



FIRST QUARTER REPORT

2019



PHOTO CREDIT: GERHARD VAN DER WESTHUIZEN

INTRODUCTION

Project Rhino started the new year with huge fundraising plans to make sure that we have sufficient funding for all our projects to grow from strength to strength.

This year we are expanding our fundraising globally with trips to Australia, New Zealand, the UK and the States to try and spread the word and create more sustainable fundraising opportunities and platforms. Our local fundraising events will include another Sky-dive for rhino event, Rangers Run, Music festivals and so the list continues!

We are also very excited to host the 3rd World Youth Wildlife Summit in the Kruger this year that has expanded to not just rhino poaching as focus, but all wildlife crime.

We would like to once again thank all our donors and partners who continue to support the work of Project Rhino and those on the frontline of the rhino poaching crisis.

The South African Department of Environmental Affairs released the national rhino poaching figures at the beginning of the year, revealing that a staggering 7,694 rhino have been poached in South Africa since the start of the crisis in 2010.

Whilst we are pleased that the national figure for 2018 is 259 fewer than 2017, the number of incursions has remained the same – 2,620 (recorded) incursions – meaning that the attack on our rhino has not decreased and the critical role of security initiatives like ZAP-Wing, canine & horse units cannot be over emphasised.

We are determined to keep fighting for the cause. We are determined to improve and expand our projects to ensure that we make the difference that is needed in the landscape.

Background picture is a
Peter Stewart painting for sale.
For more information contact:
info@projectrhinokzn.org



Project RHINO

STOP WILDLIFE CRIME



MONITORING.PROTECTING.CONSERVING.TOGETHER.

STATISTICS



Number of Rhinos poached in KwaZulu-Natal since 2000

NUMBER OF RHINOS POACHED



PROJECT RHINO FOUNDING MEMBERS:

African Conservation Trust | Black Rhino Range Expansion Project (WWF) | Ezemvelo KZN Wildlife | Game Rangers Association of Africa (GRAA) | KZN Directorate for Priority Crimes (HAWKS) | Magqubu Ntombela Foundation | Midlands Wildlife Security Initiative | Phinda Private Game Reserve (& Beyond) | Space for Elephants | Thanda Foundation | Thanda Private Game Reserve | The Lawrence Anthony Earth Organisation | WESSA | Wildlife ACT Fund | Wildlands Conservation Trust | Wilderness Action Group | Wilderness Foundation | Zululand Rhino Reserve | Zululand Wildlife Security Initiative

TEL: (+27) 031 765 3957 WEBSITES: www.projectrhinokzn.org | www.zapwing.org | www.youthrhinosummit.com EMAIL: info@projectrhinokzn.org
c/o African Conservation Trust (Secretariat), 8 Old Main Road, Hillcrest | PO Box 310, Linkhills, 3652

MONITORING | PROTECTING | CONSERVING | TOGETHER

ZAP-WING



The Zululand Anti-Poaching Patrol Wing has been voted by the Zululand reserves as the most valuable tool for assistance with anti-poaching in the landscape, provided by Project Rhino. In the first three months of this year, 105 flights have been undertaken with 119.4 patrol hours flown. Of these, 9.8 hours were reaction time, responding to emergency incidents.

Our ZAP-Wing, in conjunction with our K9 unit and the different reserve APU units, have been doing numerous training sessions together this year, to ensure that a strong bond and relationship is built between the different units so that they are comfortable and competent to work together when a situation requires it.

At the end of March, the ZAP-Wing aeroplane underwent its procedural maintenance and it was discovered that the wings would need to be replaced within the next 6 months. This would be an additional cost of R90 00 – R120 000.

We are working on renewing the lease of the Hluhluwe Airstrip where our ZAP-Wing plane is based. This will also be the venue where the Skydive for rhino will take place.

We have upgraded one of the park homes and converted it into suitable accommodation.

Currently Ian Waghorn, our pilot, is residing there. This assists with improved shortened response time to incidents.

