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POURLA  
CONSERVATION DE LA NATURE  
ETDESERESSOURCES

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FOR  
CONSERVATION OF NATURE  
ANDNATURALRESOURCES

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APPENDIX III

BLACK RHINOCEROS SURVEY 1959 to 1960

edited by A. Daubercies

(Assistant to the Chairman, Survival Service Commission)

At the request of the Kenya Wild Life Society, Mr. Mervyn Cowie, Director of the Royal National Parks of Kenya, wrote to the chairman of the Survival Service Commission suggesting that he should obtain information on the status of the Black Rhinoceros (Diceros bicornis) from all the territories in Africa in which it still survives. The results of this inquiry could then be analysed by members of the Commission at Warsaw who would decide whether there was a case for seeking added protection for this rhinoceros through I.U.C.N.

We are very grateful to the following correspondents for their help :

R. Bigalke, Director, National Zoological Gardens of South Africa.  
P.F. Bromfield, Game Control Officer, Bechuanaland.  
A.C. Brooks, Biologist, Uganda.  
A.R. Chadwick, Game Warden, Nigeria.  
M. Cowie, Director, Royal National Parks of Kenya.  
L.H. Cramer, Ethiopia.  
J. Dorst, Sous-directeur, Museum National d'Histoire Naturelle, Paris.  
A. Ghigi, Presidente, Commissione per la Protezione della Natura, Italy.  
P.E. Glover, Chief Zoologist, Ministry of Agriculture, Kenya.  
J. Haezaert, Conservator, Parc National de la Kagera, Ruanda.  
E.G. Kinloch, Game Warden, Uganda.  
J.P. Martinho, Medico-Veterinario, Mozambique.  
M.M. Medani, Ministry of Animal Resources, Sudan.  
Il Ministro, Ministero dell' Agricoltura e Zootecnia, Somalia.  
J. Petter, Assistant, Ecologie et Protection de la Nature, France.  
A. Reeders, for Game Officer, Southern Rhodesia.  
T. Shatto, Chief Advisor to Wildlife Department, Ethiopia.  
J. Sidney, Research worker, Colonial Office.  
S. Newton da Silva, Angola.  
F.E. Stafford, Ethiopia.  
K. Thomas, Game Warden, Tanganyika..  
G.B. Treadwell, National Secretary, The Wild Life Protection Society of  
A.R. Tribe, Forest Office, Nyasaland. South Africa.  
J.A. Valverde, Colaborador del Consejo Superior de Investigaciones  
Cientificas, Almería, Spain.  
J. Verschuren, Chargé de Mission, Parc National Albert.  
J. Vincent, Director of Wild Life Conservation, Natal.  
J.M. Watson, Director, Department of Agriculture, Suva-Fiji (formerly  
of British Somaliland).

Information was requested under these headings :

- Distribution.
- 2. Status.
- 3. Approximate numbers.
- 4. Legal protection given.
- 5. Comments : prospects for the species.

SUMMARIES OF INFORMATION RECEIVED

Summary of numbers and status

<u>Country</u>	<u>Minimum</u>	<u>Maximum</u>	<u>Date of estimate</u>	Status in 1960	
CAMEROONS	250	300	1958	not known	
FRENCH EQUATORIAL AFRICA	500	1000	1958	not known	
SUDAN	200	300	1953	increasing	X
ETHIOPIA	no figure	100	1960	decreasing rapidly	*
	100	1000	1960	static or increasing	*
SOMALIA	50	50	1960	decreasing slightly	
KENYA	2560	2560	1960	decreasing	
UGANDA	525	525	1960	static	
TANGANYIKA	3000	4000	1960	decreasing	
BELGIAN CONGO	6 (Ruanda)	6+ 0	1959	endangered	
N. RHODESIA	1000	1000	1958	decreasing	
S. RHODESIA	1500	1500	1959	static	
MOZAMBIQUE	500	500	1959	endangered	
ANGOLA	150	200	1960	increasing	c
S.W. AFRICA	280	280	1958	increasing	
BECHUANALAND	no figure	20	1958	endangered	
UNION of S. AFRICA	<u>312</u>	<u>312</u>	1959	increasing slightly	
	<u>10833</u>	<u>13553</u>			

X Miss J. Sidney, who has been investigating the game situation in Africa since 1900 obtained these numbers for Sudan from Col. A. Forbes

late Game Warden, Sudan. The present Game Preservation staff consider that the species is increasing, though no counts have been made.

- \* Further enquiries are being undertaken to try to reconcile these conflicting views.
- o Possibly a few in Upemba and Katanga.
- C Angola numbers are for the Moçamedes district. The only other part of Angola where any considerable number of rhinoceroses have been reported is the extreme South East. No figures have yet been received.

