



RCUD MAY 6 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 Corn		1.b. First Name Geoffrey		1.c. Name/Initial (b) (6)		1.d. Suffix	
2. Date of Birth (mm/dd/yyyy) (b) (6)		3. Telephone Number		3.a. Alternate Telephone Number		4. E-mail address	

**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**

(b) (6)					
1. (b) (6) (include apt. #, or Room #; no P.O. Boxes)					
1.b. City Springfield	1.c. State CO	1.d. Zip code/Postal code 81073-9623	1.e. County/Province Baca County	1.f. Country USA United States	
2.a. Mailing address (include if different than physical address; include name of contact person if applicable) Same					
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 Title 50 Part 13 of the Code of Federal Regulations and the other applicable parts in subchapter B of Chapter I of Title 50, and I certify that the information submitted in this application for a permit is complete and that any false statement herein may subject me to the criminal penalties of 18 U.S.C. 1001.	
<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <div style="width: 40%;">                 (b) (6)                  Signature (typed or stamped signatures)             </div> <div style="width: 50%; text-align: center;">                 04/24/2020                  Date of signature (mm/dd/yyyy)             </div> </div>	

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.

Same as page 1

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

Geoffrey Corn, (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.

Loxodonta Africana, 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:

N/A

b. Date wildlife is to be hunted:

N/A

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

N/A

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:

Balule Nature Reserve, near Hoedspruit South Africa

b. Date wildlife was hunted:

03/14/2019

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

Shumba Safaris PH- Jan Dumon

- 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]:

Safari Taxidermy

Goud Straat 47 Goud Street, Ladanna, Laboria, Polokwane, RSA

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). All documents 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:

Business Name: Safari Taxidermy Attn: Elaine Vosloo

Address: 47 Goud Street

City: Polokwane Ext 8

State/Province: Laboria, Polokwane

Country, Postal Code: RSA, 0699

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?

Yes, see attached information from the Balule Nature 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?

A portion of the fees went to the Balule Nature Reserve for future wildlife conservation projects. All of the elephant meat was distributed to local people both on and off the reserve nothing was wasted.

- 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?

Yes, see attached information on Balule Nature 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: 04/24/2020

*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).



# ORDINARY PERMIT

(Issued in terms of the provisions of the National Environmental Management: Biodiversity Act 2004, Act 10 of 2004)

PERMIT NUMBER: O No. 06680

NAME	KLASERIE SERVICE CENTRE
ADDRESS	ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS
PROVINCE	LIPOPO PROVINCE

DETAILS OF PERMIT HOLDER	
NAME	G.A.
SURNAME	BAN
POSTAL ADDRESS	
RESIDENTIAL ADDRESS	(b) (6)
ADDRESS	(b) (6)
ADDRESS	
ADDRESS	
TOWN	Springfontein
POSTAL CODE	510 81073
PROVINCE	USA

PROPERTY WHERE RESTRICTED ACTIVITIES WILL BE CARRIED OUT	
NAME AND SURNAME OF APPLICANT	
NAME AND SURNAME: RESPONSIBLE PERSON	
NAME AND SURNAME OF AGENT	
PHYSICAL ADDRESS OF FACILITY	Yankisakt, Bwambisakt 1
PHYSICAL ADDRESS OF FACILITY	Kamekoleu
DISTRICT	Mogale
PROVINCE	Limpopo
REGISTERED NAME AND NUMBER (in the case of game farm)	

DETAILS OF SPECIES INVOLVED				
COMMON NAME	SPECIES	SCIENTIFIC NAME	SEX (if known)	MARKING (if applicable)
Red cap hare		L. africanus	male	ac

DETAILS OF RESTRICTED ACTIVITIES INVOLVED	
Hunt one elephant in Balule	

NAME AND SURNAME OF PURCHASER/SELLER	
RESIDENTIAL ADDRESS OF PURCHASER/SELLER	

IN THE CASE OF INTERNATIONAL IMPORT/EXPORT:	
NATIONALITY AND SURNAME OF CONSIGNEE/CONSIGNOR	
RESIDENTIAL ADDRESS OF CONSIGNEE/CONSIGNOR	

