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6<sup>th</sup> April 2018

World Wide Fund for Nature  
10 Lanark Rd  
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Harare  
Zimbabwe

**FINAL PROJECT PROGRESS REPORT: PROJECT REFERENCE NUMBER 213/10140311/17324/CG.**

**PROJECT NAME:** Support for Anti-Poaching Units around Hwange National Park (APU)  
**PROJECT NUMBER:** 213/10140311 (WWF De)  
**PROJECT LOCATION:** Hwange, Zimbabwe  
**AGREEMENT NUMBER:** 17324/CG (WWF De)  
**DATE OF AGREEMENT:** 08 05 2017

**DATE of PROJECT COMPLETION:** 31 03 2018

**Overview**

Strictly speaking this report only covers activity funded in partial support of a new anti-poaching unit (APU) in Hwange. The items covered by the above grant – provided by private donors Drs Wolfgang & Gisela Hennig of Bayreuth, Germany, are wages and rations for patrol rangers for a year and costs for running a 4WD vehicle (just three budget lines). However, this grant was sizeable for the relatively small APU (US\$27 000) and was absolutely vital in fully covering these core expenses – thus allowing the unit to start up in 2017 and function effectively from the beginning.

In the light of this, I have included news of several activities of the APU in 2017/18 and done this in a largely pictorial format with minimal text as captions. The reader will notice several other donors and sponsors mentioned, which I feel is both appropriate and necessary as no one entity can sponsor all aspects of such a project. It has to be a collaborative effort. We as CWF therefore primarily acknowledge Drs Hennig and WWF (both Germany & Zimbabwe) for facilitating their donation, but for completeness we mention other donors and supporters of this initial CWF APU.

PANTHERA  
SATIB Trust  
THE HIDE Safari Camp  
AFRICAN BUSH CAMPS  
Mark & Pamela Robinson, USA  
Mrs Kathie Weisman, USA  
Bushlife Conservancy USA

Trustees: Angus Preston & Bekezela Ndlovu



CWF rangers in uniform with the CWF vehicle (above) and outside their base (below). The WWF grant from Dr Hennig has been supporting the salaries and rations of these five men since mid 2017, plus the running costs in 2017/18 of this 4WD vehicle that was donated by PANTHERA ([www.panthera.org](http://www.panthera.org)).







**The CWF anti poaching unit base at Kennedy siding, Hwange National Park. This was refurbished by The Hide Safari Camp on whose land it is situated and by CWF staff and funds.**



