



INTERNATIONAL
RHINO
FOUNDATION



2023
IMPACT REPORT



IMAGE COURTESY OF THE INDONESIAN MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTRY

2023 HIGHLIGHTS

2 CALVES BORN AT THE SUMATRAN RHINO SANCTUARY, NOW TOTALING 10 RHINO RESIDENTS



White rhino numbers increased for the 1st time since 2012 - in one year **white rhino populations across Africa grew 5.6% to an estimated total of 16,803.**



Zero reported rhino poaching losses in Zimbabwe's Lowveld Region for 1st time in over 20 years and the country's highest rhino population in 30+ years.



2,000 white rhinos from "World's Largest Rhino Farm" were acquired by African Parks to be rewilded throughout Africa over the next 10 years.



95% of IRF's funding went directly to rhino conservation programs throughout Africa and Asia.

COVER PHOTO COURTESY OF THE INDONESIAN MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTRY



IRF and the IUCN's African Rhino Specialist Group established the Rhino Range Expansion Fund to support essential needs for black and white rhino population management.



Thanks to an IRF-supported wildlife corridor, **at least 3 rhinos returned to India's Laokhowa Burhachapori Wildlife Sanctuaries for the 1st time in 40 years.**

IRF DISTRIBUTED:

31
CONSERVATION
GRANTS

3
RHINO RANGE EXPANSION
FUND GRANTS

9
RESEARCH
GRANTS



IRF participated in the 3rd Asian Rhino Range Countries Meeting in Chitwan National Park, Nepal.



Education for Nature Vietnam, a longtime IRF partner, intervened for stricter sentencing in **5 rhino horn cases resulting in a combined 34 years of prison sentences for convicted criminals.**

VISION

A world where rhinos thrive in the wild.

MISSION

To ensure the survival of rhinos through strategic partnerships, targeted protection, and scientifically sound interventions.

HOW WE WORK

IRF is a funder and implementer of rhino conservation through in-country partners and staff. Our role is to amplify those working in rhino conservation and those living alongside rhinos by capacity sharing and skill building to enhance the impact of conservation programs in rhino range states.

IRF's Pillars

IRF's Pillars are our overarching focal areas that will enable us to move closer to accomplishing our mission.



Saving Rhinos

- **Protection:** Protect rhinos from poaching through a comprehensive, multi-layered approach that includes funding, technology, skills training and ranger support, as well as collaboration with law enforcement agencies and community stakeholders.
- **Demand Reduction:** Support techniques to reduce the demand for rhino horn and maximize penalties for its illegal possession and use.
- **Trafficking Disruption:** Disrupt wildlife trafficking networks by supporting research and analysis, intelligence gathering, investigations and wildlife crime prosecutions.
- **Population Management:** Increase and maintain healthy rhino populations at levels that can be sustained within each ecosystem in adequately secure areas of their historic range.



Engaging People

- **Connecting People for Conservation Action:** Unite and engage diverse audiences in meaningful conservation actions to protect rhinos and their habitats.
- **Community Development:** Partner with communities to create conservation awareness and sustainable natural resource management programs that ensure those who live alongside rhinos benefit from and support rhino conservation efforts.
- **Capacity Building:** Support, expand and share technical capacity to achieve locally-led, sustainable rhino conservation in Africa and Asia.
- **Advocacy to Support & Encourage Government Action:** Encourage and support government action for rhino conservation by helping to guide local, national, regional and international conservation policies and plans.
- **Organizational Health and Effectiveness:** Maintain The International Rhino Foundation's administrative, governance and financial robustness in order to unite around our shared vision and maximize results.



Protecting Habitats

- **Rhino Habitat Protection:** Protect the habitats that rhinos depend on to ensure the long-term survival of all five rhino species.
- **Rhino Habitat Expansion:** Expand small, isolated rhino habitats by building large, connected areas where rhino populations can grow and thrive and reintroduce rhinos into habitats from which they have been extirpated.
- **Rhino Habitat Restoration:** Recover degraded rhino habitats to recreate a functioning ecosystem for rhinos, other wildlife and people to benefit from.

Together, the International Rhino Foundation, our partners around the world and our growing network of supporters made a significant difference for rhinos in 2023. We are pleased to share some of the biggest news in rhino conservation, and the greatest achievements we made together in our 2023 Impact Report.

