



2014

SLCS NEWSLETTER Edition 2 (April, May, June)



Generously supported by the following major donors:

Luangwa Conservation Community Fund –
Members: Flatdogs Camp, Robin Pope Safaris, Mfuwe Lodge & the Bush Camp Company, Kafunta Safaris, Remote Africa Safaris, Shenton Safaris, Croc Valley Camp, Lion Camp & Norman Carr Safaris.



From Rachel McRobb

CEO SLCS

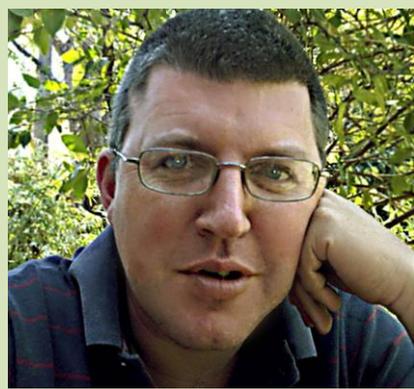


Dear SLCS friends and colleagues,

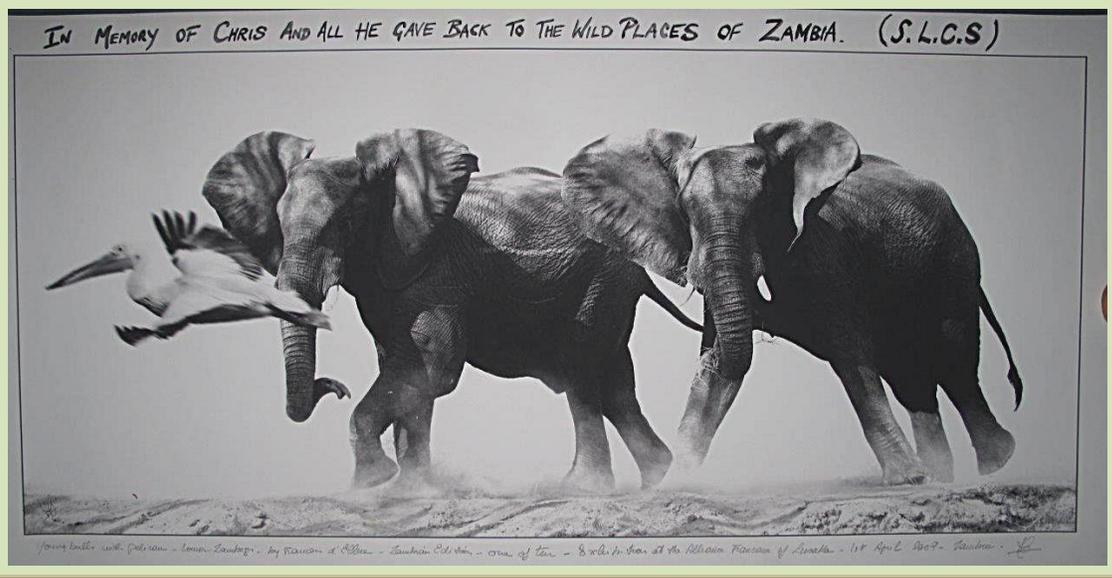
Mid-way through the year and I find myself rushing to get out a newsletter before I head off to my first ever international fundraiser, hosted and organized by our California based trustee and close friends Carol Van Bruggen and Steve Kuhn. Safari on the River is being held at Steve and Carol's home Juluka Landing in Sacramento on 20th July. It's going to be a great and full event and we hope to raise a sizeable amount of funding for our detection dog program.

The detection dog program is well underway and our two dogs are currently in the US undergoing four months training before heading over to Zambia with trainers in September. We can't wait for the dogs to arrive and our training as handlers to start.

The past three months have been packed with exciting activities and accomplishments. Our annual Fun Run was held on the 14th June and was the most successful so far, more news on the fun run in the following pages.



It is with great sadness that I write and let those who do not know that our very close friend and staunch SLCS supporter Chris Fenner was tragically killed in a car accident in May. Chris was always on hand to help us at SLCS with every request and was one of our unsung heroes. Chris will be sorely missed in Zambia by all his friends and colleagues and his conservation efforts will always be remembered.



The SLCS 2014 Fun Run, sponsored by the Elephant Charge

was a fantastic event. Three hundred and fifteen runners started off at 7.15am on Saturday 14th July with the first men's runner coming in 32 minutes later, an amazing effort. We had some serious runners this year of all ages. Our eldest was a 66 year fit woman from the UK who ran in the above 40's category. Prizes were awarded to 1st, 2nd and 3rd place for men, women and over 40's.



This year our guest of honour was the Mambwe District Commissioner who graciously stayed all day amongst three thousand spectators, even taking part in executive relay races, making a speech and emphasizing the conservation focus of the event, and presenting prizes alongside His Royal Highness Chief Mkhanya's representative.

Apart from the 10km run, we had a tug of war event won by National Airport men's category and Kapani women's category, volley ball, football, netball, bottles races and other relays also took up the remainder of the day. Big thanks to our main sponsors of the event, the Elephant Charge, Norman Carr Safaris, Flatdogs Camp, Lion Camp, Croc Valley Camp, Wildlife Camp, Personal Touch and Share / USAID and National Airports.



