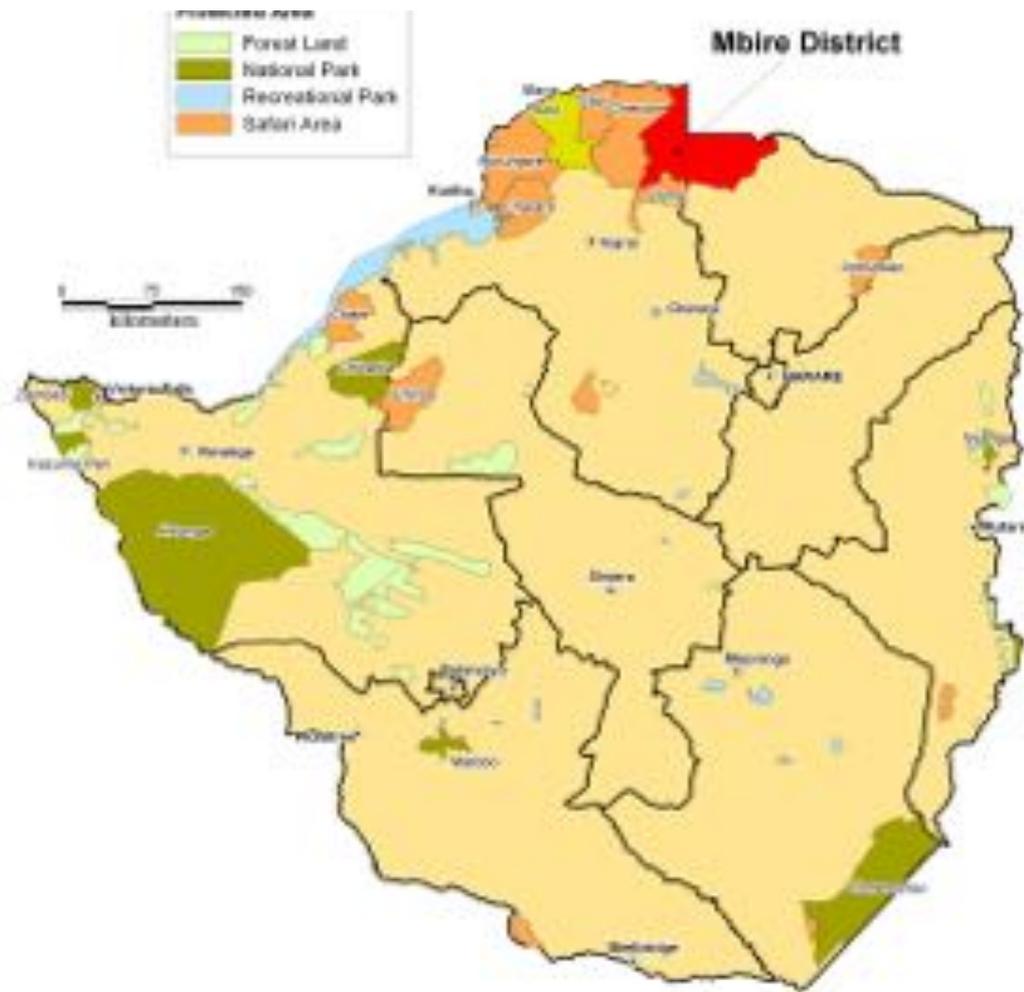


DAPU

DANDE ANTI POACHING UNIT



Introduction

As you probably all know, **Charlton McCallum Safaris** is a hunting operator in the “Dande North” which is in the Mbire District. The concessions are made up of:

Dande North (communal land wards 1 & 2) = 77,500 hectares.
Dande Safari Area (National Parks) = 55,000 hectares.
Dande East (communal land wards 4 ,11,12) = 50,000 hectares
Total = **182,500 hectares**

79 % of the area is “communal land” with a core National Parks concession. All this we operate in a genuine partnership with the council and communities under the CAMPFIRE program.

Because of:

1. People living in the area.
2. The sheer size of the Mbire district and
3. The huge and porous borders between Zimbabwe, Mozambique and Zambia.

We face a much, much larger challenge than most. For our district the CAMPFIRE model simply has got to work. People MUST get FAIR value for their game, or all is lost. So our anti poaching and conservation efforts are under pinned by:

1. **Strong administrative, legal and financial** i.e. we make sure that all hunting proceeds are correctly channeled into producer ward accounts.
2. **Strong Sustainable Trophy Hunting Program** – through adaptive quota setting and adherence to the Parks and Wildlife Act and Industry code of conduct.
3. **Strong Conservation benefits** – early burning, roads, anti poaching, general stewardship.
4. **Strong Social benefits** – transparent on-time payments, employment and meat distribution.

1 Administrative, legal and financial.

At Charlton McCallum Safaris, we have always prided ourselves at being strong in the administrative, legal and economic departments.

All of our professional hunters are members of ZPGHA, CM Safaris is a paid up member of SOAZ and Myles McCallum has served on the SOAZ executive committee for 4 years.

It is extremely important to get all the administrative, legal and economics' of sport hunting correct, because ultimately the animals have to be worth money to all stakeholders in order to have broad buy in. The stakes are high for all parties to get the anti poaching and general best management practices right, as this reflects directly into the bottom line profit and thus makes it much, much easier to get everyone pulling in the same direction.

Please see slides showing distribution of revenue to Wards, National Parks, Council, ZTA and Campfire Association.

