

FOSTER A RHINO



Both black and white rhino populations in South Africa are under serious threat due to poaching. This barbaric and illegal practice sky-rocketed to 83 in 2008 (against 13 the previous year and the next few years were devastating with 122 in 2009; 333 in 2010; 448 in 2011; 668 in 2012; 1 004 in 2013 and 1 215 in 2014. In 2015 the figure was slightly down to 1 175 and in 2016 another slight decrease to 1 054.

However, this slight 10.3% decline in rhino poaching is no reason to celebrate: 1,054 rhinos killed in South Africa alone during 2016 works out to nearly three rhinos being killed every day. To date for 2017, 414 rhinos have been killed.

Rhino poaching continues to be driven by the demand for rhino horn in Asian countries where it is used in traditional Chinese medicine, and for ornamental purposes as a symbol of success and wealth.

The scarcity of rhinos today and the corresponding intermittent availability of rhino horn only drives the price higher, and intensifies the pressure on the declining rhino populations.

We at Hoedspruit Endangered Species Centre (HESC) have experienced first-hand the heartbreak and devastation as a result of rhino poaching after our beloved hand-reared rhinos, Ronnie and Lahliwe, were killed by poachers in 1994.

On 30 August 2013, when a reserve discovered that poachers had struck them and three of their rhinos had been darted and dehorned, we stepped in to offer our expertise and a home for the treatment and protection of the two female rhinos that had survived. Unfortunately, the bull rhino was not as fortunate.

All funds raised through our Rhino Fostering Program are channelled directly into the Rescued Rhinos @ HESC, South Africa.

RESCUED RHINOS @ HESC

Due to this increase in the number of rhinos killed, it has become essential for us to expand our current facilities. And in so doing, we will provide land, facilities as well as support in the rescue, relocation and care of orphaned, traumatised and injured rhinos.

At such a critical time, each and every individual rhino becomes important to ensure that sufficient animals are protected to conserve the genetic viability of the species. It is essential that wounded & orphaned rhinos are given a second chance, whatever the cost.

VISION

Ensuring our tomorrow by fostering and communicating the belief that the "Power of One is Boundless". One person can make a difference!

MISSION

To sustain the white rhino for generations to come by conserving a strong and diverse genetic pool.

OBJECTIVES OF THE HOEDSPRUIT RHINO SANCTUARY

- The establishment of a sustainable breeding programme to ensure the genetic biodiversity of the white rhino species.
- The education of learners, students and the general public in respect of the many fallacies that surround the medicinal value of rhino horn, and the far reaching effects of the atrocity of rhino poaching.
- The release and establishment of rhinos to the wild (prospective destinations must exhibit sound environmental and conservation management policies)
- The promotion of scientific research and development relating to rhino conservation
- The generation of funds to assist in the operational costs of Rescued Rhinos @ HESC
- The treatment and care of rhinos in need, which are brought to Rescued Rhinos facility

ORPHANED RHINOS

Funding towards orphaned rhinos will be allocated costs incurred for:

1. Relocation and transportation
2. Veterinary care
3. Feeding
4. Security
5. Rehabilitation process

When funding is required to acquire orphaned or unwanted rhino calves for the broadening of the genetic pool, these calves will become part of the Wildlife Conservation Trust and the Hoedspruit Endangered Species Centre will be responsible for the daily care and rehabilitation programme.

VICTIMS 2 VICTORS - INJURED AND TRAUMATISED RHINOS

Our expertise lies in our team of dedicated curators, veterinarians and specialists from Onderstepoort (University of Pretoria), earned on the back of years of actual practice in the field.

Despite the challenge of rehabilitating the rhino (we know very little about optimal treatment in rhino, and the sheer size and complexity of their physiology and how they respond to drugs have been a barrier to success for many similar institutions), we have enough experience under our belts to continue with other similar cases. We have also learned that regardless of how hopeless a particular surviving rhino may seem, there is always the chance of survival. The treatment of such rhinos is a long-term one, and comes at a massive cost.

GROWING A GENETIC POOL

Building up a strong and diverse genetic pool to sustain the white rhino for generations to come is no easy feat, and involves significant investment of expertise, management and monitoring. Naturally, this is an expensive long-term project, and cannot exist without financial investment from sponsors and donors.

SUPPORT OPTIONS

Fostering of a rhino

Contributing towards the specific costs of one of our resident rhinos. See below for further information.

CORPORATE Contribution

Platinum Fostering Membership	Annual contribution of R27 500 / \$2000
Gold Fostering Membership	Annual contribution of R1680 and monthly R660 or monthly R800 / \$60
Silver Fostering Membership	Annual contribution of R1950 / \$140

WHAT YOU GET AS A MEMBER/ FOSTER PARENT

With each membership or fostering you will receive the following;

1. A certificate acknowledging your sponsorship - complete with a photograph of your chosen rhino (this is great for the wall)!
2. Quarterly updates with news and images.
3. The knowledge that you are contributing to an animal's survival and to the general cause against rhino poaching. Even 1 less on the bulging statistics list is a great achievement!

There are currently 12 rhinos at the Rescued Rhinos @ HESC facility.

The adult females are Lion's Den and Dingle Dell. They were recently joined by Philippa - a young rhino cow and Ike - a rhino bull. Lion's Den, Dingle Dell and Philippa had their horns savagely cut off, and were left with exposed nasal cavities which needed to be reconstructed.

