

Annual REPORT 2022

Project Projec



Contents	८
Founding Statement	3
About Project Rhino	3
Members	4
Rhino Poaching Statistics	5
Our Projects and Initiatives	6
The Zululand Anti-Poaching Wing: ZAP-Wing	6
Project Rhino K9-Unit	8
Horse Unit Support	8
Rhino Art: 'Let our children's voices be heard'	8
Empowering Wildlife Communities	9
Ranger Training & Support	9
Conferences, Awards & Media	11
Conferences	11
Awards	11
Media	11
Main Fundraising Events	13
Oceans 8 Charity Swim	13
Run for Rangers	13
Wildlife Ranger Challenge	13
FESPA Africa	13
RHINOVEMBER	14
Beneficiary Events	14
Funders and Donors	15
Contact Information	17

ntonto





Founding Statement

"

Project Rhino is an association of like-minded organisations facilitating rhino conservation interventions aimed at eliminating rhino poaching and securing the white and black rhino populations of KwaZulu-Natal.

The members of Project Rhino recognise that the work in conserving and protecting rhinos from the threat of poaching is symbolic of the broader threat faced by all wildlife, and that all wildlife will benefit from actions taken by Project Rhino. The association is also aware that the poaching of rhino is symptomatic of the overall, bigger conservation & environmental crises facing South Africa and its neighbours.

99

About Project Rhino

Project Rhino was launched on World Rhino Day, 22 September 2011. It is a province-wide rhinofocussed association that brings together a provincial government conservation body, private and community-owned reserves, rhino owners, leading conservation NGOs and anti-poaching security specialists.

There are numerous fundamental projects that fall under the Project Rhino umbrella which we believe are critical in the fight against wildlife crime - a complex problem that must be approached in a holistic manner. Our initiatives are seen as tools in a bigger toolbox that work hand in hand to stop rhino poaching.

Project Rhino's anti-poaching work is predominantly within the northern KwaZulu-Natal (KZN) region, including uMkhanyakude, Zululand and King Cetshwayo District Municipalities (broadly referred to as the Zululand cluster) and the greater Uthukela District (broadly referred to as the Midlands Cluster), but we also work with schools across KZN and beyond in our Rhino Art programme.

Members

Project Rhino's 37 members cover a wide range of conservation and anti-poaching strategies, with each member carrying specialist expertise. In addition, members collaborate with a diverse range of conservation specialists and anti-poaching authorities. Each and every one is needed if we are going to turn the poaching tide in KZN.

As a collaborative body, we are able to rapidly mobilise stakeholders and deploy resources where they are needed in real time. Working together also avoids duplication of effort, and costs.



We extend a huge thank you to all our members for their incredible support year-on-year: from supporting our fundraising and events, to attending meetings and sharing your specialist skills and knowledge. • & Beyond (Phinda Private Game Reserve)

- African Conservation Trust (ACT)
- Alpha Security
- Babanango Game Reserve
- Black Rhino Range Expansion Project (WWF)
- Bonamanzi Game Reserve
- Conservation Outcomes
- Ezemvelo KZN Wildlife (EKZNW)
- Ezemvelo Honorary Officers
- Game Rangers Association of South Africa
- HAWKS (Directorate for priority crime investigation)
- Institute for Personal Close Protection (IFPCP)
- Lawrence Anthony Earth Organization
- Magqubu Ntombela Foundation
- Manyoni Private Game Reserve (Previously Zululand Rhino Reserve)
- Midlands Wildlife Security Initiative
- Mpeti Game Reserve
- Mpilo Game Reserve
- Nambiti Big 5 Game Reserve
- Pongola Game Reserve
- SATIB Insurance Brokers
- Somkhanda Game Reserve
- Space For Elephants Foundation
- Thanda Foundation
- Thanda Private Game Reserve
- Thula-Thula Private Game Reserve
- Trackbox (SA CAN)
- Ven-Africa Private Game Reserve
- WESSA
- Wilderness Action Group
- Wilderness Foundation
- Wilderness Leadership School
- WildTrust (Wildlands Conservation Trust)
- Wildlife ACT Fund
- Zulu Nyala Game Reserve
- Zulu Waters Game Reserve
- Zululand Wildlife Security Initiative

We truly are stronger together.

