

The Second Pillar of Conservation: Value from Sustainable Use

“Use of wild living resources, if sustainable, is an important conservation tool because the social and economic benefits derived from such use provide incentives for people to conserve them”

IUCN policy statement (2000).

Prof. Robert KENWARD, DPhil, DSc,

**Sustainable Use Specialist Group (Europe) of
the World Conservation Union (IUCN) Species
Survival Commission (SSC)**



IUCN: the World Conservation Union

- Founded in 1948, a unique worldwide partnership:
- 83 states, 110 government agencies, >800 NGOs
- ca. 1100 staff in 40 countries
- ca. 10,000 expert volunteers in 181 countries
- 6 commissions (Species Survival, Ecosystems, World Parks, Socio-Economics, Education, Law)
- 4-yearly World Congress: 2008 in Barcelona
- Initiates much environmental policy:

From Bern 1979 to Barcelona 2008

Bern Convention 1979, EU Directives

Protection of Species and Habitat

Convention on Biological Diversity, 1992

Properly implemented in Europe?

CBD Malawi 1998 (Ecosystem Approach)

Continuum from Strict Protection to Intensive Use

Johannesburg World Summit 2002

Environment and Socio-Economic Sustainability

CBD 2004 + Millenium Ecosystem Assessment

Addis Ababa Principles+Guidelines for Sustainable use

Bern Convention 2007

European Charter for
Hunting and Biodiversity

Convention on Biological Diversity

Rio de Janeiro 1992

- Defines Sustainable Use: of components of biodiversity in a way and at a rate that does not lead to the long term decline of biological diversity, **thereby maintaining its potential to meet the needs and aspirations of present and future generations.**
- Includes Sustainable Use in **13 of 19** substantive articles

(www.biodiv.org)

Convention on Biological Diversity

Each Contracting Party shall, as far as possible and appropriate:

- Art.10c: Protect and encourage customary use of biological resources in accordance with traditional cultural practices that are compatible with conservation or sustainable use requirements.
- Art 11: Adopt economically and socially sound measures that act as incentives for the conservation and sustainable use of components of biological diversity.

From Bern 1979 to Barcelona 2008

Bern Convention 1979, EU Directives
Protection of Species and Habitat

Convention on Biological Diversity, 1992
Sustainable Use provisions neglected in Europe

Strategy (since 1999) in Europe of IUCN
Sustainable Use Specialist Group

1. Raise awareness of Sustainable Use benefit
2. Develop tools for implementation
(Policy Tools, Knowledge Tools)

Confused views of Sustainable Use

A PROBLEM ?

“If people must use wildlife, we should at least make sure that the use is sustainable.”

A RIGHT ?

“At last some conservationists understand that our right to use wildlife is justified.”

A SOLUTION !

“A way of helping wild resources to compete economically with other uses of land.”

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Millennium Ecosystem Assessment: Ecosystem Services and Land-Use

| | |
|--------------|--|
| Supporting | <i>Primarily public goods, state regulated and public funded.</i> |
| Regulating | <i><u>Biodiversity needed?</u></i> |
| Provisioning | <i>Extensively private goods, can become intensive crops, but use of wild resources can increase biodiversity benefit and promote de-intensification</i> |
| Cultural | |

How can de-intensification help reverse biodiversity loss?

Understanding of causes is growing.

For 30 declining bird species in UK, Prof. Ian Newton (2004, *Ibis* 146:579-600) identifies:

(i) weed control, (ii) early ploughing, (iii) grassland management, (iv) intensified stocking, (v) hedgerow loss & (vi) predation.

All can be addressed, in many cases by de-intensification measures that have low cost

Who pays for conservation?

State (taxation e.g. EU reformed CAP)

– long-term sustainable?

Private (e.g. sustainable use of flora & fauna)

– conserves large areas in Africa

– and Scottish grouse moors

– but can it conserve much more EU land?

– is it worth much in Europe anyway?

Policy Tools & Awareness Raising

2002-7 ESUSG-WISPER guidelines

from Austrian criteria for sustainable hunting
**‘to enhance the sustainability of hunting
management and practices in Europe’**

Built into Bern Charter on Hunting and Biodiversity

....

