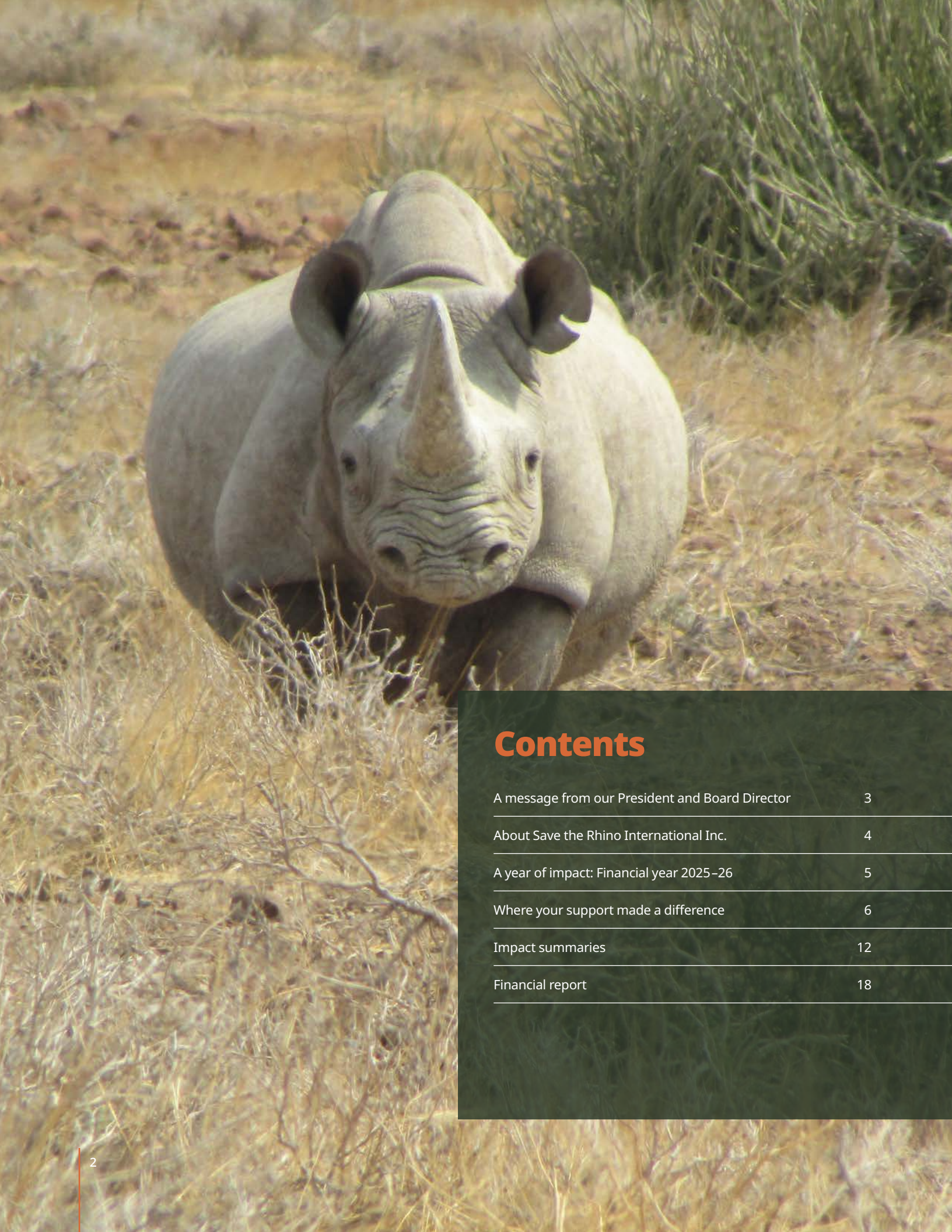




Save the Rhino
International Inc.

Impact Report 2025-26





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A message from our President and Board Director



This has been a year that tested the resilience of rhino conservation, and demonstrated, in no uncertain terms, what that resilience looks like in practice.

In January 2025, a White House executive order froze all active U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service grants, sending shockwaves through the programs we support in Kenya, Namibia, and South Africa. For organizations working in some of the world's most challenging conservation environments, the halt was immediate and serious. We are deeply grateful to Bently Foundation, which responded with extraordinary speed and generosity, awarding \$147,500 to bridge the gap and keep front-line operations running. Rangers stayed in the field, rhinos stayed protected, and the conservation gains of years of patient, dedicated work were not lost. That swift response, by one committed donor, made all the difference.

It is a reminder of why private philanthropy matters so much in this work. In a year when institutional funding proved fragile, your loyalty and commitment were not. Thanks to the generosity of our donors, we raised \$287,456 and awarded \$288,088 in grants across 30 grants: from canine anti-poaching units in Kenya, South Africa, and Zambia, to financial crime investigations targeting rhino-horn trafficking syndicates, to community education programs inspiring the next generation of environmental stewards in Laikipia County.

