

# LAKE NAKURU RHINO SANCTUARY

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# The Status of Rhinos in Africa

By Lucy Vigne

The status of rhinos in Africa is gloomier than ever before. The 1970s witnessed a 50% decline in the number of black rhino in Africa. A depressingly similar trend can be seen for the early 1980s with a 40% decline over the last four years. The number of northern white rhino has continued to plummet and the subspecies is nearly extinct. The southern white rhino, after a precarious crash at the turn of the century, has continued to recover remarkably well with careful management. This gives us hope that all is not yet lost for the black rhino despite the trends.

The first thorough pan-African rhino survey was carried out in 1979 by Kes Hillman, who was Chairman of IUCN's Rhino Specialist Group. She sent out questionnaires to all the African countries with rhinos specifically to the Wildlife Departments and to people working in the field. Data were collected on rhino numbers and ranges for each country. Similar questionnaires were sent out again by David Western, the Chairman of the African Elephant and Rhino Specialist Group, and were completed a year later in November 1984. Although much information had to be based on educated guesses, enough data from well-studied areas provide us with an overall picture of reality.

The rhino numbers for each country are shown in the Table. The estimated totals of black rhinos in Africa in 1980 were 14-15,000 and now there are about 8-9,000 left. Only two populations, those in the Luangwa Valley, Zambia, and in the Selous Game Reserve, Tanzania, exceed 1,000 black rhinos. In the 1970s East Africa was hard hit by poaching and in the early 1980s, with increased military arms and political instability spreading from Uganda to Sudan, Chad, Zaire and Ethiopia, these regions have now come under serious threat. Highly organized poaching gangs have reduced the black rhinos to less than 400, a tenth of the number in this northern crescent five years ago. The Central African Republic (CAR) has witnessed the most dramatic decline in rhino numbers. Poaching gangs have been hiding and hunting undisturbed, gradually eliminating rhinos. This dramatic reduction in black rhino numbers need not solely be attributed to killings, since in some countries, for example Kenya, improved censusing techniques have enabled us to gather more accurate information than previously. As the map shows, Namibia, South Africa and Zimbabwe have stable or increasing black rhino populations and these make up 30% of the total in Africa.

However, as 60% of the black rhinos are in East and Central Africa, this area, from Kenya to Zambia, is of great importance to the black rhino's future.

The northern white rhino in Sudan, Zaire and CAR dropped in numbers from about 600 in 1980 to about 30 now. Garamba National Park in Zaire is the last stronghold for the northern white rhino. The southern white rhino, however, has been increasing encouragingly from 3,000 in 1980 to nearly 4,000 today (see Table).

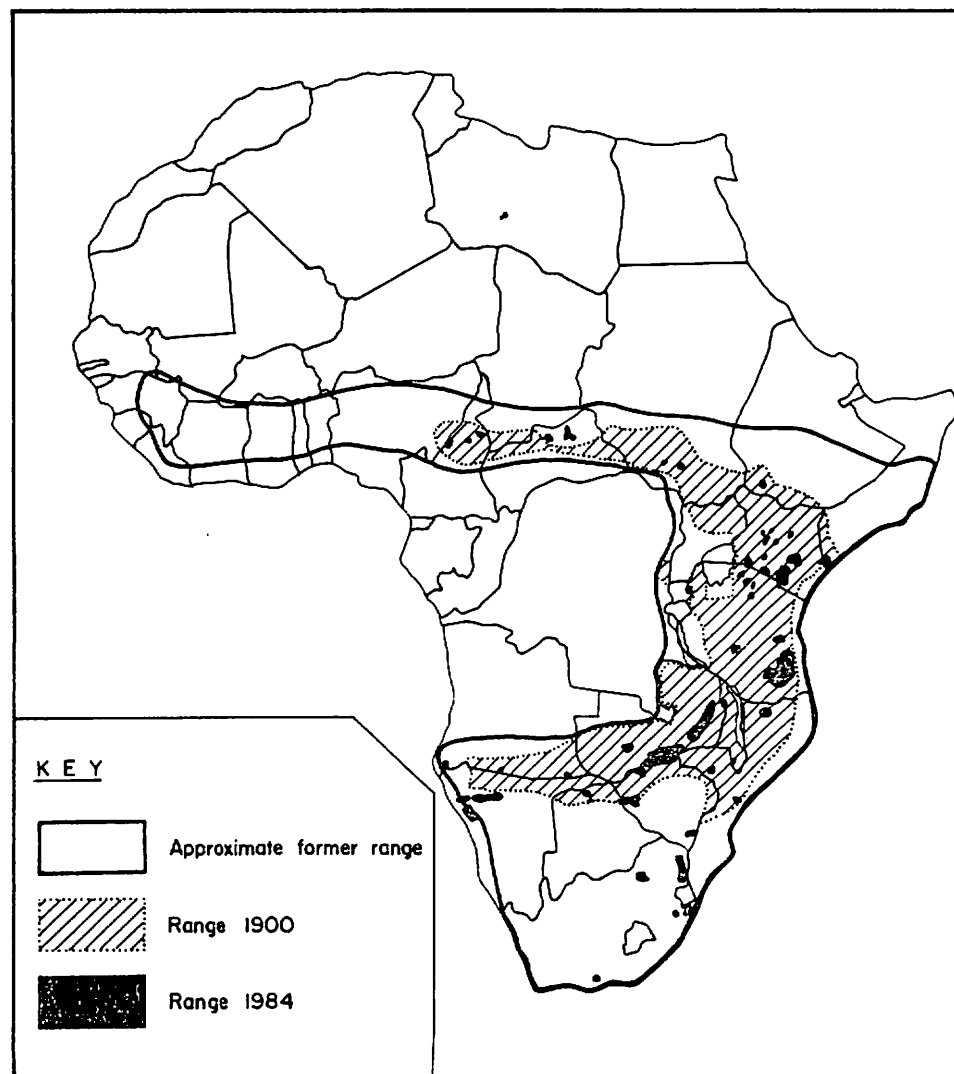
The dwindling of rhino numbers threatens the species' survival because it represents an overall decline in the rhino population sizes.

As the species fragments into smaller and smaller pockets, if the rhinos are not consolidated by translocating them into secure areas, fewer of these solitary rhinos are likely to meet and mate. Most rhinos now exist in isolated populations of less than 50 and these populations continue to decline and break up. Great attention must be given to anti-poaching measures. Although expensive, electric fencing is the surest method for keeping small rhino areas safe with proper management. Such sanctuaries exist in Kenya and we hope they are going to increase in number if enough funds can be provided for them.