Poaching remains the most concerning threat to rhino populations in every corner of the globe. In 2023, one of IRF's on-the-ground partners discovered a poached rhino in Ujung Kulon National Park - the first evidence of Javan rhino poaching discovered in Indonesia in two decades. We are still learning the extent of the poaching activity - statements from individuals arrested for the crime included claims that as many as 26 Javan rhinos were poached between 2019 and 2023, a devastating and shocking number. If true, this could be as many as a third of the entire Javan rhino population. Thanks to a strong response by the Government of Indonesia, the investigation has led to the dismantling of several poaching groups, the arrest of several suspects and, in the first case to be tried as of this writing, one poacher convicted who received a 12-year prison sentence - a record for wildlife crime in Indonesia. This is a major setback for Javan rhinos, but we remain steadfast in our commitment to protecting this imperiled species while the population recovers. The rhinos know what to do - there has been at least one known calf born every year for the past 13 years in Ujung Kulon National Park, despite the poaching pressure.

Indonesia's Sumatran rhinos had a historic year, with two births at the Sumatran Rhino Sanctuary. One calf, born to established breeders Ratu and Andalas, and the other from a newly established breeding pair, Delilah (who herself was born at the SRS in 2016) and Harapan. These special births give us tremendous hope for the future of this species and is a sign that we can save even the most imperiled wildlife if we are determined and resolute.

There was also good news for rhinos in Africa, with black rhino numbers increasing to almost 6,500, and the first population increase for white rhinos in a decade. An auction of 2,000 privately-owned white rhinos resulted in an enormous conservation opportunity, led by African Parks, to create and restore wild populations across the continent. IRF's partners in Zimbabwe report that there were zero rhinos poached in Bubby Valley Conservancy (BVC), where a key population of black rhino lives. This is a welcome reprieve from 2019, when BVC lost 55 rhinos - 20% of their population at the time - to poaching.

This year, IRF developed our 2024-2027 Strategic Plan, focusing on three key pillars that embody our work to ensure the survival of the world's rhinos: Saving Rhinos, Engaging People and Protecting Habitats. While we are a U.S.-based organization, our work is focused in rhino range countries to save rhinos, protect their habitats and engage the people who have the desire to be the greatest rhino allies. Complex threats, like poaching, require a multifaceted solution and we believe our work under these three pillars is the most comprehensive, impactful strategy to address the direct and indirect threats rhinos face.

From Africa to Asia, every rhino species has a unique set of conservation challenges based on the environmental, socioeconomic and political realities of the province and country they reside in. IRF works closely with our in-country partners to ensure our strategy for each species appropriately reflects these realities, the best available science and the resources available. We are also the common thread between many organizations, individuals and government agencies throughout the world who share our vision to see rhinos thrive in the wild. With your help, we are able to support and amplify the work done to protect the world's most critical rhino populations. Your support makes a tremendous impact for rhinos every day, and for that we thank you.

Sincerely,



JOHN LUKAS
President

John Lukas



NINA FASCIONE
Executive Director

Nina Fascione

STATE OF THE RHINO



WHITE RHINO

Ceratotherium simum

NEAR THREATENED

16,803

POPULATION DECREASING

LOCATED IN: SOUTH AFRICA, NAMIBIA, KENYA, ZIMBABWE, ZAMBIA, BOTSWANA, ESWATINI, MOZAMBIQUE



BLACK RHINO

Diceros bicornis

CRITICALLY ENDANGERED

6,487

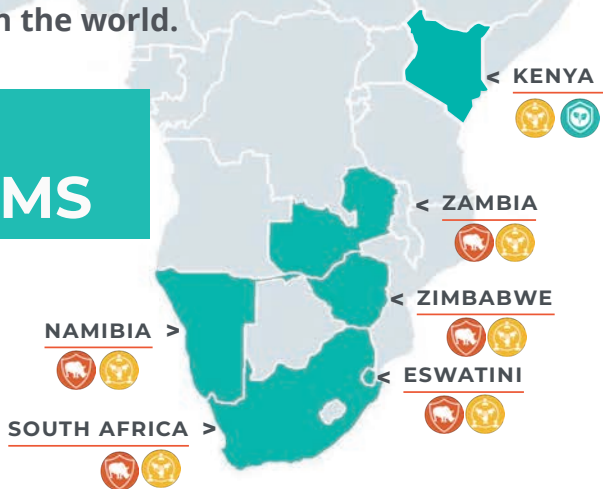
POPULATION INCREASING

LOCATED IN: NAMIBIA, SOUTH AFRICA, KENYA, ZIMBABWE, TANZANIA, ZAMBIA, BOTSWANA, MALAWI, ESWATINI, RWANDA, MOZAMBIQUE, CHAD

In 2023 we saw a continued shift in poaching patterns. In Africa, at least 566 rhinos were poached as poaching syndicates targeted smaller or less protected areas. After recording no rhino poaching incidents in 2022, India suffered two poaching losses in 2023. And Indonesia's Ujung Kulon National Park, home to the world's only population of Javan rhinos, saw an alarming increase in incursion attempts and confirmed rhino poaching for the first time in decades. Despite these tragic losses, updated estimates of black and white rhino populations.

