

# REALLY, RHINOS!



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**IT FLIES WHEN YOU LOVE RHINOS!** Can you believe it? This is the beginning of my first year publishing Really, Rhinos! Each time I prepare an issue, I still marvel at how much information I have to share with my readers. It's nice to see positive rhino reports increasing. Goodness knows there is still out there, e.g. the article on Samia (=). As you know this year I am making my bid to be top member for Bowling for Rhinos so expect an invitation to donate to the cause sometime this spring. In the time I've been publishing my newsletter, the subscription price has remained the same. Now, however, because of the usual culprits (U.S. Post Office, paper prices, photocopy costs) I am reluctantly going to increase my price as well. With this issue, a year's subscription is \$20 (\$25 foreign). As always, the subscription price goes directly to rhino conservation. I hope you have enjoyed past issues of *Really, Rhinos!* and will continue to participate in our small but ever growing network of rhinophiles. I'm back for another year, how about you? *Judyth*

## WORLD WILDLIFE TO THE RESCUE

[November/December, 1995]

WWF already belong to the World Wildlife Fund. WWF now about their rhino conservation efforts. WWF helps strengthen measures for rhino trade monitoring and conservation at the CITES meeting last year. Specifically they were involved with WWF agreement to enhance law enforcement and cooperation among range and consumer countries WWF such initiatives to reduce the consumption of rhino-based medicines and other products. A WWF study underway by WWF and the Wildlife Conservation Society will provide detailed assessment of the factors underpinning the successes and failures of world rhino conservation initiatives.

WWF police, with the assistance of TRAFFIC\* investigators, arrested the leaders of an international trafficking ring trading rhinoceros horn to markets in the Far East. Two separate raids in June, 1995, yielded rhino horns valued at approximately \$1 million. Investigators were concerned about the quality of the confiscated horn which indicated that it had been taken from very young rhinos.

WWF get another break. the government of Indonesia decided to ban the import of rhino horn. Indonesia, a major consumer of horn for use as ceremonial handles, this is indeed a significant victory. In neighboring Yemen, WWF investigation into rhino horn trade is down due in part to a

viable substitute (agate) which may decrease the market for rhino horn significantly and more importantly, may someday shut down rhino trade in the Middle East.

\*WWF's trade monitoring unit, TRAFFIC is the largest international, nongovernmental program devoted to monitoring and investigating wildlife trade and strengthening legal protection for exploited species.

More from WWF!

[Focus, 19] 1-4, January/February, 1995]



Some of the most critically endangered species live in Asia. For more than 30 years, WWF has worked in almost two dozen countries to save threatened species and their habitat. Until recently, the world's only remaining Javan rhinos were thought to be the 50 or so residing in Java's Ujung Kulon National Park. Although there have to date been no direct sightings, four years ago evidence suggested that as many as a dozen Javan rhinos were living somewhere in Vietnam's Cat Tien National Park. In April 1993, detailed measurements of rhino footprints led scientists to conclude that three of the rhinos were probably less than three years old and that this population although small, was still breeding. To boost the rhinos' chance of survival WWF works with the Vietnamese government to maintain and enlarge existing reserves and to train park managers.