2006-7 GEM-CON-BIO in EU framework 6

**Governance & Ecosystem Management
for Conservation of Biodiversity**

(www.gemconbio.eu)

UNWIRE Case Study of ESUSG:

Use Nationally of Wild Resources across Europe

UNWIRE: ESUSG country coordinators in 27 states surveyed NGOs federated for:

- Recreational fishing (European Anglers All.)
- Bird-watching (BirdLife Partners)
- Collecting fungi (Europ.Council Cons.Fungi)
- Collecting wild plant materials (Plantlife)
- Hunting Game-Birds (e.g. grouse, ducks)
- Hunting Ungulates (deer, boar) (CIC, FACE)

Value & Governance Questions

Government Officials too

19 Languages

Participation & annual EU spend on wildlife related activities

| | Proportion of EU popn surveyed | EU participants grossed up millions | Annual spend € billions |
|-------------------|--------------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------|
| Hunting | 96-100% | 6.6 | 16 |
| Angling | 64-94% | 23 | 19 |
| Collecting: Fungi | 42% | [45] ¹ | |
| Plant Products | 7% | [135] ¹ | |
| Bird-Watching | 81% | 6.2 | {8} ² |

^{1,2}unreliable due to [low survey%]{few spend data}

Annual spend in EU on Hunting, Angling and Bird-watching is likely to be at least €40 Billion.

US SPEND: Hunting Fishing Watching

USA

in 2001

\$21 billion

\$36 billion

\$39 billion

Government survey each 5 years since 1985; in 2001 82 million adults (1/3 population) spent \$108 billion.

UK VALUE: IUCN-UK survey Wealth from the Wild
€7.2 billion, 58,000 jobs, 30-50% value of agriculture