Update from Dr. Sichande

The past three months have seen an increase in snared animals in South Luangwa.

Luckily thanks to the swift reporting from safaris guides and their assistance in staying with the animal until we arrive, we have been able to attend to every call out and successfully immobilize nearly all the snared animals. This often can take the whole day or longer due to the size of the park and the nature of the call out.

We have recently immobilized three elephants (two for snares and one mother for safety), one wild dog pictured right (who has made a great recovery) and two lions.

In addition a snared giraffe was reported and we attended the call out. However on arrival the giraffe broke away from the tree she was tied to and ran off and was never seen again in a remote section of the national park.

I also spent two weeks in Liuwa National Park with ZCP collaring hyaenas for their research work and helping with prey surveys.

As usual if I am not in the field I operate at our small clinic on mostly domestic dogs and cats.

The three photos on the right are all animals immobilized recently and all have a good prognosis of making a full recovery.



International





Renaud Fulconis with Awely Red Caps Team Ruth Chitindi, Billy Banda, Jebson Tembo and Elias Zulu.



Renaud and Billy in the field and Elias weighing chilli



Visit from Awely's Executive Director

SLCS's human wildlife conflict mitigation program has been fully supported by the French NGO Awely for the past six years. In June we had a visit from Renaud Fulconis, its executive director, who spent five days with us visiting all the programs and different Chiefdoms. We also paid a courtesy visit to the Honorable Chief Malama and inspected the elephant safe grain store built by Awely at his palace.

New plans for the remainder of the year and next year include a new elephant friendly product, lemon grass and ginger tea, a trial conflict free zone using multiple mitigation measures, new and improved chilli bombers and ongoing conflict monitoring.

Our chilli harvest for 2014 is looking good with over 500 kgs of chilli harvested so far and ready for delivery to Rivonia in Lusaka.





Law Enforcement support - Benson Kanyembo, SLCS Operations Manager

Our dry season patrols and strategies are well focused and the area of operation is generally much wider than the wet season. Our patrols and movements adjust to some extent but we aim to continue to provide professional support to wildlife and natural resources protection year round. Our additional support in Malama Chiefdom which addresses illegal activities in the southern section of the national park and GMA has also helped to provide protection in a much needed area. Since April 2014 to date we have achieved the following results (with support from ZAWA and the CRB); 39 suspects apprehended, 10 ammunitions recovered, 6 firearms recovered and 422 wire snares removed.



Scouts on patrol



Using a metal detector to locate bullets in a poached elephant

On 01st May Labour Day ceremony was held in Mambwe and prize giving for various achievements including scout of the year, scout with most man days in the field, outstanding performance of the year and so forth. 21 SLCS officers were awarded. The achievements are rewarded with certificates and financial bonuses in order to motivate and boost morale amongst the team who work so hard to protect the park and surrounding GMA's.

SLCS supported patrols April – June 2014

(LP-Long patrol, SP-Short patrol, DP-Day patrol, DR- Drying rack)

| Month | LP | SP | DP | Snares | Suspects | Firearm s | Elephant mortalities |
|--------------|----|----|----|--------|----------|--------------|----------------------|
| Total | 27 | 6 | 42 | 422 | 39 | 6 | 8 |

9J-SLC – New pilot arrives



Our new SLCS / ZCP pilot, Ralph Barratt and his family have finally arrived and are settling in very quickly to Mfuwe life. Ralph comes with extensive experience in flying all sorts of aircraft including tail wheels. It's been a long haul finding the right pilot for the job and we are very happy to welcome Ralph and his family to Luangwa and are very happy to be in the air again.

Many thanks again to Royal air Charters and Robbie Stacey for all his ongoing advice, support and financial help in this venture.



With generous support from:



HELP US STOP THE TRADE IN ILLEGAL WILDLIFE PRODUCTS

It is illegal to take any wildlife product (or trophy) out of Zambia without a valid permit

PROHIBITED WILDLIFE PRODUCTS INCLUDE

- ✗ IVORY – RAW & CARVED
- ✗ ELEPHANT HAIR PRODUCTS
- ✗ WILDLIFE & BUSH MEAT
- ✗ REPTILE & WILDLIFE SKINS
- ✗ BIRD EGGS & FEATHERS
- ✗ FOSSILS & PROTECTED PLANTS
- ✗ WILDLIFE HORNS, TEETH, TUSKS OR CLAWS

DO shop carefully when buying your souvenirs

DO NOT take anything from our National Parks

DO enjoy your holiday & thank you for helping to protect our wildlife

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT
 Zambia Wildlife Authority (ZAWA), Private Bag 1, Kafue Road, Chilanga - Zambia
 Tel: +260 211 278 524/278 501/278 517 | Email: info@zawa.org.zm | Website: www.zawa.org.zm

ZAMBIA LET'S EXPLORE

ZAWA

A Jackson Design

On a last note, we like to share ZAWA's poster and remind everyone visiting Zambia of the rules.

Until September, please our face book page for more regular news.

Thanks for your support.

Rachel & Benson