Rhino Poaching Statistics

There has been an alarming increase in rhino poaching in KwaZulu-Natal since the re-opening of borders at the end of 2021. The lives of the rangers and anti-poaching personnel who work to protect our wildlife are also at risk. In her most recent media releases (August 2022 and February 2023), the Department of Forestry, Fisheries & Environment (DFFE) Minister Creecy publicly confirmed that whilst rhino poaching in the Kruger National Park and other national parks has declined, the KZN province was under increased attack from rhino poaching criminals:

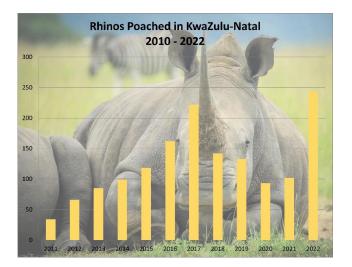
"Unfortunately, the poaching threat has shifted to KwaZulu-Natal, which lost 244 rhino to poaching last year. Of these, 228 were killed in provincial parks and 16 in privately owned reserves. The Hluhluwe iMfolozi Park was specifically targeted."

Nationally, South Africa lost 448 rhinos between 1 January and 31 December 2022. This is a slight decrease on 2021, in which 451 rhino were lost. Private rhino owners lost 86 rhinos across the country.

A total of 132 arrests were made during 2022 for rhino poaching: 23 in the Skukuza area in Mpumalanga, 49 in KwaZulu-Natal and the balance in Limpopo. This includes the arrest of 26

The provincial and national breakdown for 2022. Credit Department of Forestry, Fisheries & Environment of rhino horn traffickers and 13 people for money laundering and bribing of rangers. Over the 12year period from 2010 – 2022, the country has lost 9,581 rhino to poaching.

The province of KwaZulu-Natal lost 244 rhino by December 2022 – more than half of all rhino deaths. For the 2010 – 2022 period KZN has lost 1,611 rhino¹.



The threat to the world's rhino populations continues, as poaching syndicates are constantly adapting, on the lookout for weaknesses and opportunities. We remain committed to our mission of securing rhino populations and fighting wildlife crime, so that our rhinos may remain safe and free for many generations to come.

Provinces and national parks	2020	2021	2022	
SANParks	247	209	124	
Gauteng	2	2	2	
Limpopo	18	38	25	
Mpumalanga	13	39	21	
North West	19	32	24	
Eastern Cape	0	0	0	
Free State	1	24	4	
Northern Cape	1	1	4	
KwaZulu-Natal	93	102	244	
Western Cape	0	4	0	
Total	394	451	448	

¹ Public poaching figures are reported by the DFFE approximately once or twice per year. For more info, please

visit their website:

https://www.dffe.gov.za/mediarelease/creecy_rhinopoachin gupdate2023feb

Our Projects and Initiatives

Project Rhino takes a holistic approach to fighting wildlife crime, incorporating projects that are both preventative (educational) and reactive. Our flagship anti-poaching programmes are the K9 (canine) and aerial response units, who are able to respond to criminal activities as and when they happen. Having the K9 and ZAP-Wing teams operational during the last 12 months has led to the successful apprehension of suspects related to several significant crimes in the Zululand landscape. These crimes do not only include wildlife crime, but the incarceration of counterfeit goods syndicates, illegal wildlife and trade syndicates, general farm and lodge robbers, hijackers and common criminals who pose a threat to our reserves, wildlife and surrounding communities. The constant, visible presence of these anti-poaching units has made everyone in the Zululand area aware of our activities, making criminals much less confident in conducting illegal activities. Their presence has also provided the general conservation, farming, and rural communities more security and trust in Project Rhino's ability to keep all above-mentioned communities safe and crime free.



The Zululand Anti-Poaching Wing: ZAP-Wing

After experiencing a welcomed lull in Rhino poaching in 2021, the first half of 2022 saw a large spike in poaching in KwaZulu-Natal. As anti-poaching is a collaboration of multiple systems, teams, and processes, it is often difficult to measure the effectivity a single element. However, in 2022, ZAP-Wing has comfortably demonstrated the importance of aerial support in the fight against wildlife crime.

