

ENDELEZA HIFADHI

July 2006



CONSERVATION & DEVELOPMENT IN TANZANIA:

WHY WE DO WHAT WE DO

Director's Message by David Erickson

Firstly our congratulations to the new government of Tanzania!

President Kikwete has restated the importance of wildlife and tourism for the economic development for the country. We have been using these resources as tools for poverty alleviation at Cullman & Hurt for the past 16 years. The Project has gone a long way since Robin Hurt and Joe Cullman sat around the table at Bartle Bull's house in New York to discuss the fate of Africa's wildlife.

“The concept of wildlife conservation in Africa compels us to balance the efforts of conservation with the needs of people...”

Last year I had the opportunity to meet with some Wataturu pastoralists who live near our Maswa-Makao concession. Due to the drought, they had been grazing their cattle inside our block. They had also been killing lion to protect their herds. I suggested to the Wataturu that they join the Cullman & Hurt Project. I explained to them the value of lion and the benefits that they would receive by helping us conserve them. They whole heartedly agreed once they understood that healthy wildlife populations would mean funds for development of their community.

In January of this year, I was invited to Jo'berg to represent the Cullman & Hurt Project at the IUCN sponsored lion conservation meetings. In October of this year, I fly to London for Zoological

Society of London meetings to discuss hunting as a tool for conservation.

We are taking what we develop at the village level in Tanzania to the international stage. The concept of wildlife conservation in Africa compels us to balance the efforts of conservation with the needs of the people at the village level. If we are going to conserve wildlife, wildlife must have a value. The fact of the matter is that the West long ago eradicated most its wildlife and unless there is incentive for local communities in Africa, they too will do the same.

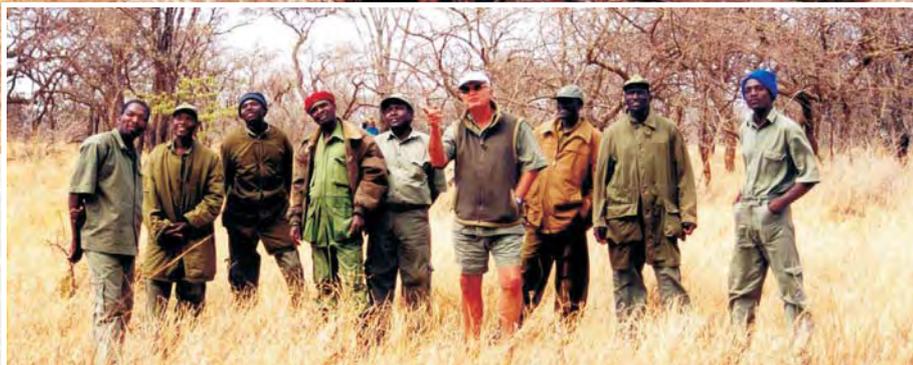
Tanzania has made wildlife a priority. We look forward to continue working hand in hand with the new government to achieve our common goals. ■



1. Conservation & Development in Tanzania
2. Anti Poaching: Where are we today?
3. Village Benefits & Community Development
Community Health & Wellness Education
4. Special Thanks
Trustees
Staff News
About Cullman & Hurt
Contact details

IN THIS ISSUE

Where are we today?



Burko Maasailand

The problem with Burko is that resident poachers from Arusha still enter the area at night and spotlight game from cars leading to indiscriminate and illegal killing of wildlife. The National Parks and Wildlife Department have stepped up their patrols in Burko and we are all working together. We have had our anti-poaching team in Burko for the last 3 months and there is no question that when we have a presence in the area, poaching diminishes.

Maswa-Makao

We have had a team in Maswa since March. They have confiscated many home-made rifles and ammunition and the good news is that snaring is no longer as serious as before.

2 Last year, with help of one of our donors, we were able to outfit our village based anti-poaching team with bicycles so that they could carry out patrols when a vehicle was not available. It was an innovative strategy and an excellent partnership between us and the villages in the area.

Niensi-Luganzo

Towards the end of last season, it was noted that there was a general increase in poaching in this vast area of Tanzania. With the generous support of a client we, together with Wildlife Division anti-poaching teams rapidly mounted a 3 month operation in Niensi-Luganzo. This was one of the biggest anti-poaching exercises this area has ever seen. Nearly 100 poachers were apprehended and rifles and ammunition were also confiscated.

Mlele

We had a anti-poaching team in the area at the end of last year and 15 heavily armed ivory poachers were apprehended. Our team is preparing to return to the area in mid-July. We continue to receive support from the Wildlife Division and Katavi National Park. There is no question that a combined anti-poaching effort is extremely effective.

Rungwa-Piti

We have had an anti-poaching team in Rungwa since March. Illegal logging continues to be a major problem. We have a team in Rungwa-Piti throughout the rest of the year. Sadly, we have seen the return of some ivory poaching in the Rungwa area. Rungwa is another vast area of Tanzania and we really do need a minimum of two permanent teams in this area.

Summary

The good news is that an increase in donor funds has meant that we have been able to step-up our anti-poaching activities since the last newsletter. The bad news is that, despite our best efforts poaching continues to be a problem. We are concerned about the return of ivory poaching in Rungwa and Mlele. Once the hunting season gets under way the poachers do tend to leave our blocks. What we must concentrate on in the future is an anti-poaching patrol in each area during the closed hunting season.



VILLAGE BENEFITS & COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

The key to wildlife conservation is to ensure that local communities benefit substantially from the wilderness and its wildlife.

