



2016 Annual Report

Conservation South Luangwa



www.cslzambia.org



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CSL Management Structure 2016



CEO - Rachel McRobb - Responsible for overseeing the overall operation of CSL, whilst simultaneously tackling all funding grants, reports and relationships



Operations Manager - Benson Kanyembo - Responsible for supervising all anti-poaching operations, training, development and discipline.



Head of Finance - Allan Ndhlovu - Responsible for all finances and reporting and staff welfare.



Head of Human Wildlife Conflict - Billy Banda - Responsible for implementing and managing programs to reduce HWC with his team of Red Caps.



Unit Leader - Richard Zulu - Responsible for assisting the Operations Manager with organizing anti-poaching patrols and deployments and liaising with DPNW and communities.



Wildlife Veterinarian - Dr. Mwamba Sichande - Responsible for wildlife rescues, collaring work with ZCP and running the domestic animal clinic at CSL.



Deputy Unit Leader - Eric Nkhoma - Assistant to the Unit Leader, organizing patrols, manning the radio, liaising with DPNW, coordinating with air and ground patrols, patrol record keeping and managing databases.

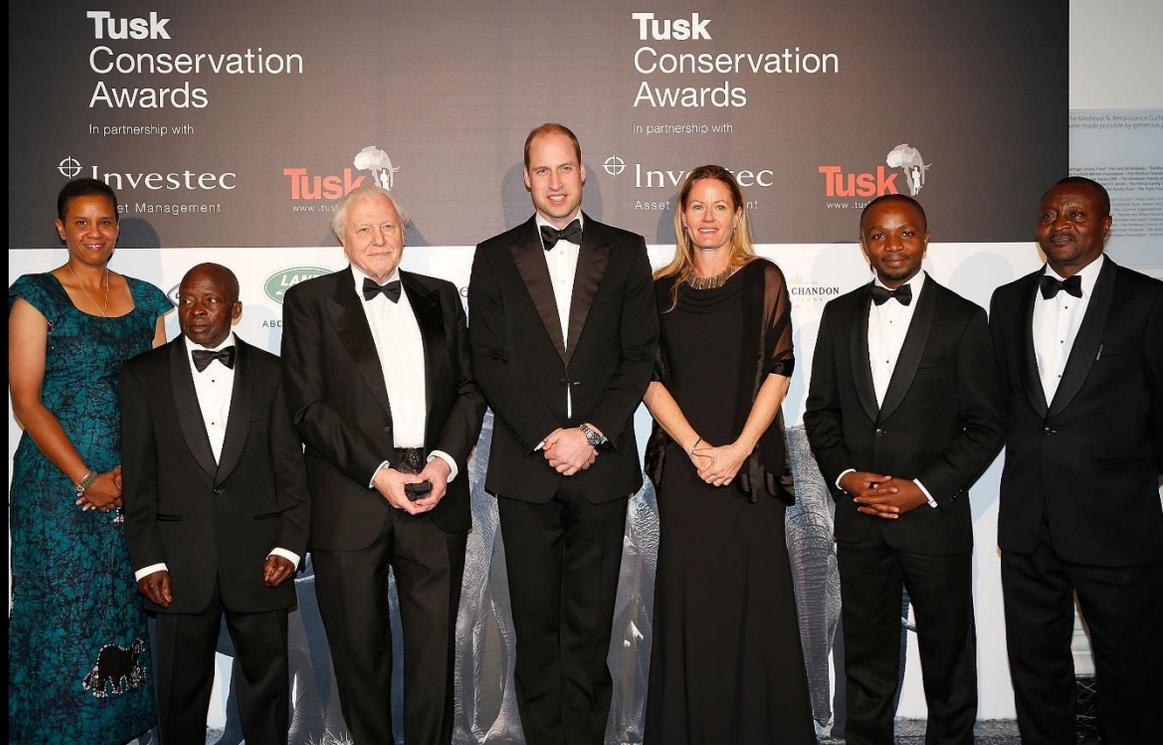


Pilot - Derick Lombard - Responsible for conducting aerial surveillance and tracking for anti-poaching operations and responsible for managing the SMART database.

