



SARF news

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OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE SAVE AFRICAN RHINO FOUNDATION (inc)

APRIL 2021

Patrons: David Gower OBE, Nick Price, David Pocock, Kim Hughes.

President's Report

Despite our troubled times it's been quite a good year for the rhinos

Well, well, what a year and I doubt I need to write any more on the effects of Covid 19! I've now been in London for nine months – I came for three weeks, then got stranded and am now still here caring for my 97 year old mother.

It's full credit to all our members and supporters that we have been able to sustain our pledged funding to all our key projects, so thank you all very, very much indeed! What a special and amazing impact you have all made. Our core programme remains **Save Valley Conservancy (SVC)** and has received more than **70%** of the last year's funding, and quite rightly so with all the results they achieve.

It is with much sadness that we honour the passing of two of our great stalwarts, **Helen Fairnie** and **Stephen Ward**. Helen, and husband **Ian**, met me at a Rotary luncheon

about ten years ago and immediately wanted to become more involved and come on a safari. This resulted in a series of special fundraising safaris aimed at the veterinary profession, their chosen careers for the previous 40 years or so, resulting in vital links being established with some struggling Zimbabwean vets. **Helen will be sorely missed, both here, around Australia and in Zimbabwe.**

Stephen Ward was a founding member of SARF in **Brisbane** and the late eighties and then again in **Sydney** in 1991. Throughout all those years until quite recent times, Steve did whatever he could manage for the good of rhino conservation, always under challenging conditions as NSW liked to retain its own identity. He was always backed up by his wife, **Belinda**, and to her and their two children, we send our thoughts on their recent horrible loss. Both Helen and Stephen are remembered further on in this Newsletter.

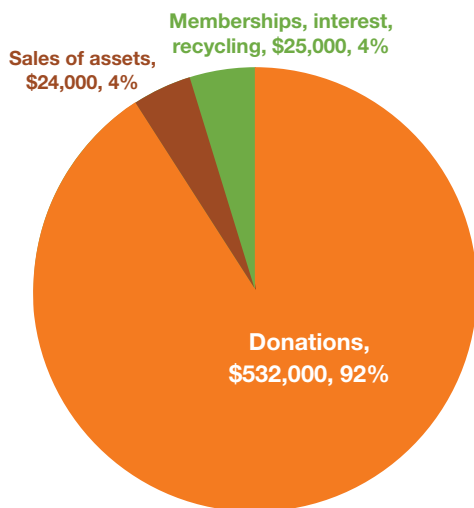
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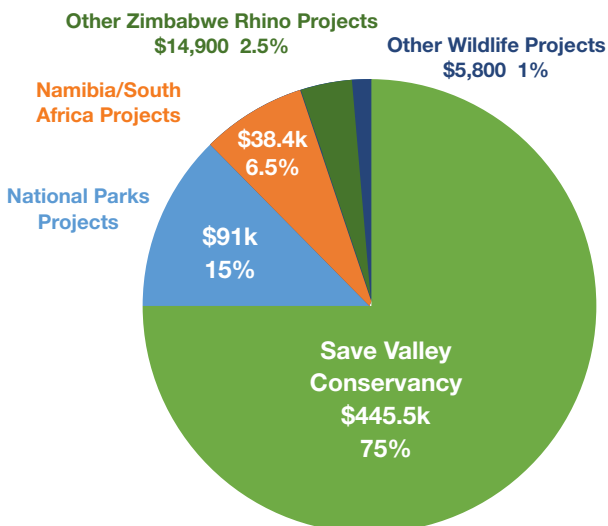
You'll be glad to know that Zimbabwe's rhino population, both black and white, had an **annual growth last year of 49 rhinos**, despite 11 poaching deaths (around 75 last year) and 15 natural mortalities, meaning there were at least 75 known new births, most encouraging. Congratulations to all rhino protectors in both the private conservancies, about 90% of the total rhino numbers, and the National Parks.

We missed out on more than **\$230,000** of anticipated income from our annual dinner/auction at the Hyatt Regency Perth, together with our traditional four safaris and other trips we arrange for our members. Our overall donations for our field projects were down on last year's total of **\$662,000** to **\$532,000** for this financial year. It's been customary for our safari guests to make a significant donation on the return from their adventure and that's the reason for the lower figure. Our main appeals were for **Giving Tuesday, end of financial year, rhino naming and Wildlife Ranger Challenge**.

Income \$580,000



Expenditure \$597,000



As we all know, it's not clear when we can again board a flight to **Harare** or **Victoria Falls** and enjoy the **magic of Zimbabwe** and surrounds, so fingers crossed. I'm sure that lots of you can't wait for our next trip. I was lucky enough to twice be able to fly from London with Ethiopian Airways, once for the ear notching and once to honour **Amos Gwema** and also have some important meetings in Save Valley.

We held our **AGM** at the zoo in mid November, pretty well attended in person and by zoom. An overall report by power point informed all attendees of our progress. The same committee as the previous year was re-elected, namely; **President – Nicholas Duncan; Vice President – Nia Carras; Secretary – Evan Litis; Treasurer – Heather Atwell; General committee – Evelyn Wong, Mike Palmer, Steve Harrison, Cameron Murray and Mark Beamish**. And we have a sub committee comprising **Lynn Johnson, Tim Scarrott, Oliver Basson, Luke Basson, Giles McCaw, Julie Bain and Greg Nicolson**.

Thanks everyone for all your support and dedication for yet another year!

In October, a terrific recycling programme was launched by **Containers for Change**, and so far, around WA, more than **200 million eligible drink containers** have been returned to more than **200 recycling depots**. And a **10c per item reward** is given back, so please consider using this great platform to help both the **environment and the rhinos**. Please visit their website or email me and I'll put you in touch with our organiser, **Evan**, who will help you enlist. Thanks very much, it's pretty easy money, and you may well have a few friends who'd like to get involved too.



Containers for Change collection

The way I look at it is that for every **few bags of containers you collect, that will pay for one week's wages for another well trained ranger** to patrol and protect the rhinos, so that could be just the motivation you need to get things started. And it could be a good project for a child to do a bit of scavenging and cleaning up around the area.

We have been supporting **Amos Gwema, Chief Intelligence Officer**, Hwange region, for more than 12 years now. Based on his excellent skills and results, last year we nominated him for one of the annual **TUSK**

Trust conservation awards for all of Africa. Imagine our delight, and his, when we heard that he had won **Ranger of the Year for Africa**, to be presented, remotely, by **HRH Prince William**!! How fantastic was that and hearty congratulations, yet again, to Amos on his magnificent achievement. He certainly has a renewed spring in his step these days.



Ranger of the Year winner Amos Gwema and HRH Prince William

Our main project, **Save Valley**, welcomed a new chairman last November, **Robin Bouckaert**, a French businessman now living with his family in Harare. A few years ago he invested in the conservancy and bought a ranch bang in the middle of the northern boundary, **Gunundwe**, where we have stayed for the last two ranger trips. He is a bit of a mover and shaker, perhaps more so than conservation usually experiences, and there are already some positive signs that change and development is in the air. Thanks for taking on the challenge, Robin.

There are a few featured articles in this edition, notably **Matobo National Park** camera trap programme, **Save Valley** Conservancy, **Matusadona** intelligence gathering, **Hwange** intelligence with Amos and **Paul's anti poaching** and wildlife rescue in Hwange. When you make your renewal shortly, please will you also consider topping up with a further donation to one or more of these projects, or perhaps just for general purposes, as marked on your renewal form? Thanks so much and we do have to scrounge as best we can.