There are now just over **27,000 rhinos left in the world.**

2023 PROGRAMS



GREATER ONE-HORNED RHINO

Rhinoceros unicornis

VULNERABLE

4,014

POPULATION INCREASING

LOCATED IN: INDIA, NEPAL, BHUTAN



JAVAN RHINO

Rhinoceros sondaicus

CRITICALLY ENDANGERED

UNKNOWN*

POPULATION STABLE

LOCATED IN: INDONESIA



SUMATRAN RHINO

Dicerorhinus sumatrensis

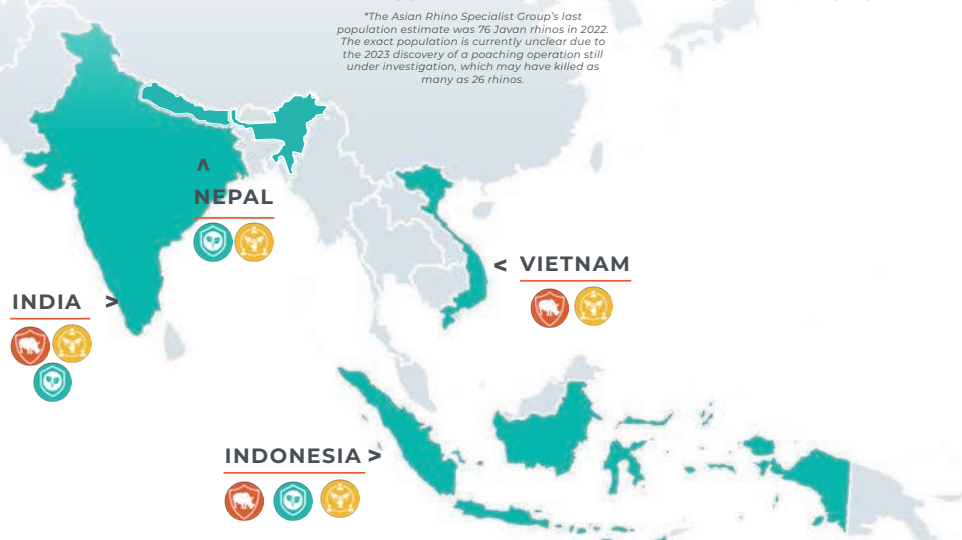
CRITICALLY ENDANGERED

34-47

POPULATION DECREASING

LOCATED IN: INDONESIA

*The Asian Rhino Specialist Group's last population estimate was 76 Javan rhinos in 2022. The exact population is currently unclear due to the 2023 discovery of a poaching operation still under investigation, which may have killed as many as 26 rhinos.



IRF FOCUSES PROGRAM SUPPORT IN THREE KEY PILLARS:



SAVING RHINOS



ENGAGING PEOPLE



PROTECTING HABITATS

2023 PROGRAM UPDATES

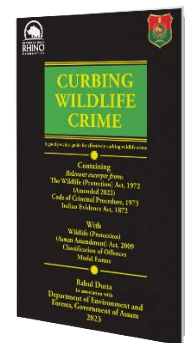
HIGHLIGHTS FROM IRF PROGRAMS AND IRF-SUPPORTED PROJECTS AROUND THE WORLD

SPECIES: GREATER ONE-HORNED RHINOS

REGION: INDIA & NEPAL



460-PAGE WILDLIFE CRIME INVESTIGATION MANUAL PUBLISHED TO HELP RHINOS IN INDIA



This manual, created by the International Rhino Foundation's Intelligence Specialist, Rahul Dutta, was created for authorities in India to better understand and apply local laws when collecting evidence related to wildlife crimes. The manual aims to ensure any evidence collected is admissible in court and cannot be dismissed on procedural technicalities.



PHOTO: NATIONAL TRUST FOR NATURE CONSERVATION

60 COMMUNITY MEMBERS ENGAGED IN RHINO HABITAT WORK IN NEPAL

With support from IRF, National Trust for Nature Conservation (NTNC) is restoring and managing habitat for the world's second largest greater one-horned rhino population, found in Nepal's Chitwan National Park. NTNC currently manages 300 hectares of formerly degraded grasslands with the help of local community members living closest to the Park. Prioritizing the participation of marginalized groups, particularly women, creates opportunities for extra income as well as a lasting connection between people and their local ecosystems.



