



All-Party Parliamentary Group on Banning Trophy Hunting

KEY FACTS & FIGURES

1. There could now be as few as 9,610 lions, 6,674 cheetahs and 3,142 black rhinos left in the wild. There were an estimated 200,000 lions in the 1970s. Trophy hunting is said to account for up to a quarter of the decline. Elephant, polar bear and leopard numbers are falling too.
2. Lion, elephant and rhino populations have bucked the trend in Kenya, where trophy hunting is banned. Lions in Zambia and Zimbabwe recovered strongly after bans.
3. The majority of animals shot by trophy hunters die slow, painful deaths.
4. Trophy hunters currently shoot an animal every 3 minutes. At current rates, they could kill up to 170 million animals this century.
5. British hunters are bringing home 'trophies' of some of the world's most endangered species – including lions, elephants and polar bears.
6. British trophy hunters have won prizes for singlehandedly shooting over 100 different species.
7. British trophy hunters talk openly about shooting monkeys and cats out of trees for "fun", and give harrowing descriptions of injuries inflicted on animals by British hunters.
8. A British woman was named the world's leading female trophy hunter by the industry after shooting two of the world's largest elephants as well as a record-breaking lion.
9. British firms are selling 'holidays' to shoot endangered animals, including cheetahs and rhinos.
10. The American gun lobby has run a £1 million campaign to "manipulate, mislead, deceive" Ministers and MPs. Fake 'conservation' organisations and phoney 'African' groups set up by the industry claimed a proposed British ban on trophy imports was 'neo-colonialist' and would harm conservation. The strategy was funded by an American industry group which spends £11 million a year on lobbying to protect trophy "hunters' rights".
11. Another group seeking to block a British ban has received sponsorship from Russia's trophy hunting association whose donors include a hunter who was Vladimir Putin's right-hand man.
12. African community leaders refute industry claims that trophy hunting supports conservation and benefits local communities. They say hunting estates should be converted to photographic tourism which creates far more job opportunities for local people.
13. Experts say trophy hunting is perpetuating and entrenching apartheid-era inequalities. While some hunting company owners make millions of dollars a year, local people hired as cooks, cleaners or skimmers earn just a few hundred dollars.
14. Opinion polls show 9 out of 10 British voters back a ban. A UK Government public consultation received 44,000 submissions from conservation groups, scientists and African community groups, as well as members of the public. Almost 9 out of 10 said they, too, supported a ban.

"With the decline of wildlife worldwide, and many species approaching extinction, all caused by man, how can there be justification in trophy hunting? How can any government say they are fighting poaching whilst allowing trophy hunting? I call upon those countries from where these promoters of extinction come from to ban the import of trophies"

H.E. Seretse Khama Ian Khama, President, Republic of Botswana (2008-2018)