinct hunting blocks under long-term leases: Mkupule-Kinyangesi, Waga WMA and Lunda. Together, these concessions secure 484 km² of critical buffer habitat on the southeastern edge of the Ruaha National Park, the second largest national park in East Africa (20,000 km²). While there are no villages in the WMA, the blocks are bordered by communities totaling more than 60,000 people. Wildlife is dense and seasonal, with elephant, lion, leopard, buffalo, zebra, and a wide range of prey species moving through the area during the wet season. Several



scientific studies on large carnivores have been conducted across the concessions, contributing to broader research efforts around Ruaha. Kilombero North Safaris manages and protects the WMA as an essential buffer against encroachment and illegal activities, holding the line between the national park and human settlement. The safari operator prioritizes community employment, maintaining a workforce of 196 local staff across all blocks and investing directly in public services and infrastructure development. In Mkupule-Kinyangesi, the operator's contract includes building 2 classrooms each year, drilling 1 borehole every 2 years, constructing 4 small dams over 5 years, and regularly maintaining village access roads. Additional obligations include boundary demarcation, health insurance for elders, uniforms for scouts, wildlife college sponsorship for 2 scouts each year, and 6 motorcycles dedicated to anti-poaching and WMA operations. In Lunda, contractual terms include construction of a permanent WMA office, provision of two 4x4 anti-poaching vehicles, scout uniforms, and an annual community development contribution, on top of more than \$90,000 in block fees. The operator also provides a structured donation for harvest of flagship species: 1 million Tanzanian shillings (TZS) per elephant, 5 million TZS per lion, and 250,000 TZS per leopard. In instances where an elephant is harvested by the operators, various villages surrounding the hunting area receive all of the meat on a rotational basis, providing a valuable source of much needed protein.

MAKAO AREA

Kilombero North Safaris also manages 353 km² of the Makao WMA forming part of a migratory corridor in northern Tanzania between the Maswa Game Reserve, Ngorongoro Conservation Area, and Serengeti National Park. The landscape of grassland, bush, and forest supports seasonal movements of elephant, buffalo, lion, and other species across one of the most celebrated ecosystems in the world. While the area borders 6 villages with a combined human population of 36,000, many of the surrounding communities are Maasai, whose pastoral traditions and cultural beliefs—such as refraining from consumption of game meat—shape a conservation model rooted in coexistence. Here the operator's enhancement includes community development funds, scout salaries and uniforms, a Land Cruiser for anti-poaching, 20 motorcycles, health insurance for elders, college fees for 9 students, 2 water dams and 6 boreholes (\$50,000 each), road

infrastructure, office equipment for the WMA, hiring a social welfare officer, and sponsoring cultural and sporting events for local communities.

ELEPHANTS AS A MEASURE OF MANAGEMENT SUCCESS

Elephants move freely between Kenya and Tanzania, with the Enduimet WMA forming part of a transboundary corridor linking Amboseli National Park to the greater Kilimanjaro ecosystem in northern Tanzania. While poaching and retaliatory killings remain common on the Kenyan side where agricultural encroachment has decreased elephant range, Tanzania's protected areas offer superior habitat, legal hunting oversight, and space for herds to thrive. Under Tanzania's National Elephant Management and Action Plan, populations continue to increase, forming part of the world's third largest elephant population. Kilombero North Safaris regularly observes super tuskers and does not hunt them, a stark contrast to illegal retaliatory killings across the border in Kenya. Unfounded media attacks on Tanzania's safari operators undermine the very success of elephant conservation that is not being achieved in Kenya, which banned hunting tourism in 1977.

INTEGRATED CONSERVATION

Across each of these areas, Kilombero North Safaris provides the wildlife management and habitat security for long-term conservation to take root. Their hunting area in the Kilombero Valley secures an additional staggering 14,000 km² of African wilderness. This operator's consistent presence, community investment, and field operations deliver meaningful gains in wildlife conservation and rural development, demonstrating how hunting tourism supports the heart of Tanzania's wild heritage.



ROBIN HURT SAFARIS

Dedication To Conservation

Robin Hurt Safaris is a 60-year veteran of safari hunting at the forefront of conservation in Tanzania, and in Africa at large. Now spanning 2 areas leased from the government of Tanzania, Robin Hurt manages and protects millions of acres of wild Africa across vast landscapes. Their flagship hunting operation is the Luganzo Game Reserve, almost 2 million acres (about 8000 km²) of untamed wilderness, along with the Lake Natron South Game Controlled Area (GCA) in the heart of Masailand. Located in western Tanzania and bordering Ugalla National Park, Luganzo showcases an extraordinary diversity of species, including a high concentration of heavy-maned lions, robust leopard populations, vast herds of buffalo, and an impressive array of plains game such as roan, sable, and kudu, along with sitatunga. The safari operator made a substantial effort during the past 5 years to protect and revitalize Luganzo, channeling resources into anti-poaching measures and community well-being. This enhancement work builds on more than 2 decades of commitment, during which Robin Hurt invested nearly \$4 million into managing this extraordinary wilderness and other areas across Tanzania—not for profit but for conservation. The hunting operator's efforts to protect Luganzo extend to the bordering Ugalla National Park, creating a buffer zone from the game reserve that extends the effective conservation area impact. Without Robin Hurt Safaris, Luganzo Game Reserve and the Lake Natron South GCA would likely face ecological collapse within just a few years, as has tragically occurred in other areas of Tanzania where conservation efforts funded by hunting tourism ceased.



