



MALAYSIAN RHINO FOUNDATION
(5 4 0 7 9 2 - X)



Rhinos are part of Malaysia's Heritage. Our country has twin towers. Our country used to have two species of rhino. Unfortunately the Javan rhino that formerly existed in Peninsula Malaysia became extinct in 1932. The Sumatran rhino survives in Malaysia, both in Peninsula and in Sabah, but is critically endangered. (IUCN-World Conversation Union Red List of Endangered Species).

Malaysia may be the Sumatran rhino's best hope for survival but only if Malaysians care and act.

The Malaysian Rhino Foundation was established to help conserve the rhinoceroses indigenous to Malaysia. For now, the goal is to prevent the extinction of the Sumatran rhino. In the future, MRF would like to assist the reintroduction of the Javan rhino.

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The founders of MRF represent dedicated individual from several government and non-governmental agencies. With collective experience of almost one hundred years, they have an abiding interest in rhino conservation. Serious efforts to conserve the rhinos have been in effect for more than fifteen years by both Wildlife Departments and NGOs. With the involvement of scientists and experts, new hope has emerged. But enormous resources are required, more than government has been able to provide to date. The main purpose of the Foundation is to help recruit adequate financial support and other assistance from all sources, both locally and abroad. Currently MRF is supported by a number of NGOs notably the International Rhino Foundation (IRF). However, if the rhino is to survive, more support from Malaysia itself is needed.

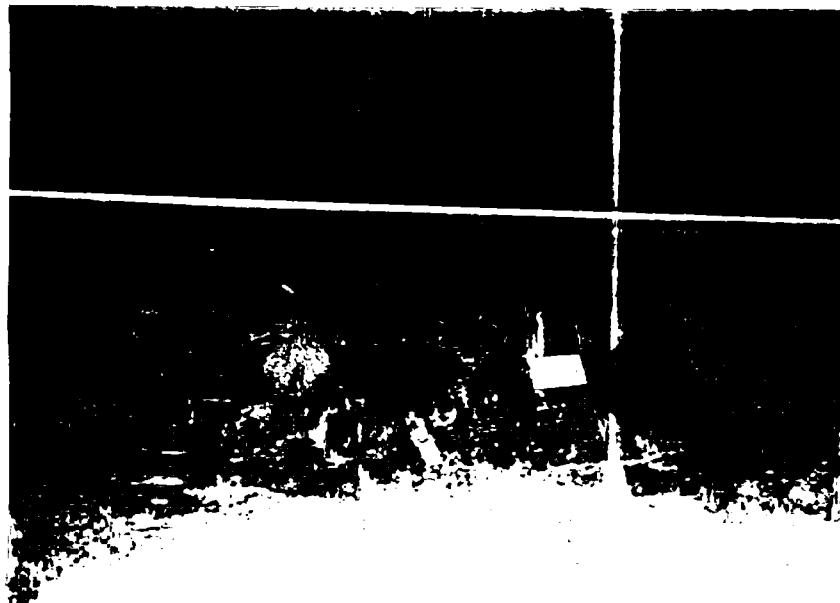
The current programs sponsored by MRF and the urgent need for local support are highlighted in this brochure.

Malaysia is estimated to have approximately 150 rhinos surviving in the wild : about 100 in Peninsula and 50 in Sabah. There are less than half a dozen viable populations. The precarious situation requires preservation of every single rhino.

Poaching is the main reason that the rhino is on the brink of extinction. The rhino is killed mainly for its horn in the most inhuman and brutal manner. The use of steel wire snares, poison and other cruel traps have caused heavy mortalities.

To stop poaching, wildlife rangers from Perhilitan in Peninsula and the Wildlife Department in Sabah, augmented by additional personnel, must conduct regular and intensive patrols so that poachers may be apprehended and brought to book. The rangers constitute anti-poaching teams known as Rhino Protection Units (RPUs). Accordingly, funding for RPU patrols is crucial. In the last 7 years, under auspices of the IUCN/SSC Asian Rhino Specialist Group (AsRSG), external donors such as the Global Environment Fund (GEF), International Rhino Foundation (JRF), the U.S. Rhinoceros and Tiger Conservation Fund, Cincinnati Zoo, SOS-Rhino, and Save the Tiger Fund have provided Rm6 million for these in-situ efforts. Vehicles, satellite phones and other equipment have also been supplied to enable the RPUs to be more effective in their protection work.

The RPUs indirectly protect other wildlife species also inhabiting the large home range of the rhino. Hence, the rhino is a both an umbrella and flagship for all of Malaysia's wildlife heritage.



Rhino horns confiscated



Rhino rescued after capture by



Rhino shot and



horns sawn off

Rhino killed by steel wire-snare

poaching



poachers



Close-up of rhino foot caught in steel wire-snare





Conservation



Rhino in a wallow



Sumatran Rhino Captive Breeding facility at Sungai Dusun, Selangor, Malaysia



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Born in captivity to a wild caught pregnant female



Sumatran Rhino from Sabah

Breeding facilities



Captive Rhino Facility, Sepilok, Sabah

Perhilitan currently has a Sumatran Rhino Conservation Centre in Sungai Dusun that has as its primary objective to breed these rhinos in captivity for reintroduction into its natural habitat. Sabah has a similar facility at Sepilok. As evidenced by past experience, it is very difficult to breed Sumatran rhinos in captivity. However, by using the latest scientific technology and the combined expertise of many scientists and captive reproduction experts from all over the world, success in breeding the Sumatran rhino has recently been achieved. The birth of a calf named Andalas at the Cincinnati Zoo has brought new hope for the species as a result of captive breeding. MRF, JRF, AsRSG and other NGOs intend to bring the success to Malaysia and continue to support Perhilitan in its captive breeding project in Sungai Dusun. We are hopeful that success will be achieved in the near future.





MRF plans to continue its funding and assistance for years to come. To this end a fund has been established by MRF to collect and generate a stable income to fund all conservation efforts. MRF hopes to raise a sum of Rm20 million for its fund to manage and ensure that our rhinos survive for posterity. To date, most of MRF's funds have been provided by NGOs based abroad. These sources while generous, are not enough and may not always be available. Malaysia must assume the primary responsibility for saving its rhinos and become self-reliant as soon as possible in this endeavor.

Hence, the MRF appeals to all Malaysians (government, private citizens, public corporations, other non-governmental organizations) to contribute to the Malaysian Rhino Foundation Conservation Fund to ensure that our country will keep its Sumatran rhino and may one day again have its own Javan rhino.

An
Appeal



We would like to donate :-

RM

Name _____

Address _____

E-mail _____

Method of Payment :

Cash

Cheque (made payable to Malaysian Rhino Foundation)

Visa / Master Card / Amex (circle)

Interbank GIRO monthly deduction of the amount indicated
(we will send you the forms)

Name as in Credit Card _____

Credit Card # _____ Exp. Date (MM/YY) _____

Signature _____

All donations to MRF go directly to our conservation projects in the field. MRF also welcomes donations in kind such as equipment and services. Please contact us for more information.

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