



Trophy hunting in the UK

Trophy hunting in the UK is of great importance to the local rural economy and provides business opportunities not only for hunting providers, but also for local hotels and restaurants. Trophy hunters often come at times of the year when tourist season is low. The hunters therefore secure a foundation for an income at a time of the year when activities are low. There are a considerable numbers of trophy hunters not only from Denmark, but also from other European countries, who travel to the UK every year to go on trophy hunting. These trophy hunters contribute a significant income, and especially a rural income, in areas where it can be difficult to secure settlement, because of few other opportunities for employment than hunting.

In some countries the landowner is given a yearly quota of game to be shot on his area. If the quota is not reached by the end of the year the landowner is given a fine. Therefore, the landowner is dependent on external hunters, and benefits on the extra hunting fee paid by external hunters as well.

A ban on trophy hunting in the UK, will mean, that an important source of income in rural areas will disappear.

Trophy hunting in general

There are numerous examples of how trophy hunting helps to insure endangered species and vulnerable natural areas. European bison (recently exposed on Bornholm), white rhino, Alpine and Spanish Capricorn would have been extinct today if it were not of hunting interest and especially trophy hunting. Lots of important nature areas, wouldn't be protected if it weren't for hunting interests.

The hunt must be sustainable

The hunt must, first of all, be conducted in a sustainable way, especially for the species, that society wants to preserve now and in the future.

The hunter today contributes to nature through nature- and wildlife management initiatives to the benefit of the wildlife. The hunter follows the sustainable hunting plan by shooting either the youngest, weakest or oldest animal. Leaving the breeding game. The breeding game is only shot by hunters as management tool if the game population exceeds the sustainable limit.

Hunters pay a significant sum for their outdoor interest. Hunting is commercial, and the value of hunting helps landowners, and local populations in developing countries see an interest in hunting as an integrated part of nature management.

The hunters' financial contribution is in many places around the world also used for anti-poaching, and the game meat has a high value for local inhabitants. At the same time, hunter's presence provides the opportunities for local business' before, during and after hunting. Hunting contributes to more and better nature. Conservation of endangered animals, as well as hunting interests ensure the fight against poaching and contributes to poverty reduction in third world countries.

There are various international agencies that control sustainable hunting and wildlife management.

CITES is an international convention for the control (across borders) of wildlife and plants. This is done through monitoring and regulation of international trade. The aim is only to allow a sustainable trade, that they can bear.

The World Conservation Union (IUCN) is an independent international organization whose purpose it is to promote the conservation and sustainable use of natural resources. The IUCN

recognizes the value of trophy hunting and also the hunting of endangered animals as long as they are under a sustainable management.

Trophy hunting fights poverty and poaching - If it pays it stays!

The hunter pays a significant fee for shooting the game - a trophy fee, which is typically divided between state, and locals, if the hunt is conducted on private land. At the same time, it provides employment, because the hunter, among other things requires catering, lodging, transportation etc. All the incentives for locals to maintain and expand the market for hunting. Hunting tourism provides jobs locally and utilizes a renewable natural resource. If there is no trophy hunting or other hunting interests in an area, the result is often that the game is being pursued illegally. The illegal pursuit is often very brutal and done in methods we abolished centuries ago.

As soon as locals in developing countries understand the value of paying-hunters to shoot game, including trophy-bearing game, and at the same time benefit themselves from this hunt, locals will make an active effort to avoid poaching. Examples of local people's involvement in wildlife management and trophy hunting include: The CAMPFIRE program in Zimbabwe and the Namibia Communal Area Conservancies in Namibia.

<http://www.fao.org/3/u5200e06.htm>

When a hunter buys a hunting trip and the right, in sustainable terms, to shoot a given game, there is a basis for a business, and the game suddenly becomes a completely different value to the locals. The hunter pays the state, the hunting guide, and the helpers, thus creating jobs. The game meat is often given to the locals. Experience shows that a change of attitude in local communities and local forces has a far better effect in anti-poaching than authorities.

Additional links:

<http://www.fao.org/3/a-aj114e.pdf#page=52>

<https://books.google.dk/books?id=M9ioDwAAQBAJ&pg=PP1&lpg=PP1&dq=An+international+journal+of+forestry+and+forest+industries+Vol.+68++2017/1&source=bl&ots=DisvznzVB2E&sig=ACfU3U3X3Qco8WqjmrMP2r56rxLI5n8ohA&hl=da&sa=X&ved=2ahUKEwiAqcD-95fnAhXnVBUIHbGuDo4Q6AEwAXoECAsQAQ#v=onepage&q=An%20international%20journal%20of%20forestry%20and%20forest%20industries%20Vol.%2068%20%202017%2F1&f=false>