



RECEIVED APR 21 2020

Department of Interior
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

Federal Fish and Wildlife Permit Application Form

Type of Activity

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Division of Management Authority
Branch of Permits, MS: IA
5275 Leesburg Pike
Falls Church, VA 22041-3803
1-800-358-2104 or 703-358-2104

IMPORT OF SPORT-HUNTED TROPHIES under Appendix I of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES) and/or U.S. Endangered Species Act (ESA)

Complete Sections A or B, and C, D, and E of this application. U.S. address may be required in Section C, see instructions for details. Instructions on how to make your application complete and help avoid unnecessary delays are attached.

Section A: Complete if applying as an individual

1.a. Last Name SCULL		1.b. First Name ROBERT		1.c. Middle Initial (b) (6)	1.d. Suffix
2. Date of Birth (mm/dd/yyyy)	3. Telephone Number	3.a. Alternate Telephone Number	4. E-mail address		
(b) (6)					

Section B: Complete if applying on behalf of a business, corporation, public agency, Tribe, or institution

1.a. Name of business, agency, Tribe, or institution		1.b. Doing business as (DBA)			
2. Tax identification no.		3. Description of business, agency, Tribe, or institution			
4.a. Principal officer Last name	4.b. Principal officer First Name	4.c. Principal officer Middle name/initial		4.d. Suffix	
5. Principal officer title		6. Primary contact name			
7.a. Business telephone number	7.b. Alternate telephone number	7.c. Business fax number	7.d. Business e-mail address		

Section C: All applicants complete address information

1.a. Physical address (Street address, Apartment #, Suite #, or Room #, no P.O. Boxes)				
(b) (6)				
1.b. City	1.c. State	1.d. Zip code/Postal code	1.e. County/Province	1.f. Country
RAPID CITY	SOUTH DAKOTA	57702	PENNINGTON	USA
2.a. Mailing address (include if different than physical address; include name of contact person if applicable)				
(b) (6)				
2.b. City	2.c. State	2.d. Zip code/Postal code	2.e. County/Province	2.f. Country

Section D: All applicants MUST complete

1. Attach the nonrefundable application processing fee in the form of a check or money order payable to the U.S. FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE in the amount of \$100. Federal, Tribal, State, and local government agencies, and those acting on behalf of such agencies, are exempt from the processing fee—attach documentation of fee exempt status as outlined in instructions [50 CFR 13.11(d)].	
2. Certification: I hereby certify that I have read and am familiar with the regulations contained in <i>Title 50 Part 13 of the Code of Federal Regulations</i> and the other applicable regulations, and I certify that the information submitted in this application for a permit is complete and accurate to the best of my knowledge and belief. I understand that any false statement herein may subject me to the criminal penalties of 18 U.S.C. 1001.	
	<p>04-13-2020</p>
Signature of applicant/Principal Officer for permit (No photocopied or stamped signatures) Date of signature (mm/dd/yyyy)	
Please continue to next page	

E. IMPORT OF SPORT-HUNTED TROPHIES (Appendix I of CITES and/or ESA)

Note 1: This form should be used to request authorization to import trophies of species listed on Appendix I of CITES and/or as threatened or endangered under the ESA (examples include elephants, lions, cheetahs, wood bison, and markhor).

PLEASE USE FORM 3-200-19 FOR SOUTHERN AFRICAN LEOPARD TROPHIES AND SOUTHERN WHITE RHINOCEROS TROPHIES TAKEN IN NAMIBIA.

Note 2: If you hold an import permit for a trophy that you did not use, please **return the unused original permit**. If you are requesting reissuance of a permit because you have taken a trophy, but were unable to import it prior to the expiration of the permit, please use the renewal form ([3-200-52](#)) and return your original permit with that form.

Note 3: Applications for species listed as endangered under the U.S. Endangered Species Act are published in the Federal Register for a 30-day public comment period. Please allow at least **90 days** for the application to be processed.

Note 4: *Sport-hunted trophy* is defined at [50 CFR 23.74](#) as follows: *Sport-hunted trophy* means a whole dead animal or a readily recognizable part or derivative of an animal specifically identified on the accompanying CITES document that meets the following criteria:

- Is raw, processed, or manufactured;
- Was legally obtained by the hunter through hunting for his or her personal use;
- Is being imported, exported, or re-exported by or on behalf of the hunter as part of the transfer from its country of origin ultimately to the hunter's country of usual residence; and
- Includes worked, manufactured, or handicraft items made from the sport-hunted animal only when:
 - i. Such items are contained in the same shipment as raw or tanned parts of the sport-hunted animal and are for the personal use of the hunter;
 - ii. The quantity of such items is no more than could reasonably be expected given the number of animals taken by the hunter as shown on the license or other documentation of the authorized hunt accompanying the shipment; and
 - iii. The accompanying CITES documents (export document and, if appropriate, import permit) contain a complete itemization and description of all items included in the shipment.