A CONSTANT BATTLE AGAINST POACHING

Robin Hurt Safaris' mission includes an active anti-poaching program. Unfortunately, driven by poverty and increased prices on the black market, ivory poaching has increased and ravaged local elephant populations. Additionally, due to increasing human populations, bushmeat poaching and commercial trade, illegal logging, and cattle encroachment into wild areas have all intensified. Recognizing the manifold threats of illegal activity in rural areas, the safari operator employs 3 full-time anti-poaching units and is constantly developing and deploying innovative solutions. For example, the operator uses drones to monitor remote areas. Between 1986 and 2022, 60,000 snares were destroyed saving an estimated 300,000 animals. Regular patrols, monitoring, and collaboration with local communities are all aspects of the operator's habitat protection. Across this massive landscape, without Robin Hurt's efforts, poachers would likely decimate wildlife populations, leaving areas like Luganzo and Lake Natron barren.





“For wildlife to survive in a changing Africa, it must be a competitive form of land use, benefitting human communities. Without the full support and cooperation of local communities, wildlife in Africa is surely doomed” – Robin Hurt

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AND SUSTAINABILITY

Robin Hurt Safaris understands that conservation is inseparable from community well-being and through the Robin Hurt Wildlife Foundation, established in 1990, hunting tourism has fostered a model of community-driven conservation. The safari operator’s Village Benefits Scheme directs funds generated from hunting activities to villages adjacent to their concessions. Hunting clients donate an additional 20% of trophy fees to this program, and revenue is managed by local villages via transparent public meetings to ensure accountability. This system is one of the most unique and successful partnership models in Africa. These funds have been used to build schools, churches or mosques, libraries, 75 teacher houses, 28 medical dispensaries, immunization mobile clinics, and 19 boreholes and 9 water storage tanks for clean water, among other community service infrastructure. Innovative programs include encouraging wildlife-friendly livelihood development such as beekeeping, tree planting, and fish farming, as well as a mobile movie theater that showcases conservation and health education films. The



wildlife foundation’s health and wellness initiatives provide critical services such as vaccinations, deworming programs, mosquito nets, and first aid kit distribution. They currently support 26 village healthcare programs across Tanzania. Through a large immunization campaign, the foundation provided vaccinations to all women and children under 5 years old. A partnership with the Mary Tidlund Charitable Foundation also brings doctors from the U.S. and Canada for a 12-day clinic each year, serving about 3000 villagers and providing critical training for village health workers. Conservation Force is a close partner of the Robin Hurt Wildlife Foundation, channeling

millions of dollars from hunting clients to this community well-being work. Together, this safari operator has built an incredible 100 school facilities, teacher houses, classrooms, and untold medical facilities and water wells in their hunting areas.

PROMOTING ECOLOGICAL BALANCE THROUGH CONSERVATION HUNTING

Robin Hurt Safaris’ philosophy of conservation hunting is rooted in the principle of fair chase, ensuring that hunting is ethical and ecologically balanced. Collaborative studies, including partnerships with Texas A&M University’s Caesar Kleberg Wildlife Research Institute and research funded by Dallas Safari Club, provide valuable insights into lion and leopard populations, informing effective management strategies. The safari operator’s involvement in wildlife documentaries and media amplifies the message of responsible stewardship, showcasing how hunting tourism contributes to conserving biodiversity. For example, Robin Hurt Safaris was recently featured in Dan Cabela’s “Hard Truths of Conservation” TV show series and by Steve Rinella of the *MeatEater* podcast and brand. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mbzFSLRQ5Vk&list=PL34VCnJ8erbDC4_CRoolIVUw3WI7VyMWS&index=5

A LEGACY OF CONSERVATION

Robin Hurt Safaris is a conservation champion of Tanzania whose hunting operation stands as a beacon of hope for the future of African wildlife and people. Their dedication to conserving vast wilderness areas, supporting local communities, and combating poaching underscores a profound love for the land they call home. Already a recipient of the Peter Hathaway Capstick Hunting Heritage Award presented by Dallas Safari Club, in 2025 Robin Hurt Safaris was awarded the first Craig Award by the Longoria-Hosmer Foundation to celebrate individuals making an extraordinary impact on wilderness and wildlife conservation. Hunting tourism is inextricably linked to this conservation legacy that ensures survival of Tanzania’s wildlife and habitat for generations to come.