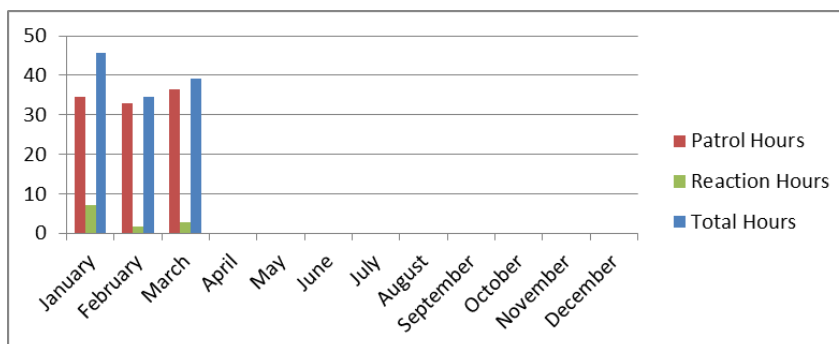




Month	January	Aircraft Hours	1472.5	Date	2019/01/31
Aircraft	ZU-FUU	Engine Hours	230.2	Time	10:00
Aircraft					
Flights	Patrol Hours	Reaction Hours	Other Hours	Total Hours	Distance
55	34.6	7.1	0	45.8	

Month	February	Aircraft Hours	1507	Date	2019/02/28
Aircraft	ZU-FUU	Engine Hours	264.7	Time	09:30
Aircraft					
Flights	Patrol Hours	Reaction Hours	Other Hours	Total Hours	Distance
27	32.8	1.7	0	34.5	1800nm

Month	March	Aircraft Hours	1546.1	Date	2019/02/28
Aircraft	ZU-FUU	Engine Hours	303.8	Time	14:00
Aircraft					
Flights	Patrol Hours	Reaction Hours	Other Hours	Total Hours	Distance
23	36.4	2.7	0	39.1	16,446 nm



A huge big thank you to Dr. Flamand and Black Rhino Range Expansion Project (BRREP) for assisting with the funding of the ZAP-Wing to keep this service going for the last 3 months.



PROJECT RHINO FOUNDING MEMBERS:

African Conservation Trust | Black Rhino Range Expansion Project (WWF) | Ezemvelo KZN Wildlife | Game Rangers Association of Africa (GRAA) | KZN Directorate for Priority Crimes (HAWKS) | Magqubu Ntombela Foundation | Midlands Wildlife Security Initiative | Phinda Private Game Reserve (& Beyond) | Space for Elephants | Thanda Foundation | Thanda Private Game Reserve | The Lawrence Anthony Earth Organisation | WESSA | Wildlife ACT Fund | Wildlands Conservation Trust | Wilderness Action Group | Wilderness Foundation | Zululand Rhino Reserve | Zululand Wildlife Security Initiative

TEL: (+27) 031 765 3957 WEBSITES: www.projectrhinokzn.org | www.zapwing.org | www.youthrhinosummit.com EMAIL: info@projectrhinokzn.org
c/o African Conservation Trust (Secretariat), 8 Old Main Road, Hillcrest | PO Box 310, Linkhills, 3652

MONITORING | PROTECTING | CONSERVING | TOGETHER

RESERVE SUPPORT: RANGER TRAINING



2018 was seen as a very successful year with regards to ranger training throughout the landscape as Project Rhino, in conjunction with the Game Rangers Association of Africa (GRAA) and the Southern African Wildlife College, conducted 6 training courses, which trained 63 managers and field rangers in various essential skills. This year we are challenged with funds as there are over 500 field rangers that need training.

We are however not without plans and **challenge** all donors, passionate conservationists, runners, trail runners and just anyone that wants to participate to make a difference to enter the SATIB RANGERS RUN CHALLENGE this year.

Participants will join active, armed rangers in the course of their day-to-day anti-poaching *patrols, which include: running patrol routes through wilderness areas, following game tracks, cresting vantage points and dropping into valleys to detect early signs of incursions.

* Patrols will be conducted to increase presence and not for the purposes of actively pursuing a possible threat.

The locations of the trail runs encompass sanctuaries for remaining populations of white and black rhinos and many other species of game (including members of the BIG 5). The adventure is not your typical trail running environment and not for the faint hearted. You will need to be up for some bush whacking and be prepared to embark on an experience you will not soon forget.

The patrol camps are basic tented camps with basic facilities. You will enjoy hot and cold showers, flushing toilets and a good campfire meal. In keeping with the spirit of the adventure's authenticity, fly camps will be set up on patrol in unknown locations. You will sleep light, eat light and take turns to stand watch throughout the evening to ensure animals keep their distance. Safety is always a priority and therefore the participant patrol group will be kept intimate. "Patrol" groups will comprise of:

10 –12 Participants; 1 Elite Athlete; 2 Field Rangers (armed); 1 Qualified Trails Guide (armed)

Should you wish to participate in such a fundraising event please contact info@projectrhinokzn.org for dates and more details.

