



17-031



DARWIN200

Submit by Monday 1 December 2008

DARWIN INITIATIVE APPLICATION FOR GRANT FOR ROUND 16: STAGE 2

Please read the Guidance Notes before completing this form. Where no word limits are given, the size of the box is a guide to the amount of information required. Information to be extracted to the database is highlighted blue.

1. Name and address of organisation (NB: Notification of results will be by post)

Name: Wildlife Conservation Research Unit (WildCRU), Zoology Department, University of Oxford	Address: C/O Mrs Diana Roberts, WildCRU, Tubney House, Abingdon Road, Tubney, Oxfordshire OX13 5QL, U.K.
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2. Project title (not exceeding 10 words)

Ecological sustainability of leopard trophy hunting in Zimbabwe
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3. Project dates, duration and total Darwin Initiative Grant requested

Proposed start date: April 2009	Duration of project: 3 years	End date: March 2012			
Darwin funding requested	2009/10	2010/11	2011/2012	2012/13	Total

4. Define the purpose of the project (extracted from logframe)

To collect ecological and management data to support a National Leopard Management Strategy in Zimbabwe, and to build local and regional consensus to create and implement a conservation strategy to manage leopards and their habitats on a sustainable basis.
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5. Principals in project. Please provide a one page CV for each of these named individuals. You may copy and paste this table if you need to provide details of more than one overseas project partner.

Details	Project Leader	Other UK personnel (working more than 50% of their time on project)	Main project partner and co-ordinator in host country/ies
Surname	Loveridge		Purchase
Forename (s)	Dr Andrew John		Dr Gianetta
Post held	Post Doctoral Researcher		Project liaison officer
Institution (if different to above)			Zambesi Society
Department			Research
Telephone			
Email			

6. Has your organisation received funding under the Darwin Initiative before? If so, give details.

Reference No	Project Leader	Title
162/4/072	D W Macdonald	Aquatic carnivores
162/7/137	D W Macdonald	Sanctuaries in Estonia and Belarus
162/09/015	D W Macdonald	Big cat conservation and sustainable use in southern Africa
162/09/015	D W Macdonald/	The Role of Tourism in Sustainable use of Big Cats

(follow-up funding)	A J Loveridge	
162/10/004	D W Macdonald/ John Fa	Devising solutions to bushmeat exploitation in the Sananga-Cross region
162/12/118	D W Macdonald	Climate change and conservation of Galapagos endemic bird species
Round 12	D W Macdonald/ L Clayton	Establishment and management of Nantu National Park, Sulawesi
162/13/016	D W Macdonald	Endangered otter and invasive mink in Patagonia
Round 13	C Sillero-Zubiri	Conservation of Puna's Andean cats across national borders

7. IF YOU ANSWERED 'NO' TO QUESTION 6 describe briefly the aims, activities and achievements of your organisation. (Large institutions please note that this should describe your unit or department)

<p>Aims (50 words)</p> <p>N/A</p>
<p>Activities (50 words)</p> <p>N/A</p>
<p>Achievements (50 words)</p> <p>N/A</p>

8. Please list the UK/collaborative (where there are partners in addition to the applicant organisation) and host country partners that will be involved, and explain their roles and responsibilities in the project. Describe the extent of their involvement at all stages, including project development. This section should illustrate the capacity of host country partners to be involved in the project. Please provide written evidence of partnerships. Please copy/delete boxes for more or fewer partnerships.

<p>Partner Name:</p> <p>Zambesi Society</p>	<p>Details (including roles and responsibilities and capacity to engage with the project):</p> <p>The Zambezi Society (Zamsoc), an established conservation NGO (see www.zamsoc.org), that has previously undertaken assessments of the sustainability of leopard trophy hunting, has initiated the National Strategy for leopard conservation and brought together the partners for this project. Zamsoc will liaise closely with Parks and Wildlife Management Authority, Zimbabwe, research staff and local stake-holders, organise and run technical and management workshops, co-ordinate permissions and logistics for surveys, maintain the project website and disseminate results and information. Zamsoc is represented on the Zimbabwe CITES technical committee and is therefore in a key position to ensure implementation of the recommendations of this project. Dr G Purchase (Project Liaison officer) and Mr D Purchase (Director Zamsoc) collaborated with WildCRU in the preparation of this funding application. Zamsoc will be the recipient of all host country DI funding should this application be successful.</p>
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Partner Name: Parks and Wildlife Management Authority	Details (including roles and responsibilities and capacity to engage with the project): Parks and Wildlife Management Authority, Zimbabwe (PWMA) is an independent parastatal authority responsible for management of protected areas and biodiversity, sustainable use of wildlife, population monitoring, and evaluation of CITES and other quotas. PWMA has officially commissioned this research and assigned a staff member to the project to facilitate and coordinate research and compilation of data. PWMA are the management authority responsible for formulation of policy and implementation of management recommendations, as well as being the body responsible for implementation of CITES legislation. Hence recommendations of this project can be translated into changes to policy and management. PWMA will provide access to official government records and databases. Staff time and resources will be made available in the CITES office, hunting and administration offices, permits office, scientific services and in regional national parks. PWMA will receive no direct funding through this application. Ms R Madisodza (PWMA Research Services Office) collaborated in design of this study and writing of this proposal.
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9a. Have you consulted stakeholders not already mentioned above? Yes No

Project partners have been exploring the feasibility of a national leopard study to determine ecological sustainability of leopard trophy hunting since the end of 2006. The leopard hunting industry in Zimbabwe involves a very diverse range of stakeholders. Project partners have consulted in person with the following:

1. The two Rural District Council Offices that will be involved in the project and with the CAMPFIRE Association, as these two institutions represent the rural farming communities that live with leopards (see attached letters of support).
2. The Safari Operators Association of Zimbabwe, and the Zimbabwe Professional Hunters and Guides Association of Zimbabwe who represent the companies and individuals involved in leopard hunting respectively (see attached letters of support).
3. The Forestry Commission, as leopard hunting occurs in all their main estates (see attached letter of permission to use two key forestry areas for research).
4. The three main wildlife conservancies of the country (Save Valley, Buby Valley and Midlands) as these are strongholds for wildlife outside of the PWMA estates (see attached letter of support from Buby Valley).

