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be effected as soon as damage to the status of that species is observed. In fixing the present quotas the Department has had to depend on the impressions of the game rangers in each area rather than on actual counts and any changes that will be made will be dependent on impressions. The technique of counting game in various habitats to enable more accurate assessments of numbers to be made is under examination by the biologist and it may be possible in time to introduce a form of strip counting by officers which can be done in conjunction with other duties and which will provide more accurate figures than can be obtained at present.

#### PARTIAL GAME RESERVES

A number of new partial game reserves was created in 1957 for the protection of particular species. As mentioned earlier, it became necessary to protect sable and roan antelope, greater kudu and lion in the Western Province until the pattern of controlled areas could be finalised. Four such controlled areas have now been instituted and hunting of these species is once more permitted in the Nyamwezi area of the Province.

It is likely that once the programme has been completed of closing the remaining good game areas to hunting save on controlled area permits many of the existing partial game reserves may be removed.

#### III.—GAME CONTROL

Control of marauding animals has once more occupied much of the department's staff. The present method of dealing with raiding elephant consists of shooting one or two animals in the hopes that the rest of the herd will leave the area. Sometimes this is effective, but only for a short period, and no permanent alleviation results.

The Game Ranger, Nachingwea, has given this matter considerable thought and has found that raiding is commonly done by bulls and for this reason bulls are shot on control. But the movement of bulls is governed by the seasonal movements of female herds and if a bull is shot he is killed, but the female herd remains and, with it, other attendant males who will continue to raid until the female herd moves off.

Mr. Nicholson has found that by shooting a female out of a herd in the vicinity of cultivation, the herd will move away and the raiding bulls will follow. This has been proved in practice in the Southern Province. But it may well be that when the herd settles down again it will find itself close to another settled area and raiding will commence there.

In the Southern Province there is a large uninhabited area to the north forming part of the Selous Game Reserve. The Game Ranger conceived the idea that if he could direct the movement of a herd after shooting the first female—possibly by shooting one or more females—he might be able to drive a herd through the intervening bush and cultivation into the game reserve and keep it there. He put this into practice in Tunduru District and succeeded in moving about 150 elephants from residual bush areas adjacent to cultivation to the Selous reserve, a distance of fifty miles, at the expense of ten elephants.

It is hoped that this method of elephant control can be extended in 1958 since it appears to offer a more permanent solution than the method hitherto used.

Increased hunting in Portuguese East Africa drove considerable numbers of elephant across the Ruvuma River and this, combined with poor rains in the south and the attendant increase in raiding, necessitated the destruction of over 300 more elephants than in 1956.

Possibly as a result of the good rains in other parts of the territory at the beginning of the year and the flooding of considerable areas along the edges of rivers and lakes, damage by hippo was accentuated in many areas. In North Mara District the department has demonstrated the erection of simple, cheap fences against hippo. Calls for assistance are now rarely heard.

Damage by lion was nowhere on a large scale and few calls were made on the department. One game scout, who was called out to deal with an allegedly unwounded lion, was mauled by a wounded leopard! Another game scout was mauled by a lion which had broken through the wall of a hut onto him. It was an old and mangy beast and was subsequently hunted and despatched by a party of game scouts.

A number of drives against baboon and monkeys were organised by the department with varying success. It seems obvious that no means has yet been devised that will rid the country of these pests and that the best remedy is to exclude them from cultivated areas. Wire fences and live fences continue to give the best results and are being used successfully on an increasing scale throughout the territory.

#### IV.—RESEARCH

A number of items of research have been undertaken during the course of the year. The urgent need for information on the ecology of game populations was brought to the fore by the enquiry into the future of the Serengeti National Park and by the Department's introduction of a system of regulated hunting in controlled areas.

##### *Biologist's Report.*

A programme of investigation by the biologist into the ecology of game animals was started and encouraging progress has been made. A setback occurred when the biologist was obliged to move to a new working area in August due to the change in status of a considerable portion of the Mkungunero Controlled Area, where ecological work had been begun. The new working area is in the Tarangire Game Reserve in Mbulu District and a biological field station is being constructed.

The objects of the research programme may be summarized as follows:—

- (a) to investigate animal numbers and methods of assessing game populations;
- (b) to obtain information on the carrying capacity of different types of country;
- (c) to assess the potential rate of increase of game populations and the factors limiting the increase;
- (d) to gain knowledge of the habitats of the different species, including food and water requirements;
- (e) to investigate breeding behaviour, territory and migration; and, finally
- (f) to apply the results of this research to the system of game management that has been introduced into certain controlled areas.

The scope of this programme is large and, in view of the small numbers of staff available to carry it out, it may be expected to fill many years of work. It is hoped that the establishment of some basic principles will be possible over the first two or three years. Thereafter, the study of the different types of habitat will constitute a series of separate problems.

##### *Game Scouts' Course in Ecology.*

In conjunction with his field study programme, the biologist commenced a study course for game scouts with the object of giving selected scouts a training in simple aspects of ecological work. It is hoped that those trained will be able to assist game rangers in enumeration and other field work. It has been found that most scouts show an aptitude for remembering the identities of plant species as well as for making routine observations such as are required on game transects.