RANGER PATROL TRAIL RUN SERIES

Amidst the chaos of our fast-paced lives there exists a need for grounded, authentic experiences where genuine people band together to make a difference. SATIB, in conjunction with GRAA and Project Rhino, provides a platform for corporate individuals to experience part of a solution to one of Africa's wicked problems, rhino poaching.

Through a joint venture with private landowners, corporates, NGOs and conservationists, SATIB present the #rangerprotect patrol run series. This unique event sees the sport of trail running introduced to the world of adventure through real-time anti-poaching patrols.

COST: R10 000 PER PARTICIPANT

To make your mark: Email: rangerprotect@satib.co.za



3 DAYS

Hosted by Manyoni
Private Game Reserve.



3 PATROL RUNS

Day 1: 5km

Day 2: 15km

Day 3: 15km



1 RHINO DEHORNING

A once in a lifetime experience that will never be forgotten.

EVENT INFORMATION:

WWW.SATIB.CO.ZA/RANGERPROTECT



MANYONI
PRIVATE GAME RESERVE



RESERVE SUPPORT: PARCS ASSESMENTS



Since January 2019, Project Rhino and the Game Rangers Association of Africa have been extending their ongoing partnership through supporting Protected Area Ranger Capability and Support (PARCS) with the private rhino reserves in KZN.

Since the beginning of the year this initiative has undertaken nine assessments to determine ranger readiness and reserve capability to tackle wildlife crime threats. In a follow to the assessments, tactical capability has been supported by ensuring solid integration between ZAPWING, the Project Rhino K9 unit and ranger teams on the ground.

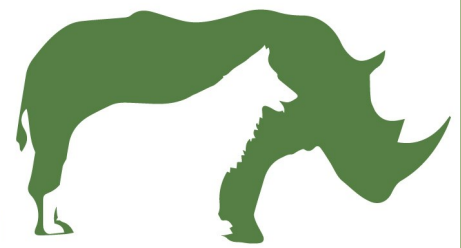
Five different teams on four reserves (26 rangers) have undergone in-field mentoring that has included simulated counter-poaching and rhino protection operations. Strategy, tactics and command and control workshops were held on two reserves and senior field rangers on these reserves were also schooled in incident management and given instruction so as to be able to run refresher training exercises on a continual basis.

Peter Chadwick, a professional GRAA member, who undertook the assessments and mentoring sessions said that focussed, realistic and practical in-field mentoring sessions can quickly raise tactical capability and effectiveness and he found nothing but committed and motivated ranger teams on the reserves that were keen to excel in tackling any wildlife crime issues.



K9 UNIT

K9
unit
PROJECT RHINO



We would like to thank Mr Eric Dickson, the Project Rhino K9 Unit Manager, for his passion, dedication and endless hours of tireless work to establish the K9 unit in Zululand. Mr Dickson has decided to withdraw from the Project Rhino K9 Unit, ending 31 March 2019.

Eric made incredible headway with relationship building with the reserves, SAPS and the broader community, to ensure that the K9 Unit got the necessary exposure and applied the unit in the landscape, to the fullest potential for the reserves' benefit.

With Eric's assistance, it has also been made very clear how valuable a K9 Unit is. We therefore wish Eric well in his future endeavours.

Although losing Eric is a drawback for the K9 Unit team, Project Rhino is motivated and dedicated to overcoming the financial obstacles that we are currently facing and to ensuring that our unit remains in the landscape and in time, grows from strength to strength to support the reserves with keeping our wildlife safe.

Project Rhino would like to thank IFPCP for so generously offering to assist our K9 Unit and waive all Management fees for the month of April, to give us the opportunity to try and raise funds to keep the project going in future.

Thank you to Alpha Security that is paying for the accommodation of one K9 handler in April, WESSA Lowveld that are paying one K9 handler's salary and Mr Duncan Paul for paying Etienne Gerber's salary. Mr Gerber will be assisting in a care-taker role for the K9 Unit during the month of April, which will mainly involve managing logistics and any on the ground affairs.