In addition to consulting with the above stakeholders in person, the PWMA and the Zambezi Society have used email and our website to distribute information about the proposed project and requested feedback from a wider audience. Since posting the project details on the website we have had feedback from the Wildlife Environment Society of Zimbabwe (both Mashonaland and Matebeleland branches) and various individual stakeholders. We anticipate that the website will continue to provide a platform to receive comments and suggestions from stakeholders both within and outside of the country.

We are exploring the options of working collaboratively with Rhodes University in South Africa, incorporating their proposed leopard study in a key area of Zimbabwe into this larger national project. We have also had input from a number of members of the IUCN Cat Specialist Group.

9b. Do you intend to consult other stakeholders? Yes No **If yes, please give details:**

The project partners, in the process of developing this project, have identified a number of initiatives undertaking leopard research or conservation in other southern African countries where leopards are hunted as trophy animals, those identified so far are listed below:

1. The Large Carnivore Project, Niassa Nature Reserve, Mozambique
2. Ezemvelo KwaZulu-Natal Wildlife
3. Wildlife Producers Association of Botswana
4. The Botswana Predator Conservation Trust

5. Shashe Limpopo Predator Research Group.

We have already been in contact with most of these projects and intend to make contact the other projects during the next few months to explore opportunities for collaboration and sharing of experience. The project anticipates holding Regional Workshops during the lifetime of the project that will seek to bring together expertise of this kind to build consensus on issues involving leopard conservation and management and to share experience and enhance regional collaboration.

9c. Have you had any (other) contact with the government not already stated? Yes No

If yes, please give details:

All government (Rural District Councils), parastatal (PWMA, Forestry Commission) and NGO stakeholders (CAMPFIRE Association) have already been consulted.

9d. Is any liaison proposed with the CBD/CMS/CITES focal point in the host country? Yes No

If yes, please give details:

The CITES office in Zimbabwe is housed at the PWMA headquarters in Harare under the auspices of the "CITES and Conventions Office". This office houses personnel with oversight of environmental conventions and agreements to which the government of Zimbabwe is a signatory, including the Convention on Biodiversity and Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Fauna and Flora. PWMA research officer, Ms R Mandisodza, is stationed at the PWMA headquarters and will be working directly with staff from the CITES and Conventions office during the course of the project. The office will be an integral part of the project, both as a source of information and as recipient of results and recommendations. Under the direction of the PWMA, a CITES Technical Committee, comprising representatives of all stakeholders meets once a year. Zamsoc is a member of this committee, and recommendations on control and management of leopard quotas relevant to CITES will be introduced directly via this committee.

PROJECT DETAILS

10. Please provide a Concept note (Max 1,000 words) (repeat from Stage 1, with changes highlighted)

The leopard (*Panthera pardus*) is a top predator in African ecosystems, both within the protected area network and on commercial and subsistence farmlands. Trade in leopards is restricted by CITES. They are economically important to many countries in Africa as a major tourist attraction and an important trophy hunting species. As a sustainably managed resource leopards contribute significantly to revenue generation and enhancement of livelihoods, as well as conservation of natural habitats throughout Zimbabwe. Because the species occurs widely outside national parks it could act as a flagship species to encourage the protection of functioning ecosystems, particularly in areas where other large charismatic mammals have been extirpated.

There is concern that trophy hunting of leopards in Zimbabwe is not sustainable and may threaten the long-term viability of the species even within the protected area network. The capacity of the Parks and Wildlife Management Authority (PWMA) and the wider hunting industry to monitor and manage sustainable hunting is limited. There are few reliable data available on the distribution and population viability of leopards within the country, nor on the impact that trophy hunting has on population dynamics. Collection of these data would allow rationalisation of Zimbabwe's current trophy hunting and CITES quotas (currently 500 leopards per year) and inform future management. PWMA have identified, as key priorities, the need to demonstrate that trophy hunting activities are non-detrimental to the viability of leopard populations and to design and implement a robust management strategy for the species that will ensure benefit sharing and include compensation for livestock depredation. PWMA have officially invited The Zambesi Society (Zamsoc) and The Wildlife Conservation Research Unit (WildCRU) to undertake this work.

The project (specifically identified as a Darwin Initiative Project) will have two key elements. Firstly, it will collect baseline distribution, population viability and behavioural ecological data on leopard populations aimed at assessing the impacts of trophy hunting and other processes on the conservation status of the

species. Secondly, working closely with PWMA and local and regional stakeholders, it will develop and implement a National Management Strategy for leopards, including training of PWMA staff to undertake monitoring and management. Specifically, we will: (1) Undertake a national leopard survey to assess populations (using spoor counts to provide indices of abundance). We have permissions in place to survey 12 protected areas as well as a number of conservancies and farming areas, covering a range of ecotypes, rainfall zones and land-use types. There is scope for wider regional participation and use of these data as a predictive tool to estimate leopard population size in the region. Further, we will simultaneously survey other carnivore and large mammal species, adding extra value to the surveys and providing baseline ecosystem data. (2) Measure the impacts of trophy hunting on leopard behavioural ecology and population dynamics in Hwange National Park (fully protected) and adjacent Matetsi Safari Area (hunting area). This detailed study will use radio-telemetry to identify and follow the fate of individual leopards and will also serve as a calibration of population survey indices. There is potential to add value and strengthen results and capacity to provide robust management recommendations by extending this part of the project as additional funding allows. Permissions are already in place to do so. (3) Compile and analyse historical data from rural district councils (RDCs) and PWMA to inform current management and assess trends. (4) Provide public information and disseminate findings and information through a website, printed pamphlets, workshop reports and scientific peer reviewed publications. (5) Produce survey manuals and train approximately 25 PWMA, 5 RDC, 5 Forestry Commission and hunting field staff in survey and monitoring protocols. Two Zimbabwean graduates work as field officers, gaining valuable experience, potentially leading to higher degrees. 2-3 graduate PWMA staff involved with the project will apply for fully sponsored places (dependent on satisfying entry requirements) on the Oxford Post-Graduate Conservation Diploma Course. At the end of the project we anticipate handover of monitoring activities, structures and databases to host country conservation management bodies and personnel trained during the project. This will be a significant legacy for the project. (6) Organise management workshops to develop monitoring systems (trophy and population monitoring), provide technical transfer and facilitate collaboration between scientists and managers in the region, ultimately resulting in a stakeholder driven and designed National Management Strategy.

