

ASIAN RHINO PROJECT

PO Box 163, South Perth,
Western Australia, 6951

ABN: 75 509 849 802

ARBN: 116 937 627

Email: info@asianrhinos.org.au

Website: www.asianrhinos.org.au

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ARP Registered as an Australian Registered Body

The ARP has been seeking legal advice on registering as an Australian Registered Body in order to operate within any state in Australia. This registration will allow us to expand which is important in our mission to create awareness and provide support for the three Asian rhino species.

Mallesons Stephen Jaques have provided the ARP with pro bono assistance in this registration process not only with legal advice, but they have handled the entire registration for us including all costs – what a mighty effort! Our sincere thanks to Mallesons Stephen Jaques. Special thanks has to go to Lorenzo Pacitti who handled our case and was very patient with our often delayed responses due to other work commitments and Kerry's travel – thank you.

We received the advice on the 11th of November stating that we obtained the registration as of the 1st November 2005 which is fantastic news. Brooke Squires has been rounding up a crew to form a sub-committee and will now be working to set up the Victorian Branch managed by herself with the assistance of Kelly Hobbs, Kylie Bawden and Donna Livermore.

Kerry's on the Move

Kerry and her husband Gary have recently advised the ARP committee that they will be moving back home to the Northern Territory after nearly nine years in Perth. Gary has been offered a position up there that they can not refuse! This life change is an exciting opportunity for both Kerry and Gary as their hearts have always been in the "Top End". Once settled, Kerry hopes to set up a Northern Territory branch of the ARP and plans to continue to pursue her passion for conservation, working with the ARP.

Restructuring the ARP – The Preliminary Plans

Kerry's news and the ARP's options were discussed at our last committee meeting held on the 9th November. As far as the ARP goes, it will not be a problem as the project was aiming to set itself up so that the main committee could operate on a national level with sub-committees running state branches (as discussed at the AGM last June). At this stage there is a lot to formalise and restructure, however, our initial plans are to work towards operating:

- A National Committee proposed to consist of Branch Managers from each State sub-committee, the Project Director, Secretary, Treasurer, ARP Conservation Fund Board of Management Members, and any others whom the ARP members deem worthy.
- The National Committee will be voted in each AGM as the committee does now and will operate as it does at the moment running the incorporation.

State Committees operated as sub-committees who will be formed by the Branch Managers. They will be the fundraising crews in each state, promoting the ARP, joining up new members, holding local events and carrying our local education programs, seminars and marketing. Pretty much bringing in the dollars.

ARP Now on the Register of Environmental Organisations



We Are Now A Deductible Gift Recipient!

The Asian Rhino Project received notice of our successful registration on the Registrar of Environmental Organisations as of 4 October 2005. This now means we have been registered as a Deductible Gift Recipient and allows donations over \$2 to the "Asian Rhino Conservation Fund" to be tax deductible.

Now that we have this status, we are hopeful that it will encourage regular donations to the project assisting us in our fundraising efforts for continued Asian rhino conservation. Carly Palmer (ARP Fundraising Officer) and Kerry Crosbie will be working to seek corporate support in the coming months. If you find or know of opportunities for corporate support (big or small), we would love to hear from you. Kerry and Carly can be contacted via the ARP info address

info@asianrhinos.org.au or by phoning 08 9526 2060. We look forward to hearing from you!

Membership Renewal Reminder

It is vital that we keep up our membership to meet the requirements of the Register of Environment and Heritage to maintain Tax Deductible Gift Recipient status. We hope that you can continue to support us with your ongoing memberships and look forward to keeping you updated on ARP projects and rhino events.

Immediate changes:

- Kerry will stand down as Chairperson of the WA sub-committee by February as she will be running the National Committee, ARP operations, and a Northern Territory branch.
- Clare Campbell is proposed to chair the Western Australian branch which will also see her remain on the National Committee.
- Petra, Holly and Martina have indicated that they would like to stand down from the National Committee as the growth and commitments required being a part of both the National and the State committees combined is too much to handle along with their jobs at the Zoo. This is completely understandable and we appreciate their honesty and their commitment to running the Western Australian branch.
- Carly Palmer has agreed to remain on the National Committee and be responsible for corporate fundraising.
- Nicholas Duncan, Andrew Thompson and Kerry Crosbie will remain as the Board of Management of the Asian Rhino Conservation Fund.

