

The Crash

October 2019 "Fall Edition"

The IRKA newsletter: the leading network connecting rhino keepers.

President's Perspective

I hope everyone had a successful World Rhino Day, celebrating the five species of rhinos, and spreading the message of the rhino. It was great to see all the activities taking place all around the world for World Rhino Day, and keepers everywhere showing off the rhinos under their care. To help celebrate World Rhino Day, the IRKA held our first online auction, and limited-edition t-shirt sale to benefit the Sumatran Rhino Rescue. A huge shout out to Chris Bobko (Denver Zoo) and Angie Snowie (Toronto Zoo) for organizing the online auction and t-shirt fundraiser. Between the 2 fundraisers we were able to raise almost \$4,000 in just a couple of weeks! Thank you to everyone who participated and spread the word. It was a huge team effort and a great success!

I would like to congratulate Jade Tuttle (North Carolina Zoo), Jonnie Capiro (San Diego Zoo Safari Park), and Chris Bobko (Denver Zoo) on being re-elected to the IRKA's Board of Directors. Also, welcoming Robyn Johnson (Disney's Animal Kingdom), on being newly elected to the Board of Directors for her first term. Robyn was instrumental in the success of the 2019 Rhino Keeper Workshop and she will be an asset to the organization moving forward. To get to know Robyn a little more, we included a Q&A in this issue of The Crash. Melle Van Iperen wrote an interesting article on how they designed a "rhino urinal" at the Rotterdam Zoo. As we all know, rhinos love to spray their urine. This is a great way to keep the urine out of the rest of the stall and preventing the rhinos walking in it. There are always new innovations we can incorporate into barn and exhibit designs. Thank you, Melle for sharing!

Don't forget about the new opportunity that the IRKA is offering with the Training and Enrichment Regional Seminar (TERS) being hosted by the Oklahoma City Zoo. It will be held on April 2nd and 3rd in 2020. The TERS program is limited to 20 people to be able to have hands-on experience with the rhinos. Make sure to check the website for registration and scholarship opportunities for the program. It is a very inexpensive way to continue learning about rhino management in a hands-on setting and collaborate with other professional IRKA members on the years the Rhino Keeper Workshop is not being held.

Another congratulation is due to the San Diego Safari Park and Omaha Zoo on significant rhino births. The San Diego Safari Park had the first southern white rhino born in North America from assisted reproduction and the Omaha Zoo also had a greater one-horned rhino born from assisted reproduction. Both births were results of team efforts that included keepers, veterinarians, and reproductive specialists.

Finally, we would like to announce that the location of the 2021 Rhino Keeper Workshop will be held at Fota Wildlife Park in Ireland! It will most likely be around the months of May or June of 2021. Stay tuned to our website, www.rhinokeeperassociation.org and our social media pages for further information as we get closer.



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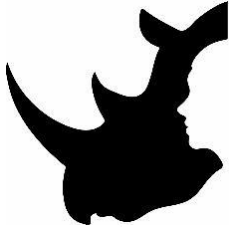
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Biennial Rhino Keeper Workshops



The International Rhino Keeper Association is excited to announce the 2021 Rhino Keeper Workshop will be hosted by [FOTA wildlife park](#) in Carrigtwohill, Ireland!

Save the Date for Spring 2021 RKW

Fota Wildlife Park is a 100-acre (40 ha) wildlife park located on Fota Island, near Carrigtwohill, County Cork, Ireland. Opened in 1983, it is an independently funded, not-for-profit charity that is one of the leading tourism, wildlife and conservation attractions in Ireland.



Congratulations to Board of Directors

The 2019 IRKA Board of Directors election ran from July 17 to July 31. Thank you to all those who offered their time to the BOD! It was a great group this year and your assistance is what makes this keeper-driven association the success it is.

Continuing their services are:

- **Christine Bobko**, Denver Zoo
- **Jonnie Capiro**, San Diego Zoo Safari Park
- **Jade Tuttle**, North Carolina Zoo

Welcome to our newest Board member, **Robyn Johnson** from Disney's Animal Kingdom!