2013

Dande Safari Area, Dande North and Dande East - actual payments to National Parks and Communities

	<u>Hunting</u>	<u>Social Funds</u>	<u>Bird quota/ Camp rental</u>	<u>Total</u>	
<u>Council</u>	US\$206,624.0	US\$47,000.0	US\$3,000.0	US\$256,624.0	
<u>Parks</u>	US\$190,994.0	US\$0.0	US\$0.0	US\$190,994.0	
<u>Ward 4</u>	US\$27,365.0	US\$4,000.0	US\$3,500.0	US\$34,865.0	
<u>Ward 10</u>	US\$2,000.0	US\$1,000.0	US\$0.0	US\$3,000.0	
<u>Ward 11</u>	US\$21,057.0	US\$2,000.0	US\$0.0	US\$23,057.0	
<u>Ward 12</u>	US\$6,000.0	US\$2,500.0	US\$0.0	US\$8,500.0	
<u>Ward 1</u>	US\$41,237.5	US\$5,500.0	US\$0.0	US\$46,737.5	
<u>Ward 2</u>	US\$59,947.5	US\$5,500.0	US\$0.0	US\$65,447.5	
<u>Campfire</u>	US\$12,608.0	US\$0.0	US\$0.0	US\$12,608.0	
<u>ZTA</u>	US\$	US\$0.0	US\$0.0	US\$29,799.00	
<u>DAPU</u>	US\$0.0	US\$0.0	US\$0.0	US\$60,000.0	(estimated)
<u>Total Paid</u>	<u>US\$567,833.0</u>	<u>US\$67,500.0</u>	<u>US\$6,500.0</u>	<u>US\$731,632.00</u>	

2014

Dande Safari Area, Dande North and Dande East - actual payments to National Parks and Communities

	Hunting	Social Funds	Camp rental/ bird quota	Total	
<u>Council</u>	US\$225,172.0	US\$47,000.0	US\$3,000.0	US\$275,172.0	
<u>Parks</u>	US\$147,374.0	US\$0.0	US\$0.0	US\$147,374.0	
<u>Ward 4</u>	US\$33,520.0	US\$4,000.0	US\$3,000.0	US\$40,520.0	
<u>Ward 10</u>	US\$525.0	US\$1,000.0	US\$0.0	US\$1,525.0	
<u>Ward 11</u>	US\$26,597.8	US\$2,000.0	US\$0.0	US\$28,597.8	
<u>Ward 12</u>	US\$0.0	US\$2,500.0	US\$0.0	US\$2,500.0	
<u>Ward 1</u>	US\$49,217.0	US\$5,500.0	US\$0.0	US\$54,717.0	
<u>Ward 2</u>	US\$71,352.3	US\$5,500.0	US\$0.0	US\$76,852.3	
<u>Campfire</u>	US\$14,650.0	US\$0.0	US\$0.0	US\$14,650.0	
<u>ZTA</u>	US\$24,466.00	\$0	\$0	US\$24,466.00	
<u>DAPU</u>	US\$0.0	US\$0.0	US\$0.0	US\$71,968.0	(actual)
<u>Total Paid</u>	<u>US\$568,408.1</u>	<u>US\$67,500.0</u>	<u>US\$6,000.0</u>	<u>US\$738,342.00</u>	

2015

Dande Safari Area, Dande North and Dande East - actual payments to National Parks and Communities

	Hunting	Social funds	Camp rental/ Bird quota	Total	Notes
Council	\$166,022.75	\$47,000.00	\$4,000.00	\$171,693.00	
Parks	\$146,158.00	\$0	\$0	\$146,158.00	
Ward 4	\$22,261.91	\$4,000.00	\$3,500	\$29,762.00	
Ward 10	\$3,862.50	\$1,000.00	\$0	\$4,862.00	
Ward 11	\$15,950.05	\$2,000.00	\$0	\$17,950.00	
Ward 12	\$0	\$2,500.00	\$0	\$2,500.00	
Ward 1	\$35,582.86	\$5,500.00	\$0	\$41,082.00	
Ward 2	\$56,419.73	\$5,500.00	\$0	\$61,919.00	
Campfire	\$9,715.00	\$0	\$0	\$9,715.00	
ZTA	\$18,164.00	\$0	\$0	\$18,164.00	
DAPU	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$74,813.00	(Actual)
<u>Total Paid</u>	<u>\$474,136,8</u>	<u>\$67,500.00</u>	<u>\$7,500.00</u>	<u>\$549,136.00</u>	