Committee member Belinda Bastow resigned from the ARP web administrator in early October due to new work commitments. She continues to support the ARP as a long term member however, and we wish her the best of luck in her future and thank her greatly for her assistance with the ARP website.

New Treasurer

Justin Templar has kindly offered us his support and has been nominated as National Treasurer to fill Petra's role on the National Committee (to be officially voted in at our next AGM). He is currently receiving a handover of all treasurer activities from Petra which should be completed at the end of November. Justin is a Chartered Accountant and has 20 years experience in Financial Services. He is Finance & Administration Manager for the Hunter Hall group and previously was in internal audit with Westpac (London) and Internal Audit Manager (Europe) with investment bank Shearson, Lehman Hutton. Subsequently he was Internal Audit Manager, Finance Manager and General Manager Operations with health insurer MBF. Prior to joining Hunter Hall Mr Templar was Manager – Financial Reporting with French bank BNP Paribas. His experience and contribution to the ARP will no doubt be invaluable – welcome and thanks not only to Justin, but to the Hunter Hall group for allowing him to take on this role!

Continued Support from Patron Peter Hall

In 2003 ARP Patron Peter Hall first heard about Sumatran rhinos and the Asian Rhino Projects mission to raise awareness and support for the three Asian rhino species. He generously donated \$10, 000 and later set up a meeting with Clare and Kerry to learn more about these amazing animals and how we can help save them. During this meeting he decided that he would like to help the Asian Rhino Project grow and see it evolve from a small group of individuals to a well established non-profit organisation.

We identified that in order to carry out our mission we would need to be registered as a deductible gift recipient, and that we would need to operate nationally. It was recognized that this was going to be a long and costly process gaining members, establishing the organisation professionally and carrying out the procedures for registrations required. Peter was very excited about the potential of the project and offered to cover all administration costs over 3 years to enable the ARP to reach the requirements and become the amazing organisation that it is now. Peter's company Hunter Investment Management Limited has a charitable fund that sets aside 5% of their profit for charities. In September we received the second of three \$50,000 donations from this commitment. Peter and Hunter Hall, we can not thank you enough – you are all completely amazing!

Project Updates

**ARP, Peter Hall and the International Rhino Foundation –
Sumatran Rhino Projects, Sumatra**

Rosa Update – Moving to Sumatran Rhino Sanctuary, in Way Kambas National Park

It is expected that Rosa will be moving to the Sumatran Rhino Sanctuary in Way Kambas National Park before the end of this year. The Director General of the PHKA (Forest Protection and Nature Conservation) has instructed the head of Bukit Barisan Selatan (BBS) National Park to start preparations for a protection plan to better protect Rosa by moving her to the Sumatran Rhino Sanctuary (SRS).

Staff from the BBS National Park, Indonesian Rhino Conservation Program and the Sumatran Rhino Sanctuary surveyed Rosa's territory and located a suitable place for a 1.5 Ha enclosure. A temporary paddock and holding boma has been constructed, funded by Peter Hall and the Asian Rhino Project. The enclosure is away from the regular elephant routes, has permanent water and wallows, and is close to the road. The boma has been constructed By creating this temporary facility within the park, the RPU staff have been able to slowly and softly introduce Rosa to fences and facilities, enabling her to become desensitized and accustomed to it with minimal stress before being transferred to the SRS in Way Kambas. She has been



Rosa with Marcel Adi and Bpk Subakir of BBS NP – Photo courtesy of Nico van Strien

She has been

gradually accustomed to the fences first with the gates opened and is currently being crate trained for the big move.

To compliment the amazing opportunity to learn more about this species and to better measure how Rosa adapts to this life change to captive management, a research students from Wageningen University in the Netherlands and from the Agricultural University in Bogor (IPB) have been studying Rosa within the National Park prior to her move. They have been recording her behavior and food intake before the introduction to the holding facility. After the move to the SRS the students will continue the observations on Rosa to ascertain if there are any changes in her behavior and feeding patterns.

