

SPORTING NEWS



'Experience the Thrill of Big Game Hunting'

Official Newsletter for Zambezi Hunters

Volume 2, Issue 1

May, 2009

- Ingwe Safari Lodge—Save Valley Conservancy.
- Ken Mulder gets his lion despite falling sick on his safari.
- Mahenye produces 61lb average in our first year of operation.
- There have been a lot of changes in Zimbabwe in the last few months.
- Professional Hunter Profile—Thierry Labat.

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Zambezi Hunters acquire another area in the Save Valley Conservancy

In April of this year, Zambezi Hunters signed a contract with ARDA (Agriculture and Rural Development Authority) to take over the hunting rights and management of the property that they own in the Save Valley Conservancy.

The property is officially called Mkwesine Central Extension and covers 30,000 acres in the south of the Save Conservancy. It is adjacent to our Hammond concession and increases the size of this hunting block to just under 90,000 acres.

This is in addition to our other area in the north of the Save Conservancy, the Sango concession area which is 150,000 acres (see map).

ARDA is a beautiful property with a very good

population of buffalo and plainsgame. The lion population in the area is also very healthy and building up.

For those who have hunted on, and know Hammond, the habitat is quite different. The wood-

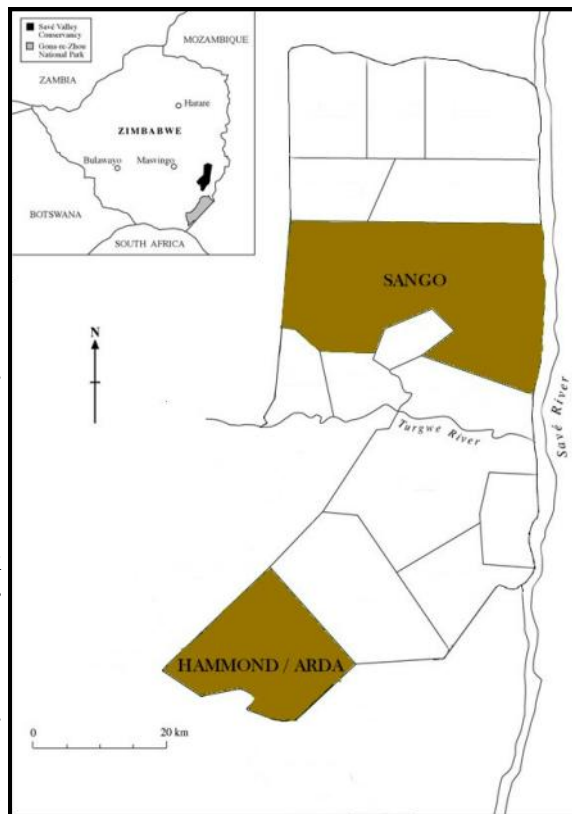
and it doesn't have as many granite outcrops as Hammond. There is a beautiful natural pan in the middle of the property called Chigarapasi ('Sit down' in the local Shona language).

The two properties together form an excellent hunting block and provide arguably the best buffalo hunting in Zimbabwe.

The first hunters have already started hunting in this area and Bobby Mills from Michigan got an excellent buffalo with 41.5" spread and 15" bosses.

The ARDA camp is situated on the banks of the Mkwesine River overlooking a permanent pool with hippo.

We are very excited about the potential of this property and know it is going to become a famous destination for its lion, buffalo, leopard and plainsgame.



Map of the Save Valley Conservancy showing the two hunting blocks run by Zambezi Hunters

land is generally more open with lots of vleis (grassland areas). The country is much flatter

Ingwe Safari Lodge

Ingwe Safari Lodge is a luxury safari camp situated on the Sango concession area within the Save Valley Conservancy.

The camp is stunningly perched on the side of a granite outcrop overlooking the Mokore river and endless Africa

beyond. The natural rock has been incorporated into the structure of several buildings and there is great attention to detail in every facet of the camp.

There are five lodges, each with a different and individual interior. The designs include colonial, ethnic and north African styles under thatched roofs. All lodges have a spacious bathroom and plenty of storage space.

The main lodge cascades down from where the vehicles park, through several levels including a



Watching the sun disappear on the deck of the main lodge

library, serving area and dining area to the main seating area with fire pit and beautiful views.

A specialty at Ingwe is to have dinner in the river bed below camp, under the stars. Or, if you get back early enough you can climb the surrounding rocks to have sun-downers. These are all experiences that will live with you for a lifetime

There is a well equipped gymnasium with a spinning bike, treadmill and weights section.

