



Charlton McCallum Safaris

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2026 Hunting Season to Date

Dear friends

The 2026 season is well under way. Despite the world turmoil we are pleased to say that our hunts have been largely unaffected and do date very successful. The record 2026 rainy season however has made the hunts somewhat challenging so far especially in the elephant department as we have found the normal movement of bulls has changed due to the abundant water still around.

As you know we are hunting several areas and all our clients have been successful on their main trophies with the exception of an elephant hunt in Dande and a lion hunt in Unit 6. Apart from these two, whom we are hoping will return this year, some great trophies have been taken!!

We started the season with a very ambitious 18 day lion leopard buff and ele bull hunt in unit 6. This was all to be done with an open sighted Rigby Shakari double in 450 #2 caliber. It was also all to be done on foot with the exception of the leopard which was to be shot from a blind with the open sighted double.

We were successful on all the 4 trophies with the lion been an incredible 9 km tracking session and the leopard been a 30 yard shot with the double- all in all an amazing hunt!





We have since done a few more hunts in Unit 6 and they have all been excellent with some beautiful leopard taken in broad daylight as well as some nice buffalo and plains game.









We then went into several non-trophy buffalo and trophy buff hunts in our new area in the South West Lowveld. These hunts were outstanding with tons of buffalo to track and choose from. Camp and general game was excellent as was the fishing. The sheer numbers of buffalo is a sight for sore eyes!!!









From there we had a great return client come for a lion buff hippo hunt in Nyakasanga which was excellent and he got a super lion and buff and a dryland hippo. After that Dave headed down to a fly camp in Chewore North in the Mpata gorge for a leopard and hippo hunt. This is one of my most favourite hunts been in a fly camp in a remote area! This hunt like the Nyakasanga hunt was a great success and our return client got a beautiful leopard in day light as well as his hippo and other plains game.



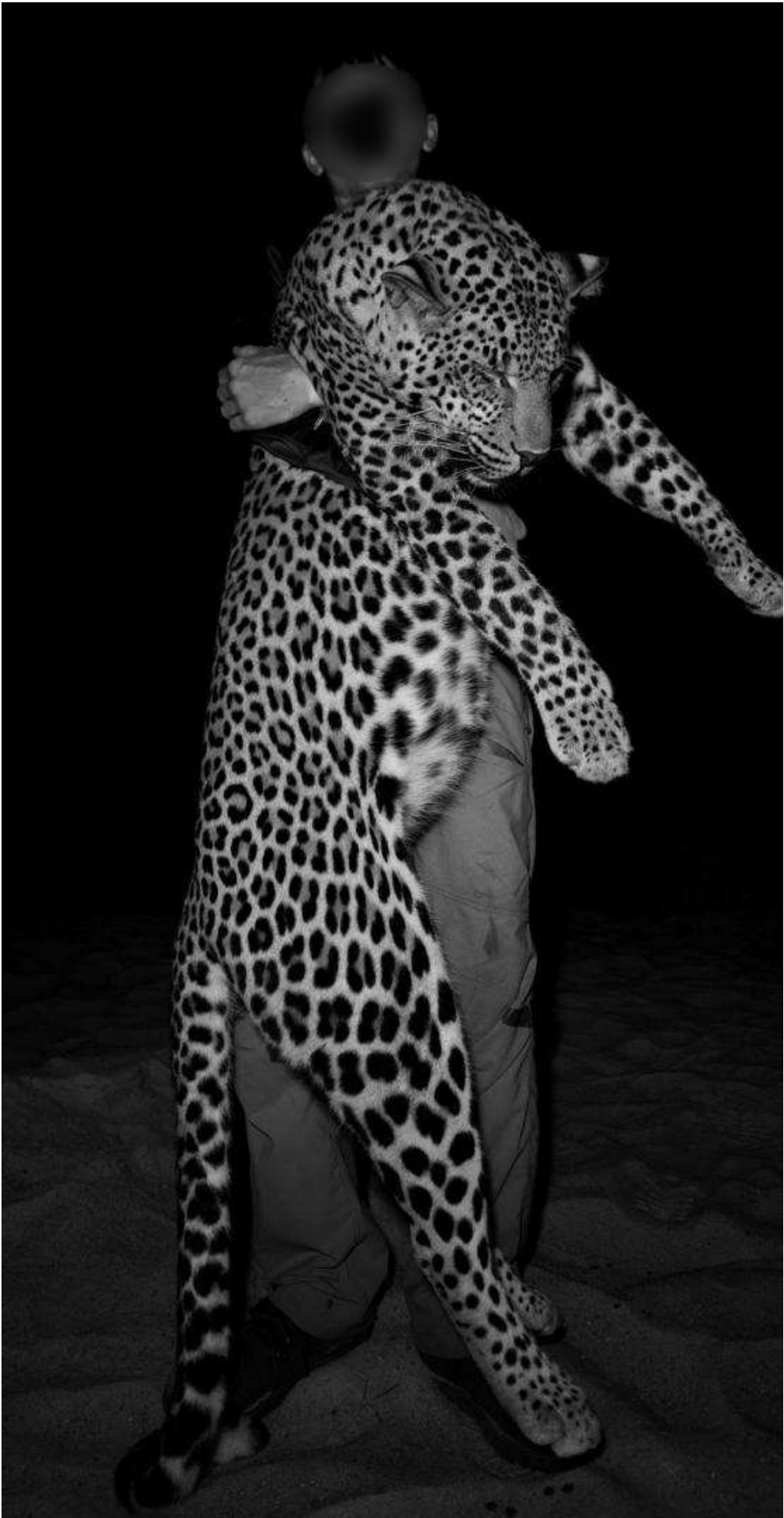




The safaris season in Dande then started and despite hard tracking with the thick bush the buffalo and leopard hunts have been excellent with wonderful trophies been taken and all the cats been taken in broad day light. As it starts to get a little drier the hunt has become easier and the present hunts are very successful.