2016

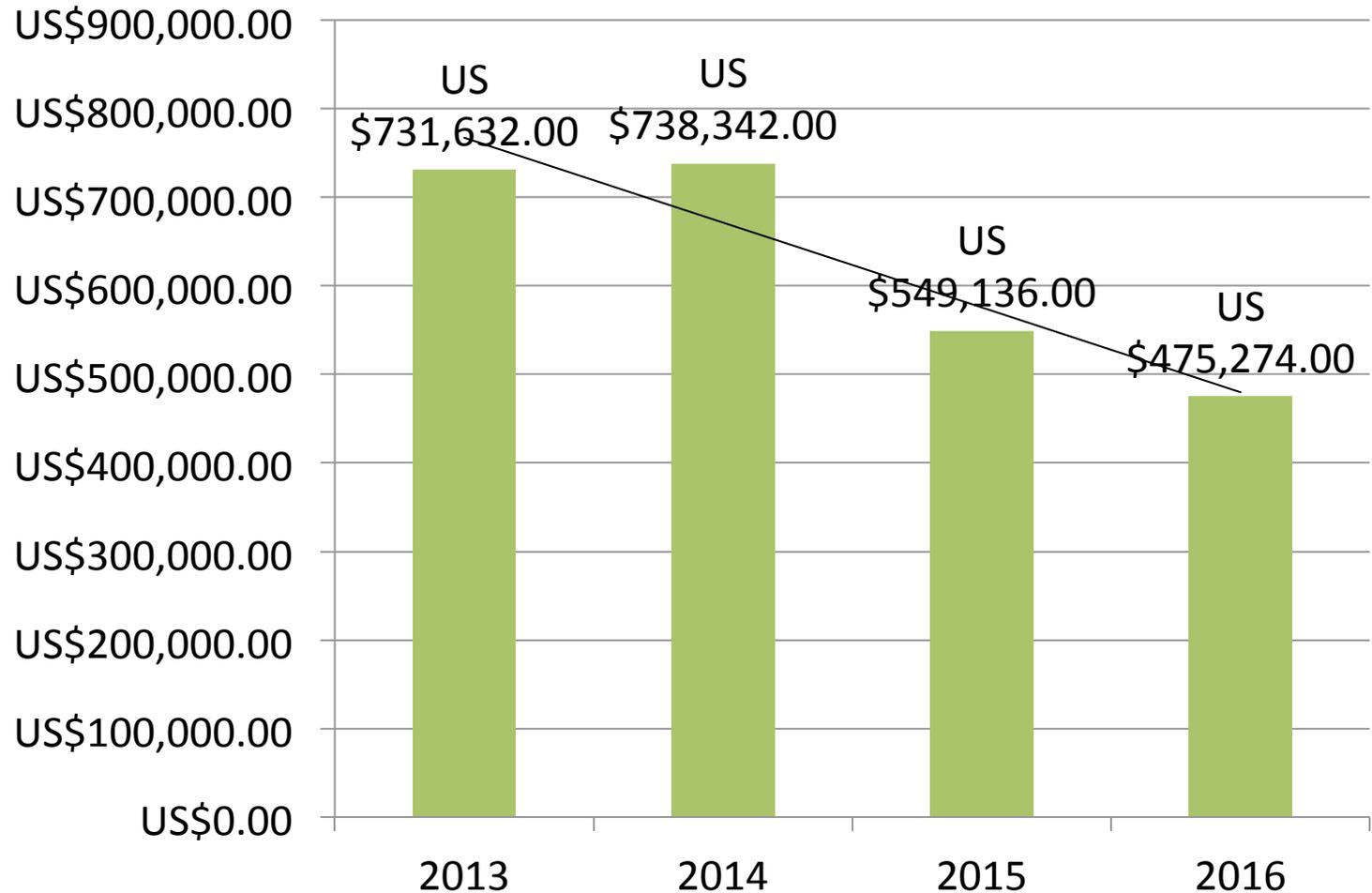
Dande Safari Area, Dande North and Dande East - actual payments to National Parks and Communities

	Hunting	Social funds	Camp rental/ Bird quota	Total	Notes
Council	\$79,010.00	\$47,000	\$3,000.00	\$129,010.00	
Parks	\$119,190.00	\$0	\$0	\$119,190.00	
Ward 4	\$11,300.00	\$4,000.00	\$3,000	\$18,300	
Ward 9& 10	\$611.61	\$1,000.00	\$0	1,611.61	
Ward 11	\$6,875.00	\$2,000.00	\$0	\$8,875.00	
Ward 12	\$0.00	\$2,500.00	\$0	\$2,500.00	
Ward 1	\$44,894	\$5,500.00	\$0	\$50,394.00	
Ward 2	\$22,195	\$5,500.00	\$0	\$27,695.00	
Campfire	\$6,879.00	\$0	\$0	\$6,879.00	
ZTA	\$15,814.77	\$0	\$0	\$15,814.00	
DAPU	\$95,006	\$0	\$0	\$95,006.00	(Actual)
<u>Total Paid</u>	<u>\$401,775.38</u>	<u>\$67,500.00</u>	<u>\$6,000.00</u>	<u>\$475,274.00</u>	

Four year earnings in US\$ Dande – decrease due to USFWS elephant and lion bans.