Wild Sumatran Rhino Rescued Outside Way Kambas National Park

Report from Dr Nico van Strien – SE Asian Coordinator, International Rhino Foundation. Park (excerpts taken from a full report).

On 20 September 2005 a rescue and evacuation operation of a young female Sumatran rhino was carried out by the staff of Way Kambas National Park with assistance of teams from the Sumatran Rhino Sanctuary, Rhino Protection Units, Wildlife Conservation Society and PHKS (Sumatran Tiger Program).



Ratu in Village – Photo courtesy of the IRF



Ratu being loaded onto truck – Photo courtesy of the IRF

The female rhino (now named "Ratu") was first seen in the neighbourhood of Braja Asri village about 1km from the boundary of the Way Kambas NP, reported by Mr. Hardjo a staff member of the Elephant Centre and several other local villagers.

Rescue and protection teams were formed to capture and relocate the rhino, but after Ratu moved closer towards the National Park, the head of NP instructed a team to guide her back into the park. This proved difficult as the rhino became quite stressed with the

ever-growing number of onlookers. The rescue and protection teams had a large job on their hands not only trying to guide the rhino towards the park, but to protect her from local villagers.

It was reported that some villagers were preparing weapons after hearing of a 'Babi Ngepet' walking in the area ('Babi' means pig and 'Babi Ngepet' is believed to be a thief that transforms into a big pig after stealing from houses), and were concerned about their safety as they were afraid the rhino might attack.

After several hours and several attempts to capture Ratu, she was eventually exhausted, found wallowing and looked very weak. The protection team made a fence from tarpaulins and wire mesh to surround the rhino - not only to aid in preventing her from escaping again, but to minimize the stress impacted upon her from the forming crowd of onlookers.

News traveled fast and there were people arriving from as far away as 40km by this time! Ratu was suffering from capture myopathy and needed urgent medical attention. She was so weak she allowed the rescue teams to approach her whilst on her feet. She was immediately guided into a transport crate and taken to the safety of the SRS for recovery and treatment.

Ratu will need some more time to recover from stress and exhaustion of her wanderings and subsequent translocation, but a full recovery is expected. Since there is a need to carefully observe and medicate Ratu, a conditioning program is being practiced enabling staff to carry out treatments without physical restraint or undue stress. She is reported to be hand feeding well and enters the chute with no problem. It is estimated that Ratu is aged between 6-7 years.

It is not known why Ratu ventured out of the reserve, and this is the very first time it has happened in Way Kambas. Elephants get out to feed in the fields regularly, but rhinos usually stay deep in the forest. The excitement among the locals is therefore



Ratu arriving at SRS – Photo courtesy of the IRF

quite understandable, as they had never seen a rhino before. One can speculate why the rhino went out, but her weight is rather low and on the pictures she appears to be on the skinny side. It may be that she had been under duress for some time before crossing the NP boundary. There is no severe drought or massive forest fires that could have displaced her, but disturbance by illegal loggers or settlers may have contributed. We can speculate but probably will never know the truth.

Ratu is doing fine, and the recent x-rays did not show any damage to the bones or joints. She will recover fully. Dr Nico van Strien – SE Asian Coordinator, International Rhino Foundation.

It has been recognized that there were some lessons to be learned about the best way to capture a wild Sumatran rhino if this rare and unfortunate event should happen again. These lessons must be viewed within the context of the realities of working in a remote fieldsetting like Sumatra. Procedures and protocols have since been identified and put in place in the event that another rhino should stray out of the protection of a National Park in Indonesia. In the mean time, Ratu will remain in the Sumatran Rhino Sanctuary in Way Kambas NP to supplement the captive breeding program for this very rare and highly endangered species.

The name Ratu was taken from the name of the village “Labuhan Ratu” from where she was taken to the SRS. “labuhan” means ‘city’ and “ratu” means ‘queen’.

Sumatran Rhino Sanctuary, Way Kambas National Park, Sumatra

No further mating has been reported with Bina and Torgamba. Torgamba has been placed on Beta Carotene (a supplement to try to aid in his poor sperm quality and low sperm count).