IN THE CASE OF A HUNT:	
NAME AND SURNAME OF HUNTING CLIENT (if applicable)	G. Ban
NAME AND SURNAME OF PROFESSIONAL HUNTER (if applicable)	J. Du Toit
NAME AND SURNAME OF HUNTING OUTFITTER (if applicable)	J. Du Toit
WEAPON AND METHOD OF HUNTING	rifle / walk & stalk

IN THE CASE OF POSSESSION OF ELEPHANT IVORY OR RHINOCEROS HORN:	
WEIGHT OF EACH PIECE APPLIED FOR	
LENGTH OF THE ELEPHANT IVORY	
BASE CIRCUMFERENCE OF ELEPHANT IVORY OR RHINOCEROS HORN	
REGISTRATION NUMBER	
MICROCHIP NUMBER	

PERMIT VALIDATION	
PERIOD OF VALIDITY	FROM: 11/03/2019 TO: 11/04/2019
RECEIPT NUMBER	1125538
SIGNATURE OF ISSUING OFFICER:	(b) (6)
DATE STAMP:	11 MAR 2019
P.O. BOX 1470 HOLLISTERS 1350 TEL: 053 931 7410 FAX: 053 931 2572 LIMPOPO PROVINCE	



## HUNTING SPECIAL CONDITIONS- APNR

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1. This permit does not absolve the holder thereof in obtaining any other permit, licence, certificate or document as may be required by any other relevant legislation from any province or country.
2. This permit must be signed by the permit holder and must be in his/her possession for the duration of the hunt.
3. This permit does not allow the hunting with a bow and arrow or any other prohibited method unless specified on the permit.
4. This permit does not authorise the hunting during the night, unless specified on the permit
5. This permit does not allow the hunting of listed species which is under the influence of a tranquilising, narcotic, immobilising or similar agent,
6. If a wounded animal crosses into a neighbouring country, province or property the Department as well as the country where the animal entered into must be notified within 24 hours
7. No driving of listed species for the purpose of hunting is authorised.
8. The Department reserves the right to nominate an official to be present during any or all hunts conducted in accordance with this permit.
9. The outcome of the hunt in the case of TOPS threatened species must be reported within two working days after the listed species was hunted, the hunt terminated or in the case where the hunt was not successful. This office reserves the right to inspect the hunting sight or any relevant product of such hunt.
10. In the case where trophies will not be exported from RSA the permit holder must immediately apply for a TOPS Possession Permit in the case of TOPS species
11. Elephant tusks must be marked by an Environmental officer
12. A TOPS Ordinary permit is required to convey any part of any TOPS specie hunted to any facility within the country, except a taxidermy
13. The Department may require scientific information or material from the animal hunted.
14. The non-compliance with the permit details as well as these special conditions will result in criminal charges and may influence the granting of similar permits to the permit holder.
15. Issued in terms of the Limpopo Environmental Management Act 2003, Act no. 7 of 2003.
16. An elephant/ crocodile may not be hunted next to the waters edge of an international border
17. In the case of dangerous game the minimum calibre requirement is a 375.
18. This permit does not absolve the applicant from conforming to the norms and standards for hunting
19. No put and take system of hunting is allowed
20. No animal may be hunted in a controlled environment
21. The use of dogs may only be used to flush birds or track wounded animals
22. All international clients must be accompanied by a PH
23. In the case of RSA clients , trophies or derivatives may not be sold, donated or exported from the borders of RSA
24. The hunt must take place within the requirements as set out in the hunting protocols for the APNR
25. The Department reserves the right to monitor or attend any hunt within the APNR
26. Trophies may only be exported for elephant once the quota is approved by DEA

(b) (6)



**RHINO**

- 27. The Department must be informed 48 hours before the hunt takes place and a representative of the Department must be present during the hunt.
- 28. The horns may not be separated from the rest of the trophy.
- 29. The horns must be microchipped on the property where the hunt took place, unless already microchipped.
- 30. The PH register must be completed and signed immediately after the hunt.
- 31. The hunting permit and the copy of the PH register must accompany the trophy when being transported between destinations

**LARGE PREDATORS**

- 32. No large predator may be hunted if released in an area adjacent to a holding facility for large predators
- 33. May not be hunted by means of bait except in the case of leopard and hyena where dead bait may be used
- 34. May not be lured by sound or any other induced luring method to be hunted
- 35. May not be hunted in an enclosure and in the case of lion of 1000 ha and release at least 24 hours before the hunt
- 36. The use of a spot light may only be used in the case of hunting leopard and hyena.