CSL's CEO Rachel McRobb nominated as a Tusk finalist 2016

In 2016 I was honoured to be nominated and shortlisted as a Tusk finalist for conservation in Africa 2016. Standing alongside incredible people who dedicate their lives to saving Africa's wildlife and in the presence of Sir David Attenborough and HRH The Duke of Cambridge was a true honour. The nomination has brought recognition to CSL and Luangwa Valley and the plight of the wildlife and people here. With the poaching pressure and challenges being faced today, South Luangwa is not an exception and 2016 mortalities reached an all-time high in recent decades.

With our joint efforts in partnership with DNPW, and new initiatives started in 2016 and expected to expand in 2017, our aim is to reduce current poaching trends.



Africa Hope Fund (and CSL Treasurer Carol Van Bruggen) hosted Safari On The River again in 2016 in Sacramento, California. Our Operations Manager Benson Kanyembo and myself were lucky to both attend and give a talk at the event, raising close to \$100,000 for conservation work in South Luangwa. A huge thanks to Africa Hope Fund for this outstanding fundraising event.

Painted Dog Inc based in Perth, Australia also hosted a fundraising event in February 2016 helping to raise funds and awareness to protect African Wild Dogs in South Luangwa. Many thanks to John and Angela Lemon and all at PDC Inc for their tireless efforts to protect wild dogs.

Thanks to Mfuwe Lodge and the Bush Camp Company, Norman Carr Safaris and Shenton Safaris, Edward Selfe Photography and Patrick Bentley Photography and Mulberry Mongoose for all the great prizes donated to these events that helped raise the money.



LAW ENFORCEMENT UPDATE

2016 was a challenging year. Poaching escalated and the emphasis was on elephants. In addition, the trade in leopard skins and pangolins (both dead and alive) were staggering and confiscations of these species are at an all-time high. With this new wave of poaching, CSL has partnered with the Investigations and Intelligence wings of DNPW in Mfuwe and Chipata to support operations, training and equipment. This has yielded excellent results and emphasises the many sections of law enforcement that need to be supported and undertaken in order to have an effect on poaching.



14 live pangolins confiscated and released



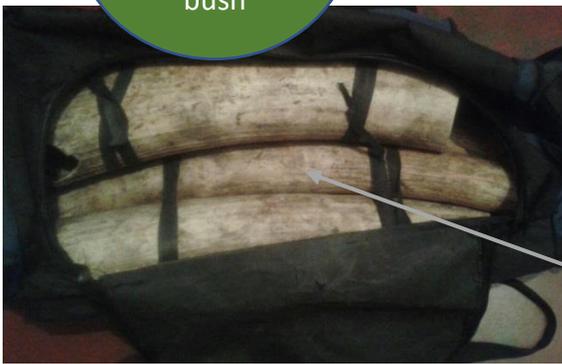
16 Leopard (+ 2 lion) skins confiscated



37 firearms confiscated



365 snares removed from the bush



101 tusks confiscated





Anti-Poaching Patrol Results

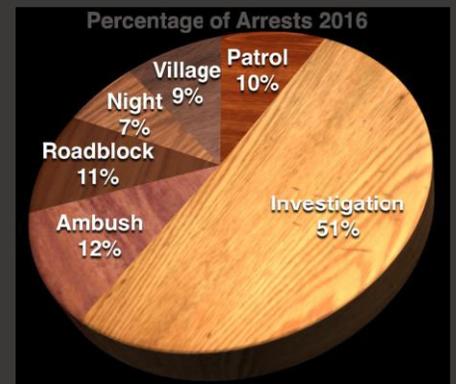
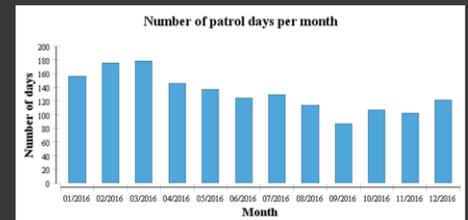
Aerial Patrols – 51