Note 5: Certain hunting trophies, including elephants, are subject to restrictions on their use after import into the United States. Please see 50 CFR 23.55 for more information or contact the Division of Management Authority.

Please provide the following information. Complete all questions on the application. Mark questions that are not applicable with "N/A". If needed, use a separate sheet of paper. On all attachments or separate sheets you are submitting; please indicate the application question number you are addressing. If applying for more than one trophy, be sure to answer questions 4-6 for each trophy addressed in this application. If importing trophies from more than one country, you must submit a separate application for each shipment in order to obtain separate import permits.

1. Name and address where you wish the permit to be mailed, if different from page 1. If you would like expedited shipping, please enclose a self-addressed, pre-paid, computer-generated, courier service airway bill. If unspecified, all documents will be mailed via the U.S. Postal Service.

2. Who should we contact if we have questions about the application (name, phone number, and e-mail)?

BOB SCULL (b) (6)

(b) (6)

3. Disqualification factor. A conviction, or entry of a plea of guilty or nolo contendere, for a felony violation of the Lacey Act, the Migratory Bird Treaty Act, or the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act disqualifies any such person from receiving or exercising the privileges of a permit, unless such disqualification has been expressly waived by the Service Director in response to a written petition. (50 CFR 13.21(c)) Have you or any of the owners of the business, if applying as a business, been convicted, or entered a plea of guilty or nolo contendere, forfeited collateral, or are currently under charges for any violations of the laws mentioned above?

No Yes

If you answered "Yes" to Question 3, provide: a) the individual's name; b) date of charge; c) charge(s); d) location of incident; e) court; and f) action taken for each violation. Please be aware that a "Yes" response does not automatically disqualify you from getting a permit.

4. For each trophy to be imported, provide:

a. Scientific name (genus, species, and, if applicable, subspecies) and common name.

SOUTH AFRICAN ELEPHANT

b. Sex (if known). MALE

5. IF ANIMAL IS CURRENTLY LIVING IN THE WILD, please enter the following information:

a. Country and place (area, region, GIS coordinates, ranch, conservancy, management area, or hunting block, AND nearest city) where wildlife is to be taken from the wild:

b. Date wildlife is to be hunted:

c. Name of hunting outfitter, safari company, or professional hunter you will be hunting with:

6. IF THE TROPHY HAS ALREADY BEEN TAKEN, please enter the following information:

a. Country and place (area, region, GIS coordinates, ranch, conservancy, management area, or hunting block, AND nearest city) where wildlife was removed from the wild:

South Africa, Klaserie PNR (Private Nature Reserve)
Hoedspruit, South Africa

b. Date wildlife was hunted:

JANUARY 4, 2016

- c. Name of hunting outfitter, safari company, or professional hunter you hunted with:

(PH) ROELOF J. NIEMAN, (OUTFITTER) JOHN LUYT
(SEE ATTACHED SHEETS - 3)

- d. The current location of the trophy (address and country) [the U.S. import permit will identify this country as the country of export/re-export and must match with the foreign export/re-export document]:

HIGHVELD TAXIDERMIST
FARM 354, VIAKPLAATS, HENNOPS RIVER, CENTURION GAUTENG,
SOUTH AFRICA

7. Please provide a copy of any applicable foreign government permits or licenses that were required to remove this animal from the wild (if you have not hunted yet and do not currently hold any such permits or licenses, please indicate so). **INCLUDED SEE ATTACHED**
8. Complete name and address of overseas person or business shipping the trophy to you. If you are applying to import a trophy directly from Namibia, you must provide the name and address of the professional hunter listed on your Namibian hunting permit [this name will appear on the face of the export permit].
Name: **PAULA FERNADES**
Business Name: **OXI LOGISTICS LTD**
Address: **FARM 354 HENNOPS RIVER**
City: **0023 PRETORIA**
State/Province: **GAUTENG, SOUTH AFRICA**
Country, Postal Code:
9. For species listed under the U.S. Endangered Species Act, please be aware that the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) must make a finding that your activities will enhance or benefit wild populations of the species involved. While we will communicate with the range country for the species you will hunt or hunted when making the required findings, if you have any information that could support this finding, it would be helpful for our review if you could provide it. Please submit such information on a separate page with your application.

