

# THANKS!

The Black Rhino Foundation wishes to thank the following people for making this event such a success...

Sister Hazel,  
Andy Deorio,  
Rodney Hammel,  
Mike Kelly, Greg  
Hammer, Victor  
Centra, House of  
Blues Michael  
Verke, Jim Caudle  
Dress the video  
man, SOS Rhino,  
Nan Schaffer,  
Dima Elisa, Tom  
Burkholder,  
Diane Kastiel,  
Platinum Wildlife  
Foundation.

## Rock for Rhinos II Sold Out Success!

Chicago - August 21, 1998

The popular rock group **Sister Hazel** teamed up with the BRF for Rock for Rhinos II at Chicago's own House of Blues, Friday, August 21, 1998. The band performed to a wildly enthusiastic, sold out audience of 1,300 fans. Memory Dean, an exciting new act out of Atlanta opened for S.H.



Lead singer Ken Block of Sister Hazel giving 110%

We premiered our new BRF Promo Video, a 5 minute tale of rhinos, what is happening to them and what is being done to bring them back from the edge of extinction. A huge thank you belongs to Dima Elisa of Visual Media, Nan Schaffer, SOS Rhino, Prime Cuts of Arlington Heights, Illinois, Tom Burkholder, Mark Voss, Adrian Dinu, and last but

never least John Marcinek of BRF for the original idea.

The event raised \$8,000 which will be added to the total from our next benefit in Boston. In November we will announce the rhino projects that will receive funding from us this year. Thank you to everyone who came out to the show.



Leaning in: Ryan Newell of Sister Hazel, Dr. Nan Schaffer-SOS Rhino, Ken Block - Sister Hazel, Dima Elisa - Visual Media, Maggie Heydt - BRF, John Marcinek - BRF, Alison Vanderhoof & Jay LeCoque long time BRF Supporters.



L to R - John Marcinek BRF, Jeff Beres & Ken Block of Sister Hazel, Maggie Heydt BRF, and Diane Kastiel, Director of Platinum Wildlife Foundation, our main sponsor.



BRF volunteers Betsy and Bruce (center) helped sell \$1,000 in merchandise

## Next Benefit - Boston

NOVEMBER 7TH, 1998  
NEXT BRF BENEFIT

The Black Rhino Club  
21 Broad Street  
Boston, MA 02109  
Phone: 617 263-0101

Tickets are \$25.00  
Call BRF @ 847 501 4527

# Rhinowatch Update

Website: [www.sosrhino.org](http://www.sosrhino.org)

**Zimbabwe** - Rhinowatch has been working with the Department of National Parks and Wild Life Management of Zimbabwe, in the Sinamatella Intensive Protection Zone (IPZ) of Hwange National Park to census and monitor the black rhino population there since 1994. Since then, due to the vigilance of the excellent game scouts and effective monitoring by the DNP and Rhinowatch, there has been no poaching, and, as generally reported in the rhino press, numbers are beginning to recover - great news which we hope we can maintain.

So, what's new from Rhinowatch in 1998? We have, for the past two years, been developing a new, non-invasive monitoring technique for the black rhino. Black rhino are incredibly sensitive animals, and evidence suggests that the less interference they receive from humans, the better they breed! So Project CAMERA (Census And Monitoring Endangered Rhino by Analysis of spoor) was developed because it was felt that a non-invasive, cost-effective and sustainable monitoring system would really help us monitor rhinos in the wild without disturbing them too much. The good news is that we have made great strides in the last few months.

First and foremost, we have received wonderful support from SAS Institute in the UK, whose software we have used for several years. When we told SAS about our work, they said that they would like to help us design some customized software for the rhinos. SAS has written some marvelous footprint analysis software for us, using the SAS language. This software enables us to make measurements of rhino footprints much more quickly and accurately than before, and has revolutionized the analysis necessary for identifying individuals. We have called it NISAS (written by Nigel at SAS, and coincidentally also Non-Invasive Spoor Analysis Software - the name has also attracted attention!). The SAS Institute has also provided us with a state-of-the-art laptop computer on which NISAS, and the excellent SAS/JMP software which we use for our analysis.

In addition, we have done a trial using digital cameras, generously lent to the project by Agfa, to photograph spoor, instead of using conventional photography. This has the great benefit of allowing us to 'download' photos almost immediately for processing instead of waiting for films to be processed. In fact, the digital camera has allowed us to identify the new members of the community long before it would have otherwise been possible!

Of course, these technological strides have been backed up and supported with several very generous donations from private individuals, without whose help this work would not be possible, and also with the hard work in the field of Earthwatch volunteers (including the brave President of the BRF!) who have been wonderfully committed and helpful in gathering essential data sometimes under very difficult conditions.

What next? Well, Rhinowatch has been asked by the Dept. of National Parks to conduct a full scale census in the IPZ this year. The last census was conducted in 1994, and this will be a major update. It will also be exciting to be able to use all the new technology at our disposal even though we suspect this will mean downloading photos late into each evening to keep up with demand!