When compared to the previous year, ZAP-Wing tripled its surveillance hours for the year. This peaked at 90 hours in a single month and created a near constant presence over our member reserves. The increased consistency acts, not only as visual deterrent to potential poachers, but has also shown to be a vital tool in carcass detection. This is an important step as it provides support teams with the best possible information to help identify, arrest, and convict the poachers and their network.



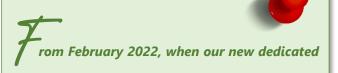
Where early carcass detection has shown to be most important and successful, is in the increased possibility of finding the orphaned calves of the poached animals. These calves often have a very small window in which they are able to survive without the protection and care of the mother. With ZAP-Wing's support, 5 of these orphans have been successfully found and relocated to rhino orphanages. This has become one of the large driving forces for ZAP-Wing operations moving into 2023.

As rhino often venture into areas not easily accessible to ground based wildlife management and monitoring teams, the aircraft has shown to be useful in assisting with locating and monitoring the health of these animals. It is also valuable in identifying candidates for preventative de-horning, thus minimising the cost for dehorning per animal, which in turn allows more animals to be dehorned per annual budget.

In addition to wildlife protection, ZAP-Wing continued its support of local security and law enforcement teams. This has included offering air support in hijackings, robberies, and other police operations. ZAP-Wing also supported the South African Police Service in a law enforcement operation which involved the pursuit of armed suspects and a shoot-out with police officers in Empangeni earlier in the year. (Read the story on our Facebook page here).

Unfortunately, in the latter part of the year, during a scheduled maintenance service of our aeroplane, indications of severe wear inside the engine of the wing's aircraft were discovered. This required an engine replacement thus, sadly, grounding the aircraft for a period of time (August 2022 – January 2023).

ZAP-Wing, working with volunteer pilots of The Bataleurs, were able to continue scheduled patrols and normal air support during most of this downtime. A huge thank you must be passed on to The Bateleurs for their continued support of ZAP-Wing and Project Rhino as well as to the Rainbow Sky Reach team, who assisted us with the replacement of the new engine. The biggest shoutout of all, must go to all our members, friends and supporters who without fail supported and contributed towards the new engine – We would never have been able to get our plane airborne again without your continuous support!



pilot Keaton Perkins started, until the end of August 2022, when the plane was grounded, a total of 368 hours were flown of which 325 were for patrol and reaction (Plus an additional 35 hours with the Bateleurs). 12 Poached rhinos were found by our air wing, 2 wounded rhinos were detected and successfully treated and 5 calves from poached adult females were located and successfully moved to a rhino orphanage to ensure their survival.

Here is to great achievements in 2023 and ensuring we keep our wildlife safe with our eyes in the sky!





Project Rhino K9-Unit

Our K9 unit has expanded, and we now have 7 operational K9's covering all capabilities from cold scent, hot scent, to detection and tracking. All our K9s have been also trained to fly in an aircraft, should they need to be dispatched by air. We are completely dedicated to ensuring that all teams are as prepared as they possibly can be to fight wildlife crime and do extensive training with all our member reserves and their Anti-Poaching Units as frequently as possible. The dogs and handlers also successfully completed numerous training courses with the Game Rangers Association of Africa and Johan van Straten from Kruger over the last year.

And if being on call 24/7 wasn't exhausting enough, the unit also participated in the third annual TUSK Wildlife Ranger Challenge in August-September, with main event being a 21 km run in full uniform, carrying a 22 kg backpack. (Refer to the <u>Events</u> section of this document for more info).

An exciting partnership with the Cumbria Zoo Company, Dogs 4 Wildlife, Institute for Close Personal Protection (IFPCP), Project Rhino and Bonamanzi Game Reserve, has led to the formation of a brand new **Bonamanzi Ranger and K9 Unit**.

On a recent trip to KwaZulu-Natal's wildlife reserves, the Cumbria management team were shocked at the cruelty of poaching and snaring happening daily in our conservation areas. Project Rhino member, Bonamanzi Game Reserve is one such reserve. With the Hluhluwe River running along its boundary, the reserve is vulnerable to incursions and has lost a significant number of animals to poaching and snaring, in particular giraffe.