There's another way that you can also kindly support our rhino conservation projects, and that's by leaving a **legacy to SARF in your Will**. A growing number of charities are now benefitting from these donations and we invite you to consider this, too, please? **Cameron Murray** has designed a small brochure for you, which is now being posted with your renewal form. **Please remember the rhinos in your estate planning. Thank you very much.**

For our Perth region members, our next social gathering is a lovely, tasty supper at **Siena's Italian Restaurant in Leederville, on Thursday 15 April, 6.30pm**. Then it's our **AGM on 1 July** and **TUSK's Wildlife Ranger Challenge on 11 September**.

Again, thank you all for your terrific ongoing support, many for over 30 years, extraordinary, and masses of you for over 10, and long may it continue. We are so proud and lucky to have such a loyal following, and all of you, please, stay well and strong.

Nicholas Duncan | *President*

34th AGM



Notice is hereby given that the Thirty-fourth Annual General Meeting of the Save African Rhino Foundation (Inc) will be held on Thursday 1 July 2021 at 6.30 pm, in the Education Centre at the Perth Zoo, Labouchere Road, South Perth

AGENDA

1. Acceptance of the minutes from the Thirty-third Annual General Meeting held on 18 November 2020
2. President's Report
3. Treasurer's Report
4. Election of Executive Committee
5. Any other business

At the completion of the formal part of the meeting, we will be joined, by Zoom, by three of our VIP colleagues in Zimbabwe for a general update and Q&A.

Nomination forms for positions on the Executive, together with proxy forms, are available by emailing nicholas@savefoundation.org.au and nominations should be lodged at 229 Oxford Street, Leederville WA 6007, or by email, by 6.30 pm on 24 June 2021. Please feel free to bring your family, friends and acquaintances along. Would you please email us, nicholas@savefoundation.org.au

Appreciation of Save African Rhino Foundation *For Supporting Investigation and Intelligence Work at Hwange*

By Amos Gwema

Winner of 2020 Tusk Africa Ranger of The Year Award

I would like to thank **Save African Rhino Foundation** for supporting my intelligence and investigation work before I won the **TUSK Africa Ranger of the Year Award, presented by HRH Prince William**. SARF has helped quite a lot and this contributed to my nomination for this award. Nicholas Duncan flew from London to Victoria Falls to host a reception where the worldwide relay of the ceremony was screened.



HRH Prince William presenting the Ranger of the Year award to Amos

Wildlife intelligence and investigation work is complex and requires funding, some of which cannot be obtained from central Government. Normally the central Government assists in the payment of informer rewards after the arrest and recovery of wildlife products e.g. ivory.

It should be known that before an arrest is made there are a lot of procedures and processes done to get an arrest, and all these require money e.g. airtime, transport, food and sometimes accommodation for the inform. All of the above costs are not catered for by the state.

The state will be visible after an arrest and recovery of wildlife products. In view of the above bottlenecks I would like to thank SARF for supporting such costs which are not covered by the state.

This has resulted in the **informants** trusting me and working extra hard knowing that they will receive support from me, but they were not aware that the support comes from true conservationists like Save African Rhino Foundation.

Furthermore, SARF assisted in the servicing of vehicles used for intelligence work, both the official Toyota Harrier and my personal Nissan Hardbody. The two vehicles have

been used for all arrests done by Hwange Investigations for the past 7 years.

Fellow conservationists, I appeal to you to fund wildlife intelligence and investigation work, not only in Zimbabwe, but throughout the whole world. Intelligence and investigation work has traceable results.

Intelligence and investigation officers and members easily blend with the community members since they do not wear uniform. It should be noted that the criminals stay with the community, sell wildlife products to the community and hence, the failure to support intelligence work would not achieve desirable results because intelligence is the first line of defence for wildlife protection.



In the field



Poachers with ivory

I would like to thank SARF for assisting our intelligence work - to me they are the pioneers in supporting **Hwange Investigation** work and this has resulted in a positive impact leading **to the drastic reduction of poaching of elephants and other animal species in Hwange National Park.**

I would also want to thank TUSK for recognising my work and I would want to assure TUSK that I will continue to work with Save African Rhino Foundation to further move forward in wildlife conservation.

BRIEF OF 2020 ACHIEVEMENTS

1. **18 people were arrested for illegal possession of raw ivory, of which 14 were sentenced to 9 years imprisonment with labour.**
2. **5 kilograms of cyanide was recovered from a poacher who had travelled from Bulawayo with the intention of elephant poisoning in Hwange National Park and the suspect died in Police custody of suspected suicide. The cyanide could have killed a large number of elephants if intelligence officers had not recovered it.**
3. **3 rifles were recovered before they were used for poaching.**



Poachers with ivory

Thank you very much to; **Director General of Zimbabwe Parks and Wildlife Management Authority** and all **Directors, Managers and all Cluster Managers** for supporting wildlife intelligence work; **Save African Rhino Foundation; TUSK** for recognising me in 2020; colleagues from the **Police and Judiciary** for helping complete the wildlife protection cycle. I would like to say that Judiciary Officers in **Matabeleland North** are shining stars, namely **Hwange Court, Victoria Falls, Binga, Tsholotsho and Lupane** - they handled wildlife cases professionally without fear or favour.

Thank you also to **Bhejane Trust; Investigation and Security** Manager Mr P November for supporting me and guiding me; **Hwange Investigation staff and all Investigation Officers** throughout Zimbabwe for the support; and **Zimbabwe Parks and Wildlife Management Authority**.

Finally I would like to thank my **family** for supporting me despite, at times, working odd times, and my **late grandfather who taught me my honest ethics**.



Tusk Wildlife Ranger of the Year Award

Upcoming events for your enjoyment



Casual Supper | Siena's of Leederville

Thursday 15 April, 6.30pm

Siena's of Leederville, an Italian restaurant in Oxford Street, Leederville, Onn, \$65 each. And what a scrumptious menu for you!

Starters – pizza and grilled and fried calamari.

Mains – your choice of 6

Tasmanian salmon, chilli prawns, fillet steak, grilled chicken, vegetarian dish and chicken scaloppine.

BYO wine. We have a private area for only 70 guests, bookings at <https://www.trybooking.com/BPQUA>

Wildlife Ranger Challenge

Saturday 11 September

not yet officially launched by **TUSK Trust**, more details to follow. Please start thinking about your own personal challenge, walk, swim, bike ride, whatever, or join our communal one in King's Park.



Save Valley Conservancy 2020 Report

2020 was a difficult year with the pandemic affecting all aspects of life. Interestingly a decline in the number of rhino poaching incidents was noticed. This can be attributed to the fact that in the first half of the year, with the effects of Covid, criminal gangs struggled to move around the country. A reduction in poaching losses was also recorded and this was mainly due to two fantastic successes. The arrest of **Custon Mugejo** (a well-known rhino poacher) in October of 2019 gave a chance to the rhinos in **Savuli** and **Makore** (properties in SVC). This was after the dog team intercepted Custon's gang leaving him badly injured after he tried to escape, shooting at the rangers. He was in possession of a silenced .458 Rifle. The other was in February of 2020 in **Arda**, the team tracked **Pilate Ndou** and his group. Ndou was killed on contact, he was in possession of a silenced 375. Ndou was responsible for killing a number of rhinos in the south of the conservancy in 2019 and he had done a lot of damage in Buby Valley as well. Without these two successes, the conservancy would have suffered many more losses. Both of these amazing wins are attributed to our **K9 unit**. All thanks to **Joy Smith** for her dedication and support throughout the project, the dog team is very well taken care of and very well equipped for the work.