With the new arrivals of Rosa and Ratu, and the lack of breeding success with Bina and Torgamba the Director General of the PHKA (Forest Protection and Nature Conservation) has requested a revision of the breeding programs involving all of the Indonesian-owned Sumatran rhinos. He has indicated that he

would like to see an appropriate plan for immediate, mid and long-term goals and actions focusing on maximizing the possibilities for each individual to reproduce while maintaining genetic variation. The technical committee of the GMPB (Global Management and Propagation Board) will soon submit an opinion for discussion on how best to manage the Indonesian owned Sumatran rhino at the SRS and in the USA. This may include making recommendations to move Andalas from Los Angeles, USA, to breed with Ratu and Rosa at SRS and perhaps to recommend Bina moving from the SRS to be paired with proven breeder Ipu at Cincinnati Zoo in the USA. These are exciting developments and are evidence of the effectiveness of the well formed GMPB bringing together all stakeholders managing the population as a whole.

ARP and SOS Rhino Borneo – Sumatran Rhino Project, Borneo **ARP Funding SOS Rhino Borneo Volunteer Coordinator**

As an important component of the Community Outreach Program, SOS Rhino established a Volunteer Program in 2002. Volunteers travel to Sabah to assist their field staff on rhino surveys in the Tabin Wildlife Reserve by collecting data on the Sumatran rhino and other flora and fauna found in the area. They also help build field camps, teach English to the field staff, and raise funds for the project. Volunteers are introduced to the culture of the people in the area, and have the opportunity to experience, first-hand, a conservation and research program in action. The volunteers then act as agents of conservation by sharing their experience and raising awareness at their workplace, in their schools, and in their communities.

To date, ten to thirty individuals per year have participated in this program, traveling from the following countries: Australia, Belgium, Canada, Denmark, England, France, Germany, Ireland, New Zealand and the United States. These individuals come from diverse backgrounds: some are students working toward degrees in veterinary medicine, biology, sociology and international relations; some work in zoos as animal keepers and educators; and some simply pursue their passion of adventure travel. Their length of stay ranges anywhere from five days to three months.

At this time SOS Rhino have reached capacity and the program staff are challenged to complete primary assignments as well as supervise the volunteers. It is expected that the program will continue to grow, as it has also captured the attention and support of youth organisations around the world. Since 2002, members of the Singapore International Foundation participated in and promoted the program by sending several groups of up to 25 people to the project site. In July 2004, a youth group from Australia consisting of 20 young people participated in the Community Outreach Program. Later this year, a Youth Expedition group from Wales will participate by sending two additional groups of volunteers.

A proposal for support for this program was forwarded to four organisations - the ARP, PATA Foundation, US Fish and Wildlife Service (for vehicles) and the EAZA Rhino Campaign (for equipment). PATA Foundation (Pacific Asia Travel

Association) and the ARP were approached to fund two volunteer coordinator positions. The ARP has agreed to fund a volunteer coordinator to manage the volunteers and take the pressure off the RPU teams and RPU manager, Dr Edwin Bosi. It is envisaged that this program will be self sufficient after three years with the generated funds from the volunteers. We were not able to commit to more than one year at this stage due to other funding commitments; however we have indicated that we would be happy to consider funding the remaining two years after an assessment of the programs success.



RPU Assistance, BBS NP

A photo of the satellite phones in operation donated by the ARP to the RPU teams in Bukit Barisan Selatan National Park.

Meetings

Indonesian Rhino Conservation Strategy Meeting - Jakarta, 28 & 29 September

Sadly this meeting had to be cancelled two weeks before Kerry's departure for Indonesia. The Indonesian Directorate General of Forest and Nature Protection (PHKA) announced that the Jakarta workshop on the review of the Indonesian Rhino Conservation Strategy planned for 28 & 29 September would be postponed. The reason for the postponement was the limited availability of key PHKA staff during this period, because of an accumulation of workshops, meetings and other commitments. It looks like this workshop will now be held early February.