This project will assist Zimbabwe in fulfilling its obligations under CITES to regulate trade in specimens of species included in Appendix I and will assist the country's CITES technical committee in assessment of non-detriment findings for the species (CITES, Article III, 2a). In addition, it will address measures outlined in the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) to ensure sustainability of utilisation of components of biodiversity (CBD Article 10), to identify, monitor and minimise processes with negative impacts on biodiversity and highlight potential for sustainable use (CBD Article 7b, c, d). Finally, the project will encourage co-operation between PWMA, conservation NGOs and private sector (CBD Article 10).

The project will be undertaken as a three-way partnership between PWMA, Zamsoc and WildCRU (Oxford University) with additional funding leveraged from local and international sources. PWMA, the institution responsible for conservation and resource management in the country, has provided the necessary permissions to facilitate this project and has allocated a staff member (Ms Roseline Mandisodza) to assist with project co-ordination and implementation and collation of historical data. Zamsoc is a conservation NGO with experience in field surveys, community resource management and implementation and facilitation of conservation action. Dr Gianetta Purchase (Zamsoc) is a carnivore specialist with extensive experience working with local stakeholders, PWMA and organising and co-ordinating carnivore surveys and research in the Zambezi Basin. The project will benefit from the extensive expertise and experience of WildCRU, a UK institution renowned for using high quality science to tackle practical conservation problems. WildCRU researcher Dr Andrew Loveridge brings ten years of experience in big cat field research and conservation to the project. In addition, we will be collaborating and consulting with the Safari Operators Association of Zimbabwe (SOAZ), local RDCs and conservancies.

11a. Is this a new initiative or a development of existing work (funded through any source)?**Please give details:**

This is essentially a new initiative, however we have run some pilot surveys, undertaken initial feasibility assessments, made preliminary investigations of available management data and have already started building relationships with stakeholders and project partners.

11b. Are you aware of any other individuals/organisations/Darwin Initiative projects carrying out similar work? Yes No

If yes, please give details explaining similarities and differences, and explaining how your work will be additional to this work and what attempts have been/will be made to co-operate with and learn lessons from such work for mutual benefits:

Project partners have communicated with a number of other individuals and organisations that are either conducting research on leopard population biology or have projects planned. None of these projects covers the full scope of this proposed project or replicates activities proposed in this application. In all cases the individuals and organisations involved have indicated a willingness to collaborate and share information where necessary, recognising the need for effective national scale management of leopards. These collaborations will contribute to the overall aims of this proposed project.

1. Chipangali Wildlife Trust has recently completed a small-scale study of the home ranges and diet of leopards in the Matopos National Park, the results of which are pending. Population surveys were not, however, conducted in this national park and it will, therefore, be incorporated into the national leopard survey planned under the proposed project.
2. A small-scale leopard biology study was initiated in a small subsection of the Save Valley Conservancy in May 2008 where leopard densities, population size and home ranges will be determined. The principal researcher, Mr D Joubert, has agreed to use similar methodologies to those proposed by this project, and share information and baseline data from this ecoregion of Zimbabwe not covered by this project.
3. An MSc study on leopard population is planned for the Marula area of Zimbabwe in 2009 by Rhodes University in South Africa. Project partners and Rhodes University have agreed that the MSc project will fall under this proposed national scale project, with full collaboration by all parties involved.
4. Various properties have individual leopards collared and monitored and it is anticipated that the Project Liaison Officer will ensure that these results are also incorporated into national planning where appropriate.
5. A number of leopard ecology and conservation projects have been undertaken in the southern African regional (Niassa Reserve, Mozambique; Shashe Limpopo Transfrontier Park; Phinda Reserve, Kwazulu-Natal). Liaison and knowledge sharing is anticipated with all these projects through regional workshops organised by this project.

12. Please indicate which of the following biodiversity conventions your project will contribute to:

- At least one must be selected.
- Only indicate the conventions that your project is directly contributing to.
- No additional significance will be ascribed for projects that report contributions to more than one convention.

Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) Yes NoCITES Yes NoConvention on Migratory Species (CMS) Yes No**What problem is this project addressing and how was it identified? (150 words)**

Leopards are an important component of naturally functioning ecosystems. However, a lack of data on leopard populations impedes effective conservation of the species and its habitats. Furthermore, leopards are hunted for sport in Zimbabwe with a CITES quota of 500 individuals each year. Few data are available on the impact hunting has on leopard populations to show that off-take is non-detrimental. Stakeholders (particularly PWMA) are concerned current hunting may be unsustainable because current quota setting models use historical habitat availability as a proxy for leopard population size, despite

known habitat degradation, increasing human populations and changing land use (resulting in increasing leopard-livestock conflict). Reassessment of current leopard management policy and practice is urgently required, but is hampered by lack of expertise and capacity within management institutions. This project will address these problems by collecting baseline data, providing management training and facilitating development of a stakeholder driven National Leopard Management Strategy.