- a. Do you have any information regarding the population status or trend data on the species hunted?

SEE ATTACHED INFORMATION REGARDING KULASERIE RESERVE

- b. In order to hunt, you likely paid for licenses or trophy fees. What were those fees and do you have any information on how those funds were used by either the landowner, local community, or government?

SEE ATTACHED INFORMATION REGARDING KULASERIE RESERVE

- c. Do you have information on other funding activities that are being carried out, or were carried out, by the safari outfitter, professional hunter, concession holder, or landowner that provide a conservation benefit to the species being hunted/species hunted?

SEE ATTACHED INFORMATION REGARDING KULASERIE RESERVE

CERTIFICATION STATEMENT (original signature must be provided for either 10 or 11 below)

10. If you are a broker or taxidermist applying on behalf of a U.S. hunter or foreign national, provide documentation to show you have a Power of Attorney to act on your client's behalf and sign the following statement:

I acknowledge that the sport-hunted trophy/trophies to be imported has been/will be personally hunted by my client and is being imported only for my client's personal use (i.e., not for sale, transfer, donation, or exchange that is reasonably likely to result in economic use, gain, or benefit). If applying for the import of an elephant trophy, I understand that my client may import no more than two elephant trophies in one calendar year.

Taxidermist/Broker's signature: _____ Date: _____

11. If you are the hunter applying to import your own trophy, please read and sign the following statement:

I acknowledge that the sport-hunted trophy/trophies to be imported has been/will be personally hunted by me and is being imported only for my personal use (i.e., not for sale, transfer, donation, or exchange that is reasonably likely to result in economic use, gain, or benefit). If applying to import an elephant trophy, I understand that I may import no more than two elephant trophies in one calendar year.

Applicant's signature: _____ (b) (6) _____ Date: 4-13-2020

Be aware that there may be additional permitting or approval requirements by your local or state governments, as well as required by other Federal agencies or foreign governments to conduct your propose activity. While the Service will attempt to assist where possible, it is your responsibility to obtain such approval.

12. All international shipments must be through a designated port. A list of designated ports (where an inspector is posted) is available from [the list of designated ports](#). If you wish to use a port not listed, please contact the Office of Law Enforcement for a Designated Port Exemption Permit (form 3-200-2).

Answer to Question #9

- A. The elephant was taken on the Klaserie PNR) Private Nature Reserve, near Hoedspruit, SA. When I was there they were taking five (5) mature (aggressive) non-mating bulls annually from the reserve. The bull I took was a 40 pound mature (very aggressive) bull. I witnessed this behavior towards a young bull. At that time there was an overabundance of elephants on the reserve. They had torn up great amounts of the landscape including trees, bushes, brush, and all forms of vegetation. The owners were considering taking more bulls in future years.

- B. Total fees were \$37,750.00
I believe \$30,000.00 went to the outfitter/Klaserie reserve. This money was used for reserve management and habitat development for all animals. The other \$7,750.00 went to the PH for his time and expenses.

- C. I have attached additional information regarding the Klaserie Reserve. Formed in 1972 they have done much to preserve the African animals. They are deeply involved in conservation, anti-poaching enforcement, sustainability, and various specific projects. Including the Elephant Project. Much of this is highlighted on their website.

About Me:

I have personally invested my time, resources and money in many conservation projects in South Dakota to benefit deer, turkeys and pheasants. Additionally, I have donated to building schools, water tanks and water lines in South Africa and Mozambique.

I have included an article from the Rapid City Journal from a hunting trip to Mozambique where I shipped over soccer jerseys, soccer bags and balls that were made with the wrong color for the local soccer club. The children in Mozambique were overjoyed at these gifts.

Thank you for consideration of my elephant application.

Sincerely,

Robert C. Scull

Permit No:

12825



PERMIT FOR THE HUNTING OF

(Issued in terms of the Provisions of the Nature Conservation Act 10 of 1998)

- ☆ SPECIALLY PROTECTED GAME
- ☆ PROTECTED GAME
- ☆ ORDINARY GAME DURING A PERIOD WHICH IS NOT AN OPEN SEASON
- ☆ PROTECTED WILD ANIMALS
- ☆ GAME IN A NATURE RESERVE

MPUMALANGA TOURISM & PARKS AGENCY
 DEPT. OF ENVIRONMENT & AFFAIRS
PROFESSIONAL HUNTING
 2016-03-15
 PRIVATE BAG X 11338
 NELSPRUIT 1200

☆ Mark the square as indicated in the authorisation of the Chief Executive Officer.