RHINOS RETURNED TO LAOKHOWA-BURHACHAPORI WILDLIFE SANCTUARIES FOR THE 1ST TIME IN 40 YEARS!

In December, 2023, two rhinos moved themselves from Orang National Park to Laokhowa-Burhachapori Wildlife Sanctuaries by using a newly established wildlife corridor created just for this purpose. The rhinos have remained in this new habitat, closely monitored by forest guards, and will be joined by more rhinos naturally and with wild-to-wild translocations from other areas. Increasing the protected habitat available to greater one-horned rhinos enhances gene flow between sub-populations, building an even larger and healthier species population. The corridor benefits all nearby wildlife, including endangered Bengal tigers which have been spotted using it as well.



PHOTO: AARANYAK

2 SQUARE KILOMETERS OF RHINO GRASSLAND HABITAT RESTORED IN MANAS NATIONAL PARK

Grassland management is critical for the greater one-horned rhino population to continue to grow. In India's Manas National Park, invasive plant species are hand-pulled and native woody trees, like *Bombax ceiba*, are girdled to prevent them from getting too large and shrinking the grassland habitat. More than 150 daily wages were provided to local community members to help with the habitat work, girdling 413 *Bombax* trees.



PHOTO: AARANYAK

68 FOREST OFFICERS RECEIVED SPECIALIZED WILDLIFE CRIME INVESTIGATION TRAINING

Hands-on wildlife crime training for new and experienced Forest Officers is in high demand throughout India. Led by IRF staff, these three-day interactive workshops on wildlife law, crime scene investigation, evidence collection and case preparation, are designed to lead to more successful prosecutions. With the recruitment of female forest officers increasing in India, 17 new female recruits received this specialized training in 2023.

2023 PROGRAM UPDATES

HIGHLIGHTS FROM IRF PROGRAMS AND IRF-SUPPORTED PROJECTS AROUND THE WORLD

SPECIES:

JAVAN & SUMATRAN RHINOS

MEET THE SUMATRAN RHINO SANCTUARY'S 2 NEWEST RHINOS

IRF PARTNER, YAYASAN BADAK INDONESIA (YABI) MANAGES THE SUMATRAN RHINO SANCTUARY IN WAY KAMBAS NATIONAL PARK

INDRA



- Indra, a male, was born on November 25, 2023 - at least 10 days earlier than expected. 1st-time mom Delilah gave birth without any human assistance.
- This was also the 1st successful breeding for father Harapan, who was born at the Cincinnati Zoo and Botanical Gardens in 2007.
- Delilah and Harapan are the third successful breeding pair at the SRS, joining Ratu & Andalas and last year's first-time parents, Rosa and Andatu.
- In addition to having the shortest recorded gestation, Delilah is also now the youngest Sumatran rhino to give birth in the breeding program.

ANGGI



- Anggi, a female, was born on September 30, 2023.
- This is the 3rd calf for parents Ratu and Andalas. Their first two calves were Andatu, born in 2012, and Delilah, born in 2016.
- Only 1 other captive pair of Sumatran rhinos have had at least 3 calves together - Andalas's parents Emi and Ipuh, at the Cincinnati Zoo and Botanical Gardens.

IRF FUNDED 4 WILDLIFE PROTECTION TEAMS (WPTS) IN SUMATRA'S LEUSER ECOSYSTEM

Forum Konservasi Leuser (FKL) managed 38 WPTs in 2023 to protect one of the last remaining habitats of wild Sumatran rhinos. Each WPT consists of 4 highly skilled FKL rangers and 1 government ranger personnel from the Integrated Forest Management Unit (KPH) authority.

REGION:

INDONESIA



13 WOMEN FROM 2 VILLAGES SURROUNDING WAY KAMBAS NATIONAL PARK LEARN 'ECO-PRINTING' AS A LIVELIHOOD CRAFT

Eco-printing is a fabric-dyeing process that uses artistically arranged flowers and leaves to create naturally printed fabrics. A two-day training workshop hosted by IRF partner, Indonesian Rhino Initiative, aims to help generate a revenue source for the community while creating incentives for forest restoration and protection within Way Kambas National Park, home to numerous endangered species.



