



AERIAL RHINO WATCH

A dynamic new anti rhino poaching project in partnership between KZN Wildlife, Private Game Farmers and BAC Aviation



Introduction

This conservation initiative has been setup to provide an aerial presence to pro-actively support anti-poaching activities in KwaZulu Natal. The unsustainable death toll of rhinos in the province and the country requires innovative new methods to combat this global phenomenon. A helicopter's unique capabilities allow it to be the most efficient and effective means of policing poaching activities.

A partnership between BAC Aviation, Ezemvelo Wildlife and the Zululand Rhino Reserve has been formed to deal with poaching activities throughout the Umfolozi, Hluhluwe and Pongola Regions.

Action Plan

A dedicated helicopter RH44 will be on permanent standby to provide support for anti-poaching projects in the greater KwaZulu Natal area.

The helicopter will fly routine patrols daily to poaching hotspots to provide a deterrent to any poaching activity.

The helicopter will be on permanent standby with the ability to be airborne within 10 minutes to respond to any threat.

The helicopter will be crewed at all times with Ezemvelo or Private Farmers Representatives to keep a constant watch for any suspicious activity.

The helicopter will be based wherever it is considered to provide the greatest asset as decided upon by the relevant stakeholders.

This initiative seeks to operate daily +2hrs per day either patrolling or responding to suspicious activity. This equates to 60 hours per month of aerial presence to deter poachers.

With support of big business this initiative will not only provide a proactive approach to providing a solution to rhino poaching but with the support of the media can create greater public awareness of the alarming statistics of the current rate of rhino deaths in the country.



Rhino Poaching Activities

As the year draws to its end, Africans are counting a terrible cost to the continent's rhinoceros population. Poaching statistics have spiralled dramatically, reaching a 15-year peak.

In South Africa alone, rhino poaching has been responsible for the demise of over 330 animals.

The increasing sophistication of poaching operations is the reason for the escalation. Today's poachers are not hunters on foot using crude snares; rather they are professional syndicates using helicopters, night vision and GPS equipment, tranquilised darting and gun silencers. Their high level of organisation has led conservation experts to conclude that international crime rings are involved in the trade.

South Africa's casualty rate is a victim of its own success - the country's effective conservation measures brought dwindling rhino numbers back from the brink of extinction in the mid-1950s to the extent that South Africa now boasts Africa's highest rhino population. The province of KwaZulu-Natal was so effective in this rejuvenation, it became known as the home of the White rhino in Africa and the animal is now fundamental to the region's wildlife tourism attractions.

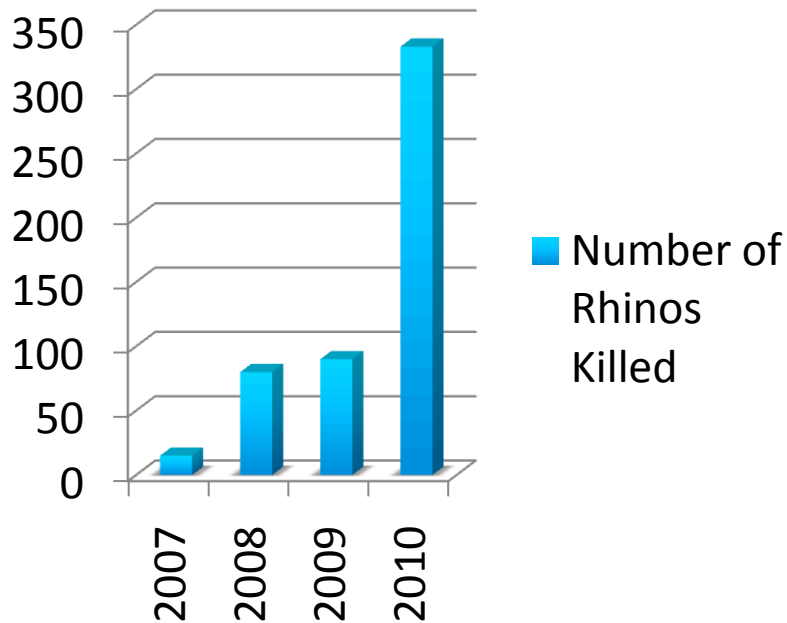


AERIAL RHINO WATCH UNIT

‘ Desperate times for South Africa’s rhinos have sparked calls for desperate measures ’ – Tony Carnie (Mercury Jan 7 2011)



