



# Rest in Peace, Angalifu



Angalifu was one of a handful of northern white rhinos left in the world. He passed away at the Safari Park of natural causes.

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When the elderly northern white rhinoceros Angalifu passed away on December 14, 2014, he left a gigantic hole in many hearts. “Angalifu’s death is a tremendous loss to all of us,” said Randy Rieches, curator of mammals for the San Diego Zoo Safari Park, “not only because he was so well loved here at the Safari Park but also because his death brings this wonderful subspecies one step closer to extinction.” Estimated to be about 44 years old, Angalifu was being treated for a variety of age-related conditions and died of natural causes. Like the remaining five northern white rhinos left in the world (one female at the Safari Park, one at a zoo in the Czech Republic, and three at a sanctuary in Kenya), all are in their post-reproductive “golden years.” Despite the dire odds, San Diego

Zoo Global remains committed to finding a solution to this gloomy conservation story. Biological samples have been preserved in our Frozen Zoo®, with the hope that new reproductive technologies will allow recovery of the northern white rhino.

In honor of Angalifu and all our rhinos at the Zoo and Safari Park, as well as their wild counterparts, the May issue of ZOO-NOOZ will be a special issue focusing on rhinoceroses. Look for articles about the different types of rhinos, the relentless threats they face in their native countries, the conservation work that is taking place to try to save them, and San Diego Zoo Global’s role, past and present, in caring for and supporting these noble animals. ■