Note 36% decrease in earnings in 2016 compared to 2014

Note combined loss in revenue \$452,274.00 2015 and 2016 combined



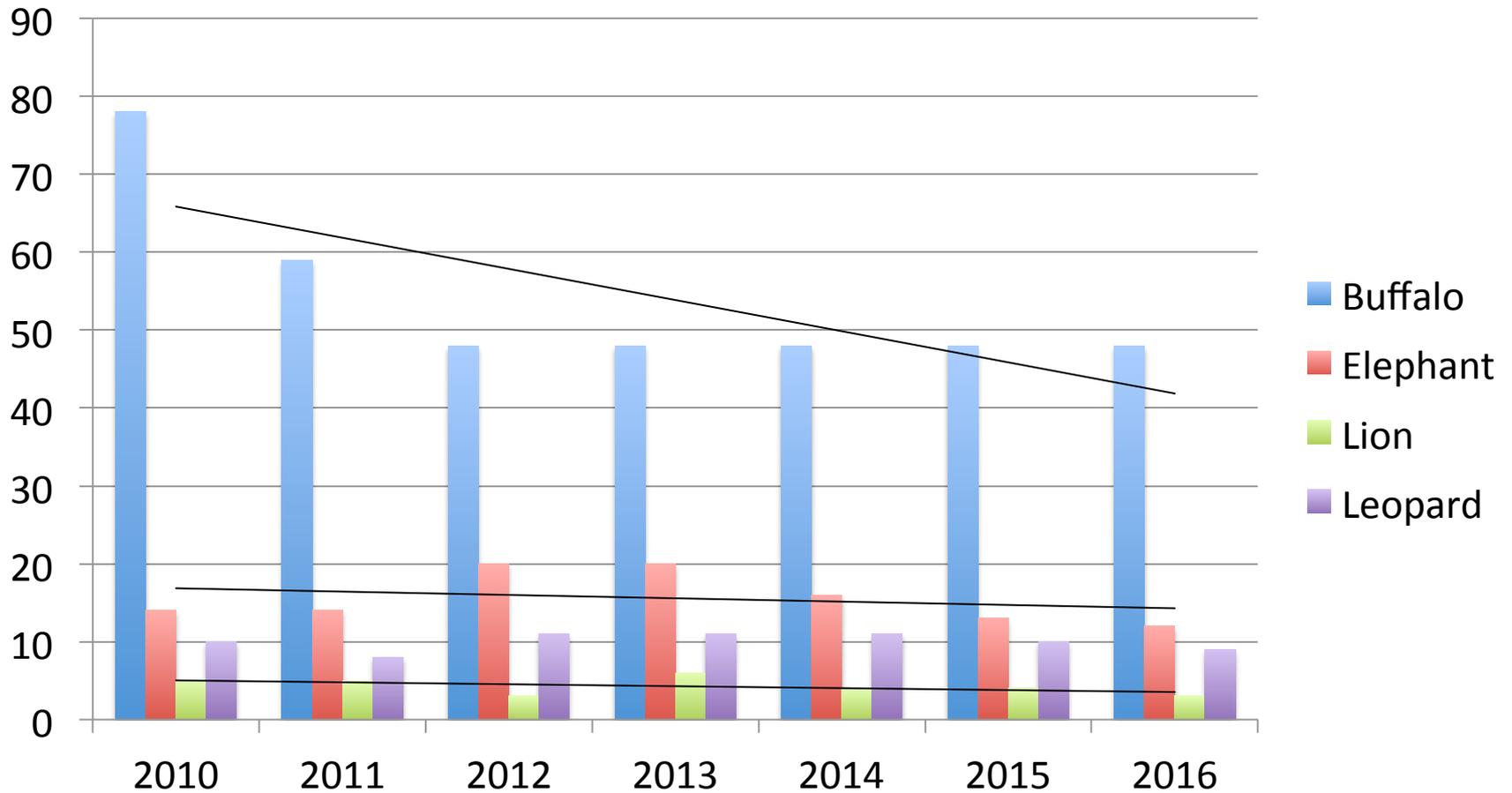
2 SUSTAINABLE HUNTING PROGRAM **(Adaptive quota setting)**

Zimbabwe uses an “adaptive quota setting system”. Information is collected annually at different levels at workshops, and is fed into the national plan. At the end of this, the government of Zimbabwe issues a “sport hunting quota ”per area.

1. Ward quota setting – information is collected at ward level amongst the villages.
2. Company quota setting – CM Safaris collects information from scouts, staff and professional hunters.
3. District quota setting – information from ward and company quota setting is fed into the District plan.
4. Provincial quota setting – The results from the Mbire district quota setting feeds into the Provincial plan at the quota setting workshop.
5. National quota setting – this is done by provincial ecologists from National Parks in conjunction with the Ministry of Environment Water and Climate.

All sorts of information is collected – water hole counts, aerial counts, spoor transects, trophy quality trends, trophy ages and it is surprisingly accurate. National parks is able to cross reference numbers from all these different sources.

Sustainable Trophy Hunting Program
(Adaptive quota setting)
Mbire North, Dande Safari Area and Dande East.



3 Social Responsibility and Benefits.

Some of the things that Charlton McCallum Safaris does annually:

1. Pays \$67,500.00 per annum to individual wards and council (as per tables above). This money is used per Ward and Council's discretion and must be on a capital project (house, classroom block etc...).
2. Fair and on-time distribution of revenue as per contract (see tables above)
3. Distribution of meat.
4. As per contract, we only employ locals and our annual wage bill is + \$110,000 per annum (not listed in any tables above).
5. Attention to Problem animal reports.
6. Financial and physical contributions towards National holidays (Heroes, Independence, Christmas).
7. Contributions to orphans and kids in need.
8. Various sponsorships towards soccer teams and tournaments.
9. Recognition and sponsorship of the local "spirit mediums" as per local culture.
10. Financial and physical help towards main road maintenance.

3 Conservation Benefits

At Charlton McCallum Safaris we pride ourselves on having the very finest:

1. Early burning and fire management.
2. Road maintenance for - ease of access, fire breaks and security.
3. New roads into areas previously unmanaged.
4. Anti poaching – DAPU.
5. Water – dams and boreholes.
6. Cut lines and boundaries to help with zoning.

All of this has meant a real long term improvement in all aspects of the concession – greater game populations, lower poaching and greater community benefits.





Practical anti poaching.