There are also 8 young orphans in their custody. Gertjie, Matimba, Stompie, Olivia, Khulula and Lula lost their mothers to poachers, while Balu and Nhlanhla were left orphaned when they were abandoned.

VICTIMS 2 VICTORS

WHITE RHINOCEROS (*CERATOTHERIUM SIMUM*)



LION'S DEN



DINGLE DELL

LION'S DEN & DINGLE DELL

Sex: Female | Born: In the wild | Approximate weight: 1.8 – 2 tons

The money for our Victims 2 Victors fostering programme will cover:

- Food and general upkeep
- Maintenance of the rhino camp
- Medical expenses, including veterinary bills, medical supplies and travel costs of vets
- Security
- Rehabilitation programme



PHILIPPA

PHILIPPA

Sex: Female | Born: September 2013 | Approximate weight: Unknown

The money for Philippa's fostering programme will cover:

- Food and general upkeep
- Maintaining Philippa's living arrangements
- Medical expenses
- Security / protection
- Rehabilitation programme



IKE

IKE

Sex: Male | Age: 3 - 5 years of age | Approximate weight: 1 ton

The money for Ike's fostering programme will cover:

- Food and general upkeep
- Maintaining Ike's living arrangements
- Medical expenses
- Security / protection

OUR ORPHANS

WHITE RHINOCEROS (*CERATOTHERIUM SIMUM*)



GERTJIE

GERTJIE

Sex: Male | Born: 19 February 2014 | Approximate weight: 100kg on arrival and beginning of 2015 over 800 kg

The money for Gertjie's fostering programme will cover:

- Food and general upkeep
- Maintaining Gertjie's living arrangements
- Medical expenses
- Security / protection



MATIMBA

MATIMBA

Sex: Male | Born: November 2014 | Approximate weight: 60kg on arrival

The money for Matimba's fostering programme will cover:

- Food and general upkeep
- Maintaining Matimba's living arrangements
- Medical expenses
- Security / protection
- Rehabilitation programme



STOMPIE

STOMPIE

Sex: Male | Born: May 2015 | Approximate weight: 230kg on arrival

The money for Stompie's fostering programme will cover:

- Food and general upkeep
- Maintaining Stompie's living arrangements
- Medical expenses
- Security / protection
- Rehabilitation programme



BALU

BALU

Sex: Male | Born: November 2015 | Approximate weight: 50kg on arrival

The money for Balu's fostering programme will cover:

- Food and general upkeep
- Maintaining Balu's living arrangements
- Medical expenses
- Security / protection
- Rehabilitation programme



NHLANHLA

NHLANHLA

Sex: Male | Born: March 2016 | Approximate weight: 41kg on arrival

The money for Nhlanhla's fostering programme will cover:

- Food and general upkeep
- Maintaining Nhlanhla's living arrangements
- Medical expenses
- Security / protection
- Rehabilitation programme



OLIVIA

OLIVIA

Sex: Female | Born: January 2016 | Approximate weight: 141kg on arrival (21 April 2016)

The money for Olivia's fostering programme will cover:

- Food and general upkeep
- Maintaining Olivia's living arrangements
- Medical expenses
- Security / protection
- Rehabilitation programme



KHULULA

KHULULA

Sex: Female | Born: February 2016 | Approximate weight: 136kg on arrival (21 May 2016)

The money for Khulula's fostering programme will cover:

- Food and general upkeep
- Maintaining Khulula's living arrangements
- Medical expenses
- Security / protection
- Rehabilitation programme



LULA

LULA

Sex: Female | Age: 5-6 months | Approximate weight: 250kg
Arrival 12 February 2017

The money for Lula's fostering programme will cover:

- Food and general upkeep
- Maintaining Lula's living arrangements
- Medical expenses
- Security / protection
- Rehabilitation programme



ESME

ESME

Sex: Female | Age: estimated to be a month old (October 2017)
Approximate weight: 50kg on arrival | Arrival: 10 October 2017

The money for Esme's fostering programme will cover:

- Food and general upkeep
- Maintaining Esme's living arrangements
- Medical expenses
- Security / protection
- Rehabilitation programme

**PLEASE HELP
US CHANGE
THE RESCUED
RHINOS
FROM BEING
VICTIMS TO
VICTORS.
EVERY CENT
MAKES A
DIFFERENCE!**



We are extremely grateful for the fostering of our rhinos, and of course your ongoing efforts in gaining more support towards The Rescued Rhinos @ HESC.

While we would love to be able to fulfill your request to meet your fostered rhino, it unfortunately goes against our philosophy of not allowing interactions between man and animal at HESC. Although we are a facility specialising in captive animals, we support the global initiative to stand against human-animal interaction for commercial gain or entertainment. We try our level best to provide an environment as close as possible to the natural one in which the animals should be living.

Other reasons for limiting human interaction to only core caregivers include minimising the risk of human borne illnesses, and a necessity to not jeopardise possible future animal releases into the wild.

Of course you will have the opportunity to photograph your fostered rhino from the comfort of the game drive vehicle on the day of your visit to HESC.

I trust that you will appreciate our stance on this regard.

*Thank you and kind regards
HESC MANAGEMENT*