"Hey Robyn...

- **What is your favorite species of rhino and why?**

Never met a rhino I haven't loved, but I have worked most directly with white rhinos so they are an easy favorite. Love their social nature and managing larger herds.

- **Favorite travel destination that you've been to?**

East Africa

- **Dream travel destination and why?**

Indonesia to visit the SRS (I'm sure many of you can relate)



- **Favorite movie?**

The Emperors New Groove

- **Favorite animal you've worked with and why?**

An African leopard named Hobbes. We had a very special bond at the start of my career and he taught me a lot about building trust.

- **Other than rhinos, what is your favorite species and why?**

Whale sharks are high on my list. I have been lucky to lead trips to collect data on them in Baja, it never gets old.

- **What would your talent be in a talent show?**

Organizing the talent show... definitely not performing in it 😊

- **Do you have any pets?**

Yes, Everest is my black lab/aussie mix of a dog-child.

- **What is an item on your bucket list?**

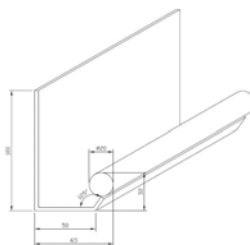
Witness the Albuquerque International Balloon Festival

Rhino Urinal at Rotterdam Zoo



Our male Vungu has serious foot problems in the winter months. When he is more often inside the stables his front feet show rotten soles and nails. We assume it has a lot to do with hard surfaces and moisture. During his time inside the stables the floor is often wet because of the huge amount of rhino pee that he sprays against the wall and will spread on the floor of his stable. Urine, especially from rhinos can be very corrosive. One day we came up with the idea to make a rhino urinal. After approval we could

develop the design. We had some issues to take into account. For example, we didn't want the rhino to be able to climb on the urinal very easily. If they did climb anyway we didn't want for the hoofs to get stuck in the urinal. The height of the drain has to be suitable for a male and a female. The drain has to have a good slope because of the thickness of the urine... and the pipe of the urinal needs to be large enough to prevent blocking. So we came up with this design...



It would be very useful in future stable designs to create a drain all around the stables in the floor near to the walls. This way the urine will not spread inside the stable. After installing the urinal the floors are more dry. The design isn't perfect... there is still some urine on the floor... also because of the splashing. We keep on telling Vungu, our male... "don't splash"... but that doesn't help. Hopefully it will help to keep the stable dryer, and the feet of our rhinos healthier.

Melle Van Iperen

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Iron Overload Disorder in Black Rhino



Black rhinos have a well-developed system for absorbing iron in their bodies. There is no brake on this if there is enough iron in the body. Like other mammals, they do not have a system to actively excrete the absorbed iron. In nature, this is not a problem. Their natural diet consists of leaves and branches from around 200 different plant species.

Usually browse has a low iron content and it often contains different types of tannins and other natural chelators that prevent the body from absorbing (excessive) iron. We don't provide enough browse in zoos. We often provide foods that have a relatively high iron content and lack natural chelators like tannins. This ensures a lot of iron absorption, that iron is stored in the liver, spleen and bone marrow. This can lead to cell damage and in the end multi-organ failure. The average black rhino in captivity in Europe becomes around 22 years old, while an age of 35-40 years can be reached.

What Can We Do?

First, it is very important to ensure that the animals get as little iron as possible. You can only do this if you know how much iron is in the food. All food items and every new batch of roughage must be tested for iron. Every batch of roughage below 200 mg per kg of DM is good, but preferably <100 mg per kg of DM. Ultimately we aim for a maximal daily iron intake of <4000 mg.

You can reduce vitamin C, by not adding fruit and vegetables rich in vitamin C to the diet. Vitamin C enhances the absorption of iron in the body. However, it is not known whether they could produce vitamin C themselves, but probably they can. For example, rodents such as guinea pigs and humans cannot, but horses and dogs and cats can. And of course feed as many branches (tannins and other chelators) for making iron non absorbable. Artificial chelators could be administered, but have the disadvantage that they bind many other minerals. More research is needed in this area.

