



**BIG RHINO'S NEED
BIG HEARTS TOO**

Global Giving Project

The Hoedspruit Endangered Species Centre (HESC) is currently home to 13 Rhino's, twelve of which have already been fully weaned. Sadly, we find that as the rhino's get older, their donations dry up, where often it is needed most. The older rhino's deserve support as much as the younger, cuter ones do. The financial burden on us is enormous, not only for their daily food, care and veterinary bills, but also their security, ensuring we have the right precautions in place to ensure that no one can get access to these precious rhino's, that deserve our protection more than ever.

Both black and white rhino populations in South Africa are under serious threat due to poaching. This barbaric and illegal practice has sky rocketed since 2008, increasing from an average of ten to twenty rhinos poached a year to a devastating 668 in 2012, 1004 in 2013, 1215 in 2014, 1175 in 2015, 1054 in 2016, and 1028 in 2017. That is an average of three rhino's slaughtered every day. The dramatic increase in poaching incidents is directly related to the incredibly high black market value for the horn, which is used for various medicinal and ornamental purposes in Asia.

We have experienced first-hand the heart break and devastation as a result of rhino poaching after our beloved hand-reared rhinos, Ronnie and Lahliwe, were killed by poachers in 1994.

On 30 August 2013, when a reserve discovered that poachers had brutally attacked three of their rhinos for their horns, we stepped in to offer our expertise and a home for the treatment and protection of the two female rhinos that had survived. Unfortunately, the bull rhino was not as fortunate. Five years later, in 2018, those two rhino cows, Dingle Dell and Lion's Den, are happy and healthy at HESC. All funds raised through our Global Giving Project will be channelled directly into the Rescued Rhinos @ HESC, South Africa, which will help us continue to do the work we do.

RESCUED RHINOS @ HESC

Due to this increase in the number of rhinos killed, it had become essential for us to expand our current facilities that we had at the time. And in so doing, we have provided land, facilities as well as support in the rescue, relocation and care of orphaned, traumatised and injured rhinos. At such a critical time, each and every individual rhino becomes important to ensure that sufficient animals are protected to conserve the genetic viability of the species. It is essential that wounded & orphaned rhinos are given a second chance, whatever the cost.

VISION

Ensuring our tomorrow by fostering and communicating the belief that the "Power of One is Boundless". One person can make a difference!

MISSION

To sustain the white rhino for generations to come by conserving a strong and diverse genetic pool.

OBJECTIVES OF THE HOEDSPRUIT RHINO SANCTUARY

- The establishment of a sustainable breeding programme to ensure the genetic biodiversity of the white rhino species.
- The education of learners, students and the general public in respect of the many fallacies that surround the medicinal value of rhino horn, and the far reaching effects of the atrocity of rhino poaching.
- The release and establishment of rhinos to the wild (prospective destinations must exhibit sound environmental and conservation management policies)
- The promotion of scientific research and development relating to rhino conservation
- The generation of funds to assist in the operational costs of Rescued Rhinos @ HESC
- The treatment and care of rhinos in need, which are brought to Rescued Rhinos facility

ORPHANED RHINOS

Funding towards orphaned rhinos will be allocated costs incurred for:

1. Relocation and transportation
2. Veterinary care
3. Feeding
4. Security
5. Rehabilitation process

When funding is required to acquire orphaned or unwanted rhino calves for the broadening of the genetic pool, these calves will become part of the Wildlife Conservation Trust and the Hoedspruit Endangered Species Centre will be responsible for the daily care and rehabilitation programme.

VICTIMS 2 VICTORS - INJURED AND TRAUMATISED RHINOS

Our expertise lies in our team of dedicated curators, veterinarians and specialists from Onderstepoort (University of Pretoria), earned on the back of years of actual practice in the field. Despite the challenge of rehabilitating the rhino (we know very little about optimal treatment in rhino, and the sheer size and complexity of their physiology and how they respond to drugs have been a barrier to success for many similar institutions), we have enough experience under our belts to continue with other similar cases. We have also learned that regardless of how hopeless a particular surviving rhino may seem, there is always the chance of survival. The treatment of such rhinos is a long-term one, and comes at a massive cost.

GROWING A GENETIC POOL

Building up a strong and diverse genetic pool to sustain the white rhino for generations to come is no easy feat, and involves significant investment of expertise, management and monitoring. Naturally, this is an expensive long-term project, and cannot exist without financial investment from sponsors and donors.

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LIONS DEN

Arrived 4 September 2013
Survivor of Rhino poaching.
Successfully rehabilitated by HESC



DINGLE DELL

Arrived 4 September 2013
Survivor of Rhino poaching.
Successfully rehabilitated by HESC



GERTJIE

Arrived 7 May 2014
Found next to his mothers body, who had been killed
by poachers



MATIMBA

Arrived 19 nov 2014
Found next to his mothers body, who had been killed
by poachers

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STOMPIE

Arrived 10 November 2015.
Watched as his mother was killed by poachers. He then survived a Hyena attack, that sadly bit his tail off.



BALU

Arrived November 2015.
He was found alone and distressed, no sign of his mother. The body was not found.



PHILLIPA

Arrived 18 January 2016.
Survivor of Rhino poaching.
Successfully rehabilitated by HESC



NHLANHLA

Arrived 13th April 2016
Two weeks old, rejected by his mother.

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OLIVIA

Arrived 24 April 2016.
Found next to her mothers body, who had been killed by poachers .



KHULULA

Arrived 21 May 2016
Found on her own, and they then located her mothers body, who had been killed by poachers .



IKE

Arrived September 2016 at HESC, but survived a poaching attack in July 2015. He had both horns hacked off, and was severely wounded.



LULA

Arrived 12 February 2017
Found next to her mothers body, who had been killed by poachers .