ZAMBIA

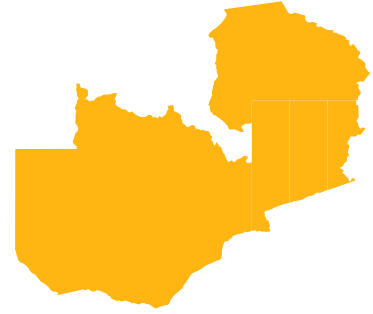


ZAMBIA

Nearly 50 million acres of national park buffer zones protected by safari operators

ZAMBEZI PORTLAND CEMENT

An Investment In Conservation



In Zambia's Eastern Province, the Sandwe Hunting Block spans 370,000 acres (about 1500 km²) of government-leased land in the Sandwe Game Management Area (GMA), forming part of a broader conservation landscape that borders 40 km of South Luangwa National Park. Managed by Zambezi Portland Cement, every aspect of the hunting operation is structured to ensure that revenue is reinvested into maintaining biodiversity, managing habitats, and supporting local livelihoods.

COMMITMENT TO WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT

Zambezi Portland Cement manages the Sandwe hunting concession under a long-term agreement with the Department of National Parks & Wildlife (DNPW) in which the safari operator provides financial and logistical support for wildlife and habitat monitoring, law enforcement, community engagement, and rural development. Enhancement efforts include maintaining an active anti-poaching presence, removing snares, supporting wildlife monitoring programs, and assisting in environmental law enforcement. The safari operator funds patrol vehicles, fuel,

rations, and equipment for scouts. In collaboration with village scouts and government wildlife officers, the operator deploys the anti-poaching unit across the concession to deter bushmeat poaching, illicit wildlife trade, and illegal fishing, logging, and encroachment. Wildlife population trends are tracked through aerial surveys and resource monitoring programs, which provide essential data on the status of key species such as elephants and lions. These studies inform quota-setting decisions and broader conservation strategies. In addition to wildlife protection, fire and habitat management initiatives are in place to monitor vegetation health and prevent spread of uncontrolled fires.

SUSTAINABLE USE AND GAME MEAT DISTRIBUTION

The Sandwe GMA acts as a critical buffer zone between human settlements and South Luangwa National Park, an area that supports Zambia's most dense elephant and large carnivore populations. Zambezi Portland Cement's hunting operation in Sandwe extends the protected area of the park, while creating a beneficial economic system for local communities living closest





to wildlife. Hunting tourism within the concession follows a strict quota system, ensuring that only animals that meet age and size criteria are harvested. Lions must be a minimum of 6 years old, and after hunt reports including photos, measurements, and skin samples are submitted to government authorities for monitoring. In order to hunt elephant, bulls must have tusks of at least 15 kg and 150 cm per tusk. The concession agreement also stipulates that 50% of all game meat from hunting activities be provided to local communities. This distribution system offers a consistent source of protein for households, reinforcing the tangible benefits of wildlife management in surrounding villages. Allocation of legally harvested game meat serves as part of a broader community engagement strategy that integrates conservation with local food security needs.



ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND COMMUNITY WELL-BEING

Zambezi Portland Cement's economic model in Sandwe is designed to integrate local communities into conservation success. Approximately 85% of the safari operator's staff are recruited from nearby villages, filling roles from anti-poaching scouts and wildlife monitors to maintenance staff and community liaisons. These jobs provide financial stability for families and embed conservation within the local economy. Beyond these employment opportunities, the operator provides \$5000 annually in direct community funding and contributes 45% of all trophy fees to community projects, which support education, healthcare, and infrastructure improvements for about 80,000 people living across 550 villages. Long-term infrastructure investments include a new DNPW office, already funded with \$150,000, to serve as a regional conservation hub. An additional \$150,000 in annual trophy fees is generated for DNPW. The concession also covers salaries for community scouts, keeping trained local personnel engaged in conservation efforts. Other contributions include an ambulance, clinics, classrooms, and housing for teachers and healthcare workers that expands access to medical services and education in remote areas. Recently, Zambezi Portland Cement continued building scout housing, dug natural springs to relieve drought impacts, and launched a program to combat tsetse flies and sleeping sickness.

ANTI-POACHING OPERATIONS AND SECURITY MEASURES

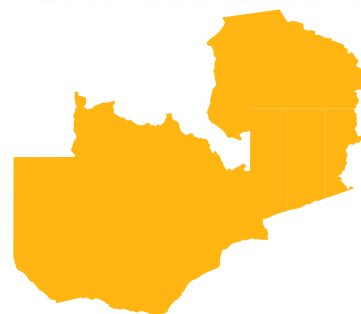
Zambezi Portland Cement's anti-poaching division within Sandwe operates as a year-round enforcement unit, with dedicated patrol teams conducting 5 patrols every month. The unit consists of 16 full-time rangers, supported by village scouts and government wildlife officers who monitor, record, and combat poaching incidents. These deterrent measures are highly effective, with recorded poaching incidents declining significantly and only 7 incidents discovered in 2023. To maintain operational capacity, the safari operator equips the anti-poaching unit with vehicles, weapons, and GPS systems. In total, 25% of trophy fees are reinvested into anti-poaching operations, creating a sustainable funding mechanism that directly links hunting revenue to wildlife protection.

