



## iders crackdown on trophy hunting

BY TAYLOR MOONEY

JULY 19, 2019 / 2:13 PM / CBS NEWS

Trophy hunters have repeatedly sparked outrage by posting pictures of their kills on social media. Images of Tess Talley standing in front of the giraffe she shot, or Walter Palmer with a dead Cecil the lion, readily come to mind. Around 80% of trophy hunters worldwide are Americans, and public anger at the deaths of such majestic creatures has sparked a push for the government to do something to stop it – even though some maintain the anger is misplaced.

In April, Congressman Raul Grijalva, D-Arizona, introduced the Conserving Ecosystems by Ceasing Importation of Large Animal Species Act, otherwise known as the CECIL Act. The bill would prohibit all importation and exportation of species listed under the Endangered Species Act, including species proposed to be listed, in order to prevent a surge in hunting of the animal prior to its official listing.

The bill would impose a total ban on importing hunting trophies of elephants or lions taken in Tanzania, Zimbabwe or Zambia. It would also ban the import of other sport-hunted trophies of "threatened species or endangered species" unless the country where it was hunted adequately provides for the species' conservation.

# Trending News

- [Firefighters gain ground in Northern California as winds subside](#)
- [Keystone pipeline leaks unknown amount of oil in North Dakota](#)
- [Nationals come from behind in Game 7 to win World Series](#)
- ["This will only get worse": California fires linked to climate change](#)

At a hearing on Capitol Hill Thursday, six experts testified about the potential impact of the bill before the House subcommittee on Water, Oceans, and Wildlife. Among those supporting the legislation was Iris Ho, the Wildlife Program Manager of Humane Society International, who argued that other forms of tourism offer more stability to African economies than trophy hunting.

"Trophy hunting contributes to just 0.0% of the annual GDP of eight countries surveyed in 2017, supporting only 7,500 jobs. To put this in perspective, a recent report puts non-consumptive tourism supporting 24 million jobs, generating \$48 billion in expenditures for Africa and protected areas," Ho said.

But other witnesses disagreed, arguing that in many cases trophy hunting can be part of an effective conservation strategy and that limiting it would only hurt conservation efforts. Catherine Semcer, a research fellow at the Property and Environment Research Center in Montana, was the first on the panel to oppose the bill on these grounds.

"The trophy hunting programs of African nations have a demonstrated track record of making wildlife habitat an economically competitive land use, and preventing conversion to agriculture," Semcer said. "These programs conserve nearly 350 million acres of habitat, a figure that exceeds the total area of sub-Saharan Africa's national parks by 22%."

[CBSN Originals](#) explored both sides of the debate in the documentary "[Trophy Hunting: Killing or Conservation?](#)", traveling to the Buby Valley Conservancy in Zimbabwe, a private hunting reserve. At 1,200 square miles, the grounds are

Zimbabwe, a private hunting reserve. At 1,200 square miles, the grounds are about the size of Rhode Island. The conservancy teems with a wide variety of big game species including lions, leopards and elephants. Hunting guide Pete Fick says trophy hunting has been critical to keeping the populations there healthy.

"We try to manage this entire area for all of our species. Not just about the elephant, the rhino, the lion, giraffe, whatever it might be -- it's about everything," he said. "An area can only maintain X amount of elephant, like all of our animals. You can't just let the elephant population just grow and grow and grow and grow."

During Thursday's hearing, Dr. Patience Gandiwa, executive technical advisor of Zimbabwe's Parks and Wildlife Management Authority, also spoke in opposition to the bill, arguing that the legislation was not "constructed in the spirit of advancing conservation efforts" and would actively harm those efforts in rural communities where tourism is not a robust or sustainable source of revenue. Gandiwa acknowledged that the systems are not perfect and corruption is bound to exist, but she argued that because trophy hunting can demonstrably assist in conservation efforts, it should remain an option.