3 REFORESTATION SITES GROWING IN WAY KAMBAS NATIONAL PARK

- 41 University of Lampung students conducted environmental research in Site One, Rawa Bunder.
- 20,000th seedling milestone surpassed at Site Two, Rawa Kidang. From 2019 to 2023, a total of 21,870 seedlings have been planted at this site with an 83% survival rate.
- 75 members of the Wana Bhakti farmers group assist with growing and planting seedlings, maintaining and preserving the restoration area in nearby Site Three, Simpang Rusa.

SIGNIFICANT ARREST MADE IN INDONESIA'S 1ST SUSPECTED JAVAN RHINO POACHING CASE IN DECADES

Camera traps installed to monitor the Javan rhino population in Ujung Kulon National Park caught evidence of a suspect* illegally in the Park carrying a firearm. This evidence helped lead to his subsequent arrest in November 2023.

**As of June 2024, the poacher was tried and convicted of illegally killing Javan rhinos, receiving a 12-year prison sentence. During his trial he testified to killing six Javan rhinos with his gang and selling their horns from 2019-2023. As of this writing, 14 more suspects related to this case have been arrested.*

A major investigation and response was launched by the National Park authorities, local police and national military to better secure the Javan rhino's only remaining habitat. IRF will continue supporting the Park and local implementing agencies in their efforts to improve security and investigate wildlife crime networks.



1 NEW JAVAN RHINO CALF MARKS 12TH YEAR IN A ROW FOR BIRTHS IN UJUNG KULON NATIONAL PARK

With all the world's Javan rhinos living in one location, the species is extremely susceptible to threats including potential inbreeding depression, natural disasters, disease and poaching. Despite these threats, Javan rhinos continue to breed successfully and at least one new calf has been recorded every year since 2012.



2023 PROGRAM UPDATES

HIGHLIGHTS FROM IRF PROGRAMS AND IRF-SUPPORTED PROJECTS AROUND THE WORLD

SPECIES:

BLACK & WHITE RHINOS

REGION:
**SOUTHERN
AFRICA**



Photo: Save the Rhino Trust

7 NEW CONSERVATION JOBS CREATED IN NAMIBIA'S NYAE NYAE CONSERVANCY TO PROTECT BLACK RHINOS

Nyae Nyae Conservancy is home around 2,000 inhabitants who are mainly of the Ju|'hoansi ethnic group. This group is regarded as one of the most economically marginalized groups in Namibia. The creation of long-term conservation jobs for the Ju|'hoansi people, like Community Rhino Ranger jobs, will provide much-needed cash injections into their local economy.



IRF SUPPORTED 13 RANGER SALARIES IN ESWATINI'S BIG GAME PARKS (BGP)

Eswatini is a small landlocked country surrounded by some of the world's most active rhino poaching hotspots. Thanks to the dedicated work of BGP, there have been zero rhinos poached and no known poaching incursions in this important rhino population since 2017. Each BGP ranger supports an average of 7 family members, so 91 people were impacted directly by our support.



HONORING SIABUWA'S LEGACY - WHY EVERY RHINO COUNTS



Photo: Lowveld Rhino Trust (LRT)

Siabuwa recuperating from a gunshot wound Buby Valley Conservancy in 2009

Sadly, 39-year-old black rhino cow Siabuwa passed away last year from natural causes in Buby Valley. Siabuwa was one of the original Lowveld population founders, translocated to safety from the intense poaching in Zambezi Valley in 1992.

Thanks to the monitoring and care provided by LRT over her lifetime, Siabuwa survived being shot by poachers, went on to have 10 calves and lived to be one of the oldest rhinos in Zimbabwe. Her calves have produced 29 calves to date, and those calves have since produced 11 more. At least 50 BVC black rhinos - so far - can be traced back to Siabuwa. In 2021, her daughter Siashialaba was one of the rhinos translocated to establish a new population in Zimbabwe's Gonarezhou National Park.

Siabuwa's lineage - and legacy - will live on throughout Zimbabwe for generations to come.



18 BLACK AND 7 WHITE RHINO CALVES BORN IN ZIMBABWE'S BUBYE VALLEY CONSERVANCY

The Lowveld Rhino Trust (LRT) concentrates on rhino monitoring and management interventions in Buby Valley Conservancy (BVC). With zero poaching incidents in 2023, BVC now has 226 black rhinos and 68 white rhinos making BVC the second largest contiguous black rhino population in the world! LRT conducted two routine management operations in BVC immobilizing 48 rhinos in 2023 and no emergency rhino interventions were required.