Foot Patrols – 293

Patrol days x 1574

Tusks recovered (from carcass and from seizures) – 101 tusks

Suspects apprehended x 130

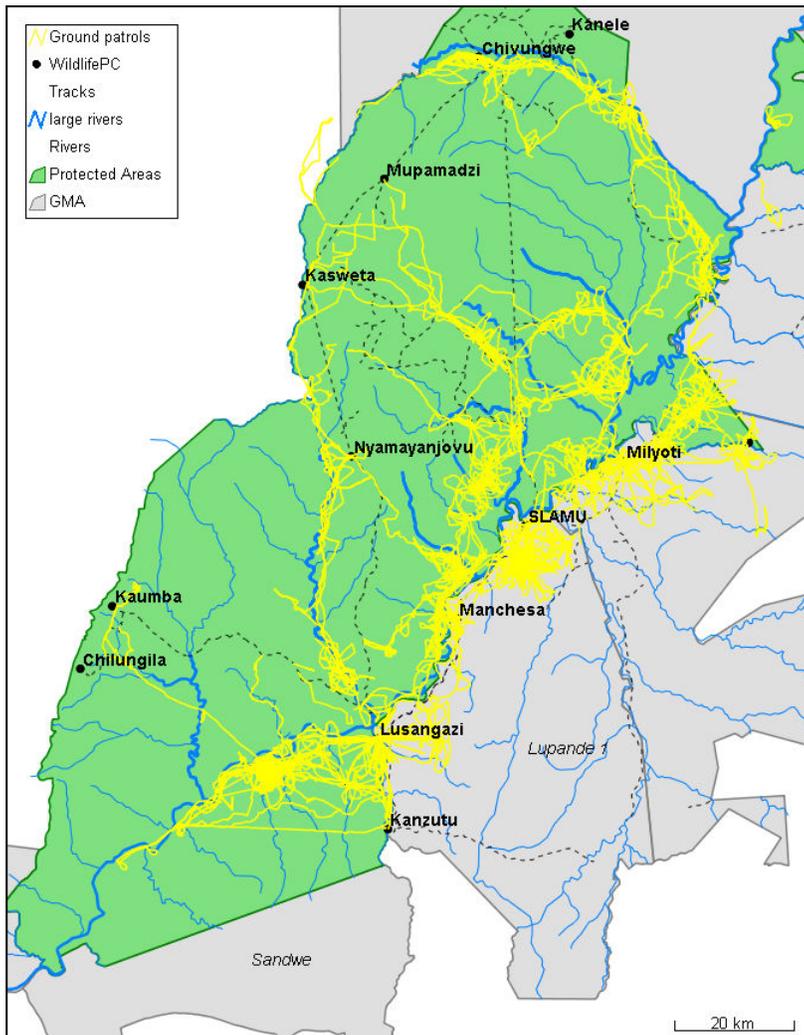


Intelligence and Investigations Results

Pangolins confiscated x 14 live and 5 dead

Leopard skins confiscated x 16

Lion skins confiscated x 2



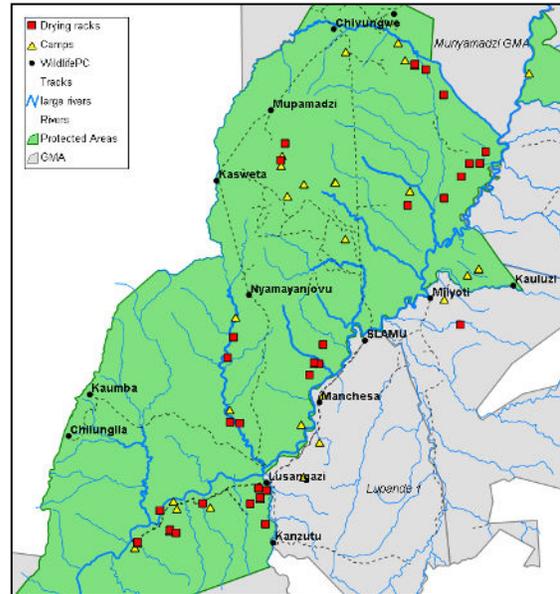
Map of patrol effort and coverage

SMART

In 2015, CSL began implementing SMART and 2016 saw almost all patrols using cybertrackers and capturing data in SMART. The SMART approach is a system in which data collected by scouts on patrol is turned into information that is used by managers to adaptively manage a conservation area, providing regular feedback to scouts to react to information, plan patrols and motivate and reward performance.