To remove the excess iron in the body, the only therapy at this time is to do phlebotomy.

Large volume phlebotomy is controversial. It seems like a bizarre procedure; taking a lot of blood from the animal to get and make the animal healthy again. Although nowadays in humans this is also still a common procedure for people with IOD. Blood (free iron and iron bound to protein and in hemoglobin) is extracted from the body. The body uses iron to make new blood cells (hemoglobin). Immediately there is a decrease in the body, so regular bleeding ensures that your iron levels stay low.

Some time passed before we could do large volume phlebotomy at our facility. Training and a lot of investing in building trust, searching for the right methods and materials etc. This process took about one year. We are currently doing the procedure on 1 animal since his iron values are very high. The other 2 animals remain stable through the diet. After a year we have developed a solid procedure, with emphasis on "we" ... to make such a project possible, involvement of multiple disciplines is needed. Management, the veterinary team and zookeepers were closely involved in this. Good communication during and around this procedure is very important. We aim for 4 liters of blood per session every 2 to 3 months at first, now we bled him approximately twice a year.

A while ago we made a video about how we do Large volume phlebotomy, and we gladly want to share this footage. Zoos that also want to do LVP with their black rhinos can see through this video how we perform the procedure and which materials we use. With this information it is considerably easier to start such a procedure



Is Phlebotomy Ethically Justified?

It is the same as small blood collection, but the procedure takes more time (around 45 minutes), we use a thicker needle and get larger quantities. The animal is fed in the meantime, and there's always a voluntarily return in the chute after each session, which is always open at the back. The animal can therefore choose to walk away at any time. I think you should do everything to keep your animals in a healthy condition. With black rhinos, "iron management" is part of that. So also the consideration to do an actual phlebotomy if needed.

Slowly the problem is recognized in "the Rhino world", but still there is a lot of work to be done. Often when you ask if the rhino in question has been tested for iron. You hear "No, because they aren't sick." This is a misunderstanding, because when animals show clinical symptoms as a result of iron accumulation, the body is already greatly effected by the huge amount of iron.

So a call to every institute with browsing Rhinos.. **please test your rhinos**, otherwise you know nothing about the iron in your rhinos. More research into iron overloading and possible other solutions to this problem is needed. It was trial and error. First we were euphoric with 125cc of blood. Now you are disappointed if after 2 liters the animal stops the cooperation because of an unfamiliar sound and does not return in the chute ... Well, they are

black rhinos! ... A rhino with temperament, sometimes very anxious and friendly at the same time, excellent to work with, but with a soft hand and a lot of patience.

RKW Presentation

Melle van Iperen,
Senior keeper, Rotterdam Zoo
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2020 TERS by Oklahoma City Zoo

April 2nd & 3rd



The Oklahoma City Zoo will be hosting a Training and Enrichment Regional Seminar Thursday, April 2nd and Friday, April 3rd 2019. The TERS will showcase their 3 GOH rhinos and provide hands-on techniques with rhino restraint device training, ultrasounds, and blood collection.

Participants will also create their own enrichment item to take home to their facilities as well. Space will be limited to 20 members for these two days. If you are interested in attending please make sure to stay tuned to our website and emails for registration to begin January 2020.



Contact OKC Zoo

Sumatran Rhinos in Crisis



With fewer than 80 remaining, Sumatran rhinos are in very real danger of becoming extinct soon if we don't intervene in a big way. Under the guidance of the government of Indonesia's emergency action plan, an alliance of international conservation organizations, including IRF, has launched Sumatran Rhino Rescue, a huge, multi-stage, multi-year undertaking to save the Sumatran rhino. We plan to consolidate the widely dispersed, fragmented wild populations into managed breeding facilities, like the Sumatran Rhino Sanctuary.