What will change as a result of this project? (150 words)

This project will enhance knowledge of leopard populations, their distribution and dynamics of hunted populations, allowing effective, science-based conservation and management of the species. Validation of leopard population size and standardisation of population and trophy hunting monitoring methods will enable accurate assessment of leopard hunting quotas based on current data rather than historical precedent. This knowledge, by ensuring trade is non-detrimental to the species, will allow CITES obligations to be met. Conservation of leopards as flagship species will facilitate maintenance and expansion of wildlife habitat, particularly in areas from which other large carnivores have been eliminated. Furthermore, sustainable use of leopards allows revenue generation and sharing. Training and capacity building undertaken by this project will train managers in monitoring techniques and ensure that management and monitoring continues beyond the life of the project. Field data, training, raising awareness and network building will facilitate formulation of national policy for the species.

Why is the project important for the conservation of biodiversity? (150 words)

Predators are crucial for regulation of natural ecosystems. Leopards occur widely and can act as a flagship species encouraging protection of habitat across many land use types. Leopards are a significant resource for tourism and trophy hunting. Use of reliable data to control and monitor hunting and other off-take will ensure sustainability of leopards as a valuable component of biodiversity. The project aims to link quota setting directly to maintenance and conservation of leopard habitat and populations. Maintenance and rehabilitation of leopard habitat will preserve and enhance current levels of biodiversity in areas leopards occur. Through training and awareness building the project will improve knowledge of biodiversity and the need to conserve it. We will highlight the need for improved management, habitat protection and tolerance of leopards in order to ensure sustainable benefits are generated from the species, reducing the likelihood of habitat conversion and activities that negatively impact biodiversity.

How does this relate to one or more of the biodiversity conventions? (150 words)

Improved management and monitoring of leopard population size and distribution, and trophy hunting off-take will assist the host country in meeting its obligations as a signatory to CITES with regards to sustainable management of an Appendix 1 species (CITES Article III, 2a). Improved knowledge of leopard populations and the potential impacts of utilisation on populations of this species will allow robust non-detriment findings to be made annually by the host country's CITES technical committee.

Sustainable use of components of biodiversity and identification of threats to biodiversity through collection of reliable data and implementation of monitoring protocols are aspects of the project that will assist the host country in addressing needs outlined in the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD, Article 7a, b, c, Article 10). Conservation of leopards, a flagship species, has the potential to maintain significant areas of habitat, thereby preserving and enhancing current levels of biodiversity (CBD, Article 7).

13. How will the results of the project be disseminated; how will the project be advertised as a Darwin project and in what ways will the Darwin name and logo be used? (max 200 words)

Project stakeholders and the general public will be kept informed of the progress and results of the study through meetings, technical and progress reports and popular and peer-reviewed articles. A website will be maintained giving details of project aims, activities and results. A quarterly newsletter will be

produced for host country stakeholders. Regional workshops will be held to disseminate information and facilitate information exchange between local and regional stakeholders, scientists and conservationists. Local training workshops will provide managers with training and information about the project and the importance of biodiversity conservation. We will publish, where possible, articles in popular periodicals and the press (in host country and UK) to publicise the project. Monthly and annual progress reports will be prepared for PWMA and will be made available to stakeholders. We aim to publish peer-reviewed papers on scientific aspects of the project. The support of The Darwin Initiative for Biodiversity will be acknowledged by incorporating the words 'A Darwin Initiative for Biodiversity Project' and the Darwin Initiative logo alongside the leopard project and institutional logos on reports, presentations, newsletters, posters, websites and project research vehicles, and acknowledgement will be given to the Darwin Initiative in all published papers and articles.

14. What will be the long term benefits of the project in the host country or region and have you identified any potential problems to achieving these benefits? (max 200 words)

Baseline information on leopard populations, impact of hunting and other off-take and protocols for future monitoring and management will be established. High quality data and increased capacity to make well-informed evaluations of leopard trophy hunting quotas within key management institutions will create a foundation for effective and sustainable management of leopards. This will ensure long-term benefits to communities and incentivise leopard conservation. Further, demonstrated non-detriment to wild populations of a CITES Appendix I species will enable Zimbabwe to fulfil its obligations as a signatory to CITES. Long-term project legacy will be maintaining leopards as a key component of ecosystems and as flagships for protection, maintenance and regeneration of suitable habitat and its constituent biodiversity.

Turnover of trained staff with consequent failure to maintain monitoring could potentially impact project legacy. However Zamsoc is a dynamic local NGO and continued engagement with the issues and transfer of knowledge is anticipated beyond the end of the project. Lack of political will and co-operation within the hunting industry could be problematic. However, stakeholders have been heavily involved in project design and extensive consultation has been undertaken to ensure their buy in. Additionally, there is a strong desire within PWMA to manage leopards sustainably.

15. State whether or not the project will reach a stable and sustainable end point. If the project is not discrete, but is part of a progressive approach, give details of the exit strategy and show how relevant activities will be continued to secure the benefits from the project. Where individuals receive advanced training, for example, what will happen should that individual leave? (max 200 words)

Design and implementation of a National Leopard Management Strategy, endorsed by the Ministry of the Environment, and handed over to host country stakeholders by the end of the third year is the logical end point for this Darwin Initiative Project. This document will be an enduring legacy of the project's efforts and a significant outcome and reference point for leopard conservation in the host country and wider region. In addition, results from our ecological field study will be disseminated and incorporated into the body of scientific knowledge at the end of the study.

Leopard conservation will continue to be a focus for PWMA and Zamsoc. A number of aspects of the project are expected to continue beyond the lifespan of the Darwin project. These include population monitoring (through survey protocols established during the project and continued addition to baseline datasets collected), trophy measurements and management databases. We expect to have set milestones for each of these aspects of the project and have handed databases, training manuals (ensuring continued knowledge transfer) and monitoring protocols to relevant host country personnel and institutions. With training provided by this project we expect that host country institutions will continue to build upon these milestones.