Data is collected using Cybertrackers which allows for faster data entry and captures photographs of crime scenes at the same time. Patrol data is then downloaded, analysed and interpreted and can be queried, summarized and mapped to include patrol intensity, distribution and illegal activities. Scout debriefings after each patrol using SMART help to improve performance and direct patrols.

This 2016 SMART report is useful in many ways, but should not be construed as fully reflecting all efforts of CSL during the year. As CSL has newly implemented SMART, changes to field data-recording protocols throughout the year combined with technical software and hardware issues have affected this. We aim for 2017 to be our first year that includes all data in SMART.



An example of a SMART map of illegal activities

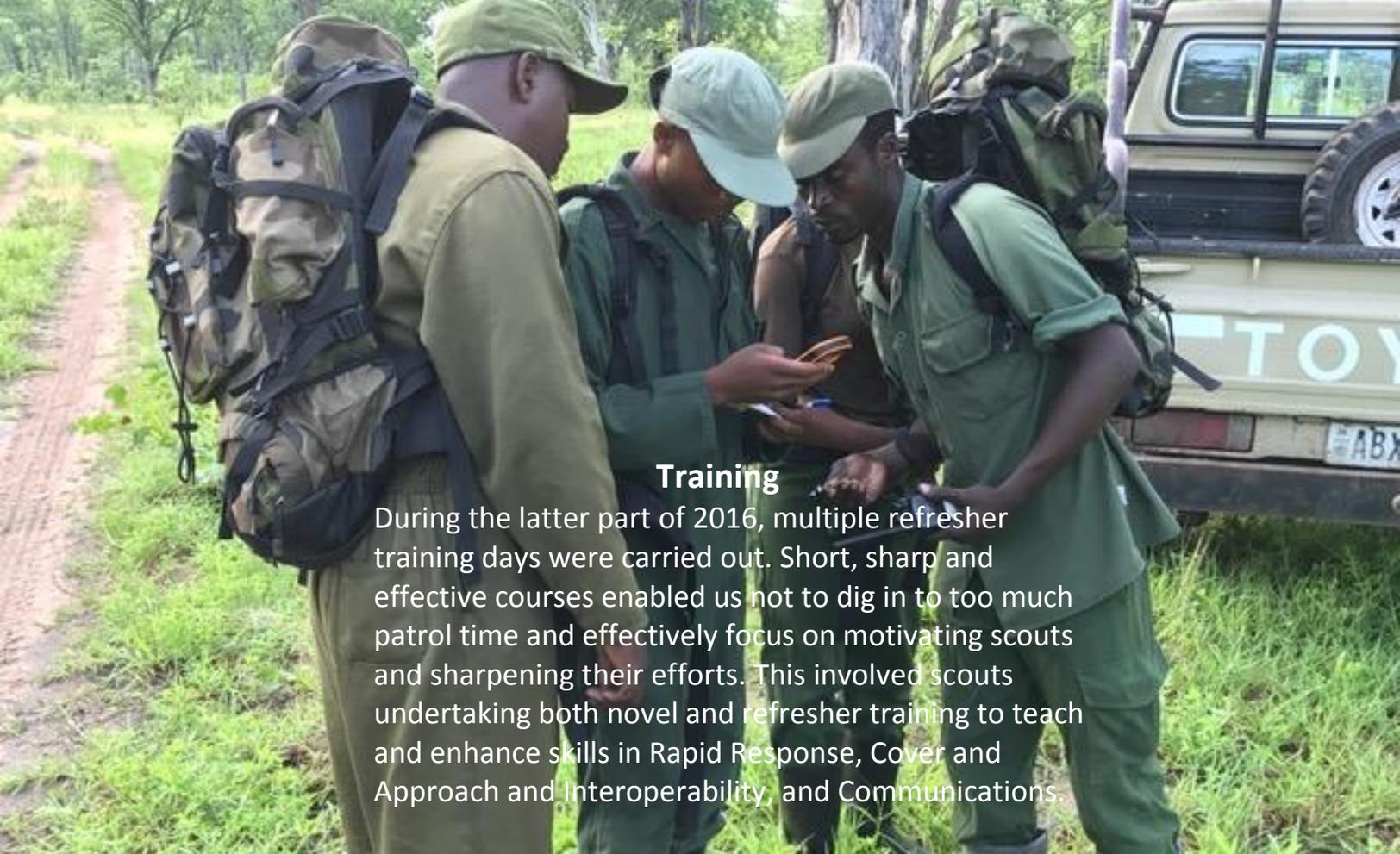
Internal Review of CSL Operations and Systems

In September 2016, CSL welcomed Ian Macallan, a detective with the UK Metropolitan Police. During his 6 months with CSL, Ian conducted an internal review of all CSL law enforcement operations and monitoring systems. He conducted numerous interviews with scouts and managers and has recommended and implemented a range of new systems, refresher training programs and monitoring systems to improve our effectiveness and results. Ian will leave in April 2017 and we hope to get him back on an annual basis for reviews and support.



