

December 8, 2017

Secretary Zinke
C/O Joshua Winchell
Council Designated Federal Officer
Fish and Wildlife Service
National Wildlife Refuge System
5275 Leesburg Pike
Falls Church, VA 22041-3803
Joshua_winchell@fws.gov

Re: International Wildlife Conservation Council Nominee

Secretary Zinke,

Please accept my credentials for consideration to the International Wildlife Conservation Council. I would be an excellent choice for this appointment based on my extensive experience; not only as a hunter but also a conservationist. For the last twenty five years, I have completed over 100 safaris, and traveled the world promoting the development of and building wildlife habitats.

I appreciate your time and consideration.

Warmest Regards,

C. Jeffrey Stanley
595 Park Avenue
San Jose, CA 95125
408 271-1111

**U.S. Department of the Interior
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service**

**International Wildlife Conservation Council
Charter**

1. **Official Designation.** International Wildlife Conservation Council (Council).
2. **Authority.** The Council is established in furtherance of 43 U.S.C. 1457, the Fish and Wildlife Act of 1956 (16 U.S.C. 742a-742j), and other Acts applicable to specific bureaus. This Council is regulated by the Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA), as amended, 5 U.S.C. Appendix 2.
3. **Objectives and Scope of Activities.** The Council will provide advice and recommendations to the Federal Government, through the Secretary of the Interior (Secretary), focused on increased public awareness domestically regarding the conservation, wildlife law enforcement, and economic benefits that result from United States citizens traveling to foreign nations to engage in hunting. Additionally, the Council shall advise the Secretary on the benefits international hunting has on foreign wildlife and habitat conservation, anti-poaching and illegal wildlife trafficking programs, and other ways in which international hunting benefits human populations in these areas.
4. **Description of Duties.** The duties of the Council are solely advisory and include, but are not limited to:
 - a) Developing a plan for public engagement and education on the benefits of international hunting.
 - b) Reviewing and making recommendations for changes, when needed, on all Federal programs, and/or regulations, to ensure support of hunting as:
 1. An enhancement to foreign wildlife conservation and survival; and
 2. An effective tool to combat illegal trafficking and poaching.
 - c) Recommending strategies to benefit the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's permit office in receiving timely country data and information so as to remove barriers that impact consulting with range states.
 - d) Recommending removal of barriers to the importation into the United States of legally hunted wildlife.
 - e) Ongoing review of import suspension/bans and providing recommendations that seek to resume the legal trade of those items, where appropriate.

- f) Reviewing seizure and forfeiture actions/practices, and providing recommendations for regulations that will lead to a reduction of unwarranted actions.
- g) Reviewing the Endangered Species Act's foreign listed species and interaction with the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Flora and Fauna, with the goal of eliminating regulatory duplications.
- h) Recommending methods for streamlining/expediting processing of import permits.
- i) At the conclusion of each meeting, or shortly thereafter, provide a detailed recommendation report, including meeting minutes, to the DFO.

- 5. **Agency or Official to Whom the Committee Reports.** The Council reports to the Secretary through the Designated Federal Officer (DFO).
- 6. **Support.** Administrative support and funding for activities of the Council will be provided by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.
- 7. **Estimated Annual Operating Costs and Staff Years.** The annual operating costs associated with supporting the Council are estimated to be \$250,000 per year, including all direct and indirect expenses and .50 Federal staff years.
- 8. **Designated Federal Officer.** The DFO is a full-time Federal employee appointed in accordance with Agency procedures. The DFO approves or calls all Council and subcommittee meetings, prepares and approves all meeting agendas, attends all Council and subcommittee meetings, adjourns any meeting when the DFO determines adjournment to be in the public interest, and chairs meetings when directed to do so by the Secretary.
- 9. **Estimated Number and Frequency of Meetings.** The Council will meet approximately two times annually, and at such other times as designated by the DFO.
- 10. **Duration.** Continuing.
- 11. **Termination.** The Council will terminate 2 years from the date the charter is filed, unless, prior to that date, it is renewed in accordance with the provisions of section 14 of the FACA. The Council will not meet or take any action without a valid current charter.
- 12. **Membership and Designation.** The Council will consist of no more than 18 discretionary and 4 ex officio members.

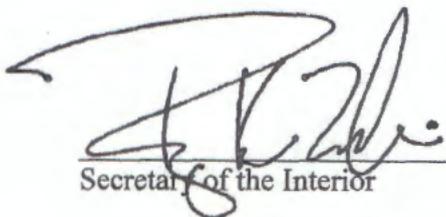
(a) Ex officio members will include:

- 1. Secretary of the Interior or designated Department of the Interior representatives;
and
- 2. Secretary of State or designated Department of State representatives.

- (b) The remaining discretionary members will be selected from among, but not limited to, the entities listed below. These members must be senior-level representatives of their organizations and/or have the ability to represent their designated constituency.
1. Wildlife and habitat conservation/management organizations;
 2. U.S. hunters actively engaged in international and/or domestic hunting conservation;
 3. The firearms or ammunition manufacturing industry;
 4. Archery and/or hunting sports industry; and
 5. Tourism, outfitter, and/or guide industries related to international hunting.
- (c) Alternate members may be appointed to the Council. Alternate members must be approved and appointed by the Secretary before attending meetings as representatives. Alternate members shall have experience and/or expertise similar to that of the primary member. Alternate members may deliberate and vote on Council matters only in the absence of the primary member.
- (d) Members will be appointed for staggered terms of 3 years, as designated by the Secretary, at the time of the initial appointment. A vacancy on the Council will be filled in the same manner in which the original appointment was made. Members serve at the discretion of the Secretary. A member may serve after the expiration of his or her term until a successor is appointed.
- (e) Council members may not serve more than two consecutive terms. Council members must attend at least one Council meeting annually and cannot miss two successive meetings. Council membership will be forfeited if an appointee does not meet these attendance requirements.
- (f) The Council shall elect the Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson by affirmative vote of a majority of its members. The Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson will serve a term of 1 year, renewable for 1 additional year. The Chairperson or Vice-Chairperson may be replaced before his or her term ends by affirmative vote of a majority of the Council's members.
- (g) Members of the Council serve without compensation. However, while away from their homes or regular places of business, Council and subcommittee members engaged in Council or subcommittee business that is approved by the DFO may be allowed travel expenses, including per diem in lieu of subsistence, in the same manner as persons employed intermittently in Government service under 5 U.S.C. 5703.

(h) A vacancy on the Council will be filled in the same manner in which the original appointment was made. Members serve at the discretion of the Secretary.

13. **Ethics Responsibilities of Members.** No Council or subcommittee member will participate in any Council or subcommittee deliberations or votes relating to a specific party matter before the Department or its bureaus and offices including a lease, license, permit, contract, grant, claim, agreement, or litigation in which the member or the entity the member represents has a direct financial interest.
14. **Subcommittees.** Subject to the DFO's approval, subcommittees may be formed to compile information or conduct research. However, such subcommittees must act only under the direction of the DFO and must report their recommendations to the full Council for consideration. Subcommittees must not provide advice or work products directly to the Agency. Subcommittees will meet as necessary to accomplish their assignments, subject to the approval of the DFO and the availability of resources.
15. **Recordkeeping.** The Records of the Council, and formally and informally established subcommittees of the Council, must be handled in accordance with General Records Schedule 6.2, and other approved Agency records disposition schedule. These records must be available for public inspection and copying, subject to the Freedom of Information Act, 5 U.S.C. 552.


Secretary of the Interior

NOV 03 2017

Date Signed

DEC 21 2017

Date Filed

12/11/17 IWCC Nominations Update for Cynthia Martinez and Linda Walker

- 70 nominations received for 18 seats
- Full list of nominees attached.
- I suggest the FWS not provide recommendations for every seat, but recommend appointment of the following:
 - *Dr. Brian Child, Associate Professor*
 - Centre for African Studies and Department of Geography, University of Florida
 - *Dr. Paula White, Senior Researcher Fellow*
 - Center for Tropical Research, Institute of the Environment, University of California, Los Angeles
 - *Dr. George Wittemyer, Associate Professor*
 - Department of Fish, Wildlife, Conservation Biology, Colorado State University

These three candidates are highly-regarded researchers on the topics outlined in the IWCC charter, and their appointment would help council discussion be science-based and grounded in the best available data.

- I will get the nominations package into DTS by COB tomorrow.

Attachment: IWCC nominee list

Name	Home City, State, Zip	Home Country (if other than U.S.)
Allan, Brian	Mahomet IL 61853	
Aman, George		
Anderson, Terry	Bozeman, MT 59718	
Axelrad, Mike	Houston, TX?	
Babaz, Paul	Atlanta, GA 30319	
Banovich, John	Livingston, Montana, 59047	
Barron, David H.	Isle of Palms, SC 29451	
Betar, Joe		
Black, Brad		
Blackwood, Wade	Henrico, Virginia 23229	
Boretsky, John	Albuquerque, New Mexico 87111	
Brewster, Bill	Marietta, OK 73448	
Caligiuri, Tony	Osceola, Iowa 50213	
Callender, Amy	Irving, TX 75062	
Carter, Ivan	FREEPORT, GRAND BAHAMA ISLAND	BAHAMAS
Chancellor, Steven		
Chatfield, Jenifer	Dade City, FL 33523	
Child, Brian	Gainesville, FL 32608	
Claybourn, Joshua		
Clem, Lori	Carrollton, Texas 75010	
Condy, Patrick R. (Pat)	Glen Rose, Texas 76043	
Cox, Chris		
Crane, Jeff	Annapolis, MD 21409	
Dorrington, Stewart	Port Alfred, 6170	South Africa
Easter, J. Lane (Lane)	Gainesville, Texas 76240	
Frampton, John	Prosperity, SC 29127	
French, Ward "Trig"	Westport, CT 06880	
Fundira, Emmanuel Anesu	BORROWDALE BROOKE, HARARE	Zimbabwe
Gillman, Jerry		
Goodenow, Rew	Reno, NV 89511	
Hairston, Jason	Dixon, CA 95620	
Hanes, Cameron	Eugene Oregon 97408	
Hanson, Robert	Cave Creek, AZ 85327-7740	
Heusinkveld, Evan		
Horn II, Peter Lewis	Pound Ridge NY 10576	
Hudson, Chris	Dallas, Texas 75209	
Ichikowitz, Ivor	Sandhurst, Sandton	South Africa
Ingram, K. Michael (Mike)	Paradise Valley, Arizona 85253	
Jackson, John	Metairie, Louisiana, 70002	
Kania, Gary (alternate to Crane)	Kilmarnock, VA 22482	
Keane, Larry (Sanetti alternate)		

Keck, Rob		
Lee, Raymond		
Lindeque, Malan	Klein Windhoek	Namibia
Lynn, Katalin Kádár	St. Helena, CA 94574	
Mahoney, Shane P.		
Maki, Alan	Alpine, Wyoming 83128	
Maple, Terry	Fernandina Beach, FL 32034	
Mark, Keith	Basehor KS 66007	
Mason, Corey	Plano, TX 75093	
Mika, Ron	Alpine, UT 84004	
Miller, Craig	Urbana, IL 61802	
Opre, Olivia Nalos	Columbia Falls, MT 59912	
Parker, Michael	Weatherford, TX 76087	
Parsons, Rick	Tucson, Arizona 85719	
Peterson, Alan	Centerville, Utah 84014	
Porter II, James	Birmingham, AL 35213	
Rhoad, Erica		
Roca, Alfred	Champaign IL 61820	
Sanetti, Steve (Keane is alternate)		
Seidman, Anna (alternate to Parsons)	Vienna, Virginia 22181	
Shaw, Robert C.	Culpeper, Va 22701	
Smith, J. Alain	Redmond, WA 98053	
Stanley, C. Jeffrey	San Jose, CA 95125	
Stepro, Mitch	St. Charles, MO 63303	
Thodos, John	Naples, FL 34108	
Watkins, Jeffrey	Cartersville, GA 30120	
Welker, Denise	Fulshear, Texas 77441	
White, Paula	Monterey, California, USA 93940	
Wittemyer, George	Fort Collins, CO 80526	

IVOR ICHIKOWITZ

December 7, 2017
Mr. Joshua Winchell
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
National Wildlife Refuge System
5275 Leesburg Pike
Falls Church
VA 22041-3803

Dear Mr. Winchell,

I am writing to nominate Mr. Ivor Ichikowitz, the South African industrialist and conservationist, for Secretary Zinke's **International Wildlife Conservation Council**. Mr. Ichikowitz is the founder and owner of the Paramount Group, the largest privately owned Aerospace and Defense firm on the continent of Africa.

His close personal relationships with numerous African Heads of State and his intimate knowledge of the geopolitical, economic, and conservation realities in Africa would undoubtedly add significant value to the Council. Mr. Ichikowitz can provide a truly African voice that can guide the Council in implementing pro-hunting plans.

He has a sterling history of supporting conservation initiatives in Africa that recognize the economic and wildlife benefits of responsible hunting. He has penned pro-hunting policy papers on conservation strategy in Africa and has been an outspoken advocate of South Africa's successful conservation program that re-introduced endangered game through the establishment of private hunting farms.

For close to thirty years, Mr. Ichikowitz has directly advised a number of African presidents, whose support for effective pro-hunting policy changes are essential. In his personal philanthropic capacity, Mr. Ichikowitz has donated planes, helicopters, and trained counter-poaching dogs to help turn the tide against the scourge of illegal poachers who traffic in ivory and rhino horn and who threaten the actions of responsible hunters.

Through his foundation, he established an elite Special Forces Counter-poaching Unit in a national game reserve in South Africa, and launched a dedicated Anti-Poaching Training

and K9 academy. The success of his South African project led him to work with the President of Gabon to establish an Anti-Poaching Rapid Response Task Force in Gabon thereafter. I attach for you his most recent personal profile, as well as a selection of press coverage of his anti-poaching measures. Finally, I encourage you to research more about him at www.ivorichikowitz.com for further information.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Rachel Braun". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Rachel Braun

Vice President for the Americas

The Paramount Group

rachel.braun@paramountgroup.com

+1-917-349-8150

Note: In lieu of divulging Mr. Ichikowitz's personal information, please instead contact his Executive Assistant, Mrs. Paula Simoes, or myself.

Paula Simoes

Executive Assistant to the Chairman

paula.simoes@paramountgroup.com

+27 82 610 3806

Briefing for the White House Liaison, Department of the Interior

Bureau: U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

Name of Commissions: Alaska Subsistence Regional Advisory Councils (10 such Councils)

Date: November 8, 2017

Background: Established in 1993, the 10 Alaska Subsistence Regional Advisory Councils are statutory Federal advisory committees that provide advice and recommendations to the Federal Subsistence Board about subsistence hunting and fishing issues on Federal public lands, as authorized by Section 805 of the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act (ANILCA). The Councils are a crucial link between federally qualified subsistence users and the Federal Subsistence Board. Membership on the Councils is one way for the public to become involved in the Federal regulatory process.

The Federal Subsistence Management Program is a multi-agency effort that includes the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS), National Park Service, Bureau of Land Management, Bureau of Indian Affairs, and the U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Forest Service. The member recruitment and nomination process for the Councils involves all five agencies and is administered by the FWS Office of Subsistence Management. ANILCA requires members to be residents of the region in which they serve. The Board established five additional criteria for membership on the Councils. Members must have:

- Knowledge of the region's fish and wildlife resources;
- Knowledge of the region's subsistence uses, customs, and traditions;
- Knowledge of the region's commercial, sport, and other uses;
- Leadership skills; and
- Communication skills.

The Board developed rating standards for each criterion. Applicants must designate whether they will represent commercial/sport or subsistence users.

The Program conducts an extensive statewide recruitment during a 7-month application period. Five Regional Council Coordinators facilitate the work of the interagency nominations panels which interview, rate, and rank the applicants. The Interagency Staff Committee (ISC) is comprised of advisors to the Federal Subsistence Board. The ISC reviews recommendations of the panels and forwards its recommendations to the Board for consideration and approval. The Board considers the applicants' qualifications and the regional geographic distribution, user group representation, and gender of the current councils' members and the applicants when forming its recommendations to the Secretary.

Following is biographical information about applicants and rankings of the nominees for appointment, which are organized by regional area and Council.

Region 1: Southeast Alaska Subsistence Regional Advisory Council

Nominees: There are thirteen seats and four vacancies on the Southeast Alaska Subsistence Regional Advisory Council. Four individuals applied to fill the four vacancies. In alphabetical order the candidates who are recommended for appointment as a Council member or an alternate are:

Federal Subsistence Board Recommends:

Seat	Nominee	Residence	User Group	Term

The Federal Subsistence Board recommendations reflect the most qualified nominees based on the five criteria and provide diversity of viewpoints, gender, and geographic representation. The Secretary of Agriculture has concurred with these recommendations.

Timeline for appointment:

February 3	Deadline for submittal of membership applications/nominations
February-April	Regional panels conduct interviews and prepared reports
June-July	Interagency Staff Committee and the Federal Subsistence Board review panel reports and developed recommendations
August	Obtain concurrence of Secretary of Agriculture
August-December	Secretary of the Interior reviews Board recommendations and appoints members to the Regional Councils

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Chair, Federal Subsistence Board, c/o U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Attention: Carl Johnson, Council Coordination Division Chief, Office of Subsistence Management; (907) 786-3871 or carl_johnson@fws.gov.

For information about the Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA) process or administrative issues related to this package, contact Krista Bibb; FACA Group Federal Officer; Division of Policy, Performance, and Management Programs; (703) 358-1914 or krista_bibb@fws.gov.

C. JEFFREY STANLEY

OBJECTIVE

International Wildlife Conservation Council

EXPERIENCE

May 2013 – Present

BBB Bonding Corporation

Founder/CEO

Parent Company to Bad Boys Bail Bonds

Jul 2004 – Present

Golden State Bail Agents Association

Co-Founder and Board of Directors

Advocates for bail legislation reform.

Jan 1998 – Present

Bad Boys Bail Bonds

Sole Proprietor/President

Founded Bad Boys Bail Bonds, one of California's largest bail agencies, with a mission to serve the communities in California by providing individuals in all stations of life, including low and moderate income families, an avenue to fulfill their 8th Amendment right. Bad Boys Bail Bonds ensures that justice is served by guaranteeing defendants appear in court. Responsible for managing over \$5.9 billion in liability throughout the course of his career.

2011 – Dec 2012

GSI Investigations, Inc.

CEO

Jan 1991 – Jan 1998

H & H Bailbonds

Director of the Fugitive Recovery Agency

Director of the Fugitive Recovery Agency a division of H & H Bailbonds, the largest retail bail operator in the country. Responsible for total bond exonerations, exceeding \$300 million in closures.

Jan 1985 – Dec 1989

C. Jeffrey Stanley

Fugitive Recovery Agent

Fielded fugitive recovery services to twenty-eight bail bonding agencies and sureties throughout California, expanding nationwide. Hands on arrests and management of caseloads.

CJSTANLEY@BADBOYSBAILBONDS.COM

595 PARK AVE, SUITE 200 • SAN JOSE, CA 95110 • 408.271.1111

Jan 1982 – Jan 1985
U.S. Savings, San Jose, CA
Senior VP
Managed loan originations.

Countries visited and 100+ safaris accomplished:
Zimbabwe, United States, South Africa, Artic Circle, Australia, Canada

LEADERSHIP

2016 California National GOP Delagate
California State Delegate
Co-Founder and Current Board Member Golden State Bail Association
Vice President of the Willow Glen Neighborhood Association
Lifetime Member: NRA, Mule Deer Foundation, California Deer Association,
California Waterfowl Association, Grand Slam Club Ovis, California Bail
Agents Association

REFERENCES

Congressman Kevin McCarthy
United States House of Representatives for California's 23rd District and House
Majority Leader
Washington D. C. (202) 225-2915

Attorney General Jeff Landry
Attorney General of Louisiana
Baton Rouge, LA (225) 326-6079

U.S. Representative Jeff Denham
U.S. Representative for California's 10th Congressional District
Washington D.C. (202) 225-4540

Congressman Don Young
U.S. Representative for Alaska's at-large Congressional District
Washington D. C. (202) 225-0425

Briefing Paper for Departmental Clearance of Federal Register Documents

I. Title of document: 34T

II. Popular short name, if applicable: [Click here to enter the popular name, if applicable.](#)

III. RIN (for rules) or notice tracking number (for notices): 34T

IV. DCN: 34T

V. Summary: [Click here to clearly and very briefly explain what the document does and, if applicable, where the subject of the document is located.](#)

VI. Does this document require a press release? Yes No

If yes, please paste the title and the first paragraph of the press release here: [Click here to paste the title and first paragraph.](#)

VII. Is timing critical? Yes No 34T

a. What is the target date, and (if applicable) “no later than” (NLT) date, for the FR document to clear DOI? 34T

b. What is driving the timing? 34T

c. What happens if the deadline is missed? 34T

VIII. Background: 34T

IX. Issues: 34T

X. Is there an information collection associated with this document? Yes No 34T

a. Does the document have any approved OMB control number? Yes No

If yes, the OMB control number is: 34T

The expiration date(s) is: 34T

b. Does the document require a new OMB Control Number or a renewal of an existing approval?

If a new number or renewal is required, what is the current status? 34T

XI. For rulemaking actions only: Has this action, in its current stage, been on a 90-day List?

Yes No

If yes, on which 90-day List did it first appear in its current stage? 34T

Did OIRA provide comments or change the significance? Yes No

If yes, summarize comments and resolution: 34T

XII. Approval is requested to send the document to:

The Office of the Federal Register for publication, or

OIRA for review.

XIII. Primary contact:

Name: 34T

Phone: 34T

Email: 34T

PERSONAL PROFILE

IVOR ICHIKOWITZ

INDUSTRIALIST AND PHILANTHROPIST



Ivor Ichikowitz is a South African-born industrialist, social entrepreneur, and philanthropist. He began his career during South Africa's political transition in the early 1990s, working to support Nelson Mandela's programme of democratisation, national reconciliation, economic and industrial normalisation and integration into the African Continent and the global economy. For more than two decades he has built a number of successful businesses on four continents in the aerospace and defence manufacturing industry, oil and gas, mining, agriculture, retail, and tourism; and via his family foundation he has invested substantially in environmental and wildlife conservation, education initiatives, responsible citizenship, and charitable activities.