The breadth of that work reflects something we believe deeply: that protecting rhinos requires action on every front simultaneously. It means equipping and supporting the rangers who face real danger every day. It means pursuing the financiers of wildlife crime, not just those on the front line. It means investing in the communities who share landscapes with rhinos, and whose commitment to conservation will ultimately determine its long-term success. And it means strengthening the science, the monitoring, and the organizational foundations that allow conservation programs to adapt and endure.

We were also delighted to welcome Nancy Gelman to our Board this year, bringing with her deep expertise in African rhino conservation and a powerful commitment to developing the next generation of conservation leaders.

Fewer than 27,000 rhinos remain in the wild. The urgency has not diminished, but neither has our resolve. Thank you for standing with us.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Cathy Dean'. The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large, stylized 'D' at the end.

Cathy Dean, MBE
President and Board Director

Cover: Ol Jogi Conservancy in Kenya is able to care for orphaned black rhino calves until they can be released into the wild. Credit: Save the Rhino International

Page 2: The black rhinos in the Kunene Region of Namibia have adapted to the dry conditions and browse on euphorbia. Credit: Marcus Westberg and Save the Rhino Trust

About Save the Rhino International Inc.

Save the Rhino International Inc. is a registered 501(c)3 nonprofit organization, incorporated in February 2000 (EIN 31-1758236), with headquarters in New York City. Save the Rhino International Inc. is led by Cathy Dean, MBE, who is advised by a Board of Directors; together, they work collaboratively to advance the organization's mission.

Our vision is clear: to ensure that rhinos survive and thrive in the wild for generations to come. Our mission is to provide critical funding to conservation programs that deliver the greatest possible impact for rhinos by reducing poaching, strengthening wildlife law enforcement, and enhancing on-the-ground protection. We help equip and train the rangers who risk their lives daily to safeguard rhinos by providing them with essential tools and basic needs to support their well-being.

We believe lasting conservation begins with people. That's why we champion community-led initiatives that enhance local communities' appreciation of rhinos, participation in conservation, and pride in being guardians of their natural heritage.

Why rhinos need our help

Fewer than 27,000 rhinos across the five recognized rhino species remain in the wild; the need for rapid, sustained action has never been greater.

Save the Rhino International Inc. supports conservation programs in Indonesia, Kenya, Namibia, South Africa, Zambia and Zimbabwe, with particular focus on Javan and Sumatran rhinos in Asia, and black in Africa. These three species of rhino are classified as Critically Endangered on the IUCN Red List of Threatened Species, driven by two converging threats: the illegal wildlife trade and accelerating habitat loss. Rhino horn remains one of the world's most valuable illicit wildlife products, making rhinos prime targets for sophisticated transnational criminal networks. At the same time, their natural habitats are shrinking, limiting their ability to survive and reproduce.

Rhinos are more than iconic animals – they are ecosystem engineers. Their presence shapes landscapes, supports biodiversity, and contributes to the well-being of local communities through tourism and the ecosystem services they provide. Protecting rhinos means protecting entire ecosystems.

Conservation teams working to save rhinos face enormous challenges: organized crime, constrained habitats, climate change, and political instability all threaten progress.

Our mission is to provide critical funding to conservation programs that deliver the greatest possible impact for rhinos by reducing poaching, strengthening wildlife law enforcement, and enhancing on-the-ground protection.

Saving rhinos requires significant investment in security, habitat management, scientific research, new technologies, training, and long-term planning. Success depends on strong collaboration – among governments, conservation organizations, businesses, and local communities – to mobilize the resources and expertise essential for rhinos' survival.

How we help save rhinos

During the last decade (2015–16 to 2024–25), Save the Rhino International, Inc. has distributed more than US \$14.5 million in grants. These funds have helped to:

- Support effective site-level law enforcement to prevent, disrupt, and prosecute poaching and trafficking
- Strengthen biological and ecological management to ensure healthy rhino populations and optimal growth rates
- Ensure rhino conservation professionals are well-equipped and have the resources and high-quality training they need to excel
- Improve coordination within and among conservation agencies and rhino range-state professionals
- Engage multiple stakeholders in rhino range states, in alignment with principles of recognition, procedural fairness, and equitable benefit distribution

A year of impact Financial year 2025–26

Our 2025–26 financial year was both active and impactful.

Thanks to the generosity of our supporters, we raised \$287,456 and awarded \$288,088 in grants to rhino conservation initiatives across Africa and Asia.

On pages 6 to 11, you can read more about the 30 grants we allocated and the difference they are making on the ground.

Governance

We were delighted to welcome a new Board Director, Nancy Gelman, who joins continuing Board Directors Cathy Dean, Dr. Susie Ellis, Dr. Margaret Kinnaird and Dr. Jennifer Lalley.