**Rangers have collected old telephone cable to prevent it being used for animal snares**





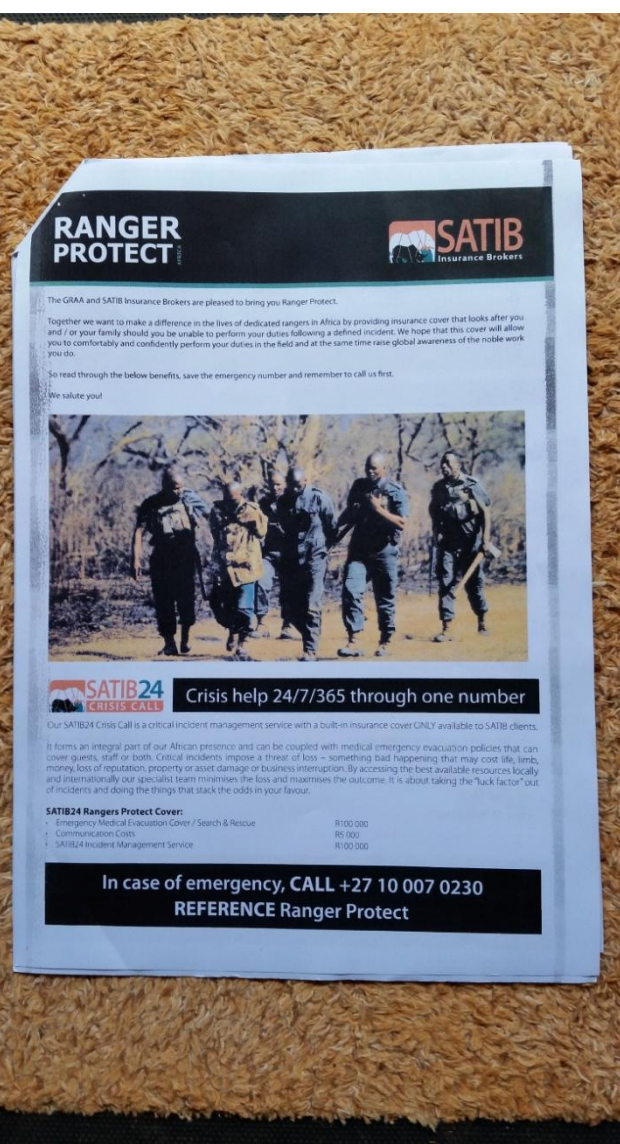
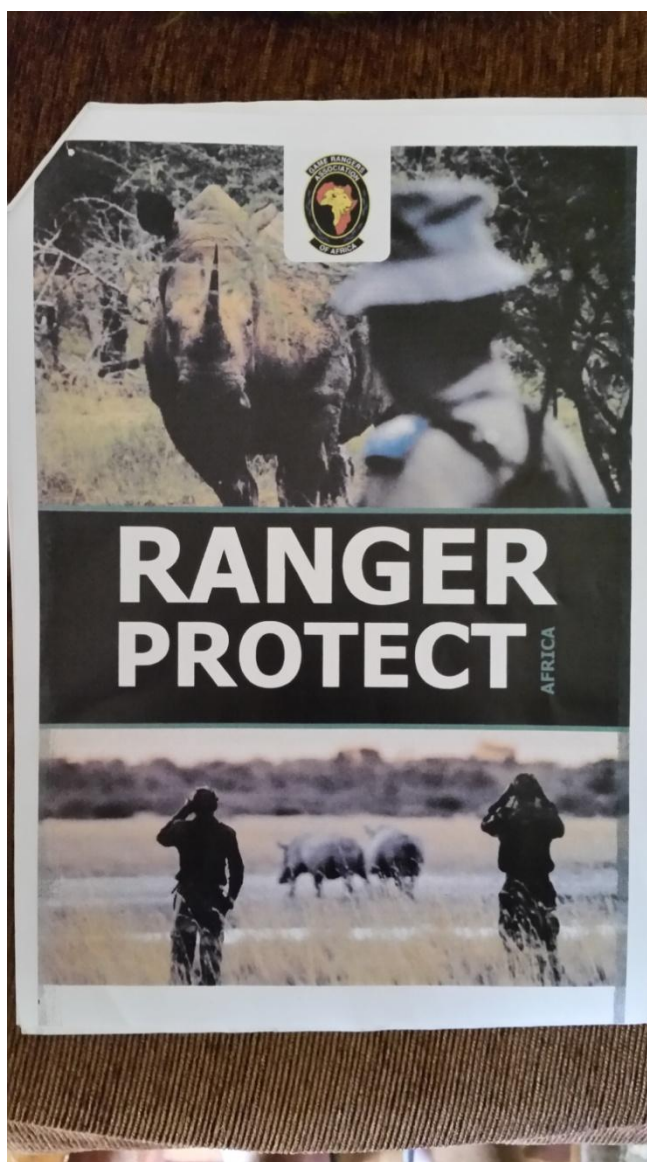
**CWF and other Hwange APUs at a training course on SMART – a digital program that is used world-wide on field patrols to record all kinds of data that is relevant to security and conservation. It has been adopted nationally in Zimbabwe and many other countries**



**Mr Steve Alexander, CWF Field co-ordinator with rangers (left) using SMART data loggers (below). These devices combine GPS, camera and many other functions. Data is downloaded after each patrol and can be automatically incorporated in a weekly, monthly or annual report. More than 120 patrols have so far been recorded. This training and equipment were sponsored by PANTHERA and periodic refresher training is undertaken.**







The dangerous nature of anti-poaching work requires that rangers have good medical cover and death insurance to provide for their families. But no such adequate scheme exists in Zimbabwe. One of our CWF members, SATIB Trust, which is allied to a South African insurance company, is organizing and sponsoring the costs of this insurance for the above CWF rangers, on a scheme based in South Africa.