INTEGRATED CONSERVATION

Zambezi Portland Cement also innovatively collaborates with a biocarbon partner, earning carbon credits for wildlife and habitat protection in the Sandwe Hunting Block. These funds are directed to communities as an added environmental benefit. Through this payment for ecosystem services, the operation successfully stopped illegal mining in Sandwe, evicting 3000 criminals from the GMA.

NTENGU SAFARIS

A Model For Conservation And Sustainable Use In Zambia



In Zambia's North-Western Province, Ntengu Safaris is redefining conservation through a multi-faceted approach that balances wildlife conservation, habitat restoration, community engagement, and sustainable use. Established in 2015, Ntengu Safaris manages 2164 km² of the Kasonso Busanga GMA, a 1.2-million-acre (about 4856 km²) buffer zone adjacent to Kafue National Park. After a 3-year period with no hunting operator to manage and protect this wilderness, the GMA was degraded by unchecked poaching and illegal activities. In a testament to the effectiveness of conservation hunting and Ntengu's stewardship, this vast landscape is now a success story, demonstrating the synergy between private-sector management, community involvement, and responsible resource use.

PROTECTING A CRITICAL ECOSYSTEM

Kasonso Busanga GMA is one of Zambia's most ecologically important areas, featuring the Ramsar-designated Busanga Swamps. These ecosystems support a rich variety of flora and fauna, including more than 500 bird species such as wattled cranes, martial eagles, and African ground hornbills, as well as approximately 150 mammal species including elephant, lion, leopard, cheetah, wild dog, buffalo, and antelope species like roan, sable, puku, blue wildebeest, blue and yellow-backed



duikers, and sitatunga. Upon assuming management of the GMA, Ntengu Safaris launched a comprehensive rehabilitation strategy focused on wildlife recovery and habitat protection. At the heart of the hunting operator's effort is the Kasonso Anti-Poaching Unit (KAPU), a dedicated team of trained scouts and aerial surveillance personnel. Unlike many conservation areas where anti-poaching is reactive, KAPU operates proactively, using daily foot patrols, strategically placed camera traps, 8 motorcycles, 4 Land Cruisers, and daily aerial reconnaissance from a Bat Hawk surveillance aircraft and a Robinson R44 helicopter to monitor wildlife movements and detect illegal





activity. During 2020–2022, Ntengu spent \$705,697 on scout salaries, equipment, vehicles, and fuel. KAPU’s approach relies on real-time intelligence gathering, enabling teams to predict poaching patterns and rapidly deploy scouts. This proactive approach has led to notable increases in key wildlife species, including elephant herds that previously abandoned the area due to heavy poaching pressure. Today, elephants are regularly sighted, and poaching incidents are reduced. KAPU is very



successful in apprehending poachers and stopping illegal activity and provides a boots on the ground force to monitor wildlife, habitat health, and threats in the remotest of areas.

ENGAGING LOCAL COMMUNITIES IN CONSERVATION

Conservation cannot succeed without local support, and Ntengu Safaris makes community engagement fundamental to its operations. The hunting operator collaborates closely with the local chief; Mubambe Community Resource Board, a governance body that represents the Lalafuta, Kaminzekenzeke, Shongwa, and Mushima communities in managing natural resources; and DNPW. Unlike many top-down conservation efforts, Ntengu involves community leaders in decision-making. Currently, 30–40 individuals from local communities are employed in various capacities, including as anti-poaching scouts, camp staff, and field researchers. One initiative is

an annual caterpillar harvest in Kasonso Busanga where communities collect, dry, eat, and sell nutrient rich Saturniidae caterpillars, providing both a protein source and local economic opportunity. Half of all legally harvested game meat from hunting activities, valued at \$10,000 per year, is distributed to communities. The operator also buys crops grown in and around the GMA (\$1.85, \$2.6, and \$3.5 million during 2020–2022, respectively). Beyond these food security efforts, the operator annually invests \$45,000 in community development and well-being. Funds generated from hunting tourism support local schools, provide medical assistance such as maternity centers, and improve infrastructure such as bridges, water boreholes, and markets, leading to tangible benefits for the 400 people living in the concession and 1200 people living around Kasonso Busanga.