1. Poor rural communities on the **frontline** of elephant and human conflict zones **simply will not tolerate any crop damage and will take the law in to their own hands.** These same communities are what we call **the producer wards** and currently they enjoy the benefits of hunting.

2. Currently the communities in producer wards act as our eyes and ears and actually do not want to see their hunting benefits being depleted by poachers. HOWEVER, if there are no rewards to be had from legal hunting they will in turn actively assist or actually poach those same elephants for reward.

3. The use of **POISON** is a **GAME CHANGER.** Not only are poisons readily available, but also their use is almost risk free from a poachers point of view – silent and supremely efficient . They have an added benefit from a poachers/ disgruntled communities point of view of killing lions, leopards and hyenas too.

DAPU – on the ground operations.

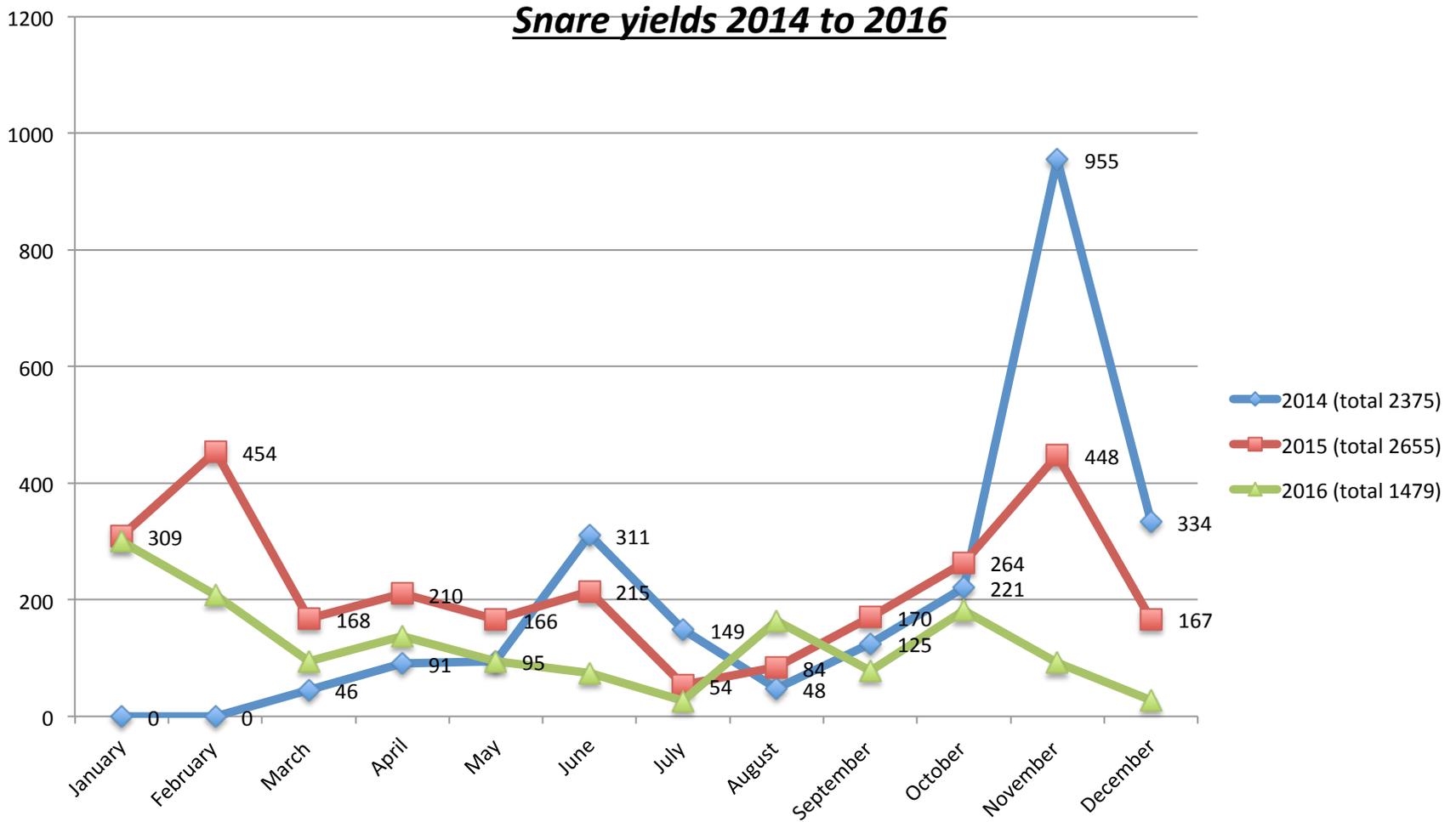
We found when we began in 2010 that the “community scouts” were thoroughly discouraged as often they went up to a year without any pay. Immediately we began support of the community scouts (10 to begin with) in Dande East. The ward paid them half their salary and we paid the other half as well as fed and equipped them. The results were gratifying and almost immediately the poachers were on the back foot and thousands of snares had been picked up and dozens of poachers were arrested.

DAPU has;

1. Two full time “managers” employed.
2. Two dedicated land cruisers allocated.
3. 22 “community scouts” under DAPU control.
4. Access to 18 “Council Scouts”.
5. Access to 18 “Parks Rangers”.

3 year poaching trend 2014 , 2015 and 2016 (indexed in snares found).