Full name ROBERT SCULL (b) (6)
 and residential address (b) (6) RAPID 5177
 of the holder of the permit 50474 04079 57709

Name of the owner of the land to be hunted on COLIN POWLES
(110 JOYNS L477)

PARTICULARS OF THE HUNT

Name of farm or nature reserve and district in which it is situated	Species, number and sex of game which may be hunted	Species, number and sex of game hunted and the time and date on which it was hunted
<u>KLASGIE PNR</u>	<u>ONE (1) ELEPHANT BULL</u>	
<u>HOOPS PRUIT</u>	<u>ONE (1) BUFFALO BULL</u>	

TO BE HUNTED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE APNR
 HUNTING PROTOCOL AND APPROVED QUOTA

In terms of and subject to the provisions of the Nature Conservation Act 10 of 1998, the holder of the permit is hereby authorised to hunt the species, number and sex of the game referred to in the second column of the particulars of the hunt on the farm or nature reserve referred to in the first column thereof during the period of validity of the permit, subject to the conditions of the permit.

PERIOD OF VALIDITY OF THE PERMIT

The permit shall be valid for the period 26 / 03 / 2016 to 12 / 04 / 2016

Number and date of the authorisation of the Chief Executive Officer

Permit/licence Fees:

Received R. 6000.00 + R100 ADMIN

Signature of the person authorised by the Chief Executive Officer to issue the permit.

[Handwritten signature]

VEEARTSNIJPERPERMIT WORD OOK BENODIG:
 VIR VERVOER VAN LEWENDE WILD EN ROU-
 WLEIS OF PRODUKTE.
 VETERINARY PERMIT IS ALSO REQUIRED:
 FOR TRANSPORT OF LIVE GAME AND RAW
 MEAT OR PRODUCTS.

TO BE FORWARDED TO
WILDLIFE PROTECTION SERVICES
 Private Bag X11338, Nelspruit, 1200 • Tel +27 (0)13 753 53001 • Fax +27 (0)13 758 5490

SEE CONDITIONS OF ISSUE/ISSUING ON REVERSE SIDE



HEAD OFFICE: Private Bag X 11338 NELSPRUIT 1200 SOUTH AFRICA. TEL (013) 759 5398 FAX (013) 759 5398
 E-MAIL: marius@mtpa.co.za

CITES ISSUING AUTHORITY RELEASE DOCUMENT

<u>FROM:</u>	<u>SPECIES</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>	<u>SEX</u>	<u>GENERAL</u>
MTPA Head Office Nelspruit	Two elephant tusks	2		Tusks were marked and registered
<p>To transport Elephant tusks to Highveld Taxidermy, Farm 354, Vlakplaas, Hennopsriver, 0023</p> <p>1 ZA/16/2719/12.70/MP 2 ZA/16/2720/11.95/MP</p>				
Transporter: S T Phiri ID: 760330 5449 08 9	<div style="border: 2px solid black; padding: 5px; width: fit-content; margin: 0 auto;"> <p style="margin: 0;">MPUMALANGA TOURISM & PARKS AGENCY</p> <p style="margin: 0;">CITES PROJECTS OFFICER</p> <p style="margin: 0; font-size: 1.2em;">2016 -12- 13</p> </div> <p style="margin-top: 10px;">Official PRIVATE BAG X 11338 NELSPRUIT 1200 Marius Gie 083 555 4398</p> <p style="margin-top: 10px;">CITES Control Office Mpumalanga Province.</p>			

THE RESERVE

The Klaserie Private Nature Reserve (KPNR) is one of the largest privately owned nature reserves in South Africa covering some 60 000 hectares and is part of the greater Kruger National Park.. It is an entirely non-government organization involved in the full spectrum of Nature Conservation.

The KPNR was established in 1969 and was officially proclaimed a nature reserve in 1972 with Jan de Necker as the founding chairman and Van Reenen Van Vuuren as the first warden. The reserve is run by an executive committee comprising members or landowners who are elected at the AGM and operate through the reserves warden Colin

Rowles. Colin circulates a monthly report to all the members keeping them informed of the weather, the condition and status of the fauna and flora and any other matter of general interest.

The KPNR is a member of the Association of Private Nature Reserves (APNR), a cooperative organization established to coordinate the interests of its members and to act as a single body in interacting with government entities. The association comprises Klaserie, Timbavati, The Umbabat and Balule.