The trade in rhino products must be stopped if it is at all possible. Esmond Bradley Martin has found that over 50% of Africa's rhino horn goes to North Yemen to be made into dagger handles; the rest goes to Eastern Asia for use in traditional medicines. The trade in rhino products can be curtailed by encouraging the use of substitutes.

The status of rhinos is dismal. There is no time to lose in trying to save the remaining few from man's unaccountable greed. If the trend continues to the end of the decade, the salvage of rhinos in most of Africa will be impossible. Active management programmes, as in Southern Africa, along with effective trading bans are a must if the black rhino in particular is going to survive.

## Black Rhino Range



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### Approximate number of black rhinos in Africa by country

Country	1980	1984
Tanzania	3,795	3,130
Zimbabwe	1,400	1,680
Zambia	2,750	1,650
South Africa	630	640
Kenya	1,500	550
Namibia	300	400
C.A.R.	3,000	170
Mozambique	250	130
Cameroon	110	110
Sudan	300	100
Somalia	300	90
Angola	300	90
Malawi	40	20
Rwanda	30	15
Botswana	30	10
Ethiopia	20	10
Chad	25	5
Uganda	5	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>14-15,000</b>	<b>8-9,000</b>

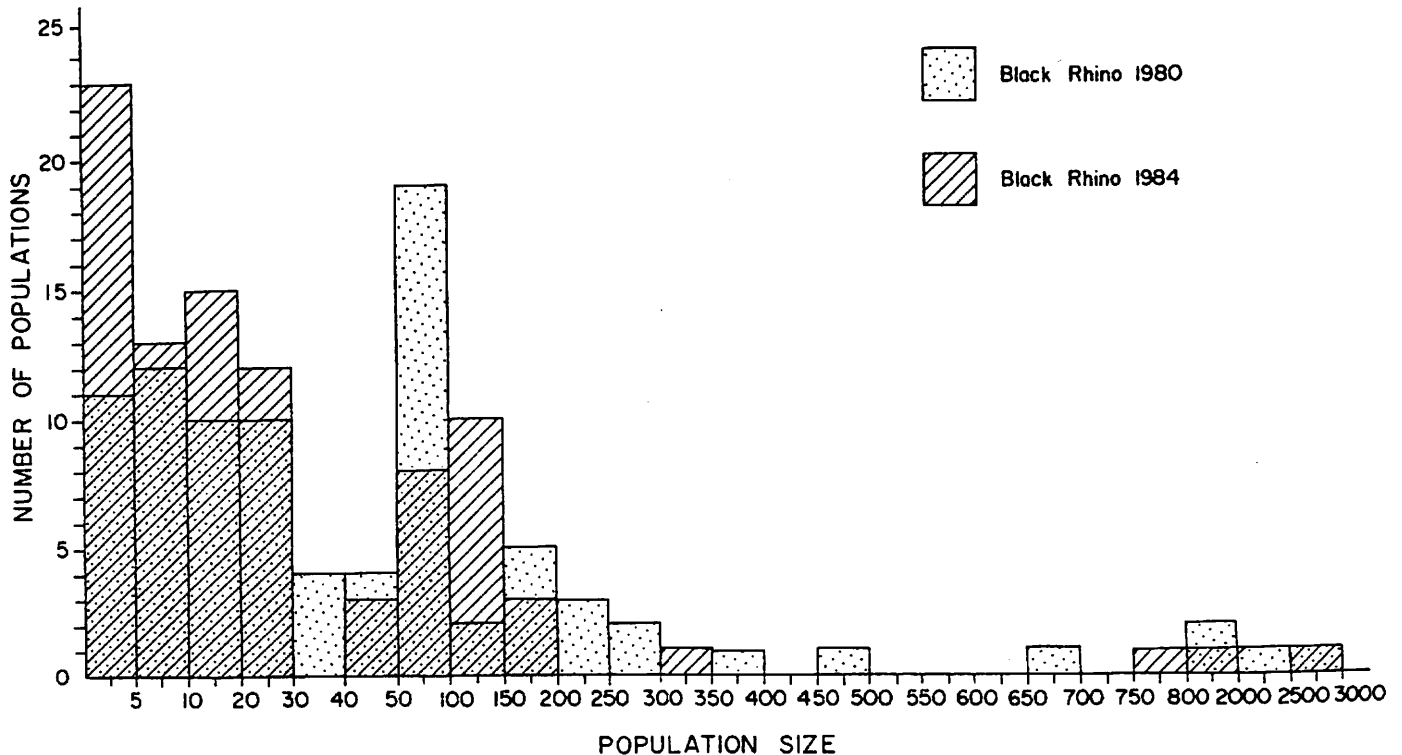
### Approximate number of white rhinos in Africa by country

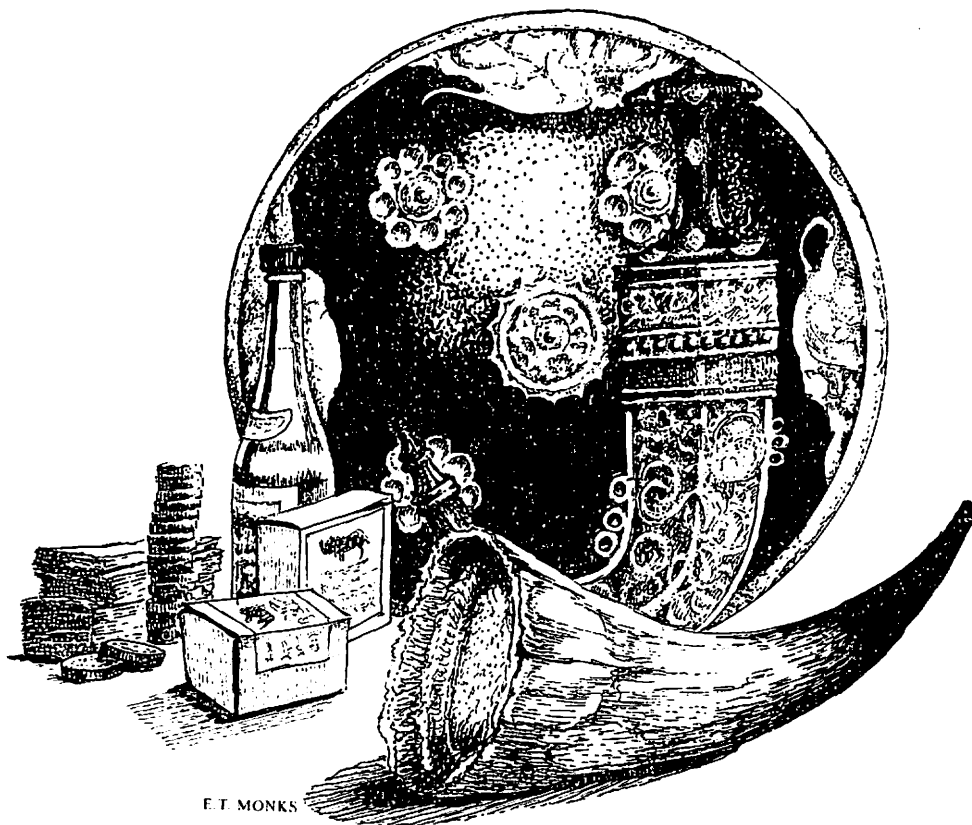
Country	1980	1984
South Africa	2500	3,330
Zimbabwe	180	200
Botswana	70	200
Namibia	150	70
Swaziland	60	60
Kenya	25	40
Mozambique	30	20
Zambia	5	10
<b>Total</b>	<b>3,020</b>	<b>3,930</b>

