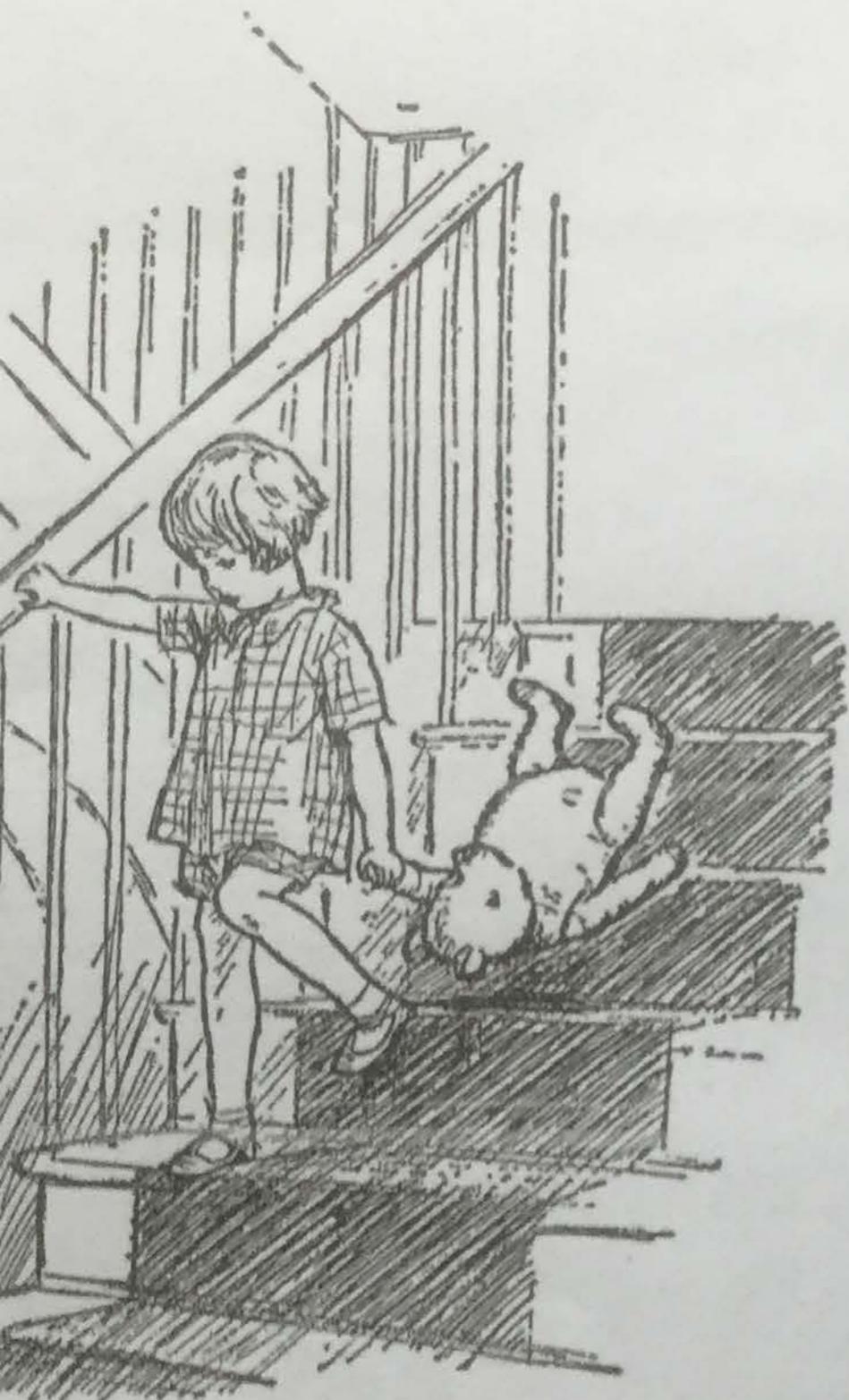


Counter-Poaching

What Does Not Work and What Might

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June 19, 2018

IN WHICH *We Are Introduced to Winnie-the-Pooh
and Some Bees, and the Stories Begin*



HERE is Edward Bear, coming downstairs now, bump, bump, bump, on the back of his head, behind Christopher Robin. It is, as far as he knows, the only way of coming downstairs, but sometimes he feels that there really is another way, if only he could stop bumping for a moment and think of it. And then he feels that perhaps there isn't. Anyhow, here he is at the bottom, and ready to be introduced to you. Winnie-the-Pooh.

When I first heard his name, I said, just as you are going to say, "But I thought he was a boy?"

"So did I," said Christopher Robin.

"Then you can't call him Winnie?"

"I don't."