  
Permit Officer

11/03/2019  
Date

ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS
KLASERIE SERVICE CENTRE
11 MAR 2019
P.O. BOX 1408 HOEDSPRUIT 1320 TEL: 015 793 2471 FAX: 015 793 2572
LIMPOPO PROVINCE

(b) (6)



**NORTHERN PROVINCE**

**WRITTEN PERMISSION TO HUNT**  
**(ARTICLE 47(2) (a) 0.12 OF 83)**

**A) PERSON GRANTING PERMISSION:**

FULL NAME :

*Ron Allen*

RESIDENTIAL ADDRESS :

*Lot 165 CT*

**B) DATE PERMISSION IS GRANTED :** *11/03/2014*

**C) FARM NAME, NUMBER AND DISTRICT :**

*Lot 165  
Grasslands  
Verine*

**D) PERSON TO WHOM PERMISSION IS GRANTED:**

FULL NAME :

*(b) (6)*

RESIDENTIAL ADDRESS :

*(b) (6)*

*Springfield CO USA*

**E) PARTICULARS OF WILD ANIMALS :**

NUMBERS	SPECIES	SEX
<i>1</i>	<i>Elephant</i>	<i>Male</i>

**G) PERIOD FOR WHICH PERMISSION IS GRANTED :**

DATE FROM : *11/03/2014*  
TO : *7/03/2019*

**H) SIGNATURE :**

PERSON GRANTING PERMISSION : *(b) (6)*

PERSON RECEIVING PERMISSION : *(b) (6)*

ANNEXURE (F)

**NORTHERN PROVINCE**  
**TRANSFER OF HUNTING RIGHTS**

**LAND OWNER**

NAME: Ron Allen  
ID. NUMBER: 8005145261085  
RESIDENTIAL ADDRESS: York 08  
FARM NAME & NO: York 188 Kt  
DISTRICT: Mpumali  
TEL CODE: ..... TEL NUMBER: 0825751566

**HUNTING OUTFITTER**

NAME: San Dimon  
ID. NUMBER: 6503065106081  
OUTFITTERS PERMIT NO: CA/1121/2017 EXPIRY DATE: 2018-09-15  
RESIDENTIAL ADDRESS: Chesler 235  
SAFARI COMPANY: Shamba Safari  
TEL CODE: ..... TEL NUMBER: 0824577908

**PARTICULARS OF WILD ANIMALS**

<u>SPECIES</u>	<u>NUMBER</u>	<u>SEX</u>
<u>Elephant</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>Male</u>
.....	.....	.....
.....	.....	.....
.....	.....	.....
.....	.....	.....

**PERIOD FOR WHICH HUNTING RIGHTS ARE TRANSFERRED:**

DATE FROM: 11/03/2014 EXEMPTION NO: .....  
DATE TO: 31/03/2019 EXPIRY DATE: .....

.....  
**SIGNATURE / LAND OWNER**

.....  
**DATE**

[Signature]  
.....

11/02/2019  
.....

# SOUTH AFRICAN PROFESSIONAL HUNTING REGISTER AND TROPHY EXPORT APPLICATION

Duration of Hunt: Commenced 11, 3, 2019 Terminated 17, 3, 2019  A. LP No 084282

Tick appropriate Province block where hunt took place (separate sheet for each Province)

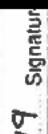
KwaZulu-Natal (KZN)   
  Free State (FS)   
  Gauteng (GP)   
  Limpopo Province (LP)   
  Mpumalanga (MPA)   
  Northern Cape (NC)   
  Western Cape (WC)   
  Eastern Cape (EC)