#### Northern White Rhinos

Country	1980	1984
Zaire	400	15
Sudan	400	10
C.A.R.	20	1
Uganda	1	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,000</b>	<b>15-30</b>

BLACK RHINO POPULATIONS SHOWING INCREASE IN FREQUENCY OF SMALL POPULATIONS





E. T. MONKS

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# Rhinoceros Products and the Trade

By Lucy Vigne

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Rhino products have been used by man, especially the Chinese, for hundreds of years. The horn and the skin have always been considered valuable commodities. Their uses have included the making of shields, sword handles and ornamental carvings including cups and dishes. One interesting use was as a poison detector: if a drink were suspected to contain poison it could be poured into a rhino horn cup and the poison would effervesce. Even the Popes were supposed to have used these cups for this purpose. In the sixteenth century the most famous Chinese pharmacist Li Shih Chen wrote twelve volumes on the medicinal uses of rhino products. The horn could be burnt and mixed with water to cure snake-bites, vomiting, boils, fever and headaches. His 12,000 medicinal recipes are the basis for many prescriptions today in Asia.

Rhino products are still popular in the traditional medicine shops throughout Asia, sold mostly by Chinese, Korean and Japanese pharmacists, to members of society of all religions and classes. The medicine shops generally remain open from 9 am to 10 pm and much guidance is given to the customer concerning the remedies necessary for an illness. Very often a customer with skin ailments will be prescribed rhino skin for treatment; those suffering from bone disorders will be offered rhino bone products and customers lacking in energy will be given rhino blood to cure them. Even rhino dung, collected from the lower part of the large intestine, can be supplied as a laxative. The horn, however, is the most widely used part of the rhino and is thought to be the most powerful cure of high fever in traditional

medicine. It is therefore the most expensive. The quality of a drug is considered 'temperature related' by the Chinese, hence rhino horn is called 'hot'. The tip of a fresh dark horn from a male rhino is the most preferred, especially if it is Asian. The white rhino is mistakenly believed to have a pale horn because of its name and is not so valuable. In some Asian countries an old fashioned hand-scale is used by the pharmacist to price the horn, but in Japan, specialist companies slice rhino horn by electric machines and wrap it up in polyethylene bags. Three grammes of rhino horn shavings vary in price from \$5 for African horn in Japan up to \$84 for Asian horn in Malaysia. Horn can be prepared as shavings or as a powder and steamed in water. The resulting liquid is drunk primarily as a fever reducing drug and contrary to the western world's belief, only very rarely as an aphrodisiac, and then only by a few Gujaratis.

Concerning the exports of rhino products, rhinos from Africa have been killed and their products exported throughout history, but in East Africa the big kill off of rhinos occurred in the mid-1970s. In the early 1980s this spread to Sudan and the Central African Republic (CAR) and rhino products are still being exported from NE Africa. Remnant Asian rhino populations exist primarily in India, Nepal, Malaysia and Indonesia. Rhinos are killed illegally and rhino products are exported from all these countries, except Nepal, from estimated populations of 1,650 Indian rhinos and 660 Sumatran rhinos. The Javan rhino, of which there are only about 60 left, is rarely seen. The African rhinos make up over 90% of the trade in international

rhino products, partly because there are five times more African rhinos than Asian.

In the last 15 years a very different use for rhino horn developed. About 50% of Africa's rhino horn is used for making dagger handles in North Yemen. The prestigious daggers called *jambia* are worn constantly by most Yemeni men in the northern part of the country. The handle is magnificently carved and adorned with gold and silver coins. One kilo of rhino horn will make about three dagger handles (black rhinos carry about three kilos of horn). The average price for new rhino horn daggers range from \$435 to \$875. Most young Yemeni men who work in the oil-rich Gulf States can afford rhino horn dagger handles as opposed to the poorer substitutes, cow and water buffalo horn. From 1969 to 1977, according to official North Yemen statistics, 22,645 kilos of rhino horn were imported, representing the death of approximately 8,000 rhinos (almost the same figure as that of legal rhino exports from East Africa at that time).

The North Yemen demand for African rhino horn increased supplies and caused the prices to rocket world-wide. In 1971 a kilo cost \$30 wholesale and in 1976 it reached \$105. By September 1979 the minimum wholesale price was \$675 a kilo.

What laws, if any, now operate to deter the trade in the major importing countries? CITES, the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora, outlaws all trade in rhinoceros products. Not all countries have joined CITES, thus giving them the freedom to continue importing rhino products legally and even some countries which have joined

CITES are unable to prevent illegal imports.

North Yemen has not joined CITES, but after much pressure initiated by Esmond Bradley Martin and the African Wildlife Foundation, the North Yemen government banned rhino horn imports in 1982. However, their customs officials have little control over illegal imports of anything. Rhino horn is still passed in hand luggage to a few dealers at Sana's airport.

Asian countries used to receive rhino products mostly from Hong Kong, which was the main entrepot for all rhino horn and skin. However, in 1978 the dealers requested the Department of Agriculture and Fisheries not to grant any more import licences for rhino horn, and the ban has been successful. Hong Kong is still allowed to export old stock under licence and in possession before 1979, which it continues to do. China has joined CITES but is nevertheless still a major supplier of rhino-based tablets and tonics which are not covered by regulations. Singapore remains a problem as an entrepot for Indian and Sumatran rhino horn. There are unfortunately still no trade restrictions in Singapore for rhino products.

Other major countries which still allow the imports of rhino products are Taiwan and South Korea. Some also reaches Macao and Malaysia illegally but the risks are high and horn is becoming too expensive for many people to buy. Japan used to be a

major importer of rhino horn but it joined CITES in 1980 and all importation has now stopped.

