

Trophy Hunting in Africa

What is Trophy Hunting?

Trophies of hunted game are taken as a personal record of a successful hunt.

In Africa, it is characterised by high fees for 'trophy' species and low off-take volume, as part of a programme administered by a government, community-based organisation, NGO, or other legitimate body.



Why is CITES important for Trophy Hunting?

- ✔ CITES provides a legal basis for trophy hunting to take place, recognising the distinction between strictly governed sustainable use and illegal exploitation of wildlife linked to international organised crime

As a result of the conservation benefits to the black rhino (*Diceros bicornis*) from trophy hunting, CITES allows its trophies to be imported and exported, which is the only trade permitted in this species

- ✘ Where hunting has been prevented, species have declined.

What is CITES?

The Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) seeks to regulate international exports and imports in specimens of wild animals, including hunting trophies, at sustainable levels.

CITES has currently 180 Parties, including the EU and its Members States.



Percentage of large wild animals that Kenya has lost because of a ban on hunting (and other ways of utilising wildlife for profit) in place since 1977.¹

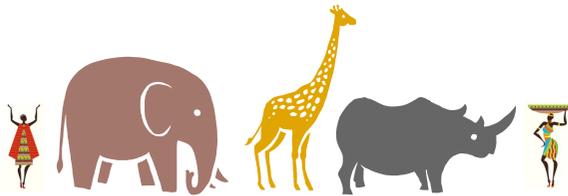
Consequently, demand can only be met through the illegal market, which primarily relies on the killing of rhinos by poachers for their horns.²

The 2014 ban on trophy hunting in Botswana suggests that a similar increase in poaching is occurring there.³

Benefits of Trophy Hunting in Africa

Incentive-driven Conservation

- ✔ Trophy hunting can bring multiple benefits to wildlife and the communities that live with wildlife⁸



For wildlife to survive outside (and even inside) of protected areas in Africa, people must have strong incentives to tolerate, or ideally embrace, wildlife as a land use.^{4,5,6}

Trophy hunting is a major industry in parts of Africa, creating incentives for wildlife conservation over vast areas, which otherwise might be used for alternative and less conservation-friendly land uses.⁷

The potential for trophy hunting to generate important conservation incentives, the conditions under which it is likely to do so, and good practice examples in action, have been highlighted in the IUCN SSC Guiding Principles on Trophy Hunting as a Tool for Creating Conservation Incentives.⁹

Habitat Conservation

- ✔ Trophy hunting gives large areas of land 'conservation value'

1.3 million km² is used for trophy hunting in sub-Saharan Africa, which exceeds the area encompassed by national parks.¹⁰

This makes trophy hunting viable across large areas where other activities are not viable, including areas with little infrastructure, relatively low wildlife densities, and political instability.¹¹

Economic Benefits

- ✔ Trophy hunting produces revenue for protected area management and community conservation.

\$217 million is the estimated revenue that trophy hunting produces in Africa per year.

A simulated ban on trophy hunting in Namibia significantly reduced the number of conservancies that were able to cover their operating costs.¹²

Species Conservation

- ✔ Trophy hunting can help address the ongoing loss of species

96% of the hunted individuals in South Africa are often from more common and abundant species.¹³

The authors of recent study entitled "Banning Trophy Hunting Will Exacerbate Biodiversity Loss" argue that where political and governance structures are adequate, trophy hunting can help address the ongoing loss of species.¹⁴

Trophy hunting can also finance reintroductions, for example, black wildebeest (*Connochaetus gnou*) and southern white rhino (*Ceratotherium simum simum*) in South Africa.

FACE is the European Federation of Associations for Hunting and Conservation. Established in 1977, FACE represents the interests of Europe's 7 million hunters as an international non-profit-making nongovernmental organisation.

FACE is made up of national hunters' associations from 36 European countries including the EU-28. FACE is supported by 7 associate members and is based in Brussels.

More at www.face.eu



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