K9 Unit

Meat poaching

What was really tough about 2020, was the massive upsurge in meat poaching throughout the conservancy. **The teams on the ground worked tirelessly with ranch scouts day and night. The K9 unit was very effective working day and night tracking meat poachers to their villages.** The teams had a number of wins on and out of most properties of the conservancy. In many areas, a definite decline in the meat poaching, as a result was seen. **The anti-poaching patrols made 56 arrests and recovered 700 snares.** A number of hardcore poachers suffered nasty bites from the dogs resulting in positive deterrent. The ranch managers and owners were very supportive in combating the meat poaching.



700 snares were recovered by the anti-poaching patrols

Rhino mortalities

5 rhinos were lost to poaching in 2020 in four separate incidences. The first case was very unfortunate, where a black rhino cow was killed in a snare set for buffalo, the poachers took the horns which were later recovered in Mutare where they were being sold. The accused in that case was given 9 years imprisonment, credit to the intelligence network of **Zambezi Society and IAPF** for their intel work on that case. The second case was a white rhino cow and calf that were shot and buried, and the third case was a subadult black rhino bull poached by the same gang. In both cases we recovered 416 calibre bullet heads. SSPU is working closely with Sango on these cases as they were both found on Sango Ranch and trusting for a breakthrough in the near future. The final incident was recorded in Chishakwe where a white rhino sub bull was shot and killed.

The poaching mortality rate on black rhinos stood at 1.2%, which achieved the **AfRSG (African Rhino Specialist Group)** target of less than 2% per annum. This was a significant decrease from 2019, and was one of the lowest poaching mortality rates since 2013, comparable to 2018 only.



In 2020 SVC suffered an unfortunate number of natural rhino mortalities

In 2020 the conservancy suffered an unfortunate number of natural rhino mortalities. Two small black rhino calves were presumed killed by predators, one died of natural illness and a black rhino bull died of a combination of passed injuries and old age combined. Later in the year the conservancy lost a black rhino calf (mother was killed in the snare earlier this year), the calf, about a year and a half old, was being looked after by her older sister but was badly injured by another rhino and died as a result despite all efforts to save her.

Rhino births

A total of **16 black rhino and 6 white rhino** births were confirmed in 2020 bringing the total to 161 black rhino and 50 white rhino. The 2020 underlying growth rate on black rhino was on 7.8%, higher than the AfRSG target of more than 5% per annum. This was a slight decrease from 2019 (11.3%) owing to a greater number of natural mortalities. Between the years of 2017, 2018, 2019 and 2020 the SVC black rhino population has on average experienced a net growth of **7.6%** and the anti-poaching rangers continue to fight to keep that trend positive.

The rangers

Hats off to the rangers in the field for fighting through tough times and expanding their scope of work by assisting more in the anti-meat poaching. Rhinos in vulnerable areas were well protected, and the **mobile units** did a great job of auditing the rhino, keeping them mostly in the green spectrum (seen within 4 months throughout the year). They also did a phenomenal job of locating and keeping track of the 24 rhino that needed ear-notching and more importantly **they delivered the needed rhino in record time for the vet unit to process during the rhino ops period (23 out of 24 rhinos in 11 days).**

Huge credit and thanks go to **Nicholas Duncan and SARF** for their support of our rangers in 2020, even more so than previous years for completely funding the rhino ops and for working closely with the **Australian High Commission** who very kindly funded improvements and additions to both the ranger bases in the northern and southern areas. The rangers were grateful that SARF was able to join the rhino ops and this gave the man an opportunity to show their gratitude for the achievements made during the Covid period with SARF's support.

We are also very proud of our rangers for their amazing accomplishment and participation in the **TUSK Wildlife Ranger Challenge (WRC)**. They came 5th in the main event (21km run with 22kg backpack) out of 88 teams and 20 countries in Africa and they came 1st in the WRC quiz! **This was a fantastic effort by the team.** Again, **we are indebted to Nicholas Duncan and his team for raising a huge amount of funds (to be matched by TUSK) over this event and for walking 10km himself in the UK in our support.**



Rangers in the field

Accomplishments

1. Made improvements and additions to the north and south ranger base facilities thanks to SARF and the Australian high commission for funding those needs.
2. Built and completed a **second dog kennel facility** to be able to accommodate extra dog handlers and our seven new pups. The pups are now just over a year old and only a few months from being operational. The pups were born here at the dog unit's kennels and all training was conducted by ATS in house. Thanks to Joy Smith for funding the entire K9 section.



The second dog kennel facility

3. An 800m airfield close to the base was built and the SVC hanger was moved from Chishakwe to the new airfield. The unit acquired an almost new **savannah aircraft** to be used as a surveillance platform, rhino operations, auditing and over the top of the K9 unit during reactions. Thanks to **Rhino Force** for making this aircraft available. The aircraft has already proven **incredibly useful** in preventing a rhino from being killed during a poaching attempt on Chishakwe and it was used as top cover during the recent rhino ops.



New 800m airfield



Ranger unit

- Recruitment of an additional 6 rangers into the APU and 4 more dog handlers, thanks to SARF and Joy Smith respectively.

Major Needs

- We need **enhanced radio communications** for our unit and for the whole conservancy. The **digital/analog** system would be best as it would be more secure and would allow the tracking and management of scout patrol effort as well as asset management.
- More **mobile ranger units** to be able to monitor the rhino population quicker and cover the many gaps in the area. With a growing rhino population, this is a real need!

- A **rhino management facility** to be able to hold orphaned or injured rhino for the purpose of rehabilitation and reintroduction into the wild. This needs to be in a logistically practical position for the APU to be able to protect. Again, the rhino population is growing so these needs will become more frequent. It is important that the SVC fulfills this responsibility.

Conclusion

The rhino population is on the cusp of exponential growth. It is more important now, more than ever, to work toward that goal. The ATS team remains dedicated to lead the APU towards that end.

Moses Mutemeri | Ecologist



Cash for cans and bottles



At this frustrating time, unable to visit our hardworking friends in Zim, a simple way to practically help them is the **Container Collection Scheme**.

One of the many aspects of SARF that satisfies me greatly is our **ability to react immediately** to all reasonable needs, no matter how small. We know ONE Dollar goes a long way in countries less spoilt than ours, and cans/ bottles/plastic bits can make up that \$1 - **"Money fer Jam" !!**

I believe close to **\$4,000** has been collected in 5 months, for SARF, by several good folk, but I think we could do a lot better.

The **depots all over the state make it very easy to drop off** whatever one can collect and our code enables the total amount to be credited directly to **SARF(C10283898)** - "Easy Peasy".

Please consider joining in - many little things can result from your efforts (items bought immediately

- assistance to get equipment to an injured Rhino - small \$10 bonus to a tired, hardworking ranger for a toy for his kids, who haven't seen him, risking his life, for the last month.

Jump to it folks and thanks for caring!



Tim Scarrott, one of our founding members from nearly 34 years ago..