What are the prospects for the future? The retail prices in the 1980s are no longer sharply rising. There are limits to what people will pay. The demand in Asia is unlikely to start increasing again because Hong Kong and Japan, which were the largest importers of rhino horn, have now banned it and enforced the law. Hong Kong dealers are putting substitutes on the market. Saiga antelope horn is mostly replacing the rhino horn as a fever reducing drug since it is an acceptable substitute and much cheaper. (One kilo of saiga horn in Kuala Lumpur costs retail \$120 whereas African rhino horn costs retail \$10,732 and Asian rhino horn \$17,280, although amounts sold to customers rarely exceed three grammes). Also customers have become suspicious of being sold fake rhino horn as they are becoming aware, through world-wide publicity, of the rhino decline and believe little genuine rhino horn is available. The world market for rhino horn has fallen from about eight tonnes annually between 1972 and 1978 to less than half this per year from 1979 to the present. This is because the rhinos in Africa were halved in the 1970s and southern Africa has now banned its sales of rhino horn. However, the stopping of the trade is a long way off.

Therefore, incentives to continue poaching from the approximate 12,800 rhinos left in Africa and the 2,400 rhinos left in Asia are still great. It is imperative that Singapore, South Korea and Taiwan bring in a law prohibiting all trade in rhino products. Each of these countries has the infrastructure to enforce a ban. Finally, North Yemen's incessant smuggling of rhino horn into the country must be curtailed; this is going to be the most difficult single issue facing rhino conservation in the world.

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C. A. W. GUGGISBERG



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# The Rhino's Fame and Fortune

By Chryssee Mac Casler  
Perry Martin

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Historically, more extravagant claims have been made about the rhino than any other large wild animal. Long before he was linked to the unicorn, his horns were attributed magical properties. At one time, his strength was synonymous with the concept of power. In another age, when even dragons could be slain, rhino hide was believed to be impervious to arrows and, later, to bullets.

It is no fault of the rhino's that he has not lived up to expectations, but every time in history that this has happened, he has consequently fallen into disrepute, sometimes even into oblivion. However, he is rather like the proverbial Phoenix and when he arises, there is always something fabulous about him. This has been his fate since the beginnings of history.

In Esmond's and my book, *Run, Rhino, Run* (London: Chatto & Windus, 1982), I recounted some of the more colourful anecdotes about rhinos in mythology and history. For fun, here are a few others. Let's start with the description of rhinos by Cosmos Indicopleustes. It is one of the first written records on the black rhino. Cosmos was an intellectual merchant from Alexandria. In the early sixth century A.D. his commercial pursuits led him through the Red Sea, into the western Indian Ocean and to the Persian Gulf. He visited Axum, then the capital of Ethiopia, in 525. Elesboas was the King and appears to have taken a liking to Cosmos, with whom he conversed in Greek. He granted the merchant freedom of travel in his realm, and Cosmos states that in Ethiopia he actually saw a live rhinoceros from a distance, as well as 'the skin of a dead one stuffed with chaff, standing in the Royal Palace'. Some twenty years later, in the seclusion of a cloister, back in Alexandria, he wrote:

This animal is called the rhinoceros from having horns upon his snout. When he is walking his horns are mobile, but when he sees anything to move his rage, he erects them and they become so rigid that they are strong enough to tear up

even trees by the root, those especially which come right before him. His eyes are placed low down near his jaws. He is altogether a fearful animal, and he is somehow hostile to the elephant. His feet and skin, however, closely resemble those of the elephant. His skin, when dried, is four fingers thick, and this some people put, instead of iron, in the plough, and with it plough the land.

Despite being called an authority on geography for the Middle Ages, barely a trace of Cosmos' influence can be found: His rhino, like so many real animals, became muddled in the medieval world, where fact was not as valued as 'significance'. It was believed that God made the lower creatures for the spiritual instruction of mankind. Marvellous Bestiaries were composed, describing animals for the purpose of teaching edifying morals. The rhino and other horned animals were confused in descriptions of the unicorn, and for the ordinary man a unicorn was just as real as a lion or an elephant. Hardly anyone saw large wild animals, other than dancing bears at village fairs, but their existence was taken for granted.

Unicorn lore has been the subject of vast

research; more has been written on its possible origins than anyone would wish to know today, and there's still no definite answer. Nevertheless, it's curious to note that along with the standard version of the legend in which the unicorn places his head on a virgin's lap, allowing her to pluck from him his wondrous horn as an example of the virtue of purity in Christian symbolism, there is a risqué version that gained momentum in some courts in the later Middle Ages. This has the eroticism of the East embodied in the attraction of a horn for a lonely girl sitting in the bush. In some such tales, the animal sporting the horn is obviously a rhinoceros, an ugly beast of great bulk and ferocity. One might say the prestige of the rhino had fallen to one of its lowest ebbs then.

Yet there was more infamy for the rhino when a Jesuit priest during the Renaissance returned from the Dark Continent with an account of how tribesmen killed the creature. He wrote that rhinos lived in valleys below the Mountains of the Moon. When villagers sighted one they would go after it, but they had to get very close to the dangerous beast to make certain of being able to kill it. So they trained a female monkey for their hunt,



J. CRAWFORD

teaching her to leap and jump about in front of the rhino. Using 'a thousand monkey tricks', she would gain the rhino's attention and it would become curious and allow her to approach. Soon she would jump onto its back and begin scratching and rubbing it in the most delightful manner, giving the rhino more and more pleasure. Then, jumping back onto the ground, she would begin to tickle the rhino's belly. This sensual gratification would be the rhino's undoing. Lying down and stretching out to revel in all the ecstasy the she-monkey could give, the rhino would be oblivious to the villagers creeping up on this scene and he could easily be dispatched by their crude, simple weapons.

About the same time that this story was circulated in Europe, a Hebrew commentator on the Talmud wrote an essay on Noah's Ark. He said that the rhino was too big and bulky to fit into the Ark and that he could only be saved from the Flood by being towed with a rope tied around his horn.

The belief that rhino hide was impenetrable probably spread from reports of those who saw shields made from it. When properly cured it becomes extremely hard but not terribly heavy—consequently ideal for deflecting arrows. During the 17th century some Dutch settlers in the Cape Colony tried to maintain this myth. Johan Nieuhof in 1654 wrote:

We heard that a rhinoceros, or nose-horner, was fallen into a marsh, and because of its weight could not get out. Commander Rietbeek sent some soldiers with muskets, but the bullets rebounded from its hard wrinkled skin. They cut an opening in its withers and fired into this

until at last they killed it. The horns are still preserved in the Fort at the Cape and from them at times healths are drunk.