Nancy is a long-time supporter of site-based conservation of black rhinos. She is dedicated to mentoring emerging wildlife conservation leaders and is the co-founder of LeAP: Leadership for Africa's Parks that teaches new conservation leadership skills through African universities to protected and conserved area staff.

Together, our Board brings deep scientific expertise, strategic leadership and field-based experience to guide our mission.

As usual, we reviewed and – where necessary or desired – updated various policies at our Annual General Meeting: Conflict of interest policy; US sanctions and anti-terrorist guidelines; anti-money laundering policy; document retention policy; gift acceptance policy; and operating reserves policy. We also reviewed and revised our Memorandum of Understanding with our sister charity, Save the Rhino International, which provides support in terms of our governance, fundraising, communications, administration and financial management.



We worked on our profile on **Candid**, an information service specializing in reporting on U.S. nonprofit companies that is the product of the February 2019 merger of GuideStar with Foundation Center. We are delighted to have earned its "Platinum Transparency 2026" seal.



Finally, we also worked on our profile on **Charity Navigator**, a charity assessment organization that is responsible for evaluating more than 200,000 charitable organizations based in the USA and aims to provide information about nonprofits' financial stability and practices relating to accountability and transparency. We completed all four of its Beacons, including its new impact assessment tool, and are thrilled to have earned a "Four-Star 2026" badge.

Fundraising

In 2025–26, we awarded 30 grants totaling more than a quarter of a million dollars. Every grant was made possible by the loyalty and commitment of our donors, many of whom have supported us year after year. We extend our sincere thanks to:

- Bently Foundation
- Elizabeth Childrey
- Donald L. Barnes Foundation
- Steve Kemler
- Joe Kenny and Jennifer Siegel
- March to the Top
- McClintock Family Charitable Fund
- Dave and Mona Taliaferro

And to those who prefer to remain anonymous: your support is equally valued and deeply appreciated.

Financial management

Transparency and accountability remain central to our work. During the year, we completed an independent audit for the financial year April 2024–March 2025 and published the audited accounts on our website.

Communications

We reviewed all content on our website (www.savetherhinoinc.com) to update the information provided and added new sections on our impact and financials.

Information on grants awarded is updated on a quarterly basis on our website.

We produced our first *Impact Report*, for the financial year April 2024–March 2025, published it online on our website, and sent it out to all those who had donated or fundraised on our behalf during the last three years for whom we had electronic contact details.

Where your support made a difference

Growing global rhino expertise

IUCN SSC African Rhino Specialist Group, Africa

Thanks to a further grant of \$8,000 from the McClintock Family Charitable Fund, we achieved the budget required for the 15th meeting of the IUCN SSC African Rhino Specialist Group (AfRSG), held in February 2025 at Bonamanzi Game Reserve, South Africa.

Convening every three years, this meeting is one of the most consequential gatherings in African rhino conservation. Delegates consolidated the latest population data and poaching statistics for reporting to CITES, reviewed progress against continental conservation targets, identified emerging threats, and agreed shared priorities for the years ahead. Field visits to Hluhluwe-iMfolozi Park and Somkhanda Game Reserve grounded strategic discussions in real-world experience, ensuring that decisions are informed by conditions on the ground.

Our grant covered flights, transfers, and meeting costs, enabling AfRSG Members from across Africa to attend and contribute – keeping the continent's rhino strategy evidence-based, collaborative, and forward-looking.

Protecting those who protect rhinos

ForRangers initiative, Kenya and Sub-Saharan Africa

Rangers are the backbone of wildlife conservation – but too often, the people putting their lives on the line to protect rhinos lack the most basic support. A grant of \$10,000 from March to the Top went to the ForRangers initiative, which works to improve the welfare of rangers across Sub-Saharan Africa.

When rangers and their families are properly supported, they are safer, more motivated, and less vulnerable to the financial pressures that criminal poaching networks exploit. ForRangers grants address the full spectrum of ranger needs: medical coverage and life insurance; uniforms, gym equipment, and wellness activities; law enforcement and wildlife monitoring equipment; improved accommodation and field facilities; and training in areas from First Aid and fitness to financial literacy.

By investing in the people who protect rhinos, we are investing in the future of the species itself.

Protecting the Mukogodo Forest

IL MAMUSI Community Forest Association, Kenya

Rangers at the IL MAMUSI Community Forest Association in Kenya's Laikipia County have long patrolled vast, remote terrain on foot and by motorbike; an approach that limits both their reach and their ability to respond swiftly to threats. A grant of \$5,000 from the Donald L. Barnes Foundation, awarded to Borana Conservancy as managing partner, is enabling the purchase of a dedicated patrol vehicle to change that.

The new vehicle will extend patrol coverage into areas that currently go unmonitored, cut response times to community alerts and reports of illegal activity, and improve the safety and morale of rangers in the field. Just as importantly, it will help secure the Mukogodo Forest as a critical wildlife corridor, strengthening protection for African elephants, wild dogs, and the black rhinos thriving in neighboring Borana, Lewa, and Il Ngwesi conservancies. The vehicle will also accelerate implementation of the area's Participatory Forest Management Plan, a key tool for long-term, community-led conservation.