He is perhaps best known for his establishment in 1994 of Paramount Group, which has grown to become the largest privately-owned aerospace and defence manufacturer in Africa, and possibly the southern hemisphere, now employing several thousand people in different parts of the world, in addition to his other business activities. Paramount Group has evolved into an integrated defence and internal security Group across the land, sea and aerospace sectors, focussed on innovative solutions that provide Governments with the means to protect their citizens, secure their borders, and guarantee their freedom and security. As an outspoken advocate for democracy, good governance, the rule of law, and human rights, Ivor Ichikowitz continues to be an influential voice in Africa for stability, peace, and security as the prerequisites for economic growth and development on the Continent, and works with many African Governments in finding solutions to the impediments they face in overcoming the challenges of a rapidly changing Continent. As such he is well-known and respected by political leaders across the Continent, and is often consulted on the issues of the day. In recent years, the growth of his business interests has taken him to other Continents, where he enjoys similar access and respect. He has invested in new manufacturing activities in Central and South Asia, the Middle East and in Europe, and has active business interests in Latin America.

Paramount Group's focus on innovation and bringing new technologies to market has, among other achievements, seen the design and manufacture of Africa's first advanced combat aircraft, which will be further developed via Paramount Group's strategic partnership with the Boeing Corporation. In building closer commercial and industrial relations with US interests, Ichikowitz has been calling for a revitalised relationship between Africa and the US founded on a better understanding of mutual interests that reflect the new realities of today's world and the changes that lie in the years ahead.

In building his businesses and his family foundation, Ivor Ichikowitz has been primarily motivated by an interest in finding solutions to problems faced by countries, communities, and individuals: from issues of economic development to industrialisation, national security, energy and the environment, poverty and unemployment, food production, skills training, and others that contribute sustainable value rather than extracting value from the areas in which he works. This has added to his unique reputation as a creative problem-solver, especially in the developing world where conventional thinking does not always succeed or lead to lasting solutions. He continues to expand and deepen his interests in new ventures and projects that build upon this philosophy.



ICHIKOWITZ FAMILY
FOUNDATION



LEADERS IN DEFENCE AND
SECURITY INNOVATION

In Reply Refer To:
XXXXXXXXXX

Dear _____,

Thank you for your January 16, 2018 letter to Secretary Zinke regarding the International Wildlife Conservation Council (IWCC). Wildlife around the world face myriad complex threats that deserve our focus and attention. Given the contributions of American hunters to the successful conservation model in the U.S., they are uniquely positioned to contribute solutions to the challenges of international wildlife management and conservation.

Secretary Zinke announced the creation of the IWCC on November 8, 2017. The IWCC has been tasked with developing a plan for educating and engaging the American public on the benefits of international hunting. It will also recommend policy changes in Federal programs to ensure that hunting is recognized as an economic benefit to local communities, and as a tool to enhance foreign wildlife conservation and combat wildlife trafficking and poaching.

The IWCC will also review and provide recommendations to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) to streamline the processing of permits for the import of sport-hunted wildlife and methods to remove barriers to the import of legally sport-hunted wildlife. It will also provide recommendations regarding options to reduce unwarranted seizure and forfeiture of sport-hunted wildlife and related items. Finally, the IWCC will develop strategies to obtain data and information from range states in a timely manner, review and provide recommendations regarding decisions to suspend or ban the import of sport-hunted wildlife, and policies to reduce regulatory duplications between the Endangered Species Act and the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES).

In addition, as part of our ongoing efforts to combat wildlife trafficking, the Department of the Interior is a co-chair of the Presidential Task Force on Wildlife Trafficking, along with the Department of Justice, and Department of State. The Task Force communicates at a staff level on a weekly basis, and the principals of the Task Force recently met in person to discuss efforts to date, including implementation of the Eliminate, Neutralize, and Disrupt (END) Wildlife Trafficking Act, as well as priorities and next steps for the coming year.

Thank you for your letter. If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact Joshua Winchell at joshua_winchell@fws.gov.

Sincerely,

Greg Sheehan
Principal Deputy Director

PARAMOUNT ANTI-POACHING TRAINING & K9 ACADEMY





Press Release: 04 December 2012

SANParks takes rhino poaching war to the skies

Ichikowitz Family Foundation bolsters SANParks' surveillance capability to save the rhino

Kruger National Park, 4 December 2012: Efforts to combat rhino poaching in the Kruger National Park were bolstered this morning as the Ichikowitz Family Foundation and South African National Parks (SANParks) launched a new, state-of-the-art aerial surveillance solution save South Africa's rhinos.

The unique specialist reconnaissance aircraft, incorporating highly sophisticated surveillance technology, was unveiled this morning at an Airbase in the Kruger Park. The unveiling was part of an announcement of a strategic corporation between the Ichikowitz Family foundation and SANParks which will see the Foundation providing SANParks with a number of solutions from the Paramount Group, an associated entity.

Speaking at the unveiling, Dr David Mabunda, CEO of SANParks said, "The mindless slaughter of rhino's in the wild has called for a multi-pronged strategy. We are actively enlisting and broadening our engagement with the private sector to protect and conserve wildlife. The strategy is to reach out to a new set of stakeholders that would complement and fundamentally strengthen our existing efforts. We are very happy to announce that the Ichikowitz Foundation is contributing to conservation in the Kruger National Park for the benefit of the countries heritage."

Speaking at the announcement, Ivor Ichikowitz, chairman of the Ichikowitz Family Foundation and executive chairman of Africa's largest privately held defence and aerospace company, Paramount Group said "Our world-class electronic systems technology brings expert navigation and surveillance solutions to the fore to help in the search for suspected rhino poachers throughout the Kruger National Park."

"Advanced visual reconnaissance and surveillance will provide game reserve rangers with robust intelligence in their tireless mission to confront poachers."

"We will equip the Seeker Seabird with a FLIR Ball infrared detector. This thermal imaging technology will deliver more enhanced and powerful observation capability to the Kruger National Park's rangers making it very difficult for poachers to hide. The plane demonstrates high degree of flexibility in terms of utilisation, use of operation and reliability. It is capable of flying at high altitude and at slow speeds with 270degrees visibility. It can be forward positioned on short dirt strips and requires very limited logistical support," adds Mr Ichikowitz.

"Attitudes about the importance of wildlife in South Africa are changing. The grim realities of environmental crimes committed against wildlife and rhino's in particular are being recognised with calls for tougher law enforcement and penalties. Initiatives like these are critical to motivate potential consumers to quell demand for wildlife-based products by appealing to their pro-environment instincts"

"Not only is the Kruger National Park home to the largest population of rhino in the world, this National Game Reserve also remains the hardest hit by poachings with the park having lost 760 rhinos out of the 1369 grand total that have been killed in South Africa since January 2010," said Dr Mabunda. "We're honoured to join forces with the



Press Release: 04 December 2012

SANParks takes rhino poaching war to the skies

Ichikowitz Family Foundation bolsters SANParks' surveillance capability to save the rhino

Ichikowitz Family Foundation because this surveillance solution gives our rangers just the right kind of support they need to win the war and it brings us one step closer to ending the devastation of our rhinos."

Dr Mabunda added that while arrests of poachers were certainly on the increase, the country still had a long way to go before rhino poachers would be eradicated entirely. By 27 November this year a total of 246 arrests had been made during 2012 with more than 640 arrests made since January 2010.

Earlier this month Magistrate Prince Manyathi handed out a stiff 40-year sentence to self-confessed rhino trader and smuggler, Thai national Chumlong Lemtongthai in the Kempton Park Magistrate Court. Dr Mabunda congratulated the SA Justice system for the tough stance it had taken against poachers of South Africa's heritage, adding that he hoped it acted as a serious deterrent to future perpetrators killing rhinos for their horns.

"SANParks are entrusted with the protecting our wildlife heritage. They are at the forefront of saving the rhino," said Ivor Ichikowitz. "Paramount Group is in the business of developing state of the art defence technology, technology which, through the Family Foundation, we intend placing in SANParks hands in the fight against poachers."

The Seeker Seabird provides maximum surveillance optimisation and revolutionary reconnaissance capabilities with leading-edge patrol technology that will easily expose illegal poachers that have - to date - been well concealed in their hiding places across the reserve.

"The days of talking about this problem are over - practical solutions such as this aircraft and its surveillance capabilities is the only way to make a real difference," Mr Ichikowitz added. "It's time to take dramatic steps to rid this country of poachers and to save our rhinos!"

The South African government is determined to win the war against rhino poaching and calls on all South Africans to do their part to assist. SANParks and the South African conservation fraternity continues to request the support and cooperation of all members of society in identifying and reporting suspicious behaviour that could lead to the apprehension and conviction of these criminals.

Any incidents of rhino poaching or tip-offs that can prevent illegal killings, or lead to arrests can be reported to 0800 205 005.



Press Release: 10 October 2013

Rhino Counter-Poaching Unit uses “Special Forces” tactics to thwart rhino poachers

The war against rhino poaching has entered a new era at one of South Africa’s largest game reserves where the reserve’s Counter-Poaching Unit (CPU) is using “Special Force” tactics to meet the threat posed by well-armed poachers.

Financed by the Ichikowitz Family Foundation, the first of its kind pilot training project, consisting of an intensive six-week training course has been launched and overseen by former Special Force soldiers. This project will be expanded into other areas where the battle for survival of rhinos has reached crisis point, says Eric Ichikowitz, director of the Foundation and custodian of the Foundation’s rhino conservation initiatives.

“National Parks have been confronted with difficult new threats. Conservation Officers who have in the past dealt with snares, bush weed, tracking and breeding programs are now finding themselves dealing in full combat situations fighting well-armed poachers. It is time to level the playing fields and ensure poachers understand might will be met with might.

“Strong action has to be taken to ensure that the carnage is stopped. To date this year, more than 600 rhinos have been slaughtered. There is a real danger that if the killing continues at this rate our country and the world could be deprived of the privilege of seeing these animals in their natural environment.”

The solution identified by the Foundation involved literally taking the battle for preservation of the rhino to a new level.

Earlier this year, Ivor Ichikowitz, Chairman and founder of the Ichikowitz Family Foundation, used a well-known adage ‘You can’t take sticks to a gunfight’. In effect that is what ill-equipped conservation officers in major reserves have been asked to do. “Following our earlier involvement and ongoing engagement with National Parks, we have actively looked at how we could further lend our resources,” stated Ichikowitz.

“The Counter Poaching Units are made up of amazing individuals who constantly put their lives in danger. Through this program we are training them to help deal with the reality of this threat and ensure they are properly equipped.

“Throughout the country we are starting to review levels of skills and proficiency in Counter-Poaching Unit’s and are determining the extent to which they are properly equipped. In some cases we are offering a head-to-toe solution in others specialist training or communication equipment. We have the luxury of being able to call on our partner company, Paramount – a leading African aerospace and defense group, to handle the assessments as well as to assist in tailor making solutions.

The pilot training program that we have just completed has been led by a veteran member of the elite British Forces.

“This particular individual is one of a number of trainers that have been identified by the Foundation to undertake these type of programs. We are committed to using



Press Release: 10 October 2013

Rhino Counter-Poaching Unit uses “Special Forces” tactics to thwart rhino poachers

resources such as these who will lend their abilities to up-skilling locals to preserve the national wildlife heritage throughout the continent,” says Ichikowitz.

Eric Ichikowitz expanded on the project, “The success of the Madikwe pilot programme has demonstrated that ‘professionalisation’ of Counter-Poaching Units and the inculcation of special forces discipline and pride into their activities can achieve remarkable results. “Now properly trained and equipped with field craft skills that enable them to plan patrols, deploy people in reconnaissance roles and offer swift support when required, the Counter-Poaching Unit is a cohesive force that will not be taken lightly by any opponents.

“By using tested military operational systems to increase tracking and observation skills, the teams have shown that by working together they can cover and traverse larger areas of reserve more efficiently than was previously the case.

“When approached by the Foundation the North West Parks and Tourism Board and Madikwe Park management immediately saw the advantage of the scheme and threw their weight behind the efforts. The change in the formation of the Counter-Poaching Unit has seen the emergence of a team of field rangers that have the equipment, discipline and enthusiasm to tackle poaching, this can be largely attributed to their open approach to the idea.

“We praise the management of the park for embarking on this pilot project and salute the CPU for taking the training seriously, with determination and incredible commitment,” said Ichikowitz. The success of a team of field rangers can be directly attributed to the training and equipment they have that enables them to operate effectively for long periods in the bush.

The Foundation has helped achieve this objective by ensuring the unit has full field combat kit. This includes uniforms, combat gear, communication equipment, combat lights and cutting edge sighting technology.

“The Foundation is pleased that this pilot programme has demonstrated success and has attracted attention elsewhere. A recent five-day demonstration on what the course involves and the results it can achieve was presented in the Kruger Park. Interest and commitment has already been expressed by other African countries in having the course rolled out in their parks,” says Ichikowitz.

Ivor Ichikowitz concluded, “We continue to work closely and provide operational support to SANPARKs with the ongoing roll-out of the ‘Seeker’ Project in the Kruger National Park”. This pilot program is another step towards hopefully making a difference, taking things seriously and turning the tide on the scourge of our Rhino’s.

“We hope that this, the Foundation’s most recent programme will not only be adopted by other reserves, but that it will become an example for other parks, farm owners



Press Release: 25 November 2014

PARAMOUNT GROUP LAUNCHES DEDICATED ANTI-POACHING TRAINING AND K9 ACADEMY

Rustenburg, 25 November 2014 – The Paramount Group, Africa’s largest privately-owned defence and aerospace manufacturer has today unveiled an Anti-Poaching Skills and K9 Training Academy in Magaliesberg, South Africa.

The Anti-Poaching Training Academy showcases the merits of up-skilling Conservation Officers with on-the-ground training and the impact effective K9 solutions can have in combatting poaching activities across the continent.

After three years of active involvement by the Ichikowitz Family Foundation and Paramount Group in anti-poaching activities this is a further commitment of its resources to the establishment of an on-the-ground training facility.

One of the largest of its kind in Africa, the Academy will address the ever increasing need for training of Conservation Officers in anti poaching activities, wildlife contraband detection, specialist K9 solutions and Ranger K9 handler training – all of which have proven success rates in combatting and apprehending poachers and their activities.

The centre has been established to provide comprehensive training solutions to assist in curbing the current surge in rhino and elephant poaching. These solutions include specialised anti-poaching reaction unit training, training of handlers and detection dogs at points of access to game reserves and borders, tracking dogs for field rangers, and training special operation dogs for rapid deployment teams, among others.

Says Eric Ichikowitz, Director Ichikowitz Family Foundation: “The last few years of involvement in the war against poaching has taught us that there is no better solution than well trained boots on the ground to effectively combat the wave of poachers that continue to flood into National Parks across the Continent.

“Conservation Officers have to be up-skilled and provided with the necessary training and support in order to effectively combat the increased levels of poaching that is taking place. All the technology in the world is ineffective if you don’t have well-trained anti-poaching units on the ground to back it up. These units equipped with specialist K9 solutions have proven to support existing efforts and are highly effective in tracking down poachers and ultimately leading to effective apprehensions.

“In addition we are seeing great results in placing detection dogs at strategic access points where smugglers are moving contraband across borders,” said Ichikowitz. The facility with 40 adult dogs, breeding stock, and over 50 puppies varying in ages from five weeks to five months is designed to manage in excess of 120 K9’s at various stages of development. The facility provides training for up to 20 specialist rangers per training course. Training courses dependent on requirements can be broken down into modules covered over an eight or ten week period.



Press Release: 25 November 2014

PARAMOUNT GROUP LAUNCHES DEDICATED ANTI-POACHING TRAINING AND K9 ACADEMY

The dog school specialises in breeding working Belgian Shepherd Dogs (Malinois) and German Shepherd Dogs (GSD) for anti-poaching, military and police, as well as any other specialised K9 solutions. Their breeding stock is selected from pure working bloodlines. The school also has working Rottweiler and Bloodhounds.

“At any one stage we have a large number of K9’s at various stages of development enabling us to develop on each K9’s unique capabilities as identified and tracked from infancy through adolescence. The large pool enables us to select optimal pairings between handlers and dogs, and to experiment with combinations,” says Ichikowitz
“The training protocols have been developed through experience gained in operational environments, working in close conjunction with the Kruger Parks special operations units. The training school in Magaliesberg is a custom developed anti-poaching facility developed to train anti-poaching rangers into specialised K9 handlers and to engage the handlers in the protocols of working with dogs in a wildlife environment,” adds Ichikowitz.

This is the latest initiative from Paramount Group and the Ichikowitz Family Foundation to bolster the response to rhino poaching in South Africa and other African countries, where wildlife populations are under severe threat. The Group’s anti-poaching programmes include the donation of surveillance aircraft and other military equipment to national parks, and the provision of combat training programmes to strengthen the capabilities of counter-poaching units.

The programme has already provided training for game rangers from a number of leading game reserves and national parks across the country, and from the continent. The parks and game reserves include Addo Elephant National Park, Timbavati, Marikele, Loskop/Manyeleti and Gabon National Parks. The programme also has a very close working partnership with SANParks, Stop Rhino Poaching and the Endangered Wildlife Trust.

According to statistics published on SaveTheRhino.org, released by the Department of Environmental Affairs on 5 November 2014, 969 rhinos have been poached, while 336 arrests have been made in South Africa in 2014.



Press Release: 29 September 2016

GABON NATIONAL PARKS AGENCY ANNOUNCES NEW ANTI-POACHING RAPID RESPONSE CAPABILITIES AT CITES COP17 WORLD WILDLIFE CONFERENCE

Johannesburg, 29 September 2016. Gabon National Parks Agency today announced the establishment of an Anti-Poaching Rapid Response Task Force during CITES COP17 world wildlife conference, in Johannesburg, South Africa. The Task Force has been established in line with the President of Gabon, Ali Bongo Ondimba's unwaivering commitment to address poaching in the Central African Nation.

Parcs Gabon, the National Parks Agency of Gabon, announced that it will work with the South African-based Ichikowitz Family Foundation to capacitate the new Anti-Poaching Rapid Reaction Task Force. The Ichikowitz Family Foundation has a strong track record of conservation leadership within Africa having financed anti-poaching initiatives for over six years. Their support for Parcs Gabon includes the immediate donation of a Gazelle helicopter and pilot training, specialist ranger training and equipment for anti-poaching officers, and the establishment of a K9 training facility in Gabon to address the on-going poaching of the country's forest elephant population.

These capabilities will advance President Ali Bongo's strong and dynamic leadership in global wildlife conservation over the last seven years. President Ali Bongo and his government through Gabon Parcs, have shown extraordinary leadership in changing the way the continent approaches conservation and have led the way in the protection of one of the world's most valuable assets, the rainforest of the Congo basin and its endangered species.

In support of President Bongo's zero tolerance policy towards poaching, Parcs Gabon will establish a special rapid reaction task force with the following objectives:

- Rapid response to poaching and trafficking situations throughout Gabon
- React to incidents in remote forest areas
- Address trans-national poaching through effectively tracking and arresting poachers
- Combat poaching activities that are increasingly becoming more violent in nature

Professor Lee White, Director of Parcs Gabon, said: "Gabon's natural heritage and wildlife is one of our greatest national assets and our park rangers do all they can to protect it. Poaching by organised criminal networks has become increasingly violent in the past two years and this has forced us to refine our anti-poaching strategy and how we equip our Eco-guards. Our partnership with the Ichikowitz Family Foundation has enabled us to access valuable equipment and training and our new rapid response capabilities will ensure we are even better equipped to preserve our natural heritage."

The announcement builds on the existing philanthropic partnership between the Ichikowitz Family Foundation to train Gabon's national park rangers to combat the illegal poaching of endangered forest elephants.

Ivor Ichikowitz, founder of the Ichikowitz Family Foundation said: "I want to commend the efforts by the the President of Gabon, Ali Bongo, and Parcs Gabon in intensifying the fight against the menace of poaching. We are privileged to be partnered with these giants of African conservation. This special conservation force will enhance the tremendous efforts already made by the Government of Gabon which is doing everything practically possible to protect the most important populations of forest elephants on the planet."



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“Gabon has worked tirelessly against the menace of poaching and we’re proud to deepen our existing partnership with the new rapid response capabilities announced today. Our experience in recent years has been that there is no better solution than well-trained boots on the ground operating closely with a fast reaction force from the air.”

John Stephenson, CEO of Stop Ivory, the Joint Secretariat to the Elephant Protection Initiative (EPI), said:

“Nearly 90 percent of Gabon consists of rain forest, which shelters close to a remarkable 60 percent of Africa’s remaining forest elephants – this means that Gabon has been a poaching hot spot for several years and so every effort made to protect this shrinking population is worth it.

“It is both exciting and humbling to see the support for Gabon’s front line wildlife protection forces from the Ichikowitz Family Foundation. True to the EPI’s mandate, of which Gabon is a founding member, it is support from private sector and other key stakeholders that will help reverse the rampant poaching levels that Gabon has been experiencing.”

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Text and photography
by Divan Muller



In terms of protecting South Africa's endangered rhinos,
2014 has been a tragic year, with well over 1 000
rhinos slaughtered. In fact, on average, more than three
South African rhinos are killed every day.

POACHERS BEWARE



Former special forces soldiers and their dogs leap from a helicopter during a training exercise in the Magaliesberg yesterday. The Advanced K9 Solutions school trains dogs and handlers in specialised anti-poaching techniques

Picture: KIM LUDBROOK/EPA



REARING TO GO. A dog threatens an instructor (unseen), during training at the Battle Creek K9 training facility near Rustenburg. Dogs are trained on a reward basis: once a dog has completed a task, it is rewarded with 'play' time - except for attack procedures.

THE CARROT. Assistant puppy instructor Johannes Moremi plays with four-month-old Belgian Malinois puppies. The litter of seven play for 30 minutes a day in the special area that mimics what the dogs will do as adults during their training. The military-style training lasts three months.



ON THE GO. Student Quentin de Jager, left centre, holds his dog as he and other students and instructors travel in the back of a 4x4 en route to the dog obstacle course for training. Dogs and handlers are drilled to find firearms or contraband, track suspects and abseil in harnesses from helicopters in pursuit of poachers.



NOW YOU SEE ME. Instructor Elliot Moseselane, 32, and his dog, Alpha, wear snipers ghillie suits. Handlers and their dogs patrol for up to three days in the bush and use the suits to blend into the surrounding bush. The training and deployment of anti-poaching dogs and handlers used in the fight against rhino poaching is done by the Advanced K9 Solutions dog training school.

A
DOG'S
LIFE

From drones to toxic mass relocations, South Africa's war on poaching is being fought on many fronts. But one of the most effective weapons in the anti-poaching arsenal comes in canine form. An initiative of the Ichikowitz Family Foundation sees dogs and handlers being trained in using Special Forces techniques to stem the tide of poaching that has seen thousands of rhinos and endangered animals killed in South Africa and other African countries over the past decade.

Pictures: Kim Ludbrook/EPA



GOTCHAI Dogs are used at game reserve entry points to sniff out weapons and poached animal products and are also trained in attack procedures. The secret training camp Battle Creek is located in the African bush, two hours from Johannesburg.



