

# SOUTH AFRICAN HUNTERS AND GAME CONSERVATION ASSOCIATION

## Impact of Responsible Hunting on Sustainable Wildlife Ranching

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**September 2016**



## BIODIVERSITY ECONOMY

*Wildlife-based tourism R104 bil*

*Consumptive hunting R8.6 bil*

*Trophy Hunting R1.6 bil*

*Game sales at auction >R1.1 bil*

*Processed products R4,5bil*

## CONSERVATION TARGETS

*Threatened species and  
ecosystem*

## ECOSYSTEM SERVICES

*(R73bn 3%GDP)*

*Supporting the economy*

## EXTENSIVE WILDLIFE AREAS

### EXTENSIVE PRIVATE LAND / GAME FARMS

- 16% national estate
- 3x the land of formal PA
- 16 mil head of game vs PA 6 million
- Rhino...Roan...Wild dog.....

### COMMUNAL AREAS

### PROTECTED AREAS

FRAGMENTATION

CASH CROPS

SETTLEMENTS

MINING

FORESTRY

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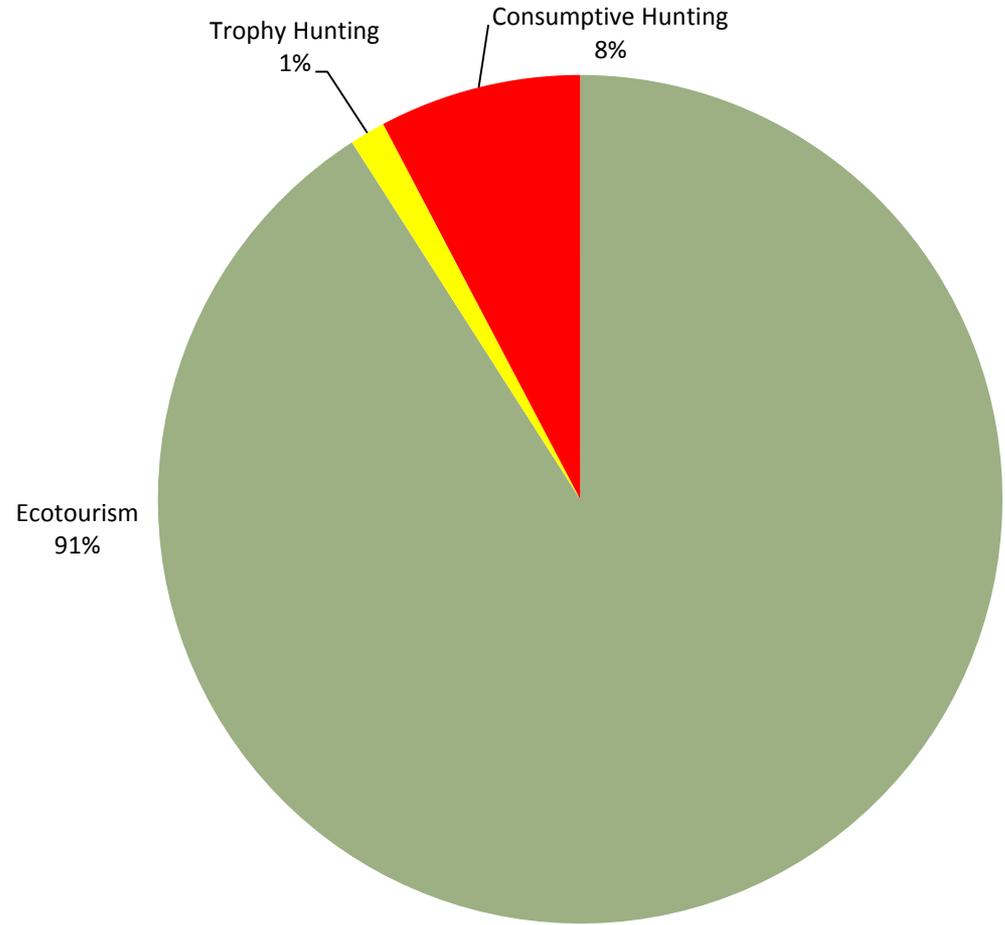
EXTENSIVE PRIVATE LAND / GAME FARMS

COMMUNAL  
AREAS

PROTECTED  
AREAS

Hunting as an income stream acts as one of the incentives to land managers to maintain these extensive ecosystems

- 30%+ of income on wildlife ranches derived from hunting
- Hunting is an incentive to maintain extensive wildlife areas
- Other landuse options in dryland areas limited
- Eco-tourism not competitive on smaller areas, <5% income from tourism
- An important role in securing extensive wildlife areas that comprises 14% of the country, which is 2.2 times greater than the area covered by South African state protected areas





# Consumptive Hunters



- Preferred destinations:
  - Limpopo (48%);
  - Northern Cape (18%);
  - Eastern Cape (11%)
- 8 species – 80% of animals hunted
- Springbok
- Impala
- Blesbuck
- Warthog
- Blue Wildebeest
- Kudu
- Gemsbok
- Black Wildebeest



