

The Rhino Print

Spring 2011



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CONTENTS

International Rhino Foundation Javan Rhino Update	3
Special Thanks to Peter Hall	5
Continued Support from Auckland Zoo	5
The Horns of a Dilemma	6
World Rhino Day	8
Rock Climb for Rhinos	8
Notice of Annual General Meeting	9
Committee Update	10
Rhino News	11
Corporate Donors and Pro-Bono Supporters	14
Merchandise Order Form	16

Welcome to the Spring 2011 Newsletter

The ARP committee hopes that you have celebrated a pleasant Father's Day with loved ones. Is it too late to consider a rhino adoption as a gift for oneself, or for a special person? Especially, with World Rhino Day approaching on September 22.

ARP will be celebrating World Rhino Day in Perth with a rock climbing event – please see inside for more. Everyone can celebrate this day big or small. Just spreading the word is a good start. See page 8 for more info.

In this edition, we have updates from the International Rhino Foundation about progress on Indonesia programs.

And, of course, we have our regular rhino news shorts from our Asian neighbours, local updates and more...

Colin Campbell
Secretary ARP

Asian Rhino Project



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Vice Chairperson	Clare Campbell
Secretary	Colin Campbell
Treasurer	Lorraine Dunn
WA Branch Manager	Sophie Lourandos
NSW Branch Manager	Kristy Garard
General Member	Carly Palmer

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Secretary	Martina ter Steeg
Treasurer	Petra Hancock
Merchandise	Holly Thompson
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International Rhino Foundation Javan Rhino Update – June 2011

Indonesia's remote Ujung Kulon National Park holds the only viable population of the Critically Endangered Javan rhino (*Rhinoceros sondaicus*). No more than an estimated 44 Javan rhinos remain on the planet, and surveys and other data suggest that only 4-5 females are still breeding. Evidence suggests that the species has recently been extirpated in Vietnam, where what may have been the last individual was poached in May 2010.

The breeding population of Javan rhinos occupies primarily the western half of Ujung Kulon National Park (UKNP), and thus is susceptible to catastrophic losses from disease or natural disasters. Although the population is believed to be stable, it likely has reached its carrying capacity in the current habitat and probably cannot grow any larger without intervention.

For the past 16 years, International Rhino Foundation Rhino Protection Units have kept the Ujung Kulon population safe from poaching. However, protection in itself isn't going to be enough to save the species from extinction. Over the long-term, the population needs to be spread out, with a second viable population established elsewhere in Indonesia. The first step towards accomplishing this goal is to create conditions that will allow the existing population to expand by increasing the habitat available in eastern UKNP (in the Gunung Honje area).

Over the past year, IRF, through its implementing partner Yayasan Badak Indonesia (Rhino Foundation of Indonesia) and supported by the Asian Rhino Project, Save the Rhino International, WWF, and other donors, has been working to expand the useable habitat for Javan rhinos in UKNP by creating the 4,000 hectare

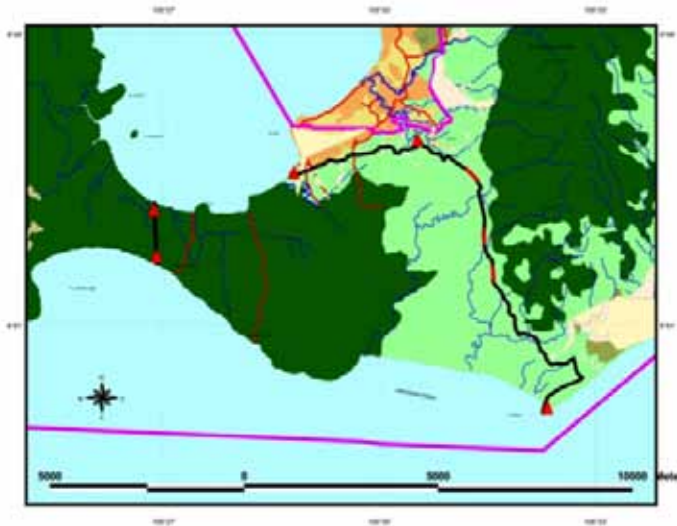
Javan Rhino Study and Conservation Area (JRSCA). The project intensifies active management in Gunung Honje, with the short-term objective of providing more habitat to allow the population to increase. We are doing this by constructing small bridges, an electric fence, and a patrol road; eradicating invasive species which have taken over a good portion of the habitat; planting rhino food plants; providing a water supply and saltlick; and constructing additional guard posts. The continued survival of the Javan rhino depends on their population increasing in numbers as rapidly as possible, and in spreading the population out so that 'all the eggs are not in one basket'. The JRSCA eventually will serve as a 'staging ground' from which translocations to a second site can occur.