However, that rhinos were very vulnerable soon became well known; by the 1680s practically all the black rhinos had been wiped out by the Free Burghers, farmers who had been released from service in the Dutch East India Company. A few live specimens were captured and sent to Europe where they were toured from city to city in specially built carriages pulled by teams of horses. The Empress Maria Theresa obtained one of these rhinos for her menagerie at Schonbrunn, but it did not survive long.

It is a pity that the Roi Soleil, Louis XIV, did not have a rhino for his magnificent wild animal collection at Versailles. There he built the first zoological garden. Shrubbery and vines camouflaged fences; the animals could watch one another and the nobles who visited them, accompanied by musicians. The food was ample and of good quality; no expense was spared for their care and well-being. However, a rhino did not reside at Versailles until Louis XVI's reign, and by that time there was neither money nor interest in the project. Only a few months after the Revolution began, angry Parisians invaded the zoo and demanded the release of the animals—as food for the hungry. 'Certainly,' replied the Curator to the roll of drums. 'Just tell me who is going to eat the rhinoceros; he can be rather dangerous!'

The looters preferred the exotic birds and antelope and left behind the rhino. Later, the Director of the Jardin des Plantes in Vincennes was called. He was urged to take all the remaining animals, but he was

totally aghast at the possibility of spoiling the plants by contaminating them with animals. In fact, the Director was a very cantankerous individual, Bernardin de Saint-Pierre, better known for having written the ludicrous *Paul et Virginie*, a story about a young maiden in Mauritius who drowned because she would not remove her petticoats when she was shipwrecked. The Curator is said to have caused visible horror on the author's face when he told him that a superb rhinoceros was one of the animals destined for the Jardin des Plantes—but he could do nothing to prevent the move.

Rhinos were not very popular even during the heydays of the circus in the mid-19th century. Only one rose to fame, and he belonged to Dr. G. R. Spaulding, the man who had the first circus railroad train and a fabulous boat on the Mississippi, called *The Floating Palace*. In its huge amphitheatre 2,000 spectators could be accommodated to watch his animal show. The rhino had a suite of his own below deck.

In the middle of this century, rhinos in Kenya were considered absolute nuisances. They were shot by the hundreds to open up land for cultivation and referred to in books as 'stupid', 'brutish' and 'ugly'. It was not really until the 1970s that interest in rhinos was revived, and that was due to the fact that they were being poached everywhere. People said that their horns were being shipped to the Far East for use as aphrodisiacs. When that was disproved, a leading conservationist voiced his dismay. He claimed that the story was the only way to gain the attention of the public to raise money 'to save the rhino'.



C. A. W. GUGGISBERG



**AFRICAN  
FUND FOR  
ENDANGERED  
WILDLIFE, INC.**

The African Fund for Endangered Wildlife (AFEW) was founded in 1978, specifically to save the endangered Rothschild giraffe.

With funds raised by AFEW in the USA, the Wildlife Department was able to translocate 26 Rothschilds to Lake Nakuru National Park. With funds raised later, the Wildlife Conservation and Management Department (WCMD) was able to translocate

another group of 26 Rothschilds to Lambwe Valley National Park (now called Runa National Park) in early 1983. With funds raised in 1984 the WCMD is presently translocating the remaining possible Rothschilds from their original area of Soy to Mwea National Park. Additional giraffe will be moved to Lake Nakuru and Runa for genetic diversification. AFEW hopes that these efforts will ensure the survival of the Rothschild giraffe in Kenya.

In 1983 AFEW built a Nature Education Centre on the property of Jock and Betty Leslie-Melville (the founders of AFEW) in Langata. In the first 18 months of operation, it has been visited by over 12,000 school children, who feed the Rothschild giraffe on that property, see wildlife films, and take a nature walk through the adjacent indigenous forest. AFEW has bought 25 acres of this forest.

In mid-1984 AFEW started an Adult Extension Education project. It is a two-year pilot project in the Loitokitok area, helping adults overcome their problems with wildlife. It is expected that a course will be

developed for the new Naivasha Wildlife Institute, and that the extension method will be used by the WCMD rangers in the field all over Kenya.

AFEW is also a major contributor to the WCMD's anti-poaching Camel Corps. Presently we are raising funds in the USA to build a training base. There are only three Camel Corps units now, and the Department needs at least eight.

AFEW is a late financial supporter of the Wildlife Clubs of Kenya. In 1984 we raised funds which (together with David Shephard's previous generous support) should be enough to complete the Wildlife Clubs' Youth Hostel in Langata.

Like all other wildlife organizations, AFEW has distributed numerous smaller financial contributions for such items as drugs and food for needy animals, equipment, vehicles, fuel, payment of rewards, and for repairs to broken machinery.

We are a small family foundation. It is our objective to grow, and to do much more for Kenya wildlife conservation, primarily for *rhino* at this time.

**AWF**



**AFRICAN WILDLIFE FOUNDATION** OF WASHINGTON, D.C.

The African Wildlife Foundation was established in 1961, with the African Field Office opening for operations in 1963.

The Field Office, being on the scene, helps in the development of sound projects and in their supervision. It is also an important coordination center for the other wildlife groups with whom AWF works closely.

AWF continues to support African countries with the skills, expertise, advice, and equipment necessary to assist in their efforts to conserve and protect their vital natural resources.

The Director of African Operations is Dr. James Sherburne, with nearly two decades of experience in wildlife conservation in Africa, Asia, and South America.

AWF has selected a new President, Dr. Paul Schindler, who will head the Washington, D.C. Office replacing the Honourable Robert Smith.

AWF helped launch, and continues to support, two wildlife colleges for African Wildlife managers, one in Tanzania and the other in Cameroon.

Students from all over Africa attend these schools to learn valuable skills needed to manage parks and reserves. Most wildlife posts throughout the continent are now filled by graduates of these two colleges.

AWF also helps in providing advanced ecological training, by providing vehicles and equipment for field work essential to management programmes throughout Africa, and by developing curricula for wildlife training programs.

Conservation and environmental education are fundamental to the success of any conservation programmes. AWF believes this to be one of the most important premises upon which it bases its operations in Africa.

AWF supports a number of conservation and environmental education programmes

in several African countries. These range from wildlife clubs, to training of conservation education leaders, to formal curriculum development.

AWF serves as an important resource centre for the development, planning, and coordination of education programmes supporting national, regional, and local efforts at natural resource conservation. AWF continues to develop its links with national and international organizations involved in conservation and education activities.