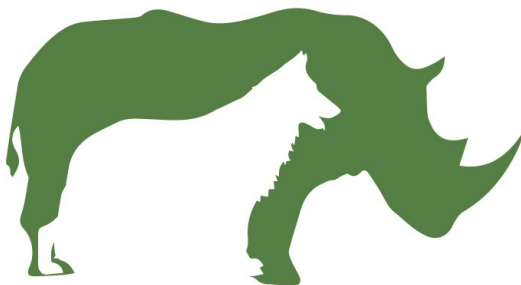
Please note that our K9 unit **still has tracking and detection capabilities** as we have exchanged Goose (Tracking dog) with Baily who is a tracking and detection dog.

We greatly appreciate all the assistance and understanding that we have received from the donors, supporters and reserves during this challenging time.

A huge big thank you to Bravecto and MSD Animal Health for their continuous support and Bravecto donations to keep our k9's healthy. Thank you to OnePlan for the K9 and K9 handler insurance donated for a year and to Mrs Adele Vincent spending endless hours helping us to find sponsors to help our K9 Unit pull through this difficult financial time.

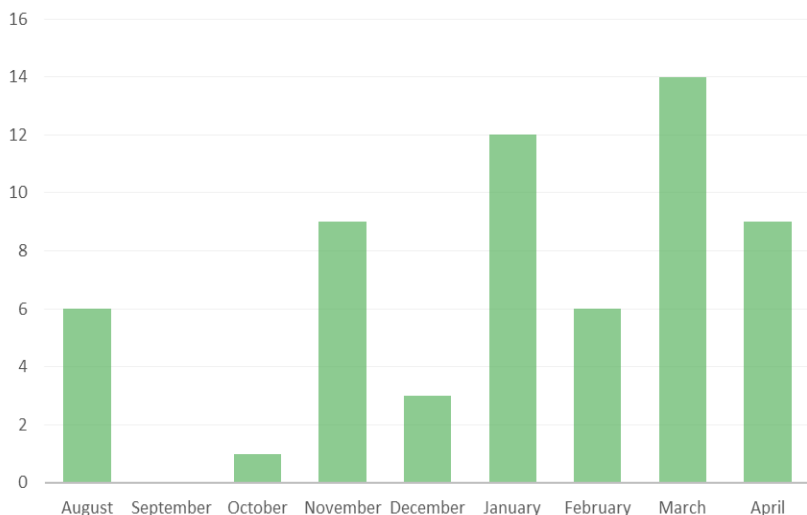


K9
unit
PROJECT RHINO



Thank you to Hills for assisting us with reduced costs for our dogfood and Marltons for the incredible donation of dog treats, beds, leashes, toys, beds, blankets and bowls for our K9's!

The number of Project Rhino K9 Unit reactions (2018-2019)



Year	Month	Total No. of Reactions / Call outs
2018	July	1
	August	6
	September	0
	October	1
	November	9
	December	3
2019	January	12
	February	6
	March	14
	April	9
		61

RESERVE SUPPORT: HORSE UNIT



It has been a busy start to the year for the horse units across the province of KwaZulu-Natal (KZN). We must send a huge thank you to Global Conservation Force (GCF) (based in the USA) and Roxane Losey in particular, who have provided phenomenal support to a number of partner reserves.

Roxane has visited and assessed horse units, provided equipment, training for riders and expert advice. GCF is also helping to establish a brand new horse unit (from scratch) at Loziba in northern KZN, including building stables and paddocks. Huge thank you to Terence Spilsbury from BroPolo for sponsoring two horses for the new unit - we are sure it will make an immense difference in the protection of their rhino and other wildlife.

We would also like to thank LA Zoo for the donation of deworming medication, Unicorn Tack for offering us a wonderful discount on riding equipment, and LulaRoe for their donation of clothing as well as activity books for school children in conjunction with Rhino Art. Epol has been a fantastic supporter and is sponsoring food for the horse unit at Hluhluwe-iMfolozi. Thank you, we would not be able to sustain these invaluable units without you!

We believe that these horse units are making a huge difference in the war against wildlife crime, as they allow mounted rangers to cover far more area than on foot and get much closer to wildlife for monitoring purposes. We hope that 2019 brings even more conservation success.