We are deeply committed to the non-profit organization Eco Children (formerly Children's Eco Children) which is in an initiative of the Klaserie Private Nature Reserve. Eco Children has been very successful in interacting with the children of the local community from a hands-on conservation education perspective and through a 'whole school development' approach. Eco Children has a specific focus on the environment and on education, and the significance and importance of both to our lives and the future of our country.

www.ecochildren.co.za ([//www.ecochildren.co.za](http://www.ecochildren.co.za))

We host The Ground Hornbill Project which is sponsored by The Fitzpatrick Institute of African Ornithology and directed by Professor Phil Hockey. There are two other research projects within the APNR. The elephant research project operating under the umbrella of "Save the Elephants" founded by Dr Ian Douglas Hamilton and the "Tembo" project currently studying buffalo. This is one of the projects hosted by the Resource Ecology group of the University of Wageningen in the Netherlands

There are various commercial operations within the KPNR ranging from rustic bush camps and walking trails to luxury game lodges. It is the Reserves policy to keep the commercial and thus human impact to a minimum as it is our mission to make the KPNR as near a pristine environment as possible.



(images/gallery/01.jpg)

CONSERVATION INITIATIVES

At Klaserie Private Nature Reserve we are deeply involved in the full spectrum of nature conservation and it is our philosophy to keep the Reserve as near a pristine environment as possible by centering our efforts on minimising the human footprint. Home to over 60,000 hectares of wilderness we are not only committed to preserving the reserve but also to a number of wildlife initiatives, these include the Ground Hornbill Project, Rhino Protection and The Elephant Project.

SUSTAINABLE UTILISATION (ASSETS/KPNR_SUSTAINABLE_UTILISATION.PI



Ground Hornbill Project

(ground_hornbill_project.html)



Rhino Protection & Donations

(rhino_protection.html)



Klaserie Private Nature Reserve.

RE : Sustainable utilisation, professional hunting and game sales.

The National Environmental Management: Protected Areas Act recognizes the access to biological resources in protected areas for traditional, subsistence and commercial purposes: “to promote sustainable utilisation of protected areas for the benefit of people, in a manner that would preserve the ecological character of such areas.” It further states that the purpose of a protected area is to provide for the sustainable use of natural and biological resources. Excess game, is such a resource and hunting is a legitimate and accepted activity which is consistent with the sustainable management of wildlife. Well governed professional hunting, generates critically needed incentives and revenue to maintain and restore wildlife and to carry out conservation actions, including counter-poaching and environmental crime interventions. It can also return much needed income, jobs, and other important economic and social benefits to local communities.

It is often incorrectly assumed that because there are no fences between the private nature reserves and KNP that all of the animals belong to the KNP. This is not so. Vast herds of game move also from the private nature reserves into the KNP from time to time. The private nature reserves sustain and nurture significant amounts of wildlife and form an invaluable buffer and feeder zone for KNP between the national park and urban and agricultural areas with security features. The KNP benefits materially from the security and conservation operations conducted by the private nature reserves, all of which is funded through professional hunting. It is also incorrectly assumed that all of the areas within the private nature reserves lend themselves to eco-tourism. Some of the areas have insufficient densities of game and others inhospitable vegetation and terrain. Where eco-tourism is unviable other sustainable uses of the land have to be explored.

In determining off take numbers each year, the KPNR gives due regard to the population dynamics and general well-being of the particular species as well as the veld conditions. Each year the KPNR undertakes various censuses to determine the exact numbers of each species in our reserve. The other APNR reserves do the same census, at similar times and utilising the same or similar protocols and methodologies. This data, combined with various sources of research and intelligence are then utilised to guide our determination (in full transparency and debate with all our neighbours), as to which species can be professionally hunted and/or sold (via live capture) and how many.

The KPNR supports such sustainable utilisation of a valuable resource and allocates the funds generated towards the security of the reserve and its animals, and also the general maintenance and upkeep of the reserve. No income generated from professional hunting is ever returned or distributed to the members. These funds are used solely for conservation purposes in terms of the Constitution of the KPNR. In addition the KPNR supports its flagship program Eco Children NPC (www.ecochildren.co.za) annually from funds generated by professional hunting and game sales.

Chris Van der Sande
Chairman Klaserie Private Nature Reserve

INTRO

OBJECTIVES

METHODS

RESEARCH

RESEARCH REACH & STUDY SITES

THE ELEPHANT PROJECT

Our research commenced in 2003 as Save the Elephants – South Africa, and draws on data collected over almost two decades. The research contributes towards the long-term survival of the African elephant, thereby maintaining the vital diversity of our world. If elephants are to survive, we need scientific knowledge and an intimate understanding of their movements and needs.

Our quest involves delivering research solutions which acknowledge elephants as an integral part of the ecosystem they occupy. We work towards achieving a greater understanding of the complex relationships that elephants have with each other and their surroundings, including the people with whom they share their world.