SAFE HANDS. Assistant puppy instructor Johannes Moremi carries a four-month-old Belgian Malinois puppy back to his kennel. Each litter of dogs is given the same letter names to help track dogs once they are adults and to know what parents they came from. With names such as Venom, Killer, Alpha and Delta, the dogs are either Belgian Malinois or German Shepherds and are chosen from litters bred at Battle Creek.



GOING NOWHERE. Two anti-poaching dogs detain a man posing as a poacher. An initiative of the Ichikowitz Family Foundation sees dogs and handlers being trained in using Special Forces techniques.



BLENDING IN. Instructor Elliot Moseselane lies in the bush with his dog, Alpha, during a simulated ambush. It is estimated that 400 canine units are needed in South Africa's game reserves alone and the training camp has about 50 dogs and 40 puppies at the moment.



HARD LANDING. An ex-special forces soldier and now anti-poaching dog handler jumps out of a helicopter with his dog while attempting to apprehend a suspected poacher. The handlers and dogs are flown into areas where rhinos have been killed to follow any scent from the poachers.



NAP TIME. Lucas Mosana and his dog, Delta, sleep in their oversized sleeping bags in the bush during a night-time training exercise. The handlers and dogs can operate alone for up to three days in the bush while on anti-poaching operations. The handler carries the dog's food and water, as well as his own and they sleep together.

BBC

NEWS AFRICA

Africa in pictures: 21-27 November 2014



Trainee rangers and dogs simulate an ambush on a rhino poacher on an anti-poaching training course in South Africa on Wednesday.

DOGS SAVING RHINOS



A handler posing as a rhino poacher is attacked by dogs while taking part in an anti-poaching training exercise in Magaliesburg yesterday. The training and deployment of anti-poaching dogs and handlers used in the fight against rhino poaching is conducted by Advanced K9 Solutions dog training school. The dogs and handlers are trained to detect access points to game reserves, tracking dogs for field rangers, and training special-operation dogs for rapid-deployment teams. The facility has 40 adult dogs, including breeding stock, and nearly 50 puppies, varying in ages from five weeks to five months.

PICTURES: KIM LUDBROOK / EPA



AP PHOTOS: South Africa rangers go through military-style training to help fight poaching

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS NOVEMBER 12, 2013



STORY

PHOTOS (4)



In this photo taken Friday, Nov. 8, 2013 a camouflaged anti-rhino poaching trooper simulates the hunt for poachers in the Madikwe Game Reserve. The majestic sight of wild animals roaming freely through South Africa's game reserves is being severely threatened by poachers targeting rhinoceros. More than 600 rhinos in South Africa have been killed for their horns this year. To help combat poaching, a foundation is setting up a pilot project in the Madikwe Game Reserve, along South Africa's northern border with Botswana, to bring military-style training to the rangers there. (AP Photo/Themba Hadebe)

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JOHANNESBURG - The majestic sight of wild animals roaming freely through South Africa's game reserves is being severely threatened by poachers targeting the rhinoceros.

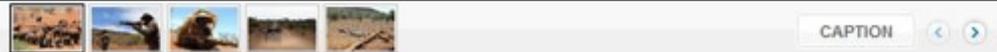
More than 600 rhinos in South Africa have been killed for their horns this year.

To help combat poaching, a foundation is setting up a pilot project in the Madikwe Game Reserve, along South Africa's northern border with Botswana, to bring military-style training to the rangers there. The program, financed by the Ichikowitz Family Foundation, puts the rangers through an intensive six-week training program, overseen by former Special Task soldiers from around the world. The project will expanded into other areas where rhino poaching has reached a crisis point, says the foundation.

Rangers learn combat training, target shooting, building camouflage netting to ambush the poachers and are introduced with new equipment to combat poaching.

The Washington Post

AP PHOTOS: South Africa rangers go through military-style training to help fight poaching



JOHANNESBURG — The majestic sight of wild animals roaming freely through South Africa's game reserves is being severely threatened by poachers targeting the rhinoceros.

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To help combat poaching, a foundation is setting up a pilot project in the [Madikwe](#) Game Reserve, along South Africa's northern border with Botswana, to bring military-style training to the rangers there. The program, financed by the Ichikowitz Family Foundation, puts the rangers through an intensive six-week training program, overseen by former Special Task soldiers from around the world. The project will expand into other areas where rhino poaching has reached a crisis point, says the foundation.

TheNational | WORLD

Abseiling attack dogs join fight against South Africa's rhino poachers



Dogs and their handlers exit a helicopter as they practise chasing down a rhino poacher in a simulation exercise at an academy run by the Paramount Group, near Rustenburg, South Africa. Denis Farrell/AP Photo

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Abseiling dogs join fight against rhino poachers - in pictures

A dog and its handler take an academy run by the Paramount Group, near Rustenburg, South Africa. Dogs are a small part of an increasingly desperate struggle to curb poaching in Africa. In South Africa, poachers have killed more than 1,000 rhinos in the past 15 years. (AP Photo)

December 1, 2014

An entry of dogs are being trained at South African defence company Paramount Group's contribution to fighting the poachers in South Africa, home to most of the world's rhinos. All photos by Denis Farrell / AP Photo



Taking the fight against rhino poaching to a new level

South Africa | Tuesday 12 November 2013 - 4:56pm



BELA BELA - Anti-poaching rangers are upping the ante in the fight against rhino killings. Game rangers are undergoing military training to beef up combat skills.

Madikwe Game Reserve in South Africa has seen a significant drop in rhino poaching since April, which is when park rangers commenced their Special Forces Training. 825 rhino have been killed in South Africa so far this year. Management is now cautiously optimistic that the tide is turning.

* Watch the eNCA video report above, on the Special Forces training the rangers are receiving from a former British soldier, and how this has made difference.

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AP News

AP PHOTOS: SAfrica rangers train to fight poaching

By The Associated Press | November 12, 2013



JOHANNESBURG (AP) — The majestic sight of wild animals roaming freely through South Africa's game reserves is being severely threatened by poachers targeting the rhinoceros.

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The project will expanded into other areas where rhino poaching has reached a crisis point, says the foundation.

Tide turns on one front in Africa's war against rhino poachers

REUTERS By Ed Stoddard
November 11, 2013 2:17 PM

By Ed Stoddard

MADIKWE GAME RESERVE, South Africa (Reuters) - New infantry-style tactics of concealment and ambush by armed park rangers are credited with turning the tide in the war against poachers of the endangered rhino on one front, in South Africa's Madikwe Game Reserve.

The slaughter of rhinos - a creature regarded as an icon of African wildlife - for their horns to meet soaring demand in Asia has raised alarm bells among conservationists.

Since April, Madikwe rangers previously so under-equipped that they lacked even boots have been undergoing military training overseen by a former British special forces soldier.

They have been kitted out with state-of-the-art gear provided by the Ichikowitz Family Foundation, a charity that supports anti-poaching initiatives on the African continent.

The numbers suggest this strategy is working. "Since the training started in April, we have not lost a rhino that we know of," said Declan Hofmeyr, chief of operations at Madikwe.

To be precise, the last rhino known to have been poached in the park was on April 6, more than 200 days ago, a remarkable turn of events given the onslaught that had been taking place.

Poachers have gunned down rhinos indiscriminately to meet demand from newly affluent economies in Asia, notably Vietnam and China, where the animal's horn is highly prized as a crucial ingredient in traditional medicines.

At \$65,000 a kg (2.2 lb), rhino horn on the streets of major Asian cities is now more valuable than gold or platinum. South Africa, which is home to the vast majority of the world's rhinos, has become the epicenter of the slaughter.

Last year the 680-square-km (260-square-mile) Madikwe lost 18 rhinos to poachers, a dramatic surge from 2011 when two were slain. In the first 3-1/2 months of this year a further nine were killed in the park for their horns.



A White Rhino and her calf walk in the dusk light in Pilanesberg National Park in South Africa's North ...



Then the killing stopped in Madikwe, while the toll has continued to rise in the rest of South Africa. According to government data, as of November 6, 825 rhino had been poached in South Africa in 2013, compared to 668 for all of last year.

If the trend stays at its current pace, more than 1,000 rhinos would be killed in 2014, putting the roughly 22,000 animals in South Africa on the brink of population decline.

FROM RANGERS TO SOLDIERS

The rangers in Madikwe, mostly rural Africans drawn from the region, have bushcraft skills and a rich knowledge of flora and fauna honed from lifetimes spent in the rough countryside.

But their equipment was shoddy and they had no military training, putting them at a distinct disadvantage when confronted by well-armed poachers backed by international organized crime syndicates.

Ex-British army soldier Alan Ives, who has been overseeing their training, told Reuters: "It's easier to make a soldier out of a ranger than it is to take a trained soldier and teach them about the African bush."

The Madikwe rangers now have scopes mounted to their rifles and torches or flashlights for night patrols, among other equipment upgrades.

This does not mean they are cowboys rushing out to shoot to kill - South Africa does not officially have such a policy - but the training and firearms improvements are seen as potential deterrents to poachers.

Some of the rangers previously didn't even have boots and showed up for patrol in jeans. "Not all of us had boots before, I used to bring my own but they were too tight for me, I couldn't even walk 3 kms without taking a rest," said 26-year-old Given Ntmane.

The military has been deployed elsewhere in South Africa to tackle the rhino poaching problem, such as in the Israel-sized Kruger National Park, where former special-forces soldiers have also joined the ranks of park rangers.

The success of such tactics in Madikwe compared to Kruger - which has lost 500 rhinos so far this year, and counting - may come down to size and geography.

At almost 20,000 square km, Kruger is nearly 40 times the size of Madikwe, and even putting 40 times the number of boots on the ground there may not help that much because its wilderness areas are so remote and far off the beaten track.

Kruger also has a 350-km (210-mile) long border with Mozambique, one of the world's poorest countries where rural villages are often densely populated, providing plenty of recruits for the lucrative business of rhino poaching.

Madikwe by contrast shares a border with sparsely populated and relatively affluent Botswana.

Still the Madikwe success could be rolled out elsewhere in the country if donor or state funds are made available.

Small local populations also mean word spreads fast. "We are also doing a lot more live ammunition training now. People around the reserve can hear this and it sends a very clear message about our abilities and intentions," Hofmeyr said.

(Editing by Michael Roddy and Mark Heinrich)

BY ED STODDARD

MADIKWE GAME RESERVE, South Africa Mon Nov 11, 2013 7:40pm EST

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A White Rhino and her calf walk in the dusk light in Pilanesberg National Park in South Africa's North West Province April 19, 2012.

(Reuters) - New infantry-style tactics of concealment and ambush by armed park rangers are credited with turning the tide in the war against poachers of the endangered rhino on one front, in South Africa's **Madikwe** Game Reserve.

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Since April, **Madikwe** rangers previously so under-equipped that they lacked even boots have been undergoing military training overseen by a former British special forces soldier.

They have been kitted out with state-of-the-art gear provided by the Ichikowitz Family Foundation, a charity that supports anti-poaching initiatives on the African continent.

The numbers suggest this strategy is working. "Since the training started in April, we have not lost a rhino that we know of," said Declan **Hofmeyr**, chief of operations at **Madikwe**.

To be precise, the last rhino known to have been poached in the park was on April 6, more than 200 days ago, a remarkable turn of events given the onslaught that had been taking place.

Poachers have gunned down rhinos indiscriminately to meet demand from newly affluent economies in Asia, notably Vietnam and China, where the animal's horn is highly prized as a crucial ingredient in traditional medicines.

At \$65,000 a kg (2.2 lb), rhino horn on the streets of major Asian cities is now more valuable than gold or platinum. South Africa, which is home to the vast majority of the world's rhinos, has become the **epicenter** of the slaughter.

Last year the 680-square-km (260-square-mile) **Madikwe** lost 18 rhinos to poachers, a dramatic surge from 2011 when two were slain. In the first 3-1/2 months of this year a further nine were killed in the park for their horns.

Then the killing stopped in **Madikwe**, while the toll has continued to rise in the rest of South Africa. According to government data, as of November 6, 825 rhino had been poached in South Africa in 2013, compared to 668 for all of last year.

If the trend stays at its current pace, more than 1,000 rhinos would be killed in 2014, putting the roughly 22,000 animals in South Africa on the brink of population decline.

FROM RANGERS TO SOLDIERS

The rangers in **Madikwe**, mostly rural Africans drawn from the region, have **bushcraft** skills and a rich knowledge of flora and fauna honed from lifetimes spent in the rough countryside.

But their equipment was shoddy and they had no military training, putting them at a distinct disadvantage when confronted by well-armed poachers backed by international organized crime syndicates.

Ex-British army soldier Alan Ives, who has been overseeing their training, told Reuters: "It's easier to make a soldier out of a ranger than it is to take a trained soldier and teach them about the African bush."

The **Madikwe** rangers now have scopes mounted to their rifles and torches or flashlights for night patrols, among other equipment upgrades.

This does not mean they are cowboys rushing out to shoot to kill - South Africa does not officially have such a policy - but the training and firearms improvements are seen as potential deterrents to poachers.

Some of the rangers previously didn't even have boots and showed up for patrol in jeans. "Not all of us had boots before, I used to bring my own but they were too tight for me, I couldn't even walk 3 kms without taking a rest," said 26-year-old Given **Nitmane**.

The military has been deployed elsewhere in South Africa to tackle the rhino poaching problem, such as in the Israel-sized Kruger National Park, where former special-forces soldiers have also joined the ranks of park rangers.

The success of such tactics in **Madikwe** compared to Kruger - which has lost 500 rhinos so far this year, and counting - may come down to size and geography.

At almost 20,000 square km, Kruger is nearly 40 times the size of **Madikwe**, and even putting 40 times the number of boots on the ground there may not help that much because its wilderness areas are so remote and far off the beaten track.

Kruger also has a 350-km (210-mile) long border with Mozambique, one of the world's poorest countries where rural villages are often densely populated, providing plenty of recruits for the lucrative business of rhino poaching.

Madikwe by contrast shares a border with sparsely populated and relatively affluent Botswana.

Still the **Madikwe** success could be rolled out elsewhere in the country if donor or state funds are made available.

Small local populations also mean word spreads fast. "We are also doing a lot more live ammunition training now. People around the reserve can hear this and it sends a very clear message about our abilities and intentions," **Hofmeyr** said.

(Editing by Michael Roddy and Mark Heinrich)



Home >News >World >Middle East / Africa

African Rangers Get Military Training to Beat Rhino Poaching

Park rangers at the Madikwe Game Reserve get Special Forces Military style training to combat rhino poaching which is set to hit a record high in 2013.

2013-11-12 05:56 PM



As a group of journalists turn their backs to them, five armed rangers in camo military dress melt into the African bush under a baking sun.

Such infantry-style tactics of concealment and ambush are credited with turning the tide on one frontline in the rhino-poaching wars in South Africa's rugged Madikwe Game Reserve.

Since April, the park's rangers have been undergoing military training overseen by a former British special forces soldier.

They've also been kitted out with state-of-the-art equipment provided by the Ichikowitz Family Foundation, a charity that supports anti-poaching initiatives on the continent.

[Alan Ives, Ex-British Army Soldier]:

"Traditionally it takes about three weeks to teach this and we push this through in six days. So we run from five in the morning until about eight at night. We train them on unarmed combat, we train them weapons skills, patrolling, cam and concealment, basic field admin, communications and navigation."

The rangers in Madikwe have bushcraft skills and a rich knowledge of flora and fauna honed from lifetimes spent in the rough countryside.

[Alan Ives, Ex-British Army Soldier]:

"One of the guys had no boots to fit him and some of the guys had no socks. Not all of them had matching uniforms. They had one set of uniform and they couldn't wash it. So for 20 days they kept that on and they stank, and then they washed it. When we came here we changed all that. We gave them two sets of uniforms per guy. We gave them brand new boots, we gave them socks, we gave them, taught them how to shoot. And all of them can shoot now very, very comfortably at 200 yards and most at 600 yards as well."

The Madikwe rangers now have scopes mounted to their rifles and torches or flashlights for night patrols, among other equipment upgrades.

[Given Nimane, Ranger]:

"All we had was just bush experience, we didn't know how to handle a rifle properly. We couldn't shoot perfect. We didn't have that much combat skills when it comes to, maybe let me say, we hit contact, what to do. How to react if something happens. But after Alan and them came, yeah they changed our lives a lot. I've got kids so I don't want my kids to end up seeing a rhino on 10 Rand cash. So I decided I have to be in the bush fight for their future."

Since the training began in April, the park has not lost a single rhino.

The success of such tactics in Madikwe compared to Israeli-sized Kruger National Park—which has lost 500 rhinos so far this year and counting—may come down to size and geography.

Rhinos are being gunned down in a wave of poaching to meet soaring demand from newly-affluent economies in Asia, notably Vietnam and China.

The animal's horn is highly prized as a crucial ingredient in traditional medicines.

At 65-thousand dollars a kilogram, rhino horn on the streets of major Asian cities is now more valuable than gold or platinum.

According to government data, as of November 6, 825 rhino had been poached in South Africa in 2013, compared to 668 for 2012.

ANTI-RHINO POACHING

Game rangers to take to the skies

A NEW, state-of-the-art surveillance aircraft represents a vital alliance between the public and private sector in the fight against rhino poaching, SA National Parks (SANParks) said yesterday.

SANParks CEO David Mabunda said the aircraft would be used in operations against rhino poachers.

“The people making the money are syndicates and we must go after them. We need all the resources we can get.”

He said the advantage provided by the plane, which was donated by the Ichowitz Foundation and the Paramount Group, would have come too late if it was procured through the usual government processes.

“We will not win this war just with the rangers with meagre resources.... Do you know how difficult it is to get money from Treasury for an effort like this?” Mabunda asked. “It takes a lot of memorandums and a lot of bureaucracy and by the time money is allocated... there will be no rhino left.”

Mabunda said partnerships with the private sector were needed as the government faced many service delivery problems and could not devote resources to fighting poaching when they were needed elsewhere.

“The cause of the rhino will rank very low in the priority of government. That is a reality.”

South Africa is home to almost 80 percent of the world’s rhino and represents the last, viable population.

He said most of these rhino lived in the Kruger National Park, which represented a “critical mass” in rhino poaching.

The Seeker Seabird has surveillance capabilities in the form of a camera fitted to its body. – Sapa

Eye in the sky will help foil poachers

SHAUN SMILLIE

shaun.smillie@inl.co.za

THE WAR on rhino poaching has a new eye in the sky – a two-seater reconnaissance plane fitted with some of the latest surveillance technology.

Its range will depend on how long the pilot’s bladder holds out.

The small Seeker Seabird will join the fight against rhino poaching in the Kruger National Park in the next few weeks. It is painted in a blue camouflage that makes it harder to see in the air.

It is hoped that the eyes of a spotter in the sky will help to defeat the rhino-killing surge by collecting intelligence.

The plane was unveiled yesterday at Skukuza Airport in the Kruger Park. It has been donated to SANParks by the Ichikowitz Family Foundation and the Paramount Group.

Foundation chairman Ivor Ichikowitz believes the Seeker Seabird will overcome many of the problems other fixed-wing aircraft experience in the war against poaching. One these is range and time in the air.

Ichikowitz said the Seeker Seabird was cheaper to fly and could remain in the sky for seven hours.

“The range is limited to the



SPOTTER: A Seeker Seabird at Skukuza Airport in the Kruger National Park, where it was introduced to the public yesterday. The plane will be used in the fight against rhino poachers.

PICTURE: CHRIS COLLINGRIDGE

size of the pilot’s bladder.”

The plane was able to fly high with minimum noise and was to be fitted with a FLIR Ball [Forward Looking Infrared] camera, which uses thermal imaging technology and can pick up the heat signature of poacher.

The Paramount Group, which manufactures defence systems, will kit out the plane with state-of-the-art surveillance equipment.

The plane will be able to operate both night and day and could also be used as a command platform where a spotter in the air could co-ordinate rangers pursu-

ing poachers on the ground.

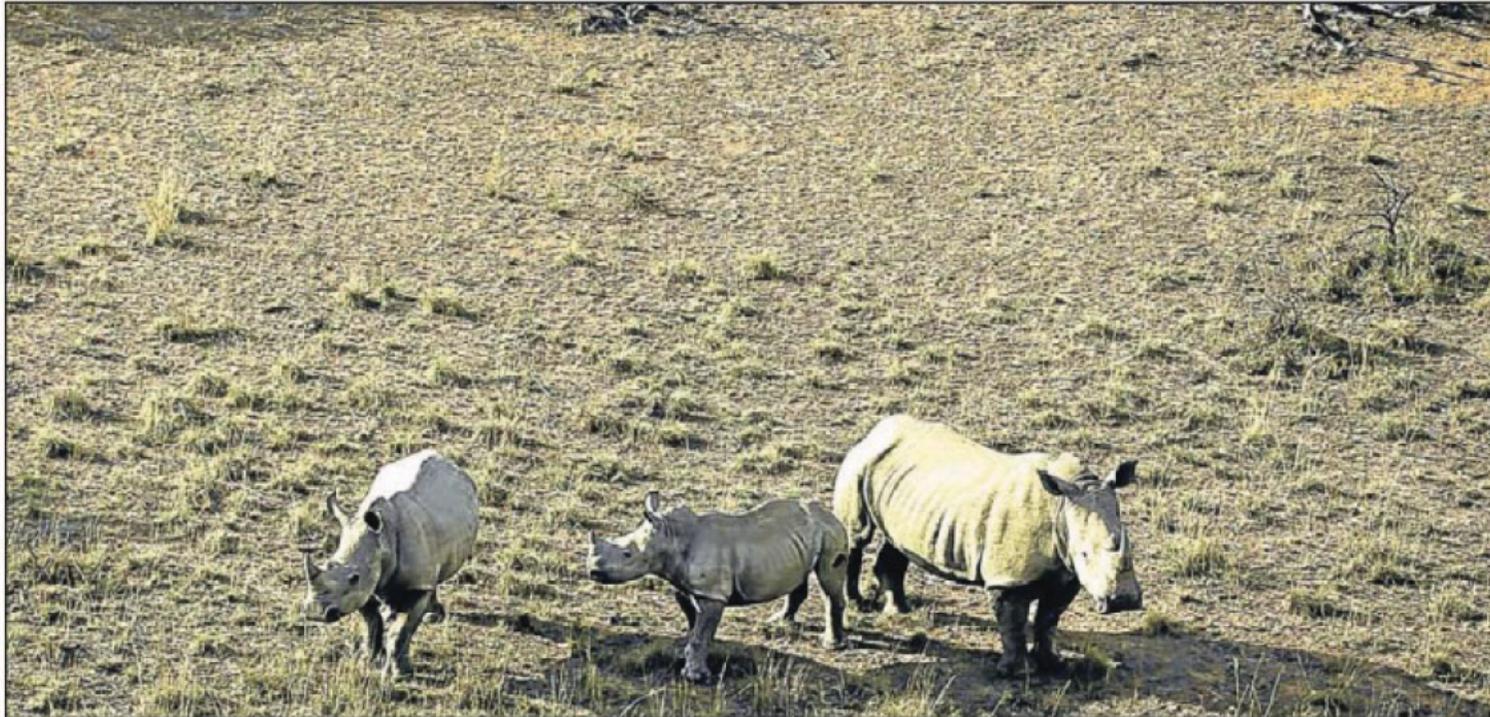
The plane is manufactured in Australia, where it is used on wildlife patrols. Defence forces around the world use the plane for patrolling purposes.

