

Episode 5: Ian Michler on Canned Hunting and Making “Blood Lions”, Part 2

Show Notes

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This podcast is brought to you by [African Family Safaris](http://www.africanfamilysafaris.com). Richard Field has been a safari guide for 20 years, and in the Life on Safari podcast he talks with safari guides and conservationists about their day-to-day life in the bush. The hope is that through these remarkable conversations, wild Africa will creep under your skin.



This is the second part of a conversation with Ian Michler. We talk about predator breeding, canned breeding, and the making of the movie, “Blood Lions”. Ian takes us behind the scenes of the making of the film. He shares some of the very hairy moments during the making of the movie. He also talks about the experience of Rick Swayze, the American hunter who features in the movie. If you’ve see the film you’ll know that Rick and the film crew go under cover on a lion hunting farm in South Africa. They are behind locked gates and very high fences with some extremely angry human beings, plenty of

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guns and ammunition, and lots of lions, when it all starts going very awry. Meanwhile, Ian and producer Pippa Hankinson are just outside the farm waiting for news. It's a story that will definitely get the pulse racing.

We then finish up by talking about how Blood Lions is changing the landscape of canned hunting and what might happen to all the lions that are currently in captivity if canned hunting is banned.



Selected Links from the Episode

- [“Blood Lions”](#) website and official [Facebook](#) page
- [Watch](#) or [purchase](#) “Blood Lions” via Amazon, or via links on [Blood Lions](#) website
- The film trailer is [here](#)
- Links to [South African Predator Association](#)), and [Professional Hunters Association of South Africa](#)
- Links to [Wildlands](#) and [For the Love of Wildlife](#)
- [South Africa’s Department of Environmental Affairs](#)
- [Wilderness Safaris](#)
- [WTM](#) (World Travel Market)
- Address of
[South African Department of Tourism](#)
Private Bag X424
Pretoria 0001
South Africa

Show Notes

- The origins of the “Blood Lions” movie [2:33]
- Moving the conversation to the middle ground [5:33]
- Other collaborators on the movie [7:28]
- Getting caught on a breeding facility [11:56]
- 4 black leopards in 3m x 3m cage [14:20]
- Finding Rick Swazey [18:27]
- Rick’s escape [20:32]
- Numbers of predators in captivity in South Africa [28:54]
- Different categories for lions in South Africa [32:24]
- What is happening as a result of “Blood Lions” [33:56]
- Impact in Australia from Minister Greg Hunt and Donalea Patman [34:36]
- What will happen to the lions? [40:04]
- What can people do to help? [43:49]

People Mentioned in This Podcast

- [Pippa Hankinson](#)
- [Nick Chevallier](#)
- [Bruce Young](#)
- [Jeremy Nathan](#)
- [Dr Andrew Venter](#)
- [Colin Bell](#)
- [Dereck Joubert](#)
- [Ian McCallum](#)
- [Dr Guy Balme](#)
- [Karen Trendler](#)
- [Paul Hart \(Drakenstein Lion Park\)](#)
- [TK Khama \(Tshekedi Khama II\)](#)
- Rick Swazey
- Ben Dominy
- [Prof. Pieter Potgieter](#)
- [Greg Hunt](#)
- [Jason Wood](#)
- [Donalea Patman](#)
- [Marthinus Van Schalkwyk](#)

Selected Places and Vocabulary Mentioned in This Podcast

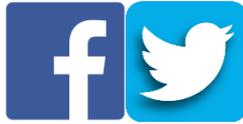
- What is “**canned hunting**”? Also referred to as “**captive hunting**”, canned hunting is any form of trophy hunting where hunters shoot trophy animals within confined areas, ensuring they had no or little chance of escape. Today, canned hunting is widespread in South Africa, where large numbers of wild animals are being bred in captivity to be killed in captivity or confined areas. This is different from “fair chase” hunting.
- What is “**trophy hunting**”? Trophy hunting is the selective hunting of wild game for human recreation. The trophy is the animal or part of the animal kept, and usually displayed. The primary game sought is usually the oldest and most mature animal from a given population.
- Oom (Uncle in Afrikaans), black morph

Selected places mentioned:

- [Botswana](#)
- [Makifeng](#)
- [South Africa](#)
- [Orange Free State](#)
- [Kruger National Park](#)
- [Kgalagadi Transfrontier Park](#)



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