As one of the first steps towards establishing the JRSCA, we began working on a plan to fairly relocate families living inside the Park boundaries so that we can make the area as safe as possible for the rhinos. UKNP authorities successfully negotiated with people living in the Gunung Honje area and to-date have helped moved 51 families living illegally in the park. These families agreed to relocate outside park boundaries, and will be eligible to participate in various job opportunities, possibly to include construction/development of the JRSCA.

Other early steps include building three new guard posts to provide for the security of the area. Construction of the guard posts is underway; one has been completed in the Cilintang area of the park (below) the rest will be completed by July.

At the same time, we are working on constructing a fence on the eastern part of the park to keep





domestic cattle, which carry disease to which rhinos are susceptible, from entering the park. The map here shows the eastern half of UKNP, with the Gunung Honje/Javan Rhino Study and Conservation Area shown between the two black/red lines. The fence will also make it easier for biologists and veterinarians to study the rhinos. Workers have already begun clearing a small, unpaved road along the fence placement.

Our next immediate focus will be on restoring good habitat for the rhino in the JRSCA area. Much of the park has been taken over by the invasive Arenga palm (*Arenga obtusifolia*) – (imagine a pasture overgrown with weeds, only this is a rain forest). The JRSCA area has to be re-zoned as a ‘research zone’ in order to accommodate our work to eradicate Arenga palm. A supporting environmental risk assessment has been carried out prior to beginning the work. We are beginning clearing of the palm, and as soon as that is completed, will begin re-planting rhino food plants to attract rhinos to the JRSCA area.

All Park Updates – IRF Indonesia Programs

August 2008

By Susie Ellis

I am just back from Indonesia where I had the chance to visit our teams in all three national parks where we work: Sumatra’s Way Kambas and Bukit Barisan Selatan National Parks, and Java’s Ujung Kulon National Park. Both Sumatran and Javan rhinos are among the most endangered species on Earth, and our teams in Indonesia are some of the most dedicated people with whom I have ever worked.

In Way Kambas National Park there’s good news - Rhino Protection Units (RPUs) found signs of a new baby rhino, with footprints and dung from mother

and baby in a wallow (essentially a big mud puddle in which rhinos like to cool off) in the central portion of the park. RPUs have had to step up their efforts in the northern portion of Way Kambas, where they destroyed eight large animal snares (mostly targeting tiger) last month. We are now working to raise about \$10,000 to refurbish a wooden boat that will serve as a floating RPU station to deal with these poaching incursions, most of which are coming from the north via the river. For now, the park’s core zone seems to be secure, but we cannot let down our vigilance for a minute!

I have often written about the importance of partners in conducting our work. In Bukit Barisan Selatan National Park (YABI), IRF’s implementing partner, operates seven RPUs and an intelligence unit. Fortunately, there has been no known rhino poaching for more than a decade. However, we are now worried that anti-poaching efforts alone may be insufficient to prevent the rhino’s decline in the park. As part of its Indonesia-wide mammal survey, the Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS) led multi-season design patch occupancy surveys in BBS, WK and Gunung Leuser National Park (the only other major habitat for Sumatran rhinos in Indonesia) in 2008 and 2010. WCS surveys and RPU patrol records suggest that the Sumatran rhino’s range within BBS has decreased over the past several years. Further, no juvenile footprints have been recorded in the last several years. While I was in Indonesia, we convened several meetings among partners to develop a collaborative proposal for another comprehensive, rhino-focused survey. This time, we also will use faecal DNA analysis in addition to on-the-ground surveys to determine the core distribution and genetic make-up of the population. Our partner, the Worldwide Fund for Nature (WWF), has just led a pre-survey of BBS involving the RPUs, the park authority and WCS. The teams walked 26 km in the dense forest in just 6 days (4.33 km/day), discovering six new wallows which previously had been undetected. Stay tuned for updates on our work in BBS: we are very much hoping to be proved wrong in our recent concerns about its Sumatran rhino status and distribution.