Patrol debriefing by the Operations Manager and SMART analysis.





Training

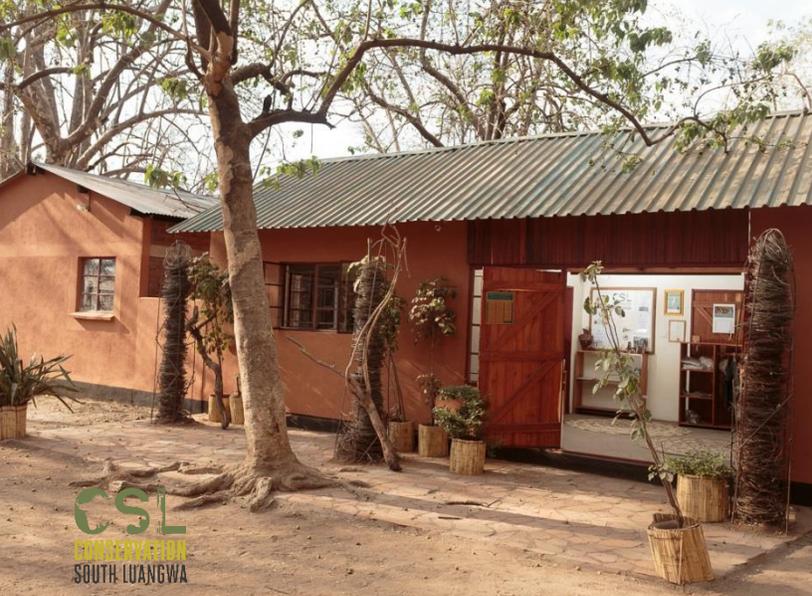
During the latter part of 2016, multiple refresher training days were carried out. Short, sharp and effective courses enabled us not to dig in to too much patrol time and effectively focus on motivating scouts and sharpening their efforts. This involved scouts undertaking both novel and refresher training to teach and enhance skills in Rapid Response, Cover and Approach and Interoperability, and Communications.