<https://www.globalgiving.org/projects/support-mounted-rangers-fighting-rhino-poaching/>



RHINO ART

LET OUR CHILDREN'S VOICES
BE HEARD

SIYABATHANDA OBHEJANE
WE LOVE OUR RHINOS



RHINO ART

LET OUR CHILDREN'S VOICES

BE HEARD

CONSERVATION EDUCATION

THIS SCHOOL IS A PROUD SUPPORTER
OF RHINO CONSERVATION

Kingsley Higate
FOUNDATION

Project
RHINO
KEN

YOUTH ENGAGEMENT: RHINO ART



Our Rhino Art Team has been traveling across the globe this quarter to try and raise funds and awareness to stop wildlife crime. Richard Mabanga has reached 12 419 learners from 30 schools throughout KZN in the last 3 months.

Our Eastern Cape team has worked hard to fundraise for their conservation education awareness campaign for 2019. They had a very successful event early in April, raising a staggering R70 000 to kick-start their campaign.

Grant Fowlds, our Rhino Art coordinator, has travelled to Australia and New Zealand to visit schools and spread the conservation message. He had a talk at the Linkin University in New Zealand, visited the Rangī Ruru Girls School, had a presentation at the Christ Church Rotary event and had a fundraising evening with Pete Eastwood and the Tanglewood Foundation, to name just a few.

Project Rhino, Rhino Art also joined the Kingsley Holgate Foundation during their Cape Town to Kathmandu welcome home event in Ballito.

Project Rhino will be doing a Civvies day for schools fundraising event in September to raise awareness among learners. We hope it will encourage school pupils to contribute to conservation and understand how important our natural heritage is for future generations.



COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT: FOOD SECURITY



Agricultural mentors from African Conservation Trust (ACT) and Project Rhino, together with teachers and community volunteers, continue to look after the seven food gardens that were established at Early Childhood Development Centres (ECDs) last year. The gardens support the daily feeding schemes of 562 children, aged 0 to 6 years.

Average summer temperatures reach well over 30° C in the KwaJobe region, and mentors have been helping the crèches to keep their gardens irrigated by bringing in water with a water tanker (there is no piped, municipal water to the crèches.) Mentors use techniques such as swales (gulleys) to channel rainwater, and protect the soil with a layer of mulch to keep the beds moist and cool.

Not only does this project support the nutrition of children in the impoverished area, but the on-going interaction helps to build positive relationships between the community and Project Rhino members, thereby building commitment to conservation.



WORLD YOUTH WILDLIFE SUMMIT 2019

Let our voices be heard...

W: www.youthrhinosummit.com

E: info@youthrhinosummit.com



After the fundamental successes of the 2014 *World Youth Rhino Summit* and 2015 *Winter Summit*, African Conservation Trust & Project Rhino are thrilled to be implementing a third **World Youth Wildlife Summit** in September this year - World Rhino Month. The summit will bring together youth leaders from Africa and the world and empower them to become local, national and international ambassadors for wildlife conservation. This year, the summit is set to take place at the iconic Kruger National Park, and will include probing discussions, interactive and robust dialogue and informational presentations by renowned conservation figures. You can view the Earth Touch video on the first World Youth Rhino Summit at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=T1ePBIPSCus>.

The 2019 World Youth Wildlife Summit will maintain a focus on rhino as an iconic species, but also include other targeted African animals, such as pangolin, gorilla and elephant. It therefore changes its name to the World Youth *Wildlife* Summit. A committee will be selecting up to 150 young leaders from the Southern African Development Community (SADC), African countries grappling with all forms of poaching further afield, as well as China and Vietnam. Follow our Facebook pages (@projectrhinokzn and @YouthRhinoSummit) for updates and more information.



WORLD YOUTH WILDLIFE SUMMIT



USAID
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE



VUKANOW

NEW MEMBERS AND RHINO AMBASSADORS

TRACKBOX
TECHNOLOGIES PTY LTD



We would like to welcome Trackbox as a new Project Rhino member and believe that our partnership with Trackbox will make a positive difference in the landscape.

“TrackBox is a singular platform that connects South Africans to most branches of emergency services country-wide. We launched Together SA CAN back in 2003 with the goal of uniting all emergency services role players into “South Africa’s 911 emergency system.” In 2013 we established it as a non-profit company whose primary function is to facilitate and co-ordinate responses to emergencies anywhere in South Africa, anytime. TrackBox is our technology that makes this collaboration bigger, better and faster. Living up to our motto of ANYTHING! ANYTIME! ANYWHERE!”