Our work to conserve the Critically Endangered Javan rhino also is moving forward. Our internal review of the 4,000-ha Javan Rhino Study and Conservation Area (JRSCA) in Ujung Kulon National Park demonstrated good progress toward completion. The JRSCA will

serve as a study area so that we can glean basic knowledge of the Javan rhino's biology before the next big step which will be translocating a portion of the Ujung Kulon population to a suitable site in its historic range. So far, the fenced area is being cleared, with a base camp created and new guard posts under construction. An integral part of this project is creating 24 pilot sites where we are clearing the invasive Arenga palm, a species which is rampant in the park and which prevents the growth of rhino food plants. Half of the plots will be cut, with leaf debris removed so that the soil is clean, and the other half will be cut with the leaf debris remaining so that emerging plants have some protection from the hot tropical sun. The plots I saw had been clear for 3 weeks and already had a good outgrowth of rhino food plants where the palm had been cut.

As another example of the dedication of our staff, last month, members of our JRSCA team were working on opening up an Arenga palm control study area near the river in Ujung Kulon. However, a handful of local people had been illegally fishing in the river using poison. As the JRSCA team was surveying the area, the entire team became seriously ill after drinking from the river. RPU's and park authorities are still following up on the illegal fishers: although we ended up switching that particular site, the JRSCA team vows

that their work has never been more important, not only for the rhino but also for other wildlife living in the park.

Despite working in Indonesia for more than 10 years, I have never seen a Sumatran or Javan rhino in the wild: that's how rare these animals are. Our field teams, who spend an average of 15-20 days per month in the forest, have face-to-face encounters with rhinos perhaps two or three times a year. But, every time I look a rhino in the eye in an up-close-and-personal encounter at the Sumatran Rhino Sanctuary (SRS), which IRF operates in partnership with YABI in Way Kambas National Park, I am so inspired, feeling an even more urgent obligation to step up our work to prevent the extinction of these unique species. More and more, we are trying to develop outside-the-box strategies to make sure these species endure. IRF and our partners have discarded institutional barriers to come together for this common goal and are fully committed to doing everything we can to collaboratively ensure the species' future.

In addition to the commitment and hard work of our tremendously talented and dedicated staff and partners in range countries, all of us at the International Rhino Foundation and Asian Rhino Project are extremely grateful for your continued support.

Special Thanks to Peter Hall

Peter Hall has continues his support for Sumatran and Javan rhino conservation by donating another \$141,657 last month. I wonder where these rhino would be today without the kindness and generosity of this one individual in particular?

To date Peter has contributed \$1,931,657! Peter is committed to the conservation of the Sumatran and Javan rhino in Indonesia amongst many other causes. Even though conservation is challenging he continues to play a key role in the survival of these species not only through funding but also in person residing on boards and keeping in touch with key players through project visits and communications. The world truly is lucky to have him around!

Thanks so much Peter!

Continued Support from Auckland Zoo

ARP relies on the continued support from major donors such as Auckland Zoo's Conservation Fund. Auckland has recently donated a further \$25,000NZD (\$19014.30AUD) for Asian rhino conservation projects. The latest donation brings the total funds donated to the ARP from Auckland Zoo Conservation Fund to just over \$59,000AUD! Such dedication and support from Auckland has been vital to continue our important programs. Thank you so very much.

CONSERVATION
FUND AUCKLAND ZOO

The Horns of a Dilemma: Dealing with Growing Asian Demand for Rhino Horn From the International Rhino Foundation, June 2011

This week, TIME magazine broke a story about a disturbing issue that has been on our radar for some time. Since 2006, Chinese interests have imported nearly 150 South African white rhinos, with the apparent intention of moving forward with a major rhino horn farming initiative.

The parent company of this initiative, the Manchuria-based Hawk Group, an arms manufacturer with a subsidiary which works in traditional Chinese medicine, is planning to import at least 40 more rhinos this year and hopes to expand its ownership to at least 200 animals within five years.

We first got wind of this alarming trend at the African Rhino Specialist Group meetings in South Africa in March – at that time, more than 70 additional permits were awaiting approval at the South African CITES (Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species) office.

According to TRAFFIC, rhino horn trade patterns in Asia have shifted over time. In the 1970s-1990s, rhino horn trade centered in Japan, Korea, Taiwan and China.

But since 2003, Vietnam has rapidly emerged as the leading destination for illicit trade in rhino horn. Several years ago, a rumor started that a high-level government official was cured of cancer by using rhino-horn powder.

