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
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).
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.
The double sided A4 size publicity leaflet that has been compiled and distributed to explain all aspects of the CWF-Hwange project.
This graphic design has been replicated on a large format poster that will be displayed in members premises and elsewhere.
FINIAL FINANCIAL REPORT: WWF PROJECT REFERENCE NUMBER 213/10140311/17324/CG.

BUDGET IN PROPOSAL

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Unit</th>
<th>Unit cost in USD</th>
<th>Quantity</th>
<th>Total costs in USD</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Set up of community anti poaching unit</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Yearly wages for community guards (4)</td>
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<td>Patrol rations</td>
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<td><strong>Assistance with patrolling</strong></td>
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<td>Mileage (km)</td>
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<td><strong>Total activity costs</strong></td>
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EXPENDITURE 2017 -18

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<th>Vehicle Operating</th>
<th>Wages</th>
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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