National Parks, Reserves, and other protected areas are also an important focus

for AWF in Africa. The Foundation works in close cooperation with governments to assist them in the development of protected area management, planning, and operations. Efforts are made to coordinate with this local, national and international expertise and organization. For example, AWF leads a consortium of the world's major conservation groups to protect mountain gorillas in Rwanda. Throughout Africa, AWF is also providing help in the form of vehicles, aircraft, tents, uniforms, radios and training to important anti-poaching groups and to rapidly respond to immediate conservation needs.





# THE ELSA WILD ANIMAL APPEAL

FOUNDED BY THE LATE JOY ADAMSON



The Elsa Wild Animal Appeal and the Elsa Trust were formed by the late Joy Adamson. The main funding of these foundations came from generous donations of royalties from the films and works originating from Joy Adamson's books. They were set up in the early 1960s with the general object of conservation of wildlife and education of people to conservation ideals.

The main policies of the Trustees are conservation education, particularly of indigenous people in Africa and assistance to the Kenya Government in retaining wildlife habitats. They have in the past helped other smaller research projects and educational bursaries. Possibly the main beneficiaries of the Elsa funds has been the Wildlife Clubs of Kenya, who have received over £80,000 since they started by way of an annual grant and as capital payment towards the Wildlife Clubs' Hostel. The Elsa group also helped in the establishment of Meru Park, Samburu, and Shimba Hills.

The projects which are being undertaken at the moment are varied and include the establishing of the Conservation Centre at Elsamere at Lake Naivasha where conservationists can stay for a reasonable cost on a non-profit making basis. They are also involved in the development of a small and baby animal wildlife clinic at the Nairobi National Park in the grounds of the Nairobi Orphanage. This has three objects in mind: one being for assistance to orphaned, sick or damaged small, baby animals to help them recover for returning to their wild habitats; secondly, a small research facility for veterinarians and biologists to retain information

on wildlife treatment and diseases; and thirdly, as an educational area where school children can see animals at close quarters and handle them without fear. This will be known as the Elsa Wild Animal Clinic.

Another project being undertaken by funds which were given to Elsa, is development assistance to Hell's Gate Park, where the funds will be used for the main park entrance gate and several rangers houses. The Elsa Group are also helping with the Elsa Primary School at Isiolo, which is a school for the children of the Anti-Poaching Unit, and was originally helped by Joy Adamson. There is a continuing assistance to the Wildlife Clubs of Kenya, approximately £11,000 per annum.

We have also given assistance to the International Centre for Conservation Education at Guiting Power, Gloucester, England. Their co-operation in providing Audio Visual training is very welcome.

The Trustees do not look on this group of foundations as fund raising as they have a small amount of funds available; on the other hand, assistance requested is always greater than the funds that are available, so any donations or bequests are always welcome.

Associated trust were helped by Joy Adamson financially and there is support in California, where the Elsa Wild Animal Appeal operates from North Hollywood, and in Canada where a separate organization operates from Toronto. Also in Japan there is a Japanese Foundation called The Elsa Nature Conservancy, which is very active.

Before this act came into operation, the two departments, under their separate management units, continued to receive material and financial support from private sources, individuals, or organizations towards particular wildlife conservation projects.

The Government, realizing that more people and private organizations throughout the world were becoming conscious of the need to preserve and conserve wildlife resources, felt it necessary to establish a body through which those private people could channel their assistance to specific conservation projects. It was for this reason that the Government established the Wildlife Fund Trustees as a body corporate to co-ordinate these activities. The Wildlife Fund Trustees is a non-profit making body. In summary, the objectives of WFT are:

to solicit, receive, accept and disburse donations from private sources locally or overseas, for approved wildlife projects; to launch, operate or expand Government-approved wildlife conservation and management projects; and

to operate, in an advisory capacity, in assisting the WCMD to identify priority areas in wildlife conservation, research and training.

Over the last several years, the Wildlife Fund Trustees, in consultation with the WCMD have systematically identified major priorities in wildlife conservation, research and training. The focus has been to gather adequate ecological information for planning and executing the management of wildlife resources. The Trustees have supported anti-poaching activities in the Ijara area of North Eastern Province. They have purchased 20 camels and built houses for anti-poaching rangers at Ijara, with assistance from the Frankfurt Zoological Society. The Trustees have further assisted the WCMD to translocate 26 Rothschild Giraffes from Soy Ranch in Eldoret to Lambwe Valley National Park in Nyanza Province, with the support of the African Fund for Endangered Wildlife.

Furthermore, the Trustees, with assistance from Kilimanjaro Safari Club, approved a project to translocate rhinos from insecure areas to Amboseli National Park. On training, the Wildlife Fund Trustees have made recommendations on the courses, curriculum, staffing and management of the Naivasha Wildlife and Fisheries Training Institute. The Trustees, with the assistance of World Wildlife Fund, have also supported the wildlife rangers training programme at Ngong.

In response to the Presidential directive to establish a national park in Kakamega Forest in order to protect the indigenous trees and animals in the forest, the Trustees, in conjunction with the WCMD, have carried out an ecological survey of the forest and made specific recommendations for the management strategies of the forest. With the assistance of UNEP, the Trustees have made up-to-date inventories of plants and animals within Kakamega Forest. In particular they have recorded the plants of economic and medicinal value that are found in this forest. In this connection, the Kenya Wildlife Fund Trustees are determined to look for support from local and international communities in order to assist the Ministry of Tourism and Wildlife in developing Kakamega Forest as a national park as soon as it is gazetted.

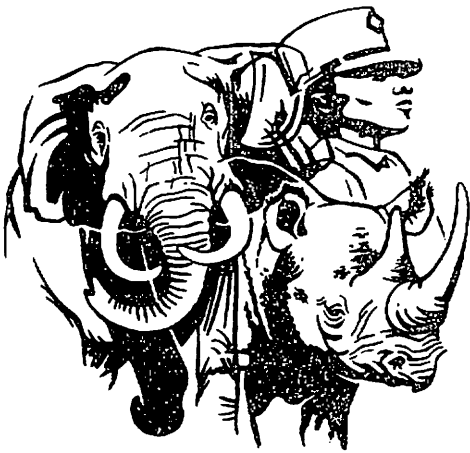
Noting, with concern, that the black rhino is a threatened species, the WCMD has established a permanent Save the Rhino Committee to examine ways and means of giving the remaining populations of rhinos maximum security, both in terms of physical security from poachers and habitat protection. In order to carry out these duties effectively, adequate resources are required, but these are often not available at the desired level of funding through normal government financial provision.