Although this individual has yet to be identified, or the story verified, the idea intrigued the Vietnamese, particularly wealthy individuals. Studies by pharmaceutical company Hoffmann-La Roche and the Zoological Society of London have reported no medicinal value in rhino horn. (A person might as well chew their fingernails, which also are made of keratin.) But unfortunately, even though there is no traditional Chinese medicine practice linking rhino horn and cancer treatment, and China's official traditional-medicine authority publicly refuted the horn's curative powers, many Asians have come to believe the rumor.

Vietnam's Embassy in Pretoria, South Africa, has been seriously implicated in illegal trade in rhino horn on a number of occasions. The economic attaché, Khanh Toan Nguyen, was arrested in April 2006 and the First Secretary, Vu Moc Anh, was filmed purchasing rhino horn outside the Vietnam Embassy in September

2008. And last year, just before the World Cup, three Vietnamese were arrested at the Johannesburg airport with 24 pieces of horn.

The "South Africa/Vietnam Connection" was highlighted in the TRAFFIC/IUCN report to the CITES Conference of the Parties 15, which IRF attended last year in Qatar. In 1993, international trade in rhino horn was banned by the Convention, to which China and Vietnam are signatories along with 173 other nations.

All the while, Asian criminals also have been posing as big-game hunters, applying for costly licenses to legally shoot South African rhinos. Added to the rhino farming scheme, TIME quotes John Sellar, head of enforcement for the CITES Secretariat, who says that these elements "amount to "the most sophisticated organized crime that the convention has had to face in its history."

Wildlife trade economics are complicated. The debate on legalizing rhino horn trade is looming. The IRF has not yet taken a position about legalizing rhino horn trade.

There are still a lot of information gaps which need to be filled before we do so: What are the current rhino horn trade dynamics? What are the legal incentives for rhino horn production? What happens if the demand in Asia rises if legal trade is allowed? Will farmed rhino horn be able to meet the demand or will the rampant killing of African rhinos continue?

Consumer countries have signed on to CITES and have banned trade, but what are the ramifications if a legal market is opened up? How would private owners of rhinos, especially in South Africa, be regulated with respect to horn harvest? How would the risk of the corrupt elite (e.g., in African countries) taking control of rhino resources be managed if legal trade is allowed? And if trade is legalized, what can we do to protect rhino populations (short-term) until and during the time controlled trade (long-term) is implemented?

The TIME article notes that in 2008, a legal auction of 119 tons of ivory didn't halt elephant poaching in Africa; in fact, some believe the influx of tusks catalyzed further slaughter of elephants as more people developed a taste for ivory.

Our number one priority is ensuring the long-term

survival of rhino populations in the wild, and we carry out that work through protection and public awareness. But, conserving rhinos is not always straightforward. I hope you'll take the time to read the

TIME article <http://www.time.com/time/magazine/article/0,9171,2075283,00.html> and think about the rhino horn trade and farming issues.

SECOND ANNUAL
WORLD RHINO DAY

rhino horn is NOT medicine

22 SEPTEMBER 2011

Design © R. Larson/Saving Rhinos LLC/savingrhinos.org/rhinoconservation.org

World Rhino Day

World Rhino Day 2011 is going to be here in a few short weeks: September 22nd is the big day!

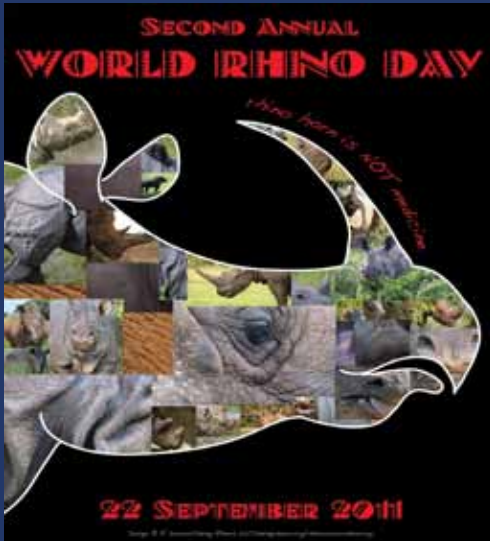
Last year, WWF established World Rhino Day for people all over the world to take a stand against rhino poaching and the illegal trade in rhino horn.

This year, Saving Rhinos and friends around the world are continuing the tradition and invite rhino supporters to join together again on September 22nd to help raise awareness about the rhino crisis – and

share the message that rhino horn is not medicine.

Why not get involved – hold a morning tea, fundraise with your class or do a promotion at work. Every little bit helps – you can make a difference!