"But you said——"

"He's Winnie-ther-Pooh. Don't you know what 'ther' means?"

Change the Semantics

- We need to think about what we SHOULD call this activity.
- Anti- means opposed to and we all are against poaching.
- But anti-poaching is too passive.
- We need to change the semantics.
- Counter - means to be "acting in an opposite direction" or to encounter.
- Let's agree to call it what it is - a proactive counter-poaching effort.

A Physics and Economics Problem

- Need to cover immense amounts of territory 24/7.
- Numerous moving targets - animals.
- Multiple adversaries - poachers, syndicates, hungry people - compounded by endemic corruption.
- Limited resources to respond - Rangers - quickly.
- A space vs. time issue with optimal resource allocation challenges.

What Does NOT Work

- Throwing money at the problem - \$23 million for Krueger PLUS millions from European lotteries.
- Untrained and Poorly equipped volunteers.
- Western technology that "worked" in Afghanistan.
- High tech that is hard to operate, difficult to maintain
- Uncoordinated data collections - PAWS, SMART, MIKE-PIKE, Semetech LoRA.
- Ignoring locals and failing to engage communities.

Problems with High Tech

- Cameras, sensors, UAVs, balloons, networks and good communication systems are \$\$\$\$.
- No funds for daily maintenance.
- What doesn't break will be stolen.
- Lack of power and connectivity.
- Dust, heat, humidity, monsoonal rains.
- Untrained, ill-equipped, underpaid operators.
- Lack of vehicles, slow response time, lack of fuel.

What Works

- Trained Rangers - Black Mambas RSA
- Simple tech -Garmin Trackers - Nsefu Zambia
- Rigorous data collection with limited inputs.
- Solid but simple analytics - push pins on sat imagery = Good graphics.
- Targeted patrol areas for likely encounters based on data - Sabie Mozambique.
- Real and serious judicial response.
- **KNOW WHERE ANIMALS LIKELY TO BE.**

Simple Tech

- Radio repeaters.
- Motorbikes.
- Geotag every snare discovered.
- Solar powered cameras that blink and move.
- Signs in local dialect - 24/7 video surveillance.
- Dragging roads with logs, carpets.
- Snappy uniforms and berets for Rangers.
- Breathalyzers.

Success at Nsefu Zambia

- Total engagement with tourist lodges, hunting concessions, parks and community.
- Daily fee collected from lodges for community.
- Regular discussions with ALL stakeholders.
- New school and sewing center provides education and jobs.
- Hunting concessions steer clear of tourism areas.
- Rangers have appropriate technology with simple Garmins, better radios, motorbikes and boat.
- 90 arrests, 57 prison sentences, 30 rifles seized.
- Locals know - keeping animals alive means \$\$\$.

Reduce Animal Human Conflict

- Elephants raiding gardens in Zambia.
- Installed 900+ beehives.
- Added solar panels to hives - trickle charge.
- Benefits --
 - 1000 kgs honey to sell.
 - Better crop pollination.
 - Charge phones in village to save walking
 - No elephants in garden.
 - Employment for bee men.
 - Lights for children to study in the evening.

Success in Mozambique

- No rhino poachings in 18 months.
- Professional trained Rangers.
- Tracker dogs.
- Helicopter for ranger/dog drop in hot zone.
- Data driven deployment strategy.
- Mapping daily animal locations on sat imagery.
- Animal movement patterns.
- Psy ops - cameras, signs, radio traffic.
- Community paid tip lines.

Success at Olifants West

- Black Mambas - all female professional Rangers with incredible e'spirit de corps.
- Women never believed they would have a job.
- Months of training.
- Classy uniforms.
- Daily walking patrols.
- Visible presence and deterrent.
- Collected hundreds of snares.
- Engagement with village women and youth.
- Encourage young girls to conservation.

Summary - Resilience

Bouncing Back after Being Stretched



- Multi-faceted approach with many constituencies.
- Appropriate technology for trained Rangers.
- Science based data analytic solutions.
- Rapid response capability.
- Community involvement with incentives
- Hunting concessions as true partners.
- In it for the long run.
- Strengthen judicial process and identify corruption.

Suggestions - Tell a Good Story

- Google "Africa" and "Good hunting story".
- Transparency - where do hunting fees really end up? Visible proof. How much to whom for what ?
- Demand government accountability. Documented.
- Perspective - numbers actually hunted vs poached.
- One offs - meat for villages. Local job impacts.
- Darting for scientific research.
- Trade offs - concessions or cattle farms ?
- Need to tell a serious, compelling and true story.
- If hunting stops today, what are the costs and benefits to Africa and local communities ?

Thank you for the privilege of your time and
consideration

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