



“SERVING THE HUNTER WHO TRAVELS”

“Hunting provides the principal incentive and revenue for conservation. Hence it is a force for conservation.”

Special To The Hunting Report
World Conservation Force Bulletin

by John J. Jackson, III

□ **Congressional Report**

Young, Dingell Propose New Wildlife Funding

Congressman Don Young (R-AK) and Congressman John Dingell (D-MI) are again making a bipartisan effort to conserve all wildlife and wild places. This time they may surpass their existing remarkable record as the leading conservationists in the political world. They are putting together a proposal to add **billions** of extra conservation dollars by reallocating Outer Continental Shelf (OCS) Act royalties to that purpose. This is a substitute for the Teaming With Wildlife campaign that has yet to find its way into introduction, much less law. The draft proposal would reinvest the revenue from oil, a non-renewable resource, into a renewable resource of wildlife conservation and education. Ten percent of the OCS revenue would equal the \$350 million per year that “Teaming With Wildlife” could raise. That alone would nearly double the fed-

eral funds available in the form of grants to state agencies. The proposal would make the funds available to each state under the existing Pittman-Robertson framework. In addition to the 10 percent of OCS



funds to go to wildlife-based education and education programs, another 13 percent of OCS funds would go to land-based conservation and recreational programs of the states. If these two sportsmen/members of Congress are success-

ful with their plans and find the necessary support from the 272-member, bipartisan Congressional Sportsmen’s Caucus, they and this Congress will go in history as the greatest conservationist Congress ever! In one year it could provide more revenue than the Pittman-Robertson Wildlife Restoration Act has in a decade. Congressman Young has previously led efforts such as the grandfathering of polar bear trophy imports and the reform of the National Refuge Act that prioritized hunting. Congressman Dingell fathered the Endangered Species Act, Environmental Protection Act and others. If anyone can do it, they can. We understand that Congressmen William “Billy” Tauzin (R-LA) and Chris John (D-LA), are the soldiers behind the scenes. There surely will be a place in heaven for these four sport hunters.

DATELINE: WYOMING

News... News... News
WYOGA Suit Attacks
Non-Resident Bias

In June 16, 1998, I filed a suit against the Wyoming Game and Fish Commission. The named plaintiffs are the Wyoming Outfitters and Guides Association (WYOGA), individual outfitters and numerous individual non-resident hunters. The suit asks the federal court to declare both Wyoming's deer and elk license allocation systems and other discriminatory practices to be illegal under the *Terk* rule (Equal Protection Clause) and US Supreme Court *Camp Newfoundland* case (Dormant Commerce Clause). The case was necessary after every other effort by WYOGA failed to get fair treatment for non-resident interest. The 70-year-old outfitters association represents all the outfitters as well as their non-resident hunting clients. Unlike individual hunters who courts have largely ignored because their interests are only considered “recreational,” the outfitters are part of the interstate hunting industry. Thus outfitters and their occupation should be entitled to greater protection. Non-resident hunters may be able to get a better ear from the court through and in conjunction with their outfitters than they have “standing” alone. It is the fourth non-resident legal action Conservation Force is involved in so far in 1998. In Wyoming, nearly all non-resident hunting occurs on federal land or private land, not state land. The game department is wholly funded by license fees, most of which are paid by non-residents. The revenue from deer licenses sold to non-resident hunters provides 83.7 percent of all deer hunting license revenues while the residents only contributed 16.3 percent! The revenue from elk licenses purchased by non-residents provided 71.2 percent of the fees derived from elk hunting while only the pittance of 28.8 percent was contributed by the residents. Despite the fact that the residents are subsidized by non-residents,

non-residents have to draw for a limited number of general elk and deer licenses while residents' are unlimited and they can purchase their licenses over the counter at any time. Only a fraction of non-residents who apply draw a license, though residents are assured a license, even though non-residents are hunting on federal lands and are the funding base of the game conservation system that discriminates against them. We are no longer confronted with non-residents paying more for their licenses. Today we are faced with non-residents being made to be the funding base and to subsidize everyone else, residents and non-hunters and wildlife watchers alike. The suit alleges that non-residents are made to pay for the cost of the conservation system but deprived of the right to share in its use. For example, the elk population in Wyoming has been 25 percent above the state's management objective, but impermissible political pressure has prevented any chance whatsoever of an increase in licenses for non-residents. The suit is 18 pages long and contains page after page of discriminatory practices. This case is expected to be pivotal. It bears watching and needs your support. If you have been waiting to contribute, there will not be a better time. Tax deductible contributions are being accepted by Conservation Force.

