

BLACK RHINOS RETURN TO MALAWI

J&B Rare Scotch whisky's international Care for the Rare programme, which identifies critically endangered species world-wide and endeavours to ensure their survival, has sponsored the release of two young Black Rhino into a sanctuary in the Liwonde National Park in Malawi, to serve as the first breeding pair of a future rhino population. No Black Rhino, once abundant, have survived poaching in Malawi.

The two rhino, aptly named Justerini (the female) and Brooks were captured on 5 October in the Kruger National Park and released in the Liwonde National Park on 28 October after being airlifted out of Skukuza by Defence Force Hercules to Zomba Airforce Base in Malawi, and completing the journey by truck.

South Africa, Zimbabwe and Namibia are the only three southern African countries where Black Rhino can be commercially obtained; they cost in the region of R450 000 per animal. With the help of the consultant for this project, Dr Anthony Hall-Martin, a director of the



Johan Malan, game capture technician at the Kruger National Park, watches one of the Black Rhinos after its release into a boma at Skukuza after its capture on 5 October. It was released with a mate in Liwonde National Park, Malawi, on 28 October.



Prince Bernhard of the Netherlands, Founder President of the Worldwide Fund for Nature - WWF, was visiting the eastern Transvaal at the time the Black Rhinos were captured. J&B brand manager Paul Grinstead and Gilbeys PR chief Hennie Pietersen (left) took the opportunity to present the prince with a commemorative silver bottle of J&B Rare to mark the occasion.

National Parks Board, the J&B rhino were purchased from the Kruger National Park at a reduced price.

The rhino were released into a 10 sq.km. camp with electrified fencing on the Ntangai River near Mvuu camp. A team of seven special wardens, trained in South Africa and armed with automatic weapons, will guard the rhino 24 hours a day. The rhino will also have microchip transmitters inserted into their horns. The J&B Care for the Rare programme also provides for the fencing of the sanctuary and housing for the wardens and their families.

Elements which augur well for the success of the project at Liwonde, are that the entire park has electrified fencing, some 114 km, and that the park is not close to the borders of any other country. The project has the full support of the South African Department of Foreign Affairs and National Parks Board and J&B will stay involved and provide ongoing support throughout the programme.

Other J&B Care for the Rare projects include the conservation of the Spanish Lynx, Siberian Snow Leopard, Nepalese Tiger, the American Bison, rare orchid and plant species, orphaned Orang-utan and the Leatherback Turtle in South America. Other projects being considered in South Africa are the replenishment of the almost extinct Knysna elephant herd and an ecological extension programme at the Addo Elephant Park.

EWT PUBLISHES IMPORTANT NEW INFORMATION BOOKLET

The Trust has, in the past, published several farmer information booklets which have proved to be very popular. The latest in the series is "Predators & Farmers/ Roofdiere & Boere" which was launched recently. With a generous sponsorship from SA Eagle this excellent publication, authored by Drs A.E. Bowland, D. Lawson and M.G.L. Mills, is now available at a VAT inclusive price of R10,00. Many stock farmers have experienced problems with stock loss and very often have not been able to resolve the problem in the most environmentally acceptable way.



In the photograph are Dr Tony Bowland, Natal Parks Board, one of the authors, Mr Peter Martin, Managing Director of SA Eagle Insurance Co Ltd, and Dr David Lawson, from the Department of Wildlife & National Parks in Botswana, another one of the authors.

FUJI SPONSORS A CAMERA AND FILM FOR EWT WORK IN MOZAMBIQUE



Kevin Deuschmann of Trimark donates a Fuji camera to Bob Langeveldt, the Trust's man in Mozambique. Bob will be photographing elephants in Maputo Elephant Reserve to census their numbers.