

THE OVERHUNTING OF THE BLACK RHINO



Made by:
William Ariton
Jon Fink
Brendan Du
Josh Manning

A Black Rhino in it's natural habitat, the African savannah.

The Problem

- ▣ The Black Rhinoceros is a mammal that lives in Eastern and Southern Africa which is currently being overhunted, almost to extinction. It's an herbivore which had kept plant numbers in check and prevented overgrowth, and also ate weeds that otherwise would have caused trouble for other plants. Because it is being hunted so much, however, many species of plant and animal will suffer various complications. Animals that hunt it may suffer a drop in numbers due to a loss of a food source, and the weeds that it eats could start spreading and severely damage a large amount of the plants in the ecosystem.

Human Impact

- ▣ Humans are the main reason Black Rhinos are endangered, due to the fact that poachers hunt them for their ivory horns, which sells for a high price as either a folk remedy, or as a simple status symbol.



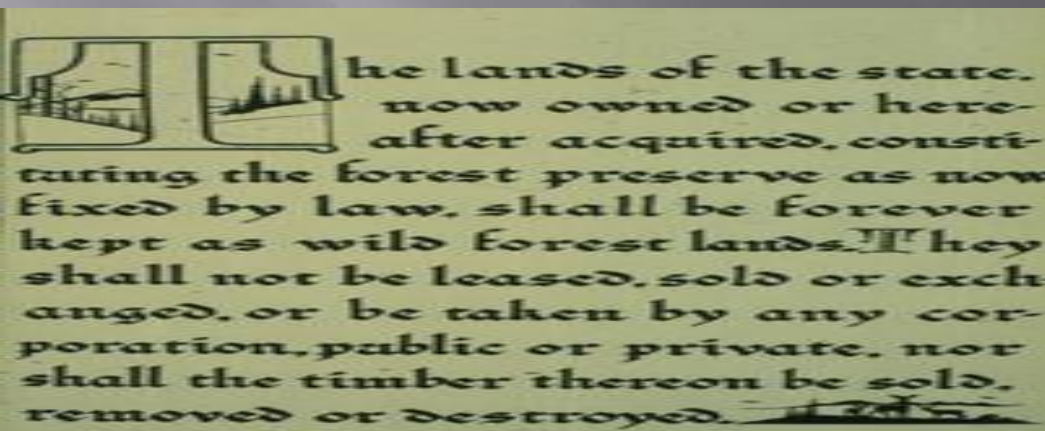
A rhino after it's horn is removed.

Solution One

- ▣ One solution to the problems that Rhinos face would be captive breeding programs, to keep them safe and get their numbers up. It would require that a small amount of Rhinos were to be gathered up into a safe habitat, such as a zoo, and allow their population size to increase so that they could be reintroduced into the wild. The benefits of this are that it allows the Rhinos to breed in safety, away from poachers and predators, allowing their numbers to increase without danger. Some issues with this plan are that reintroducing them into the environment is necessary, which could be problematic, and removing them from the environment in the first place could cause issues due to them being an important part of the ecosystem.

Solution Two

- ▣ Another solution would be to simply create more preserves for them in their natural habitats and protect and oversee them as best as possible. The benefits are that this allows the Rhinos to stay in their natural habitat and lets their numbers increase naturally. The flaws are that, because they aren't in their natural habitat, they can still be hunted by their predators, and by poachers, who can still reach they haven't been moved to a safer place.



The clause of a forest preserve

Best Solution



Rhino's at a zoo

The best of the two solutions is Solution one, the captive breeding of Black Rhino, due to the reliability and the fact that it allows for the Rhinos to be safe from poachers. The lack of poachers, the reason for the low number of black Rhinos, will allow the Black Rhino to flourish. A Future consequences of this program is that it becomes necessary to reintroduce them into their environment, and the ecosystem will have further reduced amounts of Black Rhino in their natural habitat making it harder for Rhinos in the wild, that have little human exposure, to reproduce.

Thank you for
viewing :D

If you wish to help the Black Rhinoceros
please donate to

<http://www.rhinos-irf.org/support/>

sources: salmaan, guessing, inference, http://www.ens-newswire.com/ens/jul2009/20090716_rhinopoaching.jpg

http://www.mswoods.com/in/indianapolis/indianapolis_zoo.htm

<http://www.adirondackcouncil.org/forestpreserveinfo2.html>

<http://www.blackrhino.org/SBRTNewsAut04.pdf>

<http://www.seaworld.org/animal-info/animalbytes/animalia/eumetazoa/coelomates/deuterostomes/chordata/craniata/mammalia/perissodactyla>