##### *Rhino Survey.*

Hunting has reduced the rhino population to a dangerously low level. A survey by members of the Department and other observers has been started to ascertain the status of rhino throughout the territory. From the data that are being accumulated information will emerge on which management regulations may be based.

Similar surveys on the status of lion and cheetah—species whose numbers have diminished appreciably during the past five years—will be undertaken in the near future. A start on the lion survey was, in fact, made during the year when the Department assisted Mr. Bruce S. Wright, of the North-eastern Wildlife Station of Canada, in his investigation into predator-prey relationships among the large cats. Observations on kills, pride composition, numbers and distribution were recorded.

DETAILS OF GAME SANCTUARIES (AS AT 31ST DECEMBER, 1957)—contd.

Status	Name	Area	Created	Boundary description contained in	District or Province	More noteworthy animals or animals specially protected
Partial Game Reserve	Ulanga ... ..	—	1953	Cap. 302, Eighth Schedule, Item 19.	Ulanga	Rhino, greater kudu, Nyasa wildebeest.
	Kilombero ... ..	—	1956	G.N. No. 262 of 1956.	Ulanga	Puku.
	Western Province ... ..	—	1957	G.N. No. 23 of 1957, Item 20, amended by G.N. 387 of 22.11.57.	Western Province	Roan and sable antelope, greater kudu and lion.
	Musoma ... ..	—	1957	G.N. No. 53 of 1957, Item 21.	Musoma	Roan.
	Chem-chem ... ..	50 sq. m.	1957	G.N. No. 199 of 1957, Item 22.	Mbulu	Rhino.
	Karagwe ... ..	25 sq. m.	1957	G.N. No. 214 of 1957, Item 23.	Bukoba	Sitatunga.
	Maswa District ... ..	—	1957	G.N. No. 289 of 22.11.57, Item 24.	Maswa	Lion.

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DANGEROUS GAME KILLED BY THE DEPARTMENT, 1953-1957

Species	1953	1954	1955	1956*	1957
Elephant ... ..	2,516	2,283	1,923	1,674	2,040
Rhinoceros ... ..	68	68	84	22	33
Buffalo ... ..	218	218	212	188	189
Hippopotamus ... ..	583	583	605	552	433
Leopard ... ..	26	26	19	39	28
Lion ... ..	18	18	19	32	24

\*Figures not complete for West Lake Range.

CONVICTIONS OBTAINED IN DISTRICT COURTS FOR OFFENCES AGAINST THE FAUNA CONSERVATION ORDINANCE DURING THE PERIOD 1953-57

Offence	Section	Number of Convictions:					
		1953	1954	1955	1956*	1957	
Hunting in a Game Reserve ... ..	5	29	11	30	13	7	
Entering a Game Reserve without a Permit ... ..	6	41	9	23	28	20	
Carrying a Weapon in a Game Reserve ... ..	7	3	—	10	9	4	
Causing a Fire or felling Trees in a Game Reserve ... ..	8	5	—	—	8	—	
Hunting in a Controlled Area without a Permit ... ..	11	—	—	2	6	38	
Hunting Game Animals without a Licence ... ..	12	171	86	85	135	195	
Transferring a Game Licence ... ..	13(4)	—	—	—	2	—	
Hunting Unscheduled Animals without a Permit ... ..	18	17	13	—	3	5	
Failure to report Disqualification ... ..	21	7	—	1	—	—	
Failure to carry a licence while Hunting ... ..	23	—	3	—	4	5	
Hunting Royal Game without a Licence ... ..	24	—	—	15	9	16	
Failure to report intention to hunt Dangerous Animals ... ..	26	3	—	—	1	10	
Cruelty ... ..	29	3	—	—	—	—	
Failure to report wounding a Dangerous Animal ... ..	30	1	—	—	2	2	
Unlawful loan of a Weapon ... ..	31	3	—	—	—	17	
Hunting on private Land without permission ... ..	32	1	—	—	—	—	
Hunting Young Animals ... ..	33	10	—	6	1	1	
Using Unlawful Methods of Hunting ... ..	34	26	19	35	63	111	
Shooting Vermin in Specified Area ... ..	35	—	—	—	—	—	
Selling Game Meat without Permission ... ..	36	10	17	12	18	33	
Destruction of Trophies without a Licence ... ..	37	2	—	2	3	2	
Illegally importing or transferring a Trophy ... ..	40	1	—	—	—	—	
Unlawful Possession of prescribed Skins ... ..	41	—	—	—	3	—	
Failure to produce Trophies to Licensing Officer ... ..	42	—	—	—	—	—	
Unlawful transfer of Trophies ... ..	45	—	—	—	5	—	
Failure to produce a Government Trophy ... ..	48	1	26	—	—	4	
Unlawful Possession of Government Trophy ... ..	49	101	70	171	169	159	
Failure to produce Licence, Obstruction of Officers, etc. ... ..	51	—	2	—	3	1	
Failure to stop at a Barrier when ordered to do so ... ..	52	—	1	—	—	1	
Total ... ..	—	435	265	394	496	632	

\*Figures not complete for West Lake Range.

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