You will notice a gradual downwards trend and also a massive decrease during the hunting season



Elephant poaching statistics
(90% accurate)

Year	No of Carcasses
2010	40
2011	36
2012	16
2013	4
2014	9
2015	4
2016	7

DAPU Reward for Anti Poaching efforts/incentive

Category 1 - elephant poaching (all rewards paid on conviction ONLY)

	Reward/ Tariff	Paid to
"Gunner" or shooter ea.	500	Scouts involved in arrests
Accomplices ea.	250	Scouts involved in arrests
Informer/Information	100	To informers/informant
Sergeant/Manager per "gunner"	150	CMS Manager (Bongi/ Muno)
Sergeant/Manager per "accomplice"	100	CMS Manager (Bongi/ Muno)

Category 2 - meat poaching (all rewards paid on conviction ONLY)

	Reward/ Tariff	Paid to
Poacher ea.	100	Scouts involved in arrests
Dogs ea.	10	Scouts involved in arrests
Snare ea.	2	Scouts involved
Informer/Information	50	To informers/informant
Sergeant/Manager (per poacher)	50	CMS Manager (Bongi/ Muno)

- Category 3 - fish poaching (all rewards on conviction ONLY)

	Reward/ Tariff	Paid to
Poacher ea.	100	Scouts involved in arrests
Dogs ea.	10	Scouts involved in arrests
Snares ea.	2	Scouts involved
Informer/Information	50	To informers/informant
Sergeant/Manager (per poacher)	50	CMS Manager (Bongi/ Muno)

2014 Successes

	No. Snares	Dogs shot	Meat poachers convicted	Elephant poachers convicted	Weapons retrieved	Nets retrieved	Poached elephants	Canoes confiscated	Rewards paid
March	46	2	5	0	2	1	0	1	422
April	91	1	0	0	4	0	0	0	212
May	95	1	2	0	4	0	0	0	670
June	311	0	6	0	5	0	0	0	1597
July	149	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	503
August	48	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	96
September	125	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	250
October	221	2	2	0	1	0	0	0	597
November	955	2	2	2	2	0	0	0	4190
December	334	0	1	2	3	0	0	0	1065
	<u>2375</u>	<u>9</u>	<u>19</u>	<u>4</u> <u>(1Deceased)</u>	<u>22</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>9</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>\$9,602</u>

2015 Successes

	No. Snares	Dogs shot	Meat poachers convicted	Elephant poachers convicted	Weapons retrieved	Nets retrieved	Poached Elephants	Canoes confiscated	Rewards paid
January	309	0	5	0	0	0	0	0	1518
February	454	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	908
March	168	1	1	0	0	0	1	0	336
April	210	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	420
May	166	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	166
June	161	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	176
July	54	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	97
August	84	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	135
September	172	7	0	0	9	0	0	0	386
October	264	6	2	0	0	0	0	0	899
November	448	5	1	5	2	0	1	0	3493
December	167	0	1 (leopard)	0	0	0	0	0	710
	<u>2655</u>	<u>20</u>	<u>11</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>11</u>		<u>4</u>		<u>\$9,244.00</u>

2016 successes

	No. Snares	Dogs shot	Meat poachers convicted	Elephant poachers convicted	Weapons retrieved	Nets retrieved	Poached Elephants	Canoes confiscated	Rewards paid
January	300	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	821
February	208	0	0	2	0	0	2	0	978
March	95	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	97
April	137	0	1	0	2	0	0	0	321
May	94	0	5	0	4	0	0	0	1310
June	75	0	0	0	0	0	4	0	83
July	27	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	67
August	164	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	254
September	78	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	97
October	181	0	2	0	1	0	0	0	447
November	92	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	442
December	28	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	532
	<u>1479</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>12</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>25</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>\$5,499.00</u>

DAPU 2014,2015,2016 Budgets

DAPU actual 2016 BUDGET and proposed 2017.						
	2017 Budget	% Variance	2016 actual	2016 (proposed)	2015 (actual)	2014 (actual)
<u>Receipts</u>	-		-		-	-
From Sylvarnus Trust, SCI & clients	US\$50,571	48%	US\$50,571	US\$34,056.00	US\$34,956.00	US\$35,904.00
Charlton McCallum Safaris	US\$44,435	-5%	US\$44,435	US\$46,653.00	US\$49,756.70	US\$36,064.00
	US\$95,006	18%	US\$95,006	US\$80,709	US\$84,713	US\$71,968
<u>Less Expenses</u>			-			
Wages (scouts)	US\$14,300	0%	US\$14,300	US\$14,300.00	US\$14,300.00	US\$13,075.00
Management	US\$20,865	15%	US\$20,865	US\$18,200.00	US\$18,200.00	US\$18,200.00
Rations (from January x 22 scouts).	US\$9,240	0%	US\$9,240	US\$9,240.00	US\$9,240.00	US\$7,980.00
Rewards	US\$5,449	-43%	US\$5,449	US\$9,582.00	US\$9,582.00	US\$9,602.00
Equipment	US\$14,937	76%	US\$14,937	US\$8,500.00	US\$2,603.00	US\$6,861.00
Landcruiser operating costs	US\$30,215	45%	US\$30,215	US\$20,888.00	US\$20,888.00	US\$16,250.00
	US\$95,006	18%	US\$95,006	US\$80,710.00	US\$74,813.00	US\$71,968.00
<u>Shortfall</u>	US\$0	0%	US\$0	-US\$1.00	US\$0.00	US\$0.00

