



### JOIN THE EWT IN CELEBRATING WORLD RHINO DAY

As at the 11<sup>th</sup> of September 2012, 381 rhino had been poached in South Africa since the beginning of the year, according to the Department of Environmental Affairs. Driving the horrifying rise in rhino poaching is the belief that it is considered to be a low risk - high reward activity with an increasingly affluent market for rhino horn in the east. In response to this the Endangered Wildlife Trust (EWT) is implementing a range of projects which elevate the risk associated with poaching in order to dissuade would-be-poachers.

The rhino poaching crisis has demonstrated that there is no single solution to addressing illegal wildlife trade, which is estimated to be the third largest illegal industry worldwide after drugs and human trafficking, and often has its roots in organised, trans-boundary crime. According to Kirsty Brebner, the EWT's Rhino Project Manager, "The EWT is implementing interventions at several stages in the poaching and wildlife trade chain, including the deployment of highly trained sniffer dogs at various ports of entry and exit, the training of airport and border control officials on correct procedures to follow when dealing with wildlife smuggling cases and the EWT's Rhino Orphan Response Project, which rescues and rehabilitates the victims and orphans of poaching."

In celebration of the work of the EWT to end the senseless killing of this species we are hosting two events ahead of World Rhino Day in partnership with Meredale Primary School in Mondeor and Louw Geldenhuys Primary school in Linden on the 21<sup>st</sup> of September. The events will feature: a demonstration by Rico and Renaldo, two of our rhino contraband sniffing canines, on the training and operational aspects of detecting rhino horn; our Rhino Project Manager, Kirsty Brebner, will deliver a presentation on the crucial work of our Rhino Orphan Response Project; and the festivities will end with a *Find and Save the Rhino Treasure Hunt* with prizes for the successful teams.

"We have been constantly heartened and encouraged by the interest and concern displayed by the public for the plight of the rhinos and our work would be next to impossible without your continued and very valuable donations and assistance. On World Rhino Day we encourage you all to celebrate the successes already gained by participating in the countrywide activities taking place to save the rhino," concluded Brebner.

The EWT's sniffer dogs – Rico, Heddi, Renaldo and Condor – are funded through the Hans Hoheisen Charitable Trust Fund, administered through BOE. Bidvest Magnum has also come on board to generously sponsor the operational costs for the dogs and by donating two vehicles to the project.

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The Endangered Wildlife Trust is a non-profit, public benefit organisation dedicated to conserving species and ecosystems in southern Africa to the benefit of all people.

**NPO Number:** 015-502, **PBO number:** 930 001 777, **Member of IUCN** - The International Union for Conservation of Nature  
The Endangered Wildlife Trust is US 501(c)(3) compliant under **US IRS Registration number:** EMP98-0586801.



The EWT's Rhino Project is sponsored by Afrivet, Carla Antoni and Opulent Living, CiplaVet, the Common Sense Foundation, EMI Music, The Felix Schneier Foundation, My Planet Rhino Card, Rhino Force, Ridgeway and Heron Bridge Schools, Sting Music, TransUnion and individual donors, particularly Albert, Rona and Emily van der Merwe, Dr. Marc Walton, Victoria Reuvers (Trivium Capital Pty Ltd) and Walter Hirzebruch. For further information about the EWT's Rhino Project please contact Kirsty Brebner at [kirstyb@ewt.org.za](mailto:kirstyb@ewt.org.za).

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