

# Proposal to the African Elephant Fund

1.1 Country: Nigeria

1.2 Project Title: Supporting SMART Ranger Patrols at Yankari Game Reserve to strengthen Law Enforcement and Reducing Elephant Poaching

1.3 Project Location: Yankari Game Reserve

1.4 Overall Project Cost: \$108,268

AMOUNT Requested from African Elephant Fund: \$20,860

1.5 Project Duration: 12 months

1.6 Project Proponents: Federal Ministry of the Environment in collaboration with the Wildlife Conservation Society.

1.7 Name of Project Supervisors: (1) Fidelis Omeni and (2) Andrew Dunn

1.8 Address of Project Supervisors: 1) Federal Ministry of Environment, Department of Forestry, Plot 393/394 Augustus Aikhomu Way, Utako District, Abuja, Nigeria; and (2) Bishop Moynagh Avenue, Calabar, Cross River State, Nigeria

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1.12 Date proposal submitted: October 2014

2.0 Project Summary: (not more than 250 words)

The project aims to **Reduce Illegal Killing of Elephants and Illegal Trade in Elephant Products** by providing support to increase the frequency and effectiveness of ranger patrols to combat poaching within Yankari Game Reserve. Yankari contains what is probably Nigeria's last viable elephant population. Managed by Bauchi State Government since 2006 as a game reserve, the protection and management of Yankari has been neglected and under-funded in recent years. As a result there has been an upsurge in elephant poaching and the ivory trade, numerous elephants have been shot and killed (approximately 10 carcasses are discovered each year and it is likely that the true figure is much higher). It is suspected that the population has declined from the 348 counted by an aerial census in 2006 and will continue to decline without urgent intervention. Although satellite collars placed on two elephants in October 2013 and March 2014 by North Carolina Zoo have helped focus limited resources on

the main elephant herd; there are insufficient resources available to protect the whole reserve.

Recent years have seen a major downturn in tourism revenues from the reserve due to the instability created by Boko Haram and others in northern Nigeria. Bauchi State Government is increasingly short of funds and appears to lack the political will and financial resources to provide sufficient protection for the reserve. Most of the funding, and management of the rangers, is provided by the Wildlife Conservation Society. However these funds are insufficient to protect the whole reserve. The proposed project will provide support for ## additional ranger patrols: field rations, camping allowances, arrest bonuses and fuel.

3.0 Which Priority Objectives and Activities (there may be more than one) in the African Elephant Action Plan does this project fall under? (For ease of reference, Priority Objectives are attached under Appendix 1)

This project addresses AEAP Priority Objective 1: Reduce Illegal Killing of Elephants and Illegal Trade in Elephant Products and AEAP Priority Objective 2: Maintain Elephant Habitats and Restore Connectivity

AEAP Priority Activity 1.1.3: Equip wildlife authority staff on the frontline of enforcement with appropriate tools to carry out their mission as safely and as effectively as possible.

AEAP Priority Activity 2.4.1: Provide adequate resources for effective management of existing protected areas and dispersal areas

4.0 Project Rationale – why is this project necessary and urgent? What threats face this elephant population (give, for example, what information you have regarding population details, trends in population (downward or upward), ivory seizure information, details about levels of poaching, human/elephant conflict, etc.).

Due to the instability created by Boko Haram and others in northern Nigeria, there has been a major downturn in tourism revenues from the reserve. As a result, Bauchi State Government is increasingly short of funds and appears to lack the political will and financial resources to provide sufficient protection for the reserve. In recent years it has been left to the Wildlife Conservation Society, Nigeria Program, to provide most of the funding to support the management and protection of the reserve. These funds are insufficient to protect the whole reserve and it is not certain how much longer the current project can continue.

Approximately 10 elephant carcasses are recorded each year and from this it is estimated that as many as 20 elephants could be killed each year for their ivory. This level of offtake is unsustainable and the elephant population is declining. Human-elephant conflict is also a growing problem in the communities surrounding Yankari, and since no compensation is paid to farmers for crops

damaged by elephants there is increasing hostility towards the reserve and its elephants.

5.0 Detailed Proposal – including activities to be carried out, milestones (at least quarterly milestones), timelines, equipment to be purchased, reporting procedures, etc. (not more than 1000 words). It will be helpful in evaluating this Project Proposal if you divide it into Phases such as Planning; Procurement; Implementation; Evaluation and Reporting

Should include anticipated benefits (including benefits to the conservation and management of elephant populations and communities) and outputs from the project, and how the project will be monitored and evaluated.