Rock Climbing for Rhinos September 22nd - this is a regular ARP event and is heaps of fun! Join us at The Rockface, Northbridge at 6.30pm. Tickets \$20 which includes all equipment. BBQ & drinks available on the night! Please RSVP so we know how many to cater for.



Rock Climb for Rhinos

Join us at Adventure Out Climbing Gym, 24 Jackson St Bassendean for a fun night of rock climbing. The evening will start with a BBQ and drinks from 6.30pm.

Tickets are \$20 per person and include all equipment. Please contact Sophie at sophie.dentrinos@asianrhinos.org.au or call 0422 968 535 for tickets.

Help us make this a celebration for rhinos and spread the word about their plight. Bring your family and friends for a fun night out!

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

You can.

Drop us an e-mail on info@asianrhinos.org.au or phone Kerry on 08 89760952.

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.

NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Notice is hereby given for the 7th Annual General Meeting of the ASIAN RHINO PROJECT INC.

To be held on Thursday 6 October 2011 at 7pm
 in the Lecture Theatre at Perth Zoo
 20 Labouchere Rd, South Perth, WA

A sausage sizzle will be provided before the meeting.
 Please confirm your attendance by e-mail kerry.crosbie@asianrhinos.org.au or phone 08 89760952.
 Doors open at 6pm!

Friends and family welcome. Tea, coffee and nibbles will also be provided along with slide show presentations from the committee.

Members; if you are unable to attend the AGM at all, please tear off the proxy form below and return it ASAP to the address above.

We look forward to seeing you again soon!

Below is the nomination form for the ARP National Committee positions as follows:

National Committee

1. Chairperson

2. Vice Chairperson
3. Secretary
4. Treasurer
5. WA Branch Officer
6. NSW Branch Officer
7. Grants
8. Fundraising
9. Others

Committee members must have access to email or the internet, be willing to commit at least 2 hours a week. For more information on what is involved with these positions, please contact Kerry on 08 89760952 or at kerry.crosbie@asianrhinos.org.au. We welcome all applications and encourage anyone who is willing and keen to apply. Other state sub-committee and volunteer positions are available to anyone who is able to help.

ASIAN RHINO PROJECT NATIONAL COMMITTEE NOMINATION FORM 2011

Annual General Meeting to be held at Perth Zoo Theatre on 6 October 2011 at 7pm.

I _____ nominate _____
 for the position of _____

Signed _____ Date ____/____/2011

Seconded _____ Date ____/____/2011

I accept the nomination for this position.

Signed _____ Nominee

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING – 6 OCTOBER, 2011

PROXY VOTE FORM

Annual General Meeting to be held at Perth Zoo Theatre on 6 October 2011 at 7pm.

I/WE _____ of _____

*Being a member of the Asian Rhino Project Inc, hereby appoint the Chairperson or _____ to vote on my behalf at the Asian Rhino Project Annual General meeting on matters relating to the agenda above.

Signed _____ Date ____/____/2011

* Please cross out whichever is not appropriate.

Committee Update

By Kerry Crosbie

Board Changes

Longstanding ARP Board member Andrew Thompson has resigned due to work and time restraints. We are sad to see one of the originals go and thank him for all he has contributed over the years including important collaboration between ARP and Murdoch University in the early days and the establishment of the Asian Rhino Conservation Fund.

The ARP Board is formed of three members who are responsible for the management of the ARP's Conservation Fund. This fund (the "Public Fund") receives all tax deductible donations to the organisation. It is regulation that the fund be managed by persons approved by the Register of Environmental Organisations and this is the first change to the board since the funds inauguration in 2005.

As a result the ARP committee has nominated two new board (or public fund) members - Carly Palmer and Clare Campbell. Both were approved by the register of Environmental Organisations.

Current board members are:

1. Carly Palmer
2. Clare Campbell
3. Kerry Crosbie
4. Nicholas Duncan

Volunteer Coordinator Changes

Rhino Adoptions are now being managed by Frances Ingall. Frances is a keeper at Perth Zoo working on the Carnivore/Ungulate section including working with their Southern White Rhino. A member of ARP since 2010 her dedication and passion to Rhinoceros conservation has only increased the more she learns about them. She now hopes to be an intergral part of raising awareness and support for the three Asian Rhino species in her role of Adoptions Officer. Thanks Frances!

The ARP AGM will be held next month on 6 October at Perth Zoo. We look forward to seeing as many of you as we can. If you can make it earlier we will be having a sausage sizzle. Be sure to let us know if you will be feasting so we can cater for you. For the vegetarians we will have veggie burgers upon request.