So, in December 2022, the Bonamanzi Ranger and K9 Unit was born. The dedicated Unit includes two rangers and two K9s - one will be a tracking, search and detection dog (Bavarian Mountain Hound, Nkosi), and the other a tracking and apprehension

From January 2022 to December 2022, the

K9-Unit removed 885 snares on patrol, responded to 112 emergency call outs, apprehended 33 criminals, retrieved 3 illegal firearms, recovered stolen goods (including wildlife products and rhino carcasses) from 17 incidences, recovered 9 hi-jacked vehicles, responded to 10 armed robbery / burglary cases, dealt with 1 abduction case and successfully found the missing person, and, retrieved narcotics from 3 separate incidences where arrests were made (+/- 6kgs narcotics, 2x truckloads of counterfeit goods worth R15million).

dog (Belgian Malinois, Dan who is already on site). Project Rhino and IFPCP are overseeing the training of the handlers and managing the Unit's development and operational deployment, with Cumbria funding the rangers' salaries and operational costs and Dogs 4 Wildlife the Unit's two new dogs alongside the required qualifications and certification.

In a short amount of time, the new recruits have already proven their worth and impact in removing snares from the reserve. We are sure that their ongoing presence will lead to a reduction of poaching and snaring attempts, as word of their existence spreads.



Horse Unit Support

Our support to the various reserve's horse units has continued and we endeavour to help with training, equipment, veterinary bills and food (horse pellets and hay) when and where needed.

Rhino Art: 'Let our children's voices be heard'

Schools are always excited to see Richard Mabanga and his Rhino Rig arrive on site – especially after the COVID interruptions of 2020/2021. This year we were fortunate to be joined by several friends in conservation, including NGO Partners, Wild Connection, Bly Sky Society Trust, international students and volunteers and SA Presidential Award nominees – much fun was had by all.

Most of the educational presentations were in the northern KwaZulu-Natal region, and the Rhino Art team clocked up the kilometres visiting high schools, primary schools, creches, private schools and everything in between.

In addition to activations, outreach and judging, we co-facilitated two Kid's Camps, involving a total of 74 learners and 8 teachers, and partnered with Ezemvelo KZN Wildlife in a corridor cleaning campaign with learners from the local surrounding schools in September. The Magqubu Ntombela Auditorium was used as a platform to educate the learners about Nature Conservation and World Rhino Month.

```
Some 11,466 learners were reached at 42
```

different events in 2022, with a focus on schools adjacent to conservation areas, or near to poaching hotspots.

Rhino Art is partnership between Project Rhino and the Kingsley Holgate Foundation. It was founded in 2013, as rhino poaching in South Africa reached crisis levels, and with the realisation that less than 2% of South Africa's youth had seen a rhino in the wild.

Empowering Wildlife Communities

The COVID-19 lockdown devastated Africa's tourism and hospitality sectors - leading to loss of jobs and incomes for some our must vulnerable communities. Project Rhino was part of a multistakeholder initiative to relieve food insecurity by providing families, rangers, and wildlife communities with food parcels. Between 2020 and 2022, more than 2.6 million parcels were delivered wildlife communities, issued to alongside neighbouring reserves and with the assistance of the local Nkosi (community leader) to ensure they went to the families most in need. Each food parcel drop went hand in hand with a conservation message as we used the opportunity to educate communities on conservation and the preservation of our wildlife and wild areas.



The programme partners continue to support wildlife communities where possible, assisting with services such as boreholes, food garden support and school resources.

The programme helps to build positive, healthy bridges with game reserve neighbours - showing that conservation cares for communities during difficult times.



Ranger Training & Support

Ranger safety and training is of utmost importance to us, and we also support ranger teams with uniforms and equipment wherever we can. Through the Game Ranger Association of Africa, we have teamed up with Jim Green, who sponsored the Project Rhino K9 Team, our Member Reserve Thanda Safari's Anti-Poaching Team, and our HIP Equine rangers with brand new boots – which we are so grateful for.

Over the course of 2022, we conducted

continuous training of teams and member reserve's rangers. These trainings included PARCS Training, CMore Training, Crime Scene Management, K9 and ZAP-Wing simulator training, and Advanced Ranger Training. These training opportunities are enormous morale boosters for our rangers.

Both the K9 and ZAP-Wing teams actively conduct operations simulator training with our member reserves to prepare for what we could expect in real life situations. These trainings highlight any major shortcomings that teams may have and help to ensure that teams are as prepared and organised as possible to deal with a crisis situation. Training improves communication between ground and air teams and plays a vital role in building trust and relationships with reserves.