Photo: Stop Rhino Poaching

471 RANGERS AND MANAGERS FROM 46 RESERVES RECEIVED LEGAL TRAINING

IRF's core partner in South Africa, Stop Rhino Poaching, completed its third year of highly-requested Basic Legal Training workshops for rangers and reserve managers. This training aims to contribute to technicality-free arrests and convictions of rhino poachers to prevent them from returning to their crimes. Past participants have called it "the most important training" they have ever received.



2023 RHINO RESEARCH GRANTS

Undertaking both applied and basic research on wild rhino populations, as well as those in captive breeding programs, is an essential aspect of rhino conservation. The International Rhino Foundation (IRF), the only organization to provide funding strictly for rhino research, distributed nearly \$300,000 in 2023 to fund nine worthy rhino studies. These grants targeted key areas that address some of the greatest challenges those working to conserve rhinos face in maintaining healthy, self-sustaining populations that will survive well into the future. Below is a summary of this round of grants, broken down by research area.

Development of Standardized and Consistent Reporting Mechanisms and Methodologies for Confirming Sumatran and Javan Rhino Species Population Sizes and their Dynamics

- Investigating the Genetic Profile of Javan Rhino Population in Ujung Kulon National Park.

Determination of the Conservation Value of Different Rhino Populations

- Genetic Diversity in Southern White Rhino (SWR) from the Munyawana Conservancy, and Optimal Composition of Founder Populations Established from this Resource.
- Examination of Parentage Among Black Rhinoceros to Inform Future Management Within Zimbabwe.
- Applied Conservation Research for Metapopulation Management Approaches of the Critically Endangered Black Rhino (*Diceros bicornis minor*) in South Africa.

Investigation of Critical Factors Affecting Health, Well-being and Reproduction, *ex situ*

- Proteome and Methylome Analyses of Peripheral Blood Mononuclear Cells for Assessing Immune Health in the Critically Endangered Black Rhinoceros (*Diceros bicornis*).
- Investigating the Genetic Profile of Captive Sumatran Rhino in Sumatran Rhino Sanctuary in Way Kambas generated by Whole Mitochondrion Sequencing to Support National Breeding Program and *In-Situ* Management.

Methods to Improve Rhino Population Monitoring and/or Tracking

- Further Developing Rhino Horn Pods for Improved Cost-effective Monitoring and Research of Dehorned Rhinos in the Munyawana Conservancy.

Technical Assessments to Inform Metapopulation Management

- Strengthening Management for the World's Largest Meta-population of Black Rhinos
- Establishing an Individual Genetic Value for Black and White Rhinoceros From Existing Genotyping Data to Support the Genetic Management of *In-Situ* Populations.



WHAT FOOTPRINTS WILL YOU LEAVE BEHIND?

Rhinos have walked the earth for more than 50 million years, and by including the International Rhino Foundation (IRF) in your will or other estate plans you will help ensure these magnificent animals survive for generations to come.

Contact the Planned Giving Team at the International Rhino Foundation at donate@rhinos.org to discuss your giving options.



SPOTLIGHT ISSUE

A BRIGHTER FUTURE FOR 2,000 RHINOS AND BEYOND

In 2023, the world waited and watched eagerly as the fate of 2,000 southern white rhinos was decided. After years of financial uncertainty, owner and founder of Platinum Rhino, John Hume, put the world's largest captive rhino breeding operation up for auction. Hume controversially bred hundreds of rhinos per year and harvested their horns, gambling that one day international horn trade would be legal and he would be able to sell their horns to cover their costs and make a sizable profit.

Without a way to legally sell rhino horn, the self-reported operating costs of \$9,800 dollars per day was increasingly unsustainable, so Hume announced that he would sell his 21,000-acre property and all of his rhinos to the highest bidder in an online auction in May 2023. Behind the scenes, IRF and the entire rhino conservation community sprang into action to determine what could be done to

prevent these rhinos - almost 15% of global white rhino population - from falling into the wrong hands. Many agreed that the best course of action was to persuade Hume to seek a rewilding option for the benefit of his rhinos and the species as a whole, instead of seeking the highest bid from someone who may not have rhinos' best interest in mind. The online auction came and went without any bids, which created an opening for a positive conservation outcome.

After months of uncertainty, encouraging news came in September, 2023 - that Hume had agreed to sell his land and his rhinos to African Parks so that they could return them to the wild. African Parks is a long-standing nonprofit conservation organization that manages 22 reserves across 12 African countries, making them ideal to lead this ambitious rewilding initiative.