Farewell Helen Fairnie

We were very saddened in September when we lost our much admired committee member, Helen Fairnie, after her brave fight with ill health. She had been a valued colleague for ten years. Raised and educated in Victoria, and qualified in veterinary science, she and her husband, Ian, moved to WA in 1969, and both began distinguished careers in veterinary academia.



A rhino was named after Helen in Save Valley

As a result of leading several fundraising safaris to Zimbabwe for vets, she nurtured many connections in there and helped as much as she could in providing vital supplies for their work, including gaining a grant from the Australian Government to build a veterinary centre for rural animals, close to Victoria Falls. This has now been renamed in her honour. At last October's rhino operations in Save Valley, a rhino was named after her.

For many years, Helen taught and researched at Curtin, and was described by her sister, Paula, as a trailblazer for women in veterinary science. She was involved in the introduction of companion pets into nursing homes and wellness programmes to help veterinarians overcome stress.

She was the first female President of the Australian Veterinary Association (AVA) in 1982/83, incidentally, succeeded by Ian. Due to her long, distinguished career, Helen received many awards for her services, including Rotary's highest award in 2013, AVA's President's Award in 2014 and she became a Member of the Order of Australia (AM) in 2017.

Her family wished for a legacy fund in her memory, to assist AWARE Trust and Victoria Falls Wildlife Trust, both being major players in Zimbabwean wildlife rehabilitation. Should you wish to support this fund, please go to; www.givenow.com.au/crowdraiser/public/helenslegacyfor2importantzimbabweweterinaryprojects

We all miss her sound counsel, her lovely smile and her willingness to help. She leaves behind husband Ian, sons Callum and Michael and grandchildren Mason and Asha. She was extremely proud of all of them, as they were of her, and to them all, we extend our kind thoughts and thanks.

Vale Stephen Ward

Stephen Ward was a friendly, kind, gentle and thoroughly decent man who was good fun and great company at a party. He loved his family, their pets, and wild creatures.

He maintained a long commitment to the SAVE cause, as one of the key leaders of the NSW branch for 20 years and he helped raise hundreds of thousands of dollars for rhino conservation.

Stephen raised a fine family, and I recall many fabulous

nights we had mustering friends for song and dance raising funds for the rhinos with fondness and gratitude.

Stephen left the world a better place. He will be greatly missed, but as his friends said at his funeral, many rhinos in Africa were mighty lucky that he was on their side. I extend my sympathies to his wife Belinda and their children, Lucy and Will.



James Thompson

2020 Ear Notching at Save Valley Conservancy

A project funded by SARF and our Members

One strategy used to ensure accurate population counts is to **ear notch** each individual animal to be able to specifically identify them. When the ear notch is made, a sample of **DNA** is taken to develop a data base of all known animals, which will assist with future re-population strategies should this ever be necessary in the future.

Highly skilled wildlife management specialists and veterinarians oversee the whole operation along with volunteers who offer their time as support crew. Together everyone works to get the rhinos notched with them being subjected to as little stress as possible and safely back on their feet as quickly as possible.

Funding for this type of activity comes primarily from individual philanthropists and Not for Profit Organisations such as **SARF**. SARF funded the ear notching on SVC in 2020, with **11 individual members** donating to fund the notching and then each **choosing a name** for one of the juvenile rhinos who were approved to be notched.

Rhino Monitors regularly track and photograph each individual rhino, recording any births or deaths to substantiate the current population on the Conservancy. A dedicated **Rhino Auditor, Josie Hosker**, oversees the population record keeping and collates the information gathered by the Rhino Monitors. From this data, potential juvenile animals who need to be notched are identified and permission is then requested from **Zimbabwe Parks and Wildlife Management Authority**.

The specialist veterinary team arrives at the Conservancy the day before the Rhino Notching Ops begin. The team includes a fixed wing plane to spot the rhino from the air; though this year we used **Bryce Clemence** and his brother **Shannon** (spotter) in their new ultralight. **Nick le Grange's** helicopter flies the darter, **Josh Mostert**, and manages the darted rhino's mother from the air once the darted rhino is down on the ground. Vet **Jackie Mostert** and her vast array of medical supplies and equipment; the logistics manager and driver of the veterinary team's ground crew vehicle, make up the team.



Ultralight



The Rhino Monitors start tracking at first light, while the rest of the team gather at headquarters to await news that one of the juveniles approved to be notched has been sighted. Once a location is confirmed the ultralight flies in to spot the rhino from the air, and at the same time the vet's ground support team set off in their vehicles and make their way towards the area the rhino has been sighted.

Once the team is in place, the helicopter collects Josh, who will dart the rhino, and they then start to manoeuvre the animal into a safe position for darting. As the terrain can be rough and hazardous with rock kopjes and very few roads in conjunction with thick vegetation, Nick will try to keep the rhino in open and flat ground and as close to a main track as possible. This will be both safe for the rhino, if it is running, to avoid any injuries before the immobilising drugs take effect, as well as easier for the vet ground crew's vehicles to be able to drive close to once the dart is "in" and the rhino has dropped to the ground.

A dart is fired into the rump of the rhino and Josh begins to record the effects of the medication, which usually occurs within a few minutes. Once the rhino has dropped to the ground it is safe for the helicopter to quickly land and drop him off to re-join the ground crew. Then the helicopter heads back into the air to manoeuvre the darted rhino's mother away from the notching operation, but at the same time keeping her close enough that they can be quickly reunited once the notching has been completed.



Ear notching procedure

The ground crew will run to the rhino and work as quickly as possible to prevent it from becoming unnecessarily stressed and reduce the amount of time it is immobilised on the ground. A blindfold is placed over the rhino's eyes and deafeners are placed in the ears. Not being able to see and hear all the human activity happening around them will help to reduce stress.

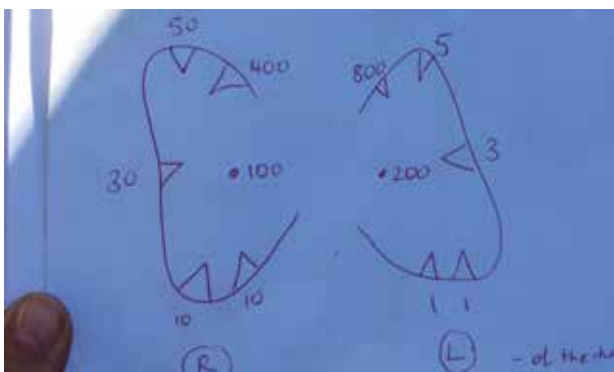


Various other measures are taken to look after the rhino's health throughout the procedure - water is sprayed to keep the rhino's temperature down, oxygen is provided and the number of breaths per minute is counted. The rhino's heart rate, temperature and oxygen levels are monitored. These vital statistics indicate the condition of the rhino and are recorded and reported to the vets regularly throughout the entire process. Josh and Jackie note the rhino's vital statistics and instruct the volunteers accordingly.



Water is sprayed to keep the rhino's temperature down

While the vet team are attending to the rhino's health, Josie confirms the rhino's identity, and issues it with a unique identification number. A notching key shows which number each notch represents. Up to 999 can be made using a combination of these notches.



The Notching Key

The notches are marked using artery forceps to stop the flow of blood to that part of the ears, prior to the notches being cut. Josh and Josie check the notches have been marked correctly before Josh cuts the notches with a triangular punch, saving the pieces of ear that have been removed to be sent for DNA testing and recording in the national population database.