Emergency support for an orphaned black rhino

Borana Conservancy, Kenya

When a black rhino cow named Mumu fell from a cliff – apparently having been chased by an overly aggressive bull – her calf was left alone and vulnerable. A donation of \$1,000 from Dave and Mona Taliaferro helped cover the helicopter costs required to reach and rescue the orphaned calf.

The calf was safely transferred to the Sheldrick Wildlife Trust's renowned animal orphanage in Nairobi, where expert staff will hand-rear the young rhino until it is ready to be returned to the wild. Thanks to swift action and the generosity of our donors, a life that might otherwise have been lost has been given a second chance.

Supporting operating costs

Borana Conservancy, Kenya

In February 2026, two of Borana Conservancy's guides – Patrick and Peter – took on the 10to4 Mountain Bike Challenge, tackling a grueling descent from 10,000 feet on Mount Kenya all the way down to 4,000 feet. Organized by Mount Kenya Trust, the annual challenge raises vital funds for the protection of one of the world's most vulnerable UNESCO World Heritage Sites. Neighboring Lewa Wildlife Conservancy has already been integrated into the UNESCO Site; Borana is in the process of doing so too.

Joe Kenny and Jennifer Siegel donated \$4,000 in honor of Patrick and Peter's efforts. The funds support Borana Conservancy's ongoing operating costs, helping to sustain one of Kenya's most important black rhino sanctuaries and the remarkable conservation work that takes place there every day.

Emergency funding in response to unexpected budget cuts

Kenya, Namibia, South Africa and the African Rhino Specialist Group

In early 2025, a number of the field programs we support were blindsided by the freezing of their U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service grants – worth more than \$830,000 for calendar year 2025 – following the President's Executive Order "Reevaluating and Realigning United States Foreign Aid" and the associated Office of Management and Budget memorandum directing a temporary pause of all agency grant and financial assistance activities. For programs operating in some of the world's most challenging conservation environments, the loss of this funding created an immediate and serious crisis.

Bently Foundation, which had previously stepped in to support field programs during the COVID-19 pandemic, responded with extraordinary generosity, awarding a grant of \$147,500 to help bridge the gap.

The funds were allocated across eight programs as follows:

- \$4,667 toward the AfRSG Scientific Officer's consultancy fees, helping to maintain the scientific leadership underpinning continental rhino strategy
- \$4,960 toward the salary of the Association of Private and Community Land Rhino Sanctuaries (APLRS) Administrator in Kenya, ensuring continuity of the coordination that keeps Kenya's private and community rhino sanctuaries working in concert
- \$10,500 for emergency repairs to the predator-proof perimeter fence at Borana Conservancy in Laikipia County, Kenya, a critical barrier protecting one of Africa's most important black rhino populations
- \$12,471 to replace uniforms, including boots and jackets, for 20 of Lewa Wildlife Conservancy's rangers, ensuring they are properly equipped for their demanding work in the field
- \$10,347 to cover the cost of food rations for rangers at Ol Jogi Conservancy, providing the nutrition and morale boost that field staff depend on during long, physically demanding deployments
- \$30,137 for Namibia's Ministry of Environment, Forestry and Tourism (MEFT) to support its annual rhino operations, including translocations, retrievals, and dehorning. Funds were used for repairs to the Game Capture Truck, fuel for rhino transport vehicles, veterinary immobilization drugs, and five air-to-ground radio sets used during aerial rhino operations
- \$24,853 for Save the Rhino Trust in Namibia: \$15,653 toward trackers' salaries, and \$9,200 for vehicle fuel used in field deployments across the Kunene and Erongo Regions
- \$27,750 for Hluhluwe-iMfolozi Park in South Africa: \$12,745 for repairs, maintenance, and fuel for six patrol vehicles, and \$15,005 for the annual replacement of basic uniforms for 130 field rangers.
- \$21,315 for the annual replacement of uniforms, including boots and jackets, for 75 field rangers at uMkhuze Game Reserve in South Africa

We are deeply grateful to Bently Foundation for its swift and decisive response. Its support ensured that front-line conservation work continued without interruption at a moment of real vulnerability. You can read more about the impact of the grants on pages 12-13.



“The Anti-Poaching Unit (APU) is never complete without the K9 Unit. Whenever the team goes out for patrols, to combat poaching, or to help in the communities, they always go out with the dogs.

Joseph Piroris, APU Deputy Head, Lewa

Securing ecosystem health through education

Borana Conservancy, Kenya

Long-term conservation depends not only on protecting wildlife, but on inspiring the communities who share their landscape to become active stewards of it. A grant of \$6,470, made possible through donations from Steve Kemler and Elizabeth Childrey, supported *Mazingira Yetu*, Borana Conservancy's community conservation education program. The name means "Our Environment" in KiSwahili.