POST PERMIT TO (Mark correct block with X)

**PROFESSIONAL HUNTER**

Name: Sam Dymov  
 Business Address: Chester 235 kt  
Heedspruit 1380  
 ID No: 6803065106081  
 PH Permit No: ZALP/84710  
 Date: 17/3/2019 Signature: 

**CLIENT**

Name: GEOFFREY ALAN CORN  
 Permanent Postal Address: [REDACTED]  
SPRINGFIELD, CO  
 Code of Provinces: USA  
 Passport No: [REDACTED]  
 Tel/Fax: [REDACTED]  
 Date: 17/03/2019 Signature: 

**HUNTING OUTFITTER**

Name: Sam Dymov  
 Business Address: Chester 235 kt  
Heedspruit Code 1380  
 ID No: 6803065106081  
 Tel No: 0824574888 Fax No: [REDACTED]  
 HO Permit No: ZALP/84711  
 Date: 17/3/2019 Signature: 

Farm Name: 188 kt Dymov  
 Registration No: 188 kt Dymov  
 Magisterial District: Heedspruit  
 Name & Residential Address of Land Owner: Sam Dymov  
188 kt Dymov  
Heedspruit

Hunting Permit Certificate/Licence No: 06680  
 Date of Hunt: From 11/3/2019 To 17/3/2019  
 Species Killed or Wounded: Eleyphant

Number Killed or Wounded: 1  
 Sex:  F  M  
 Part of Trophy to be Exported: X Full Skin  
X Antlers  
X Tusk  
X Skull  
X Horns  
X Feet

Copies: Client  Original  1st copy  2nd copy  Last copy

Forward to Nature Conservation authority where hunt took place  
 Retain for a period of three years  
 Remains in book

Address to which trophies are to be sent: AS above.

Country: \_\_\_\_\_ Trophy Export Date (Estimate): \_\_\_\_\_ Code: \_\_\_\_\_



## **Sustainability and the Funding of the Balule Nature Reserve**

### **Managing a Private Nature Reserve**

In 1990, a group of conservation minded landowners formed the Balule Nature Reserve Association to restore and protect the landscape of a large wilderness area. Since then protected areas in the Kruger Lowveld have grown dramatically. With the dropping of fences in 1993 between the Balule, neighbouring private nature reserves, and the Kruger National Park, a large, thriving, unfenced protected space was created that now forms part of the Greater Limpopo Transfrontier Conservation Area (GLTFCA).

Today, the Balule conservation ideal persists, albeit under rapidly changing and unpredictable circumstances. The complexities of managing a large private nature reserve increase every day. A good example of this is the relentless challenge we face in dealing with rhino poaching. In our reserve alone, the costs for security and anti-poaching have escalated by a staggering 900% in the last 7 years, taking up 63% of our annual operating budget. And while we fight against organised crime and illegal wildlife trade, other serious challenges need to be faced - like integrating the Greater Kruger wilderness and surrounding communities in ways that are sustainable and that reduce the risk of protected area fragmentation.

Whilst private nature reserves are vital pieces of the Greater Kruger landscape puzzle, it is not commonly known that these private reserves receive no government funding. All

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funds have to be generated by the reserves themselves - funds to cover the costs of anti-poaching, salaries of wardens, ecologists and other staff, conducting expensive aerial censuses to monitor animal populations, monitoring vegetation conditions, controlling alien plants and maintaining roads, fire breaks and fences to name a few.

Finding a sustainable funding model (as a non-profit organisation), that does not compromise a reserves' commitment to minimising ecological footprint and maximising conservation goals, is perhaps the ultimate test faced by many private nature reserves in the Greater Kruger today.

## **Sustainable Utilisation as a Funding Model**

Balule's regions rely on income generated from 2 forms of sustainable utilisation - photographic tourism and hunting, and the largest component of the total income is landowner levies. The hunting has a much lighter landscape footprint and yields far more revenue per capita for the reserve than the photographic income. To address imbalance, reserve management embarked on an analysis of the reserve's financial model in 2017, revealing that the conservation levies paid by the photographic tourists (a few thousand) who visited the reserve that year was less than a third of the income earned from the 25 commercial hunters visiting over the same period.