Consequently, by virtue of its responsibilities, the Kenya Wildlife Fund Trustees is determined to assist the Department by soliciting funds from private sources or organizations to make this project a success. In this connection the Kenya Wildlife Fund Trustees is working closely with other non-governmental organizations based in this country and involved in wildlife conservation to ensure that the Save the Rhino Project succeeds.

## KENYA WILDLIFE FUND TRUSTEES

The Wildlife Fund was established under an act of parliament which came into being in 1976. This act, known as the Wildlife (Conservation and Management) Act, amalgamated the services of the former Kenya National Parks and Game Department into one management service, now called the Wildlife Conservation and Management Department (WCMD).

# The David Sheldrick Memorial Appeal



The David Sheldrick Wildlife Appeal was established in 1977 following the death of David Sheldrick, founder Warden of Kenya's Tsavo East National Park. Initially set up as a special project of the American-based African Wildlife Foundation, it is today still affiliated to that organization, but enjoys autonomy over its funding and its actions. Chaired by David's widow, Daphne, the Appeal's policy and direction is steered by a small advisory committee of David's closest colleagues, all with a lifetime's practical experience of local conditions. Within the committee's ranks are two of the longest serving field wardens in Africa, so the Appeal stands on its own merit, enjoying the confidence of both the Government and the public. Because all who serve it work voluntarily, funds directed to wildlife through the Appeal go in their entirety to benefit animals directly, and are not lost in extravagant overheads. Flexible, and unencumbered by bureaucracy, the David Sheldrick Wildlife Appeal is therefore well equipped to identify the priorities, make rapid decisions and direct its funds to projects that would have had the blessing of

the man under whose name the funds were raised, and whose legacy of dedication, capability, integrity and endurance has stood the test of time.

For rhinos, the Appeal has provided finance for both protection and surveillance, purchased crates for their translocation and refurbished the Wildlife Department's Capture Unit, modifying and repairing the capture vehicle, financing the construction of transportable holding pens and loading sledges and providing equipment and drugs vital to such operations. It has repaired and modified all the Department's existing rhino crates, provided emergency food for translocated individuals until they adjust to new conditions, provided ground to air radio communication for the Capture Unit, funds for casual workers suddenly needed during an operation, and financed the printing of the Department's Rhino Management Plan reports. It has provided expertise in the feeding and care of orphaned rhino babies, organised the emergency removal of wire snares from stricken animals and provided minerals for rhinos and others within the Nairobi National Park. It has financed the maintenance costs of the Tsavo radios since 1977 as well as rendered similar assistance to the Meru and Aberdare National Parks. It has rewarded informers and sponsored passages for members of the Wildlife Department to travel to Zimbabwe in order to learn the techniques of others more experienced in the field of translocation. Up-front assistance towards the establishment of the proposed Lake Nakuru Rhino Sanctuary has already been made by funding repairs to the park's only bulldozer, an essential component for the repair of the sanctuary's perimeter fence.

For needy animals, the Appeal has provided food wherever possible during times of extreme

hardship; it has laid in a stock of imported special milk vital to the rearing of orphaned young elephants, and from its National Park base, it has raised and rehabilitated to the wild state many orphaned antelope.

The Appeal has also been a vigorous supporter of the Wildlife Department's anti-poaching efforts. It has provided basic equipment for field force rangers, spares for vehicles, and through its *Wilderness Guardian*, practical hints on training and proven operational tactics against poachers.

In the sphere of wildlife education it has provided educational articles for circulation in schools, lectured widely and shown films on wildlife in an attempt to engender a sympathetic appreciation in the young. It has funded, supervised field trips for students to visit national parks, and sponsored the further training of a Starehe student who displayed that inherent dedication vital to a good field warden.

But perhaps the Appeal's most significant contribution has been its field manual, *The Wilderness Guardian*, which took seven years to compile and which covers all aspects of park development and wildlife management and conservation. This book has been made available to field personnel working in every wildlife preserve in eastern Africa, as well as being donated as a working text book to colleges offering wildlife management courses. It encapsulates the practical knowledge of proven field wardens throughout Africa, and brings to fruition a project that David Sheldrick intended doing in retirement.

Exemplary service for wildlife is recognized annually through the Mzuri Safari Foundation's David Sheldrick Award for Conservation Endeavour, a much coveted and prestigious award that commemorates the contribution of the man whose name it carries.



The East African  
Wild Life Society  
P.O.Box 20110 Nairobi Kenya Tel. 27047

The East African Wild Life Society was originally founded as the Kenya Wildlife Society in 1955 with the object of giving public backing to the then Trustees of the Kenya National Parks, the Game Department, and the wild animals under their protection. It also aimed at providing a forum for discussing conservation matters, while monitoring the performance of the Government in this field. In 1961 the Society became East African, with the Presidents of the three East African territories as joint patrons. Today it has some 12,000 members all over the world, who are kept abreast of events through the Society's bi-monthly magazine, *Swara*.

Since 1956, the Society has made a very significant financial contribution to conser-

vation: over K.Shs. 10,000,000. We have exerted an influence through funding research projects: through supplying vehicles and equipment and servicing planes for anti-poaching measures; and through promoting education and wildlife awareness among the Wildlife Clubs and the public. We have many influential people acting as trustees, and members of our council and management committee, and we have district representatives in over 30 countries throughout the world. All this means that the Society can hold effective private discussions at high level and is thus able to meet potential problems of conservation, quietly and effectively, without rushing into abrasive public controversies.

The Society has a Scientific and Technical Committee, made up of experts from relevant government departments and the University, which scrutinizes and assesses our projects. We also co-operate with other conservation organizations in order to ensure that our contributions do not involve any duplication of effort. Currently, for example, the Society is assisting with the funding of proposals to conserve black rhino in Kenya, jointly with IUCN, WWF, AWF, AFEW, FZS, NYZS, ELSA and the David Sheldrick Appeal.

The Society spent approximately K.Shs. one million on 22 conservation projects in 1984. These included assistance to the Wildlife Clubs of Kenya, Uganda and Tanzania, programmes to save Kenya's rhinos and De Brazza monkeys, and research projects on elephants and wildlife habitat ecology.

Many members of the Society give generously to all our projects. One such member, Michael Werikhe, walked 500 kms from Mombasa to Nairobi raising K.Shs. 281,000 for rhino in 1983/1984. This year he walked from Uganda through Kenya and Tanzania raising substantial funds as well as lots of public awareness on the threat facing our rhino and other wildlife.