A BLUEPRINT FOR FUTURE CONSERVATION SUCCESS

Once a heavily poached and underutilized landscape, the Kasonso Busanga GMA is now home to increasing populations of key species, thriving birdlife, and actively engaged local communities. One of the most telling signs of conservation success is the return of top predators, particularly wild dogs and lions, which are indicators of a healthy prey base and functioning ecosystem. In 2017, Ntengu Safaris partnered with the Zambian Carnivore Programme to deploy satellite tracking collars on wild dogs and lions, gathering data on their movements, predation behavior, and territorial ranges. 9 of these collars were donated by the operator. This information is instrumental in guiding future conservation strategies, ensuring that predator populations remain balanced within the ecosystem. Additional demonstration of habitat health from the operator’s work to non-game species is the large population of cranes in the area. In 2017, the Wildlife Trust’s African Crane Conservation Programme and BirdWatch Zambia conducted a survey, which showed significant crane numbers and a likely breeding ground during the dry season. By protecting the border area of Kafue National Park, Ntengu Safaris extends the effective conservation area of the park.







ZIMBABWE



ZIMBABWE

Pioneers in community-base natural resource management through the CAMPFIRE program

HHK SAFARIS

A Conservation Footprint Across Zimbabwe

HHK Safaris operates across Zimbabwe in all 3 major hunting land types: CAMPFIRE areas, where wildlife is managed in partnership with local communities; national park concessions leased from the Zimbabwe Parks and Wildlife Management Authority (ZimParks); and privately held conservation areas. The safari operator's presence stretches millions of acres across the country, from the Zambezi Valley to the southeastern lowveld, and each hunting area is managed according to its specific needs. HHK currently operates in several areas but primarily in Deka, Charara, and Makuti, which are national park concessions; Savuli in the Savé Valley Conservancy; and Dande Safari Area, a communal area.

PILLARS OF WILDLIFE CONSERVATION

HHK Safaris structures its work around essential conservation functions: defined area management, anti-poaching enforcement, reliable water infrastructure, and community partnership where applicable. Rather than scattering resources thinly, each area is clearly delineated, with focused patrol zones, consistent presence, and active management. The hunting operator's habitat management includes anti-poaching, fireguards, early burning, and controlling overpopulation of species that deplete grasses or woodlands. HHK also provides strategically placed water resources for animals and habitat



across its areas. All this species and habitat enhancement activity is funded entirely through revenue from hunting tourism, with no aid from foundations or donor contributions.

ELEPHANTS, WATER, AND MANAGEMENT NEED

Water is critical in semi-arid areas, and strategically placed water points can distribute wildlife populations more effectively across an ecosystem. Dispersion is especially important in Zimbabwe, where elephant populations are large, estimated at around 90,000 individuals. When elephants overconcentrate, they can quickly decimate habitat. In the Deka area, where elephant populations are especially dense, HHK Safaris strategically places water points to encourage animals to disperse. But water provision must be balanced, and abundant artificial water can also cause problems. For example, Hwange National Park has numerous artificial water points, which can cause the elephant population to remain fixed to the detriment of the park's habitat.



ON THE GROUND CONSERVATION

In Dande, a CAMPFIRE area, HHK Safaris runs a formidable anti-poaching program, manages habitat through early burning and firebreaks, and establishes water points. The hunting operator works closely with local communities by building infrastructure and supporting schools. Transportation is a substantial expense



but a huge benefit to the community. For example, HHK helps transport food aid because the area can remain food-insecure even in years with adequate rain. The hunting operator also protects crops and manages problem animals such as elephants that destroy fields and lions and crocodiles that pose threats to livestock or human life. Since HHK took over Senuko 3 in 2024, the operator has installed 2 new water pumps and repaired broken ones. An anti-poaching initiative was also needed, so HHK equipped rangers with motorbikes, a revolutionary and cost-effective strategy—2 rangers on a \$1300 motorbike can cover ground quickly and more cheaply than a \$60,000 fuel-hungry Land Cruiser. This tactic is still somewhat rare among operators but yields remarkable results: poaching decreased by 90% and wildlife numbers are rebounding. In Makuti and Charara, which are government-leased areas with natural water sources, HHK supports ZimParks’ anti-poaching unit, builds and maintains roads, and participates in catching and reporting poachers.