MEET THE PROJECT RHINO AMBASSADORS

Dan Chiorboli (South Africa/Italy) was born in Ferrara, Italy and grew up in Durban, South Africa. Pursuing his love for music inherited from his mother and grandmother, he received his first taste of performing in front of an audience at the age of fifteen. He has gone on to perform all over the world and has worked as a session musician on over 200 albums, as vastly diverse as The African Gypsies (the group he co-founded with Ray Phiri), Ladysmith Black Mambazo, Kenyan Simba Morri, Brazilian icon Sergio Dias, Roxy Music guitarist Phil Manzanera, Buena Vista Social Club’s Juan de Marcos from Cuba, Black Coffee and Black Moses Ngwenya. His recent work, The Liberation Project, a sprawling triple CD entitled “Songs That Made Us Free – South Africa/Italy/Cuba” has received excellent reviews and is due to tour Europe in the summer of 2019. Dan is also the founder of Awesome Africa, South Africa’s pioneering music festival since 1999. But it is his numerous partnerships on projects with Neill Solomon from a very early age that have arguably yielded the best fruits.

On the environmental front, Dan was the Artistic Director for Kingsley Holgate’s ground-breaking Boundless expedition, an initiative which promotes Southern Africa’s seven trans-frontier conservation areas as investment and tourism opportunities under the theme *Nature, Culture and Community*.

Dan is a passionate conservationist and has agreed to be a Project Rhino brand ambassador as he travels across the globe. Dan will assist Project Rhino to raise funds and awareness through his music to reach people far and wide to become aware of the threat our wildlife and specifically our rhino are facing.

DAN CHIORBOLI



QADASI & MAQHINGA

Hailing from Empangeni in the heart of Zululand, Qadasi and Maqhinga are a duo well-known for their traditional Maskandi music. The two have been long-standing ambassadors for Project Rhino, performing at many fundraising, youth education and awareness events.

David Jenkins, also known as Qadasi, is an accomplished Maskandi guitarist, concertina and banjo player who developed a deep passion for Zulu culture and music at a young age. This interest grew exponentially over the years, and as a result, his love for traditional music was born. After matriculating in 2010, Qadasi released his first studio album under record label, Sande Entertainment headed by Sibongiseni Shabalala of four-time Grammy Award winning group, Ladysmith Black Mambazo. His second album, released in 2014, has since been nominated for a SAMA (South African Music Award) and SATMA (South African Traditional Music Award). Qadasi was also recently honoured to receive a KwaZulu Natal Young Achievers Award for 'social cohesion through Maskandi.

Maqhinga Radebe began his career as a Maskandi musician in the mid 80's and has received numerous awards for his amazing musical skills, which also include SAMA and SATMA Award nominations. He has performed to audiences in several countries, sharing stages with top artists such as Hugh Masekela, Ladysmith Black Mambazo, Phuzekhemisi and Soul Brothers, to name a few. He is presently most well-known for his key role as the guitarist in popular Maskandi group, Shabalala Rhythm.

Aside from promoting Zulu culture, traditional music and social cohesion, the duo have also been actively involved in rhino conservation, working alongside the Kingsley Holgate Foundation and Project Rhino.