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Our regions have in the last few years increase their respective conservation fees to photographic tourists, and the non-commercial regions have increased their landowner levies to support the budget and keep our commitment to minimize our total footprint and still cover the escalating costs.

Photographic tourism and hunting rely on sound reserve management, enabling a healthy ecosystem, which supports stable plant and animal populations. Balule Nature Reserve monitors wildlife populations closely through annual aerial censuses and conducts annual routine vegetation assessments to determine veld condition. The reserve is fortunate to have accurate data spanning more than two decades, and our data shows that the total

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animal population in Balule continues to grow. This includes elephant, whose numbers are declining in other areas around Africa.

## **The Bigger Picture**

Balule Nature Reserve has always stayed true to the principle that human footprint in the form of infrastructure development and visitor numbers is in conflict with sustainable management of wilderness areas. To support the low-density principles that Balule promotes, natural resources can and must be used sustainably. Sustainable utilisation includes all our activities that use nature as a resource, including photographic safari tourism and hunting, our annual impala culling that is done to ease grazing pressure on the ecosystem, water resource use, and the harvesting of wood and sand from the natural landscape.

Both photographic tourism and hunting are compatible funding practices and we call on all our Greater Kruger partners to work together to govern these activities with integrity and careful oversight. We call on everyone with a stake in conservation to focus on the real, big-picture issues, such as benefitting local businesses within the wildlife economy, finding innovative ways to help local communities derive income from wildlife activities, the growing relevance of wilderness spaces and protected areas in the lives of people living in and around the Greater Kruger, and the collective pressure of bringing *illegal* practices in wilderness areas to a halt.

We also call on the media and the public at large to take a landscape-level view when appraising the management practices of private reserves. Our relevance in the collective landscape leads to integration of wilderness spaces to the benefit of all animals and plants within the bigger system. We should take hands, put aside differences, and work together to prevent fragmentation of an integrated and sustainable Greater Kruger.

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## Our 2019 Funding Model

With landowner levies, photographic tourism and hunting being the three major components in the funding model of our regions, our proposed approach for 2020 is as follows:

Regions will increase their conservation levies and landowner levies and to keep hunting contributions to below 25% of the total operating budget across all regions (Average). This increase is in line with the increases applied by the Kruger National Park for its entrance fees, and will provide the necessary revenue for the reserve while keeping our tourism footprint at ecologically sustainable levels. The projected contribution to Balule's budget (consolidated) income from landowner levies and Conservation fees will contribute 75% of the total consolidated budget for 2020.

In addition to this, the tables below show the proposed hunting quotas for 2020 that Balule has submitted and has been approved by the authorities. Our quota has been ENDORSED by SANParks this year and all previous years. Some important points are highlighted below with regards to the figures in these tables.

Species	Category	Quantity	% of population
Elephant Bulls	20-30 years (25 lbs. per side)	4	0.55%
	25-30 years (30 lbs. per side)	11	1,5%
	30-35 years (40 lbs. per side)	5	0.69%
Cape Buffalo			
	Buffalo Bulls <38"	2	0.48%
	Buffalo Bulls <34"	3	0.70%
Kudu	Bulls	12	1,3%

<b>Impala</b>	Rams	110	1.11%
<b>Bushbuck</b>	Rams	2	3,0%
<b>Waterbuck</b>	Bulls	8	2.0%

The table above shows the animals allocated to be sold as hunts to raise revenue for the reserve. The meat derived from 12 of the elephants hunted will be given to 250 small children and old age homes in the Maseke community (large landowner within Balule). In this way, closer links are forged with the reserve's communities neighbours who share the Greater Kruger landscape.

**Table 2:  
Balule Nature Reserve – 2020/2021 Hunting Quota Request – Non-Commercial**

<b>Species</b>	<b>Category</b>	<b>Quantity</b>	<b>% of population</b>
<b>Warthog</b>	Non-selective	16	5,9%
<b>Kudu</b>	Cows	13	1.48%
<b>Impala</b>	Non Selective	450	4,5%

Those animals allocated for non-commercial hunts, as shown above in Table 2, do not raise revenue for the reserve. In the case of impala, hunting is used for population control.