Yesterday, SANParks chief executive David Mabunda welcomed the new addition to his arsenal.

He said 588 rhinos had been killed in South Africa this year – 364 of them in Kruger.

The Seeker Seabird might also be used in other national parks in South Africa affected by rhino poaching.

Aircraft joins fight against rhino poaching



UNDER SIEGE: The Ichowitz Family Foundation and Paramount Group donated a state-of-the-art surveillance aircraft to SA National Parks yesterday to help in the fight against rhino poaching.

PHOTO: DANIEL BORN

THE battle against rhino poaching received further reinforcement yesterday in the form of a state-of-the-art surveillance aircraft donated to South African National Parks.

The specially outfitted Seeker Seabird was donated by the Ichowitz Family Foundation and Paramount Group.

SanParks chief executive David Mabunda said the park represented a "critical mass" in rhino poaching.

"Not only is the Kruger National Park home to the largest population of rhinos in the world it also remains the hardest hit by poaching."

He said the park had lost

760 of the 1 369 rhino killed since January 2010.

The foundation's chairman Ivo Ichowitz said the Seeker Seabird reconnaissance had surveillance capability in the form of a camera fitted to its body, could also accommodate a human spotter and had several advantages over

a helicopter, including being less expensive to fly, quieter and having a longer range.

"It does a lot of the work of a helicopter, but is very quiet ... people on the ground don't know it is around until it's right over their heads. Quite frankly, the range of the plane is limited only by the size of

the pilot's bladder."

He and Kruger National Park managing executive Abe Sibiya said the plane was only a part of the fight against rhino poaching.

"This is not a war that's going to end today or tomorrow, we are in this for the long haul," Sibiya said. — *Sapa*

HELP FROM THE SKY



SILENT FIGHTER: After losing 760 of the 1 369 rhino killed in the country since 2010, the Kruger National Park is going high-tech and airborne in tackling the slaughter. Here, rangers look at their new anti-poaching aircraft named Seeker. It is a high-tech, low-speed reconnaissance aircraft to detect the poachers before they strike, so countering their use of high-powered weapons, helicopters and night vision goggles. The anti-poaching aircraft is equipped with sophisticated heat sensors to detect animals and humans on the ground. The plane – powered by a low-noise engine – was donated by the Ichowitz Foundation and the Paramount Group

Picture: REUTERS



Dog's army set to lead the fight against rhino poachers in South Africa



Over 1,000 African rhinos have already been killed this year

KIRAN MOOOLEY | Monday 08 December 2014

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The South African government is training an army of dogs to help them curb the country's increasingly active rhino poachers.

Poachers of the African rhino have already killed 1,020 creatures in South Africa this year alone.

The number is growing by the year: according to the World Wildlife Fund (WWF), 122 were killed in South Africa in 2009 and 333 in 2010.

Despite authorities resorting to more rangers on patrol and drone surveillance, the impact of these has been limited.

Wilhelm Hendrick Holsthyzen, the CEO of K9 Security Solutions, said that well-trained dogs were the best solution.

"In the fight against rhino poaching, the dog's nose has proved invaluable in finding poachers," he said. "Our human trackers, which rely solely on their eyesight, cannot see spore due to environmental conditions - be that very thick vegetation or rocky outcrops. The dog's sense of smell has proven superior in scenarios like that."



CHARITY APPEAL
Ex-soldier who jumped in the Thames, survived and found way back to dignity



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Tim Willis remembers the bootboys who terrorised 1970s society

TECH

Abseiling Attack Dogs Deployed to Save South Africa's Rhinos

by Franz Wild

November 26, 2014 – 7:26 PM SAST Updated on November 27, 2014 – 5:42 PM SAST



Ranger trainees and trainee dogs simulate an ambush against a rhino poacher at the Paramount Group Anti-Poaching training and K9 academy in Magaliesberg, South Africa, on Nov. 26, 2014. Photographer: Gianluigi Guercia/AFP via Getty Images

The Telegraph

Pictures of the day: 27 November 2014



Ranger trainees and trainee dogs simulate an ambush against rhino poachers at the Paramount Group Anti-Poaching training and K9 (canine) academy in Magaliesberg, South Africa

Picture: GIANLUIGI GUERCA/AFP/Getty Images

December 1, 2014

HUFF POST GREEN

South Africa Turns To New Breed Of Anti-Poaching Crime Fighters



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RUSTENBURG, South Africa (AP) — Venom and Killer. These are members of a furry breed of anti-poaching operatives, dogs that can detect a whiff of hidden rhino horn in a suspect's vehicle or follow the spoor of armed poachers in South Africa's besieged wildlife parks.

Dogs are a small part of an increasingly desperate struggle to curb poaching in Africa, where tens of thousands of elephants have been slaughtered in recent years to meet a surging appetite for ivory in Asia, primarily China. In South Africa, poachers have killed more than 1,000 rhinos this year, surpassing the 2013 record. Countries and conservationists are trying more robust patrols and surveillance, community programs and other tactics against criminal gangs that sometimes benefit from official corruption.

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▶ As the conflict rages, elite dogs and handlers are drilling at an anti-poaching academy northwest of Johannesburg. The course prepares canine units to find firearms or contraband, track suspects in the undergrowth and abseil in harnesses from helicopters in pursuit of poachers. Dogs and handlers learn to trust each other and fine tune a relationship balancing control and aggression.

Vietnam

Breaking news

Go, dog, go! South Africa is sick of the rhino poachers

November 27, 2014 by [thanhviennews](#) [Leave a Comment](#)

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In South Africa, attack dogs join war against ivory poachers



2:17 am, December 01, 2014

The Associated Press

RUSTENBURG, South Africa (AP) — Venom and Killer. These are members of a furry breed of antipoaching operatives, dogs that can detect a whiff of hidden rhino horn in a suspect's vehicle or follow the spoor of armed poachers in South Africa's besieged wildlife parks.

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The Associated Press

In this photo taken Wednesday, attack dogs and their handlers apprehend a "rhino poacher," center, in a simulation exercise showing training at an academy run by the Paramount Group near Rustenburg, South Africa.



Could These Dogs Help Save Rhinos?



Photo: AP Photo/Doris Furell

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LA ESTRELLA DE PANAMÁ

Los perros, clave contra la caza furtiva en África



Los perros son una pequeña pieza en la lucha por frenar la caza furtiva en el continente africano.

Veneno y Asesino forman parte de una brigada peluda que trabaja en operativos contra la caza furtiva en África. Son perros que, solo con olisquear, pueden detectar un cuerno de rinoceronte escondido en el vehículo de un sospechoso o seguir el rastro de cazadores furtivos en los asediados parques naturales de Sudáfrica.

Los perros son una pequeña pieza en la lucha desesperada para frenar la caza furtiva en el continente, donde decenas de miles de elefantes fueron sacrificados en los últimos años para satisfacer el creciente apetito por el marfil en Asia, principalmente en China. En Sudáfrica, los cazadores furtivos han matado a más de mil rinocerontes este año, sobrepasando el récord de 2013.

Países y conservacionistas están probando con patrullas y vigilancia más robusta, programas comunitarios y otras tácticas contra las bandas organizadas que a veces se benefician de la corrupción oficial. Mientras el conflicto crece en intensidad, perros de élite y sus entrenadores se preparan en una academia contra furtivos al noroeste del Johannesburgo.

El curso prepara a unidades caninas para detectar armas de fuego o contrabando, rastrear a sospechosos entre la maleza y descender desde helicópteros con arneses para perseguir a los delincuentes.

Los canes y sus compañeros de trabajo aprenden a confiar en el otro y a perfeccionar una relación que equilibra control y agresión. 'Uno tiene que ser el macho dominante. Con suerte, es el hombre y no el perro', dijo Marius van Heerden, un manipulador de perros de 28 años que vive, trabaja y duerme con Veneno, un pastor belga cuya raza es conocida por sus características atléticas y resistencia y que ha sido empleada por el ejército de Estados Unidos en Irak y Afganistán. Veneno posiblemente recibió ese nombre tras morder a sus entrenadores cuando era un cachorro, explicó van Heerden.

La academia está gestionada por Paramount Group, con sede en Sudáfrica y que fabrica vehículos militares y otros equipos y cuenta con unos 50 perros adultos y otros tantos cachorros. La mayoría son pastores belgas y pastores alemanes.

TAIPEI TIMES

Abseiling dogs deployed to save South Africa's rhinos



An ex-special forces soldier and new anti-poaching dog handler jumps out of a helicopter with his dog while taking part in a training exercise in Magaliesburg, South Africa, on Wednesday.

Photo: EPA

1 2

Strapped into a black nylon harness, Venom abseils down 30m from a helicopter to a bush clearing. The two-year-old Belgian shepherd's master Marius slides down in tandem and unclips the dog. Then it races across the grass and tears down a man wearing a felt-stuffed bite suit.

Venom is one of an army of dogs being trained as part of South African defense company Paramount Group's contribution to fighting poachers in the nation, home to most of the world's rhinoceroses. Prized for their horns, which are used in Asian traditional medicine, a record

1,020 rhinoceroses have been slaughtered this year, triple the number recorded three years ago.

The Belgian Malinois, as the breed is also known, "can work in extreme conditions," said Henry Holsthyzon, who runs Paramount's K9 Solutions dog academy, at a presentation of the year-old school on Thursday. "It's been proven useful in Iraq and Afghanistan. It's high-energy, highly intelligent and very fast. It's an awesome package."

Rhinoceros horns are made of the same material as human hair or fingernails, yet are more valuable than gold by weight. Prices per kilogram range between US\$65,000 and US\$95,000 in China and Vietnam, where consumers buy them in a powdered form to ingest as a supposed cure for cancer and to try to improve their libido.

South Africa is trying a number of measures to end poaching, including setting up a protection zone within Kruger National Park, moving rhinoceroses to private ranches and deploying soldiers to fight poachers.

Johannesburg-based Paramount, run by the Ichikowitz family, last year contributed a helicopter to help catch poachers in Kruger.

The K9 academy is about two hours' drive from Johannesburg, beside the Magaliesburg ridge that stretches out to the west of the city. About 60 adult dogs, some Malinois, some bred with German shepherds, which are bigger and slower, and 60 puppies are preparing for deployment in South Africa's war on poaching.

Venom's snout is long and black. The rest of the 30kg dog is covered in a short fawn coat. He pants to keep cool in the more than 30°C heat. A Malinois can sell for as much as 100,000 rands (US\$9,093). From the age of about six weeks, the dogs start being trained in the arts of hunting, tracking and detecting.



BULGARIAN
NEWS
AGENCY

South Africa Dogs and Rhinos



In this photo taken Wednesday, Nov. 26, 2014 a dog is edged on to attack a "rhino poacher" left, in a simulation exercise showing training at an academy run by the Paramount Group, near Rustenburg, South Africa. The group prepares canine units to find firearms or contraband, track suspects in the undergrowth and abseil in harnesses from helicopters in pursuit of poachers. Dogs and handlers learn to trust each other and fine tune a relationship balancing control and aggression. (AP Photo/Denis Farrell)

Source: AP

Man's best friend can abseil off a helicopter



Dogs are trained to catch rhino poachers at the K9 Anti-Poaching Training Academy in Rustenburg, which was unveiled on Wednesday, 26 November 2014 by the Paramount Group, a privately-owned defence and aerospace manufacturer involved in anti-poaching. At their dog school, which is situated on a 1200-hectare military facility known as 'Battle Creek', each dog's capabilities are identified as youngsters and developed. Picture: Supplied

Man's furry best friend is not only there to love and play with you. Some of them can abseil off helicopters and camouflage themselves in thick bush days at a times to catch rhino poachers.

Multimedia



Dead shark gives birth to 2 baby sharks

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ALL 4 WOMEN
IT'S ALL HAPPENING ONLINE

Anti-poaching dogs trained to abseil out of helicopters to save rhino



Dogs are trained to catch rhino poachers at the K9 Anti-Poaching Training Academy in Rustenburg, which was unveiled on Wednesday, 26 November, 2014 by the Paramount Group, a privately-owned defence and aerospace manufacturer involved in anti-poaching. At their dog school, which is situated on a 1200-hectare military facility known as 'Battle Creek', each dog's capabilities are identified as youngsters and developed. Picture: Supplied

Some of them can abseil off helicopters and camouflage themselves in thick bush for days at a times to catch rhino poachers.

That's what Belgian Shepherd (Malinois) and German Shepherd dogs are trained to do at K9 Anti-Poaching Training Academy in Rustenburg, which was unveiled on Wednesday by the Paramount Group, a privately-owned defence and aerospace manufacturer involved in anti-poaching. Paramount works with the Ichikowitz Family Foundation on this initiative.

Dogs taught to abseil with owners, jump from helicopters into dams

At their dog school, which is situated on a 1 200-hectare military facility known as 'Battle Creek', each dog's capabilities are identified when they are youngsters and developed. At two-and-a-half years old, the dogs reach their peak and begin working.

So skilled are these dogs that they can abseil off helicopters with their handlers using a 50m rope, or jump from a low-flying chopper into a dam to catch a poacher escaping through the water.

That's what a working Malinois named Venom does on a daily basis

"He doesn't realise how big his contribution is. The dogs are the unsung heroes in the war against poaching," said Eric Ichikowitz, director of the foundation.

Dogs Bangui and Bailey, meanwhile, display other unique talents, which require a disguise. Covered in sand-brown ghillie suits, the dogs hide out in the dense bush with their handlers for hours, or even days at a time, waiting to ambush poachers - no matter how extreme the weather.

So silent and camouflaged are they, that a group of journalists walking past did not notice them.

"They are skilled to be invisible in the bush, and they never use the same place twice," said Ichikowitz.



German shepherd called Alpha, trained to catch rhino poachers at the K9 Anti-Poaching Training Academy in Rustenburg, which was unveiled on Wednesday, 26 November 2014 by the Paramount Group, a privately-owned defence and aerospace manufacturer involved in anti-poaching.

DailyNews

Super K9s in rhino poach war

November 26 2014 at 08:12am
By MIRANDA RAATH

Man's furry best friend is not only there to love and play with you. Some of them can abseil off helicopters and camouflage themselves in thick bush for days at a times to catch rhino poachers.

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So silent and camouflaged are they, that journalists walking past did not notice them.

"They are skilled to be invisible in the bush, and they never use the same place twice," said Ichikowitz.

"We are training them to be patient, silent and quiet at the OP (observation posts). They can go out (that is, stay hidden in the bush) for three days at a time. They learn to ration food and water and not attract poachers... The handlers know they are living for two, not one, so they ration water for the dog as well."

Then there's Bannim, a 2-and-a-half-year-old Malinois, and Saskia, a 1-year-old German Shepherd, who are more attuned to picking up a range of scents - from weapons to rhino horns. In a simulation exercise, two vehicles were stationed one behind the other. One vehicle contained a weapon and the other, a small bottle of rhino horn shavings.

Not knowing what was inside or where it was hidden, Bannim casually walked around both vehicles and sat down when he picked up a scent. The reward from his handler, Marius, was a ball thrown for him to catch.



A handler posing as a rhino poacher is attacked by dogs while taking part in an anti-poaching training exercise in the Magaliesburg this week. The training and deployment of anti-poaching dogs and handlers in the fight against rhino poaching is conducted by Advanced K9 Solutions dog training school. The dogs are trained to detect access points to game reserves, as trailing dogs for field rangers, and as special-operation training dogs for rapid-deployment teams. The facility has 40 adult dogs, including breeding stock, and nearly 50 puppies, varying in ages from five weeks to five months.



EPA

Poaching a destabilising force in Africa



Analysis
IVOR ICHIKOWITZ

IN THE last decade alone, 1000 rangers in 35 different countries have been killed. Even worse is the thousands of lives lost in the wars and conflict that the poaching funded. Yet many roll their eyes about environmentalists and conservationists' zealous work to counter rampant poaching on the continent. Too often it is dismissed as an environmentalist issue.

The reality is that poaching in Africa is simply no longer solely a conservation issue. As poaching reaches crisis levels there is an even bigger threat on the horizon.

Poaching also funds a wide range of destabilising factors across Africa. Nefarious organisations fuelling conflict and instability in places such as the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Sudan and Somalia rely increasingly on trafficking in contraband as a source of finance.

On the ground, ivory is bush currency for militants, militias and terrorists, and one of the most valuable pieces of illicit contraband for organised criminals and corrupt elites. Like blood diamonds and drugs, ivory and rhino is the new cash for criminals.

We are talking about big money. The overall black market for illegal wildlife trade has become the fourth most lucrative criminal activity internationally, after drugs, counterfeit goods and human trafficking, yielding \$19bn a year.

Professor Moses Montesh, from the College of Law at Unisa, certainly views rhino poaching as a new form of organised crime in South Africa.

He said that although details of the nature and extent of the Asian-run syndicates behind the illegal export of rhino horn from Africa to Asian destinations are still emerging, the levels of criminal organisation are clearly evident.

He believes there is also evidence to suggest that these illegal trading networks have links

KEY POINTS

The reality is that poaching in Africa is simply no longer solely a conservation issue

Poaching also funds a wide range of destabilising factors across Africa

We are talking about big money

Rhino poaching as a new form of organised crime in South Africa

These illegal trading networks have links with other highly lucrative natural resource product trades

with other highly lucrative natural resource product trades, including abalone, ivory, lion bones, crocodile organs and live game.

The UN has repeatedly warned that ivory is now a major source of finance for armed groups and has led to the depletion of elephants in Central Africa.

According to the US International Conservation Caucus Foundation, "ivory and rhino horn are gaining popularity as a source of income for some of Africa's most notorious armed groups", including Somalia's al-Shabab, the Lord's Resistance Army and Darfur's Janjaweed.

Three years ago an investigation by the Elephant Action League (EAL) uncovered the link between al-Shabab and the illegal trafficking of ivory through Kenya.

EAL suggested that al-Shabab has been actively buying and selling ivory to fund its militant operations and that ivory trafficking "could be supplying up to 40% of the funds needed to keep them in business".

Several private security firms have warned that the Westgate mall attack in Kenya was funded in part by ivory poaching. A Kenyan investigation also found that al-Shabab and Somali criminal networks are profiting off Kenyan elephants killed by poachers using weapons leaked from security forces.

In Sudan, government allied militias, including Janjaweed are complicit in the Darfur genocide fund their operations by poaching elephants hundreds of miles outside North Sudan's borders.



BIG BUCKS: Poaching in Africa is no longer purely an environmental issue as wildlife contraband helps finance a wide range of politically destabilising activities. PICTURE: GAILD IMAGES

In the Democratic Republic of Congo, state security forces support the very rebels they are supposed to fight, providing weapons and backing in exchange for ivory.

Closer to home Mozambican organised crime has militarised and consolidated to the extent that it is willing to battle the South African army and well-trained ranger forces for rhino horn.

According to StopRhinoPoaching.com since the start of the poaching epidemic in 2008, South Africa has lost more than 2600 rhinos – a figure that despite so much effort increases daily.

Elephants, particularly north of South Africa's borders, face the same crisis.

Kenya's Ol Pejeta Conservancy will deploy drones later this year to help protect their rhinos. Kenyan wildlife agents also received training from British troops stationed in the country to help them fight heavily armed poachers.

Michael Fay, technical adviser to Gabon's national parks service, told a US congressional

committee that, without the aid of military and intelligence services, African governments would lose control of regions destabilised by poachers.

The Ichikowitz Family Foundation's intervention in South Africa is an example of this. To help combat poaching, the foundation is financing a pilot project in the Madikwe Game Reserve, along South Africa's northern border with Botswana to bring military-style training to the rangers.

Trained sniffer dogs are one of the most effective tools to hunt for poachers. That is why we have established one of the largest K9 training facilities in South Africa to provide trained dogs and handlers to national parks across Africa. We will also provide this support in Gabon.

We need to take dramatic steps to rid this continent of poachers to not save our wildlife, but make Africa as a whole a safer place. Ivor Ichikowitz is an industrialist, philanthropist and executive chairperson of Paramount Group and TransAfrica Capital

#TNAbizBrief, Ramaphosa : We are working to change SA
@CilliArsoul: seems that the DP is actually the prez at the moment

Japan bans child porn possession
@PlessisJacques: not a bad idea!

Rihanna 'In love' with cousin's baby
@tumietango: Why is this news?
@TheReal_limo: Arggh

Ramaphosa : SA's can go online and download the NDP plan documents
@Penxexx: Data is too expensive
@samshabalala: Hehaha Ramaphosa says South Africans must be proud of #E-toll

Ramaphosa: South Africans must gain interest in what happens in their own country
@NtshheGee: Im so tired of listening, i wanna see now

Ramaphosa: We see ourselves as part of Africa- we are working with other African countries and learning from them as well
@CindiMfanafuthi: Mr deputy President, what is there to learn from Uhurru Kenya, Goodluck Jonathan because they falling their own?

Ramaphosa : One of the key issues we have to address is creating jobs
Masimbane87: When, where, how? Since 2009 same thing – boring
@khanyizama: The song continues

Wants economy growing by 5% in five years
@fardarter: Won't do anything to help it

Ramaphosa: We should not be shy about our good story – we have made tremendous progress
@AlidaWillem: what good story??? What progress???

President Zuma says agriculture is a key job driver
@Crysannel: True, agricultural is key, as long as we avoid GMOs. Keep it out of African soil

ENVIRONMENT

Specialised aircraft joins fight to save SA's rhinos

Kenichi Serino 04 Dec 2012 15:58



A rhino orphan. (Lauren Clifford-Holmes, M&G)



This was announced by the South African National Parks (SANParks) on Tuesday.

SANParks chief executive David Mabunda said the aircraft would be used in operations against rhino poachers.

"The people making the money are syndicates and we must go after them. We need all the resources we can get."

He said the advantage provided by the plane, which was donated by the Ichowitz Foundation and the Paramount Group, would have come too late if it was procured through the usual government processes.