16. If your project includes training and development, please indicate how you will assess the training needs in relation to the overall purpose of the project. Who are the target groups? How will the training be delivered? What skills and knowledge do you expect the beneficiaries to obtain. How will you measure training effectiveness. (max 300 words) You should address each of these points.

- | |
|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Initial consultations with stakeholders have revealed that few field staff/rangers involved in managing leopard populations have expertise to conduct surveys or carry out detailed fieldwork. There is a need to train staff both in the PWMA and the wider leopard hunting community to ensure data is available for management. • Stakeholders and the PWMA have indicated that the following target groups need both field and administrative training: field managers (PWMA wardens, CAMPFIRE officers, landowners, operators and professional hunters), field staff (rangers and scouts), research staff and PWMA administration staff. |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Training will be delivered based on the training needs of the target groups. 2–3 research staff will attend a Diploma course (provided by Oxford University). The PWMA and Zamsoc will provide in-house training programmes for administrative staff and develop appropriate training manuals. WildCRU will continually conduct on-the-job field training exercises throughout the project. • Managers will be encouraged to increase their understanding of population and trophy quality trends and the link between these parameters and off-take in order to set sustainable quotas (WildCRU, Zamsoc). Field and research staff will learn low cost spoor and trophy quality monitoring techniques (WildCRU, PWMA and Zamsoc). Research staff will be trained in basic analysis of leopard population data (WildCRU) and basic GIS training (Zamsoc, Peace Parks Foundation). Administrative staff will be trained in the management of databases to monitor off-take and allocate sustainable quotas (PWMA and Zamsoc). |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The effectiveness of the training proposed will be measured by: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Number of training courses held and number of personnel trained b. Improved quality of data submitted to PWMA by stakeholders and staff for monitoring purposes c. The use of submitted data, databases and GIS training by PWMA managers to revise quotas annually and submit valid non-detrimental finding reports to CITES. |

LOGICAL FRAMEWORK

17. Please enter the details of your project onto the matrix using the note at Annex 3 of the Guidance Note. This should not have substantially changed from the Logical Framework submitted with your Stage 1 application. Please **highlight any changes**. (Use no smaller than Arial 10 pt)

Project summary	Measurable Indicators	Means of verification	Important Assumptions
Goal: Effective contribution in support of the implementation of the objectives of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), the Convention on Trade in Endangered Species (CITES), and the Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species (CMS), as well as related targets set by countries rich in biodiversity but constrained in resources.			
Sub-Goal: Promote leopards as ecological flagships to reduce loss of biodiversity in whole ecosystems and as components of biodiversity to be sustainably used to generate revenue to benefit people.	Leopard populations are stabilised and increase, leopard habitats are conserved, providing protection for other components of biodiversity. Use of species is managed within sustainable limits.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Non-detriment findings by National CITES Technical Committee submitted to CITES for the species • Future surveys show leopard habitats are better protected and leopard populations healthy 	
Purpose To collect ecological and management data to support a National Leopard Management Strategy and to build local and regional consensus to create and implement a conservation strategy to manage leopards and their habitats on a sustainable basis.	Increased understanding of the distribution, viability and previous management of leopard populations and improved motivation, capacity and tools to monitor and manage them.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Survey data and technical information published as reports and peer reviewed papers, workshop reports published and disseminated • Information made publicly available to raise awareness • National Leopard Management Strategy published 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ecological data collected through continuing collaboration of project partners • Workshops are attended by stakeholders and consensus reached on leopard management • Political motivation to protect and manage leopards as a sustainable resource is in place
Outputs 1. National leopard survey provides knowledge of distribution, population viability and wider ecosystem that will inform national management.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Surveys of distribution and abundance of leopards and other mammals undertaken in 12 protected areas, 2 conservancies and 2-3 rural districts councils (years 1 and 2) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Technical survey report published and made available to stakeholders • Information made available via websites and pamphlets • Peer reviewed papers submitted for publication 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Permissions remain in place to undertake surveys, collaboration between partners continues • Methods appropriate to survey leopards and suitable data collected and analysed
2. Impacts of trophy hunting on behavioural ecology and population viability recognised and incorporated into management during the life of the project and ultimately into policy through a National Management Strategy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Technical knowledge gained in years 1-3 by project scientists on the impacts of trophy hunting on behavioural ecology and viability of leopard populations, and put forward for inclusion in national planning, changes in management and policy 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Technical reports made to PWMA yearly • Results and recommendations disseminated nationally and regionally through websites and printed material • Peer reviewed scientific papers submitted for publication 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Permissions remain in place to undertake research • Suitable and sufficient data collected using appropriate research tools • Data analysed and made available for use by managers

3. Trends in past management and utilisation identified and used to inform management during the life of the project and incorporated into the National Management Strategy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Database of historical leopard management and utilisation compiled by project staff by year two 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Database available to managers Reports disseminated to stakeholders and via project website Peer reviewed papers submitted 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Data made available by stakeholders, RDCs, PWMA Data effectively collated by project staff
4. Sustainable management of leopard populations and leopard habitats implemented through National Leopard Management Strategy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> National Leopard Management Strategy workshop held to devise strategy, in consultation with and attended by all stakeholders in year three 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Workshop reports prepared and disseminated National Leopard Management Strategy disseminated to stakeholders, approved by Minister 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Co-operative relations established with all stakeholders Stakeholders and resource managers willing to contribute to and adopt a management strategy
5. Improved regional collaboration and technical exchange between conservation managers and scientists in southern Africa	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Regional technical and management meetings organised by the project (years 1 and 2). Potential regional collaborations set up to enhance project impact 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Two regional technical and management workshops facilitated, with scientists and managers invited from region Workshop reports prepared and disseminated 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Regional scientists willing and motivated to collaborate with the project Scope exists for regional collaboration
6. Local conservationists monitor important components of biodiversity, using skills acquired during project, leading to improved monitoring of leopard trophy hunting off-takes and management of leopard populations and their habitats	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 25 PWMA (field and administration staff), 5 RDC, 3 Forestry and hunting staff trained in monitoring of leopard populations, trophy hunting and survey methods 2-4 Zimbabweans gain valuable training and experience on project, 2-3 Zimbabwean graduates receive diplomas 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Annual reports to PWMA Annual project reports Pre-survey training sessions at all 17 sites to be included as part of national survey 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Staff motivated to learn and apply new skills Staff continue to be supported by PWMA and RDCs in conducting monitoring and management activities Most project trained staff remain in conservation organisations Entry requirements met by applicants for diploma course