EFFECTS OF ANTI-HUNTING EFFORTS

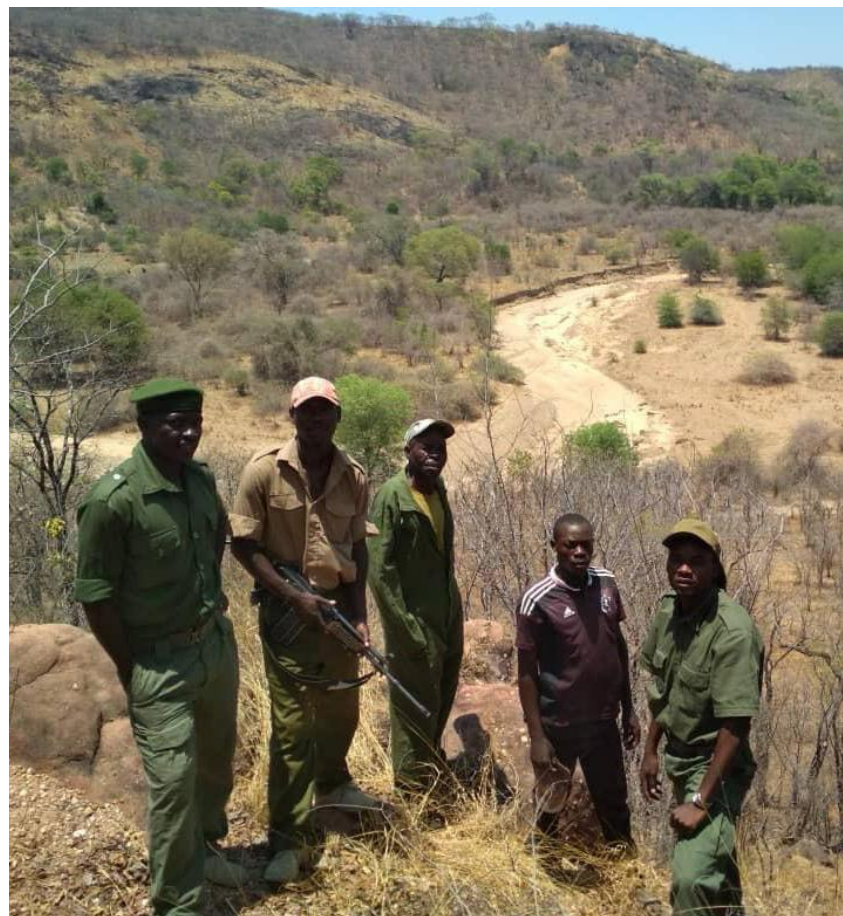
The international anti-hunting movement has had a detrimental effect on operators in Zimbabwe, causing them to lose potential revenue that directly funds conservation. HHK Safaris operates in the Charara area, which borders land leased to an organization where no hunting is allowed. From the hunting operator’s on-the-ground monitoring, HHK estimates there are 20x fewer animals in the adjacent non-hunting area than in their own concession. Comparatively, safari operators like HHK actively engage in conservation through sustainable use, maintaining a continuous presence with professional hunters and anti-poaching units.

HHK’S ETHOS

HHK Safaris operates under a philosophy that to save wildlife, you must first save wild areas. Building off the hunting



operator’s success in existing concessions, HHK focuses future efforts on acquiring and rehabilitating new areas in Zimbabwe. “Look after wild areas, and the game will follow.” They recently took over management authority of former agricultural farms where wildlife and habitat were decimated. Landowners previously shot animals to prevent crop damage, with no reinvestment in the land. A hunting concession in Mbire South Area 2, in the Chewore South Safari Area, adds an additional 4000 km² to their protection. HHK Safaris and other safari operators have an unmatched commitment to the land, wildlife, and rural people, putting everything on the line for conservation in action.



CLASSIC AFRICAN HUNTING

Zimbabwe's Matetsi Safari Area



In 2023, Classic African Hunting took on management of Matetsi Unit 2, a 292 km² concession held on a 10-year government lease within the wider 1888 km² Matetsi Safari Area. Located within reach of Victoria Falls, the lease requires annual reporting and partnership with ZimParks, direct contributions to anti-poaching and community employment. The unit's environment is characterized by open mopane woodland, interspersed with teak stands, broad savanna grasslands, and perennial wetlands. Abundant natural water—including the Matetsi, Guyu, Kawena, and Tshankaruka Rivers along with scattered springs and seeps—sustains game throughout the year. Matetsi Unit 2 is only one of several areas under Classic African Hunting's management in Zimbabwe, alongside Kazuma Camp and Forest Area (223 km²) adjacent to Unit 2 and bordering Kazuma Pan National Park.

SUPPORTING HIGH WILDLIFE DENSITIES

The hunting operator's wildlife monitoring in Matetsi Unit 2 confirms thriving game numbers. Elephants are present in dense and increasing numbers, documented through aerial counts conducted under the 2022 KAZA Elephant Survey. Lion populations remain steady, with camera trap surveys indicating a density of 4.9 per 100 km² and spoor surveys recording 3.3 per 100 km². Together, these methods confirm the presence of 5 prides in the unit. Leopards are also assessed through camera trap studies, which report a stable density of 2.6 animals per 100 km². These predator figures are reinforced by a survey published in 2018 and a report submitted to ZimParks in 2019, both of which estimated lion and leopard populations across the Matetsi area, Zambezi National Park, and the broader western and northern regions of Zimbabwe. Complementary internal counts on road strips, combined with ranger sightings and ecological monitoring, further highlight healthy herds of impala, buffalo, zebra, kudu, and waterbuck throughout the concession. Classic African Hunting also invests in proactive habitat management, including invasive species removal, to maintain ecological balance and support long-term health of wildlife.