In total we conducted and participated in 29 training workshops and awareness events over 12 months, this is an average of 2.5 per month, broken down as follows:

- 4 x Zululand security meetings
- 4 x Midlands security meetings
- 2 x Tree planting projects in Loziba
- 3 x K9 training workshops
- 3 x Community education and food drop projects with DoMore and Kingsley Holgate Foundation
- 1 x PARCS Training
- 2 x CMore Training
- 1 x Crime Scene Management Training
- 6 x K9 and ZAP-Wing simulator training
- 3 x Advanced Ranger Training



Conferences. Awards & Media

Conferences

In addition to Project Rhino membership meetings, we have been fortunate to have shared and learned from some of the world's leading conservation and anti-poaching specialists. Conferences attended in 2022 included the IWZ-National Law Enforcement, South African Embassy event in London and the IUCN Africa Protected Areas Congress (APAC) in Kigali, Rwanda. During the latter, Grant Fowlds shared a presentation on Project Rhino's community conservation work and co-chaired a workshop on combatting wildlife crime.

Awards

We are incredibly proud of the Project Rhino K9-Unit who was recognised with a 'highly commended' award at this year's **International Ranger Awards**. This was the second International Ranger Awards, presented by the International Union for Conservation of Nature and World Commission on Protected Areas. A total of 21 awards were given to rangers and ranger teams across the globe, recognising their tremendous work as 'the unsung heroes and heroines of conservation.'





Project Rhino was selected as the Prestige Awards 2022/2023 **WINNER** in the Conservation NPO of the Year Category. The Corporate Livewire Prestige Awards accept nominations from the general public under specific categories and once the allocation of nominations has been met, all businesses within that particular category are then passed onto a panel of industry expert judges who pick a winner. Publicly sourced information is used, such as reviews, testimonials, information provided on the company's website and social media platforms.

Project Rhino was also accepted as a Corporate Member of the **Game Rangers Association of Africa** in 2022, Membership No 1938.

Media

Wildlife crime is a global issue, and it is imperative that we reach as many people as possible with the truth so that we can stop poaching and help save our endangered species. Project Rhino anti-poaching teams were featured in the following films and television inserts in 2022:

 Carte Blanche (one of South Africa's most popular investigative journalist TV programmes) included KZN in their programme: <u>POACHING PANDEMIC</u>: Warfare and wildlife protection - The role that rangers play on the frontline (January 2022).

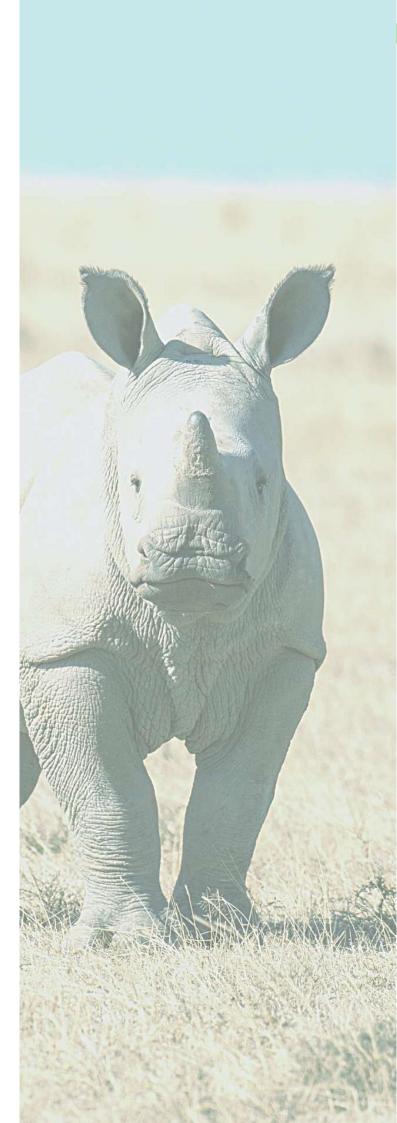
- A film with Jere Hietala from Finland as well as the '*Guardians of Nature*' series (alongside the Safe Harbor Foundation and Game Rangers Association of Africa) will highlight the critical role that teams like aerial response, K9 and Equine units play in protecting Earth's wildlife and critical ecosystems (May 2022).
- The Project Rhino and IFPCP K9 team were featured on an insert on international news broadcaster ITV which highlighted the work of partner, Dogs 4 Wildlife, and the valuable role of anti-poaching dogs in the fight against wildlife crime (November 2022).

