

It was feared that, with the cessation of major funding by WWF, the Trust would have to cease operations in 1983, but it was able to continue at a similar level to previous years and even to establish a third anti-poaching unit, by using reserves and the proceeds from the sale of a helicopter. Unfortunately there has been no decrease in the level of commercial poaching and in order to make the most of limited funds and manpower, it was decided to restrict activities mainly to intensive patrols of the principal elephant and rhino strongholds. While this has minimised the incursion of poachers into these key areas, it has left large tracts of the South Luangwa National Park and the entire North Luangwa National Park at the mercy of poachers. Because of continuing financial restraints, the Department of National Parks and Wildlife Services has been unable to provide effective cover to these other areas. For the fourth year running, the Trust has been able to provide assistance with its highly mobile anti-poaching units in the Luangwa Valley and the Zambezi Valley.

It is anticipated that funds due to be received from the Norwegian Agency for International Development (NORAD) will secure the units' anti-poaching activities for the next two years at least.

During 1983, the Trust also continued to sponsor both rhino and elephant research.

Project 1933
Rhino Census Methods and Publicity, Tanzania
WWF Funding 1983 — \$219
(Total since 1981 — \$9,754)

Project Initiated 1981

Project Executant F.M.R. Lwezaula, Director, Wildlife Division.

Objectives To develop census methods for rhinos in forested areas and train field personnel: and to promote public awareness of the threat to rhino populations and the importance of conservation.

WWF donated a van to the Tanzania Wildlife Division for the 'Save the Rhino' campaign, launched in June 1983 by President J.K. Nyerere of Tanzania.

The campaign, inaugurated at the College of African Wildlife Management at Mweka, aims to draw public attention to the plight of the black rhino, which has declined drastically in numbers over the past decade. Methods used include distribution of posters, radio programmes, newspaper articles, choir songs, film shows and songs. Special T-shirts have been printed.