Rhinos will be bred in captivity and eventually reintroduced into protected areas in the wild. In this blog series, we will explain each step of the program in detail and give examples of how past experiences around the world will help guide the implementation of this plan.

The first step is to conduct surveys so we can determine the locations of isolated rhinos and develop plans for captures.

CAPTURE:

Once the surveys have been conducted and a plan devised, it is time to prepare for the rhino capture. The capture team coordinates with the transport team and with the location receiving the rhinos so that everyone is prepared and the entire process can happen as quickly and smoothly as possible. Rhinos are transported from one place to another in crates, but how do you get a wild rhino into a crate? That mostly depends on the type of rhino and where they live.

Zimbabwe

In Africa, black and white rhinos are frequently captured and translocated, either to establish new populations, or to move rhinos from high-risk areas to safer habitats. Our partner in Zimbabwe, the Lowveld Rhino Trust, has safely and successfully moved many rhinos. These captures require chemical immobilization by a veterinarian to ensure the safety of the rhino and the people working around it. There are multiple teams of people involved in a rhino capture. The ground team first attempts to locate the rhino, and in some cases, a fixed-wing aircraft may be called to assist. Once the rhino is located, a helicopter pilot will fly a wildlife veterinarian as close as possible to the animal so a dart-gun can be used to shoot a syringe of immobilizing drugs – the vet has to be a very good shot! Immobilizing drugs take a few minutes to take effect, so when first hit by a dart, a rhino will often continue to run. The aircraft in the sky keeps an eye on the animal's location and communicates back to the mobile ground teams so that they can follow the rhino and easily find it once it's sedated.

Ideally within a few minutes, the rhino has laid down and the ground teams quickly move in and start getting all the equipment in place. The first priority is checking the rhino's vitals like temperature, pulse, blood oxygenation levels – these will continue to be monitored the entire time the rhino is under anesthesia. Depending on the specifics of the plan, a rhino may have its horn trimmed, or be fitted with a radio collar or transmitter at this time as well. While the veterinary team has been tending to the rhino, another team has been getting the crate and other equipment in place. Weighing on average 4,000 to 5,000 pounds, a sleeping rhino can be near impossible to get into a crate without heavy machinery. Due to the terrain however, heavy machinery isn't always an option, so often the open crate is placed right in front of the rhino before the veterinarian administers the anesthetic reversals. As the rhino wakes up and is still groggy, it can walk straight into the crate and the translocation process can begin.



Fixed-wing and helicopter pilots are an essential part of rhino procedures in Africa- they can spot the rhino initially, fly the veterinarian close-enough to dart it, and follow the animal all while communicating the rhino's location to the ground teams.

Moments before the vet gives this anesthetized rhino the reversal agent to wake it up, the transport team and crate are all in-place. As the rhino stands up, the team will guide it into the crate- this can be easier said than done so it is vital that each team member is highly-trained and experienced.



Rosa demonstrating how easily a Sumatran rhino can disappear into the dense vegetation. Do you see her in there? (Hint: look for her eye in the right third of the photo)



A Different Capture Method for Sumatran Rhinos

In Indonesia, it is a very different process in that Sumatran rhinos are not chemically immobilized. The dense canopy of the jungle means that there is no way to see the rhinos from above so all work has to be carried out on the ground. Even if they were able to find a Sumatran rhino on foot, the rhinos are so wary of people that a veterinarian wouldn't be able to get close enough to attempt to dart it- and if they did, the rhino could run off and easily disappear into the thick vegetation, making it nearly impossible to find again.

Pit Traps

The most effective way to capture a Sumatran rhino is by building a pit trap. After a location has been carefully selected, a small team will begin digging with only manual tools. This team is specially trained and has very specific dimensions for the final product, reinforcing the sides as they dig. The end result is essentially a solid box in the ground that won't cave in and has a muddy bottom to cushion the fall of the rhino. A solid top must be kept on the trap until all the teams are ready to go – once a trap is opened there must be veterinary teams, rangers, and transport staff constantly on-call, ready to respond as quickly as possible.