As a result of this and other factors, the India side of the trip (paid by Kerry) was also postponed as well. Kerry plans to visit projects there either prior to or after the Indonesian Rhino Conservation Strategy meeting, Feb 2006.

IRF Board Meeting - 2005 Florida, 11 October 2005

The committee agreed that it would be beneficial for Kerry to attend the USA for the IRF Board meeting even though the Asian side of things had been cancelled. On this whirl-wind, around the world trip in 10 days, Kerry stopped over in the UK, USA (Jacksonville and Chicago) and Sydney, Australia.

While in the UK, she met with Patron Peter Hall and visited some old friends at Port Lympne Wild Animal Park which holds the world's largest captive breeding program for Black Rhino. Back on the plane again and over to Jacksonville on the Northern Florida coast arriving on 9 October, Kerry spent the first day preparing for the meeting and a small presentation to the board as well as met with Tom Foose and Nico van Strien to run through some of the agenda items which included the ARP.

The next two days were spent in the board room updating members and partners on IRF projects and operations. Kerry's presentation was an overview of the Asian Rhino Project and their partnership with the International Rhino Foundation. It was a busy two days, however a great deal was achieved. ARP Patron Peter Hall was voted onto the IRF Board of management and Kerry was identified as his alternate.

The fourth day was spent re-capping ARP/IRF projects with Tom, Nico and Dr Terri Roth. We discussed PhD opportunities, Rosa and Ratu rescue, grant opportunities and issues facing Way Kambas National Park and the destruction/land encroachment there.

Off to Chicago next – Kerry spent one day there with Cindy Salopek of SOS Rhino. Cindy and Kerry plan to do a joint presentation at the International Congress of Zookeepers next year on the QLD gold coast. The aim of the talk will be to advise how keepers really can make a difference in *in-situ* conservation. They also discussed funding a volunteer coordinators position in for SOS Rhino Borneo and also prospects for the 2006 Borneo Rhino Challenge and how we can assist in sourcing participants.

Upon her return to Australia, Kerry stopped off in NSW for personal reasons, but didn't leave without spending a day in Sydney and presented to Hunter Hall Investment Management Limited as well as our pro bono auditors at Grant Thornton Services. Both presentations were well received.

A Warm Welcome to our New Members

One new member this quarter – welcome and thanks Justin Templar.

Renewals:

One year = 9

Three years = 9

Five years = 4

Of 52 renewal forms sent out, 22 have renewed.

Our member total currently stands at 109.



Donated Uniforms

Below is a photo sent to us from the SOS Rhino Borneo crew wearing donated uniforms by ARP member Tony Alcock. The boys forward their thanks. Dr Edwin Bosi (on the right) is arranging for badges.



SOS Rhino RPU crew and their donated uniforms – Photo courtesy of Dr Edwin Bosi

GRANT WRITERS NEEDED!

The ARP has been advised of several grants that we would like to apply for and are currently seeking assistance from anyone who may be interested and has experience in this field.

We anticipate that grant writing will become a significant component of fundraising activities and awareness contributing to imperative conservation programs in SE Asia and India.

Please, if you are able to share your experience or know of someone who can, contact Kerry – kerry.crosbie@asianrhinos.org.au or by phoning 08 9526 2060.

Events

SOS Rhino's Borneo Rhino Challenge – 12 or 5 Day Programs

Climb to the Summit of Mt Kinabalu, cycle "round the Kudat Peninsula at the Northern tip of Borneo, and help SOS Rhino search for the elusive Sumatran rhinoceros of Borneo. You'll see an astonishing variety of rare and endemic plants, primates and birds during your trek and cycle along white, sandy beaches in some of the most beautiful areas of Sabah, Malaysian Borneo. As part of the challenge you will join SOS Rhino's field staff deep in the jungles of Tabin Wildlife Reserve, in search of the last remaining small, shy forest rhinos of Malaysian Borneo.

There will be guides, rangers and medical and mechanical support close by at all times. Most meals are included.

For more information, visit www.sosrhino.org or email info@sosrhino.org



Fundraising

ASZK Bowling For Rhinos

Approximately 30 zoos and wildlife parks from around Australia and New Zealand took part in a National bowling for rhinos fundraiser organised by Penny Cooper of Sea World and Natalie Dunn of Taronga Zoo.