# TROPHY HUNTING

*DEA- 2015*



## Trophy hunters to RSA

- 2011 - 9 138
- 2013 - 7 638
- 2014 - 7405

## Total income

- 2011 - R901m
- 2012 - R811m
- 2013 - R1.1b
- 2014 - R1.6b

## Preferred destinations

- Limpopo (40%); Northern West (16%); Eastern Cape (13%)

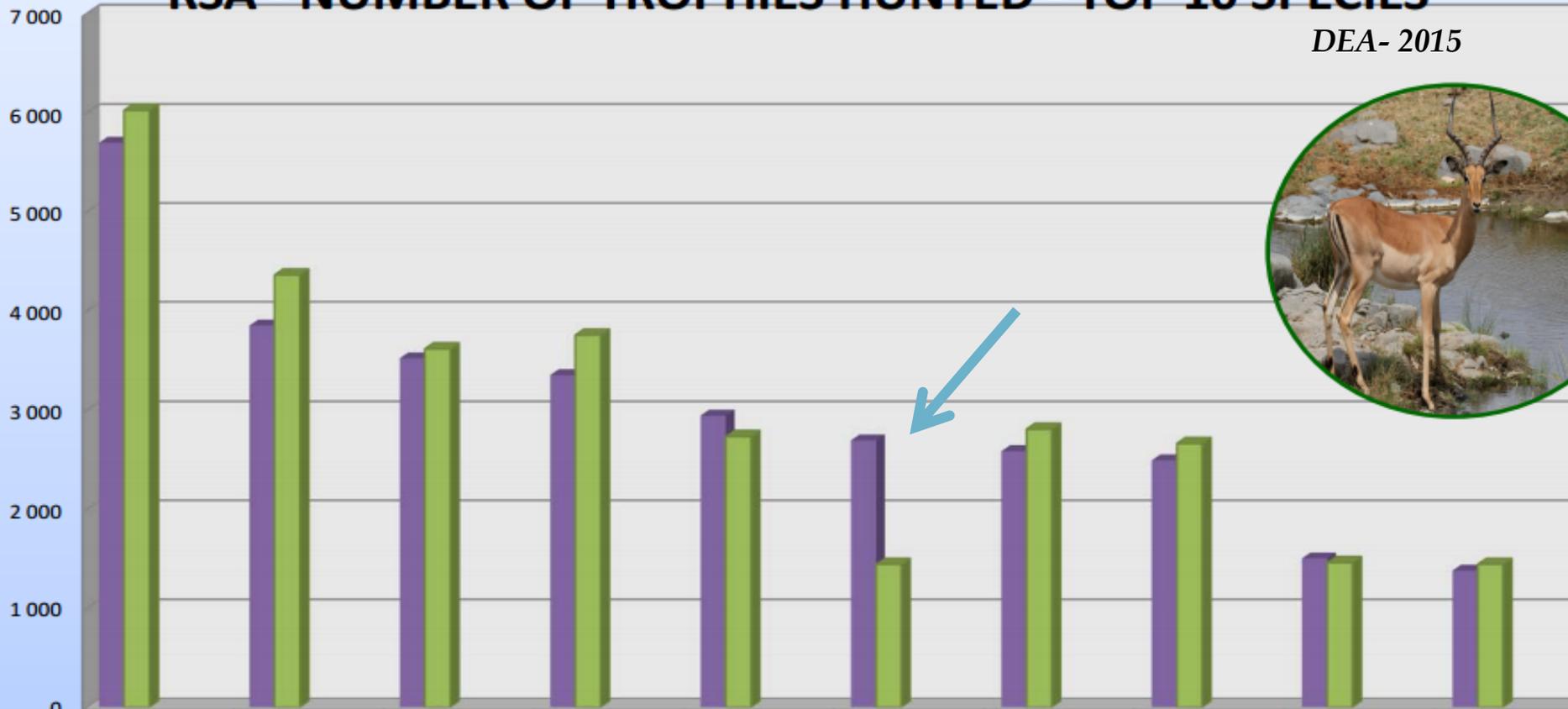
## Trophy hunters to Africa

- R6 bil
- Creating 5300 Jobs

# RSA - NUMBER OF TROPHIES HUNTED - TOP 10 SPECIES

DEA- 2015

TROPHYS - BASED ON THE NUMBER OF ANIMALS HUNTED



■ 2013	5 697	3 849	3 519	3 354	2 945	2 694	2 585	2 492	1 503	1 380
■ 2014	6 026	4 361	3 615	3 754	2 734	1 443	2 808	2 663	1 460	1 443

# WHAT DO HUNTERS WANT?



- **Authentic hunting experience**

- Wild animal in its natural environment – not canned or captive bred
- Participate in experience and not just a “spectator”
- Spending time in nature
- An honest representation of the hunt – fair chase