*First published on July 19, 2019 / 2:13 PM*

*© 2019 CBS Interactive Inc. All Rights Reserved.*

**Taboola** Feed

## **U.S. Government Announces Opening of the Registration for the Green Card Lottery! Check your eligibility!**

U.S. GREEN CARD - FREE CHECK

PAID

## **Bring your season's greetings to life with print AR**

GENERATE

PAID

# Is This the Solution To South Africa's Mosquitos We've All Been Looking For?

MOSKINATOR

PAID

# Born Between 1953 and 2000? You Could Be Eligible For This New Life Insurance

CLEAR PLAN LIFE INSURANCE QUOTES

PAID

# Anti-Snoring Device Everybody in South Africa Is Talking About

SILENTSNORE

PAID

# 20 Most Beautiful Islands in the World

WWW.TRAVELDEN.CO.UK

PAID

# Is This the Solution To South Africa's Mosquitos We've All Been Looking For?

MOSKINATOR

PAID

# If Your Car Is Over 3 Years Old, We Hope You Know This Easy Tip.

MZANSIREVIEW

PAID

# South Africa: New Wifi Booster Stops Expensive Internet

MONEY NEWS TIPS

PAID

# 10 Most Aggressive Dogs in the World

ADAILY.INFO

PAID

# These Are The Sexiest Dresses Ever

COLORMOOD BLUE

## **How to stop dog barking in seconds**

BARXSTOP

PAID

## **New Wifi Booster Stops Expensive Internet In South Africa**

MONEY NEWS TIPS

PAID

## **Flights In South Africa At Ridiculously Low Prices**

SAVE70.COM

PAID

## **Gowdy says Trump's demand for Ukraine's cooperation in 2016 probe "can't be" impeachable**

## **After 39 found dead in truck, family reveals daughter's final text: "I can't breathe"**

## **CEO sentenced to 3 weeks in college admissions scandal**

## **Lindsey Graham addresses Trump: "I will hold you accountable" over treatment of Kurdish allies**

## **Don't Go Traveling Until You See These Useful Apps**

# **Don't Go Travelling Until You See These Useful Apps**

THE TRAVEL BREEZE

PAID

## **Hotels In South Africa At Ridiculously Low Prices**

TRIPSINSIDER

PAID

## **Successful Families Plan For The Future That's How Legacies Are Born**

MZANZI REVIEW FOR STANGEN LIFE INSURANCE

PAID

## **Car Owners Switch To King Price Car Insurance Because The Premiums Decrease Monthly**

AUTOTRENDS

PAID

## **People from South Africa cannot believe these flight prices**

TRIPS SHOP

PAID

## **High Speed WiFi Booster Takes South Africa By Storm**

SUPERBOOST WIFI

PAID

## **"We're not done here": Wife's words to nanny becomes key in murder trial two decades later**

## **9-year-old boy accused of setting deadly fire appears in court on murder charges**

# These small cars have only one door!

BESTEST.INFO

PAID

# Military Smartwatch Everybody in South Africa is Talking About

TOPGADGETADVISOR

PAID

# The Most Expensive Brands In The World

TIME-JOURNAL

PAID

# 10 Vitamins to eat to stay fit

SIDIARIO.COM

PAID

# These New Wireless Earphones Are The Best Buy Of 2019

TOPGADGETADVISOR

PAID

# Play this Game for 1 Minute and see why everyone is addicted

DESERT ORDER

PAID

# World



## **Fire sweeps through three cars of moving train, killing scores**

UPDATED 13M AGO

## **Groups sue to block health care requirement for immigrants**

9H AGO

## **Hundreds of koalas feared dead in massive Australian fire**

9H AGO

## **Teachers from overseas are filling vacancies in Arizona**

8H AGO

## **Pentagon releases images from al-Baghdadi operation**

9H AGO

[More in World >](#)

---

## **U.S.**

## **Nationals come from behind in Game 7 to win World Series**

4H AGO

## **Christine Blasey Ford speaks out in rare appearance**

5H AGO

## **Surfing executive sentenced to prison in college admissions scam**

7H AGO

## **Obama calls out call-out culture: "That's not activism"**

9H AGO

## **Keystone pipeline leaks unknown amount of oil in North Dakota**

9H AGO

[More in U.S. >](#)

---

## **Politics**

## **Obama calls out call-out culture: "That's not activism"**

9H AGO

## **Groups sue to block health care requirement for immigrants**

9H AGO

## **Twitter to ban all political advertising**

9H AGO

## **Facebook to sell over \$400 million of political ads next year**

7H AGO

## **Mattis' former speechwriter says U.S. is "less safe" under Trump**

10H AGO

[More in Politics ›](#)