Activities (details in workplan)

- 1.1 National leopard survey to determine leopard population size and distribution at ~17 sites across the country
- 1.2 Baseline survey data compiled. Results disseminated, reports to decision makers in management institutions, data inform quota allocation, CITES non-detriment findings
- 2.1 Detailed ecological study to measure the demographic impacts of trophy hunting, undertaken at hunted and un-hunted study sites, results inform management strategy
- 2.2 Results disseminated, published in relevant peer reviewed journals, lessons inform management of leopards and setting of hunting quotas
- 3.1 To inform future management, data on historical leopard hunting and management trends compiled, database analysed for trends in quota allocation, trophy size, off-take
- 3.2 Identify shortcomings of system and future management requirements. Propose solutions as part of National Strategy based on field/ historical data
- 4.1 Design a stakeholder driven National Leopard Management Strategy through participatory workshop
- 4.2 Approval sought by project partners from Minister for Environment & Tourism for National management strategy. Strategy endorsed
- 5.1 Two Regional technical workshops, attended by regional and local scientists, conservationists and managers, organised. Knowledge transferred and collaborations established
- 5.2 Workshops reports (2) compiled, published and distributed to all stakeholders and workshop participants
- 6.1 Identify training needs, conduct field training exercises (surveys, radio-tracking, analysis of data), conduct in-house training programmes for administration staff
- 6.2 Develop training manuals where needed (e.g., survey manual; quota allocation; trophy measurement protocols). Manuals used in conjunction with training sessions
- 6.3 Identify host country personnel for Diploma training course

Monitoring activities:

Indicator 1: Robust data available via monitoring data (collected by project-trained staff and with project protocols) to show that leopard off-take is demonstrably sustainable and allowing annual report, based on scientific evidence, to be made to CITES, by the CITES technical committee

Indicator 2: Leopard utilisation sustainable and populations stable (indicated by comparison of future surveys against baseline data collected by project) leading to habitat protection and improved benefits generated for stakeholders and communities

18. Provide a project implementation timetable that shows the key milestones in project activities. Complete the following table as appropriate to describe the intended workplan for your project.

Activity	Months	Year 1				Year 2				Year 3			
		1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4
1.1 National survey to determine leopard population size and distribution at ~17 sites across the country	30	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x		
1.2 Baseline survey data compiled in database. Results disseminated (reports, articles, peer-reviewed papers, website). Reports to decision makers within management institutions (workshops, meetings, monthly and annual reports), data inform future trophy quota allocation and CITES non-detriment findings and National Leopard Management Strategy.	8				x				x			x	x
2.1 Detailed ecological study (~25-30 leopards tagged, camera traps deployed to determine demographic structure, survival/ mortality rates determined) to understand and measure the demographic impacts of trophy hunting, undertaken at a hunted and un-hunted study site	36	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
2.2 Results disseminated (reports, articles, website, regional/ management workshops, conferences), published (2-3 papers) in relevant peer reviewed journals, lessons inform management of leopards and setting of hunting quotas and design of National Leopard Management Strategy	8				x				x			x	x
3.1 To inform future management, data on historical leopard hunting and management trends compiled, database analysed for trends in quota allocation, trophy size, off-take.	12	x	x	x	x								
3.2 Identify shortcomings of current system and future management requirements. Propose solutions as part of National Management Strategy, design sustainable quota allocation (potentially based on sustainable 'leopard hunting units' on basis on field/ historical data)	24					x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
4.1 Design a stakeholder driven National Leopard Management Strategy through participatory workshop at end of year three, strategy document produced by project partners	4											x	x
4.2 Approval sought by project partners from Minister for Environment and Tourism for National management strategy. Strategy endorsed by minister	1												x
5.1 Two Regional technical workshops, attended by regional and local scientists, conservationists and managers, organised. Knowledge transferred and collaborations established	3				x				x				
5.2 Workshops reports compiled published and distributed to all stakeholders and workshop participants	10				x	x			x	x			
6.1 Identify training needs, conduct field training exercises (on-the-job experience gained in surveys, radio-tracking, analysis of data), conduct in	36	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x

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	house training programmes for administration staff (database management, GIS, data analysis, quota setting and management)												
6.2	Develop training manuals where needed (eg spoor survey manual; quota allocation; trophy measurement protocols). Manuals used in conjunction with training sessions	30		x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	X
6.3	Identify suitably trained personnel for Diploma training course and facilitate and encourage course applications	3	x				x				x		

19. Please indicate which of the following Standard Measures you are likely to report against. You will not necessarily plan to cover all these Standard Measures in your project.