We are also hoping to continue our liaison with the Namibian Authorities by establishing another project in Namibia in 1999. The Namibian substrate is very sandy and perfect for footprint analysis. Some of the best bush trackers in the world are Namibian bushmen, who have been able to identify individual animals from footprints for thousands of years. We are just beginning to be able to do this for ourselves using the most advanced technology! It is indeed a humbling experience to work with local people both in Zimbabwe and Namibia whose knowledge of the bush and wildlife is something which we in "developed countries" can only begin to understand. But we think this is the way forward - technology building on ancient skills.

Zoë Jewell/Rhinowatch



Maggie Heydt  
President

John Marcinek  
Vice President

Robert Heydt  
Treasurer

## Advisory Board

Dr. Nan Schaffer  
SOS Rhino

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Chicago, IL



Where you  
can buy the  
cookie

Jon's Finer Foods  
(Chicago)

San Diego Wild  
Park

Washington Zoo  
(Portland, OR)

Houston Zoo

Austin Zoo

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The Wilds  
(Ohio)

Audobon Zoo

Little Rock Zoo

The Outpost  
(Milwaukee)

Zoo of Hawaii  
Denver Zoo

Rhino Census Numbers for BRF Total Funds - 7/98

## 1998 Rhino Census *Black Rhino Numbers Up for 2nd Year!*

SPECIES or SUBSPECIES	WILD POPULATION	CAPTIVE POPULATION
Southwestern Black Rhino	741	0
Northwestern Black Rhino	~10	0
Eastern Black Rhino	485	180
Southern Black Rhino	1,363	60
<b>TOTAL BLACK RHINO</b>	<b>~2,600</b>	<b>240</b>
 Northern White Rhino	 25	 9
Southern White Rhino	~8,440	~650
<b>TOTAL WHITE RHINO</b>	<b>~8,465</b>	<b>~660</b>
 <i>AFRICAN RHINO SPECIES</i>	 ~11,065	 ~900
 <b>Indian/Nepalese Rhino</b>	 <b>~2,050</b>	 <b>130</b>
Indonesian Javan Rhino	50-60	0
Vietnamese Javan Rhino	5-7	0
<b>TOTAL JAVAN RHINO</b>	<b>&lt;70</b>	<b>0</b>
 Eastern (Borneo) Sumatran Rhino	 50-70	 3
Western (Sumatra/Malaya)	~300	14
<b>TOTAL SUMATRAN RHINO</b>	<b>&lt;400</b>	<b>17</b>
 <i>ASIAN RHINO SPECIES</i>	 ~2,500	 ~150
 <b>ALL SPECIES</b>	 ~13,565	 ~1,050

### *BRF Receives Major Gift for Sebakwe Black Rhino Trust*

*September* - The BRF received a generous gift in the amount of \$500.00 from an anonymous donor this month. The donor has requested the funds be given directly to the Sebakwe Black Rhino Trust, a black rhino preserve in Zimbabwe. The Trust was formed in 1989 and in its first five years it has raised over \$175,000 due to the generosity of many individuals and groups who have sent donations to help the black rhino from becoming extinct. This has been spent in the Midlands conservancy on:

- Electric Fencing - southern perimeter
- Guards and scouts wages
- Accommodation and uniforms for guards
- VHF radios - for two-way communication
- Motorbikes and mountain bikes
- Giraffe translocation
- Co-ordinator's salary
- Staff fund
- Textbooks for local schools

1250 Cherry Street  
Winnetka, IL 60093

## BRF Funds SOS Rhino Breeding Program

*Milwaukee, WI*

Last summer we began our first funding of a research project at the Milwaukee County Zoo. The SOS Rhino reproductive research program is designed to have a researcher (volunteer Sandra Alter) collect blood and semen samples from the two resident rhinos, Brewster (male) and Barley (female). Semen samples are analyzed with the hopes of cryogenically preserving them for future Artificial Insemination (AI) work; while collecting blood samples from Barley will help determine if AI is used, when would be the best time to conduct it (i.e. when Barley is in heat).

Our second research assistant, Karen Censopras, is continuing the program into the Fall. Sales from the Black Rhino Cookie Company have paid for her services this year—those cookies are not only delicious, but they are funding some real rhino research in our own

backyard! We sponsored the volunteers of each project with a \$500.00 donation. To order a dozen cookies, call us toll free at 888-838-8925.

### Black Rhino Dies at Brookfield Zoo

*Chicago, September 23*

A 27 year old female black rhino died this morning at Brookfield Zoo in Chicago. She had been sick since early August. A new treatment was tried with positive results in which she seemed to show signs of getting stronger but this morning was found stuck in her moat unable to get out. The animal was euthanized. The rhino had produced many offspring including the mother of the newborn this past May making her a grandmother!



### The Outpost Declares August Black Rhino Month

The Outpost, a grocery chain in Milwaukee, Wisconsin declared August to be Black Rhino Month! They ordered 1,000 black rhino cookies and set up an official display in the center of the store, including a raffle where people could sign up to win rhino t-shirts and prizes.

We wish to thank The Outpost for their continued support over the year and the above and beyond effort in August helping to raise much needed dollars and rhino awareness through their in-store display.

*Thank you!!*