

Pilanesberg Game Reserve (Anderson):

Nineteen animals have been introduced, first 11, then 8, all from Hluhluwe-Umfolozzi. No mortality in the translocation process. There are 8 males and 11 females, and two calves (possibly a third) have been born - thus a current population of 21. There has been an improvement in physical condition. The Reserve intends to introduce 35 animals. Two estimates of carrying capacity for Pilanesberg are both 120 (Hitchins, Goodman).

If black rhinos are ever removed, the policy would be to send animals first to Zululand, then to other conservation areas, and lastly to private land owners.

South West Africa (Joubert):

No physical differences, particularly with regard to skull measurements, could be discerned between bicornis and minor animals.

In 1965 there were fewer than 100 black rhinos in the whole of the country, and less than 30 lived in Etosha. Fifty animals were then translocated to Etosha from private farms along the Ugab river (now Damaraland) and private farms south of Etosha. At end-1983, there were a known 302 and an estimated 350 rhinos in Etosha, a safe environment. This population is expanding, and animals could be removed to the existing Mahango and Khaudum Game Reserves in north-east S.W.A. and to the proposed Bushmanland Game Reserve.

There are an estimated 41 desert rhinos in Damaraland in four areas, of which two are considered relatively safe (Unjab River catchment, lower Hoanib River), comprising 25 animals. These, with ten others, are north of the veterinary fence (the "red line"). The 6 animals south of the fence and the estimated three in the western Caorivi are in danger, as are the estimated five animals in north-west Kaokoland.

Thus, S.W.A. has a minimum number of 351 rhinos, and an estimated population of 400.

The carrying capacity of white rhinos in South West African reserves is approximately 1 000 plus.

THERE IS CONSIDERABLE CONCERN OVER THE FUTURE OF THE DAMARALAND BLACK RHINOS.