The newly cut edges of the notch are treated with potassium permanganate, a disinfectant that helps stop any bleeding and seals the wounds. A photograph of the completed notches is taken to form part of the rhino's records. Two microchips are implanted in different locations around the rhino's head and neck. Then a cross is painted with a temporary paint on the rhino's rump, so it can be easily seen from the air and Nick or Bryce can quickly identify that this rhino has already been notched.



Ear notching procedure

The dart with immobilising drug stays in until the notching has been completed. Once the dart is removed, precautionary antibiotics are injected into the dart site to prevent any infection. As soon as the process has been completed, the veterinary ground crew quickly remove their equipment and get onto the vehicle to be ready to vacate the area immediately the reversing drug is administered.

Josh is the last to leave the rhino, recording the time he is able to stand. The rhino can move very quickly once the immobilising drugs have been reversed and will sometimes charge the vehicle as it leaves the area. At the same time, Nick starts to manoeuvre the notched rhino's mother back towards him so they can join together again.

Each rhino notched is assigned a name, and the whole procedure is documented. The recorded information will be referred to in the future should the rhino ever need to be darted again.



Chippy

Nicholas was lucky enough to be able to fly to Zim from London for a few days of these ops, and was delighted to be joined by **Alyce Kelsall and Cathy Jenkins** from the **Australian Embassy** in Harare. And what a fantastic experience they had, as well as hosting a Sunday lunch for all the team. And they were also able to visit all the building improvements funded by the Australian government earlier in the year.



The whole operation was the slickest ever done in Save Valley, with rhino downtime being reduced from 27 minutes in 2019 to a mere 15 minutes this time. 23 of the targeted 24 rhinos were notched in only 11 days, quite outstanding! All the work was done between 6-10am and 4-6pm, to avoid the heat of the day and rhino body temperatures were lower than last time. Congratulations to all the African Wildlife Management and Conservation team, plus the game rangers and their leaders and other vital conservancy staff.

Heather Atwell

Special thanks

A very big thank you goes to the following members and donors for their contribution to fund the 2020 ear notching Rhino Ops. Without their donations, it is unlikely that we would have had sufficient funds for this vital project to have been done, so thanks again!

Emily Cummins

Jellybean

Greg Devine / Griffin Group

Belle

Heather Atwell

Kakosha

Josie Hosker

Robson

Knight Frank / Enex 100

George

Lin Barrie

Linda

Lynn Vale & Will Thomson

Shamwari

Mark Beamish

Jimbo

Mike Palmer

Eva

Nia Carras

Nia

Pat Thomson

Isimba

Rob Michael

10 for the Rangers to name

Donald Fraser

Archibald

Steve Harrison

Kate

Syd Chipchase

Chippy



Dambari Wildlife Trust and Save African Rhino Foundation: a partnership comes of age

About 18 years ago, **Nicholas Duncan and Dambari Wildlife Trust's director, Verity Bowman**, met by chance in Hwange National Park. At that time, Dambari (or Marwell Zimbabwe Trust as it was then known) was the primary local NGO supporting rhino conservation in three of the country's western rhino areas – **Matobo National Park** and the **Main Camp** and **Sinamatella** sections of Hwange National Park – and Verity was in Sinamatella for rhino ear-notching operations. As is so often the case with SARF, conversations between Nicholas and Verity hatched a longstanding rhino conservation partnership that has developed and strengthened over time.

Whilst much of the support that SARF has given to Dambari's projects has been financial (as described later), there have also been many unsolicited in-kind donations and offers to procure equipment on our behalf over the years, from IT equipment to rechargeable batteries.



Perhaps most memorable was an email in early **2011** **“Could you use 10 camera traps?”** Our response was “Yes, please!” and the **Matobo Rhino Camera Trap Project** was born. The primary aim of the project is to augment Ranger sightings of rhino in Matobo National Park (MNP), where getting good physical sightings, particularly of black rhino, is complicated by the terrain and thick vegetation. A major spinoff of the project has been confirming the presence of **more than 50 species of medium and large mammal in the National Park, including rarities such as pangolin and transient elephant and wild dog.** With between 15 and 20 cameras deployed at any time (SARF has donated a number of camera traps since!), we have amassed more than **2,200 records of black rhino, 4,100 records of white rhino and just shy of 50,000 records of all other species** combined (a record is a set of photos of a species taken within 30 minutes, and may contain multiple individuals). **This project is fully funded by SARF, including covering field costs and staff time**

for fieldwork and data management. The information produced has been invaluable for rhino management in Matobo National Park, shedding light on nocturnal behaviours and individual associations that it has not been possible to detect through routine daytime Ranger patrols.



SARF has also provided financial support for **every rhino management operation** in Matobo National Park since about 2007. By keeping track of individual rhinos in Matobo, it has been possible to maintain accurate population records and to track the life histories of individuals – for example, the ages at which females produce their first calf – which is a critical part of determining population performance. **Regular dehorning of animals in this relatively small population has reduced the poaching incentive, and along with anti-poaching efforts, has enabled steady growth in both black and white rhino populations.**

It is not just Dambari's initiatives that SARF has invested in. An extremely valuable additional component of SARF support has been helping to keep MNP rangers well equipped and mobile. In this regard, Dambari acts as a local partner, acting as liaison between MNP and SARF. **Over the years, SARF has provided MNP with Ranger kit, camping equipment, GPS units, binoculars, batteries, vehicles and vehicle maintenance support and IT and communications equipment.**

Matobo National Park is the only National Park in Zimbabwe that still has viable populations of both black and white rhinos. This is thanks in large part to the ongoing support of conservation partners such as SARF, whose long-term commitment to help this small but important National Park is greatly valued by Dambari and the Zimbabwe Parks and Wildlife Management Authority.

Nicky Pegg | Senior Ecologist, Dambari Wildlife Trust

Save African Rhino Foundation: more than 3 decades of support for The Zambezi Society

The Save African Rhino Foundation's support for **The Zambezi Society's** conservation work in Zimbabwe goes all the way back to 1988 – more than 3 decades ago!

At that time, the Society was providing much-needed assistance to the **Zimbabwe Parks and Wildlife Management Authority (ZPWMA)**'s staff on the ground in the **Matusadona National Park** which was an Intensive Protection Zone for a small population of the Black Rhinoceros. SARF's support for Matusadona, channelled through The Zambezi Society, was absolutely critical during this period.

SARF's funds and donations enabled the purchase of everything from ranger food rations, tents, sleeping bags, boots, uniforms, hats, socks, radios, batteries, vehicles and vehicle maintenance to first aid packs and trail cameras. As The Zambezi Society did not have a permanent presence on the ground, having trail cameras strategically placed at various locations throughout this extensive 137,000 hectare (1,370 sq kms) Park, enabled us to monitor the presence and movement of rhino and other species as well as any illegal human activity.



The main focus during this period was on trying to protect the few remaining black rhino in the Park but it was also at a time when elephant poaching was on the increase countrywide and Matusadona was not spared. Tragically, and for various reasons, efforts to protect the Matusadona's rhino population were unsuccessful, but elephant poaching was kept down to a sustainable level. This support for Matusadona continued through to November 2019 when the **African Parks Foundation** was able to secure a long term, shared management partnership with ZPWMA.

In 2016, before the African Parks Foundation entered the fray, The Zambezi Society had entered into a collaboration with the **Matusadona Anti-Poaching Project (MAPP)**, an initiative driven by a group of tourism operators in the Park. This initiative upped the level of support for rangers on the ground and saw the start of an informer-driven intelligence programme outside of the Park.

