



Policy and Considerations on Hunting

Policy

Many countries utilise hunting as a wildlife conservation and management tool within the broader framework of sustainable use programmes. When unmanaged or improperly managed, hunting can have serious detrimental impacts on wildlife, however managed correctly and based on scientific understanding of species population's dynamics it has proven to be an effective conservation tool; especially when managing habitats and threatened species.

Cobourg Hunting Safari - recognises the diversity of cultural attitudes, opinions and ethics with regards to hunting. Ultimately it is up government and local communities to determine and implement strategies that best serve the wildlife and the people of the Northern Territory (Garig Gunak Barlu National Park is jointly managed by the Traditional Owners of Cobourg and NT Parks and Wildlife).

Background

Cobourg Hunting Safari is a legitimate Aboriginal hunting business managed by Directors Dwayne Wauhcope (member of the Agalda Clan / Traditional Owners of Araru) and Darren Crawley; both men are working to achieve long term sustainable employment for the local people of West Arnhem Land (employment opportunities where none existed before).

Hunting takes place within the national park only within approved hunting zones and is carefully controlled and managed by NT Parks and Wildlife. Hunted species **only**: Buffalo, Sambar Deer, Bangteng and Feral Pigs.

Cobourg Hunting Safari - hunting will:

- have direct benefits for threatened species and biodiversity within the national park and provide opportunities for local people to care for country
- help generate an income for the local people of West Arnhem Land
- help manage destructive wildlife that may threaten human safety
- enable direct vigilance and support – reduce illegal hunting and habitat alterations
- generate revenue for the NT Parks and Wildlife which in turn will go back into managing the park for the future.

As such Cobourg Hunting Safari holds the position that hunting is a potential conservation tool used within the park and is part of an overall bigger conservation strategy. We have in place all licenses, insurances, operational agreements and permits; and are transparent in our record keeping, data management and information sharing in relation to our hunting activities.

Moving forward we will continue to consult and work in harmony with the community and the various stakeholder groups to help protect and preserve this beautiful environment for the future benefit of all.