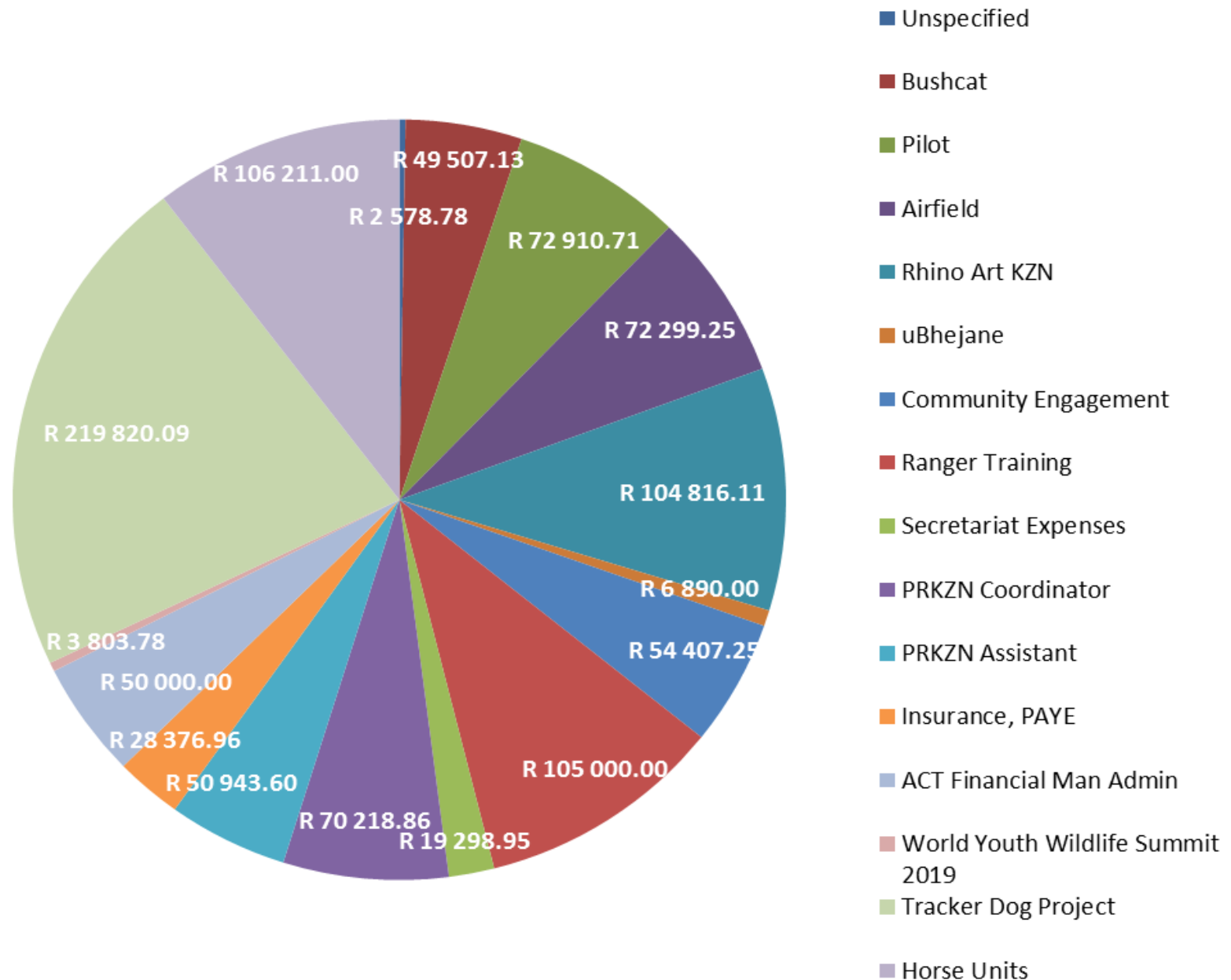
Website: www.qadasimusic.co.za

Facebook: www.facebook.com/qadasimusic



DISTRIBUTION OF FUNDING

Project Rhino Financial Expenditure 2019



PROJECT RHINO FOUNDING MEMBERS:

African Conservation Trust | Black Rhino Range Expansion Project (WWF) | Ezemvelo KZN Wildlife | Game Rangers Association of Africa (GRAA)
KZN Directorate for Priority Crimes (HAWKS) | Magqubu Ntombela Foundation | Midlands Wildlife Security Initiative | Phinda Private Game Reserve (& Beyond)
Space for Elephants | Thanda Foundation | Thanda Private Game Reserve | The Lawrence Anthony Earth Organisation | WESSA | Wildlife ACT Fund
Wildlands Conservation Trust | Wilderness Action Group | Wilderness Foundation | Zululand Rhino Reserve | Zululand Wildlife Security Initiative

TEL: (+27) 031 765 3957 WEBSITES: www.projectrhinokzn.org | www.zapwing.org | www.youthrhinosummit.com EMAIL: info@projectrhinokzn.org
c/o African Conservation Trust (Secretariat), 8 Old Main Road, Hillcrest | PO Box 310, Linkhills, 3652

MONITORING | PROTECTING | CONSERVING | TOGETHER

THANK YOU TO OUR DONORS & SUPPORTERS



"What motivates us daily is the dream of both White and Black rhino species thriving in KwaZulu-Natal and far beyond - forever free, forever secure from poaching, well managed and protected.

Today we strive to protect the world's last remaining African Rhino species, so that tomorrow they will still continue to play their vital role in our continent's irreplaceable and beautiful ecosystems. We honor their uniqueness as one of the primary protector species of Africa's great wilderness areas. We know you feel the same and thank you for your support."