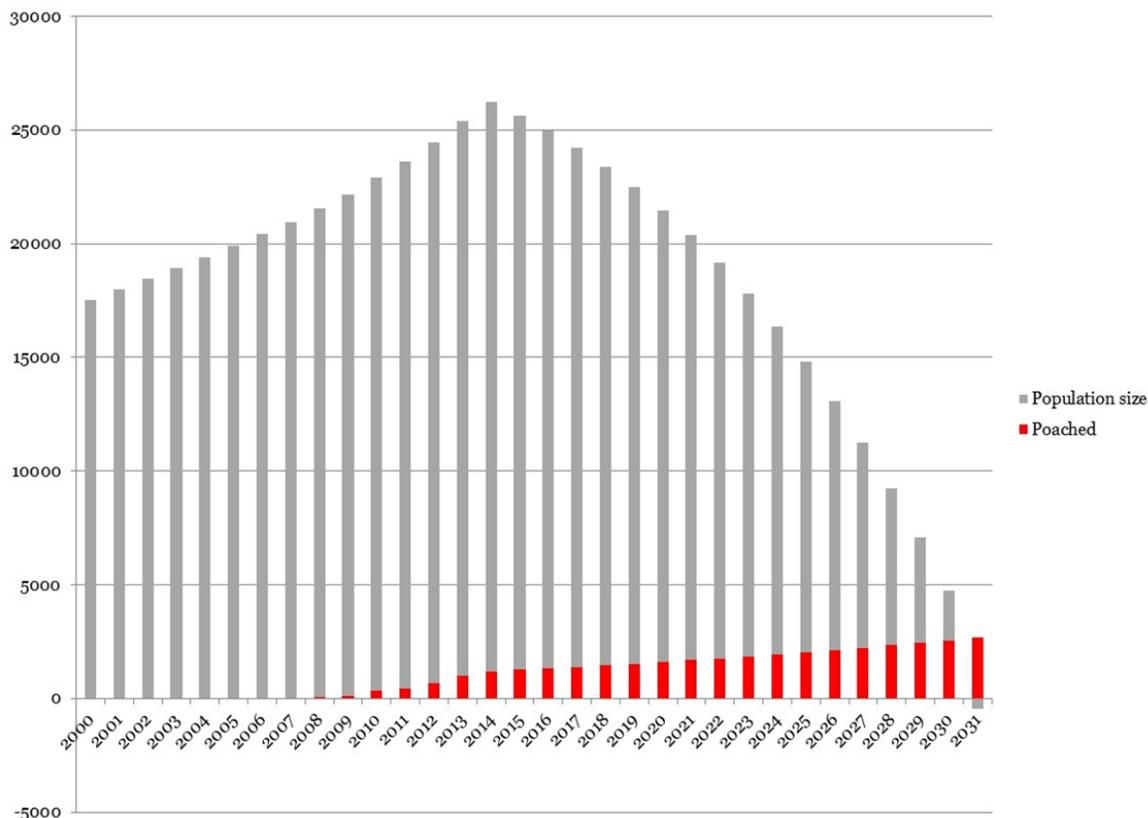


Endangered Species Bulletin January 2017



My Fellow Lions, may I take this opportunity of wishing you All a fruitful and great 2017. Well 2016 has come and gone and at the same time we lost a further 1070 Rhinos, whilst this is down compared to 2015, the majority of the Provinces showed a marked increase, Kruger and Mpumalanga being the only two with a decrease from 2015.

This does not mean that we can relax, far from it. We are still coming close to the “Tipping Point” where the poaching rate crosses the reproduction and this is where we will see a steady decline of this wonderful species.



Already we have lost +-50 Rhinos this month, this weekend (20-22 January 2017) being very bad in the North West where we lost 5 in Botsalano (40kms) from Mafikeng and 2 on a Private Farm situated close to Bray.

Junior Rhino Rangers

I wish to appeal to all our Clubs and where it is feasible, to adopt this training and try to get as many of our Youth involved in this awareness campaign. Not only will it create awareness with the Youth, but once the Kids have received the training, they are going to “Bug” their parents to take them out to the game reserves.

In Mafikeng, we have already trained 76 children and there are a lot more schools that are being approached regarding the project. Should require any assistance with promoting this I am only a phone call away and prepared to come to your Club and assist.

Some maybe not aware, but the “Catch Phrase” Lions 4 Rhinos has been adopted by Multiple District and is being used with all our correspondence relating to the Rhino Project.

In conclusion, I would like to take this opportunity of thanking all the Clubs who have contributed to the America Trip which I am about to go on, 4th February to the 19th February, it is going to be extremely busy and I believe that we will be making contact with many many Lions in the California Area. On my return, I will be sending comprehensive feedback from the visit.

Yours in Lionism

Rusty Hustler

MDC Endangered Species.