Once opened, the trap is covered with branches and foliage to camouflage it and the waiting game begins. The traps are checked daily but sometimes it can take months of waiting and several traps to catch just one rhino. As soon as a rhino is confirmed to be in the trap, a veterinarian arrives on site to assess the rhino's health and demeanor. Once the transport team gets the crate in place next to the pit trap, everyone gets ready to move the rhino.

But how do you safely get a rhino out of a hole in the ground? The support walls of the pit are the key. Sections of the wall closest to the crate opening are slowly removed so that dirt starts to enter the pit from one side. In this way, a natural dirt ramp is created leading right up to the crate opening so the rhino can walk up the ramp and into the crate on its own, ready for the next step: translocation

Pahu

In December 2018, a rhino called Pahu became the first official capture of the Sumatran Rhino Rescue project. Pahu's home range on Indonesian Borneo was being encroached upon by miners and poachers so time was of the essence to capture her and get her to safety. Our partner WWF Indonesia successfully managed Pahu's capture and is currently overseeing her care. We all share the hope that Pahu will eventually be able to produce a rhino calf as part of the new national captive breeding program for Sumatran rhinos.



Photo by Ridho Hafizh Zainur Ridha/WWF-Indonesia: Pahu, a lone Sumatran rhino, was captured in a pit on the island of Borneo as part of the Sumatran Rhino Rescue's efforts to save the species. Learn more at SumatranRhinoRescue.org

IRKA Fundraising Initiatives

At the 2019 RKW hosted by Disney in February, the board of directors had a lengthy discussion about what roll IRKA plays in the in-situ conservation of rhinoceros. While we know the poaching crisis in Africa is dire, it was a trip to Sumatra for the co-chairs of our fundraising committee, which helped inform our board of possible fundraising efforts that could directly impact a rhino species.



It was decided that IRKA would work in conjunction with International Rhino Foundation to support the Sumatran Rhino Rescue Program and the Sumatran Rhino Sanctuary keepers. This support will be with direct monetary donations and the professional development of the keepers through shared knowledge. This will help set the SRS keepers up for success as they care for one of the most critically endangered large mammals on the planet. The Sumatran Rhino Rescue is comprised of 5 NGO organizations along with the government of Indonesia, all working together in a ground breaking strategic partnership to save the Sumatran rhino from extinction. As rhino keepers, we could not think of a better way to involve ourselves, than to save a species that is on the very brink of extinction with less than 80 individuals left on the planet.

The fundraising committee was challenged with the task of increasing our fundraising efforts by 10% a year to be able to contribute yearly to the Sumatran Rhino Rescue.

We have been busy planning and have come up with our first campaign. The campaign is taking place this month to celebrate and raise awareness for World Rhino Day.

The first fundraising event took place over a period of 3 days, from Friday September 13 to Sunday September 15 2019. We held a **FACEBOOK SILENT AUCTION** on the IRKA Facebook page, which included a live feed on the Sunday for our last special item. If you want to see the live feeds that Vice President Christine Bobko hosted, check out [IRKA](#) on Facebook.

100% of the money raised from the auction is going to IRF to support the Sumatran Rhino Rescue effort, and we are pleased to announce that we were able to raise over \$1000.00 (thanks to an anonymous donor that pushed us over the \$1000.00 mark!).

Thank you to all who helped us by bidding on items, liking our posts and sharing our efforts on your own pages to help increase our online reach!



The second part of our campaign ran for only 2 weeks – September 20 - October 4 2019.

We ran a limited edition t-shirt/ hoodie campaign on [Bonfire.com](https://www.bonfire.com).

One of our donors from the IRKA workshop auction, Bettina Hayes (www.rhinosinart.com), has graciously donated her artwork of a Sumatran rhino that we turned into a graphic for our t-shirt/ hoodie fundraiser.