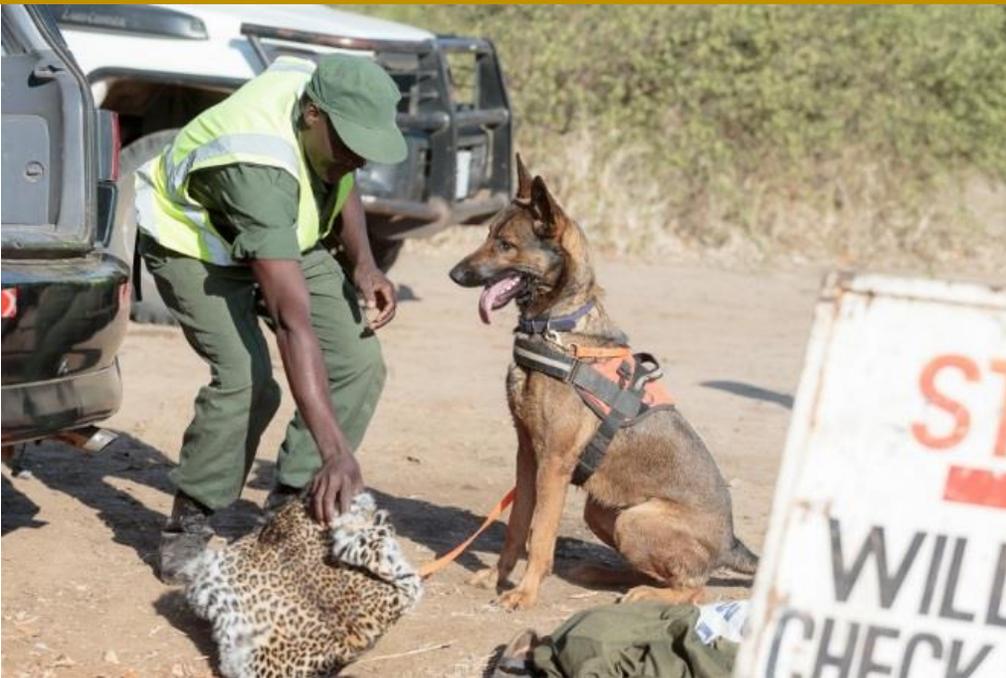
Scout Motivation

Visible Awards

Reinvigorating a lapsed CSL tradition, the reintroduction of the 'Scout of the Month' awards in October 2016 has helped motivate scouts and improve moral. This has also been partnered with a corresponding increase in bonuses and quarterly targets and rewards. Results by different teams are visibly displayed on a board in the parade courtyard for scouts to track their own progress.



In keeping with our rebranding exercise, the CSL Base had a small facelift that included the construction of a display centre and welcome area for visitors, a new office for the Unit Leader and Detection Dog team leader, and a new office for the Human Wildlife Conflict Mitigation team. This was deemed necessary for visitors and staff productivity and also to ensure the Operations Room is out of bounds and confidential. A new website was commissioned and designed by John Gardiner, Aisling Ryan and paid for by Africa Hope Fund please visit – www.cslzambia.org



Working Dogs
for Conservation



CSL / DNPW Detection Dog Unit

The CSL Canine Unit is now a well-established arm of CSL and DNPW operations in Luangwa and Eastern Province of Zambia. The purpose of the Canine Unit is to provide additional detection capabilities to enforcement officers to detect illegal wildlife contraband including ivory, bush meat, pangolin scales, leopard and lion skins, illegal wood such as mukula, illegal firearms and ammunition.

In 2016, the CSL / DNPW Canine team conducted searches on 1778 vehicles, 619 bikes and 50 houses and apprehended 33 suspects, confiscated 9 firearms, 18 snares, 32 mukula logs, 4 pairs of ivory, 3 leopard skins, 4 live pangolins and 40 kg's of bush meat.



Aerial Operations

Aerial surveillance is vital to our anti-poaching operations in addition to ZCP's valuable monitoring efforts of carnivores in the Luangwa System.

Not only does our joint (CSL -ZCP) aircraft act as a deterrent to would be poachers, the plane is vital in detecting carcasses, poaching camps, drying racks, fires and other illegal activities such as wood cutting.

Our 2015 – 2016 pilot Derick Lombard excelled in his job and also managed the SMART database. At the end of his contract Derick moved on and has been replaced by Lester Dillard, also an extremely skilled and experienced pilot in addition to being a GIS expert and biologist.



Poisons Training Workshop with Endangered Wildlife Trust

Poisoning is rapidly becoming one of the major threats for wildlife in Africa. While previously not significant for Zambia, over the past three years there has been an increasing trend of suspected poisoning events surrounding elephant, hyaenas and birds, specifically crowned cranes and vultures. Fortunately, a Poisons Training Workshop was hosted at CSL base by Andre Botha from Endangered Wildlife Trust and included field staff, wildlife police officers, biologists and ecologists from DNPW, ZCP, CSL and Bird Watch Zambia. The intention of the workshop was to provide training and preparation for preventing and attending to poisoning incidences. The workshop was timely in that it enabled us to rescue lions from a potentially devastating poisoning event involving a poisoned elephant. 16 well known lions from Big Pride were feeding on a poisoned elephant carcass, one was dead on our arrival and 5 were showing signs of severe poisoning. One by one, five lions were immobilized by Dr Sichande, DNPW, CSL and ZCP teams. The whole procedure lasted 24 hours ensuring that each lion was treated and monitored and survived.



Wildlife Rescues

- CSL and ZCP's joint veterinarian Dr Mwamba Sichande, and field teams continue to provide wildlife rescue in South Luangwa and domestic animal services in Mfuwe.



In 2016, in collaboration with ZCP and DNPW CSL de-snared the following animals;

2 wild dogs, 3 giraffes, 3 lions, 3 hyaena, 3 elephants, 1 leopard, 5 poisoned lions treated.