Please; if you can't make it to the meeting be sure to forward your proxy vote ASAP.

WA Branch Update

On 2 September the WA Branch of ARP held our early World Rhino Day celebrations, by heading to Perth CBD and shaking our collection tins for the rhinos! We spent 6 hours in cold and wet conditions but managed to have a fun day and raise \$1000 for the rhinos! A huge thank you to Shelley Carroll, Belle Picchio, Martina Hart, Lorraine Dunn, Phil Donnelly, Ravi Joshi and Sophie Dentrinos for braving the weather and volunteering their time! The rhino mascot continues to be a huge hit with members of the public and helps us greatly in explaining the plight of the rhinos.

The 22nd of September is **World Rhino Day**, and will see us hosting our Rock Climb for Rhinos at 6.30pm at Adventure Out Climbing Gym, 24 Jackson St Bassendean. Tickets are \$20 per person and include all equipment. A BBQ will be held on the night as well. Please email sophie.dentrinos@asianrhinos.org.au or call 0422 968 535 for tickets.

Save the Date

On Sunday 18 March 2012 ARP will again be holding our Annual walkathon, in conjunction with SGP, AOP and FTB. More details to come soon!



In The News – Asian Rhino News Stories

Facelift for Assam rhino sanctuary 9 June 2011

While Kaziranga remains the biggest attraction as the original home of the great one-horned rhinoceros, the 38.8-sq km Pobitora Wildlife Sanctuary too has begun getting importance, thanks to its proximity to Guwahati, the state capital. Hardly 30 km from the city, Pobitora, home to as many as 84 rhinos, also holds the world record for the highest density of the one-horned animal.

<http://www.indianexpress.com/news/This-Week-Northeast/801186/>

Duo nabbed with rhino horn 9 June 2011

KATHMANDU: Police arrested two persons in possession of a rhino's horn weighing 404gm from a house in Chalise of Gajuri VDC-2 of Dhading district on Thursday morning.

<http://www.thehimalayantimes.com/fullNews.php?headline=3DDuo+nabbed+with+rhino+horn&NewsID=3D291162>

Sumatran rhinos must be moved to prevent their extinction 10 June 2011

Critically endangered Sumatran rhinos will go extinct if isolated individuals are not brought together, a newly released report by WWF and others says.

There may be as few as 216 Sumatran rhinos remaining, according to a study entitled Now or never: What will it take to save the Sumatran rhinoceros from extinction?

http://wwf.panda.org/who_we_are/wwf_offices/indonesia/?200596/Sumatran-rhinos-must-be-moved-to-prevent-their-extinction

School teacher held for rhino poaching 17 June 2011

MORIGAON: A school teacher was arrested today in connection with the poaching of a rhinoceros in Pobitora Wildlife Sanctuary in this Assam district, police said.

Faizul Karim was arrested for allegedly giving shelter to the poachers who killed the male one-horned rhino last Saturday. Karim is a resident of Kurahibori village near the sanctuary and a teacher at Borbori Lower Primary School.

<http://economictimes.indiatimes.com/environment/flora-fauna/school-teacher-held-for-rhino-poaching/articleshow/8878277.cms>

Eating rhino horn sends woman to hospital 30 June 2011

A Vietnamese woman ended up in the hospital after consuming rhino horn, reports savingrhinos.org. Used for a rash around her mouth, the rhino horn instead caused a serious allergic reaction, including reddening skin, itching, and fever. Listed under the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES), rhino horn is illegal to purchase or sell worldwide.

According to VnExpress, Dr. Nguyen Huu Truong at Back Mai Hospital, where the woman was treated, said that rhino horn can easily cause toxicity as well as an allergic reaction. He also stated that there is no medical evidence to back up claims of rhino horn having any medicinal value.

http://news.mongabay.com/2011/0630-hance_rhinohorn_sick.html

Rhino poaching decreases to record low in Nepali national park 4 July 2011

KATHMANDU (Xinhua) -- The fiscal year 2010/11 saw the lowest number of cases of rhino poaching inside

Chitwan National Park (CNP) in central Nepal in the last decade, local media reported on Monday.

The national park so far has witnessed only two poaching incidents this year compared to 11 cases in the previous fiscal year.

According to Monday's The Kathmandu Post, conservationists attributed the progress to the combined efforts made from the park as well as from the district level to protect the endangered one-horned rhinos.