We are so pleased to say that *over 260 people* will be wearing our “Saving the Sumatran Rhino” clothing and over **\$2700.00 USD** will be sent to **IRF** to support the Sumatran Rhino Rescue!

Thank you to all who participated in the campaign, whether you purchased an item or shared our posts; together we have helped the Sumatran rhino.

If you have any future fundraising campaign ideas, would like to join the IRKA fundraising committee, or have any questions regarding fundraising, please email Christine Bobko (rhinoqueen@yahoo.com) or Angie Snowie (iheartrhinos@gmail.com)



San Diego Zoo Global Announces Historic Birth of Southern White Rhino Calf Conceived Through Artificial Insemination

San Diego Zoo Global is excited to announce a historic, successful birth of a southern white rhino calf at the San Diego Zoo Safari Park—the conservation organization’s first rhino born following hormone-induced ovulation and artificial insemination. The mother, Victoria, gave birth to a healthy male calf Sunday, July 28, 2019, in the barn at the Nikita Kahn Rhino Rescue Center. Animal care staff on hand to witness the birth reported Victoria did extremely well and remained calm during the 30-minute labor. The calf is nursing well, and mother and calf are bonding in a quiet nursing setting. Artificial insemination of southern white rhinos has rarely been successful; this is the first successful artificial insemination birth of a southern white rhino in North America.

“All of us at San Diego Zoo Global are elated with the arrival of this special rhino calf,” said Barbara Durrant, Ph.D., Henshaw Endowed Director of Reproductive Sciences, San Diego Zoo Global. “We are



so pleased Victoria and the calf are doing well. She is very attentive to her baby, and the calf is up and walking, and nursing frequently. Not only are we thankful for a healthy calf, but this birth is significant, as it also represents a critical step in our effort to save the northern white rhino from the brink of extinction.”

Victoria was artificially inseminated with frozen semen from southern white rhino, Maoto, on March 22, 2018, following hormone-induced ovulation. White rhino gestation is estimated to be 485 days—but as with any baby delivery, this can differ. Victoria carried her calf for 493 days.

The artificial insemination and successful birth of the rhino calf is not only an historic event for San Diego Zoo Global, but represents a critical step in the organization’s ongoing work to develop the scientific knowledge required to genetically recover the northern white rhino, a distant subspecies of the southern white rhino. Only two northern white rhinos currently remain on Earth and, unfortunately, both are female.



San Diego Zoo Global has a history of expertise with rhino species. With the birth of this calf, there have now been 99 southern white rhinos born at the San

Diego Zoo Safari Park, in addition to births of 73 greater one-horned rhinos and 14 black rhinos at the Safari Park. The challenges associated with limited gene pools and severely reduced numbers facing Javan rhinos, Sumatran rhinos and northern white rhinos mean that some form of assisted reproduction may be their only hope for the future.



Victoria is one of six female southern white rhinos that reside at the Nikita Kahn Rhino Rescue Center. To increase genetic diversity and the number of reproductively fit individuals in North American zoos, these rhinos were relocated to the Safari Park from private reserves in South Africa in November 2015.

Five keepers are dedicated to the full-time care of the six female rhinos. The keepers spend each day building a relationship with and gaining the trust of the animals. The animals are trained, through positive reinforcement, to receive any needed medical procedures, as they could potentially serve as future surrogate mothers for a northern white rhino.



To reach the ultimate goal of successfully producing a northern white rhino, multiple steps must be accomplished. One of the first steps completed involved sequencing the genome of the northern white rhino to clarify the extent of genetic divergence from its closest relative, the southern white rhino. The analysis revealed that they are distinct subspecies. Another step requires conversion of cells preserved from 12 individual northern white rhinos in the San Diego Zoo Institute for Conservation Research’s Frozen Zoo® to stem cells that could develop into sperm and eggs—a process successfully

begun in the laboratory of Jeanne Loring, Ph.D., of The Scripps Research Institute, with details of the process published in 2011.