Biggest Challenges

1. Financial-With by far the biggest area to look after and with the most challenges I am sure I join the list of all other organizations here pleading poverty. We really are under-staffed and short of kit but are doing our best with what we can afford.
2. Short leases – are a challenge as there is little incentive to plough back in to Anti poaching and communities.
3. Meddling foreign politicians i.e the communities and National Parks lost \$452,274.00 in 2015 and 2016 (compared to 2014). This is a direct result of the elephant and lion import ban to the USA. We expect a further drop in 2017. All this affects us (who no one cares about) as well as the communities – who people ought to care about. Ultimately at a time when we all need to be spending more money on anti poaching, that ability has been eroded by the EU and USFWS.
4. We have a border with Mozambique of over 100Km's and poaching there is rife and out of control. This directly affects our operations.
5. We have a porous 15km border with Zambia – which is a common threat with other folk here.
6. Human population increases.
7. Often times hugely lenient sentences by the judiciary.

Conclusion

Generally in Dande we are quite pleased with our results. I think especially if one takes into account the immense size of the area and other complicating factors I have already mentioned.

With the help of all our hunting clients, together with DAPU, National Parks and the Mbire RDC we have managed to:

- Keep safe the habitat in key areas.
- Improve game populations by approximately 50 – 100% in seven years.
- Improve the lives of the local people.
- Reduce poaching to an all time low.

All this has been achieved on a sustainable, long term basis. However if the district is to catapult itself into the next category up, then we will need funding for sure. There is huge potential for much greater game populations and that will lead to much better economies long term.

MBIRE POPULATION
(ORANGE ARE WARDS RELATED TO CAMPFIRE)

ward	Males	Females	Total	House holds
1	1558	1622	3180	705
2	2337	2514	4851	1149
3	3073	3033	6106	1337
4	3529	3587	7116	1578
5	2608	2681	5289	1192
6	1950	2112	4062	900
7	1293	1256	2549	569
8	4182	4235	8417	1751
9	2462	2437	4899	1126
10	3414	3503	6917	1489
11	829	809	1638	332
12	3292	3493	6785	1508
13	2820	2925	5745	1258
14	1235	1174	2409	553
15	2464	2698	5162	1224
16	1493	1503	2996	624
17	1920	1892	3812	834
Total	40459	41474	81933	18129

PAC HISTORY TO DATE 2015

ANIMALS KILLED ON PAC

Animal	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Elephant	9	16	14	11	12	7	8	6	2	7	8	4	5
Buffalo	10	9	15	12	12	8	6	1	0	1	1	1	0
Crocodile	0	2	0	0	0	4	1	2	1	0	1	1	2
Lion	0	0	0	0	0	2	1	12	1	0	1	2	1
Hippo	1	0	0	0	1	3	2	0	0	1	1	1	0

DOMESTIC ANIMALS KILLED BY LIONS JAN 2010 TO 2015

Ward	Cattle	Donkey	Goat	Dog	Chicken	
1. Kanyemba		1	0	60	6	0
2. Angwa		25	10	48	0	0
3. Shange		22	8	30	0	0
4. Gonono		20	10	20	0	0
7. Hambe		30	5	15	0	0
8. Mhokwe		30	0	10	0	0
9. Mushumbi		12	0	10	0	0
10. Chitsungo		60	12	35	1	0
11. Masoka		0	2	20	103	74
TOTAL		200	47	248	110	74

HUMAN AND WILDLIFE CONFLICT/DEATHS

Animal	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Elephant	1	0	2	0	2	0	0	2	0	1	1	0	1
Buffalo	1	1	1	0	3	2	2	0	1	0	0	1	0
Crocodile	1	1	0	0	4	2	1	6	1	0	0	1	2
Lion	0	0	0	0	0	3	1	3	0	0	0	0	1
Hippo	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Snake	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	6	4	1	0	1	1
Bee	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	3	0	0	0	0	1
Jackal	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL	3	2	3	0	9	8	8	20	6	2	1	3	6

HUMAN AND WILDLIFE CONFLICT/INJURIES

Animal	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Lion	0	0	2	0	0	1	0	1	1	0	0	0	0
Buffalo	0	2	1	2	0	2	1	0	0	0	0	1	0
Crocodile	0	2	2	0	2	2	4	7	6	2	4	5	5
Snake	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	6	0	0	0	4
Hippo	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	2	0
Jackal	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	2	0
Elephant	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	4	2	2	0
TOTAL	0	4	5	2	2	5	5	13	16	6	7	12	9





November 21, 2017

Mr. Greg J Sheehan
Principal Deputy Director, USFW
1849 C Street, N.W.
Washington, DC 20240

Mr. Sheehan,

As the Executive Director for International Wildlife Crimestoppers (IWC), I am brutally aware of the impact of poaching on global wildlife. Unfortunately, I am also aware of the massive negative impact of emotional knee jerk policy decisions that ignore the facts and proven positive effects of science based wildlife management. I won't go into the specifics as your department has already made its determination based on the range country's respective studies as well as your own and because those opposing this determination are basing opposition on emotion verses science.

IWC represents global wildlife law enforcement officers that not only enforce the law, but I can say with surety, each and every one, no matter what part of the world, are committed to seeing wildlife thrive. The law that we are all sworn to uphold is, with few exceptions, based on proven science to the benefit of all. That is how these determinations were made and that is what we support. Being that we represent ALL stake holders we represent a unique moral authority in that our members and associates collectively place their lives on the line every day around the world protecting those resources for all. Therefore, we strongly support the USFW determinations and we ask that you please do not allow these new determinations permitting the importation of legally hunted Elephant and Lion trophies to be reversed or postponed.

