

CITES Update

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"A South African proposal that would have opened the way to future trade in southern white rhinos was defeated. WWF opposed this proposal, given the risks inherent in taking even preliminary steps towards a legalized trade in rhino horn. Yemen's formal accession to CITES was confirmed at the conference bringing to a successful conclusion to a marathon effort by WWF and TRAFFIC to crack down on one of the world's most important remaining rhino horn markets. The challenge now is to ensure that Yemen effectively implements the treaty and stops illegal imports of rhino horn. To that end, WWF and TRAFFIC met with Yemeni government officials at the conference and agreed to assist with a CITES enforcement program."

What's white about a white rhino?

Not a lot. They are the same color as black rhinos. The difference lies in the shape and use of the mouth. The white rhino is really the 'weit' rhino - an African word meaning 'wide'. Unlike the black rhino, which has a beak-shaped lip adapted for browsing, the white rhino's lip is wide and square like a lawnmower, which is basically what it is, since the white rhino's diet consists solely of grass.

White rhinos are the second biggest land mammals after elephants, and they weigh on average twice as much as black rhinos. There is still hope for the Northern white rhino, despite its scarcity. At the beginning of the century, the southern white rhino was itself nearly extinct, but concerted conservation measures have seen rhino numbers rise to 6,300, all in South Africa.



RHINOBUY\$RHINOBUY

Do YOU have a rhino pog? (Do you even know what a pog is?!) I found some on a sale table at PetSm but if there is no such store where you live, try this source: Pacific coast Distributing, Inc. PO Box 846 Phoenix, AZ 85071-4613.

No picture but great name. Blue Rhino 16 function army pocket knife! Found at MacFrugal's and less than \$4. Gotta love it.

When pigs fly? How about when rhinos fly? Now the time to order your flying rhino Christmas ornament from Ken Briscoe. For \$20+ shipping, you can have a beautifully crafted wooden rhino with wings. Write to: Ken Briscoe, 910 N. 10th St, Fairfield, CA 94556.

It's cheap. It's practical. It's a rhino (what else?) Not as wonderful as the rhino shaped mouse pads I have available of course, But still, Rhino Pad II by Artic insulates and prevents build up of harmful static charges (preventing computer extinction??). Available at Office Depot for under \$5.

Christmas is coming. Need extra income? Job available: Lead Keeper/rhinos...requires the minimum of an A.A. or equivalent from two-year college or technical school; three-five years experience in rhinoceros husbandry, particularly reproductive programs and calf management [ed note: see book from Ft. Worth Zoo.] Duties include: supervising and participating in the daily activities of an active conservation program for the maintenance, reproduction and rearing of white and black rhinos, scheduling and supervision of 2-3 keepers, providing guest tours as scheduled. Salary range: \$25,000-\$35,000. For future details, contact White Oak Conservation Center, 2823 Owens Rd, Yulee, FL 32097-2145. Ph: 904.225.3396, e-mail: stevesh@wo.gilman.com

Shed some light on your rhino collection. Now available, a wrought iron rhino lamp for only \$80+ postage. Write to Cochise Ironworks, RR#1, Box 671A Cochise, AZ 85606.

Special orders accepted. (I just ordered a really big rhino statue for my front-lawn!)