By early 2018 this intelligence initiative had expanded significantly, with the informer network covering an ever-increasing area, resulting in a huge increase in the volume of information coming in, and a corresponding increase in the number of arrests for illegal wildlife offenses. At this time MAPP decided to go back to concentrating on what they had originally set out to do which was to provide water and land-based support to Parks rangers within Matusadona.

The timing of this decision coincided with the **International Anti-poaching Foundation (IAPF)** offering their support and willingness to get involved with the Zambezi Society in the now rapidly expanding intelligence/ investigations initiative. This initiative had quickly expanded right across the Zambezi Valley landscape and very soon sting operations and arrests were also being carried out at various locations throughout Zimbabwe.



What had been a MAPP/ Zambezi Society collaboration now became a Zambezi Society/IAPF collaboration. With a substantial increase in funding from the IAPF and with the continued support of the Zambezi Society's donors - SARF providing a substantial amount of that support - this initiative has continued to go from strength to strength. All operations are carried out in collaboration with official law-enforcement authorities, including the Minerals, Flora and Fauna Unit (MFFU Police Unit) and/or ZPWMA Investigations Unit.

Elephant poaching stats across the Zambezi landscape, in the way of carcasses located on the ground, show a sharp decline in poaching over the past four years. There can be no doubt that the successes that have been achieved by this initiative over the past four years have been a major contributing factor (see tables below).

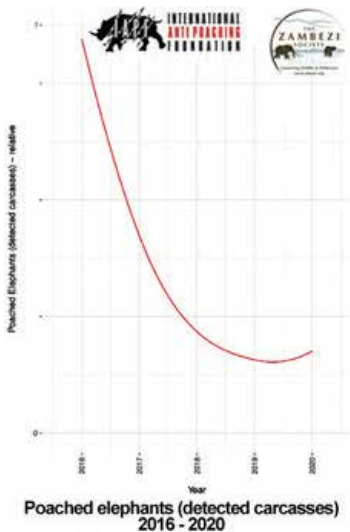
Surveillance of the Zambezi Valley landscape, both from the air and via boots on the ground, has increased significantly, both geographically and in reaction capacity, in recent years. So, if poaching off-take had remained constant over that period, one would expect that significantly more carcasses

would have been located, but the opposite has been the case. Maintaining this investigation work, and potentially expanding it further, will benefit all species that are subject to the Illegal Wildlife Trade, as poachers and buyers do not discriminate. The professionalism that has been applied to data collection, analysis and response is considered to be a benchmark for Zimbabwe. This work will certainly help accelerate the re-introduction of rhino into Matusadona when in-Park security reaches the required standard.

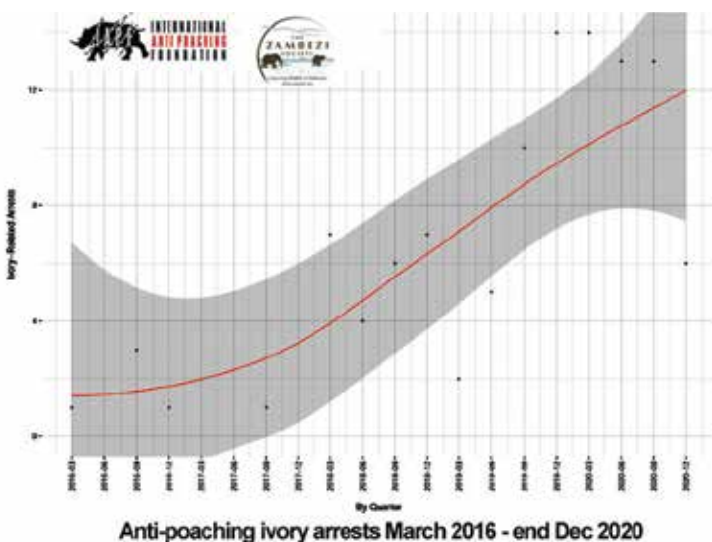
For more than 3 decades, and through thick and thin, the Save the African Rhino Foundation has stood by The Zambezi Society and continues to do so. This remarkable example of unwavering commitment to helping conserve a globally important wildlife and wilderness landscape has also helped us to leverage further funding support from other donors. Had it not been for the Save the African Rhino Foundation's support over all these years, there's no doubt that the effectiveness of the Zambezi Society's efforts on the ground would have been very much reduced.

We thank you, from the bottom of our hearts.

The Zambezi Society



ILLEGAL WILDLIFE TRADE CASES 2020	
Total cases	113
Total arrests	186
Ivory cases	45
Ivory arrests	77
Pangolin cases	22
Pangolin Arrests	32
Cyanide	0
Cyanide	0
Rhino Horn cases	2
Rhino horn arrests	9
Total convictions/fines	45
Total years	164
Weapon cases	17
Weapon related arrests	33
Weapon recoveries	23



D.A.R.T. 2020 Year End Report

Thanks to our SARF friends and supporters, DART carried out a number of successful wildlife rescues together with some significant conservation work in and around Hwange National Park in 2020. These are some of the unforgettable conservation highlights experienced during the year.

First Wildlife Rescue 2020

The first wildlife rescue of the year took place in March 2020 when DART received a report about a badly snared lion seen inside the National Park.

In a combined operation involving Lion Research and CWF the lion was successfully darted, the snare was removed and the horrific snare wound was treated.



As the year progressed DART rescued and removed snares from many other wild animals in 2020. This not only included small, vulnerable antelope like bushbuck but progressed up the danger spectrum to include buffalo and elephant.

Covid-19 and Increased Levels of Poaching

In addition to the usual hardships facing the impoverished rural communities living along the borders of Hwange National Park, the COVID-19 pandemic and the associated lockdowns brought new challenges to the lives of these people who were already struggling to earn an income and survive each day. Consequently a growing number of desperate people began turning to wild animals as a source of food and income.

Ukhozi Snare Removal Team

In response to the high levels of wildlife poaching being uncovered in some areas bordering the Park, DART set-up and trained a 4-man anti-poaching team to patrol known poaching hotspots in search of poacher's wire snares. Because of their eagle-eyed ability to swoop in and remove the carefully camouflaged snares, the team has become known as the UKHOZI Team (Ukhozi means Eagle in the local iSindebele language). The Ukhozi Team became an instant success not only because of the many snares they

removed but also because their presence in these areas serves as a pro-active deterrent keeping poachers away from these vulnerable and previously un-patrolled wildlife areas.

Targetting the Source of Poacher's Snare

The tragic sight of a dead male Kudu that the Ukhozi Team found entangled not in a snare, but in the fallen and long-ago decommissioned telephone wires that littered the boundary of the Park.

Even though this high-tensile, copper-coated steel wire accidentally killed this kudu, the strength, durability and easy access to this wire is the main reason why it had also become the primary source of all poacher's snares killing wildlife in this area.



Decommissioned Telephone Wire Removal (Potential Poacher's Snare Wire)

The grizzly discovery of the dead kudu together with the many other telephone wire snares collected by Ukhozi enabled DART to obtain special permission from the National Telecommunication Authority to cut down and remove all the decommissioned telephone wire found along the National Park boundary.

So began a 3-month-long DART/Ukhozi project that culminated in the final collection of **623km of potential snare wire weighing a staggering 26.3 tons.**



Assisting National Parks

At this critical time when levels of poaching had increased dramatically, National Parks faced a serious lack of transport that was restricting their ability to respond to the poaching challenges.