Normally our big elephant bulls are done late season but I decided to try Shangani for an early bull and it was great- we saw about 50 bulls when we decided to take a long ivory bull which my client did with his beautiful double on a side brain shot



As I write this we have two safaris in our new area Magoe which are going incredibly well with excellent buff massive crocs and excellent plains game also. Here are a few pics from the last few days











On not such a happy note it looks like our wonderful hunting over the years in Nyakasanga may well be coming to an end. It is an area we loved and cherished and we hope that the new operators treat it with the respect and love that we did. We certainly appreciated our time spent in this stunning part of the world and we would like to thank Steve for the opportunities we had there.

As with everything in life when doors close other open and we are hugely excited to let every one know of two new areas that CMS have got that will offer new and exciting hunting opportunities in the future for our clients.

GACHE GACHE

CMS has signed up the exclusive hunting rights for Gache Gache from 2027 onwards. This gem of an area is situated on the banks of Lake Kariba. This stunning area has a beautiful camp overlooking Zimbabwe's largest lake and the worlds 3rd largest manmade lake.

Gache Gache has probably the very best croc and hippo hunting in Zimbabwe with a high per centage of the crocs been man eaters! With the huge population of hippos one also stands a very realistic chance of taking a hippo on dry land which makes for a wonderful experience!

The buffalo hunting is very good here. The lake shores are covered in panicum grass more commonly known as torpedo grass which attracts the buff in numbers as it does other game down to the lake shores. There are some big herds as well as a dugga boys

to hunt here. At times late evening and early mornings the buff are spotted on the lake shore however most times it is a good traditional tracking hunt!

Apart from getting a great buffalo on your buff hunt you will also be spoilt by plains game numbers in comparison to the average Zambezi Valley area. As a whole Gache Gache is an outstanding area for a buff plains game or a buff croc hippo plains game hunt.

If you come to Gache Gache you will fly into Harare and either charter down to Kariba airport and drive or boat into camp or alternatively you will drive from Harare which is a 7-hour drive.

JAMANDA

CMS is very excited to announce the exclusive hunting and managing rights to Jamanda. This area was last hunted 15 years ago and at that time bordered onto the Gonarezhou National Park however it was fenced out of the Park and the hunters had to target animals that had managed to get through the fence.

Since then the German Zoological Society that do an amazing job running the Park fenced Jamanda into the park and closed hunting for 15 years.

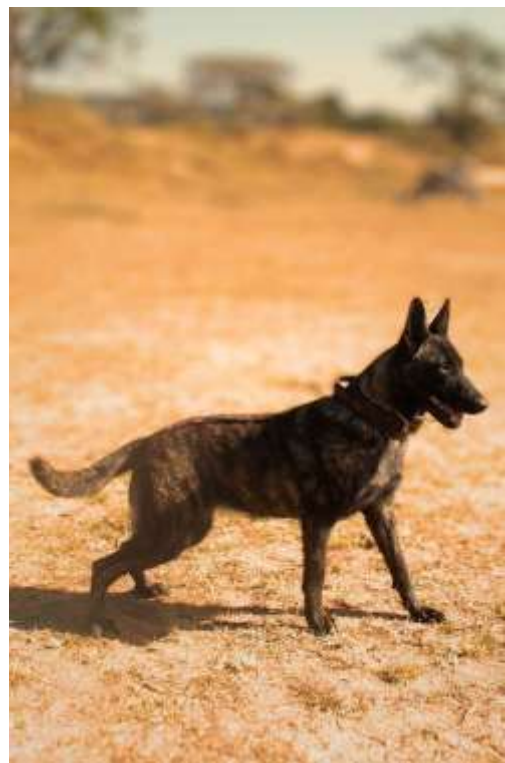
CMS won the hunting rights there from this year going forward. Been a small area it has a very small and exclusive quota. Considering the last 4 100lbs elephant that have been taken in Zimbabwe, have all been areas that are just outside of Gonarezhou means that we are incredibly excited at the opportunities we may find especially considering the fact that we are FENCED INTO the park!

Apart from the chance at a truly amazing elephant trophy the genetics of buffalo in this area are excellent. We only have two tags a year which should mean that we will take two outstanding dugga boys. These will be complimented with a limited plains game bag of Nyala Kudu waterbuck Impala Bushbuck and duiker!

CMS prides its self on not only hunting the wildlife in the areas that we are custodians of but also improving the areas for the wildlife as well as the people living in the areas we hunt. Our latest project in Dande is the completion of a new school block in the Kanyemba area. This takes it to 3 schools we have built in this area and a massive thanks to the Jack and Marjorie Schillinger Foundation in partnering us on this very noble cause.



The anti poaching has as always been a great success and the new addition of Lola who joins echo really makes DAPU that much more effective.



As we move into the second half of the season we wish all our up and coming clients the greats success!! Ps we do have a single buff / croc in Mozambique this year and a buffalo Nyala in our new area Jamanda.

For those that may not know – we now have a YouTube channel – sign up and enjoy some of our best hunting! <https://www.youtube.com/@CMSafaris1>

All the best Buzz, Myles and the CMS team!