



## **NEWS LETTER**

**JULY 2010**

The year so far has been good to all at SanWild. We had great rains early in the year and this has resulted in absolutely superb veldt conditions. For our animals this ideal veldt conditions has resulted in lots to eat for everyone; especially kudu and waterbuck that are normally the 1<sup>st</sup> animals to suffer in drought conditions.





In South Africa subsistence poaching (for food mainly) has been replaced by poaching syndicates; some of them highly sophisticated, that supply wild animals to a very lucrative bush meat trade and illegal rhino horn to smuggling rings .

In the case of rhinos; poaching has spiralled out of control with 149 rhinos (both black and white) killed in South Africa on private land and national parks this year alone. This number already far exceeds the total number of rhinos poached in South Africa in 2009. The poaching of rhinos in Zimbabwe by unethical South African hunters and hunting outfitters is also increasing with weapons fitted with silencers being supplied to ruthless poachers. In recent media reports it was stated that hunting rifles stolen during cruel farm attacks on especially elderly people, are used by poachers to kill rhinos.

On our Notice Board at [www.sanwild.org](http://www.sanwild.org) we post regular media articles about the increasing poaching situation in South Africa. Please do visit our website for regular updates. You can also visit [www.sanwild.com](http://www.sanwild.com) for regular updates.

To help protect the SanWild animals against the increasing onslaught of ruthless poachers, we have teamed up with the Wildlife Protection Academy to recruit, train and deploy highly trained counter poaching rangers in the reserve and also on adjoining farms. We believe it is essential to stop the poachers and the “front gate” instead of waiting for them to climb through the “bedroom window” first. For more in the Wildlife Protection Academy please visit their website at <http://www.specialisedwildlifeacademy.co.za/>





For those of you who have always wanted to get hands on involved, SanWild can now offer you a unique opportunity to be trained as a counter poaching ranger on the following basis.

- Recruits pay for their own training at the Wildlife Protection Academy.
- Recruits that successfully pass the practical and theoretical exams will be given the opportunity to be deployed in the reserve on a volunteer basis to help combat poaching.
- Volunteer rangers pay for their own kit.
- Accommodation, food and a small monthly allowance is supplied.
- Volunteer counter poaching rangers will be appointed on a 3-12 months basis and will be given ample time to explore the rest of South Africa.
- Permanent employment contracts will be offered to volunteer rangers suited to the job after a 3 months deployment period.
- SanWild will reimburse rangers for their kit once appointed on a permanent basis.

To get forms to enrol and to find out more information please email Louise Joubert on [louise@sanwild.org](mailto:louise@sanwild.org) . Corporate sponsorship to help train local South Africans will be appreciated and is fully tax-deductible as SanWild is a registered PBO (Public Benefit Organisation).

The Sanwild Wildlife Trust would like to thank you for your continued support. Should you choose to unsubscribe from this newsletter please email us on [sanwild@pixie.co.za](mailto:sanwild@pixie.co.za)