<http://www.philstar.com/Article.aspx?articleId=702604&publicationSubCategoryId=200>

Rhino barter with Assam to correct sex-ratio 4 July 2011

A Skewed sex ratio of rhinos in North Bengal has forced the forest department to approach its counterpart in Assam to increase the number of female rhinos in the state.

While the ideal ratio for the animal in the wild should be 1:3 (one male rhino: three female rhinos), in many forests of North Bengal, the number of male rhinos equals the females.

In an attempt to improve the sex ratio, officials have written to the Assam Forest Department, proposing an exchange of 20 female rhinos from the Kaziranga National Park for 20 male rhinos from the state.

<http://www.indianexpress.com/news/rhino-barter-with-assam-to-correct-sexratio/812386/>

Irish gang runs rhino horn trade 7 July 2011

An organised crime gang from Ireland is masterminding illegal trade in rhino horns around the world, according to Europol.

The European law enforcement agency said it has uncovered intelligence and evidence identifying an organised crime group illegally trading stolen rhino horn across Europe and beyond.

"The theft of rhino horn shows how organised criminals are always on the lookout for new and creative crime opportunities", Europol said on Thursday.

A new arrival cheers this vulnerable community 11 July 2011

The birth of a Greater One-horned Rhinoceros calf about ten days ago in Dudhwa National Park, Uttar Pradesh, is being seen as proof of continuing success of the programme to reintroduce the species in the habitat that began in 1984.

Starting with a population of seven under the plan, the 27 square kilometre area now hosts 31 rhinos including the new addition. As with several other parts of northern India, this area recorded the presence of Rhinoceros unicornis even in the 19th century, but habitat loss and excessive hunting decimated its numbers. The reintroduction programme, which was actively supported by Prime Minister Indira Gandhi, began in a region of the park with an ideal mix of grassland, woodland and wetland.

<http://www.thehindu.com/sci-tech/energy-and-environment/article2218966.ece>

Power line kills rhino in Assam, calf saved 27 July 2011

Jorhat: A female rhino died on the spot while its calf survived when a high-voltage power cable snapped and fell on it at

Hatikhuli tea estate near Kaziranga National Park this afternoon.

This is the second incident of a rhino being electrocuted at the tea estate since 2007.

http://www.telegraphindia.com/1110728/jsp/northeast/story_14296824.jsp

Rhino carcass found 28 July 2011

Tezpur (Assam): The carcass of an adult rhino was found floating on the river Brahmaputra near Dhekiajuli in Sonitpur district, Deputy Commissioner Tapan Chandra Sarma said here today. The carcass of the male rhino came from the flood affected Kaziranga National Park (KNP) in Golaghat district across the river and it was found last night by the local people at Singri, Sarma told PTI. Fearing that poachers might steal the rhino's horn weighing about one kg, the people cut it off and handed it to the forest department today, he said. The incident occurred hours after another rhino, a female one, died after being electrocuted at Haldibari under Kohora central range of the KNP. The carcass of yet another adult rhino was recovered at Bhaonisapori area of the Park's Bagori range on Tuesday with its horn cut and removed. The animal was suspected to have been killed by poachers on July 11. Rhino horns are highly valued in the international grey market for their reported aphrodisiac value.

<http://ibnlive.in.com/generalnewsfeed/news/rhino-carcass-found/767941.html>

Thieves target European museums and collectors for rhinoceros heads 1 August 2011

It was a daring daytime robbery at the natural science museum in Brussels. The two thieves snuck into the rhino gallery and ripped a stuffed head off the wall.

They carried it to a toilet, opened a window and dropped the 30kg trophy two stories down to an accomplice waiting in a van.

<http://www.theaustralian.com.au/news/world/thieves-target-european-museums-and-collectors-for-rhinoceros-heads/story-e6frg6so-1226106026782>

Aaranyak to assist rhino conservation in Indonesia 2 August 2011

Assam's expertise on rhino conservation is to aid Indonesia with technical help for carrying out genetic research on the country's two critically endangered species. Northeast's biodiversity conservation NGO, Aaranyak, is to assist Indonesian authorities to undertake 'non-invasive' genetic research for Javan and Sumatran rhinos, tottering on the brink of extinction.

<http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/guwahati/Aaranyak-to-assist-rhino-conservation-in-Indonesia/articleshow/9448448.cms>

China boom fuels Africa Poaching 14 August 2011

Elephant and rhino poaching 'is driven by China's economic boom'. The ivory trade has doubled in Guangzhou and Fuzhou, a study has found, adding to fears for Africa's elephant and rhino populations.

