

MEET THE RHINOS' NEW BEST FRIENDS

Over the last three years, almost 10% of Kenya's rhinos have been killed by poachers. But there's a team on the frontline right now that's fighting back. The team members are hairy, loyal and can't be bribed. They work day and night, using their incredible senses to save rhinos. It's the Rhino Dog Squad.

Katherine Ellis | Office and Communications Manager, Save the Rhino International



Made up of ranger and dog teams, the Rhino Dog Squad plays a vital role in protecting rhinos across four wildlife sanctuaries in Kenya: Ol Jogi, Ol Pejeta Conservancy, Borana Conservancy and Lewa Wildlife Conservancy.

These conservancies are all members of Kenya's Association of Private Land Rhino Sanctuaries, one of Save the Rhino's long-term programme partners.

Dogs are extremely useful for their track, scent and attack skills. The best breeds for the job are Bloodhounds and Belgian Malinois. The dogs have three main roles:

Tracker dogs have an incredible sense of smell and can cover huge distances over difficult terrain. Handlers can find one footprint, obtain a scent and give it to the dog, which then follows the scent for up to 24 to 48 hours.



Scent dogs can be trained to detect illegal substances such as rhino horn, guns or ammunition. They can be deployed at checkpoints or roadblocks and can search vehicles and property.



Attack dogs are trained to bite and hold would-be or actual poachers, in order to disable the gun-holding arm so that handlers can safely apprehend and arrest suspects.

These dogs help protect handlers and are a good deterrent to illegal activity.

The Rhino Dog Squad also protects other endangered wildlife and helps to reduce crime in local communities. The dogs have been used to locate stolen property, find lost children and track suspected criminals.


With the rhino poaching threat increasing, it is important that the rhino conservancies have well-equipped and well-trained dog units to stay one step ahead of the poachers. Please donate to support our Rhino Dog Squad appeal.

Star (Nyota)

Breed: Bloodhound

Gender: Female

Age: 9.5 years

Role:  Tracker

Home: Ol Jogi

Likes: Sausages, scent training, being brushed and tickled

Dislikes: Thunderstorms, running on hot sand, poachers, ticks, visiting the vets

About: Nyota (meaning Star in Swahili) came from the USA as a puppy to embark on a new life saving rhinos. She's an amazing bloodhound, who's mothered puppies that have gone on to become the best tracker dogs in the business



STAR



Sweep

Breed: Belgian Malinois

Gender: Male

Age: 2 years

Role:  Attack

Home: Ol Pejeta Conservancy

Likes: Being out in the field protecting rhinos

Dislikes: Poachers and intruders


About: Criminals wouldn't want to meet Sweep in a dark alley: he's bold, fearless and when he gets a grip on a poacher, he doesn't like to let go

Tony

Breed: Bloodhound

Gender: Male

Age: 4.5 years

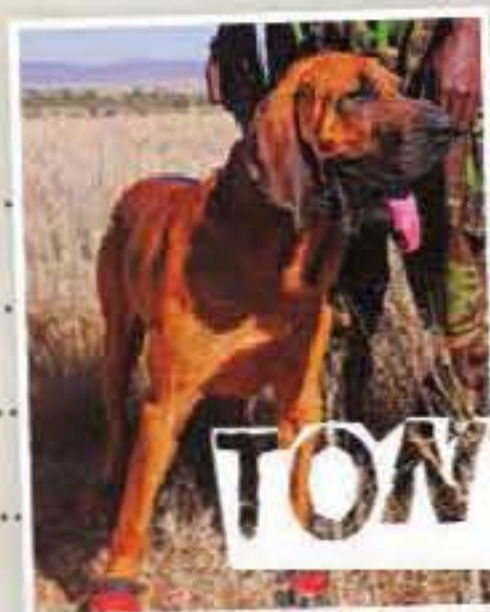
Role:  Tracker

Home: Lewa Wildlife Conservancy

Likes: Going out into the field to follow a trail

Dislikes: Cats

About: Tony's sense of smell is 40x stronger than a human's, and he's trained to use it to protect rhinos



Diego

Breed: Belgian Malinois

Gender: Male

Age: 2 years

Role: Search, assault & track

Home: Ol Pejeta Conservancy

Likes: Property searches: Diego can find arms, weapons and ammunition hidden away

Dislikes: Poachers

About: A great all-rounder—Diego is an incredible dog; he can track scents, search through property and attack if necessary



DONATE TO THE RHINO DOG SQUAD

The Rhino Dog Squad needs your support; to provide essential training, vital equipment and the best care for the dogs. To survive, the Rhino Dog Squad needs support from everyone who won't accept a world without rhinos.

Your gift could help buy:

£7 could feed a dog for a week

£15 could buy a dog leash and collar

£28 could provide a month's veterinary care for a dog

£38 could buy a Camelbak hydration system to carry water for the handlers and dogs while in the field

£100 could buy a life-saving medical kit for both rangers and dogs

£365 could pay for a month's vehicle transport for the dog teams

Inspire others to give through fundraising

We need your help to raise donations for the Rhino Dog Squad!

Why not try the following:

- Bake cakes and biscuits and sell to friends, family and colleagues
- Organise a sponsored dog walk or run your local area
- Get creative, and sell your artwork at a craft sale
- Complete a sponsored run, cycle or swim to support the dogs
- Organise a fancy dress day – donate £1 to wear a crazy outfit to school or work

Donate

Donate online Visit www.savetherhino.org/rhinodogsquad to donate online by card and leave a message of support to the Rhino Dog Squad

Donate by post Cheques can be UKE, US\$ and Euro€ made payable to **Save the Rhino International**, marked 'Rhino Dog Squad' on the reverse and posted to:
Unit 5, Coach House Mews
217 Long Lane, London SE14PR, UK

Donate by phone Call us on +44 (0)20 7357 7474

Contact us Email katherine@savetherhino.org with any queries

Watch our youtube video series about the Rhino Dog Squad www.youtube.com/savetherhinoofficial

Our thanks to **Blair Drummond Safari Park**, which kick-started the appeal with a wonderful donation of £2,025

Thank you to **Twogether**, the full-service creative agency, for providing pro-bono design and support for the Rhino Dog Squad appeal. They've also held staff fundraising events and donated office equipment to Save the Rhino.
www.wearetwogether.com

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