Petra Hancock managed the Perth venue which was a cracker! Around 50 people braved the outdoors at the South Perth Lawn Bowling complex for what turned out to be a great night of socializing and fun. Thankfully the weather held out for us – was freezing cold and had been raining all day on and off. Despite the cold conditions, the last of the players ended up finishing up at 10:30 playing with the club crew who also got involved and coached us all throughout the night. The bowling club and their volunteers were fantastic – they also donated prizes and ran a playoff at the end for us which was fantastic!

We had a sausage sizzle to feed the hungry players, chocolates and wine donated for raffles and we sold 17 of the 20 shirts we ordered as well (some of which were sold to the enthusiastic bowling club members who were assisting with the night).

All up Perth made a profit of \$1,154.65 and as the funds slowly roll in, it looks like the national tally is up around \$10,000. The profits from this joint fundraising event will be divided up evenly between the ARP and the ASZK. Submissions for a new species focus are already being received from ASZK members for nominations for next years fundraiser so it looks like it could be a great yearly event.

Below are some reports taken from the Australasian Society of Zoo Keepers Thylacinus magazine; Volume 29 No 4 2005.

Sydney - Combining staff from Taronga Zoo, Symbio Wildlife Gardens Featherdale and Auburn Gardens a total of 80 people bowled. Combined profit from bowling and raffles was \$1350 (not including the masses of t shirts that were sold). Featherdale's top scorer, for the second year running was Noel 'knock em over' Keane. Can he do a Makybe Diva and do 3 in a row? We will find out next year at bowling for ????. Thanks to Todd Lehn with a special mention to Jayde Love for all of her time and expertise in helping Featherdale get it together while Rennae Zammit & Mandy Mcellan from Taronga and Matt Radnidge from Symbio all need to be thanked for their parts in making this a really successful event. All appeared to have a great night including the Thai keepers who had their first bowling experience ever (& did very well!).

Orana Park - In total \$215.00 was raised, 38 people were bowling and 5 made donations. A local newspaper also covered the fundraiser.

Melbourne Zoo - Well it was time to Bowl for Rhino's, and that we did. There were certainly no seasoned bowlers there but there were certainly plenty of seasoned supporters, over 60 people attended, with nearly half of the participants being non-zoo staff. The night's proceedings travelled without a hitch and everyone who was there had a sensational time. Some of the highlight performers of the night included:

Highest Score: Michael Lynch with 154.

Lowest Score: Tim Marriot with 31

Most Strikes: Rich Roswell, and Michael Lynch 4 a piece.

All Silent Auction items that were donated on the night raised over \$800. Some of the lucky buyers took home an Elephant painting by Bong Su, a tiger painting by Binjai, a brilliant drawing by one of Mel Zoo's talented artists, Jason Barry, and a great selection of CD's and a fashion gift voucher worth \$1000. Total money raised on the night including the raffle, sponsorship and the silent auction was \$2030. A big thank you must go out to the people who participated on the night, the individuals who donated Auction items, and to Kelly Hobbs and Matt Wills for making it happen in Melbourne.

Dreamworld - Dreamworld had a huge turnout to Bowling for Asian Rhinos with 20 staff attending and over 1/2 bowling. We sold 28 T-shirts, had 2 raffles, one of which was won by a staff member at Seaworld who will be enjoying free entry to Dreamworld for 2, and a Tiger Photo. Monies raised so far include \$423 from the raffle on the night, \$400 so far for our raffle at Dreamworld, which we are still selling and we are busily collecting all the

ASIAN RHINO NEWS

To keep up-to-date with current events and happenings in the world of Asian rhino conservation, the Asian Rhino project searches regularly for updates on breaking rhino news. We will soon be able to keep members and interested people informed via e-mail updates. If you are interested, please let us know. The following is just some of the stories we have had in the past few months.

Saving Nepal's Rhinos, One Truck Load at a Time By Deepak Gajurel

KATHMANDU, Nepal, August 2, 2005 (ENS) - A darting expert shoots a male rhino and the two ton animal falls unconscious in Nepal's Royal Chitwan National Park. A dozen people hoist the sleeping rhino onto a sledge and then into a wooden cage fitted on a truck.