To fill this void, DART was granted special permission to enable DART staff and vehicles to work inside the National Park and provide direct transport assistance to the Park Authorities for the weekly deployment of anti-poaching Rangers, snare-patrol Rangers and Ranger re-supplies.

Final Wildlife Rescue of 2020

The intensity of sadness one experiences when discovering a snared baby elephant is matched only by the intensity of danger that will be involved in rescuing it.

To safely dart and immobilise a snared young elephant in a herd of over 100 elephants therefore requires a very cautious and stealthy approach on foot to avoid the dangers posed by the Matriarch of the herd. Then for safety reasons to prevent the elephant cow from mounting a pretty robust and potentially life-endangering response, it will be necessary to dart both the elephant cow AND her calf before any first aid work can be done to treat the calf.

Fortunately all went well with the immobilisations. The snare was removed, the wound cleaned & treated and both elephants woke up at the same time. The rescue of this young calf was an intensely rewarding experience and a great way to end another very exciting year in conservation.



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Legal Trade And Illegal Trafficking Are Currently Functionally Inseparable

In 2020, the world paid the price for averting its eyes from the tragic and high-risk failures of the legal trade in wildlife. As with the Spanish flu one hundred years earlier, 2020 will be remembered in the history books for generations to come, not only regarding what happened but also about what we collectively chose to learn or ignore.

One year on, and the legal trade of exotic and endangered wildlife as the root cause of COVID-19 is barely mentioned; some would say it's clinically sidestepped. The discussions in corporate conservation, and in the press, are stuck firmly in illegal trafficking and around narrower issues, such as wet markets.

For two decades some of the world's leading scientists have been expecting a pandemic. They knew that humans are vulnerable because the line between us and exotic animals has long been breached for trade. **And despite a regular outcry about the illegal global wildlife trade, the legal trade goes unquestioned.**

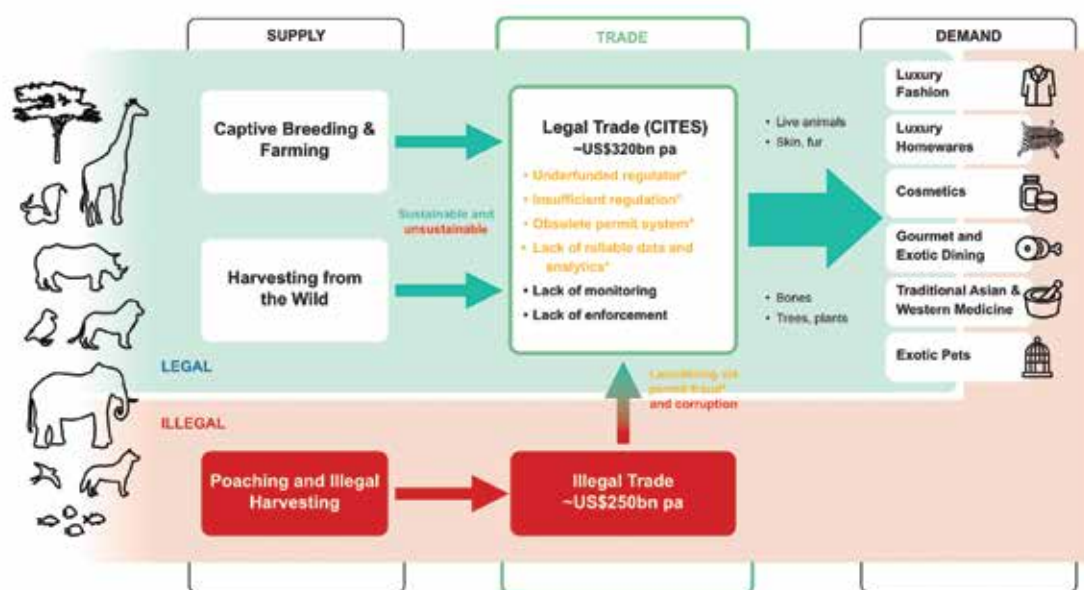
In 2017, **Nature Needs More** started investigating this legal trade and the system that facilitates it, CITES (the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora). Since it came into force, in 1975, CITES quickly became an impoverished regulator, unable to cope with the volume of global trade it was facilitating.

Lack of both funding and review has left CITES with gaping loopholes, to the point that the **legal trade and illegal trafficking are currently so intertwined that they are functionally inseparable:**

I certainly don't believe the illegal trade in wildlife or botanicals can be dealt a decisive blow until the unsustainable legal trade system is modernised and well resourced; the illegal and legal trade must be decoupled. So far, **the digital revolution has bypassed CITES; in an age of high-speed data, most of the 183 CITES signatory parties use 1970s technology.** This trade is managed with a paper-based system that doesn't integrate with world customs. Given the **legal trade was valued at US\$320 billion as long ago as 2009**, it is odd that no stakeholder has been willing to invest.

The lack of investment into the modernisation of CITES is even more astonishing when you consider that so many conservation organisations and projects have become wholly reliant on the sustainable use model. One 30-year veteran of conservation said to me last year, **"The more I read the more I see how entrenched sustainable use has become, and we'll have to live with it in the CBD [Convention on Biodiversity] Post-2020 framework... The precautionary principle and approach have disappeared off the map".**

Conservation has long been duped into believing that sustainable use of wildlife is key to poverty alleviation for communities living next to important wildlife populations. We can't change this mindset quickly, it's too entrenched, but at the very least we can say, if this is the model you want **prove it works** for species by making the legal trade transparent.



Because sustainability without the corresponding supply chain transparency is just an ideology and not a proven strategy.

I believe that any stakeholder - business, industry, investor, government, IGO, conservation NGO - who want the sustainable use model to remain must commit the resources to validate it is working.



So back to our post COVID-19 world, what have we learned? Mainstream media ignore the links between the pandemic and the legal trade in exotic species. The conservation world prefers to talk about illegal trafficking. And despite lockdowns, the legal trade continues unabated.

A few weeks ago, I was speaking to someone who works for an airline, who told me about flights between the UK and Australia. **“Many of these flights have less than 20 passengers, but it doesn’t matter they are still economically viable because the cargo hold is filled with luxury goods”** he said. Bags, shoes, homewares, apparel, jewellery, all winging their way from Europe to Australia’s wealthy consumers. People have consoled themselves with luxury goods, given there was no opportunity for international travel.

Sadly, legally traded endangered and exotic species would have been caught up in this ‘lockdown’ spending. But we have no way to measure this spike, given the obsolete CITES system. We may find out in two years’ time, as the paper-based information filters through the trade database!

Legal trade has been confirmed as a key driver of biodiversity loss and the extinction crisis. As yet, there is no supply chain transparency and no proof of the sustainable use model. If more people don’t call out this fact, collectively we won’t have to accept that it is hard to live a genuinely, sustainability-conscious life. The choices involved in transitioning to sustainable trade are all hard but given the extinction crisis, they can no longer be avoided. If these changes don’t happen within the next decade, the decision will be taken out of our hands.

Lynn Johnson | Nature Needs More



Sustainability without transparency is an ideology not a strategy.

Genuine sustainability requires radical supply chain transparency.

Wildlife crime is a failure of business, industries, markets and investors.