Burko Maasailand

In 2005 the 13 villages in our Burko area received USD \$17,000 in community fees. In addition, Robin Hurt Safaris (Tanzania), Ltd. Donated USD \$18,750 for development of schools within the area.

Burko has received excellent rain this year which has alleviated the drought. The emphasis this year will be on developing water harvesting technologies.

Maswa-Makao

In 2005 the 7 villages in our Maswa-Makao area received USD \$23,000 in community fees.

Education continues to be a priority of the people in the area and we will continue assisting with building classrooms and accommodation for teachers.

Ninesi-Luganzo

In 2005 the 4 villages in Ninesi-Luganzo area received USD \$19,500 in community fees.

We are still working the local communities to sway them from tobacco growing and from farming on the flood plains of this important wetlands area.

Mlele

In 2005 the 5 villages in the Mlele area received USD \$8,500 in community fees.

Bee keeping is an important part of the livelihoods of people in this area and we are working with them to encourage this environmentally sustainable activity.

Rungwa

In 2005 the 4 villages in the Rungwa area received USD \$15,000 in community fees.

We continue working closely with the village communities to help stop the destruction of indigenous forests. The market for rare hardwood trees is an increasing problem in Tanzania.

Summary

We continue to work with 33 villages throughout Tanzania and have dispersed over the past 16 years in excess of USD \$1 million.

In 2005 alone, clients of Robin Hurt Safaris (Tanzania) Ltd. donated USD \$102,000 in community fees.



COMMUNITY HEALTH AND WELLNESS EDUCATION PROGRAM

With the generous support of our major donors, we have been able to start a new Program within the Project. This Program will carry out educational and wellness activities in the villages that we work with helping to link in the minds of the people the benefits received from wildlife and the continued need to conserve both wildlife and habitat.

The Program has five areas of activities including:

- Strengthening and supporting village government capacity to manage natural resources;
- Providing program related

educational activities targeted at Primary, Secondary & Vocational students;

- Utilizing environmental, health, & education films with a Mobile Film Unit;
- Delivering specialized health and wellness services through partnering with other NGO's and specialists to mitigate critical threats to livelihoods;
- Providing on-the-job training & practical work experience to Tanzanian University Graduates.

This innovative Program integrates traditional educational and capacity building activities in a unique way to help strengthen the sense of stewardship of

local communities. Additionally, by providing practical, on-the-job experience for Tanzanian University graduates we are training the next generation.

The key aspect of this Program is that, poverty stricken communities cannot address long terms conservation issues unless immediate threats to their livelihoods are mitigated. By developing public-private-partnerships with other NGO's and government agencies, we can multiply the effect of the Program.

Developing a sense of stewardship amongst local communities is a continuous process involving benefits, participation in management, and awareness. This Program solidifies the aspect of awareness and will deepen our relationship with the local communities we work with.



ENDELEZA HIFADHI

Newsletter

Special Thanks to our recent supporters

- Peter Jay Sharp Foundation
- Herbert Allen III & the Employees of Allen & Co.
- Ross Perot, Jr.
- Karl & Carolyn Rathjen
- Mike Ghau
- Robin Hurt

TRUSTEES (in alphabetical order)

- Herbert Allen III
- Adam Hill
- Christoph Henkel
- Derek Hurt
- Robin Hurt
- Roger Hurt
- John Jackson III
- Robert Wood Johnson IV
- Hargy Kimei
- Fred Mannix
- Henry Ross Perot III
- Honorary Trustee
Director of Wildlife, Tanzania

ALOYCE SHIJA

Aloyce is one of our newest Field Officers and joined the project last year. Aloyce has a University Degree in Wildlife Management. Since joining the project Aloyce has been working in Ninesi-Luganzo, Rungwa and Mlele. He is currently in Mlele.

WESLEY KALESHU

Wesley is our latest recruit and is heading up the new Community Health and Wellness Education Program. Wesley is a trained Engineer and has extensive experience with Community Development. We are very pleased and excited that he has joined the team.

DAVID ERICKSON

Lyllian Kavishe recently joined the project to manage the office and help David. David continues to travel extensively throughout Tanzania but did manage to find time over Christmas to return home to Seattle to join his family for the holidays. David has now been with the Project for over two years.

PAULO NDATURU

Paulo worked with Robin Hurt and the Cullman Project on and off for the last 15 years. Most recently, Paulo was running the village based anti-poaching team in Maswa-Makao. In May of this year Paulo sadly passed away and our thoughts are with his family.

JOHN JACKSON III

John is one of our Trustees and our Treasurer. At the annual African Professional Hunters Association dinner, held in Reno Nevada in January, John was awarded the Ox of the Okavango Award for his outstanding contribution to conservation.

JOHN NGALESONI

John continues to work closely with the Project but is splitting his time with Robin Hurt Safaris (Tanzania), Ltd. John headed up the Niensi-Luganzo anti-poaching exercise at the end of 2005 and has been coordinating anti-poaching in Burko.

The Cullman & Hurt Community Wildlife Project was founded in 1990 on the conviction that wildlife and habitat can only be conserved by involving Local people and, from that involvement, give them a direct benefit from the wildlife among which they live.

The future of wildlife in Africa rests in the hands of its indigenous people. Wildlife must be an attractive, lucrative and beneficial form of land use to communities to encourage its long-term stewardship.

Without the full support and cooperation of local communities, wildlife in Africa is surely doomed.

There is much to be done and if you would like to support the project and the people we work with, contributions can be given Tax Free in the United States through our partner, **Conservation Force**.

Conservation Force

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