The process goes on until the desired number of rhinos is captured and the trucks head for Royal Bardia National Park and Royal Shuklaphanta Wildlife Reserve in western Nepal.

The Asian one-horned rhino is a critically endangered species, and Nepal has second largest herd in the world. Rhino conservation is not an easy task, and translocation of the animals to populate another park is regarded as one of the best options to sustain the rhino population.

More: <http://www.ens-newswire.com/ens/aug2005/2005-08-02-05.asp>

Rhino Population Will Increase Again -- DR. TIRTHA MAN MASKEY

Director General of the Department of National Park and Wildlife Conservation *Dr. TIRTHA MAN MASKEY* is a well known person in the conservation sector in Nepal . Maskey joined as a warden of Royal Chitwan National Park in 1972. He completed his Master's degree from the University of Michigan in 1978 on Wildlife Management. He did Ph.D in 1979 from University of Florida on Wildlife and Range Management specializing in Gharial Conservation. Along with receiving medals in Nepal , he also received Award from Netherlands 's Prince Bernhard - the Order of Golden Ark. He has visited national parks and wildlife reserves extensively. Dr. Maskey spoke to *KESHAB POUDEL* on various issues confronting the conservation sector in the country.

Excerpts: <http://peacejournalism.com/ReadArticle.asp?ArticleID=5853>

Chitwan's young conservation crusaders

Low on resources but big on energy, the area's youngsters fight poaching with a door-to-door campaign.

More: http://www.nepalitimes.com/issue259/nation_4.htm

Pabitora sanctuary residents appeal for Kaziranga National Park:-

Pabitora Wildlife Sanctuary(Assam) August 12, 2005 2:31:47 PM IST

People living on the outskirts of the Pabitora wildlife sanctuary in Assam's Morigan District, which is home to the rare one-horned rhinos, are demanding its development on the lines of the Kaziranga National Park, to make it equally attractive to tourists.

More: <http://news.webindia123.com/news/showdetails.asp?id=106273&cat=India>

Friends Of National Parks To Help Conserve Wild Animals

JOHOR BA HARU, Aug 17 (Bernama) - "Friends of National Parks" (FNP) comprising celebrities and well-known figures will be involved in the protection and conservation of wild animals at the Endau-Rompin National Park.

More:
http://www.bernama.com.my/bernama/state_news/news.php?id=150741&cat=st

Endangered species goods selling on net - 06:01 AEST Tue Aug 16 2005

Endangered animal products are being sold illegally on the internet by criminal gangs and unscrupulous traders in Australia, an animal rights group says.

More: <http://news.ninemsn.com.au/article.aspx?id=58085>

Tigers and gorillas, for sale on Internet - (China Daily) Updated: 2005-08-17 06:05

Thousands of endangered animals supposedly protected by law are being traded openly on the Internet and sold as "exotic pets," say wildlife crime investigators working with an international animal charity. More:

http://www.chinadaily.com.cn/english/doc/2005-08/17/content_469711.htm

Judge challenges submission by state counsel

MOGOMOTSI MOLOI 8/18/2005 1:31:29 PM (GMT +2)

FRANCISTOWN: Justice Moses Chinhengo of the High Court challenged submissions by a state counsel over the ownership of game trophies found in a hut in Daunara area.

He challenged state counsel, Chipo Gaobatwe's submission saying the police could have planted the rhinoceros horns in the Otumile Monnaamau's hut.

More: <http://www.mmegi.bw/2005/August/Thursday18/592753482318.html>

'Rehabilitate Kunak mangrove swamp' 01 September, 2005

Kunak: The State Government has been urged to rehabilitate the mangrove swamp at Kampung Hampilan, 4km from here, that was destroyed on orders of the district council in December, 2002.

Making the call, Silam Parti Keadilan deputy divisional chief Djapri Kudosat said the area had been left barren, once a haven for Proboscis monkeys that are endemic to Borneo.

"Uncontrolled developments have also resulted in the evictions of exotic wildlife from their natural habitats, such as the Sumatran rhinoceros, orangutans and pygmy elephants.