Cyanide poisoning is an on-going problem in elephant poaching in Hwange. But law enforcement agencies of the state have been much more successful in 2017 against this illegal activity. Then in early 2018 CWF rangers scored the biggest success of this campaign when they arrested poachers actually deploying cyanide. Three other state authorities got involved to break up this diverse gang of offenders and get them prosecuted.

Cyanide (below) is a white powder used in extraction of gold in commercial mines. There are many laws against its illegal use but these are difficult to enforce. Poachers often dissolve cyanide in water and place it in containers on an elephant trail (below).







**When elephant carcasses are examined, whether recent (above) or old (below), it is useful to employ a metal detector to determine if bullets are present. This helps to distinguish cyanide poisoning from death by shooting. WWF donated this instrument to the Forestry Commission in Hwange.**







Modern equipment can greatly assist anti poaching work. The above Drone was kindly donated by Dr Hennig and sent to CWF- Hwange from another project he has been supporting in Malawi. Modern digital radios and camping gear (below) for use on patrols were purchased with funds from private safari clients who visited CWF members tourist operator camps (thanks to Mark & Pamela Robinson & Mrs Kathie Weisman). The donations were facilitated by Bushlife Conservancy.





## How you can help...

Zimbabwe has been well known for innovative and professional approaches to its precious wildlife. In this country there is strong technical expertise and reasonable infrastructure, plus much enthusiasm and goodwill by many players. But financial help is the big need; the world at large has to help pay for the costly protection of a truly global asset - Africa's wildlife. Any size donation will be gratefully received - for a pair of patrol boots for a ranger costing US\$40 - to sponsoring a much needed aerial census of all larger animals in the whole of north-west Zimbabwe, costing around US\$100 000.

### Funding Strategies

\* Some commercial tourism operators contribute through small levies on bookings by their safari guests. These levies and membership fees fund a large proportion of the costs of staff and administration.

\* NGO members have contributed via operational sponsorship of anti-poaching units, vehicles, a microlight aircraft, trained sniffer dogs, and support for informer networks and the judicial process to prosecute wildlife crimes.

\* Proposals submitted to conservation funding agencies have obtained money for example for: paying, feeding and equipping anti-poaching rangers; maintenance of vehicles; starting a radio communications network; holding community meetings.

\* Private safari guests have made individual donations which support many of the above expenses. Members and operators agents can request a talk and/or presentation to be made to visiting tourist groups and other specifically interested parties visiting Hwange / Harare by contacting the Project Manager Richard Hoare. Subject to time/availability/numbers.

**Please help Hwange's wildlife survive & prosper forever!**

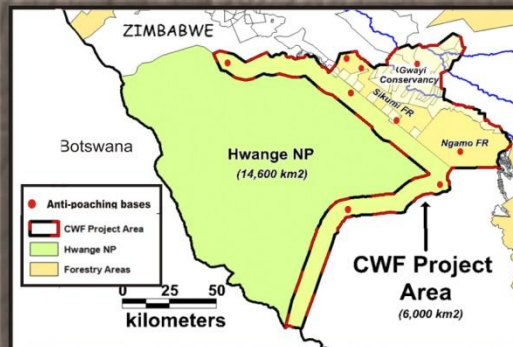


**Contact ...** **Project Manager:**  
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**CWF**  
**Communication & Collaboration for Conservation**



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Building partnerships with...



and other interested authorities, communities, researchers, NGOs, tourism operators, private, corporate, or institutional donors, and individuals for the greater good of the Hwange 'ecosystem'.

## CWF - Who we are and what we want to do.....

### CWF - Conservation and Wildlife Fund

a registered Financial Trust in Zimbabwe is a NEW ALLIANCE of eight tourism operators and four NGOs established to address critical issues in the conservation and management of the HWANGE ECOSYSTEM in partnership with the authorities, private landowners and local communities.

#### CWF Founding Members

African Bush Camps, The Hide, Amalinda Collection (Ivory Lodge), Imvelo Safari Lodges, Jenman Safaris (Hideaways), Wilderness Safaris, Hwange Lion Research, PANTHERA, Painted Dog Conservation, SATIB Conservation Trust. Several other organizations have applied to become associate members.