Sincerely,

Lewis Rather
Executive Director
International Wildlife Crimestoppers

cc: Ryan Zinke, U.S. Secretary of the Interior

Lewis Rather (TX)
Executive Director

Chris Simmons (ME)
Asst. Executive Director

Ron Ollis (OH)
President

Wayne Saunders (NH)
Past President

Brian Eller (NV)
1st Vice President

Lee Ellis (SC)
2nd Vice President

Candice Henderson (GA)
Executive Secretary

Marty Markl
International Liaison

Larry Weishuhn
Industry Liaison

Regional Directors

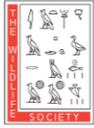
Bob Thompson (CO)
West

Jennifer Wolf (MI)
Mid-west

Wade Law (GA)
Southeast

Justin Stedman (VT)
Northeast

Brian Voogd (Alberta)
Canada



THE WILDLIFE SOCIETY

Leaders in Wildlife Science, Management and Conservation

22 November 2017

Mr. Donald J. Trump, President
United States of America
1600 Pennsylvania Ave.
Washington, D.C. 20006

RE: Conservation of African Elephants in Zimbabwe, Zambia, and other African countries

President Trump,

The conservation of threatened and endangered species is one of the most formidable challenges facing professional wildlife managers. Conservation of these species requires biological expertise and effective engagement of stakeholders. The Wildlife Society supports cooperative programs, both nationally and internationally, that are designed to manage and conserve threatened and endangered populations.

(Threatened & Endangered Species Standing Position)

The Wildlife Society also believes that human-wildlife interactions should enhance the overall value of wildlife resources—creating incentives to conserve and perpetuate wildlife through enhanced economic, cultural, and social importance *(Responsible Human Use of Wildlife Standing Position)*. Hunting and other means of harvest, when based on biological principles and properly regulated, has clearly been shown to enhance wildlife conservation efforts and be an appropriate human use of wildlife. *(Hunting Standing Position)*

Importation to the U.S. of hunter-harvested African elephants is permitted under the U.S. Endangered Species Act's Section 4(d) rule, where such activities are determined to enhance the survival of the population; such imports are currently permitted from Namibia and South Africa. The U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service has undertaken a rigorous review of the African elephant management plans for Zambia and Zimbabwe and has determined these plans, and their restrictive harvest components, will enhance conservation efforts for those populations.

The Wildlife Society supports sustainable harvest of wildlife and the concept that such hunting in Africa can be a source of funding that otherwise would not be available for local conservation efforts. Fees paid by foreign hunters provide funding that can create incentives for local communities to maintain large and potentially dangerous wildlife on the landscape, rather than kill them as pests, and retain their habitats, rather than convert them to agriculture or pasture. Hunter-generated funds are used to help resolve local human-wildlife conflicts, support anti-poaching and wildlife trafficking efforts, and secure tracts of suitable habitat.

We support and applaud the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service's science-based process for evaluating African elephant management plans, and for determining that any harvest components will contribute to the survival of the species. Given the apparent political transition underway in Zimbabwe, we recommend the Service determine if the plans it has already reviewed for Zimbabwe are supported by the country's new leadership before a final decision is rendered regarding elephant imports from that country. We encourage your administration to advance science-based policies that will conserve and enhance African elephant populations and support sustainable use of wildlife resources.

Sincerely,

Dr. John E. McDonald, Jr.
President

Cc: Ryan Zinke, David Bernhardt, Greg Sheehan, Jim Kurth, Steve Guertin

The Wildlife Society, founded in 1937, represents more than 10,000 professional wildlife biologists and managers dedicated to excellence in wildlife stewardship through science and education. Our mission is to inspire, empower, and enable wildlife professionals to sustain wildlife populations and habitats through science-based management and conservation.

All communications should be addressed to

"The Secretary for Tourism and Hospitality Industry"
Telephone: 749421
Telegraphic address: "TOURISMT"
Fax: 702054



Secretary for Tourism, Hospitality Industry and Environment
7thth Floor John Boyne Building
Corner Innez Terrez and Speke Avenue
P.O. Box CY 1718
Causeway
Harare

21 November 2017

Mr Gregory Sheehan
Principal Deputy Director
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Services
Department of Interior
1849 C Street NW, Room 3358
Washington DC 20240
USA

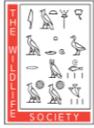
INVITATION OF THE U.S. FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICES TO ZIMBABWE

Since the suspension of African Elephant trophies import into the United States of America in April 2014 we have engaged the USFWS at different levels and also submitted all the requested information. After submitting all the information requested we hoped that by this time a positive decision would have been made for Zimbabwe to export elephant hunted trophies into the US. However, for the USFWS to have an appreciation of the elephant issues that we have in Zimbabwe we hereby invite the USFWS team to visit Zimbabwe before the end of the year 2017. The Zimbabwe Government through the Parks and Wildlife Management Authority will facilitate and host the USFWS team. However, if the USFWS is not able to visit to Zimbabwe a Zimbabwean delegation will visit US to meet USFWS officials to discuss the African elephant issue before the end of the year.

The Government of Zimbabwe avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the Government of the US the assurances of its highest consideration.

T. Chitepo

T. Chitepo (Dr)
SECRETARY FOR TOURISM, HOSPITALITY INDUSTRY AND ENVIRONMENT



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