Rhino Deaths due to poaching activities 2007 - 2010



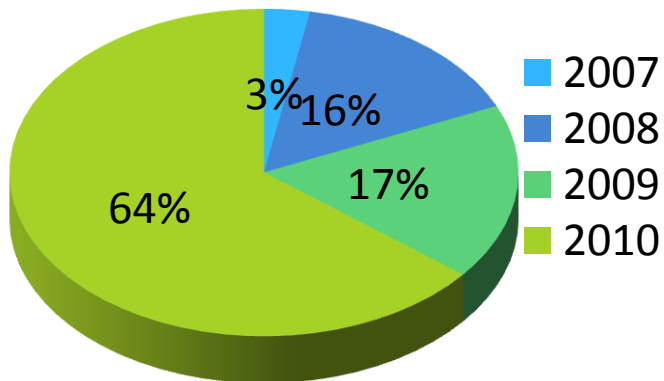
Rhino Poaching Deaths Year on Year 2007 - 2010

	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
Number Poached	15	80	90	333	*500+
					*Projected Deaths

Areas to be patrolled by Aerial Rhino Watch Unit

	Size of Reserve	# of Rhinos
Hluhluwe iMfolozi	89 000 Ha	*
Ndumo Game Reserve	10 000 Ha	54
Ophathe Game Reserve	26 000 Ha	16
Phongola Nature Reserve	10 000 Ha	23
St Lucia	88 000 Ha	45
Spoinkop	8 000 Ha	33
Weenen	9 000 Ha	56

Increase in Rhino Fatalities due to poaching from 2007 -2010



* Hluhluwe iMfolozi Rhino Numbers withheld due to sensitive nature

Advantages of Aerial Rhino Watch Unit

- An aerial perspective allows for more effective policing of a greater area.
- A visual aerial presence will deter would-be poachers.
- A rapid response capability allows the helicopter to be airborne and effective in a short period.
- As the helicopter co-ordinates directly with ground crew units a greater success rate of apprehending suspected poachers can be expected.
- Provides support for all anti-poaching projects.
- A daily logistics and activity log from the operation will provide valuable data to support statistical analysis for the areas covered.
- Sponsors will benefit from regular radio and print media campaigns to increase awareness and highlight effectiveness of the project.
- Major Sponsors will have the additional benefit of corporate branding on the helicopter. Additionally sponsors will benefit not only from the branding of the helicopter but the international awareness of this proactive approach to saving one of Africa's threatened species.
- The project is looking for a primary sponsor after which the project will be named and the helicopter will be associated with throughout all media campaigns.



The project is rapidly gaining momentum and we are looking to begin before the end of January by seeking to raise **R3,000,000.00** annually in order to cover the cost of aerial patrolling and support for ground anti-poaching units for **60 hours a month, 720 flying hours a year.**

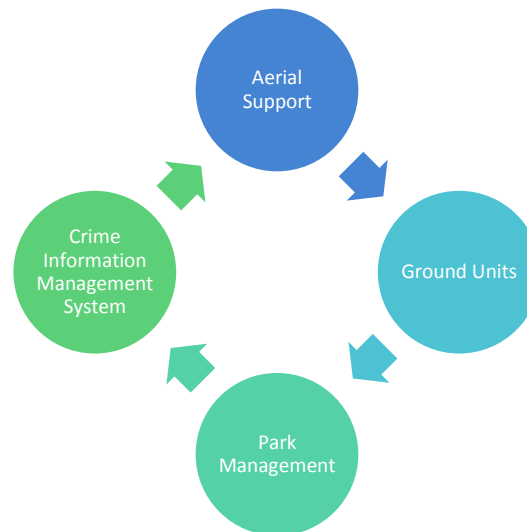
Threats to the Rhino Population in South Africa

- Subsistence Poaching
- Structured Poaching - Professional Hunters
 - Organised Crime
- Professional Poaching - Darting from the Ground
 - Aerial Poaching
- Other - Illegal Dehorning
 - Theft of Stockpiles

Sponsorship needed towards Project – R 3 000 000.00

Projected 2011	1 st Quarter	2 nd Quarter	3 rd Quarter	4 th Quarter
Anchor Sponsor	Still to be determined			
Tendele Coal Mining CC	R 100 000.00			
Your Company				
Your Company				
Total Received				

Anti-Poaching Communication Model



Organizational Structure of Operations

Helicopter Operations

Daily Patrol

Threat Response

Co ordination with Ground Units

Hotspots

Fence Lines

Aerial Deterrent

Always on Standby

Airborne within 5 minutes

Summary

A highly sensitive issue at the moment, the rapid escalation of the poaching of rhinos for their horns means a new approach is needed in order to be better equipped to protect these animals.

Be a part of being the solution. Help us use all our resources in this fight before it's too late.

If you are interested in supporting the Aerial Rhino Watch, please contact any one of the stakeholders.

BAC Aviation – Tremayne Thompson – tthompson@bacaviation.com

Ezemvelo KZN Wildlife – Jabulani Ngubane – ngubanej@kznwildlife.co.za

Zululand Rhino Reserve – Dylan Holmes – dylan@zululandrhinoreserve.co.za