INTRO OBJECTIVES METHODS RESEARCH RESEARCH REACH & STUDY SITES



(images/Conservation_Initiatives_Elephant/large/Conservation_Initiatives_Elephant_gallery_01.jpg)



(images/Conservation_Initiatives_Elephant/large/Conservation_Initiatives_Elephant_gallery_02.jpg)



(images/Conservation_Initiatives_Elephant/large/Conservation_Initiatives_Elephant_gallery_03.jpg)



(images/Conservation_Initiatives_Elephant/large/Conservation_Initiatives_Elephant_gallery_04.jpg)



(images/Conservation_Initiatives_Elephant/large/Conservation_Initiatives_Elephant_gallery_05.jpg)



INTRO

OBJECTIVES

ME

ARCH REACH & STUDY SITES

(images/Conservation_Initiatives_Elephant/large/Conservation_Initiatives_Elephant_gallery_06.jpg)

SCIENTIFIC OBJECTIVES

- 1.** To conduct research into how habitat resources, the need for safety and the social presence of other elephants influence observed patterns in elephant movements.
- 2.** To understand the abundance, movements and conservation importance of the remaining large tusked bulls within the Great Limpopo Transfrontier Park (GLTP) and to use these flagship individuals as educational tools to address broader conservation concerns.
- 3.** Relate elephant occurrence to their effects on the vegetation and infrastructure where elephants and man co-exist.
- 4.** To determine the level of sensitivity between selected tree-nesting birds and the impact of elephant on trees used as nesting sites.
- 5.** To assess the efficacy of experimental mitigation methods aimed at reducing the effects of elephants in localised areas.

- 6.** To further our understanding of how elephant mortality rates differ between South Africa and other African range-use states in view of the escalating illegal trade in ivory.

INTRO

OBJECTIVES

METHODS

RESEARCH

RESEARCH REACH & STUDY SITES

METHODS

Our overall research programme within GLTP represents a long-term study focused on understanding what motivates elephant movements from core conservation areas such as the Kruger National Park (KNP) into peripheral Protected Areas along its western, eastern and northern borders.