The valuable work of pilot Keaton Perkins and the Zululand Anti-Poaching Wing was also highlighted in the press as ZAP-Wing appeared on the cover of SA Flyer magazine, as well as online by Fly Rotax (aircraft engines).

Additional online and in-person events included:

- Grant Fowlds was interviewed by Nicolene Anley (People Planet Youth) & Elevation Barn (July 2022).
- A Run for Rangers online panel discussion, alongside the Game Rangers Association of Africa, International Ranger Foundation, Thanda Game Reserve, Sport for Lives, What does the Giraffe Say Media, Harry Bailey and Keegan Daniel (July 2022).
- A panel discussion facilitated by Stop Poaching Now, together with Game Rangers International, Soft Foot Alliance, Ulizi Africa Foundation, Blood Lions, Aaranyak, Third Pole Conservancy and Wildlife Now (August 2022).
- An evening with Sharon Jessop a rhino activist, fundraiser and Guinness World Record holder of 102 half marathons (November 2022).

Anthony Kirkwood and the Big Red Design Agency also generously produced a new promotional video on Project Rhino's work and projects. It is available on YouTube: <u>Project Rhino</u> <u>Stop Wildlife Crime - YouTube</u>.



Main Fundraising Events

After COVID-19 forced us to take a lengthy break from fundraising and school events, we are delighted to be able to participate in public events again – particularly as this funding is so needed to keep our projects running. We are incredibly grateful to all our sponsors, supporters, and participants for championing Project Rhino's conservation efforts in 2022/2023.

Oceans 8 Charity Swim

Oceans 8 Charity Swim is the brainchild of 5 Non-Profit Organisations (DUCT, the NSRI, Project Rhino, Singakwenza and WildTrust), and will be the first warm ocean open water challenge of its kind in South Africa, run entirely for 14 charities. Participants can choose to swim either 1-mile or 8-miles to raise funds for their favourite cause. Unfortunately, the 2022 event had to be postponed due to uncertainty regarding water quality after the April flooding, but we did join our fellow charities in a mini, "Sunrise Splash," event at uShaka Marine World in November. We are looking forward to the main event on 16th & 17th (18th) June 2023.

Run for Rangers

Run for Rangers was initiated by Harry Bailey, an 18-year-old schoolboy from Hilton College who wanted to raise funding and awareness for the men and women who work tirelessly to protect our conservation areas. The event, organised in partnership with NPO Sport for Lives, took place over 2 days in Thanda Game Reserve and raised more than R150,000 for KZN's rangers.

We are delighted to confirm that we will be running a second Run for Rangers in World Ranger Month, July 2023 - and hope to collaborate in other events like this that inspire hope and make a difference.

Wildlife Ranger Challenge

For the third consecutive year, the Project Rhino K9 team joined 100+ ranger organisations from more than 20 African countries in the TUSK <u>Wildlife Ranger Challenge</u>. The Challenge included a series of fitness and mental challenges, ending in a 21km race in full uniform, carrying 22kg backpacks over varied terrain.

For the first time, we had friends, supporters and partners joining the race, helping us to raise the profile of the event, and motivating our rangers. A huge thank you to Expand a Sign, Harry Bailey, Sport for Lives, Thanda Game Reserve and our long-time partner Mr Price Sport who all had representatives at the event.

We participated to support our fellow rangers, to create awareness, to protect our wildlife and wild open spaces and because we want to make a difference!

Despite the blistering Zululand heat, the Project Rhino K9 Team successfully completed all the Wildlife Ranger Challenges and took first place in the canine detection challenge. We could not be prouder of our team!



FESPA Africa

A huge thank you <u>Rexx Screen and Digital</u> <u>Supplies (Pty) Ltd</u> for choosing Project Rhino as their dedicated beneficiary NGO at the FESPA Africa Graphics, Print and Sign Expo. The Rexx team kindly shared their 'Pop-Up on Demand' stall at Gallagher Convention Centre with the Project Rhino team and designed the most beautiful rhino artworks for demonstrating their printing machines to potential clients. Rexx believe in sustainable, environmentally friendly business practices and have been incredible supporters of rhino conservation.