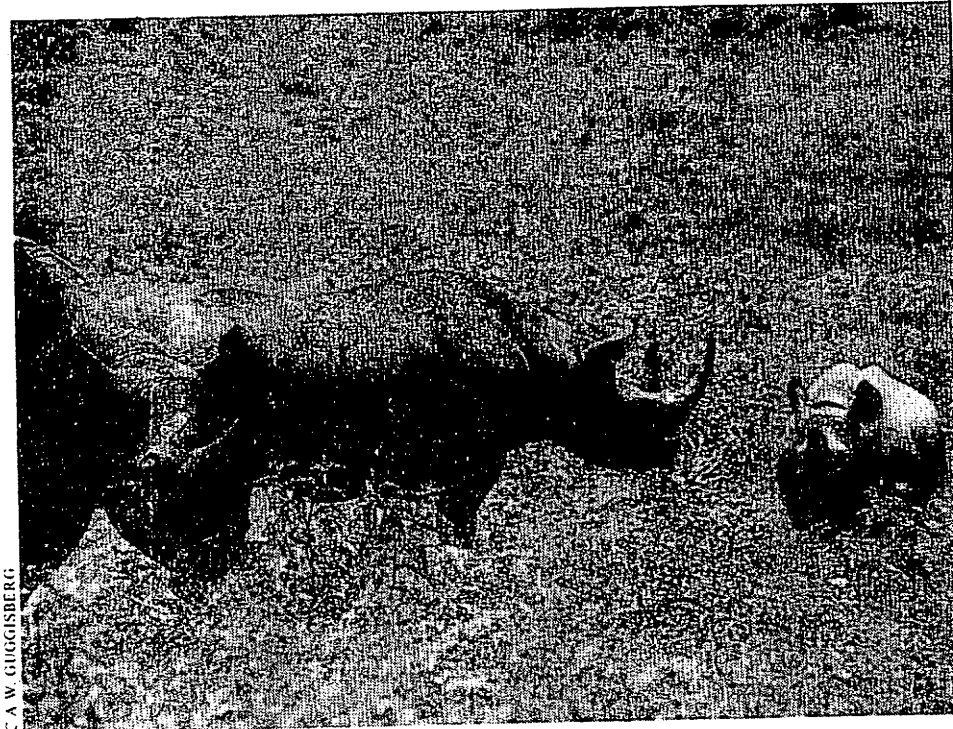
The Society is continually gaining more members locally and overseas thus making us more active both here and internationally.





**ANIMAL RESEARCH  
AND CONSERVATION CENTRE**  
P. O. Box 48177,  
Nairobi, Kenya.

The NYZS is committed to wildlife conservation not only by breeding endangered species in captivity, but also by funding research and conservation projects around the world. In Africa, conservation work is coordinated by Wildlife Conservation International, a division of the NYZS, directed by Dr. David Western in Nairobi. WCI designs and directs projects ranging in scope from behavioural

and ecological research on individual plant and animal species to whole ecosystem monitoring, as well as wildlife management and conservation. Regarding rhino conservation in particular, WCI has funded the African Elephant and Rhino Specialist Group and field work on northern white rhinos in Zaire. WCI also assists black rhino conservation by the Kenya Government.



C. A. W. GUGGISBERG




**Frankfurt Zoological Society**

President: Prof. DDR. B. Grzimek


In the early 1950s, the President of the Frankfurt Zoological Society (FZS), Prof. B. Grzimek, and his son Michael became involved in protecting the wildlife of the Serengeti. Ever since, the Society has contributed to conservation efforts all over the world, helping to protect threatened wildlife and wilderness areas.

The focal point of FZS activities has remained East Africa with its matchless wildlife areas. In Kenya, the Frankfurt Zoological Society has been involved in various conservation projects. They have contributed vehicles, including running cost, and audio-visual equipment to the Wildlife Clubs for conservation education. They have also provided vehicles, a patrol-launch and a camel unit for the Wildlife Conservation and Management Department for anti-poaching purposes. In addition, they have helped with new vehicles, equipment and maintenance in a number of other projects. This aid adds up to almost half a million deutschmarks over the past five years. Their most recent commitment is to help the new Nakuru Rhino Sanctuary.

In 17 other African countries, FZS contributes to the protection of wildlife, e.g. in Tanzania, Uganda, Zaire, Botswana, Malawi and Senegal. The Society also helps to protect wilderness areas and wildlife in South America (Peru, Chile, Ecuador, Bolivia, Argentina and Venezuela), in Asia (Indonesia, Nepal and India) and, of course, in Europe.



WWF WORLD WILDLIFE FUND



INTERNATIONAL UNION  
FOR CONSERVATION OF NATURE  
AND NATURAL RESOURCES

The World Wildlife Fund (WWF) is a charitable conservation organization with national bodies in 24 countries. Since its founding in 1961, WWF has channelled over \$85 million into more than 3,800 projects in some 130 countries.

WWF works closely with the International Union for Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources (IUCN); as its name implies, IUCN is a union of governments, non-governmental organizations, scientists and specialists, concerned with the conservation and sustainable use of living resources. The membership includes 57 states, 121 government agencies and virtually all major national and international non-governmental organizations. Founded in 1948, IUCN is the leading independent international organization concerned with conservation.

In recognition of eastern Africa's tremendous importance for conservation, WWF and IUCN established a joint regional office in Nairobi in 1982. The office is responsible for managing and developing the majority of WWF/IUCN projects in the region, and is currently in Kenya, Tanzania, Uganda, Zaire and Zambia. Many of the projects to date have helped national parks and reserves in the region to meet their basic equipment needs. To this end, WWF/IUCN are providing vehicles, spare parts, workshop equipment, tents, ranger uniforms, radios and a variety of other items to these areas. More recently, the Regional Office has begun to address a number of other issues, including the establishment of new national parks (particularly in forest areas), environmental education and training, and marine conservation.

WWF/IUCN have had a long-standing interest in both Lake Nakuru and the plight of Africa's rhinos. In the early 1970s, WWF/IUCN provided nearly one million dollars towards the purchase of land for the extension of Lake Nakuru National Park. More recently, WWF/IUCN have also been involved in the rehabilitation of the Nakuru wildlife education hostel, which is operated by the Wildlife Clubs of Kenya. In 1982, WWF/IUCN launched a highly successful international awareness and fund-raising campaign, focusing on the rapid decline in rhino populations throughout the world and the disastrous impact of the rhino horn trade. It is, therefore, particularly fitting that WWF/IUCN are involved in Kenya's plan to conserve its remaining rhino population and to create a sanctuary at Lake Nakuru. In this regard, the WWF/IUCN Regional Office is currently working together with the Wildlife Conservation and Management Department to develop a project aimed at assisting with the establishment of the sanctuary.