Mazingira Yetu provides place-based, hands-on education focused on regenerative, action-oriented approaches to land stewardship. By engaging teachers, youth, and adults in neighboring communities, the program deepens local understanding of conservation and builds lasting commitment to the health of the broader Borana ecosystem – for people and for keystone species like the black rhino alike.

"Paws on patrol": Canine units for anti-poaching

Kenya, South Africa and Zambia

Trained dogs are among the most effective tools available for anti-poaching operations. They can track scents across vast distances, locate snares, and detect concealed wildlife products that human rangers might miss. Our sister organization, Save the Rhino International, launched a Christmas 2025 Big Give appeal – "Paws on Patrol" – to raise funds for canine units operating in three countries.

We awarded \$48,500 to Save the Rhino International as matching funds for the appeal (\$33,650 from our core funds and \$14,850 from the McClintock Family Charitable Fund), offered at our Board's October 2025 meeting. The appeal reached its target of \$67,000, triggering the full release of all pledged matching funds.

The combined funding supports canine unit handlers' salaries, handler and dog training, training aids, veterinary care, dog food, and husbandry, and sustains the work of canine units at Lewa Wildlife Conservancy in Kenya, the North Luangwa Conservation Program in Zambia, and Hluhluwe-iMfolozi Park in South Africa.

Annual rhino operations: Translocations, retrievals and dehorning

The Ministry of Environment, Forestry and Tourism, Namibia

Namibia is home to the second-largest rhino population in the world and is the stronghold of the Southwestern black rhino subspecies (*Diceros bicornis bicornis*), with approximately 80% of the global population found within its borders. Etosha National Park alone holds the world's largest single black rhino population. Maintaining the health, safety, and genetic diversity of this population requires intensive ongoing management, and much of that work falls to Namibia's Ministry of Environment, Forestry and Tourism (MEFT).

A grant of \$12,000 from the McClintock Family Charitable Fund helped cover the costs of the MEFT's annual rhino operations, including translocations, retrievals, and dehorning. Namibia pioneered the use of dehorning as a poaching deterrent during the crisis years of the 1980s and 1990s, and, following the resumption of a nationwide dehorning program in 2014, now operates a rolling dehorning cycle covering rhinos on state, private and community land. Each dehorning operation also serves as a population audit, capturing data on numbers, sex, and age structure, while facilitating ear-notching and DNA sampling.

This grant helped fund veterinary support, helicopter flying time, vehicle operations, field allowances for the Rhino Unit, tracking bracelets, and immobilization supplies – the practical tools that make world-class rhino management possible.

Page 8: Lewa's K9 Unit currently has two dogs: a bloodhound called Ruby and Nasuj, a Doberman-bloodhound cross (pictured here with her handler, Joseph Kisio). Credit: Lewa Communications Team

Strengthening rhino monitoring

Hluhluwe-iMfolozi Park, South Africa

Hluhluwe-iMfolozi Park (HiP) is one of Africa's oldest protected areas and a stronghold for both white and black rhinos, but it has also been among the hardest-hit by the ongoing poaching crisis. Robust, data-driven monitoring is essential to understanding where rhinos are, how the population is changing, and how management interventions can best support recovery.

Thanks to a grant from the McClintock Family Charitable Fund, we awarded \$4,000 (the first of three planned monthly installments) toward Year 3 costs of the project "Rhino Monitoring and Security in Hluhluwe-iMfolozi Park." The dedicated monitoring team continues to generate results, providing Park management with the granular, real-time data needed to make informed decisions and maximize rhino population growth.

Essential kit and equipment for rangers

Hluhluwe-iMfolozi Park and uMkhuze Game Reserve, South Africa

Field rangers working in South Africa's protected areas face extraordinary demands: long hours in challenging terrain; exposure to real danger; and operational conditions that place heavy wear on clothing and equipment. Ensuring they have the kit they need is both a matter of welfare and of effectiveness.

We awarded \$11,100 from our core funds as matching support for our sister organization's "Step Up for Rangers" appeal, alongside a further \$179 donated by Lorenzo Fuentes. The funds raised are being divided between two sites. At Hluhluwe-iMfolozi Park, the money will provide canvas boots and socks for field rangers. At uMkhuze Game Reserve, it will fund rations for the ranger force as well as communications and security equipment for the anti-poaching team.

Together, these items meaningfully improve both the safety and the operational capability of the rangers who protect some of South Africa's most important rhino populations.

Following the money: Project Blood Orange

KPMG, South Africa

The most visible actors in wildlife crime – the poacher who pulls the trigger, the courier caught at the border – are rarely the most powerful. The kingpins who finance and organize these networks operate several steps removed from the front line, rarely getting their hands dirty. Targeting them requires a different kind of investigation.