"We will not win this war just with the rangers with meagre resources ... Do you know how difficult it is to get money from treasury for an effort like this?" Mabunda asked.

"It takes a lot of memorandums and a lot of bureaucracy and by the time money is allocated ... there will be no rhino left."

He was speaking at a media briefing at the unveiling of the aircraft at Skukuza airport in the Kruger National Park.

NEWS

NOW PLAYING



1:24

Africa's skydiving anti-poaching dogs

03 Oct Africa

UP NEXT



1:33

Dogs to help people with dementia

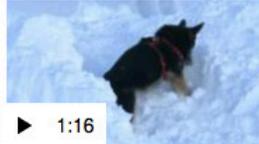
26 Apr Scotland



1:23

Rescue dogs in training exercise

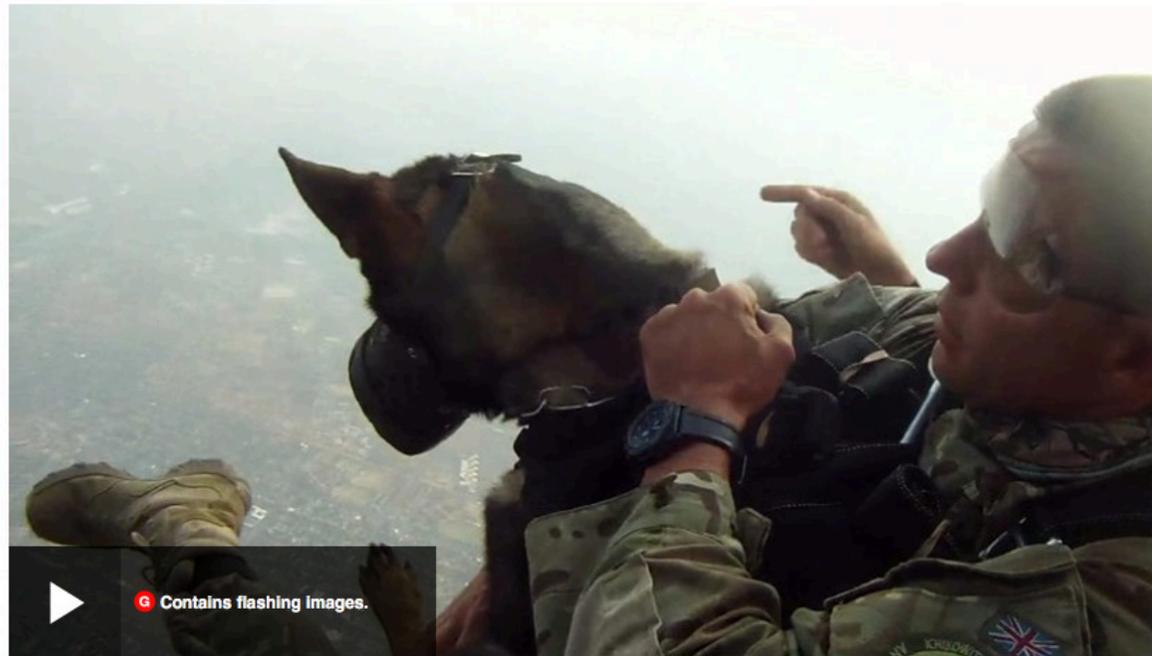
07 Feb Bristol



1:16

International avalanche course for dogs

13 Dec Europe



Contains flashing images.

Africa's anti-poaching dogs take to the skies

As poachers in Africa become more sophisticated, so too has the response from those trying to stop them, including the use of highly-trained dogs.

The BBC got to see what they're capable of at Paramount Group's Anti-Poaching and Canine Training Academy, in South Africa.

03 Oct Africa

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Dogs Are Now Parachuting From the Sky to Help Save Wildlife

Meet the canines that are training to help take down criminals in Africa.



Africa's first skydiving anti-poaching dog, Arrow, does a demo jump from a helicopter at 6,000 feet.

PHOTOGRAPH COURTESY NICO DE KLERK

By **DEBORA PATTA** / CBS NEWS / March 9, 2017, 7:34 PM



Are these skydiving dogs poachers' worst enemies?

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JOHANNESBURG, South Africa -- Meet Arrow and his handler, Henry Holtshyzen. Harnessed together, they take off across the vast wildlife preserve.

Arrow seems unperturbed, even as they hurl themselves out of the helicopter, falling more than 6,000 feet to earth -- and landing in the middle of the **poaching wars**.



Henry Holtshyzen and Arrow jump out of an airplane to take on poachers. / CBS NEWS

Africa
Gabon gets anti-poaching helicopter from South African group

By Associated Press September 30

JOHANNESBURG — A South African foundation is providing a helicopter and other anti-poaching equipment to Gabon, whose forest elephants have been heavily targeted by traffickers.

The Ichikowitz Family Foundation said Thursday that it will also provide ranger training and establish a dog-training academy program in Gabon. The announcement was made during a Johannesburg meeting of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora, or CITES.

In a statement, the foundation and Gabon's national parks agency praise Gabon's president, Ali Bongo Ondimba, for efforts to protect the Congo basin rainforest.

The foundation's founder, Ivor Ichikowitz, heads the Paramount Group, a company that previously provided defense equipment to Gabon.

Bongo was sworn in Tuesday for a second seven-year term after winning a narrow victory in a disputed

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Gabon Gets Anti-Poaching Helicopter From South African Group
 By THE ASSOCIATED PRESS — JOHANNESBURG — Sep 30, 2016, 11:17 AM ET

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Gabon Gets Anti-Poaching Helicopter From South African Group
 Hurricane Matthew Bears Down on Caribbean, US Partially Evacuates Guantanamo Base

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Africa
Gabon Gets Anti-Poaching Helicopter From South African Group
 By THE ASSOCIATED PRESS SEPT. 30, 2016, 11:18 A.M. E.D.T.

JOHANNESBURG — A South African foundation is providing a helicopter and other anti-poaching equipment to Gabon, whose forest elephants have been heavily targeted by traffickers.

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ENVIRONMENT
Gabon gets anti-poaching helicopter from South African group
 Published September 30, 2016 • Associated Press

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BBC



AIR BUDS

Watch: Paratrooper Dogs Hunt Poachers in South Africa

South Africa's newest anti-poaching weapon: dogs that parachute into wildlife reserves from helicopters.



NATHAN PLACE 10.03.16 12:54 PM ET

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Team Trump Claims 'Comey Is a P*ssy'
ASAWIN SUEBSAENG

Inside the People's Republic of Death
GORDON G. CHANG

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World

Fighter's child hurt after Chechen row

Russia

Tom Parfitt Moscow

The 16-year-old daughter of a Russian mixed martial arts champion has been assaulted after he criticised the leader of Chechnya for allowing children to take part in televised cage fights.

The girl was attacked as she walked home from school in Moscow. Police said she had suffered serious injuries and was treated in hospital.

Her father, Fedor "The Last Emperor" Emelianenko, 40, is a mixed martial artist who was undefeated between 2000 and 2010 and is admired by President Putin.

Emelianenko criticised fights held last week between three of Ramzan Kadyrov's sons, aged eight, nine and ten, and other children at a tournament in Grozny, saying that they should have worn shirts, pads and helmets. "The bouts were held according to rules for adult professional sportsmen, which are not suitable for children," he said.

Adam Delimkhanov, a cousin of Mr Kadyrov and his right-hand man, said that Emelianenko would "answer for every word uttered about my dear nephews".

The quarrel pitted two pugilists with ties to Mr Putin against each other. The president, a judo black belt, has in the past publicly thanked Emelianenko, a former heavyweight champion, for making MMA popular in Russia.

Mr Kadyrov is a keen amateur boxer

who once brought the heavyweight champion Mike Tyson to Grozny and who regularly attends martial arts events. The former separatist rebel likes to praise Mr Putin and describes himself as a foot soldier of the Russian president.

Mr Kadyrov, whose security forces have often been accused of kidnapping, torture and extrajudicial killing, called Emelianenko's "uncomplimentary comments" about his children "a direct violation of ethics and morals". He later asked supporters who were abusing the fighter on social media to delete their posts.

Police in Moscow said that they had opened a criminal investigation into the attack. The girl, who was not named, was approached by a man who struck her in the chest, one officer told a Moscow newspaper. She left hospital yesterday, according to Russian media.

A spokesperson for Emelianenko said that it was too early to draw conclusions about who was responsible for the assault.

Several of Mr Kadyrov's opponents have been killed while abroad and the suspected gunman in the murder of Boris Nemtsov, a Kremlin critic, last year was the deputy commander of an interior ministry battalion run by a relative of the Chechen leader.

Dmitri Peskov, Mr Putin's spokesman, told reporters yesterday that the president had been informed about the attack on Emelianenko's daughter.



A German shepherd skydives with its handler for the first time during training. The dogs wear protective goggles and shoes for their missions in the bush

Eats, chutes and leaps: dogs fight poachers

South Africa

Jerome Starkey

Parachuting out of planes or abseiling from a hovering helicopter — flying dogs are the latest trick that conservationists have adopted from the world of special forces.

The German shepherd and Belgian malinois hounds have been trained to free fall out of aircraft with their handlers to chase poachers in the vast tracts of wilderness unreachable by road.

The dogs' handlers strap them to their chests so that they can skydive, or attach them to specially designed harnesses and then rappel out of a helicopter using techniques which were pioneered by the SAS and US Navy Seals.

While special forces dogs are often equipped with video cameras, so they can scout out enemy buildings before the soldiers go in, the anti-poaching hounds' main purpose is to bring down poachers, who are threatening elephants and rhinos with extinction.

The dogs were both trained by the Paramount Group in South Africa, where more than 1,175 rhinos were poached last year for their horns. The number of African elephants has fallen by about 30 per cent in the past seven years as poachers slaughtered 144,000 animals for their tusks.

Critics claim that tackling poachers won't solve the problem as long as there are gangs willing to smuggle contraband, and buyers in Asia to pay them.



ICHIKOWITZ FAMILY
FOUNDATION



U.S. Department of the Interior
U.S. Department of Agriculture

Hunting and Shooting Sports Conservation Council
Charter

1. **Official Designation.** Hunting and Shooting Sports Conservation Council (Council).
2. **Authority.** The Council is established to further the provisions of the Fish and Wildlife Act of 1956 (16 U.S.C. 742a), the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 (43 U.S.C. 1701), the National Wildlife Refuge System Improvement Act of 1997 (16 U.S.C. 668dd), other Acts applicable to specific bureaus, and Executive Order 13443 (August 17, 2007), “Facilitation of Hunting Heritage and Wildlife Conservation.” The Council is regulated by the Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA), as amended, 5 U.S.C. Appendix 2.
3. **Objectives and Scope of Duties.** The Council provides recommendations to the Federal Government, through the Secretary of the Interior (Secretary) and the Secretary of Agriculture, regarding the establishment and implementation of existing and proposed policies and authorities with regard to wildlife and habitat conservation endeavors that:
 - (a) benefit wildlife resources;
 - (b) encourage partnership among the public; sporting conservation organizations; Federal, state, tribal, and territorial governments; and
 - (c) benefit recreational hunting and recreational shooting sports.
4. **Description of Duties.** The Council’s duties are strictly advisory and consist of, but are not limited to, providing recommendations for implementation of Executive Order 13443 – Facilitation of Hunting Heritage and Wildlife Conservation; Secretary’s Order 3347 – Conservation Stewardship and Outdoor Recreation; and Secretary’s Order 3356 – Hunting, Fishing, Recreational Shooting, and Wildlife Conservation Opportunities and Coordination with States, Tribes, and Territories. Duties shall include, but are not limited to:
 - (a) Assessing and quantifying implementation of Executive Order 13443 and Secretary’s Orders 3347 and 3356 across relevant departments, agencies, offices; and making recommendations to enhance and expand their implementation as identified;
 - (b) Making recommendations regarding policies and programs that:
 1. conserve and restore wetlands, agricultural lands, grasslands, forests, and rangeland habitats;

2. promote opportunities and expand access to hunting and shooting sports on public and private lands;
3. encourage hunting and shooting safety by developing ranges on public lands;
4. recruit and retain new shooters and hunters;
5. increase public awareness of the importance of wildlife conservation and the social and economic benefits of hunting and shooting; and
6. encourage coordination among the public; hunting and shooting sports community; wildlife conservation groups; and Federal, state, tribal, and territorial governments.

(c) When requested by the Designated Federal Officer (DFO) in consultation with the Council Chairperson, performing a variety of assessments or reviews of policies, programs, and efforts through the Council's designated subcommittees or workgroups for consideration and approval of full Council.

(d) At the conclusion of each meeting, or shortly thereafter, provide a detailed recommendation report, including meeting minutes, to the DFO.

5. **Agency or Official to Whom the Council Reports.** The Council provides advice to the Secretary and the Secretary of Agriculture through the DFO.
6. **Support.** Administrative support and funding for activities of the Council will be provided by the Department of the Interior (DOI) through the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the Bureau of Land Management.
7. **Estimated Annual Operating Costs and Staff Years.** The annual operating costs associated with supporting the Council's activities are estimated to be \$250,000, including all direct and indirect expenses and 0.5 Federal staff years.
8. **Designated Federal Officer.** The DFO is a full-time Federal employee appointed in accordance with Agency procedures. The DFO will approve or call all Council and subcommittee meetings, prepare and approve all meeting agendas, attend all Council and subcommittee meetings, adjourns any meeting when the DFO determines adjournment to be in the public interest, and may chair meetings when directed to do so by the Secretary.
9. **Estimated Number and Frequency of Meetings.** The Council will meet approximately twice a year, and at such other times as designated by the DFO.
10. **Duration.** Continuing.

11. **Termination.** The Council will terminate 2 years from the date the charter is filed, unless, prior to that date, it is renewed in accordance with the provisions of section 14 of FACA. The Council will not meet or take any action without a valid current charter.
12. **Membership and Designation.** The Council will consist of no more than 18 discretionary and 7 ex officio members.
 - (a) Ex officio members will include:
 - (1) Secretary of the Interior or designated DOI representatives;
 - (2) Secretary of Agriculture or designated Department of Agriculture representatives; and
 - (3) Executive Director, Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies.
 - (b) The remaining discretionary members will be selected from among, but not limited to, the entities listed below. These members must be senior-level representatives of their organizations and/or have the ability to represent their designated constituency.
 - (1) State fish and wildlife management agencies;
 - (2) Wildlife and habitat conservation/management organizations;
 - (3) Game bird hunting organizations;
 - (4) Waterfowl hunting organizations;
 - (5) Big game organizations (deer, elk, sheep, bear);
 - (6) U.S. hunters actively engaged in domestic and/or international hunting conservation;
 - (7) The firearms or ammunition manufacturing industry;
 - (8) Archery, hunting and/or shooting sports industry;
 - (9) Tourism, outfitter, and/or guide industries related to hunting and/or shooting sports;
 - (10) Tribal resource management organizations;
 - (11) The agriculture industry;
 - (12) The ranching industry; and

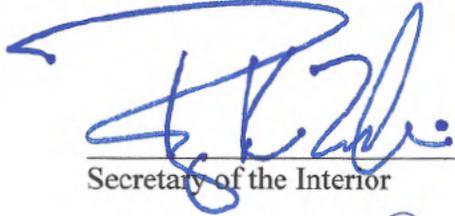
(13) Veterans service organizations.

- (c) Members will be appointed for staggered terms of 3 years, as designated by the Secretaries of the Interior and Agriculture (Secretaries), at the time of initial appointments. A vacancy on the Council will be filled in the same manner in which the original appointment was made. Members serve at the discretion of the Secretaries. A member may serve after the expiration of his or her term until a successor is appointed.
- (d) Alternate members may be appointed to the Council. Alternate members must be approved and appointed by the Secretaries before attending meetings as representatives. Alternate members shall have experience and/or expertise similar to that of the primary member. Alternate members may deliberate and vote on Council matters only in absence of the primary member.
- (e) Council members may not serve more than two consecutive terms. Council members must attend at least one Council meeting annually and cannot miss two successive meetings. Council membership will be forfeited if an appointee does not meet these attendance requirements.
- (f) The Council will elect the Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson by affirmative vote of a majority of its members. The Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson will serve a term of 1 year, renewable for 1 additional year. The Chairperson or Vice-Chairperson may be replaced before his/her term ends by affirmative vote of a majority of the Council's members.
- (g) Members of the Council serve without compensation. However, while away from their homes or regular places of business, members and subcommittee members engaged in Council or subcommittee business, approved by the DFO, may be allowed travel expenses, including per diem in lieu of subsistence, in the same manner as persons employed intermittently in Government service under section 5703 of Title 5 of the United States Code.

13. Ethics Responsibilities of Members. No Council or subcommittee member will participate in any Council or subcommittee deliberations or votes relating to a specific party matter before the Departments of Interior and Agriculture or its bureaus and offices including a lease, license, permit, contract, grant, claim, agreement, or litigation in which the member or the entity the member represents has a direct financial interest.

14. Subcommittees. Subject to the DFO's approval, subcommittees may be formed for the purpose of compiling information or conducting research. However, such subcommittees must act only under the direction of the DFO and must report their recommendations to the full Council for consideration. Subcommittees must not provide advice or work products directly to the Agency. Subcommittees will meet as necessary to accomplish their assignments, subject to the approval of the DFO and the availability of resources.

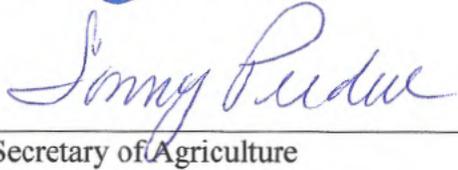
15. **Recordkeeping.** The Records of the Council, and formally and informally established subcommittees of the Council, shall be handled in accordance with General Records Schedule 6.2, and other approved Agency records disposition schedule. These records shall be available for public inspection and copying, subject to the Freedom of Information Act, 5 U.S.C. 552.



Secretary of the Interior

NOV 01 2017

Date



Secretary of Agriculture

DEC 15, 2017

Date

Date Filed

In Reply Refer To:
XXXXXXXXXX

Dear _____,

Thank you for your January 16, 2018, letter to Secretary Zinke regarding the International Wildlife Conservation Council (IWCC). Wildlife around the world face myriad complex threats that deserve our focus and attention. Given the many contributions that American hunters make to the successful conservation model in the United States, we believe that those same hunters are uniquely positioned to contribute solutions to the challenges of international wildlife management and conservation.

Secretary Zinke announced the creation of the IWCC on November 8, 2017. The IWCC has been tasked with developing a plan for educating and engaging the American public on the benefits of international hunting. It will also recommend policy changes in Federal programs to ensure that hunting is recognized as an economic benefit to local communities, and as a tool to enhance foreign wildlife conservation and combat poaching and wildlife trafficking and poaching.

The IWCC will also review and provide recommendations to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) to streamline the processing of permits for the import of sport-hunted wildlife and identify methods to remove barriers to the import of legally sport-hunted wildlife. It will also provide recommendations regarding options to reduce unwarranted seizure and forfeiture of sport-hunted wildlife and related items. Finally, the IWCC will develop strategies to obtain data and information from range states in a timely manner, review and provide recommendations regarding decisions to suspend or ban the import of sport-hunted wildlife, and policies to reduce avoid regulatory duplications between the Endangered Species Act and the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES).

In addition, as part of our ongoing efforts to combat wildlife trafficking, the Department of the Interior is a co-chair of the Presidential Task Force on Wildlife Trafficking, along with the Department of Justice, and Department of State. The Task Force communicates at a staff level on a weekly basis, and the principals of the Task Force recently met in person to discuss efforts to date, including implementation of the Eliminate, Neutralize, and Disrupt (END) Wildlife Trafficking Act, as well as priorities and next steps for the coming year.

Thank you for your letter. If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact Joshua Winchell at joshua_winchell@fws.gov.

Sincerely,

Greg Sheehan
Principal Deputy Director

Comment [CH1]: This may be in the materials associated with the council, but I'd prefer that we not suggest that current seizures and forfeitures are unwarranted.

References for IWCC

The references listed below are from a cross section of institutions that are involved or affect the hunting industry in Africa.

Gray Thornton President and CEO Wild Sheep Foundation, Editor In Chief Wild Sheep Magazine, Summit Life Member, Wild Sheep Foundation, 412 Pronghorn Trail, Bozeman. MT 59718 406 404 8750 GThornton@wildsheepfoundation.org also former ceo of DSC

John Vance Boretsky Guides and Outfitters Liason, Safari Club International, 8328 Cherry Hills Road, NE, Albuquerque, New Mexico, 87111, USA. 5058229845, jboretsky@spinn.net

Thea Carroll Chief Director: Biodiversity Planning and Management, Department Environmental Affairs, Environment House, Pretoria, SA. 27 716770599 tcarroll@environment.gov.za (legislation and national permitting SA)

Jonathan Denga Director Biodiversity Management, NW Department of Rural Environment and Agricultural Development, private bag x2039, Mmabatho, 2735, South Africa. Tel 27 728108521, jdenga@nwpg.gov.org (wildlife permitting provincial)

Denise Crichton General Manager, Spherical Freight Services, 13 Arbroath Road, Bedfordview, Johannesburg, 2007 cel 0829029519 info@sphericalfreight.co.za (wildlife freight permitting)

Theresa Sowry CEO Southern Africa Wildlife College, PBag X3015, Hoedspruit, 1380, South Africa, 27 823274915 tsowry@sawc.org.za (training wildlife college)

Dr Kevin Robertson head: Sustainable Use and Field Guiding Department of South African Wildlife College, Private Bag X3015, Hoedspruit,1380, S Africa. 27-766519836 krobertson@sawc.org.za (professional hunting training)

Hans Vermaak Coenraad Vermaak Safaris, past president of PHASA, 27 835006001 hans@cvsafaris.co.za (highly respected and active outfitter in Africa)

BANOVICH

John Banovich (United States)

John Banovich emerged as a talent to watch over two decades ago and today is known internationally for his large, dramatic portrayals of iconic wildlife. His life-sized elephant painting "Once Upon A Time" drew global attention to ivory poaching and his deep knowledge of wildlife and unwavering commitment to conservation continues to raise awareness about imperiled species. Under the umbrella of his Banovich Wilderness Foundation, money generated through artwork sales has been channeled back into support efforts that promote habitat protection, science-based wildlife management and sustainable tourism.

Banovich's work is in important museum, corporate and private collections and has appeared in numerous prestigious venues including the Hiram Baurte Art Museum, Leigh Yawkey Woodson Art Museum, National Museum of Wildlife Art, Wildlife Experience Art Museum, Sagamundi Club, Museum of the Southwest, Natural History Museum, Grease Museum, traveling exhibitions sponsored by the Society of Animal Artists, Artists for Conservation and showcases hosted by Safari Club International and Dallas Safari Club.