ANY INTERNATIONAL TRADE OF RHINO HORN IS ILLEGAL

The Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) regulates the international trade of plants and animals and their parts, including rhino horn. Over the years, several member countries have proposed creating an international regulated trade system for rhino horn. These proposals have been consistently rejected by CITES due to the detrimental effect it could have on global rhino conservation by potentially increasing the demand for rhino horn, as well as creating confusion for law enforcement and legal loopholes for poached and trafficked rhino horn. No one knows for sure, but a legalized trade in rhino horn has the potential to greatly increase rhino poaching - and could wipe out entire species - so many rhino conservationists oppose it.

Formally known as "Rhino Rewild," African Parks will manage and protect the rhinos in their current location while strategically translocating 300 of them per year over the next 10 years. Some of the rhinos will be added to established populations, increasing genetic diversity, and some will create new populations, renewing ecosystems where rhinos once roamed.

While African Parks is uniquely fit to lead this initiative due to their experience and access to rhino appropriate landscapes across the continent, no one organization can do this alone. It will take active collaboration and planning with national and regional governments, private reserves, and rhino conservation organizations, like the International Rhino Foundation, to pull off one of the great rhino conservation success stories in human history, and African Parks welcomes that partnership.

IRF'S RHINO RANGE EXPANSION FUND

IRF believes that effective rhino conservation in Africa has mostly been achieved in larger areas where rhino populations can be built up and sustained at over 50 rhinos, under private management or under long-term co-management arrangements between private and state or provincial agencies. Strong collaboration and coordination with neighboring reserves is also key for successfully addressing security threats. Successful examples of large private or co-managed rhino conservation programs include private sanctuaries in Kenya, several African Parks projects, North Luangwa National Park in Zambia, larger South African private reserves, and the Lowveld Conservancies and Gonarezhou National Park in Zimbabwe.

IRF is supporting critical rhino populations and sites to help build additional large, successful and holistic conservation programs, like those

listed above, by providing specialized technical support to address regional rhino conservation priorities. In early 2023, we launched our new Rhino Range Expansion Fund, in partnership with the IUCN/SSC African Rhino Specialist Group, to fund technical support, assessments and feasibility studies for rhino conservation needs, with a focus on restocking and reintroduction assessments.

In 2023, we funded three projects:

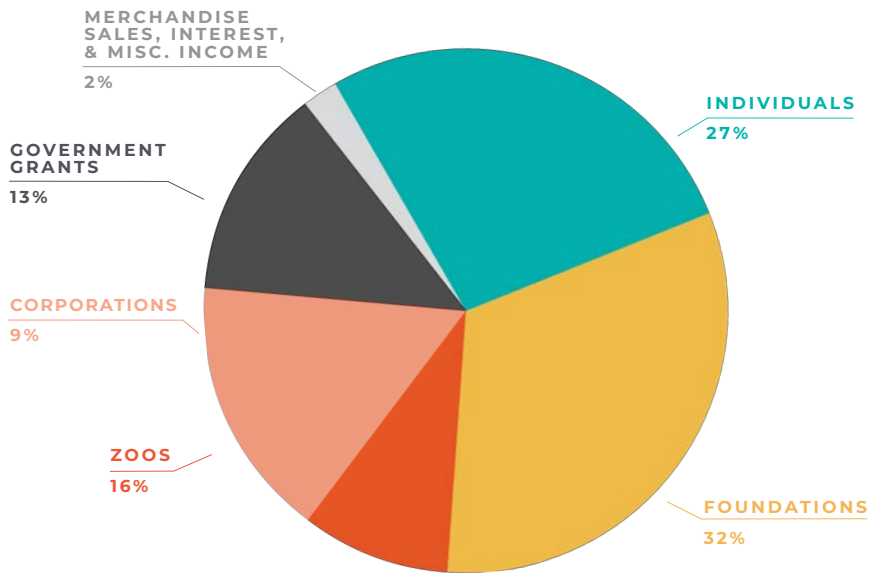
- An independent feasibility assessment for restocking black rhinos in Nsumbu National Park in Zambia (awarded to Frankfurt Zoological Society, Zambia)
- Development of a model for assessing habitats and ecological carrying capacity of rhino reserves in Kenya to aid in meta-population management (awarded to the Wildlife Research and Training Institute, Kenya).
- Development of a national rhino metapopulation plan for Zimbabwe (awarded to the Lowveld Rhino Trust, Zimbabwe).