RHINOVEMBER

We are so grateful to BDE Attorneys for supporting rhino conservation during the month of (RHI)November. BDE organised a fundraising raffle with some amazing, sponsored prizes, as well as a silent auction for a two-night stay at Thula-Thula Private Game Reserve.

The campaign concluded with a family fun day at Clifton Canyon Pop Up Market in Hillcrest, where supporters could meet Roslynne Toerien, author of "The Rumbling Rhino." We extend massive thanks to BDE Attorneys, event supporters and the generous prize sponsors for making it possible: Kemayu Spa, NU Driving Range, Roslynne Toerien, Miss Moo Nails, Travis Duggan 4x4, Spur Steak Ranches, Durban Skydive Centre, Suncoast Barnyard, Karkloof Canopy Tour, KartingKZN, Thula-Thula Private Game Reserve, Land Rover Hillcrest Clifton Canyon Pop Up Market, Vet On Main and Mazarat Ponies for Parties.

Beneficiary Events

The **Horings & Dorings Fees** in Hluhluwe were amazing in raising R3,800 for Project Rhino at their festival in May. The Hluhluwe Pineapple Farmers also donated R2,000, and Durban Skydive Centre donated a whopping R13,500 from their jumps at the festival.

Project Rhino was one of the beneficiary NPOs in the **Stop Poaching Now Global E-Race Extinction** fundraiser. The event from $7^{th} - 14^{th}$ August included numerous activities such as exercise sessions, educational workshops and panel discussions, culminating in the main race event. During the feature E-Race, participants could walk, ride or run in a symbolic display of taking a step towards a mutual goal of preserving wildlife and the planet.

In November, the dedicated uBhejane X cyclists returned to the road to take on one of South Africa's toughest cycling events. The **uBhejane Extreme Mountain Bike Challenge** is comprised of either a 120 km, 250 km, or three-day 350 km ride - in the heat of summer - from Hillcrest to Hilltop Camp in Hluhluwe-Imfolozi Big 5 Game Reserve.

uBhejaneX MTB Rhino Ride Challenge is a registered non-profit organisation and all money raised from donations and sponsorship goes to certified rhino conservation and anti-poaching initiatives. The event has raised in excess of R2 million since inception in 2014.









Funders and Donors

Our heartfelt thanks to all of our donors, no matter how big or small, for your kind support throughout uncertain times. Without you, our work would not be possible.

Brand-Sharing and. Corporate Partners

- Aardvark Apparel
- > Anew Hotel
- BDE Law Attorneys
- Big Red Design Agency Anthony Kirkwood
- CCI South Africa
- EO Entrepreneurs Organization (Bayete Lodge via Keegan Daniel)
- > Expanda a Sign
- Hills Pet Nutrition
- Horings & Dorings Festival, the Hluhluwe Pineapple Growers and Skydive Durban
- Jim Greene Boots
- Macphesh Accounting
- Miro & Makauri
- Mr Price Sport
- Mun-Ya- Wana Conservancy
- One Plan Pet and Medical Insurance
- Phoenix International- Craig Melnick
- Project Rhino Dog NFTs
- RCL Foods
- Rexx Screen and Digital Supplies (Pty) Ltd
- Rhino Hosting
- Seven Travel
- Spar Group
- The Crayon Bug

Private Donors & Supporters

- Adam Schwartz
- Ashleigh Smith
- Christina Skytt
- Craig Edwardes
- Craig Melnick
- > Damian & Ollie Riley-Smith
- Golding Donation (March)
- Harry Bailey
- Jaime Rupert
- Janie Olsen
- Jean van Elden
- Jeremy Anderson, Michael Palmer, Nicholas Duncan and Duncan Paul
- Karl Barske
- Laura Frank Foundation
- Laurie Davis
- Lawrence David Palerners
- Lexi Linde
- Lisa Goldsmith
- Lorraine Doyle Thanda Safari
- Mark Pedrick
- Matthew Tim
- Peter Curtis
- Peter Eastwood
- Sarah Cobden Ramsay
- Susanne Honnegar