OBJECTIVE 1

OBJECTIVE 1&2

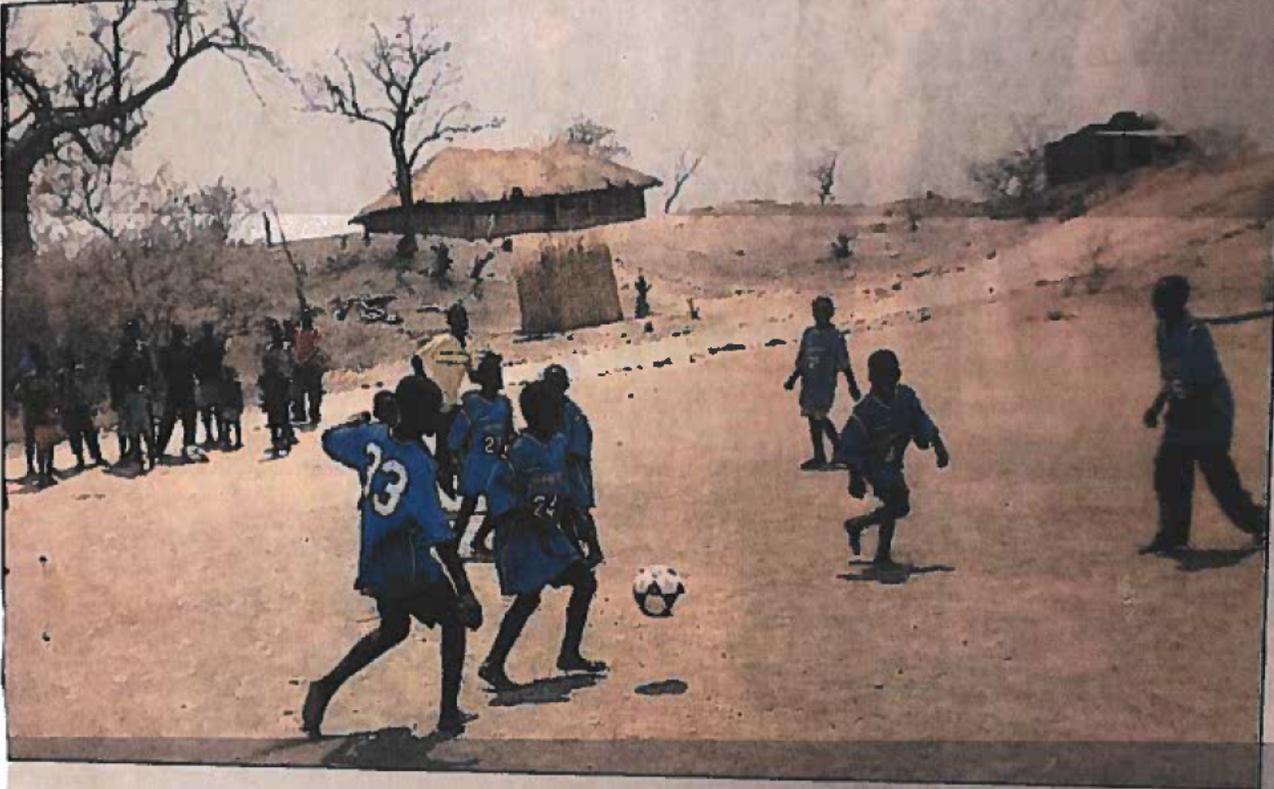
OBJECTIVE 3&4

OBJECTIVE 5

OBJECTIVE 6

'When we gave those kids the jerseys, I may as well have been taking them to Disney World.'

— Bob Scull, a local resident who helped bring soccer balls and jerseys to children in Mozambique



Courtesy photo

Soccer players from Caembua, Mozambique, chase down a ball during a game in October. The blue jerseys that the players are wearing were donated by Rushmore Soccer Club in Rapid City. The American Indian Relief Council also donated 42 soccer balls.

Area man brings gift of soccer to children

Scull delivers soccer balls, jerseys and bags to Africa

By Jeff Burdick
Journal staff

RAPID CITY — To the average soccer fan it looked like a bunch of jerseys, balls and bags, but when Bob Scull brought those with him to the Republic of Mozambique they were truly a treasure in the eyes of children.

Scull went to Mozambique on a hunting trip, but what he ended up finding was the gratification that comes with

helping those less fortunate than him.

"It is pretty gratifying when you go someplace and you are able to help some people if only in a very small, small way to make them happy and give them something to do," he said.

Scull consulted with Jeff Olson, a Rapid City dentist, who had been to the region the year before and asked him what he should bring when he left this past September.

"He told me I had to take some soccer balls and some jerseys if I could," Scull said. "There are no jobs in Mozambique — unskilled labor makes about \$30 a month — it is a poor country and all these people do is play soccer."

That is when the Rushmore Soccer Club and American Indian Relief Council stepped up and delivered with 210 soccer jerseys and 100 soccer bags from the club and 42 soccer balls from the coun-

cil. The jerseys were meant for the club but when it received them there was a mistake in the printing leaving hundreds of unused jerseys that filled Scull's needs perfectly.

