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SEBAKWE NEWS

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Rhino Poaching in the Midlands

On the second day of our recent visit, whilst the rhino darting exercise was being carried out in the Midlands Conservancy, a juvenile male rhino was shot and killed by poachers who hacked off both the horns.

Chris Foggin, the vet, carried out a post mortem and with the help of a metal detector found three bullets from an AK47 in the chest cavity – death had been due to multiple injuries and haemorrhage around the heart.

The local Police and National Parks were notified and we immediately offered a reward of 10 Million Zimbabwe dollars for information leading to an arrest and conviction of the poacher.



Three further cases of rhino killed by poachers were found by the tracking teams – they were killed by AK47 bullets and the horns had been taken. This brings the number of rhino killed by poachers in the Conservancy in the last 12 months to a total of eight.

The killing of these rhino by poachers is very distressing and deeply upsetting to all concerned. The Conservancy is increasing its security and strong efforts are being made to catch the poachers and bring them to justice.