#### Operational Structure

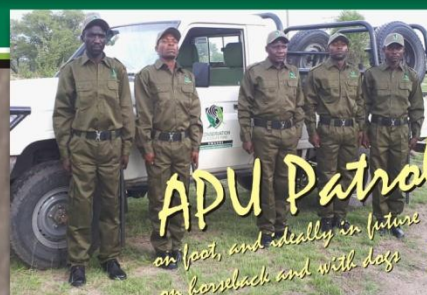
CWF is governed by a board consisting of one senior representative of seven of the member organizations. There is a small permanent staff: a manager organizing projects and setting the strategic direction for CWF; a field co-ordinator responsible for anti-poaching units (APUs); and a financial administrator for the Trust.

#### Law Enforcement Strategy

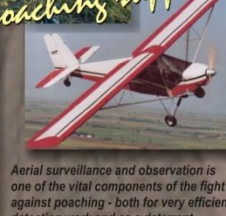
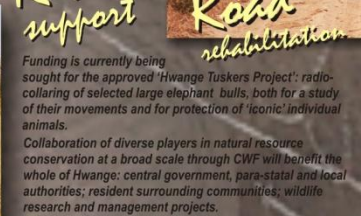
CWF's first initiative is to combine private sector and NGO support to improve the law enforcement capacity in four land categories around the periphery of Hwange National Park. These areas are governed by the park authority (ZPWMA); the authority for state forests (Forestry Commission of Zimbabwe); authorities for local communities (two Rural District Councils) and an association of private landowners. CWF also helps to resource the Police (ZRP) and the Railway authority (NRZ) in operations against wildlife crime around Hwange.

#### Long-Term Conservation Strategy

In time CWF will become involved in many other aspects of conservation around Hwange - for example: improved problem animal management; community tourism initiatives; conservation agriculture; environmental education in local schools; supporting wildlife research projects; implementing wildlife management plans. CWF is aiming to become a model of public-private partnership supporting conservation that can be replicated around the SADC region.



CWF has set up new APUs and improved patrolling and information flow between existing APUs, to achieve effective law enforcement in the peripheral zone around Hwange National Park. Poachers firearms, wire snares and poisons are collected and destroyed and if apprehended, criminals are handed over to the authorities. Surviving injured animals can receive vital veterinary assistance.



This graphic design has been replicated on a large format poster that will be displayed in members premises and elsewhere



**FINAL FINANCIAL REPORT: WWF PROJECT REFERENCE NUMBER 213/10140311/17324/CG.**

**BUDGET IN PROPOSAL**

Costs (partial) for the establishment and running of an anti poaching unit in the Hwange NP bufferzone				
Dr Hennig - Option 2				
Description	Unit	Unit cost in USD	Quantity	Total costs in USD
<b><u>Set up of community anti poaching unit</u></b>				
Yearly wages for community guards (4)	month	280	48	13,440
Patrol rations	ration	636	6	3,816
<b><u>Assistance with patrolling</u></b>				
Mileage (km)	km	0.65	15,033	9,771
<b>Total activity costs</b>				27,027

**EXPENDITURE 2017 -18**

							US \$
	<u>Vehicle Operating</u>		<u>Wages</u>		<u>Rations</u>		TOTALS
<u>Date</u>	<u>Cost</u>	<u>Balance</u>	<u>Cost</u>	<u>Balance</u>	<u>Cost</u>	<u>Balance</u>	
Opening		9,771.00		13,440.00		3816.00	27,027.00
<b>TOTALS Spent</b>	6,801.94		6,355.80		3,816.00		16,973.74
<b>BALANCES</b>		2,969.06		7,084.20		0.00	10,053.26

The much later than anticipated start of the project in 2018 (explained in the interim report, October 2017) has resulted in a credit balance in the account. The donor Dr Hennig has been consulted about the project continuing to use this remaining balance after the official expiry date of the grant on 31 March 2018.



Collaborating agencies that CWF has assisted:

Forestry Commission of Zimbabwe  
Zimbabwe Parks & Wildlife Management Authority  
Zimbabwe Republic Police  
National Railways of Zimbabwe

Other operators and agencies that are contributing to CWF are:

CWF full members

Amalinda Collection  
Hideaways  
Imvelo Safaris  
Painted Dog Conservation  
Hwange Lion Research

CWF associate members

Wilderness Safaris  
Miombo Safari Camp  
Hwange Horse Safaris

**Dr Richard Hoare**  
**CWF-Hwange Project Manager**