SPECIAL REPORT

News Analysis
Why Non-Resident Bias
Must Be Addressed

Even if you did not read about the above suit, read this. Some are asking why Conservation Force has been involved in four non-resident rights cases in 1998 when it has so many other proactive tasks. First, non-resident big game hunting is a significant component of the growth in big game hunting. According to the 1996 *National Survey of Fishing, Hunting and Wildlife-Associated Recreation*, big game hunters over the past five years have been

JOHN J. JACKSON, III
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growing at the rate of five percent per annum or 9,000 net new big game hunters per month. There have never been more licensed big game hunters in the history of the world. The number has more than tripled since the 1960s. There are more of us, we spend more money and spend more time in the woods than anyone else. It remains a puzzle to me why agencies are not more actively acknowledging that big game hunting is growing at more than five times the US population growth rate (five percent per annum compared with .88 human growth rate in US expected through 2020, US Department of Commerce). Big game hunting is the paradigm of US conservation and hence perhaps world wildlife conservation. It is the conservation status quo and it should be celebrated. One of the most significant components of that growth in the number of big game hunters is the growing number of interstate hunters. The National Survey also documents there are now two million hunters per year in the US who hunt out-of-state. Three-fourths of them are big game hunters. If there is strength in numbers and in growth, then non-resident hunting is to be applauded because it is doing both for hunting and conservation interests. Second, non-resident hunting may be the singularly most important economic component of our wildlife conservation system in the US. Just as 90 to 95 percent of Zimbabwe's CAMP-FIRE Program income is derived from international big game sport hunters (non-residents) most conservation revenue in many states arises from non-residents as well. An example is Wyoming where the game department is wholly funded by license fees and 83.7 percent of all deer license fees are derived from non-residents. If the bulk of most expenditures of state wildlife agencies is important, then the source of that funding - non-residents - should be accorded no less importance. Third, part of the resident political opposition to non-residents in the past arose from resident resistance to the increasing prices of everything related from habitat to equipment. The opposition can't be based upon the inconsequen-

tial number of animals taken by non-residents. The resistance is to the related price increases, but price increases really reflect the increased value of our natural resources in the competition for space and survival going on in our world. Resident hoarding devalues our national wildlife resources, i.e., it cheapens them and reserves them for those who are not paying for the wildlife because of the discriminatory allocation systems that have developed. Of course resident hunters care like all hunters about the resource but their force in some instances has been illegally misdirected. More parity in license allocations will result in greater competition for the resource and a high value for the wildlife resources resident and non-resident hunters care about more than any other sector of society. Our wildlife



resources are worth less and are being devalued by the hoarding and isolationism that has become institutionalized. Any increase in non-resident hunting opportunities will increase the economic base of the North American conservation system and the value of our national wildlife resources on public and private lands and the value of these lands as well. There are many other reasons. Since non-resident hunting may be the single most important economic component of our wildlife conservation system and hence a force for conservation, it is of great concern to Conservation Force. If it pays it stays. Hunters pay but hunters that travel pay the most. It is a worthwhile cause. We need your support. Our legal adversaries are being funded by the public treasury and by your license fees! If you want to make

a difference, there won't be any better opportunity. Make your tax deductible contribution to Conservation Force, 3900 N. Causeway Blvd., Suite 1045, Metairie, LA 70002, USA.

DATELINE: CONGO

Regulatory Matters
Test Import Permit
Filed For Leopards

Leopard trophies from Congo (not to be confused with the Democratic Republic of Congo, formerly known as Zaire) have not been importable into the US since this species was listed as “endangered” 25 years ago. The leopard in Congo was downlisted from “endangered” to “threatened” 15 years ago. Nevertheless, the US Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) has never ruled that a trophy could be imported from this country. This is another long-neglected task that Conservation Force has undertaken. In June, Conservation Force filed a two-inch thick test import permit with USFWS as a public service. It contains related historical documents on the leopard's status in Congo going back 30 years, as well as its current status. As this is being written, the Conservation Force Congo Task Force team leader, Chris Kinsey, is in the field collecting further backup data to see the initiative to a successful conclusion. This can be an important step in the development of a complete safari industry in Congo, and may provide an increase in operating revenue and wildlife conservation incentives in that country. Because of all we have learned over the past decade, we hope establishing trophy imports of leopard from Congo will be easier than it was from Mozambique when yours truly began that initiative under the auspices of Safari Club International's Renewable Wildlife Resources Committee in the early 1990s. Just as in the Mozambique Initiative, the legal and biological services are being performed pro bono in the interest of all, though now it is called the Congo Task Force of Conservation Force.

Briefly Noted

Hunting Groups Meet In BC: Dozens of hunting related organizations were brought together by the British Columbia Wildlife Federation (40,000 members) and the Guides and Outfitters Association of British Columbia for a three-day Hunting Heritage Workshop in Cranbrook, British Columbia. I was honored to be one of the two guest speakers at this important meeting. The participants ranged from the Manitoba Wildlife Federation to Don Clower, who led the defeat of the Black Bear Initiative in Idaho. This is the second meeting of its kind in three years. An alliance has been formed to assist one another and exchange information of common interest to sportsmen’s conservation organizations, particularly in western Canada and the western United States. The alliance will meet annually and exchange information regularly in the future. It is very much like the Prohunting Committee of the Council International de Chasse (CIC) in Europe, on which Bertrand des Clers and I also serve. British Columbia is a very important hunting destination. It has the largest black bear population in the world (estimated to be as great as 180,000) and one of the largest grizzly bear populations. The hunting of both continue to be under attack despite the robust populations and human/bear conflicts numbering in the thousands. Conservation Force is proud to support and serve the Alliance organizations that are focused on pulling together for the good of all.