It is without a doubt that all of these animals would have died without veterinary intervention, tracking abilities of ZCP's collared animals and the use of our joint aircraft. Through year-round intensive monitoring ZCP follows 21 prides and 16 coalitions of lions collectively numbering over 200 animals and they have already quantified the impacts of snaring by-catch on this population. Radio-collared animals facilitate this work and aerial support enables us to monitor and evaluate the impacts of snaring on these populations as well as the success of anti-snaring activities.



The small CSL veterinary clinic in Mfuwe has quickly become the only veterinary clinic in Mambwe District where domestic animal owners can have their animals attended to. When he is not in the field conducting wildlife work Dr Sichande is readily available to attend to various cases and this year has been involved in treating many patients (dogs) with snake bites, broken limbs, punctured organs, eye enucleations, micro chipping, poisoning treatment (cranes and lions), diseases including Parvo virus, TVT and sleeping sickness and has also performed multiple castrations and spays.

With generous funding from Dazzle Africa, CSL is also sponsoring Fitzgerald Mukumbi for his last three years of veterinary school at the University of Zambia.



Chilli patrols protecting farms and villages



In the villages of Lupande Game Management Area surrounding the national park elephants cause a substantial amount of damage due to crop raiding and property damages. In collaboration with CSL and financial support from Awely and WWF, the Red Caps team help communities to protect their fields and granaries from elephants. One of the multiple techniques used are the chilli-bombers. With these devices ping-pong balls filled with a chilli-oil extract are shot at elephants. Hitting the elephants body, the ball cracks open and the oil disperses on the elephant causing them to run away. In 2016, a new step forward has been achieved by Awely to optimize the chilli bombers. Together with the Technical University (TU) of Darmstadt and the Julius Kühn Institute, Germany the chilli bombers were re-designed to make them work independently from electricity and more reliable than former versions. This new device was introduced to the 20 chilli blasters engaged during the blasting season to help communities protect fields.



In addition to chilli blasting, CSL works with communities to construct elephant safe grain stores, grow chilli, turmeric and lemon grass (largely unpalatable to elephants) for personal use in protecting crops and, for sale to bring additional cash income to the family.

In 2016 we constructed 15 elephant safe grain stores and now have 98 in total, engaged 20 blasters for 5 months for chilli blasting activities to deter crop raiding elephants, engaged 65 farmers to grow chilli, paid out K14,500 for dried chilli to farmers, harvested 1475 kg's of chilli, assessed 298 crop raiding conflicts, 21 property damages and 54 livestock predations and constructed 14 watchtowers.





CSL Annual Conservation Fun Run 2016

The 8th CSL annual 10km Fun Run, funded by Zambia's Elephant Charge, was held in June in Mfuwe. This was also the 2nd year of holding the Chris Fenner Conservation Cup. Chris's parent, Carol and Mike made the journey all the way from England to come and present the cup to the winner who was Bernard Bwalya (second year running).

The Fun Run would not be possible without the efforts and organizing by Graph Evans and his team and Benson Kanyembo and his team of scouts who smoothly run the day's events including security, all sports events (10km's, relays, volleyball, netball, football, tug of war), prize giving and hosting of important dignitaries including Chief's, The District Commissioner, Education Board Secretary and others. Thank you as always to all the lodges for their support for prizes for the events and also for running and taking part in events. The Fun Run is not a CSL fundraiser, on the contrary it is a way of giving back to the community.



CSL would like to thank the following major donors for their ongoing financial support to the organization in 2016. CSL is solely reliant on donations and works hard to maintain excellent relations with donors and partners. This is evident in some of the long-term partnerships and funding we have received and continue to receive from international and local donors.

Special mention must be made to the Luangwa Conservation Community Fund.