In the press, Banovich's work has been showcased on CBS Entertainment Tonight, The Outdoor Channel, The Great American Country Channel, Orion Entertainment, PBS, Southwest Art Magazine, Western Art Collector Magazine, Cowboys & Indians Magazine, Sporting Classics, Western Art & Architecture, and most recently NBC has written about his dedication to his conservation work and named him an NBC Cause Celebrity.

In 2019, the Nevada Art Museum will feature Banovich in a one-man exhibition titled *The King of Beasts: A Study of the African Lion*. As an internationally recognized artist who has studied lions for decades, and the Founder of the Lion P.R.I.D.E. Initiative, the body of work created for this exhibition serves as an homage to these animals and explores questions about mankind's deep fear, love, and admiration for these creatures. The exhibition spans nearly twenty-five years of work, and assembles Banovich's body of work focused on African Lions for the very first time. The exhibition will be open at the Nevada Museum of Art in Reno, Nevada and will travel to several additional venues throughout the United States over the next year. As the plight of the African Lion has been prominently featured across media platforms recently, the cultural significance of *Panthera leo* could not be timelier.

Education

- University of Montana, Art & Zoology, Missoula, MT
- Art Institute of Seattle, Associates Degree-Visual Communications, Seattle, WA

Exhibitions

- National Museum of Wildlife Art, *Western Visions Invitational*, Jackson Hole, WY, 2005-2006, 2016, 2017
- National Cowboy & Western Heritage Museum, *Prix de West Invitational*, Oklahoma City, OK, 1999-2017
- Leigh Yawkey Woodson Art Museum, *Birds in Art*, Wausau, WI, 1997-2006, 2011, 2015, 2016, 2017
- Society of Animal Artists, *Art and the Animal Exhibition*, 1998-2016
- Southeastern Wildlife Art Exposition, 1993, 1995, 1996, Feature Artist: 1998, Guest Artist: 1997, 1999, 2000, 2003, 2010, 2016
- **Safari Club International, 1995-2017**
- **Dallas Safari Club, Dallas, TX, 1995-2017**
- **Artists for Conservation, Vancouver, B.C., 2009, 2017**
- **Houston Safari Club, Houston, TX, 2015**
- **Safari Club International Miniature Invitational, Las Vegas, NV, 2015**
- Settler's West Gallery, *American Miniature Show*, Tucson, AZ, 2008-2015
- Scottsdale Art Auction, Scottsdale, AZ, 2015
- Jackson Hole Art Auction, Jackson Hole, WY, 2013-2015
- Coeur d'Alene Art Auction, Reno, NV, 2014, 2015
- Wildlife Experience Museum and Museum of the Southwest, *Nature of the Beast*, SoHo Exhibition, 2010
- Grease Museum, *American Art in Miniature Invitational*, 2006
- The City Gallery at Waterfront Park, One Man Exhibition, Charleston, SC, 2005
- Society of Animal Artists, *Animals in Art Holiday Exhibition*, Miami Metro Zoo, Miami, FL, 2004
- Hiram Baurte Museum, SoHo Exhibition, Oradea, NJ, 2002
- J.N. Bartfield Gallery, *Nature's Legacy: Wildlife and Wild Country*, New York, NY, 2002
- Phillips Auction House, *Rhino Rescue*, London, England, 2001
- Everard Read Gallery, *Natural History Paintings and Sculpture*, Johannesburg, South Africa, 2000
- Trai Side Galleries, *Wildlife Discovery*, Scottsdale, AZ, 2000
- Lt. Governor's Art Council Exhibition, *The Power of Nature*, Capitol Building, Olympia, WA, 1998
- *Wonders of Nature Tour*, Hong Kong, 1997
- Spanierman Gallery, *Natural Habitat*, New York, 1997
- Pacific Rim Wildlife Art Show, 1993-1996, Featured Artist 1996,

Banovich Studio West | Carnation, WA

Banovich Art Center | 2 Pine Creek Rd, Livingston, MT 59047

(b) (6)

BANOVICH

- The Houstonian, One Man Exhibition, Houston, TX, 1996
- Art Chateau, One Man Exhibition, Butte, MT, 1990
- Wild Wings, *Designs in Nature*, Seattle WA
- Northwest Invitational, Howard Mandeville Gallery
- Prestige Gallery, *Original Art Showcase*, Ontario, Canada
- Nature in Art Museum, Gloucester, England

Selected Publications

- *BEAST: The Collected Works of John Banovich*, Banovich Fine Art Publishing, 2009
- ***Two Hearts in Tanzania: Dick and Mary Cabela's Hunting Chronicles II* by Mary Cabela and Richard N. Cabela**

Selected Press

- Robb Report, Inside Singita's Super Exclusive Serengeti House, November 2017
- Artists for Conservation, Banovich Establishes New \$100,000 Conservation Award, July 2017
- Western Art Collector, Cover, June, 2017
- Sporting Classics, John Banovich: Heart of a Lion by David Cabela, January/February, 2017
- Sports Affair, *The Art of the Game*, November/December, 2016
- Stanford University, Millennium Alliance for Humanity and Biosphere, *John Banovich-Painting Animals & Protecting Wildscapes*, October, 2016
- CBS, KZBK TV, Livingston, MT, July 2016
- Western Art Collector Magazine, February, 2016
- Orion Entertainment, Great American Country Channel, Ultimate Sportsman's Lodge TV Series, 2015
- Distinctly Montana, Magazine, 2015
- Sporting Classics, "On Location" by Chris Dorsey, December, 2015
- Private Air Luxury Homes, *John Banovich – Larger than Life Big Canvas Bigger Artist*, September/October 2015
- Southwest Art, *My World*, June, 2015
- Western Art & Architecture, February/March, 2015
- NBC Cause Celebration, October, 2014
- Cowboys & Indians, John Banovich, January, 2015
- Safari Express, Buenos Aires Argentina SCI Chapter, *An Inspiring Artist*, Spring 2014
- The Outdoor Group, Inc., 42nd Annual SCI Convention, February 2014
- Safari Magazine, *Art of the Hunt: Maximum Impact*, Jan/Feb 2014
- Safari Club Convention Daily News, *Banovich Now and Future*, February 8, 2014
- Discovery Life Magazine, *The Artist's Touch*, Volume VII, Fall 2013
- The Sporting Life Radio Show, *Celebrity Guest: John Banovich*, November 2013
- Western Art & Architecture, *In the Studio*, Dec/Jan 2013
- Open Fences, *John Banovich: Big Animals, Big Teeth, Big Program*, Spring 2012
- Texas Sporting Journal, *Beyond Passion*, January/February 2011
- Sporting Classics, *Living What He Paints*, January 2011
- Banovich Travels to China, *Project Panda: The Global Search for Chengdu Ambassador*, Fall 2010
- Entertainment Tonight, Highlights "BEAST: The Collected Works of John Banovich," November 2009
- Cowboys & Indians, *Gallery Tour*, Featuring "Passing Along the Lessons She Learned," June 2009
- Western Art & Architecture, *Swimming with Giants*, Winter/Spring 2009
- Pakistan Chronicle, November 2008
- Montana Living, *John Banovich*, Summer 2007
- Big Sky Journal, *Arts Issue*, July/August 2007
- African Wildlife Foundation, Africa Geographic, *PRIDE Initiative*, May 2007
- Outdoor Life Network, *Dangerous Game* Episode, October 2006
- WPBS Television, *An Artist's Journey*, March 2006
- Wildlife Art Magazine, *Big As Life*, Jan/Feb 2006
- The Artist's Magazine, *Big Game*, July/August 2006
- Game Trails, *Featured Artist: John Banovich*, Summer 2006
- Distinctly Montana, *Painter of the Big Wild*, Winter 2005-2006
- The Outdoor Channel 2, *Wildlife Art Gallery*, 2005
- African Sporting Gazette, 2005
- African Wildlife Foundation, Africa Geographic, *The Mind's Eye*, Fall 2005
- Wildlife Magazine, UK, *Banovich: Step by Step*, Summer 2005
- PBS, *Journeys of an Artist*, July 2004
- Sporting Classics, *This 'N That*, May/June 2004
- Wildlife Magazine, UK, *The Art of John Banovich*, March 2004
- Art World News, *Banovich: Making A Difference Naturally*, May/June 2003
- Big Sky Journal, *John Banovich: A Painter's Barn*, Summer 2003
- Bozeman Chronicle, *Living and Painting Large*, May 2003
- Wildlife Art, *Redefining Success*, Jan/Feb 2003
- Montana Pioneer, *Banovich's Wild, Wild World*, September 2002

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BANOVICH

- InformArt, *The Art of Marketing: John Banovich Has Come Far in 7 Years*, Fa 2001
- Southwest Art, *Prix de West Preview*, June 2000
- U.S. Art, *Art Hunters*, January 1999
- Wildlife Art, *The Prize of Humanity*, January/February 1999
- Game Trails, *Featured Artist: John Banovich*, Summer 1999
- Wildlife Art, Rockport Publishers, 1999
- American Artist, *Out of Africa*, October 1999
- Northlight Books, *The Best of Wildlife Art II*, 1999
- U.S. Art, *Painting with Passion*, July 1998
- U.S. Art, *Pachyderm Power*, November 1998
- Northlight Books, *The Best of Wildlife Art*, 1997
- Art Trends, January/February 1997
- Sporting Classics, *The Banovich Niche*, March 1996
- Wildlife Art, *A Passion for the Unexpected*, July 1996
- Inform Art, *Building A Body .of Art*, September/October 1994
- U.S. Art, *Wildlife Art Rising Start*, June 1994

Affiliations

- **Ivan Carter Wildlife Conservation Alliance, Board Member, 2016-Present**
- **Shikar Safari Club, Member, 2007-Present**
- **Safari Club International Foundation, Advisory Board Member, 2015-Present**
- **Craighead Institute, Board of Directors & Member, 2007-Present**
- **Banovich Wildscapes Foundation, Founder/CEO, 2007-Present**
- **Lion P.R.I.D.E. Initiative, Founder, 2007**
- **Society of Animal Artists, Distinguished Member, 1998-Present**
- **Artists for Conservation, 2009-Present**
- **Society of Animal Artists, Board Member, 2004-2008**
- **Safari Club International "Conservation Alliance" Project, Co-Founder, 2007**
- **Safari Club International Foundation Humanitarian Services, "Tatu" Project, Co-Founder, 2006**
- **Safari Club International, Member**
- **Houston Safari Club, Member**
- **Dallas Safari Club, Member**
- **Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation, Life Member**

Awards

- Artists for Conservation, Best in Show for Painting, "Game of Lions", Vancouver, B.C., 2015
- Artists for Conservation, Medal of Excellence, Vancouver, B.C., 2015
- Jackson Hole Art Auction, Top Tier Artist, Jackson Hole, WY, 2014, 2015
- **Safari Club International, C.J McElroy Award, 2010**
- National Indie Coffee Table Book Award for "BEAST: The Collected Works of John Banovich", 2010
- Society of Animal Artists, Presidential Artistic Achievement Award, 2009
- **Artists for Conservation, Simon Combes Conservation Award, "Shelter from the Storm," 2009**
- Society of Animal Artists, Award of Excellence, "End of Days," 2008
- Society of Animal Artists, Presidential Artistic Achievement Award, "A Giant Among Giants," 2007
- **National Rifle Association, Artist of the Year, "Echoes in Gold," 2007**
- **Worldwide Nature Artist's Group, Conservation Artist of the Month, April 2006**
- **Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation, Artist of the Year, "Royal Performance," 2005**
- The Artist's Magazine, Second Place Animal Art, "The Gathering Place," 2005
- The Artist's Magazine, Landscape Category Finalist, "Under the Baobab," 2004
- The Artist's Magazine, Animal Art Category Finalist, "Beauties and the Beasts," 2004
- **Safari Club International, The People's Choice Award, 2003**
- Society of Animal Artists, Award of Excellence, 2001
- Society of Animal Artists, Award of Excellence, 2000
- Society of Animal Artists, Award of Excellence, "White Rhino and Plovers," 1997
- Society of Animal Artists, Wildlife Art News Award, "The Defensive Line," 1997
- Pacific Rim Wildlife Art Show, People's Choice Award, "Heading for Deep Water," 1996
- Society of Animal Artists, Activities Press Award, "104th Congress," 1996
- The Artist's Magazine, Animal Art Category Finalist, "The Defensive Line," 1995
- Game Coin Show, San Antonio, Texas, Best New Artist, 1994
- U.S. Art, Wildlife Art Rising Star, 1994
- Pacific Rim Wildlife Art Show, Best of Show, "The Patriarch," 1994
- Pacific Rim Wildlife Art Show, Best of Show, "In the Heat of the Day," 1993

Selected Collections

- National Museum of Wildlife Art, Jackson Hole, WY
- Wildlife Experience Museum, Parker, CO
- Tudor Investments, Greenwich, CT

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BANOVICH

- Hiram Baue t Museum, Orade , NJ
- Borsini and Burr, San Francisco, CA
- The American Patriot Bui ding, Evansvi e, IN
- Ye owstone C ub, Warren Mi er Lodge, Big Sky, MT
- Mary Hart, Host, Entertainment Tonight
- Dave Liniger, Founder, RE/MAX Int.
- Tom Siebe , Founder, C3
- Bob Parsons, Founder, GoDaddy.com
- Richard Chi dress, Team Owner, NASCAR
- Dick & Mary Cabe a, Owners, Cabe as
- Chris Dorsey, CEO of Orion Entertainment
- Jack Hanna, Director, Co umber Zoo & TV host of "Jack Hanna's Wi d Countdown" and "Into the Wi d"
- Norman Schwarzkopf Jr., U.S. Army Genera
- Ross Perot Jr., Chairman, Perot Systems

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Banovich Art Center | 2 Pine Creek Rd, Livingston, MT 59047

(b) (6)

From: natalie_davis@os.doi.gov
To: lori_mashburn@ios.doi.gov; joshua_winchell@fws.gov; jason_larrabee@os.doi.gov; natalie_davis@ios.doi.gov; todd_willens@ios.doi.gov; benjamin_cassidy@ios.doi.gov
Cc: catherino_gulac@ios.doi.gov; gareth_rees@ios.doi.gov
Subject: International Wildlife Conservation Council- Planning Session
Start: Thursday, February 15, 2018 2:00:00 PM
End: Thursday, February 15, 2018 3:00:00 PM
Location: Dep Sec's Conference Room: 6120

Planning for Council's meeting. Attached is the Charter.

Please do not edit this section of the description.

View your event at https://www.google.com/calendar/event?action=VIEW&cid=NWRzZ2trMzFncTFnMzF1bGQ2amF1cDlwZDMgam9zaHVhX3dpbnNoZWxsQGZ3cy5ub3Y&tok=MjUjbnF0YWxpczV9KkYXZpc0Bpb3MuZG9pLmdvdjAyYzBmZGESHjEaZjlnNzlkM2U0YWQ1YzE3ZWU5YjM5YzZjM2I3M2I&ctz=America/New_York&hl=en

3/6/2018 IWCC & HSSCC Update for Cynthia Martinez

International Wildlife Conservation Council

Appointments

- 16 members appointed, letters dated December 27 (one letter attached as example)
- No public announcement of appointments made by DOI, but member identities public as of 3/1/2018 via the GSA FACA database.

IWCC Member Reception/Dinner: Thursday March 15 5:30pm

- Member Reception in Sec. Zinke's Office, possible tour of Lincoln Memorial with the Secretary.
- Member dinner @7:30pm Old Ebbitt Grill
- Events on Sheehan's calendar.

Inaugural IWCC Meeting: Friday March 16, 2018, Washington D.C.

- FR meeting notice published 3/1/2018.
- Location: South Penthouse, Main Interior Building
- One-day, introductory meeting. Draft agenda attached.
- Sheehan serving as a DOI ex officio representative and will serve as chair for the meeting. Pre-meeting briefing scheduled for March 13. Sheehan working with IA for subject-matter materials/support.
- Other ex officios (i.e. from State Department) yet to be selected/identified.
- Level of public interest is anticipated to be very high.

Travel Support

- Beverly Robinson is providing travel support.
- Contacted BMO/DFM (Moe Kabiri) to elevate awareness and support for Beverly (i.e. Concur/FBMS for new invitational travellers)

Media

- 3/1/18 - One media query from EENews regarding membership, passed to DOI via EA (Parramore) to manage.

Hunting and Shooting Sports Conservation Council

Appointments

- Nomination period ended on, total of 105 nominees (see attachment)
- DOI is currently reviewing and vetting, and will select up to 18 members

Attachments

Draft meeting agenda

IWCC appointment letter sample

HSSCC nominees/applicants

INTERNAL DISCUSSION DRAFT - DO NOT DISTRIBUTE

International Wildlife Conservation Council
Agenda for Inaugural Meeting - March 16, 2018
South Penthouse, Main Interior Building

- 8-9am: IWCC member coffee/reception w/ Deputy Secretary (DepSec Office)
- 9-10am: Administrative Session *Note*: Closed session, no public.
- FACA Introduction - DOI Solicitor's Office (Heindl)
 - Ethics Introduction - DOI Ethics Office (Hintz)
- 9:30-9:45am: *Note*: Open up meeting room to public, get them seated.
- 9:45-10am: Opening Remarks (Sheehan)
- *Note*: This starts the open/public mtg
- 10-10:30am: Member Introductions
- *Note*: Short remarks from all members
- 10:30-11:30: FWS International Affairs Program Briefing (FWS)
- *Note*: topics could include description of FWS/DOI authorities; enhancement findings; importation issues; NRA/SCI litigation; etc.
- 11:30-12:30pm: State Department/U.S. Task Force on Wildlife Trafficking Briefing (State Dept/DOJ/USAID/FWS)
- 12:30-2pm: Lunch
- 2-3pm: Public Comment
- 3-3:30pm: Discussion
- *Note*: topics could include selection of chair/vice-chair; timeframe/location of next full meeting.
- 3:30pm Adjourn



THE SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR
WASHINGTON
DEC 27 2017

Mr. Paul D. Babaz

(b) (6)

Dear Mr. Babaz:

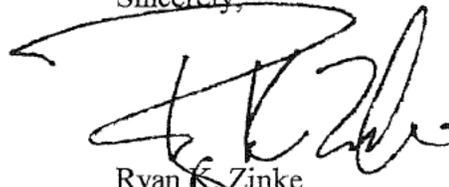
I am pleased to appoint you as a member of the International Wildlife Conservation Council (Council) representing the interests of wildlife and habitat conservation/management organizations. Your appointment is for a 3-year term effective the date of this letter.

Your involvement with the Council will help support its mission to advise the Federal Government about methods to increase public awareness domestically regarding conservation, wildlife law enforcement, and economic benefits that result from United States citizens traveling to foreign nations to engage in hunting. The Council will also advise the Federal Government on the benefits international hunting has on foreign wildlife and habitat conservation, anti-poaching and illegal wildlife trafficking programs, and other ways in which international hunting benefits human populations in these areas. The Council represents a strong partnership among the Federal Government; tourism, outfitter, and/or guide industries related to international hunting; the sporting conservation community; the shooting and hunting sports industry; and wildlife conservation organizations. Members of the Council serve without compensation, but non-Federal members may be reimbursed for travel and per diem expenses at current Federal Government rates when on Council business. A copy of the Council's charter is enclosed for your reference.

Mr. Joshua Winchell, Designated Federal Officer for the Council, will contact you shortly with further information regarding the Council. Mr. Winchell can be reached at (571) 329-1172.

I appreciate your willingness to commit your time and expertise to ensure we have broad-based input as we address recreational hunting and wildlife conservation issues internationally.

Sincerely,



Ryan K. Zinke
Secretary of the Interior

Enclosure

HSSCC Nominee List

Name	Conservation/hunting group affiliation (if nominated by group)
Allen, David	
Arbelaez, Tony	
Atcheson, Jack	
Babaz, Paul	Safari Club International
Banks, John	Penobscot Indian Nation DNR
Bastin, Dale	
Belinda, Steve	North American Grouse Partnership
Betar, Joe	Houston Safari Club
Black, Brad	
Bronson, Ryan	Vista Outdoor
Bruckerhoff, Charles	
Budzik, Mike	
Burch, Kirby	Virginia Hunting Dog Alliance
Burke, David	Eagle Rock Outdoors
Butler, Brandon	Conservation Federation of MO
Butler, Michael	Tennessee Wildlife Federation
Byers, Greg	
Cox, Chris	National Rifle Association
Cox, Larry	
Crane, Jeff	Congressional Sportsmen's Foundation
Cunningham, Chuck	
Devney, John	Delta Waterfowl
Donovan, Larry	
Dunfee, Matt	

Name	Conservation/hunting group affiliation (if nominated by group)
Entsminger, Sue	
Ernst, Robin	
Fithian, Robert	
Forster, Dan	Archery Trade Association
Fosburgh, Whit	Theodore Roosevelt Conservation Partnership
Frampton, John	Council for the Advancement of Hunting & Shooting Sports
French, Ward	
Golob, Julie	
Goodenow, Rew	
Gorniak, Gary	
Green, John	
Gruson, Andreas	
Hall, Dale	Ducks Unlimited
Hall, Steve	Texas Parks and Wildlife
Heimer, Wayne	
Heitmeyer, Mickey	
Henning, Blake	Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation
Heusinkveld, Evan	Sportsmens Alliance
Hill, Graham	
Hlebinsky, Ashley	Cody Firearms Museum
Hubbard, Wayne	Urban American Outdoors
Humphries, Becky	National Wild Turkey Fed.
Jackson, John	Conservation Force
Jennison, Andrew	
Keane, Larry	National Shooting Sports Foundation

HSSCC Nominee List

Name	Conservation/hunting group affiliation (if nominated by group)
Keck, Rob	
Kessler, Wini	The Wildlife Society
Laird, Brian	
Leahy, Mike	National Wildlife Federation
Liden, Lance	
Marbut, Gary	
Mark, Keith	MacMillan River Adventures
Mason, Corey	Dallas Safari Club
McClaflin, Stacy	
McQueen, Julie	
Model, Bob	Boone and Crockett Club
Moretti, Miles	Mule Deer Foundation
Mosher, Jim	
Muller, Dianna	
Muller, Ryan	
Musaus, Mark	National Wildlife Refuge Assoc.
Nomsen, Dave	Pheasants Forever
Norris, Keith	The Wildlife Society
Norwood, Brian	
O'Mara, Collin	National Wildlife Federation
Parker, Connie	Pure Fishing, Inc.
Peay, Don	
Phillips, Michael	
Phillips, Paul	Boone and Crockett Club
Phillips, Phil	Dallas Safari Club
Porter, James	
Recce, Susan	National Rifle Association
Regehr, Eric	
Rider, Lance	

Name	Conservation/hunting group affiliation (if nominated by group)
Rudolph, Brent	Ruffed Grouse Society
Sanetti, Steve	National Shooting Sports Foundation
Schlegel, Mike	Pope and Young Club
Schlemmer, Bob	
Senter, Don	
Shockey, Eva	
Skold, Steven	Safari Club International
Sorg, Maurus	
Spady, David	
Spencer, Jack	
Strong, J.D.	OK Dept. Wildlife Conserv.
Thagard, Neil	Nez Perce Wildlife Division
Thomas, Christine	UWSP College of Natural Resources
Tidball, Keith	Cornell Coop. Extension
Titus, Kristy	
Tomke, John	Ducks Unlimited
Venesky, Thomas	
Vincent, Howard	Pheasants Forever
Waller, Jana	
Watson, John	
Weiers, Jerry	
Wettach, George	
Williams, Mark	GA Dept. Natural Resources
Williams, Steve	Wildlife Mgmt. Institute
Willmore, Larry	
Wooten, Larry	
Wright, Bishop	National Wildlife Refuge Assoc.