Project Funders and NGOs

- African Conservation Trust
- Amanzi Ethu DUCT
- Blue Sky Society Trust
- Council of Contributors
- Cumbria Zoo Company
- Dogs 4 Wildlife
- Domore Foundation
- Elephant Crisis Fund
- Game Rangers Association of Africa
- Global Conservation Force
- International Rhino Federation
- IUCN WCPA
- Jim Greene Boots
- Natural Habitat Adventures
 Boulder, Colorado
- Oceans 8 Charity Swim
- Operation Red Bull PPF
- Peace Parks Foundation
- Raising Rhino Rands
- Rhino Tears Jewellery UK
- Save The Rhino Trust
- Sport for Lives
- Star for Life-Thanda Foundation
- Stop Poaching Now
- Tanglewood Foundation
- > The Bateleurs
- TUSK
- UBhejane X
- WESSA Lowveld
- Wild Connection
- WWF Netherlands
- Zulu Nyala

Schools

- Bishop Burton / Global Adventure Projects
- Cape Henry School, USA
- Eden College, Durban
- Eden Village
- Highclare, Birmingham UK (via Wild Connections)
- Kamalinee Primary School
- Kingsway High School Amanzimtoti
- Pick n Pay Schools- Nadine Visser
- Ridge Junior Primary school
- Settlers' Park Pre-Primary Ellen Borain
- St Marys Kloof DSG
- Treverton School
- > Umhlali Primary
- Westlake Girls New Zealand

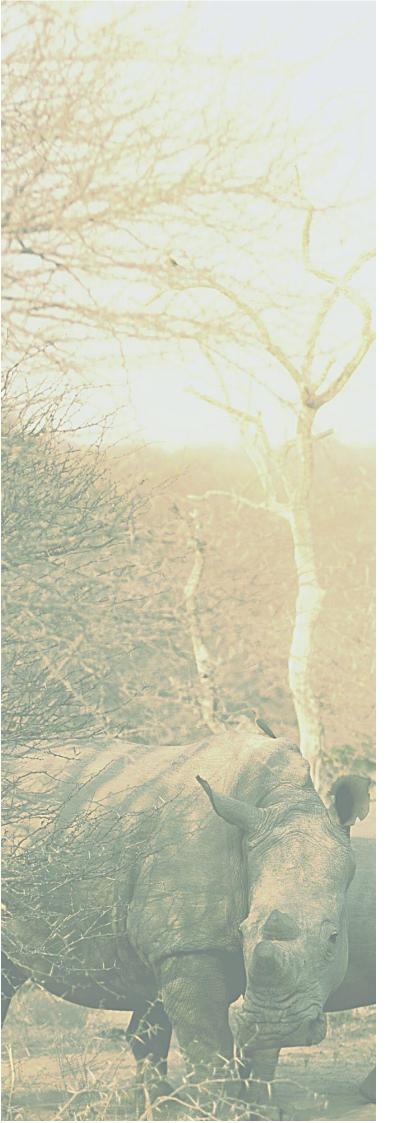
Additional Acknowledgements

A special thank you to Thanda Private and Weenen Game Reserves for hosting our bi-monthly member meetings.

Thank you also to Mziki Private Reserve for hosting our friends, partners and donors.

To everyone who has donated their time, knowledge, money or resources to the cause this past year – your efforts are truly appreciated!





Contact Information

Project Rhino Alliance NPC

Registration Number: 2021/843413/08

SARS Approved Public Benefit Organisation with **section 18A status** (local donations are eligible for tax relief).

Email: admin@projectrhinokzn.org

Address: 41 Devonshire Lane, Winterskloof, Hilton, 3245 | Suite 8, Private Bag X 6011, Hilton, 3245

Websites: <u>www.projectrhinokzn.org</u> | <u>www.zapwing.org</u> | <u>www.rhinoart.net</u>

Social Media: @projectrhinokzn

A@

Report Wildlife Crime

Environmental crime hotline: 0800 205 005

Banking Details

Account Name: Project Rhino Alliance NPC Bank: First National Bank (FNB) Branch: Kloof Branch Code: 250 655 Account No: 629 203 46 229 Swift Code: FIRNZAJJ





RHINO ART BE HEARD

Photograph

Acknowledgements

Cover Image: Les Weaver Lundy Bredberg Leticia Cox Grant Fowlds Chris Galliers Etienne Gerber Keaton Perkins Carlien Roodt Sport for Lives