

SRN Lion Regulations

- Only male lions over the age of six years may be hunted
- Lions may only be hunted on an 18 day safari
- For each lion hunt a questionnaire must be completed.
- Clear photographs of the nose and mane (side and front view) must be provided.
- The safari operator must notify SRN before lion trophies are removed so that they can be aged and measured.

MONITORING TROPHY QUALITY

Each year all lion trophies are aged from tooth wear, mane development, nose pigmentation and X-rays of premolar pulp cavities.

Quotas are assigned independently for each concession based on the age and quality of the trophies taken in the previous hunting season according to a points system.

OLDER THAN 6 YEARS



4-6 YEARS



Mozambique's Niassa National Reserve is one of the most undeveloped wild areas in Africa. The protected area supports an estimated 800-1000 lions and has been identified as a priority area for lion conservation in Africa. Nine concessions inside the protected area are designated for sport hunting. The goal is to provide a quality sport hunting experience to generate a local economy that can support Niassa communities and finance the Reserve's management activities. Lions can be hunted sustainably in Niassa and excellent trophies are available but due to the lion's complex social organization care needs to be taken. The hunting of young lions can cause severe disruption to pride structure and if excessive can cause a population to collapse. Since 2004 the Niassa Lion Project has been working with professional hunters and SRN to develop practical guidelines for aging lions in the field, and establish a robust trophy monitoring system.

This pamphlet should be used in conjunction with "A Hunter's Guide to Aging lions in Eastern and Southern Africa", Whitman, Karyl and Packer, Craig (2007) available through Safari Press.

THANKS

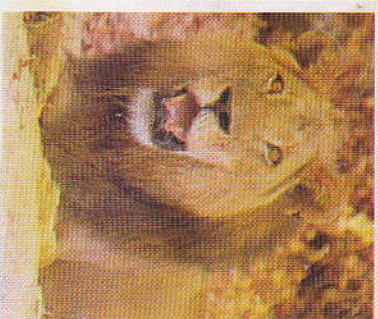
Special thanks to SRN and all the Niassa operators and Professional Hunters for their assistance. The Niassa Lion Project is substantially funded by Panthera, Rufford Innovation Award, Fair Play Foundation (Fauna and Flora International), and Wildlife Conservation Network. We also thank Concerto Nominees, Londo Lodge, Luwire, Fauna & Flora International, Kambako Safaris, Savannas Forever, Predator Conservation Trust, SCI-Flint Chapter, Zambezi-Kavira Conservation Trust, L. Gelber, G. Bannus, B. Geiber, S. Godin, S & F. Golby, M & J Green, M. Hackett, K & B Hudson, P. Wan, C. Kendal, G. Nash, S. Combs, P. Lowell and E. Stalling for their donations.

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Quick Guide to Lions of Niassa Reserve



Niassa National Reserve, northern Mozambique supports a globally and nationally important lion population. Sport hunting of lions in this protected area is a privilege. The goal is to maximize trophy quality and economic returns while maintaining the viability and growth of the Niassa lion population. Only male lions over the age of six may be taken as trophies. A lion hunt in this wilderness is a unique opportunity, a suitable trophy is not guaranteed.

Produced by the Niassa Lion Project,
In collaboration with
Sociedade para a Gestão e Desenvolvimento da
Reserva do Niassa. Moçambique



THE RATEL TRUST
Projeto do Corredor
Proteção do Niassa



S.R.N.

CATEGORY 1: YOUNGER THAN FOUR YEARS

These lions are young adults, and typically in excellent body condition but may not have reached full body size.



Manes are poorly developed with tufts around the sides of the face and a short central "Mohawk".

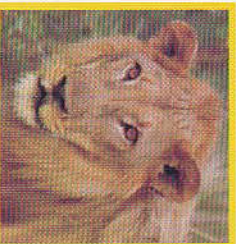
Chest hairs may be deceptively long as this hair develops first. These lions show little scaring on the face and body.



Teeth are white, show little to no wear and are seldom missing. Noses are predominantly pink with some black speckling.

CATEGORY 2: 4-6 YEARS OF AGE

Lions vary widely in trophy quality in this age category. Manes may be well developed, particularly on the chest and sides but still do not form a full ring around the face. A bald spot behind and above the ears combined with an obvious "mohawk" is characteristic. Manes may extend between the shoulders. Noses are 25% - 50% black. Scaring is minimal.



Dark lines running down the back of the hind legs are a feature of regular scent-marking and are most prominent in males in this age category.

CATEGORY 3: LIONS SIX YEARS OR OLDER

These lions are generally good quality trophies with extensive manes forming a full ring around the face. Manes may not be well developed between the ears but the bare patch above and behind the ears has filled in. Old lions in this category tend to have sparser and shorter manes. Lions generally have scars on the face and body. Teeth are yellow, canines are frequently broken and obviously worn.



Noses are more than 50% black.