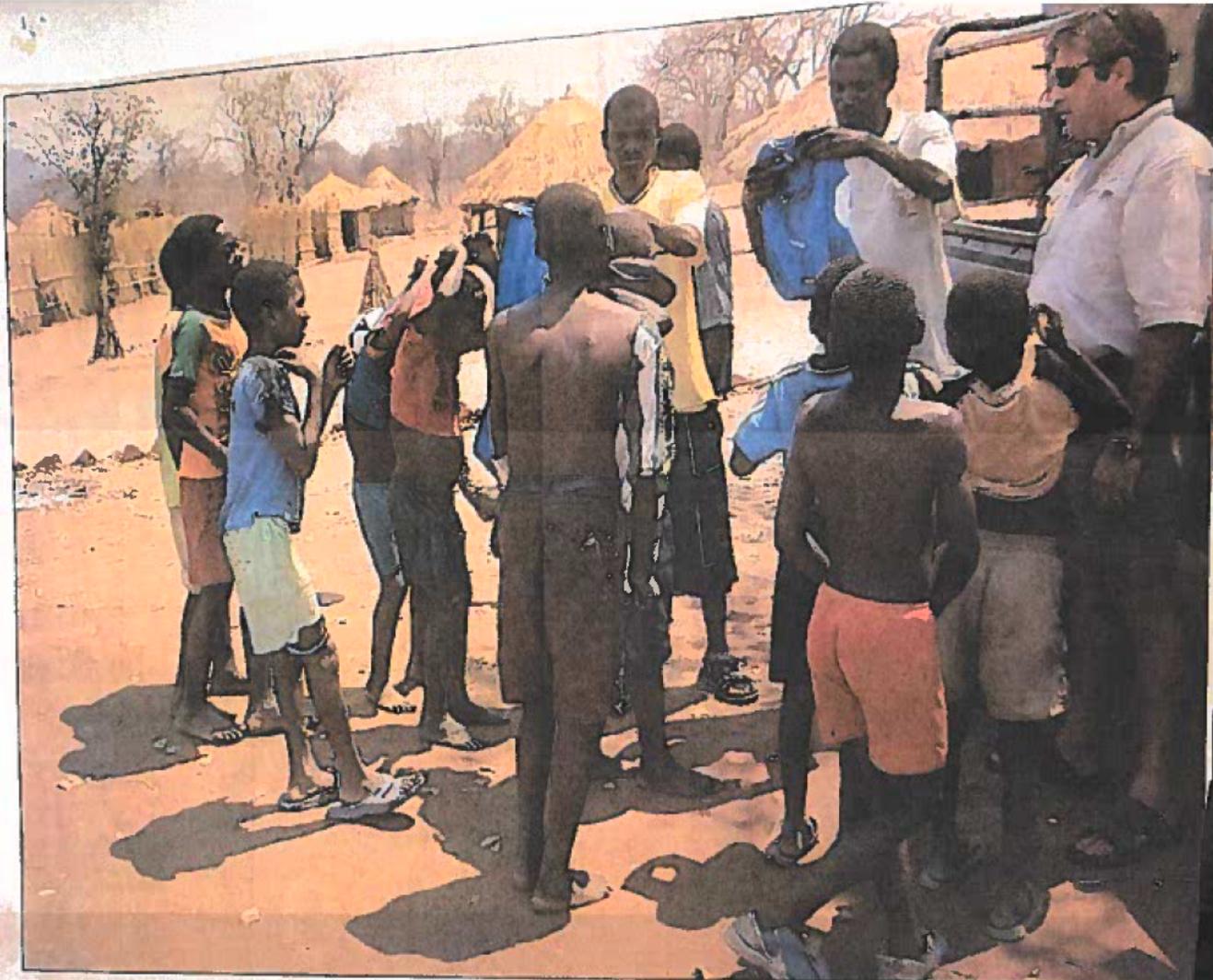
"I shipped it all over ahead of time and the jerseys went into a tub three feet long, a foot and a half wide and two feet tall," said Scull who has two kids involved with the Rushmore Soccer Club.

See Soccer, Page E2

Call 500-70 chipover seas

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Carel Martens, far right, a hunting guide from South Africa, helps hand out soccer jerseys in October in Caembua, Mozambique, donated by the Rushmore Soccer Club in Rapid City.

Courtesy photo

Soccer: Scull, Martens give gear to several villages

From Page E1

In all, Scull shipped five boxes full of soccer gear.

Once Scull arrived at one of the two main villages, Caembua, where he and his hunting guide, Carel Martens, spent much of their time, they were welcomed like rock stars by enthusiastic children ranging in age from 8 to 12 years old experiencing the thrill of gifts as if it was Christmas morning.

"When we gave those kids the jerseys, I may as well have been taking them to Disney World," Scull said. "The people there live in grass huts. They have nothing. There are no jobs, there is absolutely nothing and when it gets dark there, it gets dark."

"When Carel goes into those villages, the kids come running out there and chant his name because he helps them and gives them stuff. So he is the rock star."

Scull and Martens gave out 15 jerseys to each of the two villages they visited and each school got two balls which were to be used until they were worn beyond use and then replaced with a new ball. Martens distributed the rest of the soccer gear to other villages he helped down the river.

The coaches at the villages kept all the jerseys after the kids were done playing for the day because they were

in high demand in an area where the field consists of dirt, rocks and two wood sticks placed apart representing the goal.

"The kids didn't want to give (the jerseys up) I am sure, but the coaches kept them and the balls," Scull said. "But it is amazing watching these kids because they have skills. They don't have shoes — they might have flip-flops — but they play in their bare feet."

The area is infatuated with the game of soccer but most of the people in the area are without the absolute basics from shoes to something even more important to play the game.

"They take wide broad leaf grass and they somehow roll it or weave it into a ball," Scull said.

The soccer equipment provides adults and kids with entertainment in an area where there is not much of it.

"It is not really poverty because it is the way they live. It is the way they have lived probably for centuries," Scull said. "They live on the river, they fish out of the river and they grow corn and maize."

Scull said the hunting was "pretty incredible and best hunt of my life" but he also brought home more than great stories. Thanks to the generosity of many he was able to put a smile on the faces of countless people thanks to a few jerseys and soccer balls.



Bob Scull, back left, and a soccer team from Mozambique stand in front of a soccer goal in October. The jerseys that the players are wearing were donated by Rushmore Soccer Club.

Courtesy photo