SCIENCE-BASED HUNTING OFFTAKE

Classic African Hunting maintains strict hunting practices whereby only old male lions and leopards beyond breeding age are eligible for harvest. All trophies are reviewed by the Area Ecologist to ensure compliance with national age- and

sex-based management systems. In Zimbabwe, lion harvests are regulated through an adaptive quota setting system that links future allocations to the ages of lions taken in the previous season. This system, agreed upon in 2013 by ZimParks and independent conservation experts, recognizes 4 age classes and uses multiple characteristics such as mane development,



facial scarring, tooth wear, and pulp cavity measurements to determine age. This system is in place to ensure that hunting does not undermine social structure or long-term stability of lion populations by harvesting only post-reproductive males.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AND ANTI-POACHING

While Matetsi Unit 2 has no resident or bordering communities, Classic African Hunting provides local benefits through employment and resource sharing. The safari operator employs 11 staff from surrounding villages and contributes natural goods such as thatching grass—an important housing material in rural Africa—and game meat from legally hunted animals, distributed through direct community engagement programs. Recently, vacuum packed dried meat is given to school children with 1



package able to sustain a family of 4 for a week. The operator works in close partnership with ZimParks to deploy and support anti-poaching efforts where needed, including 21 dedicated rangers that patrol the broader Matetsi area. These teams conduct more than 100 extended patrols annually, using GPS to record observational field data and guide law enforcement strategies. A rapid response vehicle has further reduced the risk of poaching and other illegal activities. To strengthen these efforts, Classic African Hunting supplied a Toyota Land Cruiser, 3 motorcycles, a tractor, uniforms, and fuel to support ranger operations. With surrounding hunting units acting as a buffer, poaching pressure in Matetsi Unit 2 remains relatively low, allowing enforcement resources to focus on proactive patrols and habitat protection.

MANAGING FIRE, WATER, AND HABITAT HEALTH

Safeguarding habitat is central to the long-term viability of Matetsi Unit 2. Classic African Hunting installed 3 solar-powered boreholes and repaired a dam on the Matetsi River to secure reliable water for game, while also supplying firefighting equipment used across the wider Matetsi area. The operator's fire management work reduces fuel loads, diversifies habitat, suppresses parasites, stimulates forage, and limits destructive late-season veld fires. Each year, the operator treats approximately 50 km² with early block burns, alongside



a minimum of 170 km of graded roads and firebreaks using a tractor. Water management is equally important given high elephant densities in the region. By operating solar boreholes during the dry season, elephants are spread more evenly across the landscape, reducing damage and habitat degradation caused by excessive concentrations. The Area Ecologist helps guide decisions on habitat, fire, and water, while veterinary matters are addressed by ZimParks' resident veterinarian in collaboration with private wildlife specialists. Another 4 boreholes were recently converted to solar in the Kazuma area, 2 of which utilize batteries to pump during the night. Together, these enhancement efforts demonstrate how effective habitat management underpins every aspect of long-term conservation success in the Matetsi concession.

WIRE & WATER IN MANGWE SOUTH

Classic African Hunting also manages Mangwe South or the Wilberforce Ranch in south western Zimbabwe, adding another 121 km² to a total 636 km² protected across the country. Their incredible wildlife recovery story is documented in the "Wire & Water" film by The Origins Foundation. Since 2019, the safari operator's anti-poaching work has brought back wildlife populations and reintroduced giraffe, wildebeest, and impala. The safari operator works closely with other landowners and local communities to drill boreholes, install solar pumps and tanks, establish vegetable gardens and orchards, provide training in agricultural practices, refurbish livestock handling facilities, and refurbish old fence lines for grazing.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VOu5S7BCtUU>