Standard Measure No	Description	Tick if Relevant
1A	Number of people to submit thesis for PhD qualification (in host country)	
1B	Number of people to attain PhD qualification (in host country)	
2	Number of people to attain Masters qualification (MSc, MPhil etc)	
3	Number of people to attain other qualifications (i.e., Not outputs 1 or 2 above)	3
4A	Number of undergraduate students to receive training	
4B	Number of training weeks to be provided	
4C	Number of postgraduate students to receive training	3
4D	Number of training weeks to be provided	60
5	Number of people to receive at least one year of training (which does not fall into categories 1-4 above)	4
6A	Number of people to receive other forms of education/training (which does not fall into categories 1-5 above)	
6B	Number of training weeks to be provided	100
7	Number of (ie different types - not volume - of material produced) training materials to be produced for use by host country	2
8	Number of weeks to be spent by UK project staff on project work in the host country	75
9	Number of species/habitat management plans (or action plans) to be produced for Governments, public authorities, or other implementing agencies in the host country	1
10	Number of individual field guides/manuals to be produced to assist work related to species identification, classification and recording	2-3
11A	Number of papers to be published in peer reviewed journals	4
11B	Number of papers to be submitted to peer reviewed journals	4
12A	Number of computer based databases to be established and handed over to host country	2
12B	Number of computer based databases to be enhanced and handed over to host country	
13A	Number of species reference collections to be established and handed over to host country(ies)	
13B	Number of species reference collections to be enhanced and handed over to host country(ies)	
14A	Number of conferences/seminars/ workshops to be organised to present/disseminate findings	4
14B	Number of conferences/seminars/ workshops attended at which findings from Darwin project work will be presented/ disseminated.	2
15A	Number of national press releases in host country(ies)	2-3
15B	Number of local press releases in host country(ies)	2-3
15C	Number of national press releases in UK	
15D	Number of local press releases in UK	
16A	Number of newsletters to be produced	12
16B	Estimated circulation of each newsletter in the host country(ies)	75
16C	Estimated circulation of each newsletter in the UK	
17A	Number of dissemination networks to be established	2
17B	Number of dissemination networks to be enhanced/extended	
18A	Number of national TV programmes/features in host country(ies)	
18B	Number of national TV programmes/features in UK	
18C	Number of local TV programmes/features in host country(ies)	
18D	Number of local TV programmes/features in UK	
19A	Number of national radio interviews/features in host county(ies)	1
19B	Number of national radio interviews/features in UK	
19C	Number of local radio interviews/features in host country(ies)	2-3
19D	Number of local radio interviews/features in UK	
20	Estimated value (£'s) of physical assets to be handed over to host country(ies)	
21	Number of permanent educational/training/research facilities or organisations to be established and then continued after Darwin funding has ceased	
22	Number of permanent field plots to be established during the project and continued after Darwin funding has ceased	
23	Value of resources raised from other sources (ie in addition to Darwin funding) for project work	£ 116,250

PROJECT BASED MONITORING AND EVALUATION

20. Describe, referring to the Indicators in the Logical Framework, how the progress of the project will be monitored and evaluated, including towards delivery of its outputs and in terms of achieving its overall purpose. This should be during the lifetime of the project and at its conclusion. Please include information on how host country partners will be included in the monitoring and evaluation.

- 1) Progress of National Leopard Surveys will be monitored through compilation of technical reports detailing results of each survey, submitted annually to PWMA and stakeholders in year 1 and 2, and 1-2 scientific papers submitted to journals by year 3. This will increase knowledge of population viability and distribution across the country.
- 2) Gains in technical knowledge of the demographic impacts of trophy hunting will be monitored during the project through annual reports submitted to project stakeholders and PWMA, through presentations given at regional workshops and other meetings and information made publicly available on websites. At the end of the project knowledge and understanding will be incorporated into and used to inform National Management Strategy for the species, and 2-3 peer-reviewed papers will be submitted for publication.
- 3) Databases will be established to compile data on historical hunting and management of leopards. Ongoing data analysis will be included in interim reports and disseminated at workshops, meetings and in annual reports. Peer-reviewed publications will be prepared and submitted by year 3. These outputs will be used to monitor progress of this aspect of the project.
- 4) The organisation and success of the workshop organised to design a National Strategy will be monitored through a detailed report compiled and the design and publication of the National Leopard Management Strategy document. Formal adoption of this document and endorsement of it by the Minister of Environment and Tourism at the conclusion of this 3-year project will be a further indicator of the success of this activity. This document will be a benchmark indicating improved co-ordination and management of leopards in the country.
- 5) Reports of regional workshops in year 1 and 2 will be compiled, published and disseminated and will be indicators of successful regional knowledge transfer and improved opportunities for collaboration amongst scientists and managers in the region.
- 6) Training will be monitored through the number of field and administrative staff (~33) trained, 2-4 staff receiving on-the-job training and 2-3 host country graduates receiving a diploma. Details of training given will be included in monthly and annual project reports to PWMA to facilitate monitoring of progress during the project lifetime. Indicator of success will be an improvement in quantity and quality of data on leopard populations and management submitted to PWMA resource managers.

FUNDING AND BUDGET

Please complete the separate Excel spreadsheet which will provide the Budget information for this application. Some of the questions below refer to the information in this spreadsheet.

NB: Please state all costs by financial year (April to March). Use current prices – and include anticipated inflation, as appropriate up to 3% per annum. The Darwin Initiative will not be able to agree increases in grants to cover inflation on UK costs once grants are awarded.

21. How is your organisation currently funded? (max 100 words)

WildCRU is currently funded through a diversity of grants from charitable sources including non-government organisations, private benefactors and corporations, together with grants and contracts from statutory agencies for conservation. WildCRU receives no direct financial support to undertake research or conservation action through Oxford University or the Department of Zoology.

22. Provide details of all confirmed funding sources identified in the Budget that will be put towards the costs of the project, including any income from other public bodies, private sponsorship, donations, trusts, fees or trading activity. Please include any additional unconfirmed funding the project will attract to carry out additional work during or beyond the project lifetime. Indicate those funding sources which are confirmed.