**Table 3:  
Balule Nature Reserve – 2020/2021 Hunting Quota Request – Non-Commercial**

<b>Species</b>	<b>Category</b>	<b>Quantity</b>	<b>% of population</b>
<b>Impala</b>	Non Selective	1000	10.15%

The 1,000 impala to be hunted, shown in Table 3 above, form part of the reserves management program deemed necessary to reduce the impact impala have on the availability of grazing and hence on that available to other herbivores.

The culling programme represents over 90% of the reserve's hunting quota request and includes animals to be removed by Balule management (1 000 animals – Table 3), as well as those to be removed by landowners within the reserve (479 animals – Table 2). Culling

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programmes are costly and time-consuming, but are essential for the continued health of the reserve, and culling decisions are informed by annual vegetation condition studies.

The above figures represent around 25 commercial hunters visiting the Balule during 2020, with less than 1,08% of the Balule's total animal population allocated for commercial hunts. In 2020, the budgeted income from hunting will represent approximately 25% of the reserve's total income (consolidated amongst all regions).

## **Protocols and Best Practice in the Greater Kruger**

In 2018, the protocols that govern sustainable hunting in the open system were revised and standardised. As a member of the Greater Kruger, Balule participated in this process, together with other private reserves, industry representatives, Kruger National Park, Mpumalanga Tourism and Parks Agency (MTPA), Limpopo Department of Economic Development, Environment and Tourism (LEDET), and various specialists. This revised protocol covers all provincial and national legislation, as well as TOPS (Threatened or Protected Species) requirements, and places more responsibility on the hunting outfitter and professional hunter, with a penalty system in place to fine non-compliance. The protocol further dictates that should the outfitter or professional hunter routinely transgress, then s/he will be banned from the reserves in addition to being fined.

Not a single hunt takes place without the scrutiny of census data and other ecological specialist studies. Our reserve managers, representatives from other reserves in the open system, LEDET, SANParks and other scientific experts, attend pre-off-take meetings. Our hunting application is scrutinised and conservation authorities consider ecological sustainability, the contribution that hunting will make to the running-costs of our reserve, and importantly, how the hunting revenue will support conservation in the open system, beyond the boundaries of just our own reserve.

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In parallel with the revised hunting protocol, an initiative is well underway to implement a "Responsible Tourism Best Practice Toolkit for the Greater Kruger". This toolkit, the development of which is a joint effort between Kruger National Park, the various private reserves adjoining the national park, the Department of Environment, Forestry, and Fisheries (DEFF), and tourism stakeholders, will lay down minimum standards and rules for tourism operators to adhere to within the Greater Kruger open system. The toolkit will also set aspirational goals of best practice, with guidelines on how to achieve these. This initiative recognises the need to regulate, monitor and control photographic tourism activities within the Greater Kruger, to ensure that these practices are sustainable, in much the same way as hunting activities are governed by protocols to ensure their sustainability.

Balule is already implementing the new Greater Kruger Hunting Protocol and is actively participating on the steering committee for the development of the Responsible Tourism Best Practice Toolkit for the Greater Kruger. We are proud to be part of these multi-sector initiatives to ensure that both photographic tourism and hunting are sustainable, ethical and beneficial to a wide range of stakeholders.

## **Socio economic impact of Balule Nature Reserve.**

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South Africa is currently in an unemployment crisis. Rural communities are especially hard hit by this. Balule's regions provide much needed jobs to the communities surrounding the Reserve. In many cases 1 employed person supports the entire extended family. For each job that is created on the Reserve an entire family is usually supported. Therefore, the total people impacted can be as much as 5 times the actual number of jobs created.

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**Jobs in Balule:**

Total jobs: 985

Up to 40% of the jobs created are skilled.

Direct salary benefits in excess of R 53 million.

Contract workers or temporary employment numbers are between 400 & 600 at any one time. Therefore, the Reserve and all its activities including hunting benefit or contribute to the welfare of an estimated 4000 people in the communities surrounding the Reserve

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