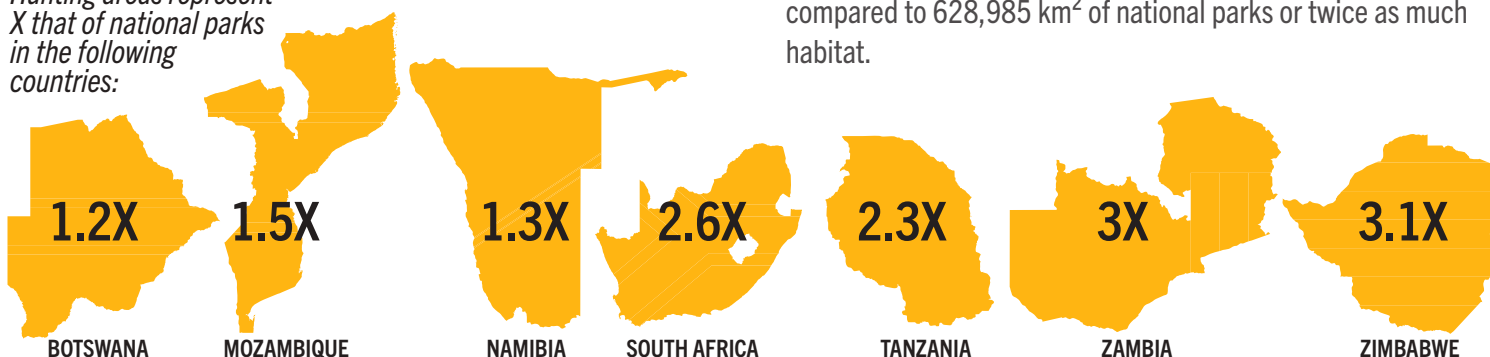
GLOBAL LEADERS



MEETING THE GLOBAL “30X30” GOAL

Target 3 of the Global Biodiversity Framework seeks to conserve 30% of lands and waters by 2030. This so called ‘30x30’ goal has already been achieved with astounding success by some Southern and Eastern African countries due in large part to effective area management by safari operators through conservation hunting. Botswana, Mozambique, Namibia, South Africa, Tanzania, Zambia, and Zimbabwe protect about 31% of their combined land area—13% greater than the global mean. Habitat secured by safari operators exceeds that of all national parks across Africa, and without Southern Africa’s conservation leadership through hunting tourism and community partnerships, the global ‘30x30’ goal would be severely compromised.

Hunting areas represent X that of national parks in the following countries:



MORE HABITAT SECURED THAN NATIONAL PARKS ACROSS AFRICA

In Southern and Eastern Africa, hunting areas safeguard some of the wildest, most expansive landscapes on the continent, surpassing the footprint of national parks and multiplying the land under effective management. These vast zones anchor community-based conservation across regions, securing the habitat, ecosystem services, and ecological connectivity. At the front lines of protecting these areas are safari operators, conservation champions and dedicated custodians who defend the integrity of these landscapes, the wildlife they sustain, and the local people who depend on them.

In total, 1,208,454 km² is secured by safari operators compared to 628,985 km² of national parks or twice as much habitat.

WHAT’S AT STAKE

Conservation in Africa and global goals for biodiversity depend on these featured safari operators, who do much more than just hunt. There would be no hunting without this conservation work. Hunting tourism helps protect hundreds of millions of acres of habitat and fund hundreds of millions of dollars’ worth of critical conservation in Southern and Eastern Africa. But without these “conservation champions”, all these benefits would be at risk. Import ban proposals and wildlife trade restrictions in consumer countries can negatively impact conservation, wild places, and their custodians. Hunting tourism often provides

the primary funding source for anti-poaching, community well-being, and habitat management. Safari operators protect millions of acres outside of national parks, creating effective buffer zones and enhancing survival of hunted, non-game, and endangered species. By design, conservation hunting is a proven, scientifically based tool. Wildlife and wild places no longer exist by accident. These safari operators, along with their national professional hunting associations, international hunting clients, and hunting conservation organizations have an unrivaled passion and history of success ensuring a resilient future for Africa’s natural heritage.





SUPPORTED BY CONSERVATION FORCE IN PARTNERSHIP WITH DALLAS SAFARI CLUB

Conservation Force is a non-profit public foundation that stands for three forces. First, that hunters and anglers are an indispensable and essential force for wildlife conservation. Second, that Conservation Force is a collaborative effort combining a consortium of organizations that, together, are a force to be reckoned with. And third, that Conservation Force itself is a proactive force with a long history of record-breaking conservation successes.

Our purpose is to expand and secure conservation of wildlife and wild places. This mission includes supporting conservation hunting operators, community-based natural resource management, and global projects to protect wildlife and habitat and empower its stewards. The safari operators featured here are partners of Conservation Force and represent the ethical commitment of hunters to conservation. Many of the conservation and community projects featured are supported by Conservation Force and our organizational partners, including national professional hunting associations.

Conservation Force is officially partnered with Dallas Safari Club to further our shared engagement in wildlife conservation. Dallas Safari Club's mission is to ensure conservation of wildlife through public engagement, education and advocacy for well-regulated hunting and sustainable use. Both organizations are funded by hunters from around the world and are members of the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN).

Through Conservation Force and Dallas Safari Club, safari operators and hunting clients fund and promote protection of wildlife, wild places, and communities living alongside them. We prepared this booklet because these are the stories of the unsung heroes of conservation that need to be told.

For more information or to partner with Conservation Force-Dallas Safari Club, contact CF@conservationforce.org and visit www.conservationforce.org. Also, join Dallas Safari Club at the 2026 Convention & Sporting Expo on February 6–8 in Atlanta, Georgia to interact with these top tier operators and book a conservation hunting adventure.

Please consider helping us support these exemplary operators and hunter-funded conservation efforts by making a tax-deductible donation through Conservation Force at <https://www.conservationforce.org/donate>.



We acknowledge the safari operators featured in this report, along with members of national operator and professional hunting associations, for providing information detailed in each section, text review, and many of the images used.

We also thank Scott Morrison for providing graphic design.

