

Become informed and only become involved in and contribute to legitimate organisations. There are many people arranging activities and 'raising funds for rhinos' who are neither legitimate nor knowledgeable and they dilute the funds required for anti-poaching as well as the efforts.

There is outstanding work being done by individuals and organisations and there are numerous ways you can get involved from donating much needed funds, your time or skills. You could also write to embassies, use social media and voice your support to escalate the message of anti-poaching. You could even do something as crazy as jumping out of a plane for Skydive for Rhinos, or clipping your hair and nails and posting it off to Stop Poaching Our Rhinos to dump at embassies. See end of article for contacts.

It is not a hopeless situation and there are thousands of rhino warriors building momentum, while tangible anti-poaching activity from on the ground work, all the way through to campaigns in the East are underway.

PROJECT RHINO KZN – A SOPHISTICATED FIGHT BACK

Sheelagh Antrobus, African Conservation Trust spokesperson, gave an overview of Project Rhino KZN, as well as useful facts and figures.

Project Rhino KZN is made up of legitimate, expert organisations with a common vision and goal. It identifies synergies through an integrated approach, and is a representative body that carries powerful leverage ability, aimed at eliminating rhino poaching and securing the rhino populations in KZN.

The association's members work together on the following critically needed interventions including increased intelligence and surveillance, increased field ranger competence, improving legal ability, increased communication sharing, public awareness and education.

In addition Project Rhino ensures the prevention of duplication of projects and/or fundraising events in KwaZulu-Natal and provides a legitimate fundraising platform for real, urgent needs. The association also creates credibility, ensures cooperation and creates a centralised communications platform to media, public, government, and the national and global communities. It also maintains records of activities, conducts reviews, benchmarks successes and identifies shortfalls.

FOUNDING MEMBERS OF PROJECT RHINO KZN



- African Conservation Trust
- Wildlands Conservation Trust
- Wildlife ACT Fund
- Wildlife & Environment Society of SA
- Ezemvelo KZN Wildlife
- Space for Elephants Foundation
- Magqubu Ntombela Foundation
- Wilderness Foundation
- Thanda Foundation and Game Reserve
- Zululand Wildlife Security Initiative

- Black Rhino Range Expansion Project WWF
- Game Rangers Association of Africa
- Phinda Private Reserve
- Zululand Rhino Reserve.