---

## **Entertainment**

## **Country star Kane Brown and wife Katelyn welcome baby**

8H AGO

## **Aniston, Witherspoon interview real morning show host Gayle**

# King

10H AGO

## Aniston & Witherspoon interview Gayle King

9H AGO ▶



## Giuliana and Bill Rancic talk cancer care innovations

12H AGO

## The Rancics talk cancer care innovations

11H AGO ▶



[More in Entertainment ›](#)

---

# Technology

## Twitter to ban all political advertising

9H AGO

## Facebook to sell over \$400 million of political ads next year

7H AGO

## **Apple selling more services and wearables, fewer smartphones**

10H AGO

## **Stash app creates new crop of investors at \$5 a pop**

15H AGO

## **Alphabet earnings fall short of Wall Street forecasts**

OCT 28

[More in Technology ›](#)

---

## **Science**

## **"This will only get worse": California fires linked to climate change**

12H AGO

## **Teen wins science competition with liquid bandage invention**

15H AGO

## **Greta Thunberg turns down environmental award and \$51,000 prize**

11H AGO

## **Breast cancer survivors fight another deadly risk**

18H AGO

## **Rising sea levels to flood homes of 300 million people by 2050: study**

OCT 29

[More in Science >](#)

---

## **Health**

### **Giuliana and Bill Rancic talk cancer care innovations**

12H AGO

### **Salmonella linked to dog treats that sickened 154 apparently over**

12H AGO

### **Alex Trebek shares PSA to raise awareness for pancreatic cancer**

13H AGO

### **Juul accused of selling 1 million tainted vaping pods**

10H AGO

## **Breast cancer survivors fight another deadly risk**

18H AGO

[More in Health >](#)

---

## **MoneyWatch**

### **Dozens of Boeing 737NG jetliners grounded worldwide due to cracks**

39M AGO

### **Keystone pipeline leaks unknown amount of oil in North Dakota**

9H AGO

### **Twitter to ban all political advertising**

9H AGO

### **Facebook to sell over \$400 million of political ads next year**

7H AGO

## Apple selling more services and wearables, fewer smartphones

10H AGO

[More in MoneyWatch >](#)

## Crime

### Surfing executive sentenced to prison in college admissions scam

7H AGO

### 3 killed in shooting at Halloween house party

21H AGO ▶



### 12 people shot, 3 fatally, at apparent Halloween party

20H AGO

### Grandfather charged in cruise death

OCT 29 ▶



### Chicago police raided the wrong homes

OCT 29 ▶





[More in Crime >](#)

## Space

### **Air Force spaceplane lands after 780-day mission**

OCT 27

### **Space heavyweights join Jeff Bezos' moon lander project**

OCT 22

### **Astronauts say all-female spacewalk a sign of the times**

OCT 21

### **Orionids meteor shower peaks tonight. Here's how to watch**

OCT 21

### **Trump talks to astronauts during spacewalk**

OCT 18 ▶



[More in Space >](#)

## Latest Galleries



### **The 50 most popular baby boy names**

OCT 29  50 PHOTOS

### **Why it's tough to be a dinosaur**

OCT 27  13 PHOTOS



### **50 essential horror films for Halloween**

OCT 25  51 PHOTOS



### **New on Netflix, Hulu and Amazon**

OCT 24  28 PHOTOS



### **Evidence photos: The Heather Bogle murder case**

OCT 19  14 PHOTOS



[More in Latest Galleries >](#)

# Popular



## CBSN Originals "Non-monogamy"

OCT 28 ▶ 22:59

## Juul faces new lawsuit from former executive

5H AGO ▶ 02:38



## App breaks down barriers to investing

12H AGO ▶ 02:32



## Trump to pull out of Paris Climate Accord

6H AGO ▶ 06:38



## 10/30/19: Red and Blue

6H AGO ▶ 54:17



[More in Popular >](#)



Copyright © 2019 CBS Interactive Inc. All rights reserved.

- [Privacy Policy](#)
- [Ad Choice](#)
- [Terms of Use](#)
- [Mobile User Agreement](#)
- [About](#)
- [Advertise](#)
- [Closed Captioning](#)
- [CBS News Store](#)
- [Site Map](#)
- [Contact Us](#)
- [Help](#)



## View CBS News In



CBS News App

[OPEN](#)



Chrome



Safari

[CONTINUE](#)