



Endangered Species Bulletin 4 January & February 2016



NEW YEAR GREETINGS

A Happy Belated New Year to everyone, lets hope this year brings us all much joy, wealth, health and happiness!!!

In this bulletin we are going to summarise the past three and also emphasise on the importance of creating awareness campaigns with our youth.

Update on Elephants

We continue to loose 1 elephant every 15 minutes this being confined to West, Central and East Africa.

However there has been an increase in elephant poaching in Zimbabwe, Namibia and Botswana.

Kruger National Park has also experienced an increase.

AWARENESS

The awareness that was created during the Mafikeng Challenge Weekend has helped spread the word relating to our rhino's and hopefully this will be spread throughout South Africa and eventually the world.

We must still bear in mind that there are only 28 000 rhino's left on this planet and so it is important that Districts, Zones and Clubs hold awareness campaigns especially with our youth as they are the leaders of tomorrow.

It would be great to hear from Clubs who are involved in Endangered Species Awareness Campaigns as to what you are doing.

If you require any presentations or assistance please do not hesitate to get in contact with me.

During the course of this year we will be hosting various schools in the game reserves to create awareness.

Update on Rhino Stats

These are the final stats for 2015, the good news being that there has been a reduction compared to 2014's 1215. This does not however mean that we can now become complacent in our efforts to combat the poaching scourge. The reality is that already we have lost 70 + this year, this relates to us loosing over 2 animals a day.

PROVINCE	JAN	FEB	MARCH	APRIL	MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	TOTAL
GAUTENG	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	2
LIMPOPO	10	11	3	2	12	11	10	6	6	7	8	5	91
KZN	17	7	7	6	12	13	5	11	9	10	4	11	116
NORTH WEST	2	1	5	5	8	4	3	1	3	3	6	5	46
WESTERN CAPE	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
NORTHERN CAPE	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	2
FREE STATE	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	5	2	0	0	2	10
EASTERN CAPE	0	5	2	4	2	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	14
MPUMALANGA	3	9	7	8	4	7	5	2	8	5	5	4	67
SANPARKS	52	77	81	80	64	67	63	72	59	78	62	71	826
NATIONAL TOTAL:													1175

Mafikeng Challenge 2016

The Mafikeng Lions Club hosted this event once again, and a total of 38 Lions attended the weekend. Although designed for feedback from current presidents a Rhino Awareness Morning was carried out. This included the notching and microchipping of one calf and the examination of another calf that had been shot last year when sadly the mother was poached.

It is tradition to name a rhino that is being notched and it was a very proud moment for me when they decided to name the bull calf after my grandson Campbell.



Just another note regarding the notching, the young lady seen above was charged by a rhino last year, and this was her first time back in the field, it was quite an emotional time for her.

During February Mafikeng Lions in conjunction with Rhino's 4 Africa hosted 26 Scouts from Taiwan. During this event they witnessed a rhino notching, they where also taken on walks in the game reserve and given a presentations on Rhino & Elephant Awareness and the history of Scouting in Mafikeng. Copies of these presentations where given to them in order that they can be translated in Chinese and then presented to the scouting fraternity in Taiwan