By tracing the flow of money rather than the movement of horn, the investigation builds cases around charges such as money laundering, tax evasion, and fraud: offenses that carry serious penalties and that, crucially, expose entire criminal networks through the paper trails they leave behind

A grant of \$12,000 from the McClintock Family Charitable Fund supported Project Blood Orange, a financial investigation led by KPMG and the South African Police Service targeting a rhino-horn trafficking syndicate. By tracing the flow of money rather than the movement of horn, the investigation builds cases around charges such as money laundering, tax evasion, and fraud: offenses that carry serious penalties and that, crucially, expose entire criminal networks through the paper trails they leave behind.

Financial investigations of this kind represent one of the most powerful tools available for dismantling organized wildlife crime at its source.



Building long-term resilience for Javan rhino conservation

Ujung Kulon National Park, Indonesia

Ujung Kulon National Park (UKNP) in West Java, Indonesia, is the last refuge of the Javan rhino: one of the rarest large mammals on Earth, with fewer than 50 individuals remaining. The long-term survival of the species depends entirely on the capacity of the Park and its partners to sustain and improve their conservation work over the years.

We awarded a grant of \$6,300 from our core funds (supplementing \$60,400 previously awarded for the same project) to Conservation Synergies and the Alliance of Integrated Forest Conservation (ALeRT) for the “Park Resilience Plan for Ujung Kulon National Park.” Working in close cooperation with UKNP’s management authority, the project is strengthening the organizational foundations that underpin effective conservation: building the capacity of staff and partners to plan, adapt, and perform under pressure, and co-developing tools and processes that will help UKNP meet its Javan rhino conservation objectives for years to come.

Above: Camera trap pictures taken at UKNP in 2025 saw several previously undocumented young Javan rhinos, including one very small calf. Credit: Indonesian Ministry of Forestry

Expanding the world’s rhino research library

Rhino Resource Center, The Netherlands

Good conservation is built on good science, and good science depends on access to the best available knowledge. The Rhino Resource Center (RRC) is the world’s largest online rhinoceros-focused reference library, dedicated to connecting researchers, conservationists, and practitioners with the scientific literature, data, and tools they need.

We awarded a grant of \$3,000 from our core funds to support the additional costs of the RRC’s new website (following an award of \$7,250 in FY 2024-25) after the original budget proved insufficient for the volume of files and images that needed to be uploaded. The new platform will make the RRC’s unparalleled collection more accessible than ever to the global rhino conservation community.

Running for rhinos: London Marathon

Save the Rhino International, UK

Five American supporters took on the London Marathon on behalf of our sister organization, Save the Rhino International: three in the April 2025 race (Michaela Davis, Ben Potter, and Luke Raimondo); and two in April 2026 (Andrew Boyd and Nathan Seltzer). Collectively, they raised an impressive \$8,960.

Taking part in one of the world’s most iconic road races is no small feat, and we are enormously proud of each of these runners for their dedication and fundraising efforts. The money raised goes toward Save the Rhino International’s annual operating costs, helping to sustain the full range of its rhino conservation work globally.

Impact summary

Standing firm in the face of crisis

How an emergency grant from Bently Foundation kept rhino conservation alive

In January 2025, a single executive order from the White House sent shockwaves through rhino conservation across Africa. The U.S. Government's Stop Work Order froze all active U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service grants, bringing a sudden halt to funding that nine of our partner programs, based in Kenya, Namibia, South Africa, and rhino range states generally, had been counting on. In each case, organizations that had been planning their year around confirmed multi-year grants suddenly had no idea when, or whether, those funds would arrive.

Bently Foundation, which had previously stepped in to support our field programs during the COVID-19 pandemic, responded with characteristic speed and generosity. A grant of \$147,500 was awarded in April 2025 to bridge the gap. The impact was immediate and far-reaching.

Kenya

In Kenya, the grant kept vital operations running across four sites. At Ol Jogi Conservancy, it funded food rations for 167 rangers through the height of the patrol season, maintaining the field presence that deters poachers and protects one of the country's most important black rhino populations. At Borana Conservancy, it funded emergency repairs to the predator-proof perimeter fence, protecting both wildlife and neighboring communities from human-wildlife conflict.

At Lewa Wildlife Conservancy, it replaced worn-out uniforms for 20 fence-line monitors who collectively cover 10,000 km of patrols each month. And it continued to pay the salary of the Association of Private and Community Land Rhino Sanctuaries Administrator, the coordinator whose work underpins Kenya's entire private and community rhino sector, and who during this period helped oversee the landmark translocation of 21 black rhinos to the newly established Segera Rhino Sanctuary.



Namibia

In Namibia, the grant enabled the Ministry of Environment, Forestry and Tourism to proceed with a critical dehorning and translocation operation in Waterberg Plateau Park, moving 20 black rhinos to new locations in Etosha National Park and to private custodian properties.