**Planning:** a law enforcement needs assessment of Yankari Game Reserve was completed by Conservation Outcomes in 2012. Detailed logistical planning for weekly patrols will be done by the WCS project manager and senior rangers. Regular feedback from the rangers, elephant satellite collars and use of CyberTracker/SMART, will be used to increase effectiveness of patrol planning,

**Procurement:** field rations for ranger patrols will be purchased locally and from local farmers including rice, oil, sardines, salt. Fuel for vehicles used to support ranger patrols will be purchased in Bauchi and transported to Yankari in drums.

**Implementation:** patrols will be organised by the WCS project manager based at Wikki camp in the centre of the reserve. Teams of 6-7 rangers employed by Bauchi State Government will undertake weekly camping patrols for 5-6 days. Patrols are foot-based but have close vehicle support. At the end of each patrol data will be entered into the SMART database.

**Monitoring and Evaluation:** WCS will provide a monthly report from Yankari on the number of patrols achieved, the number of arrests made and the number of elephant carcasses discovered. At the end of the project a representative of the Federal Ministry of Environment will visit Yankari to evaluate the effectiveness of the project.

**Reporting:** a comprehensive final report will be submitted by the Ministry of Environment in collaboration with project partners: Bauchi State Government and WCS.

#### **Anticipated Outputs and Benefits**

*Output 1:* Four anti-poaching ranger patrols organized each week. These camping patrols last 5-6 days.

*Benefit 1:* anti-poaching patrols reduce levels of elephant poaching; field allowances improve level of morale among rangers.

*Output 2:* SMART training workshop organized for rangers, building on their existing CyberTracker skills and knowledge.

*Benefit 2:* introduction of SMART at Yankari improves law enforcement monitoring at the site.

*Output 3:* monthly reports circulated, and quarterly reports posted on [www.wcsnigeria.org](http://www.wcsnigeria.org)  
*Benefit 3:* the effectiveness of the project is constantly monitored and all stakeholders fully engaged and committed.  
*Output 4:* an evaluation report produced.  
*Benefit 4:* the impact of the project is known and acknowledged by all project stakeholders.

6.0 Project Timeline – outline the timeline for proposed activities within this project. You may find it helpful to relate the timeline to the Phases identified in Section 5.0 above.

	Month 1	Month 2	Month 3	Month 4
Purchase of field rations & fuel	X	X	X	X
4 weekly patrols organized	X	X	X	X
SMART training workshop		X		
Monthly & quarterly reports	X	X	X	X
Evaluation & final report				X

**BUDGET**

7.0 Has this project received or been pledged any other sources of funding (external)? Give all relevant details (for example, amount, source of funds, timetable, any restrictions):  
 Other sources of funding for this project include the African Elephant Conservation Fund of the US Fish and Wildlife Service (\$18,000), Omaha Zoo (\$3,000) and the Wildlife Conservation Society (\$12,408).

7.1 Please provide a detailed proposed budget for this project (in US\$). You may find it helpful to relate expenditure to the Phases you have set out in Section 5.0

Field supplies (patrol rations @ \$1,400 per month): \$8,400; SMART training workshop: \$1,000; purchase of 4 ruggedized PDAs for running CyberTracker/SMART @ \$1,380 each, total = \$5,520; vehicle running and maintenance @ \$680/month x 12 months, total = \$4,896; fuel for generator @ \$62/month x 12 months, total = \$744; communication @ \$87/month x 12 months, total = \$300. **TOTAL \$20,860**

Details included in Table annexed to the document below:

7.2 Please specify the proponents contribution towards the project: Bauchi State Government (in-kind contribution, salaries of 30 rangers): \$54,000; USFWS: \$18,000; Omaha Zoo: \$3,000; WCS: \$12,408

Please submit the completed proposal, either by:

Email:

Fax:

You should receive acknowledgement of receipt of your proposal within 14 days.  
If you do not receive such an acknowledgement, please telephone:

Further details on any of the above details may be requested by the Steering  
Committee of the African Elephant Fund.

<b>Full Proposal Budget</b>				
<b>Budget line</b>		<b>Expected source of funds and amounts</b>		
		<b>Bauchi State Government</b>	<b>AEF</b>	<b>Other (USFWS, Omaha Zoo &amp; WCS)</b>
1.	Salaries for rangers @ \$150/ranger/month x 30 rangers x 12 months	\$54,000		
2.	Field supplies: Field/patrol rations @ \$1,400/month x 12 months		\$8,400	\$8,400
3.	SMART training workshop		\$1,000	
4.	Patrol allowances @ \$1,750/month x 12 months			\$21,000
5.	Field equipment: 4 SMART enabled CyberTrackers @ \$1,380 each		\$5,520	
6.	Vehicle running and maintenance @ \$680/month x 12 months		\$4,896	\$3,264
7.	Utilities: Fuel for generator @ \$62/month x 12 months		\$744	
8.	Communication: Voice and data @ \$87/month x 12 months		\$300	\$744
		\$54,000	\$20,860	\$33,408