Ingwe Safari Lodge is ideal for the hunter wanting to bring his family with him. It provides a high level of luxury without losing the feel of being in a truly wild area in Africa.

The staff and management of Sango will look after non hunting guests that don't want to go out with the hunters on any given day.

Other activities include game drives, horse riding, viewing game from a bunker blind at a water hole or a visit to an African village.



The dining room



One of the luxurious rooms at Ingwe Safari Lodge

“Ingwe Safari Lodge provides a high level of luxury without losing the feel of being in a truly wild area in Africa..”

Ken Mulder gets his Lion

Ken Mulder spent 6 days of his 21 day lion hunt sick in bed. This must be every hunters nightmare, but especially on such a big hunt.

While Ken was in his sick bed his wife, Carol, kept the hunting going by shooting a beautiful 160lb leopard.

By the time Ken was up and hunting again there was not much time left and the pressure was on.

With five days to go, Ken and Jonathan found that a big male lion was feeding on one of their baits. They set up a blind and that evening, the lion came in early. Ken got his lion which turned out to be a magnificent trophy weighing over 500lbs.

To top it all, on the last day Ken shot a buffalo bull that was 122 SCI.



Ken and Carol Mulder with Kens excellent Save Conservancy Lion

Mahenye Produces 61lb Average

Last year was our first year operating the Mahenye Elephant Concession. We were very excited when we got the area as we knew that it would provide an opportunity to hunt some of the big elephant that are found in and around the Gonarezhou National Park .

We took five elephant bulls during the year with an average of just over 61lb. The biggest trophy taken was a huge bodied bull shot by Anton

Dahlgren that had 78 and 73lb tusks.

This bull was seen in the park with another bull that had even bigger ivory. The future looks exciting as we continue the search for those giants we know are out there.

There are five elephant bulls on quota for this year and we are hoping to improve on last years average.

Below is an image showing the five pairs of tusks taken at Mahenye during the 2008 hunting season.



Changes in Zimbabwe

Things have changed dramatically in Zimbabwe. With the formation of the Government of National Unity earlier this year we have seen a stabilization of many facets of life here.

One of the most signifi-

cant changes has been the introduction of US\$ as our currency. Removing the ailing Zimbabwe dollar has eradicated hyper inflation which was becoming impossible to deal with.

The shops are now well

stocked and the banking system is working on a normal basis. There is still a long way to go and the Unity Government is very fragile but there is more cause for hope now than there has been for many years.

“...The shops are now well stocked and the banking system is working on a normal basis.”

IMAGES FROM THE BUSH



1. People from Mahenye wait for meat from the elephant 2. Swimming Pool at Ingwe Lodge 3. Dinner in the river bed



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***‘Experience the Thrill of Big
Game Hunting’***

Zambezi Hunters prides itself on a reputation for providing high quality, big game hunting safaris. We only hunt in areas that provide a superior standard of hunting and will employ only well reputed professional hunters. Our emphasis is on sport hunting that embraces the spirit and ethics of the traditional African Safari.

We strive to ensure that the areas we operate, and the wildlife populations within them, are better off and improve under our custodianship. All this goes a long way to ensuring that when you book a hunt with Zambezi Hunters, you can rest assured that you will have an unforgettable safari experience.

For more information on Zambezi Hunters or to book a safari, please contact us with the information given opposite.

Profile—Thierry Labat

Thierry grew up in the south east lowveld of Zimbabwe where his father owned a cattle and game ranch as well as a sugar cane farm. His father, Jano, was a keen hunter and took Thierry on big game hunts with him when he was as young as 7 years old. Thierry shot his first animal, a duiker, when he was five years old. There was only ever one profession that Thierry was going to end up doing and that was being a professional hunter.

He went to Peterhouse school in Zimbabwe where he did well academically and was a good sportsman.



From school, Thierry went to the University of the West of England where he completed a degree in Conservation and Wildlife Management. He returned to Zimbabwe and joined Roger Whittall Safaris to do

his apprenticeship as a learner hunter. Thierry got his full license in 2002 and has been hunting all over Zimbabwe and in the Central African Republic since. He speaks fluent French and the local language shona as well as English.

Thierry has very quickly built up a reputation as an excellent hunter and his already long list of repeat clients is testament to his ability. Thierry joined Zambezi hunters at the start of the 2008 season and has had no problems fitting in with our high standards and ethics.