Bently Foundation awarded a grant of \$147,500 in April 2025 to bridge the US Government funding gap, with an immediate and far-reaching impact

A biennial block count in Etosha in July 2025 brought welcome news: the Park's black rhino population has now exceeded 1,000 animals, which is a milestone that reflects years of sustained conservation effort. Funds also kept Save the Rhino Trust's field teams deployed across the Kunene and Erongo regions and in Nyae Nyae Conservancy, maintaining the intensive patrols that have contributed to a significant reduction in poaching rates in recent months.

South Africa

In South Africa, the grant funded urgently needed maintenance at Hluhluwe-iMfolozi Park, repairing water systems, restoring ranger accommodation, servicing vehicles, and replacing uniforms for 120 law-enforcement staff, as well as providing new uniforms for 75 field rangers at uMkhuze Game Reserve, where the managing agency has provided no operational budget for two consecutive years.

Finally, the grant covered the fees of the African Rhino Specialist Group's Scientific Officer.

The funding gaps left by the Stop Work Order have not yet been fully resolved, and our partner programs continue to face real uncertainty. But thanks to Bently Foundation's swift intervention, the front line held. Rangers stayed in the field, rhinos stayed protected, and the conservation gains of years of patient, dedicated work were not lost.

Below: Trackers in Nyae Nyae Conservancy, in the northeast of Namibia, have been trained by Save the Rhino Trust. Credit: SRT



Mazingira Yetu delivered 25 field trips to Grade 5 and Grade 6 students from all 10 partner schools, bringing 674 learners to Borana Conservancy, exceeding targets across the board

Impact summary

Planting the seeds of conservation

How *Mazingira Yetu* is inspiring Kenya's next generation of environmental stewards

On a June morning in 2025, students at Lokusero Comprehensive School in Kenya's Laikipia County stood before their parents, teachers, and community leaders to present something remarkable: a thriving school garden, built and tended by the children themselves, producing vegetables, fruit trees, and compost – a living demonstration of what they had learned on field trips to Borana Conservancy.

Two weeks later, students at Ethi Comprehensive School did the same. These Community Conservation Days were more than a school event. They were evidence of a program working exactly as intended.

Mazingira Yetu – “Our Environment” in KiSwahili – is Borana Conservancy's conservation education program, now in its fourth year. Its purpose is to provide place-based, hands-on education that inspires neighboring communities to become active stewards of the landscape they share with black rhinos, elephants, and a remarkable diversity of wildlife. A grant of \$6,470, made possible through the generosity of Steve Kemler and Elizabeth Childrey, helped pay the program's operating costs during 2025.

The year was busy. *Mazingira Yetu* delivered 25 field trips to Grade 5 and Grade 6 students from all 10 partner schools, bringing 674 learners to Borana Conservancy: exceeding targets across the board. Each visit was carefully designed to move students through a journey from curiosity to confidence. Grade 5 students explored the differences between black and white rhinos, visited the operations center to see how wildlife is monitored and protected, and took part in hands-on sessions on recycling and sustainable waste management. Grade 6 students went further: learning composting, organic farming, and drip irrigation at the WaitaBit demonstration farm, and returning to their schools equipped and motivated to put what they had learned into practice.

The results speak for themselves. Pre- and post-visit surveys showed that learners' understanding of conservation broadened dramatically after their trips, with recognition of sustainable agriculture as a conservation tool rising from 12% to 38%, and understanding of the links between biodiversity, food security, and human wellbeing increasing sharply. By the end of the year, 100% of students surveyed said they wanted to take conservation action at home or at school. More tellingly, the Outreach Officer's follow-up visits found that they were tending gardens, building compost heaps, upcycling waste materials, and sharing what they had learned with their families.

Pre- and post-visit surveys showed that learners' understanding of conservation broadened dramatically after their visits to the Conservancy, with recognition of sustainable agriculture as a conservation tool rising from 12% to 38%, and understanding of the links between biodiversity, food security, and human wellbeing increasing sharply

Adults in the surrounding communities were not left out. Five community groups (163 participants in total) visited the Center during the year, leaving with practical skills in organic farming, water conservation, and soil management that they are now applying in their own fields and gardens. Early signs of peer-to-peer learning are emerging: participants are sharing techniques with neighbors and proposing community garden demonstration sites.

Borana Conservancy's CEO, Michael Dyer, put it simply: “*Mazingira Yetu* is not just a center, it is a community where education, care, and compassion meet to transform lives.” For the black rhinos that depend on the health of this landscape and the goodwill of the communities around it, that transformation matters more than it might seem.

Page 14: Grade 6 learners visit Waitabit Farm, a 440-acre regenerative agriculture project located in Borana Conservancy, Kenya. Credit: Borana Conservancy

Impact summary

Geared up for work in the field: the “Step Up for Rangers” appeal

Equipping the people who protect South Africa’s rhinos

There is no glamour in what a field ranger does. A typical day means hours on foot through dense thornveld in searing heat, alert to the signs of an incursion or the distant movement of an armed poacher – and possibly continuing into a night in the field with no way of knowing when it will end. The equipment a ranger carries is not incidental to this work. It is what makes it possible.