The need for IRF's Rhino Range Expansion Fund grew significantly in 2023, thanks to African Parks' Rhino Rewild project and Kenya's ambitious plan to significantly increase rhino range in the Laikipia and Tsavo regions. IRF is working with with multiple private reserves in South Africa, our partners in Zimbabwe, Kenyan authorities and with African Parks to identify our strategic role with their range expansion and rewilding plans.

THE FINANCIALS

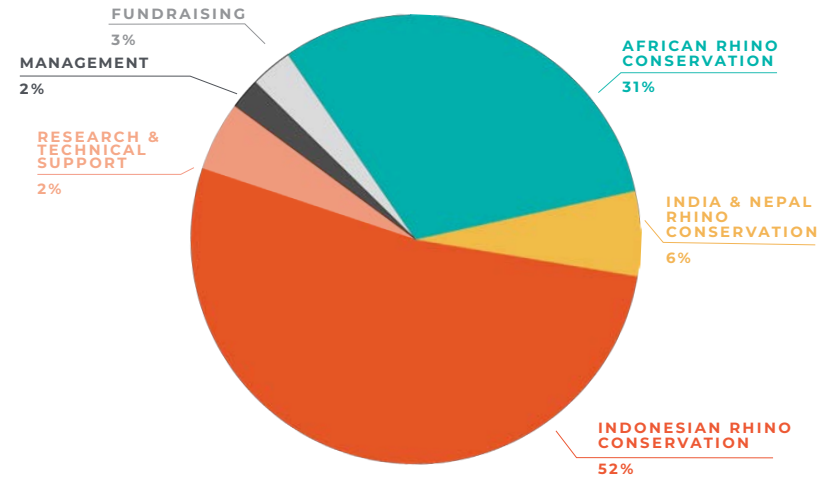
2023 REVENUE

INDIVIDUALS	\$1,107,517
FOUNDATIONS	\$1,321,100
CORPORATIONS	\$372,922
ZOOS	\$667,386
GOVERNMENT GRANTS	\$526,909
TOTAL CONTRIBUTIONS	\$3,995,834
MERCHANDISE SALES, NET	\$10,398
INTEREST & MISC. INCOME	\$96,699
TOTAL REVENUE	\$4,102,931



2023 EXPENSES

AFRICAN RHINO CONSERVATION	\$1,528,845
INDIA & NEPAL RHINO CONSERVATION	\$310,933
INDONESIAN RHINO CONSERVATION	\$2,524,256
RESEARCH & TECHNICAL SUPPORT	\$253,496
TOTAL PROGRAM EXPENSES	\$4,617,530
MANAGEMENT	\$108,825
FUNDRAISING	\$138,963
TOTAL ANNUAL EXPENSES	\$4,865,318



For over three decades, IRF has strived to keep our operational costs low to maximize funding to conservation programs around the world. **In 2023, 95% of IRF's spending went directly to rhino conservation programs!**



TEAM RHINO SPOTLIGHT: RHINORY AND MONTEREY ZOO

Corporate and zoo partners are vital to the success of the International Rhino Foundation's rhino conservation efforts.

In 2023, the Rhinory, an IRF corporate partner based in Texas, and the Monterey Zoo, a zoo partner based in California, independently hosted fundraising events to support our conservation programs. The events brought together more than 150 dedicated rhino supporters to hear from IRF's Indonesia Program Director, Sectionov (Inov). Inov shared stories about the challenges of protecting Javan and Sumatran rhinos and how IRF is working with local partners to ensure these species do not go extinct.

Cumulatively, the events raised more than \$185,000 for rhino conservation – funds that are vital to ensure our rhino protection efforts continue.

We are so grateful to the Rhinory and Monterey Zoo for their dedication to rhinos!

If you or your organization would like to host an event for IRF, please contact m.parker@rhinos.org.



THANK YOU TO OUR DONORS

DEFENDERS \$100,000 +

American Association of Zookeepers - Bowling for Rhinos
Aqualia International Foundation, Ltd
Elinor P. Baker Trust
Lee and Ramona Bass Foundation
Daniel Maltz
Monterey Zoo
re:wild
Rhinory
Save the Rhino International
Seadream Family Foundation
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
The Walt Disney Company
Wildlife Conservation Network

RANGERS \$24,999 - \$99,999

African Rhino Protection Initiative	The Shared Earth Foundation
Anna Merz Rhino Trust	Karen R. Sollins and John Wroclawski
Anonymous	Taronga Conservation Society
Asia Wild	Australia
Cincinnati Zoo & Botanical Gardens	Utah's Hogle Zoo
Ferrellgas, L.P. d/b/a Blue Rhino	Wilderness Safaris Wildlife Trust
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