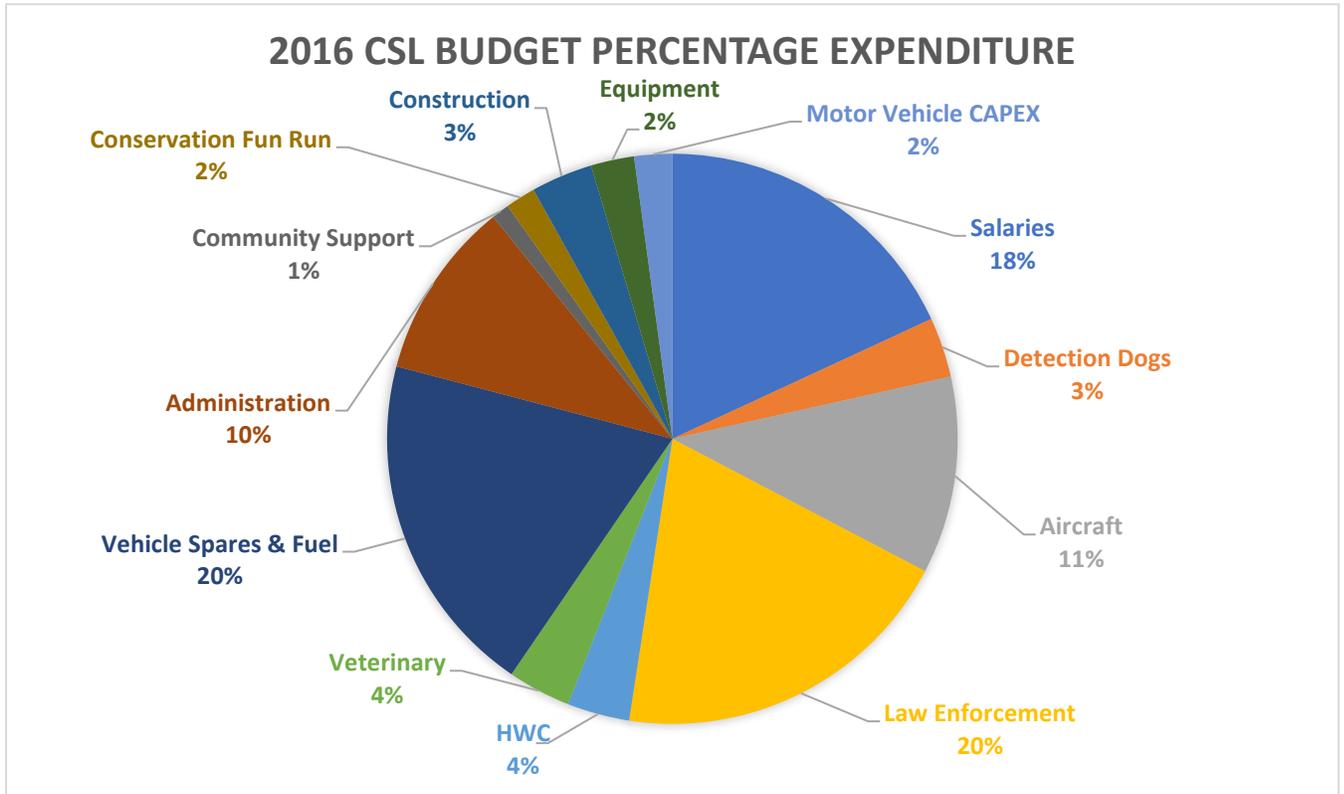


In addition, we would like to thank the following individual donors in 2016, their ongoing support to wildlife conservation and community programs in South Luangwa is greatly appreciated by our whole team.

Vona Priest
 Terry Kirhope
 Herman Scheitert
 Martha Tressler
 Steven Stone
 Hassan Sachedina
 Mari Passananti
 Gero Heine
 Alec & Kate Lindsay
 Anne Sibbald
 Terence O'Rourke
 Christele Teilla
 Lincoln Palmer

Fiona Cutting
 Katerina Ring
 Allison Cohen
 Anthea and Peter
 Montgomery
 Conan and Linda Butcher
 Chris Brown
 Virginia Kubic
 Katrin Dorfelt
 Lars Gunnar Larson
 John Clark
 Christine Brizzard
 Murray Katz

Beth Touma
 Virginia Kubic
 Artie Owen
 Johan Elzenga
 Edward Selfe Photography
 Olsen Animal Trust
 Wildlife Crime Prevention
 Project
 Tribal Textiles
 Fast Wheels
 Valley Lodgeistics
 Ian Maccallan





Conservation South Luangwa

P.O Box, Mfuwe, Zambia

www.cslzambia.org

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