Reproductive options include artificial insemination, in vitro fertilization and embryo transfer, working with southern white rhinos. When these techniques are perfected, the southern white rhinos would serve as surrogates for northern white rhino embryos. The reproductive system of rhinos is very complex, and there is still much to be learned. There are many challenges ahead, but researchers are optimistic that a northern white rhino calf could be born from these processes within 10 to 20 years. This work also may be applied to other rhino species, including critically endangered Sumatran and Javan rhinos.

Victoria and her calf will remain off exhibit to the public for an undisclosed period of time, to allow them to bond. The calf will eventually be introduced to the other five female rhinos at the Nikita Kahn Rhino Rescue Center—including Amani, also pregnant through artificial insemination and due to give birth in September or October.

There are an estimated 18,000 southern white rhinos remaining in the wild. The southern white rhino is classified as Near Threatened on the International Union for Conservation of Nature Red List of Threatened Species, due to poaching threats and illegal trafficking of rhino horn. Currently, a rhino dies every eight hours in South Africa as a result of poaching.

On any given day, visitors to the Safari Park may be able to see one or more of the southern white rhinos from the Africa Tram, as their keepers rotate them from the back area to the front Rhino Rescue Center exhibit yard. The public can help support San Diego Zoo Global’s rhino conservation efforts through the San Diego Zoo Global Wildlife Conservancy at endextinction.org/rhino or endextinction.org/Victoria.

If you would like to follow Victoria and Edward's journey and growth, check out the link below

Follow Edward's Progress!

Changes in Membership



We've made several changes to the IRKA membership enrollment!

To streamline the process dues are owed just twice a year, **January or July**. You should have received an email in February stating your enrollment month. All July enrollments received an email notification in June. If you are unsure when you need to renew, please contact:

[Membership](#)

[Visit our website](#)

Correspondences

Births:

White Oak -- Two female SWR
Henry Doorly Zoo -- Male GOH
San Diego Zoo Safari Park -- Male SWR "Edward" via AI
The Wilds -- Female GOH
San Diego Zoo Safari Park -- Female GOH
Taronga Westerns Plain Zoo -- Female SWR

Deaths:

Henry Doorly Zoo -- Female SWR "Marina"
Disney's Animal Kingdom -- Female Black "Onyx"

San Diego Zoo Safari Park -- Female Black "Aria" from Zoo Miami

New Members

Jared Moeller _____ Dallas Zoo
Lisa Kaetzel _____ Mesker Park Zoo
Brandy Coffin _____ Disney's Animal Kingdom
Carlos Garcia _____ Reid Park Zoo
Katie Van Singel _____ Oklahoma City Zoo
Meredith Graham _____ Kansas City Zoological Park
Katie Lusnia _____ Disney's Animal Kingdom
Jennifer Roath _____ Zoo Miami



New/Renewing Conservation Partners

White Oak Conservation Center _____ Silver
Zoo Tampa _____ Silver
Buffalo Zoo _____ Silver
Columbus Zoo _____ Silver

*Thank
you!*

Conservation Partners are conservation organization or zoological institution which supports rhino conservation in accordance with the objectives and purpose of the IRKA. These partnerships often provide discounts for the supporting institution . It is important that as the IRKA grows we continue to garner the support from all facilities that are responsible for the protection and management of rhinoceros. We would like to extend our appreciation for the support from the following institutions, and hopefully we can add your zoo to this growing list! If you or your institution are interested in becoming a

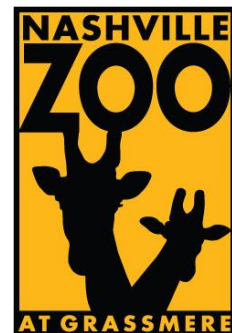
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[Support IRKA](#)

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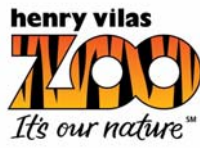


IRKA Partners



2019 Conservation Partners





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