Summary of protective legislation :

SUDAN	Schedule 1 protected animal. Special permit for kill or capture given only for important scientific or essential administrative purposes. Maximum penalty - fine of £200 or 2 years' imprisonment, or both.
ETHIOPIA	Completely protected by law. Little enforcement.
SOMALIA	Protected by law in complete reserve of Bubasci. Bubasci is to become a National Park. Hunted illegally.
KENYA	Fully protected in all National Parks and Reserves. 100 to 130 killed annually on shooting licences. 250 killed annually unlawfully.. 100 killed in alleged self-defence and for other reasons.
UGANDA	May only be hunted under a special licence ; these have been suspended during the last 7 years.
TANGANYIKA	Completely protected for a period of 5 years with effect from 15 May, 1959, after which the situation will be reviewed. Poaching prevalent
BELGIAN CONGO	Protected in the Kagera National Park, Ruanda,
NORTHERN RHODESIA	Hunting totally prohibited,
SOUTHERN RHODESIA	Classed as Royal Game under Game and Fish Preservation Act, Chapter 187. This protection will continue to be given under provisions of the new Wild Life Conservation Act, 1960.
MOZAMBIQUE	An old law prohibits the killing of Rhinoceros in any part of the territory, whether within or outside game reserves. Poaching reported.

ANGOLA Fully protected in National Park of Porto Alexandre. Elsewhere may be shot on licence - 1 per hunter, price £125.

S.W. AFRICA Classified as Protected Game. May only be hunted on a special permit, normally granted when crops or grazing are endangered. The horn must be given up at the nearest police station.

BECHUANALAND Protected Game.

UNION OF S. AFRICA Effective protective legislation. Hardly any poaching. Maximum penalty for poaching is .2500, or 2 years' imprisonment, or both.

Summary of comments :

SUDAN Inhabits Eastern side of Nile in S. Sudan where population is thin, also E. of Mongalla up to the Lafon Hills which is an uninhabited area.

SOMALIA Not a good environment for the Black Rhinoceros.

BRITISH SOMALILAND No chances of re-establishing itself because of extensive grazing by nomadic tribes.

KENYA Estimated number killed annually represents 20% of total population, whereas normal annual increase is 5% to 8%. Rhino are slow breeders. Tsavo Park East - if poaching can be controlled in Park, and given normal rains for the next 10 years, population should increase to what it was 10 years ago. Marsabit Reserve - intensive grazing schemes practised in Samburu land - rhino will suffer. Price of horn has risen to 100/- per pound. Future depends on how soon a suitable immobilising drug can be found, and when found, on the availability of money with which to move captured rhino to "safe areas".

UGANDA Only a matter of time before the rhino survives only in Murchison Falls National Park, West Acholi/East Madi Elephant Sanctuary, and Kidepo game reserve. Great demand for the horn from India and the Far East. At auctions at Dar es Salaam and Mombasa prices have reached over 100/- a lb. Brooks suggests that governments of countries where demand for rhino horn is high should place an embargo or high tariff on imported horn.

TANGANYIKA Horn fetching 90/- a lb. at Government auctions, less on the black market.

- MOZAMBIQUE The Nature Preservation Society is proposing to the government to establish two new reserves to give further protection to this species.
- ANGOLA Numbers may be expected to increase in the National Park of Porto Alexandre which is carefully patrolled. Newton da Silva will approach the Legislative Council with a view to imposing an annual limit to the number killed, if the influx of tourists on safari increases.
- BECHUANALAND To be moved into the Protectorate's new Game reserve if possible.
- UNION OF S. Only danger if temporary absence of control.  
AFRICA

NOTES

According to Mr. A.R. Chadwick, there may be 1 Black Rhinoceros left in Sierra Leone ! None is recorded in Spanish Guinea (Valverde), and they are considered to be at the point of extinction in Nigeria (Taylor). In French West Africa the Black Rhinoceros disappeared shortly before the arrival of Europeans (Biancou). In British Somaliland the last one was shot over 30 years ago (Watson).

The situation in the Cameroons and French Equatorial Africa at present is not known since the scientific staff attached to the parks left with the French administration. Each new African state has its own game department.

Full reports have been received from the Sudan, Ethiopia, Somalia, Kenya, Uganda, Tanganyika, Belgian Congo, Southern Rhodesia, Mozambique, Angola, South West Africa, Bechuanaland, and the Union of South Africa, The information for Northern Rhodesia and the French African territories is taken from Mammalia, vol.22, no.3, 1958.