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/world/2011/aug/14/china-boom-fuels-africa-poaching>

Rhino Horn Trade Worth More Than Gold And Diamonds Must Stop Demands UK Officials 15 August 2011

UK Government officials are leading the way by submitting proposals to the European Union to put a stop to the Rhino Horn trade which is now reported to be worth £50,000 a kilogram, making it worth more than gold and diamonds.

The UK are urging the world to take adequate measures to stop the highly lucrative rhino horn trade that is pushing the primitive species into extinction.

Urgent proposals are being put forward by the UK to a meeting of the Convention on the International trade in Endgangered Species (CITES) to call upon all countries to restrict and strengthen regulations on the trade of all rhino products and bring to attention the totally misguided belief that crushed-up rhino horn will help to cure cancer and many other life-threatening diseases.

http://wwf.panda.org/wwf_news/?201309/CITES-meeting-to-address-illegal-ivory-and-rhino-horn-trade

Corporate Donors

ARP would like to recognise the following corporate donors working to help us help the rhinos. Funds or funds raised from donated items all go towards our valuable conservation projects. Thank you.



Pro-Bono Supporters

ARP would like to recognise the dedication and expert assistance of the following organisations for their professional pro-bono support. These organisations provide services free of charge assisting us to minimise our administration costs enabling ARP to focus funding on our important conservation projects.

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Join Up or Renew Today

Please send completed membership forms to: Memberships, PO Box 163, South Perth WA 6951.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: (H) _____ (W) _____ Email: _____

I would like to support Asian Rhino Project by becoming a member for: (please tick)

- 1 year = AU\$30
- 3 years = AU\$80
- 5 years = AU\$130
- Life = AU\$400

Membership includes quarterly newsletters. We encourage members to receive newsletters by email – not only to save administration costs but also to conserve paper.

I would like to receive my newsletters by: Email Mail

Asian Rhino Project often receives information about fundraising events from other local conservation groups.

Would you like to receive this information as well (via email only)? Yes No

NB: Your personal details will not be made available to these groups.

Donations are warmly welcomed and should be made to the Asian Rhino Conservation Fund.

I would like to include a donation of \$_____ to assist the Asian Rhino Project in its cause.

Please accept my payment by: Cheque Cash Credit Card Electronic Transfer

For electronic transfers our details are: Name: Asian Rhino Project Inc. Bank: ANZ Branch: East Victoria Park, Western Australia. BSB: 016 263 Account: 4984 19705 Transfer receipt number: _____

Please charge my: Bankcard Mastercard Visa

Card No: _____ Expiry Date: _____

Name on Card: _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____



Rhino Rembrandts – \$475

The artists are Indian and Sumatran rhinos from Cincinnati Zoo and Botanical Garden, USA. Painting is a special activity that has become one of many ways to enrich the rhinos' day. Not only do the paintings enrich the zoo rhinos' lives, they also help their wild cousins with proceeds of painting sales going to Asian rhino conservation.



Rhino Earrings – \$20



Pens – \$4



Coloured Earrings – \$8



Rhino – Animals in Art – \$22
Book by Joanna Skipwith and Silver Jungle



ARP T-shirts – \$20



Magnets – \$2



Stickers – \$2



Wine Cooler – \$20



Drink Bottles – \$7



Thermal Mug (350ml) – \$10



Thermal Mug (750ml) – \$15

Merchandise Order Form

Item	Cost	Colour (please circle)	Quantity	Total
Rhino Rembrandt	\$475	N/A		
Rhino – Animals in Art (Book)	\$22	N/A		
Asian Rhino Project T-shirts	\$20	black white Women's sizes: 10-14 Men's sizes: S-XL		
Coloured Earrings	\$8	yellow (long) red yellow (short) blue black/orange		
Rhino Earrings	\$20	gold silver		
Pen	\$4	red blue green		
Sticker	\$2	N/A		
Magnet	\$2	N/A		
Wine Cooler	\$20	terracotta		
Thermal Mug (350ml)	\$10	purple pink green blue black		
Thermal Mug (750ml)	\$15	green black khaki		
Drink Bottle	\$7	black silver		
SUB-TOTAL				
Add \$7 for postage. If order over \$75, postage is free.				
GRAND TOTAL				

Details and Payment

Please send completed order forms to: Asian Rhino Project, PO Box 163, South Perth, Western Australia, Australia 6951.

Name: _____

Delivery Address: _____

Phone: (H) _____ (W) _____ Email: _____

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Signature: _____ Date: _____