Unendangered Species Posters in France: The International Foundation for the Conservation of Wildlife (IGF) is now producing an Unendangered Species type poster, “Les especes Hors Danger.” The poster demonstrates that red stag numbers have doubled, chamois have nearly tripled, wild boar have quadrupled, ibex have increased over 15 times and Corsican mouflon have multiplied over a hundred-fold over various short periods of time.

Lyme Disease Vaccine: There may

soon be a Lyme disease vaccine. LYMrix is nearing the approval process and we will let you know if and when it is authorized. In the meantime here are a few useful facts. Lyme disease is the most common vector-borne disease in the US, even though one out of 10 cases are not reported. Not all ticks carry it, and if bitten there is only a chance of 0 to 3.4 percent of contracting it from the tick. The length of time the tick is engorging itself on you is the most important factor you can affect. In 36 hours there is only a 15 percent chance of getting the disease. In 48 hours, it increases to a 22 percent chance. The longer it feeds the more engorged (thus easier to locate) it becomes and the greater the chance of transmitting the disease. Thus you can do a lot to protect yourself by bathing and inspecting yourself daily. More information can be obtained from the American Lyme Disease Foundation at 914-277-6970.

CITES Animals Committee: Conservation Force attended the 14th Meeting of the CITES Animals Committee in Venezuela on behalf of its supporting organizations. This is one of two meetings to be held before the 11th

Conference of the Parties expected to be held in 2000. These meetings have to be monitored by the hunting community. The new Chief of the USFWS Office of Scientific Authority, Susan Lieberman, added an agenda item and report by a protectionist organization that called for Saiga antelope in Kazakhstan and Mongolia to undergo further review. Although the Saiga antelope in Kazakhstan alone (1.2 million) outnumbers the pronghorn antelope in the US and it has very robust reproduction, it was represented to be in dire danger. Of particular significance, the select hunting of males was represented to be “insidiously” undermining the survival of the species. This is a recurring theme of anti-hunters but nothing could be further from the truth. For thousands of years every animal owner has known and practiced animal husbandry that you only need one bull to service a whole lot of cows. It’s only when you start harvesting cows that the reproduction rate drops, hence the widespread practice of shooting males and sparing the females unless you want a population reduction. Harvesting the larger, older males is commonly done to increase the genetic diversity of the population because it increases the opportunities for the younger males that otherwise may never mate with the females. Conservation Force was able to get advice from around the world by e-mail, fax and phone to correctly address that issue and others as they arose. A special thanks is due to IGF and Houston Safari Club, who helped with the out-of-pocket cost of attendance, and to Dallas Safari Club, Houston Safari Club, Shikar Safari Club International, FACE, CIC, IGF, Grand Slam Club, Guides and Outfitters Association of British Columbia, British Columbia Wildlife Federation, Welder Wildlife Foundation and others who helped with various sensitive issues that arose during the meeting. Together the organizations directly represent more than seven million hunters. - John J. Jackson, III.

Conservation Force Sponsors

The Hunting Report and Conservation Force would like to thank International Foundation for the Conservation of Wildlife (IGF) for generously agreeing to pay all of the costs associated with the publishing of this bulletin. IGF was created by Weatherby Award Winner H.I.H Prince Abdorreza of Iran 20 years ago. Initially called The International Foundation for the Conservation of Game, IGF was already promoting sustainable use of wildlife and conservation of biodiversity 15 years before the UN Rio Conference, which brought these matters to widespread public attention. The foundation has agreed to sponsor Conservation Force Bulletin in order to help international hunters keep abreast of hunting-related wildlife news. Conservation Force’s John J. Jackson, III is a member of the board of IGF and Bertrand des Clers, its director, is a member of the Board of Directors of Conservation Force.



International Foundation for
the Conservation of Wildlife

MEMO

June 29, 1998

To: Jim Young, Print N Mail
From: Elaina Panozzo, Oxpecker Enterprises
Re: July 1998 Issue of Conservation Force Supplement

Jim,

Here's the file for the July 1998 issue of the Conservation Force Supplement, to be inserted in the July 1998 issue of The Hunting Report. Do not forget to insert John Jackson's picture on page 2. Please fax "blue lines" for approval ASAP.

Total print run is 4,350. That includes 3,977 copies for insertion into The Hunting Report (active circulation); and 50 copies to be shipped directly to Jackson. The remaining 323 copies are to be shipped to us here in Miami. As usual, bill John Jackson for all costs relating to Conservation Force.

Please call if questions —
Elaina