



Photo: Dale Wittner

US Fish and Wildlife Service Forensics Lab Director Ken Goddard displays animal parts seized from the illegal wildlife trade. The remarkable collection of illegal wildlife products at the lab prompted BUZZWORM to create a catalog parody of what poachers would offer if the illegal animal trade were legal. Story page 36.

**NOTES FROM THE FIELD** As controversy swirls between whitewater rafters and anglers battling over water flows, Colorado's Arkansas River is being considered for yet another dam, by Hal Walter. Harvesting mushrooms from old growth forests may reap more money than cutting timber—but is mushrooming more sustainable? by Larry Evans. Learn about the biannual snake migration in Illinois, by Pamela Selbert. BUZZWORM talks with David Brower, one of the world's foremost environmentalists, by Marina Lindsey. In a drastic move to save the world's last rhinos, officials in Zimbabwe are dehorning rhinos, photographs by Michael Gunther. **26**

**ECOFEATURE**  
**WAR WITHIN** Who's protecting America's wildlife? The Division of Law Enforcement of the US Fish and Wildlife Service is underfunded, understaffed and politically stifled. Is there any hope for controlling the illegal wildlife trade? Plus, BUZZWORM presents a parody: *The Illegal Wildlife Trader* catalog. By Jessica Speart **36**

EDWARD ABBEY AWARD FOR **ECOFICTION**  
**NATURAL ENEMIES** Author Sara Cameron is this year's winner of the Edward Abbey Award for EcoFiction. BUZZWORM Magazine proudly presents an excerpt from *Natural Enemies*, Cameron's fast-paced tale of endangered elephants, the ivory trade and international intrigue. **45**

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Captain Planet Board Game. Story page 88.

On the cover: "Ahmed," one of the last great bull elephants to roam the eastern plains of Africa. His tusks weighed 148 pounds each. In the late 1970s he was declared a national treasure by the government of Kenya. He died of old age; his body is displayed at the Museum of Kenya. In this issue, BUZZWORM responds to the decline in elephants with two stories: *The War Within*, and an excerpt from *Natural Enemies*, the winner of our Edward Abbey Award for EcoFiction. Photo: Peter Beard



# Dehorning Rhinos

Photos by Michael Gunther/World Wide Fund for Nature

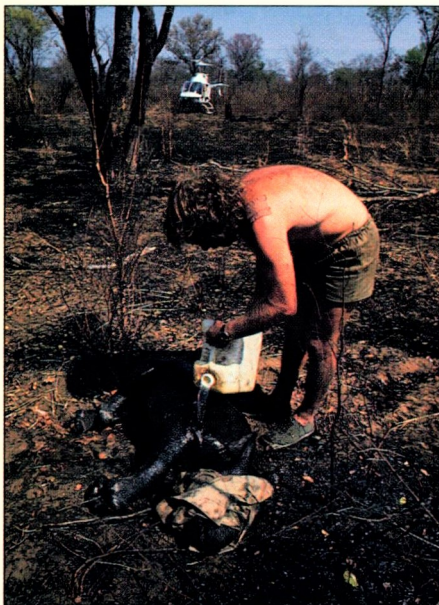
In an attempt to save some of the world's remaining 2,000 black rhinos, the World Wide Fund for Nature (formerly World Wildlife Fund) is involved in a program to dehorn the last 400 black rhinos remaining in Zimbabwe. Officials in Zimbabwe estimate that poachers killed about 1,600 of the country's black rhinos in the past year.

The dehorning initiative began as a trial run in Namibia in 1988, when 20 to 30 of Namibia's 200 rhinos were dehorned. The government of Zimbabwe deemed the project successful and began dehorning their black rhinos in March 1992. About 200 Zimbabwe rhinos have since been dehorned. Once the rhinos are dehorned, they are moved from the Zambezi valley to breeding sanctuaries where they are more easily monitored.

An estimated 11 to 13 dehorned rhinos have been poached in Zimbabwe for the remainder of the horn stumps. However, most view the project as a successful form of crisis management. Dehorning a rhino costs \$1,000; the horns sell for \$12,000 on the black market. The horn grows back in one to two years. Officials hope that dehorning will deter poachers long enough to increase the dwindling population while other anti-poaching efforts, such as translocation, intensive guarding and research to end the use of horn, are strengthened. 📡



Trackers select an animal and tranquilize it with a dart fired from a helicopter (top). After treating the animal with anesthetics (left), workers saw off the two horns (a smaller one lies behind the main horn).



Pouring water on a young calf keeps it from getting dehydrated (above). Horn stumps are painted with tar to protect against infection before the rhino is released (right). The whole procedure takes less than 30 minutes.