More: <http://www.dailyexpress.com.my/news.cfm?NewsID=36809>

Rhino research station to be built Multa Fidrus, The Jakarta Post, Serang

As part of the effort to empower local people that live in and around Ujung Kulon National Park on the western tip of Java, the park management plans to build a rhinoceros research station.

More: <http://www.thejakartapost.com/detailcity.asp?fileid=20050924.G03&iirc=2>

Combating an invasive weed

New Delhi , 19 August 2005 : Imagine a nondescript weed posing as a threat to one of the world's important biodiversity hot spots. "Silent Stranglers", is a report that documents the threats of this weed called mimosa to the habitat of Kaziranga National Park . It also records three years of relentless efforts to eradicate this menace by the wildlife Trust of India (WTI) and the Assam Forest Department.

More: http://www.wildlifetrustofindia.org/html/news/2005/050919_mimosa.htm

Operation Rhino Vision

WHAT if an epidemic or natural disaster were to strike Assam's famed Kaziranga National Park? The world stands to lose about 70 per cent — and India almost 95 per cent — of its total one-horn rhino population. To minimise this risk factor, the Assam government, in collaboration with WWF-India and International Rhino Foundation (IRF), has decided to translocate rhinos from their existing homes at Kaziranga and Pobitora National Park to five other erstwhile rhino territories — Manas, Orang, Burahchapori, Laokhowa and Dibrusaikhowa — in the state.

More: http://www.indianexpress.com/full_story.php?content_id=78792

Friends Of National Parks To Help Conserve Wild Animals

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http://www.bernama.com.my/bernama/state_news/news.php?id=150741&cat=st

Second rhino killed in Chitwan in six months KOL Report

Sunachari, Royal Chitawan National Park, Oct 19 - The killing of a second rare brown rhino by poachers inside six months in the Royal Chitwan National Park has left local resort owners and safari guides worried questioning the level of protection and conservation given to such endangered animals.

More: <http://www.kantipuronline.com/kolnews.php?&nid=54918>

**Have you ever felt that you want to help save a species
or a precious piece of land? Well you can.**

**Drop us an e-mail on info@asianrhinos.org.au or phone Kerry
on 041 901 5286 - we are awaiting your call!**

**Any help no matter how small is extremely worthwhile, even
attending our events or talking to your friends about the rhinos is
directly helping the Asian Rhino Projects quest to save the three
Asian rhino species, the Sumatran, Javan and Indian rhinos.**

Selling Or Buying A Property In Perth?

Know Someone Who Is?

How You Can Aid Conservation By Doing Just That!

Colin Wallbank of Luke Nass Real Estate is offering a donation of \$500 to the ARP for the referral of anyone looking to sell their home. He is also kindly offering up to \$200 donation for the referral of a buyer of a property as well. If you or any of your friends, families or associates are thinking of buying or selling real estate south of the river, why not let us know (or you can ring Colin direct on 9495 4022) so we can take up this fantastic opportunity. To further his commitment, Colin has also kindly offered to donate 100% of his spotters fees for anyone he can not look after if the property is too far away to service accordingly.

Colin's interest in rhinoceros conservation began when he started work as a keeper at one of the UK's progressive wildlife institutions, Whipsnade Wild Animal Park. During his time there he was privileged to work with some very fulfilling and high profile breeding programs including the Black, Indian & the Southern White Rhino.

In 1991 he moved to WA to work at Perth Zoo as a Specialist Ungulate Keeper and by 1996 became Curator of Ungulate/Carnivores. In February 2000 Colin left the Zoo industry to pursue a career in Real Estate. He'd been in Zoo's all of his working life and really wanted a fresh challenge and the chance to do something completely different. Colin worked for two L.J. Hooker offices before moving to Luke Nass Real Estate an independent boutique agency. During his time with L.J. Hooker he achieved membership to the Captain's Club which was in recognition of sales which was amongst the top 10% achievers throughout the L.J. Hooker group. In 2003 he achieved membership to the REIWA \$5 million Club in recognition of sales in excess of \$5Million.