€1.6 billion

€4.5 billion

€0.5 billion

EU SPEND: UNWIRE – More than €40 billion

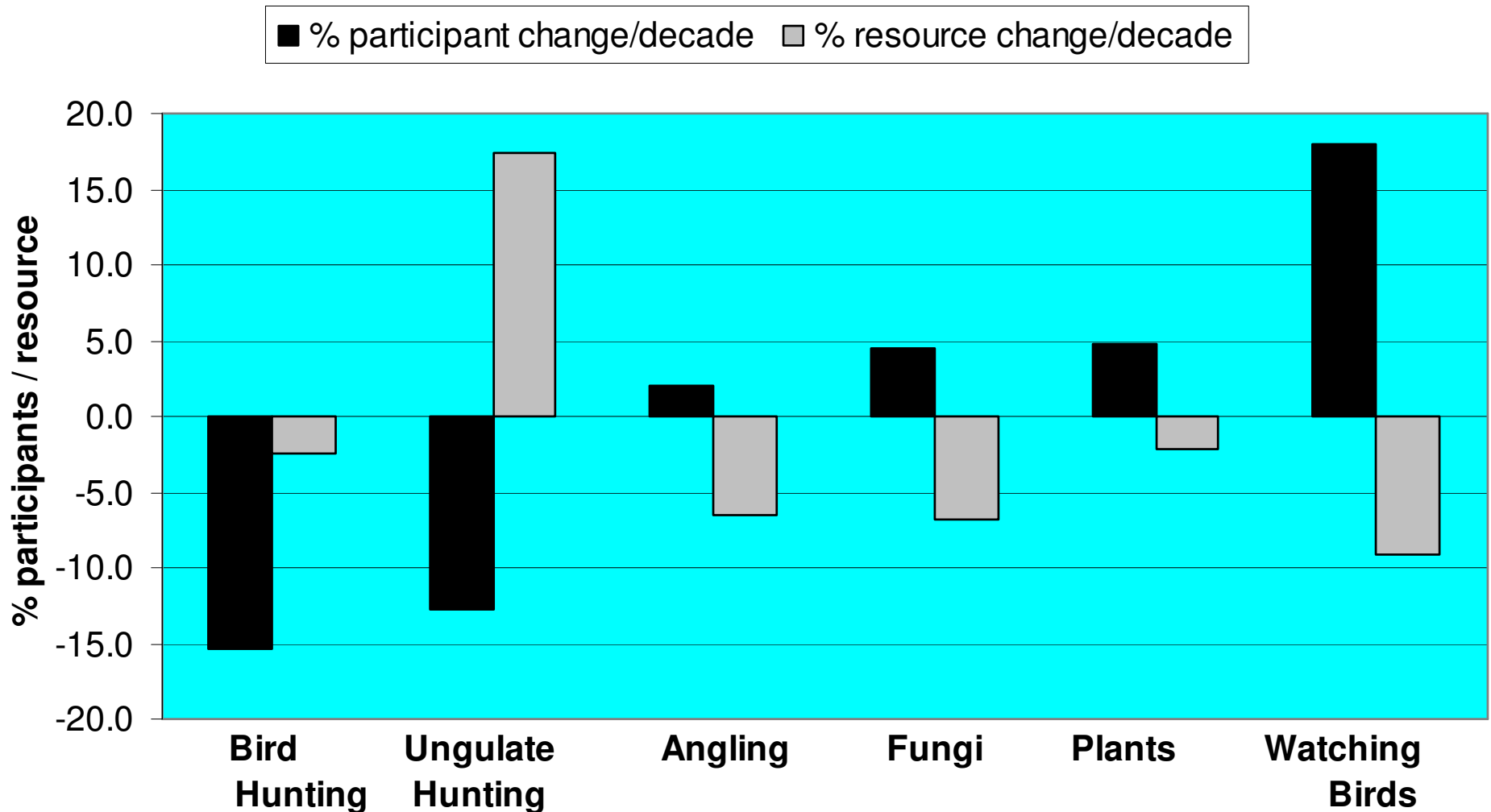
€16 billion

€19 billion

€8 billion

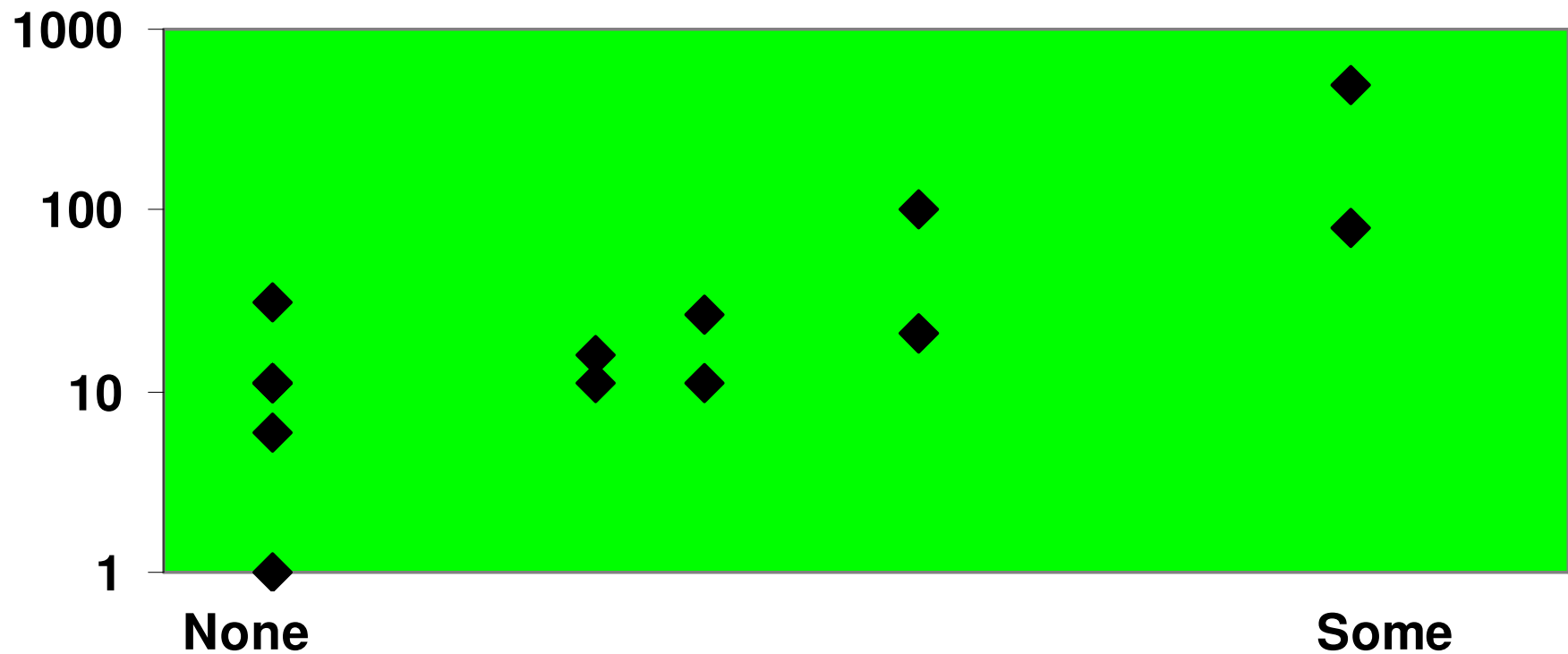
BUT WHY NO SYSTEMATIC EU SURVEY?