- **Healthy, free-range protein source**

- No hormones and antibiotics



- **Responsible hunting and game areas**

- Legal actions
- Adhere to local and universal rules, customs and best practise
- No reputational damage (hunting + industry)
- Must be sustainable (social, environmental , economical)

- **Protection of species and their habitats**

# THE SOUTH AFRICAN STORY



- Game in RSA almost hunted out in previous century
- By 1940 estimated total number of game animals in RSA 500 000
- Legally Game = “Res Nullius” Belongs to nobody
- Farmers, Hunters and Conservationists wanted to turn this around
- Process led to changes in Stock Theft Act – early 90’s
- Appropriate enclosure and water supply
- Individual may claim game to be his property - value
- Net result hereof now
  - About 12 000 registered and exempted game ranches
  - Various reserves (National, Provincial, Communities and Municipalities)
  - Estimated number of game now 20 Million
- Conservation through sustainable utilisation – supported by IUCN (International Union for Conservation of Nature)
- Sustainable use acknowledged as key in conservation – imbedded in RSA biodiversity legislation



# THE RHINO SUCCESS STORY



## S A Rhino Population



Hunting amongst other strategies pays for conservation and security costs for rhino

# RISKS AND CHALLENGES



- One of the biggest risks is probably the negative, global perception of hunting
- Followed closely by an unsupportive regulatory environment in SA
- A reduction in extensive or semi-extensive hunting area because competing land use
- Reputational damage, as a result of unsustainable or unacceptable hunting practice (full value chain issue, not just hunting)
- Profitability of wildlife ranching practices
- Domestication of wildlife
- Lacking, or inadequate, industry norms and standards

## Individual animal

**Adaptability – loss of rare alleles;  
welfare; social/ behavioral**



Age: 26/12/2013  
ID: "Saartjie"  
Microchip No: 945000001453224  
Remarks:  
• Hand-reared Black Impala ewe

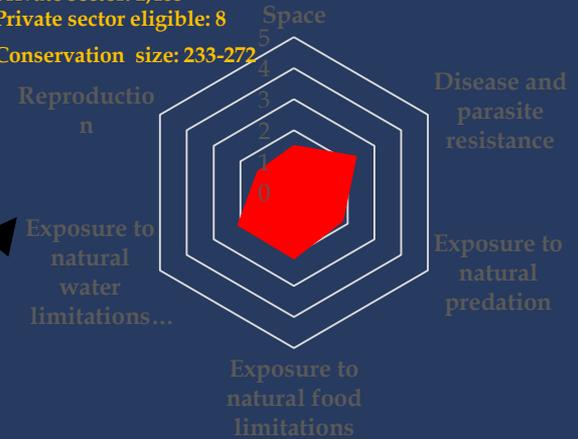
## Population

**Loss in disease resistance/ fitness;  
adaptability; imprinting – mate selection;  
social/behavioural; domestication**



## Species level

Protected areas: 376  
Private sector: 1,483  
Private sector eligible: 8  
Conservation size: 233-272



# INTENSIVE BREEDING

**Landscape – fences + landuse planning  
Fragmentation – isolation; death  
species; habitat integrity**

**Veterinary & disease  
Resistant parasites – risk to  
wildlife and livestock  
populations**



**Disinvestment extensive game farms  
↓ private sector contribution to ecosystem  
services + conservation targets**



# ECONOMIC IMPLICATIONS

- **Reputational damage to biggest economic contributors:** hunting and ecotourism
- BRAND SA and our Competitive advantage
  - Minister of Tourism outspoken against canned hunting
  - Major Hunting Associations in North America, Europe and Africa has come out publicly against these practices (e.g. Boone & Crockett Club; SCI in America; The Nordic Safari Club; CIC in Europe; SAHGCA and PHASA) Also conservation organisations (IUCN), welfare (NSPCA) + Zoos (AZA)
- **Losing market share - Namibia still increase**
  - In 2006 RSA over 16 000 visiting hunters - Namibia 6 300
  - In 2014 Namibia over 23 000 visiting hunters – RSA 7 400
  - Germany's leading hunting show will **no longer allow advertising or selling** of canned or captive hunts, including species bred as unnatural colour variations
- **Disinvestment in extensive wildlife areas:** private sector contribution to conservation targets ↓ (social value ↓ + financial value ↓) lead to economic implications
- **Other risks to social value:** Fragmentation of landscape, impact on threatened species, protected area expansion, veterinary risks, etc.

# IN CONCLUSION

- Despite challenges, hunting and wildlife ranching are interdependent
- Risks should be identified and mitigated in collaboration
- Practices need to be responsible – socially, environmentally and economically acceptable
- Manage reputation - ensure that practices that are not acceptable internationally or by the broader community are not supported
- Industry approved standards should be developed and implemented throughout the value chain
- Develop a green certification and labelling scheme to ensure consumer can make truly informed decisions
- Regulations should be changed to be common sense and uniform and to create an enabling environment