#NoTransparencyNoTrade

The rescue and rise of Rocky

We're sure you will recall the story of little **Rocky** – the 6 day old black rhino calf found buried in the mud in June last year. Many of you will have contributed to the fund set up to support the little fella as he has bravely struggled through the early stages of his life. The good news is he is turning in to a strong little man and continues to grow rapidly.



Rocky was found buried in the mud in June 2020

Rocky was found buried up to his nostrils in a muddy water pan by the anti-poaching rangers. The rangers rescued him from his dire predicament but he was too weak to be reunited with his mother straight away. Limping and in need of urgent nutrition he was taken on by one of the **Save Valley Conservancy properties, Humani**, for immediate care and feeding.



Rocky has been rehabilitating at Humani

During the first 3 days of rehabilitation opinions were sought from vets and the conservation world as to how to manage him. It was decided that his best chance of living a wild existence was to get him back to his mother as soon as possible. With this in mind SARF and its supporters came up with the \$12,000 of funds to put a family reunion mission in to action. **Bryce Clemence and his team** were called in to track the mother, and with the aid of a vet team led by **Jacs and Josh Mostert**, the mother was located and darted to immobilise her - not an easy job in itself!

Once mum was immobilised, Rocky was rushed in to be by her side as she was then recovering from her slumber. As a precaution, the mother's horn was shortened in the hope she would be less likely to injure Rocky as she recovered. Once on her feet she led Rocky off into the bush but unfortunately their reunion was short lived. Little Rocky was just too weak to keep up and eventually was left by himself again and the only option was to pick him back up and return him to the care of humans. A disappointing outcome for all involved after all the careful planning and effort in reuniting the family unit but at least the attempt had been made.



Rocky briefly reunited with his Mum

Therefore, the only option was to plan for a hand raised upbringing for Rocky. This is no small undertaking as it will likely be about 3 years before Rocky can realistically be released in to the wild. Careful planning will be needed at the time of his release as his attachment to humans will need to be carefully disrupted and his interaction with other rhinos considered. Young male bulls are at a real risk from being roughed up by older males and this can result in life threatening injuries!

It has been a real team effort to give Rocky a fighting chance of living a long life in Save Valley. We offer enormous thanks to those of you who contributed to our early appeal. In addition, our thanks and recognition go to all those at Save Valley who have played a part in giving Rocky a second chance.

Cameron Murray



An update about Save African Rhino Foundation Patron and former Australian Rugby player, David Pocock

Since retiring from rugby last year, David established the **Rangelands Restoration Trust (RRT)** and has since moved to the Zimbabwean lowveld where he is working on their first project, establishing a new **70,000-hectare wildlife conservancy** in the Beitbridge District. Central to RRT's approach is a focus on ecological repair and wildlife conservation through a model where wildlife and agriculture symbiotically drive economic opportunities and benefits for communities living in the area.

David established RRT as an organisation that lies at the **nexus of conservation, livelihood development and restoring degraded land**. Important to RRT's work is a recognition that continued degradation of the world's rangelands will mean that millions of vulnerable people who depend on rangelands for their livelihoods will find themselves much worse off, and so will the wildlife that live in these areas. Continued land degradation will accelerate climate change, and climate change is a leading driver of biodiversity loss. RRT is therefore working to restore rangelands for the sake of people and wildlife.



The plans for the proposed conservancy in the Zimbabwean lowveld were first conceptualised in 2017. Since then, **David has established a team, built a coalition of local and international partners and strategic advisors, engaged broadly with the local community, and developed a strategy for what it will take to create meaningful and lasting change**. The geographic positioning of the proposed conservancy in the Beitbridge District presents an opportunity to re-establish integral wildlife migration corridors between protected areas in South Africa, Botswana and Zimbabwe, contributing towards the goals of the Greater Mapungubwe Transfrontier Conservation Area.

David and his team are now on the ground in Zimbabwe and are investing heavily in local engagement and consultation, recognising that long-term sustainability will only be achieved through a 'bottom up' approach to

the conservancy's development. In the long-term, RRT hopes their work will lead to the development of a socio-ecological conservation model capable of replication across other communities facing similar challenges.

To find out more, visit www.rangelandsrestoration.org or reach out to team@rangelandsrestoration.org



Wildlife Ranger Challenge

The world came together for one day on **3 October 2020** for the **Wildlife Ranger Challenge** – an event arranged by **TUSK Trust in the UK**. The core event saw more than **70 teams of rangers from conservation parks and projects around Africa compete in a conservation quiz and a physical challenge of a half marathon (21km) run carrying a 25kg pack**. Supporters then participated in their own parallel challenges to raise funds to support the rangers. It is worth highlighting that the rangers at **Save Valley Conservancy took out 1st position in the Wildlife Rangers Quiz and came 5th in the half marathon challenge – a mighty effort!**



In a year of lockdown and limited, if any, travel, this proved a wonderfully successful event. In the case of SARF, **combined fundraising efforts generated an impressive total above \$50,000!** And all funds were generously matched by the **Scheinberg Relief Fund** too!

The highlight of fundraising efforts was **President, Nicholas Duncan's 10km walk in the UK, where via his email appeal he raised \$30,000**. Along with our patron, **David Gower**, and his god-daughter, **Rebecca**, Nicholas trudged his way round a 10.7 km course along the boundary of the late Earl Mountbatten's estate in Romsey, Hampshire. Despite his training walks he hadn't prepared for a dodgy hip on the day, making it quite hard going.

Other sponsorship efforts to mention included the **SARF walkers in Kings Park** on a warm Saturday where a small band of walkers circumnavigated the spring time trails. Long time member **Martin Storey** and his friend **Steve McBride**, traversed the 125km of the Cape to Cape walk in the state's beautiful south west. Sub committee member **Greg Nicolson** paddled down the Swan, Byron Bay members **Johan and Welna Steenhuisen** ran along the beach and committee member Cameron Murray put together a 6 man cycling team for the **Tour of Margaret River**. And all of these feats raised a further **\$20,000**, well done everyone!



So keep an eye out for later this year on 11 September when we will encourage you to once again get behind the wildlife rangers and in particular, the anti-poaching team of Save Valley Conservancy, as we put our most athletic foot forward again to help them. We wonder if Nicholas is in training already!

Cameron Murray



Remembering the Rhinos

Keep an eye out for our new brochure with your member renewal forms - A Guide to Bequeathment.

It is really important to have a Will, and anyone can do it. Firstly ensure you have looked after your loved ones and your Will ensures your last wishes will be carried out the way you intended.

It also offers you the chance to create a lasting legacy, supporting the life-changing work of charities that are important to you. Making this commitment will ensure that your beliefs and values live on. It is important to talk to the people close to you about your wishes and the reasons why you might choose to leave a gift to SAVE African Rhino Foundation in your Will. We would be honoured, however, if you considered leaving something for the rhinos.

Whether you're writing a new Will or amending an existing one, it's simple to include a gift to a charity like SAVE African Rhino Foundation.



Here are some different options to consider -

Residual Gifts

This is the remainder of your estate after you have taken care of your family and friends. This kind of gift will have the most profound impact.

Whole or Part of Your Estate

You can decide what percentage of your total estate you'd like to give to SAVE African Rhino Foundation.

Specific Gifts

This could be a specific sum of money, property, shares, a particular item or bonds.

Should you wish to bequeath superannuation we recommend discussing this with your solicitor.

Thank you very much for your consideration and we really hope that we can jointly and continually preserve these beautiful creatures.



We would like to thank the following suppliers and sponsors for their ongoing assistance – much appreciated.



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