Trends in Participation & Resources



Governance Data: e.g. positive views on Hunting benefit Bird-watching?

Increase (%) for each country during 1996-2006 in number of Bird-Watchers



Rating of Bird-Watchers for Biotope benefit from Hunting

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Bern Charter: Hunting & Biodiversity

- Charter: rulers + ruled (multi-level governance)
- Based on Malawi Principles(12) + Addis Ababa(14)
- Synthesis to 12 simple principles, e.g.:
 1. Favour multi-level governance that maximises benefit for conservation and society
 2. Ensure that regulations are understandable and respected
 3. Ensure that harvest is ecologically sustainable

Bern Charter: Hunting & Biodiversity

6. Encourage use to provide economic incentives for conservation
8. Empower local stakeholders and hold them accountable
9. Competence and responsibility are desirable among users of wild resources
12. Encourage acceptance of sustainable and consumptive use as a conservation tool by the public and other conservation interests

(<http://iucn.org/themes/ssc/susg/sub/europe.htm>)

Two Pillars for Conservation

Protection (sticks)

- Laws for Species
- Habitat Reserves
- Educational
- 12% of land (16%)
- Simple (polarising)

Conservation = Protection

Two Pillars for Conservation

Protection (sticks)

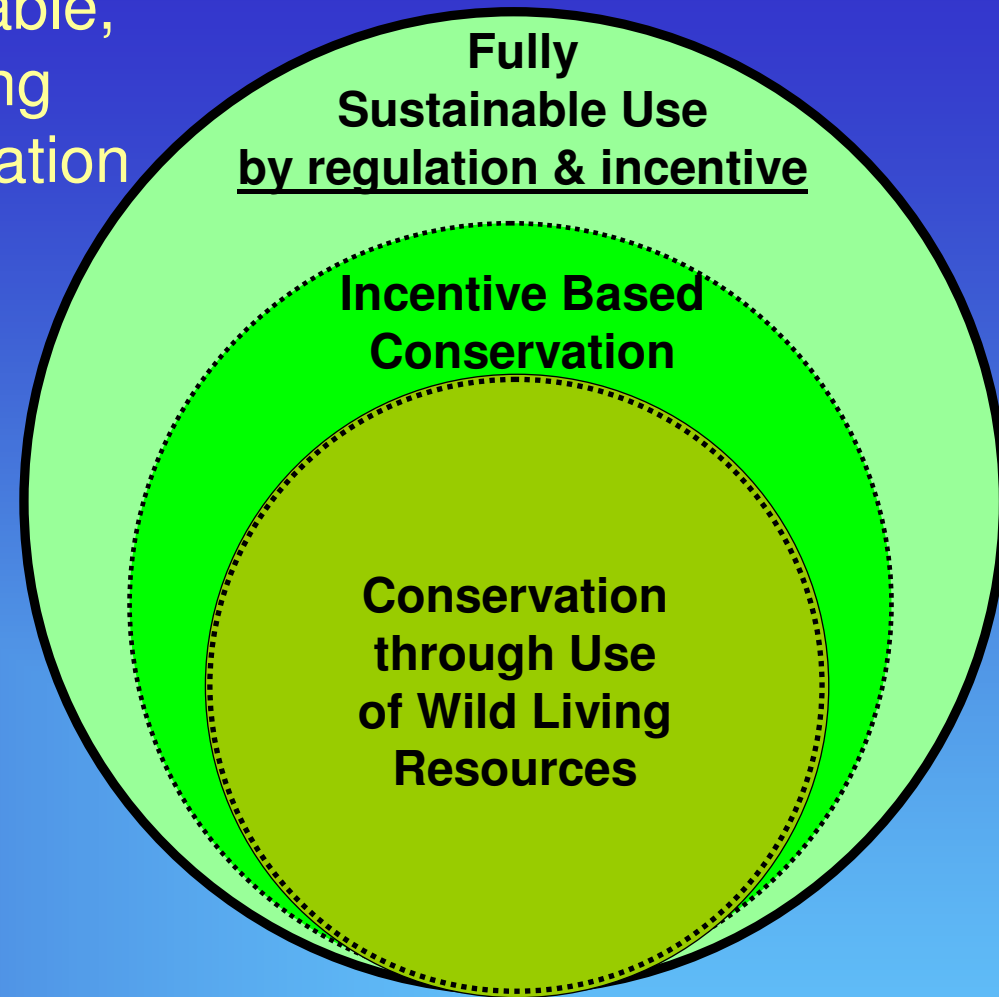
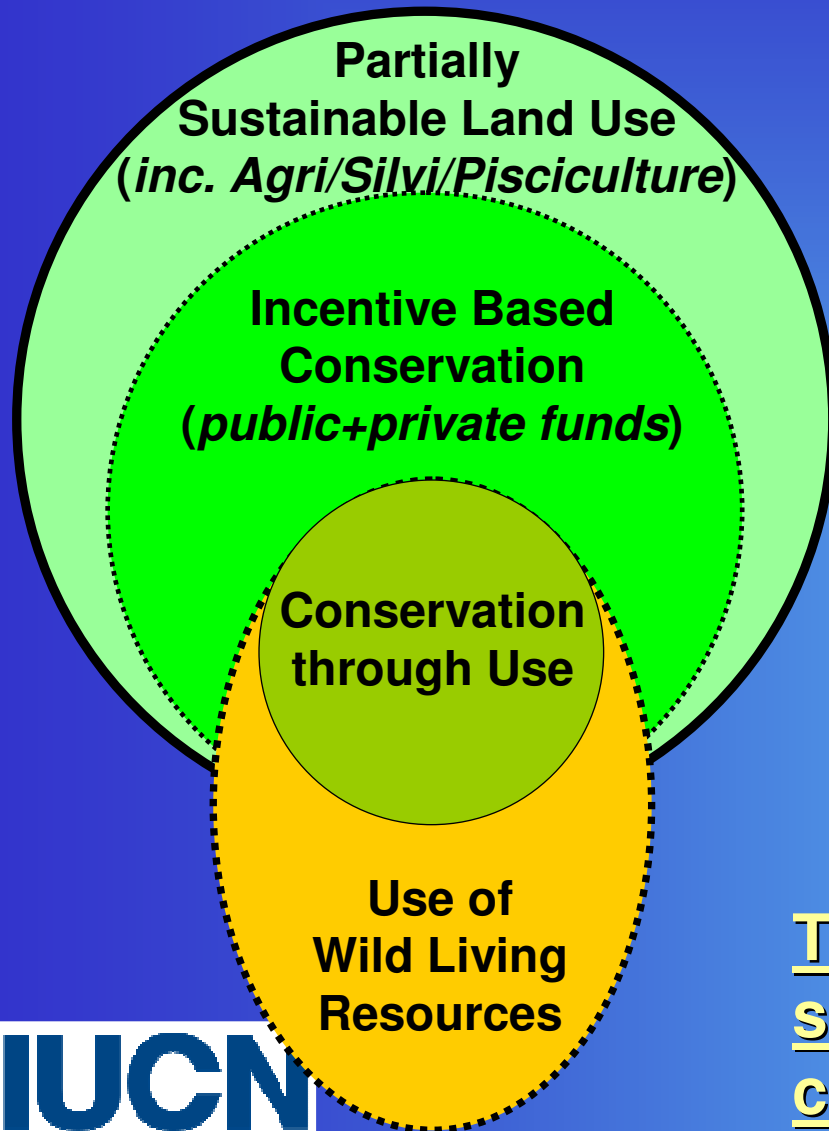
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- Habitat Reserves
- Educational
- 12% of land (16%)
- Simple (polarising)

Incentives (carrots)

- State subsidy
- Conserve-by-use
- Culture-friendly
- Everywhere?
- Complex

Conservation = Protection + subsidies
+ Conservation through Sustainable Use

Now: land-use not fully sustainable,
wild resource use not contributing
fully to incentive-based conservation



The Aspiration:: land-use fully sustainable, wild resource use contributing fully to conservation

Next challenge: Handling Complexity

ESUSG solution: TESS - a network to empower those using local resources, just funded in Research Framework 7.

THANK YOU

<http://iucn.org/themes/ssc/susg/sub/europe.htm>

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