THE SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR
WASHINGTON
DEC 27 2017

Mr. Paul D. Babaz

(b) (6)

Dear Mr. Babaz:

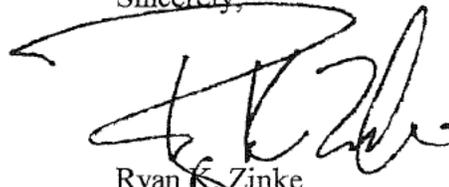
I am pleased to appoint you as a member of the International Wildlife Conservation Council (Council) representing the interests of wildlife and habitat conservation/management organizations. Your appointment is for a 3-year term effective the date of this letter.

Your involvement with the Council will help support its mission to advise the Federal Government about methods to increase public awareness domestically regarding conservation, wildlife law enforcement, and economic benefits that result from United States citizens traveling to foreign nations to engage in hunting. The Council will also advise the Federal Government on the benefits international hunting has on foreign wildlife and habitat conservation, anti-poaching and illegal wildlife trafficking programs, and other ways in which international hunting benefits human populations in these areas. The Council represents a strong partnership among the Federal Government; tourism, outfitter, and/or guide industries related to international hunting; the sporting conservation community; the shooting and hunting sports industry; and wildlife conservation organizations. Members of the Council serve without compensation, but non-Federal members may be reimbursed for travel and per diem expenses at current Federal Government rates when on Council business. A copy of the Council's charter is enclosed for your reference.

Mr. Joshua Winchell, Designated Federal Officer for the Council, will contact you shortly with further information regarding the Council. Mr. Winchell can be reached at (571) 329-1172.

I appreciate your willingness to commit your time and expertise to ensure we have broad-based input as we address recreational hunting and wildlife conservation issues internationally.

Sincerely,



Ryan K. Zinke
Secretary of the Interior

Enclosure



THE SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR
WASHINGTON

DEC 27 2017

Mr. Steven E. Chancellor
250 Cross Pointe Boulevard
Evansville, Indiana 47715

Dear Mr. Chancellor:

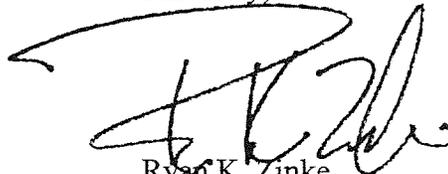
I am pleased to appoint you as a member of the International Wildlife Conservation Council (Council) representing the interests of U.S. hunters actively engaged in international and/or domestic hunting. Your appointment is for a 2-year term effective the date of this letter.

Your involvement with the Council will help support its mission to advise the Federal Government about methods to increase public awareness domestically regarding conservation, wildlife law enforcement, and economic benefits that result from United States citizens traveling to foreign nations to engage in hunting. The Council will also advise the Federal Government on the benefits international hunting has on foreign wildlife and habitat conservation, anti-poaching and illegal wildlife trafficking programs, and other ways in which international hunting benefits human populations in these areas. The Council represents a strong partnership among the Federal Government; tourism, outfitter, and/or guide industries related to international hunting; the sporting conservation community; the shooting and hunting sports industry; and wildlife conservation organizations. Members of the Council serve without compensation, but non-Federal members may be reimbursed for travel and per diem expenses at current Federal Government rates when on Council business. A copy of the Council's charter is enclosed for your reference.

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I appreciate your willingness to commit your time and expertise to ensure we have broad-based input as we address recreational hunting and wildlife conservation issues internationally.

Sincerely,



Ryan K. Zinke
Secretary of the Interior

Enclosure



THE SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR
WASHINGTON

DEC 27 2017

Mr. Cameron R. Hanes
2832 Metolius Drive
Eugene, Oregon 97408

Dear Mr. Hanes:

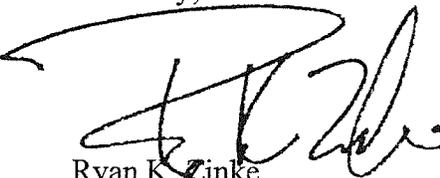
I am pleased to appoint you as a member of the International Wildlife Conservation Council (Council) representing the interests of archery and/or hunting sports industry. Your appointment is for a 2-year term effective the date of this letter.

Your involvement with the Council will help support its mission to advise the Federal Government about methods to increase public awareness domestically regarding conservation, wildlife law enforcement, and economic benefits that result from United States citizens traveling to foreign nations to engage in hunting. The Council will also advise the Federal Government on the benefits international hunting has on foreign wildlife and habitat conservation, anti-poaching and illegal wildlife trafficking programs, and other ways in which international hunting benefits human populations in these areas. The Council represents a strong partnership among the Federal Government; tourism, outfitter, and/or guide industries related to international hunting; the sporting conservation community; the shooting and hunting sports industry; and wildlife conservation organizations. Members of the Council serve without compensation, but non-Federal members may be reimbursed for travel and per diem expenses at current Federal Government rates when on Council business. A copy of the Council's charter is enclosed for your reference.

Mr. Joshua Winchell, Designated Federal Officer for the Council, will contact you shortly with further information regarding the Council. Mr. Winchell can be reached at (571) 329-1172.

I appreciate your willingness to commit your time and expertise to ensure we have broad-based input as we address recreational hunting and wildlife conservation issues internationally.

Sincerely,



Ryan K. Zinke
Secretary of the Interior

Enclosure



THE SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR
WASHINGTON

DEC 27 2017

Mr. Peter L. Horn II
295 Salem Road
Pound Ridge, New York 10576

Dear Mr. Horn:

I am pleased to appoint you as a member of the International Wildlife Conservation Council (Council) representing the interests of the firearms or ammunition manufacturing industry. Your appointment is for a 2-year term effective the date of this letter.

Your involvement with the Council will help support its mission to advise the Federal Government about methods to increase public awareness domestically regarding conservation, wildlife law enforcement, and economic benefits that result from United States citizens traveling to foreign nations to engage in hunting. The Council will also advise the Federal Government on the benefits international hunting has on foreign wildlife and habitat conservation, anti-poaching and illegal wildlife trafficking programs, and other ways in which international hunting benefits human populations in these areas. The Council represents a strong partnership among the Federal Government; tourism, outfitter, and/or guide industries related to international hunting; the sporting conservation community; the shooting and hunting sports industry; and wildlife conservation organizations. Members of the Council serve without compensation, but non-Federal members may be reimbursed for travel and per diem expenses at current Federal Government rates when on Council business. A copy of the Council's charter is enclosed for your reference.

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Sincerely,

Ryan K. Zinke
Secretary of the Interior

Enclosure



THE SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR
WASHINGTON

DEC 27 2017

Mr. Chris C. Hudson
8402 Ridgelea Street
Dallas, Texas 75209

Dear Mr. Hudson:

I am pleased to appoint you as a member of the International Wildlife Conservation Council (Council) representing the interests of wildlife and habitat conservation/management organizations. Your appointment is for a 3-year term effective the date of this letter.

Your involvement with the Council will help support its mission to advise the Federal Government about methods to increase public awareness domestically regarding conservation, wildlife law enforcement, and economic benefits that result from United States citizens traveling to foreign nations to engage in hunting. The Council will also advise the Federal Government on the benefits international hunting has on foreign wildlife and habitat conservation, anti-poaching and illegal wildlife trafficking programs, and other ways in which international hunting benefits human populations in these areas. The Council represents a strong partnership among the Federal Government; tourism, outfitter, and/or guide industries related to international hunting; the sporting conservation community; the shooting and hunting sports industry; and wildlife conservation organizations. Members of the Council serve without compensation, but non-Federal members may be reimbursed for travel and per diem expenses at current Federal Government rates when on Council business. A copy of the Council's charter is enclosed for your reference.

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Sincerely,

Ryan K. Zinke
Secretary of the Interior

Enclosure



THE SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR
WASHINGTON

DEC 27 2017

Mr. K. Michael Ingram
6094 E. Cholla Drive
Paradise Valley, Arizona 85253

Dear Mr. Ingram:

I am pleased to appoint you as a member of the International Wildlife Conservation Council (Council) representing the interests of U.S. hunters actively engaged in international and/or domestic hunting. Your appointment is for a 2-year term effective the date of this letter.

Your involvement with the Council will help support its mission to advise the Federal Government about methods to increase public awareness domestically regarding conservation, wildlife law enforcement, and economic benefits that result from United States citizens traveling to foreign nations to engage in hunting. The Council will also advise the Federal Government on the benefits international hunting has on foreign wildlife and habitat conservation, anti-poaching and illegal wildlife trafficking programs, and other ways in which international hunting benefits human populations in these areas. The Council represents a strong partnership among the Federal Government; tourism, outfitter, and/or guide industries related to international hunting; the sporting conservation community; the shooting and hunting sports industry; and wildlife conservation organizations. Members of the Council serve without compensation, but non-Federal members may be reimbursed for travel and per diem expenses at current Federal Government rates when on Council business. A copy of the Council's charter is enclosed for your reference.

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Sincerely,

Ryan R. Zinke
Secretary of the Interior

Enclosure



THE SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR
WASHINGTON

DEC 27 2017

Mr. John J. Jackson III
4501 Neyrey Drive
Metairie, Louisiana 70002

Dear Mr. Jackson:

I am pleased to appoint you as a member of the International Wildlife Conservation Council (Council) representing the interests of wildlife and habitat conservation/management organizations. Your appointment is for a 2-year term effective the date of this letter.

Your involvement with the Council will help support its mission to advise the Federal Government about methods to increase public awareness domestically regarding conservation, wildlife law enforcement, and economic benefits that result from United States citizens traveling to foreign nations to engage in hunting. The Council will also advise the Federal Government on the benefits international hunting has on foreign wildlife and habitat conservation, anti-poaching and illegal wildlife trafficking programs, and other ways in which international hunting benefits human populations in these areas. The Council represents a strong partnership among the Federal Government; tourism, outfitter, and/or guide industries related to international hunting; the sporting conservation community; the shooting and hunting sports industry; and wildlife conservation organizations. Members of the Council serve without compensation, but non-Federal members may be reimbursed for travel and per diem expenses at current Federal Government rates when on Council business. A copy of the Council's charter is enclosed for your reference.

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Sincerely,

Ryan K. Zinke
Secretary of the Interior

Enclosure



THE SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR
WASHINGTON

DEC 27 2017

Terry L. Maple, Ph.D.
95062 Woodberry Lane
Fernandina Beach, Florida 32034

Dear Dr. Maple:

I am pleased to appoint you as a member of the International Wildlife Conservation Council (Council) representing the interests of tourism, outfitter, and/or guide industries related to international hunting. Your appointment is for a 2-year term effective the date of this letter.

Your involvement with the Council will help support its mission to advise the Federal Government about methods to increase public awareness domestically regarding conservation, wildlife law enforcement, and economic benefits that result from United States citizens traveling to foreign nations to engage in hunting. The Council will also advise the Federal Government on the benefits international hunting has on foreign wildlife and habitat conservation, anti-poaching and illegal wildlife trafficking programs, and other ways in which international hunting benefits human populations in these areas. The Council represents a strong partnership among the Federal Government; tourism, outfitter, and/or guide industries related to international hunting; the sporting conservation community; the shooting and hunting sports industry; and wildlife conservation organizations. Members of the Council serve without compensation, but non-Federal members may be reimbursed for travel and per diem expenses at current Federal Government rates when on Council business. A copy of the Council's charter is enclosed for your reference.

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Sincerely,

Ryan K. Zinke
Secretary of the Interior

Enclosure



THE SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR
WASHINGTON

DEC 27 2017

Mr. Keith L. Mark
16100 Leavenworth Road
Basehor, Kansas 66007

Dear Mr. Mark:

I am pleased to appoint you as a member of the International Wildlife Conservation Council (Council) representing the interests of tourism, outfitter, and/or guide industries related to international hunting. Your appointment is for a 2-year term effective the date of this letter.

Your involvement with the Council will help support its mission to advise the Federal Government about methods to increase public awareness domestically regarding conservation, wildlife law enforcement, and economic benefits that result from United States citizens traveling to foreign nations to engage in hunting. The Council will also advise the Federal Government on the benefits international hunting has on foreign wildlife and habitat conservation, anti-poaching and illegal wildlife trafficking programs, and other ways in which international hunting benefits human populations in these areas. The Council represents a strong partnership among the Federal Government; tourism, outfitter, and/or guide industries related to international hunting; the sporting conservation community; the shooting and hunting sports industry; and wildlife conservation organizations. Members of the Council serve without compensation, but non-Federal members may be reimbursed for travel and per diem expenses at current Federal Government rates when on Council business. A copy of the Council's charter is enclosed for your reference.

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Sincerely,

Ryan K. Zinke
Secretary of the Interior

Enclosure



THE SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR
WASHINGTON

DEC 27 2017

Ms. Erica T. Rhoad
5307 James Madison Highway
The Plains, Virginia 20198

Dear Ms. Rhoad:

I am pleased to appoint you as a member of the International Wildlife Conservation Council (Council) representing the interests of the firearms or ammunition manufacturing industry. Your appointment is for a 2-year term effective the date of this letter.

Your involvement with the Council will help support its mission to advise the Federal Government about methods to increase public awareness domestically regarding conservation, wildlife law enforcement, and economic benefits that result from United States citizens traveling to foreign nations to engage in hunting. The Council will also advise the Federal Government on the benefits international hunting has on foreign wildlife and habitat conservation, anti-poaching and illegal wildlife trafficking programs, and other ways in which international hunting benefits human populations in these areas. The Council represents a strong partnership among the Federal Government; tourism, outfitter, and/or guide industries related to international hunting; the sporting conservation community; the shooting and hunting sports industry; and wildlife conservation organizations. Members of the Council serve without compensation, but non-Federal members may be reimbursed for travel and per diem expenses at current Federal Government rates when on Council business. A copy of the Council's charter is enclosed for your reference.

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Sincerely,

Ryan K. Zinke
Secretary of the Interior

Enclosure



THE SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR
WASHINGTON

DEC 27 2017

Ms. Denise E. Welker
7354 Love Road
Fulshear, Texas 77441

Dear Ms. Welker:

I am pleased to appoint you as a member of the International Wildlife Conservation Council (Council) representing the interests of U.S. hunters actively engaged in international and/or domestic hunting. Your appointment is for a 2-year term effective the date of this letter.

Your involvement with the Council will help support its mission to advise the Federal Government about methods to increase public awareness domestically regarding conservation, wildlife law enforcement, and economic benefits that result from U. S. citizens traveling to foreign nations to engage in hunting. The Council will also advise the Federal Government on the benefits international hunting has on foreign wildlife and habitat conservation, anti-poaching and illegal wildlife trafficking programs, and other ways in which international hunting benefits human populations in these areas. The Council represents a strong partnership among the Federal Government; tourism, outfitter, and/or guide industries related to international hunting; the sporting conservation community; the shooting and hunting sports industry; and wildlife conservation organizations. Members of the Council serve without compensation, but non-Federal members may be reimbursed for travel and per diem expenses at current Federal Government rates when on Council business. A copy of the Council's charter is enclosed for your reference.

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Sincerely,

Ryan K. Zinke
Secretary of the Interior

Enclosure



THE SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR
WASHINGTON

DEC 27 2017

Mr. Gary S. Kania
35 Shore Drive
Kilmarnock, Virginia 22482

Dear Mr. Kania:

I am pleased to appoint you as a member of the International Wildlife Conservation Council (Council) representing the interests of wildlife and habitat conservation/management organizations. Your appointment is for a 3-year term effective the date of this letter.

Your involvement with the Council will help support its mission to advise the Federal Government about methods to increase public awareness domestically regarding conservation, wildlife law enforcement, and economic benefits that result from United States citizens traveling to foreign nations to engage in hunting. The Council will also advise the Federal Government on the benefits international hunting has on foreign wildlife and habitat conservation, anti-poaching and illegal wildlife trafficking programs, and other ways in which international hunting benefits human populations in these areas. The Council represents a strong partnership among the Federal Government; tourism, outfitter, and/or guide industries related to international hunting; the sporting conservation community; the shooting and hunting sports industry; and wildlife conservation organizations. Members of the Council serve without compensation, but non-Federal members may be reimbursed for travel and per diem expenses at current Federal Government rates when on Council business. A copy of the Council's charter is enclosed for your reference.

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Sincerely,

Ryan K. Zinke
Secretary of the Interior

Enclosure



THE SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR
WASHINGTON

DEC 27 2017

Ms. Olivia N. Opre
110 Penney Lane
Columbia Falls, Montana 59912

Dear Ms. Opre:

I am pleased to appoint you as a member of the International Wildlife Conservation Council (Council) representing the interests of U.S. hunters actively engaged in international and/or domestic hunting. Your appointment is for a 2-year term effective the date of this letter.

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Sincerely,

Ryan K. Zinke
Secretary of the Interior

Enclosure



THE SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR
WASHINGTON

DEC 27 2017

Jenifer A. Chatfield, DVM
38316 Mickler Road
Dade City, Florida 33523

Dear Dr. Chatfield:

I am pleased to appoint you as a member of the International Wildlife Conservation Council (Council) representing the interests of wildlife and habitat conservation/management organizations. Your appointment is for a 2-year term effective the date of this letter.

Your involvement with the Council will help support its mission to advise the Federal Government about methods to increase public awareness domestically regarding conservation, wildlife law enforcement, and economic benefits that result from United States citizens traveling to foreign nations to engage in hunting. The Council will also advise the Federal Government on the benefits international hunting has on foreign wildlife and habitat conservation, anti-poaching and illegal wildlife trafficking programs, and other ways in which international hunting benefits human populations in these areas. The Council represents a strong partnership among the Federal Government; tourism, outfitter, and/or guide industries related to international hunting; the sporting conservation community; the shooting and hunting sports industry; and wildlife conservation organizations. Members of the Council serve without compensation, but non-Federal members may be reimbursed for travel and per diem expenses at current Federal Government rates when on Council business. A copy of the Council's charter is enclosed for your reference.

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Sincerely,

Ryan K. Zinke
Secretary of the Interior

Enclosure



THE SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR
WASHINGTON

DEC 27 2017

Mr. Bill Brewster
P.O. Box 368
Marietta, Oklahoma 73448

Dear Mr. Brewster:

I am pleased to appoint you as a member of the International Wildlife Conservation Council (Council) representing the interests of U.S. hunters actively engaged in international and/or domestic hunting. Your appointment is for a 2-year term effective the date of this letter.

Your involvement with the Council will help support its mission to advise the Federal Government about methods to increase public awareness domestically regarding conservation, wildlife law enforcement, and economic benefits that result from United States citizens traveling to foreign nations to engage in hunting. The Council will also advise the Federal Government on the benefits international hunting has on foreign wildlife and habitat conservation, anti-poaching and illegal wildlife trafficking programs, and other ways in which international hunting benefits human populations in these areas. The Council represents a strong partnership among the Federal Government; tourism, outfitter, and/or guide industries related to international hunting; the sporting conservation community; the shooting and hunting sports industry; and wildlife conservation organizations. Members of the Council serve without compensation, but non-Federal members may be reimbursed for travel and per diem expenses at current Federal Government rates when on Council business. A copy of the Council's charter is enclosed for your reference.

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Sincerely,

Ryan K. Zinke
Secretary of the Interior

Enclosure



THE SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR
WASHINGTON

DEC 27 2017

Mr. Ivan M. Carter
19 Pirates Acre
Doubloon Road
Freeport, Grand Bahama Island

Dear Mr. Carter:

I am pleased to appoint you as a member of the International Wildlife Conservation Council (Council) representing the interests of U.S. hunters actively engaged in international and/or domestic hunting. Your appointment is for a 2-year term effective the date of this letter.

Your involvement with the Council will help support its mission to advise the Federal Government about methods to increase public awareness domestically regarding conservation, wildlife law enforcement, and economic benefits that result from United States citizens traveling to foreign nations to engage in hunting. The Council will also advise the Federal Government on the benefits international hunting has on foreign wildlife and habitat conservation, anti-poaching and illegal wildlife trafficking programs, and other ways in which international hunting benefits human populations in these areas. The Council represents a strong partnership among the Federal Government; tourism, outfitter, and/or guide industries related to international hunting; the sporting conservation community; the shooting and hunting sports industry; and wildlife conservation organizations. Members of the Council serve without compensation, but non-Federal members may be reimbursed for travel and per diem expenses at current Federal Government rates when on Council business. A copy of the Council's charter is enclosed for your reference.