Confirmed:

Matched funding for this project totals £XXX. The British Embassy, Harare has contributed £XXX towards project costs. Panthera Foundation funds are being made available via WildCRU (£XXX per year). Nissan Motors, Zimbabwe has already made a vehicle available at cost price (value of sponsorship: £XXX). The Wilderness Trust has approved a £XXX funding application for purchase of camera traps (for use on ecological component of project).

Unconfirmed:

Nissan Motors, Zimbabwe, has made a second vehicle available at cost price to the project (sponsorship worth £XXX0). We are currently looking for sponsored funding to cover the remaining costs of this vehicle. HHK Safaris have indicated that they are likely to fund an application in 2009. Mazunga Safaris indicate that they would be able to contribute to the project in partnership with other donors and it is hoped that Darwin Initiative funding will provide leverage to secure these funds.

KB Davies (a private company), have indicated that they are willing to contribute towards the purchase costs of a project vehicle. DIMON (a multinational tobacco company) and Chifuti Safaris have been approached for funding and we are awaiting their response.

23. Please give details of any further funding resources (confirmed or unconfirmed) sought from the host country partner(s) or others for this project that are not already detailed in the Budget or Question 22. This will include donations in kind or un-costed support eg accommodation. (max 50 words per box)

Financial resources:

Financial resources currently available to support this work are already included in the project costings presented in this proposal. However project partners will continue to fundraise as opportunity allows through the life of the project.

Funding in kind:

ZAMSOC – office space, facilities

PWMA – office space, staff and staff time in relevant departments, fees waived, accommodation

Peace Parks Foundation – free GIS training and software

Safari operators – access, accommodation and field staff and logistical support

CAMPFIRE, FORESTRY – waiver research and entry fees, field staff, accommodation

Wildlife Environment Zimbabwe – Logistical support

FCO NOTIFICATIONS

Please check the box if you think that there are sensitivities that the Foreign and Commonwealth Office will need to be aware of should they want to publicise the project's success in the Darwin competition in the host country.

Please indicate whether you have contacted the local UK embassy or High Commission directly to discuss security issues (see Guidance Notes) and attach any advice you have received from them.

Yes (no written advice)

Yes, advice attached

No

CERTIFICATION 2009/10

On behalf of **The Chancellors, Masters and Scholars** of University of Oxford

I apply for a grant of **£XXX** in respect of expenditure to be incurred in the financial year ending 31 March 2010 on the activities specified in the above application. **The amount requested has increased slightly from the initial application due to the salary increases announced during October 2008 (Our Admin colleague confirmed with Darwin that this would be acceptable)**

I certify that, to the best of our knowledge and belief, the statements made by us in this application are true and the information provided is correct. I am aware that this application form will form the basis of the project schedule should this application be successful. (This form should be signed by an individual authorised by the lead UK institution to submit applications and sign contracts on their behalf.)

I enclose a copy of the organisation's most recent audited accounts and annual report (please see: http://www.ox.ac.uk/about_the_university/facts_and_figures/financial_statements.html), CVs for project principals and letters of support.

Name (block capitals)	Dr Dan Blakey
Position in the organisation	Research Fund Manager, Research Services

Signed

Date:

Stage 2 Application - Checklist for submission

	Check
Have you provided actual start and end dates for your project?	X
Have you provided your budget based on UK government financial years ie 1 April – 31 March?	X
Have you checked that your budget is complete, correctly adds up and that you have included the correct final total on the top page of the application?	X
Is the concept note within 1,000 words?	X
Is the logframe no longer than 2 pages and have you highlighted any changes since Stage 1?	X
Has your application been signed by a suitably authorised individual? (clear electronic or scanned signatures are acceptable)	X
Have you included a 1 page CV for the Project Leader, any other UK staff working 50%+ on this project, and for a main individual in each overseas partner organisation?	X
Have you included a letter of support from the main overseas partner organisations?	X
Have you checked with the FCO in the project country/ies and have you included any evidence of this?	X
Have you included a copy of your most recent annual report and accounts? http://www.ox.ac.uk/about_the_university/facts_and_figures/financial_statements.html	X
Have you read the Guidance Notes ?	X

Once you have answered Yes to the questions above, please submit the application, not later than midnight GMT on **Monday 1 December 2008** to Darwin-Applications@itsi.co.uk using the application number (from your Stage 1 feedback letter) and the first few words of the project title **as the subject of your email**. However, if you are e-mailing supporting documentation separately please include in the subject line an indication of the number of e-mails you are sending (eg whether the e-mail is 1 of 2, 2 of 3 etc). **In addition**, a hard copy of the application and any supporting documents not available electronically should be submitted to the Darwin Applications Management Unit, c/o ECTF, Pentlands Science Park, Bush Loan, Penicuik EH26 0PL **postmarked** not later than **Tuesday 2 December 2008**.

DATA PROTECTION ACT 1998: Applicants for grant funding must agree to any disclosure or exchange of information supplied on the application form (including the content of a declaration or undertaking) which the Department considers necessary for the administration, evaluation, monitoring and publicising of the Darwin Initiative. Application form data will also be held by contractors dealing with Darwin Initiative monitoring and evaluation. It is the responsibility of applicants to ensure that personal data can be supplied to the Department for the uses described in this paragraph. A completed application form will be taken as an agreement by the applicant and the grant/award recipient also to the following:- putting certain details (ie name, contact details and location of project work) on the Darwin Initiative and Defra websites (details relating to financial awards will not be put on the websites if requested in writing by the grant/award recipient); using personal data for the Darwin Initiative postal circulation list; and sending data to Foreign and Commonwealth Office posts outside the United Kingdom, including posts outside the European Economic Area. Confidential information relating to the project or its results and any personal data may be released on request, including under the Environmental Information Regulations, the code of Practice on Access to Government Information and the Freedom of Information Act 2000.