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Sincerely,

Ryan K. Zinke
Secretary of the Interior

Enclosure

CURRICULUM VITAE

Malan Lindeque

Permanent Secretary

Ministry of Environment and Tourism, Republic of Namibia

Personal detail

(b) (6)

University qualifications

BSc University of Pretoria, South Africa, 1978 (Geology and Zoology majors)

BSc (Honours) Cum laude, University of Pretoria, 1979 (Mammalogy and biometry)

MSc University of Pretoria, 1981 (Reproductive ecology and physiology)

PhD University of Stellenbosch, South Africa, 1989 (Population dynamics and ecology)

Previous positions:

1. Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Trade and Industry, from 2007 to 2014
2. Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Environment and Tourism, from 2003 to 2007
3. Chief: Scientific Coordination Unit, Secretariat of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of wild fauna and flora (CITES), United Nations Environment Programme, Geneva, Switzerland (UN Post level: P5), from 1999 to 2003
4. Deputy Director: Specialist Support Services, Ministry of Environment and Tourism, 1994-1999
5. Chief Ecologist, Ministry of Environment and Tourism, and Head of the Etosha Ecological Institute, Etosha National Park, Namibia, 1988-1994
6. Animal Ecologist, Etosha Ecological Institute, Namibia, 1983-1988
7. Antarctic Field Assistant, Mammal Research Institute, University of Pretoria, Summer Antarctic Research Programme, 1979-1981

Summary of key experiences and skills

- I have extensive working knowledge and experience in the field of environment and natural resource management with substantial knowledge and experience in interdisciplinary areas of biodiversity conservation, community based natural resource management, wildlife trade and the sustainable use of wildlife resources, tourism and the economics of natural resource management, at national and international level; as well as developing and managing protected areas, biological research and monitoring, and the supervision of research. I worked as an ecologist in Etosha National Park for 13 years, mainly on elephant and other large mammal research and conservation projects, as well as vegetation ecology, park management planning, population monitoring etc.;
- I lead the hunting repositioning process in Namibia (building on and linking to strong and well established elements that are already in place such as Namibia's community based natural resource management (or conservancy) programme, the Game Products Trust Fund (the statutory fund that is in place as the official mechanism for channelling hunting and similar revenues to conservation), Namibia's species management programmes especially its black rhinoceros conservation and custodianship programme, Namibia's human-wildlife conflict management programme; with the following new elements (developed by various combinations of stakeholders):
 - Developing a charter for hunting and conservation in Africa (final negotiation session in February 2018)
 - Drafting entirely new wildlife legislation for Namibia, including new hunting regulations
 - Developing a revised code of conduct for hunters in Namibia
 - Developing a new best practice guide for hunting outfitters in Namibia
 - Developing a new age based trophy measuring system for African game species
 - Developing a standard system of collecting biological information from hunted animals
 - Developing a system of direct financing of habitat protection through hunting (similar to the US system of habitat protection stamps)
 - Developing a transparency system for hunting concessions and contracting
 - Developing a programme for citizen hunting in Namibia
 - Strengthening Namibia's CITES Scientific Authority role of making non detriment findings and improved quota setting through adaptive management
 - Establishing research and monitoring programmes for all high value species potentially impacted by hunting and other off takes.
- I served for four years as the Chief: Scientific Coordination Unit, Secretariat of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of wild fauna and flora (CITES) which exposed me to a multitude of international wildlife conservation and management issues for species involved in international trade. In this role I oversaw the important CITES

processes of Significant Trade Reviews, the functioning of the Animals and Plants Committees, the establishment of national quotas, the review of proposals to amend the CITES Appendices, species-specific trade control programmes etc.;

- I served for seven years as Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Trade and Industry with extensive leadership, policy development and managerial responsibilities in the fields of international trade, domestic commerce, investment, and industrial development;
- I have extensive working knowledge and experience in the fields of international trade, commerce, industrial development, and regional integration processes.
- For seven years I was the lead negotiator for Namibia on the Economic Partnership Agreement with the European Union since August 2007, and also the lead negotiator for the Southern African Customs Union concerning a Preferential Trade Agreement with India, and from 2011 also the negotiations towards a tripartite Free Trade Agreement of COMESA, EAC and SADC;
- Eleven years as Permanent Secretary, and altogether 16 years in senior management of ministries and international organizations, and extensive experience in working with a wide variety of government and non-governmental agencies, the business sector, and contributing to processes of developing national plans, policies and legislation;
- I have extensive working experience in various capacities with NGOs, especially the Namibia Chamber of Environment, WWF, Integrated Rural Development and Nature Conservation, the Namibia Nature Foundation, the Namibia Professional Hunters Association and State-owned enterprises, agencies and regulatory bodies, including the turn-around and repositioning of institutions such as the Environmental Investment Fund, Game Products Trust Fund, Namibia Wildlife Resorts Ltd; the Namibia Development Corporation; the Offshore Development Company; the starting up of new institutions such as the Namibia Tourism Board, Namibia Competition Commission, Namibia Board of Trade; Namibia Business and Industrial Property Agency; Namibia Industrial Development Agency, the Namibia Trade Forum as well as their governance and financing.

Other positions/responsibilities held

1. Chairperson of the Sustainable Development Advisory Council of Namibia
2. Member of the Southern African Customs Union Commission
3. Member of the Anti-money Laundering Advisory Council (Bank of Namibia)
4. Member of the Board of Directors of Namibia Development Corporation

5. Member of the Board of Directors of the Offshore Development Company
6. Vice Chairman (past) : CITES Standing Committee (and regional representative for Africa)
7. Member (past) of the Board of Directors of the Game Products Trust Fund
8. Member (past) of IUCN/SSC Specialist Groups on African elephant, Sustainable Use (Southern Africa)
9. Associate Editor (past), Oryx (International Journal of Conservation), United Kingdom

References

Mr Pohamba Shifeta, Minister of Environment and Tourism;

Ms Rosie Cooney, IUCN/SULI

Mr. Chris Weaver, Head of Mission, WWF Namibia

Dr. Chris Brown, CEO of Namibia Chamber of Environment

Mr John Jackson, Conservation Force

Mr Matthew Lewis, SCI Foundation

Mr Maxwell Gomera, UNEP

Publications

- SKINNER, J.D., LINDEQUE, M., VAN AARDE, R.J. & DIECKMANN, R.C. 1980. The prey of owls from Koichab Pan in the southern Namib Desert. *Madoqua* 12, 81-182.
- LINDEQUE, M. & SKINNER, J.D. 1982. Aseasonal breeding in the spotted hyaena (*Crocuta crocuta* Erxleben), in southern Africa. *Afr. J. Ecol.* 20, 271-278
- LINDEQUE, M. & SKINNER, J.D. 1982. Fetal androgens and sexual mimicry in spotted hyaenas (*Crocuta crocuta*). *J. Reprod. Fert.* 65, 405-410
- LINDEQUE, M. & SKINNER, J.D. 1984. Size frequency analysis of tooth wear in spotted hyaenas *Crocuta crocuta*. *S. Afr. J. Zool.* 19, 291-294
- LINDEQUE, M., SKINNER, J.D. & MILLAR, R.P. 1986. Adrenal and gonadal contribution to circulating androgens in spotted hyaenas (*Crocuta crocuta*) as revealed by LHRH, HCG and ACTH stimulation. *J. Reprod. Fert.* 78, 211-217
- LINDEQUE, M. 1987. Observations on mating behaviour in the common slit-faced bat *Nycteris thebaica*. *Madoqua* 15, 183-185
- VAN JAARSVELD, A.S., SKINNER, J.D. & LINDEQUE, M. 1988. Growth, development and parental investment in the spotted hyaena, *Crocuta crocuta*. *J. Zool., Lond.* 216, 45-53
- LOUTIT, B. & LINDEQUE, M. 1988. A great step for the desert giants. *Quagga* 22, 26-28
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- VAN DER MERWE, N.J., LEE-THORP, J.A., THACKERAY, J.F., HALL-MARTIN, A., KRUGER, F.J., COETZEE, H., BELL, R.H.V. & LINDEQUE, M. 1990. Source area determination of elephant ivory by means of isotopic analysis: "Fingerprinting" tusks. *Nature (Lond.)*. 346: 744-746
- VAN DER MERWE, N.J., LEE THORPE, J.A., THACKERAY, J.F., HALL-MARTIN, A., KRUGER, J.F., COETZEE, H., BELL, R.H.V. & LINDEQUE, M. 1990. Identifying ivory. *Rhino & Elephant J.* 4: 12-15
- LINDEQUE, M. 1990. The case for dehorning the black rhinoceros in Namibia. *S. Afr. J. Sci.* 86: 226-227
- LINDEQUE, M. & ARCHIBALD, T.J. 1991. Seasonal wetlands in Owambo and Etosha National Park. *Madoqua* 17: 129-133
- LINDEQUE, M. 1991. Dentition and age estimation of elephants in Etosha National Park, Namibia. *Madoqua* 18: 17-25
- LINDEQUE, M. 1991. Population age structure of elephants in Etosha National Park, Namibia. *Madoqua* 18: 27-32
- LINDEQUE, M. & LINDEQUE, P.M. 1991. Satellite tracking of elephants in northwestern Namibia. *Afr. J. Ecol.* 29:196-206

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JAMES W. PORTER, II
Porter, Porter and Hassinger, P.C.

JAMES W. PORTER, II - Admitted to the Alabama Bar, 1974. Education: University of Alabama (B.A. 1971); Cumberland School of Law, Samford University (J.D. 1974). After serving a two-year clerkship under Honorable Virgil Pittman, the presiding Judge of the United States District Court for the Southern District of Alabama (1975-1977), Mr. Porter became an associate in the firm of Bishop, Sweeney and Colvin, where his responsibilities included handling matters for the Jefferson County Board of Education and an extensive practice before the Interstate Commerce Commission and the Alabama Public Service Commission. In 1979, he formed a partnership with Irvine Porter (City Attorney for the City of Homewood for 45 years), which became the present firm in 1985.

Mr. Porter specializes in the representation of public entities with emphasis on defending civil rights tort claims. Mr. Porter presently serves as the Trial Counsel and Appellate Counsel to Alabama Municipal Insurance Corporation, which insures over 450 public entities in Alabama. He staffs an 800 number for League members to call for purposes of consultation on employment practices and personnel issues. He has represented public officials including county commissioners, sheriffs, city councils, municipal corporations and law enforcement. Other areas of expertise include the defense of products liability claims with emphasis on firearms litigation. Mr. Porter serves as Supervisory Counsel and Trial Counsel to various firearms manufacturers for claims brought both in Alabama, as well as other Southeastern jurisdictions (state and federal). Among clients he has represented are Sturm, Ruger & Company, Inc.; International Armament Corporation; Carl Walther Waffenfabrik, GmbH; STAR Bonifacio Echeverria, S.A.; Amadeo Rossi, S.A.; Smith & Wesson; Remington.

Mr. Porter has successfully defended cases at the trial level in both state and federal courts and has successfully argued numerous cases at the appellate level before the State of Alabama Supreme Court, as well as the Fifth and Eleventh Circuit Court of Appeals. Mr. Porter has prepared pleadings and briefs for numerous cases that have gone before the United States Supreme Court.

Mr. Porter was appointed Special Assistant Attorney General by the Governor and by the Attorney General of Alabama. Recognized as a Local Government Fellow by the International Municipal Lawyers Association; Alabama Bar Association (Former Chair Unauthorized Practice of Law Committee); Birmingham Bar Association; Association of Transportation Practitioners; Defense Research Institute; Rated AV-Martindale-Hubble Legal Directory. Listed Best's Directory: Insurance Lawyers.

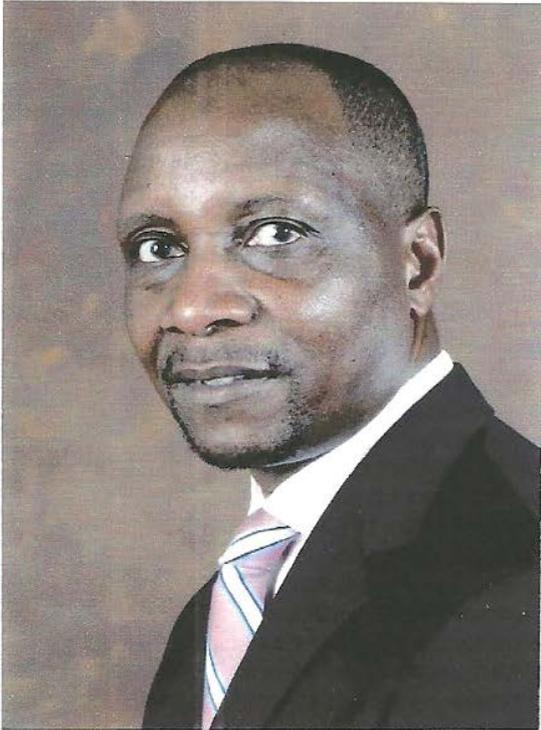
Mr. Porter has lectured extensively to professional groups and citizen groups on Civil Rights Litigation, Civil Liberties, Firearms Litigation, Employment Practices, Alabama Public Entity Law and the U.S. Constitution, with emphasis on the Second Amendment.

Professional memberships: Defense Research Institute; Alabama State Bar, (Chairman Unauthorized Practice of Law Committee, 1990-1991); Judicial Liaison Task Force Birmingham Bar Association (Unauthorized Practice of Law; Federal Practice Committee); Alabama League of Municipalities; International Municipal Lawyer's Association (formerly the National Institute of Municipal Law Officers); 1987-1988 Chairman of Municipal and Official Liability Insurance Committee; Member of Trial and Appellate Practice Committee 1988-1989, Member of Tort Liability of Local Governments and Officials Committee, (named a Local Government Fellow); Association of Transportation Practitioners. Rated AV-Martindale-Hubble Legal Directory. Listed Best's Directory: Insurance Lawyers;

Other Organizations and Appointments: National Rifle Association of America, President (2013-2015), (Executive Counsel; Board of Directors; Member Executive Committee; Chairman Legal Affairs Committee, Chair and Member; Firearms Industry Relations Task Force; Chairman, Vice Chair and Member, Finance Committee; Chairman Hearings Committee; Member Ways and Means Committee; Chair- NRA Civil Rights Legal Defense Fund; Trustee - NRA Special Contribution Fund; Founding Trustee and two-time President of NRA Foundation); Chairman, American Firearms and Shooting Foundation; Alabama Rifle and Pistol Association (Vice President and Legislative Liaison); Birmingham Chamber of Commerce; President and named President Emeritus Oak Hill Memorial Cemetery Board of Trustees; Men's Committee, The Discovery Place Museum; Men's Committee, Junior League of Birmingham; Men's Committee, Ball of Roses; Monday Morning Quarterback Club; Alabama Handicapped Sportsmen Association (Founding Member Board of Directors); Beaux Arts Krewe; Trustee State of Alabama Trust Fund (1997-1998); Trustee Alabama Forever Wild Land Trust (1999-2005) (2010 - 2016); State of Alabama Governor's Conservation Advisory Board (2001-2007). Governor, Society of Colonial Wars, Alabama; Member Sons of the Revolution, Alabama; Jamestown Society; First Families of Virginia; International Order of Saint Hubertus (Knight Grand Officer and Prior at Large, Knighted by Archduke Andreas-Salvador von Habsburg-Lothringen, K.G.O.); The Society of the Cincinnati; Awarded the Governor's Conservationist of the Year, 2013. Founding Chairman NRA Hunters Leadership Forum.



Curriculum Vitae



Emmanuel A Fundira
ID 63-632958H07

Founder member and Group Chief Executive of Astoc Leisure Group a diversified tourism based business with interest in photographic and non photographic safaris, operating in Victoria Falls and Lake Kariba/Zambezi Valley, under the flagship of Frontiers Adrenalin, Mosi-Oa –Tunya Travel & Tours and Makuti Game Safaris and lodges respectively, with a capital base of \$20m and 87 employees.

Holds a balanced portfolio of experience in Tourism related infrastructural issues spanning over a period of 20 years with a well proven uninterrupted service to the industry and nation at various levels.

Have served the nation in the development and application of an environmental stewardship based on sound ecological principles , deep scientific knowledge of wildlife with a sense of moral responsibility.

As President of Safari Operators Association of Zimbabwe since 2008 have on several occasions guided the conservation, development and management of the nation's wildlife resources and participated in the administration of National Programs on International foras such as CITES COP meetings and allowed the general public to understand appreciate protect and wisely utilise and co exist with valuable wildlife resources.

Professional Qualifications

A Chevening Scholar and holder of a Bsc (Hons) Economics & Finance, Degree from Birmingham University in (UK), -1983

MBA in Business Administration & Finance from Durham University Business School (UK).1987

A fellow member of the Institute of Marketing (FIMM) (UK) 1988

Author of several journals and publications on Sustainable Tourism, and Visitor User Guide for Southern Africa. 2000-2009

National Contributions

President of Safari Operators Association of Zimbabwe (SOAZ) since 2008 to current

Past Chairman of Outfitters and Professional Hunters Association of Southern Africa (OPHASA) under the auspices of the African Wildlife Consultative Forum (AWCF) and Safari Club International (SCI)

Non- Executive Director of African Sun Hotels and Resorts – Total 15 properties.

Former Chairman of Zimbabwe Tourism Authority, (2001-2006)

Former President of Zimbabwe Council of Tourism (2006-2011)

Former alternate Chairman of Regional Tourism Organisation of Southern Africa (RETOSA) 2009-2010.

Former Chairman of the Adjudication Panel of Judges for Hospitality Investment Conference Awards (HICA) for Sub Saharan African Region (2009-2011)

For outstanding contribution to tourism development was honoured with the following accolades:

- Zimbabwe Tourism Personality of the Year 2009 &2010
- Zimbabwe Tourism Image Builder of the year 2010.
- Former Chairman of an Agro Forestry Business Allied Timber Group 2014-2015.

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Updated 11th December 2017

CURRICULUM VITAE

Malan Lindeque

Permanent Secretary

Ministry of Environment and Tourism, Republic of Namibia

Personal detail

(b) (6)

University qualifications

BSc University of Pretoria, South Africa, 1978 (Geology and Zoology majors)

BSc (Honours) Cum laude, University of Pretoria, 1979 (Mammalogy and biometry)

MSc University of Pretoria, 1981 (Reproductive ecology and physiology)

PhD University of Stellenbosch, South Africa, 1989 (Population dynamics and ecology)

Previous positions:

1. Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Trade and Industry, from 2007 to 2014
2. Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Environment and Tourism, from 2003 to 2007
3. Chief: Scientific Coordination Unit, Secretariat of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of wild fauna and flora (CITES), United Nations Environment Programme, Geneva, Switzerland (UN Post level: P5), from 1999 to 2003
4. Deputy Director: Specialist Support Services, Ministry of Environment and Tourism, 1994-1999
5. Chief Ecologist, Ministry of Environment and Tourism, and Head of the Etosha Ecological Institute, Etosha National Park, Namibia, 1988-1994
6. Animal Ecologist, Etosha Ecological Institute, Namibia, 1983-1988
7. Antarctic Field Assistant, Mammal Research Institute, University of Pretoria, Summer Antarctic Research Programme, 1979-1981

Summary of key experiences and skills

- I have extensive working knowledge and experience in the field of environment and natural resource management with substantial knowledge and experience in interdisciplinary areas of biodiversity conservation, community based natural resource management, wildlife trade and the sustainable use of wildlife resources, tourism and the economics of natural resource management, at national and international level; as well as developing and managing protected areas, biological research and monitoring, and the supervision of research. I worked as an ecologist in Etosha National Park for 13 years, mainly on elephant and other large mammal research and conservation projects, as well as vegetation ecology, park management planning, population monitoring etc.;
- I lead the hunting repositioning process in Namibia (building on and linking to strong and well established elements that are already in place such as Namibia's community based natural resource management (or conservancy) programme, the Game Products Trust Fund (the statutory fund that is in place as the official mechanism for channelling hunting and similar revenues to conservation), Namibia's species management programmes especially its black rhinoceros conservation and custodianship programme, Namibia's human-wildlife conflict management programme; with the following new elements (developed by various combinations of stakeholders):
 - Developing a charter for hunting and conservation in Africa (final negotiation session in February 2018)
 - Drafting entirely new wildlife legislation for Namibia, including new hunting regulations
 - Developing a revised code of conduct for hunters in Namibia
 - Developing a new best practice guide for hunting outfitters in Namibia
 - Developing a new age based trophy measuring system for African game species
 - Developing a standard system of collecting biological information from hunted animals
 - Developing a system of direct financing of habitat protection through hunting (similar to the US system of habitat protection stamps)
 - Developing a transparency system for hunting concessions and contracting
 - Developing a programme for citizen hunting in Namibia
 - Strengthening Namibia's CITES Scientific Authority role of making non detriment findings and improved quota setting through adaptive management
 - Establishing research and monitoring programmes for all high value species potentially impacted by hunting and other off takes.
- I served for four years as the Chief: Scientific Coordination Unit, Secretariat of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of wild fauna and flora (CITES) which exposed me to a multitude of international wildlife conservation and management issues for species involved in international trade. In this role I oversaw the important CITES

processes of Significant Trade Reviews, the functioning of the Animals and Plants Committees, the establishment of national quotas, the review of proposals to amend the CITES Appendices, species-specific trade control programmes etc.;

- I served for seven years as Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Trade and Industry with extensive leadership, policy development and managerial responsibilities in the fields of international trade, domestic commerce, investment, and industrial development;
- I have extensive working knowledge and experience in the fields of international trade, commerce, industrial development, and regional integration processes.
- For seven years I was the lead negotiator for Namibia on the Economic Partnership Agreement with the European Union since August 2007, and also the lead negotiator for the Southern African Customs Union concerning a Preferential Trade Agreement with India, and from 2011 also the negotiations towards a tripartite Free Trade Agreement of COMESA, EAC and SADC;
- Eleven years as Permanent Secretary, and altogether 16 years in senior management of ministries and international organizations, and extensive experience in working with a wide variety of government and non-governmental agencies, the business sector, and contributing to processes of developing national plans, policies and legislation;
- I have extensive working experience in various capacities with NGOs, especially the Namibia Chamber of Environment, WWF, Integrated Rural Development and Nature Conservation, the Namibia Nature Foundation, the Namibia Professional Hunters Association and State-owned enterprises, agencies and regulatory bodies, including the turn-around and repositioning of institutions such as the Environmental Investment Fund, Game Products Trust Fund, Namibia Wildlife Resorts Ltd; the Namibia Development Corporation; the Offshore Development Company; the starting up of new institutions such as the Namibia Tourism Board, Namibia Competition Commission, Namibia Board of Trade; Namibia Business and Industrial Property Agency; Namibia Industrial Development Agency, the Namibia Trade Forum as well as their governance and financing.

Other positions/responsibilities held

1. Chairperson of the Sustainable Development Advisory Council of Namibia
2. Member of the Southern African Customs Union Commission
3. Member of the Anti-money Laundering Advisory Council (Bank of Namibia)
4. Member of the Board of Directors of Namibia Development Corporation

5. Member of the Board of Directors of the Offshore Development Company
6. Vice Chairman (past) : CITES Standing Committee (and regional representative for Africa)
7. Member (past) of the Board of Directors of the Game Products Trust Fund
8. Member (past) of IUCN/SSC Specialist Groups on African elephant, Sustainable Use (Southern Africa)
9. Associate Editor (past), Oryx (International Journal of Conservation), United Kingdom

References

Mr Pohamba Shifeta, Minister of Environment and Tourism;

Ms Rosie Cooney, IUCN/SULI

Mr. Chris Weaver, Head of Mission, WWF Namibia

Dr. Chris Brown, CEO of Namibia Chamber of Environment

Mr John Jackson, Conservation Force

Mr Matthew Lewis, SCI Foundation

Mr Maxwell Gomera, UNEP

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