Launched in May 2025, Save the Rhino’s “Step Up for Rangers” appeal set out to address a deceptively simple problem: rangers at two of South Africa’s most important rhino reserves were going into the field without the basic kit they needed. Thanks to supporters including the Reid Burns Foundation, whose \$3,000 formed part of Save the Rhino International Inc.’s \$11,000 contribution in matching funds, the 10-day campaign surpassed its target, raising \$28,600 in total for Hluhluwe-iMfolozi Park and uMkhuze Game Reserve.

During 2025, South Africa recorded 352 rhinos poached: the lowest figure since 2010, and a testament to years of effort by rangers like uMkhuze’s

At Hluhluwe-iMfolozi Park (HiP), the funds provided 140 rangers with a new Kevlar-lined canvas boot, purpose-designed for the terrain they work in: lightweight, durable, and offering high ankle support for long patrol distances through rocky bush and thornveld. Three hundred pairs of socks completed the order. The response from rangers says everything. “The canvas boots we received are ideal in coping with the long patrol distances, different weather conditions and the unfriendly terrain associated with HiP,” wrote Dennis Kelly, Section Ranger at Makhamisa. Better-equipped rangers are spending more time in the field, and patrol coverage has increased as a result.

At uMkhuze Game Reserve, where a 53% field ranger vacancy rate has forced the closure of six ranger camps, the challenge is equally urgent. Here, the appeal funded a targeted package of equipment designed to multiply the effectiveness of a stretched team. Two Garmin K9 tracking collars were fitted to anti-poaching dogs Davey and Cally, allowing handlers, for the first time, to safely release them in dense vegetation to stay on a poacher’s trail. Two ground-to-air radios now connect the Section Ranger and Rhino Monitor directly with aerial support. Two night-vision monoculars extend the team’s capability after dark. Two hundred ration packs mean rangers must no longer cut operations short because they run out of food.

Eduard Goosen, uMkhuze’s Conservation Manager, described what this support means to his team: “Daily, we see how our resources are getting less and less, whilst the challenges are just increasing. Then, an unexpected glimmer of hope. To receive notice of support from an international donor is amazing. It boosts our morale, knowing that there are people who really care, who are fighting by our side, helping us to achieve what often feels impossible.”

During 2025, South Africa recorded 352 rhinos poached: the lowest figure since 2010, and a testament to years of effort by rangers like these. At both HiP and uMkhuze, no rhinos were illegally killed during the reporting period. The appeal didn’t achieve that alone, but it is part of the reason those rangers were able to keep going.

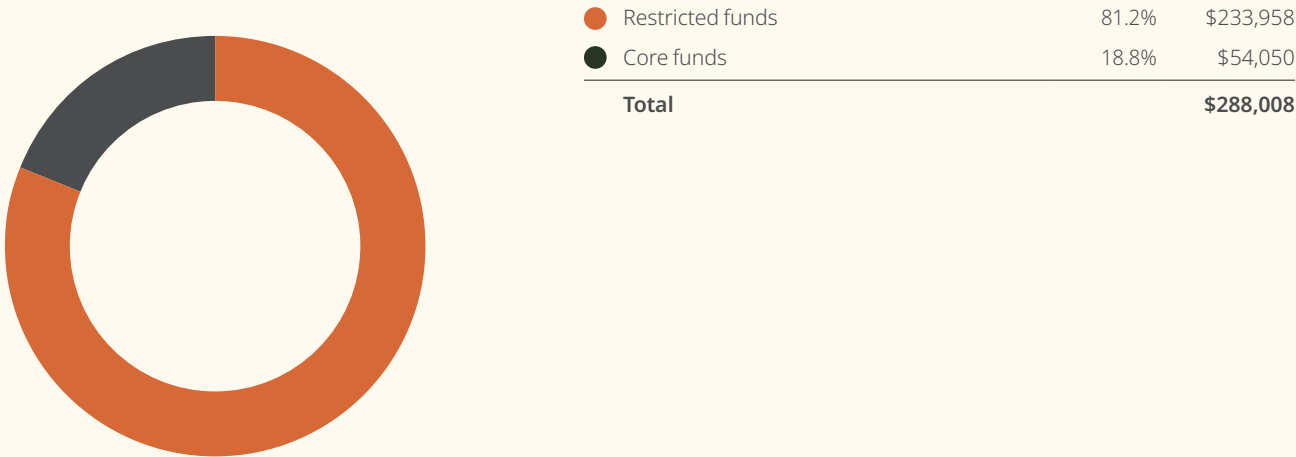


Launched in May 2025, Save the Rhino's **Step Up for Rangers** appeal set out to address a deceptively simple problem: rangers at two of South Africa's most important rhino reserves were going into the field without the basic kit they needed

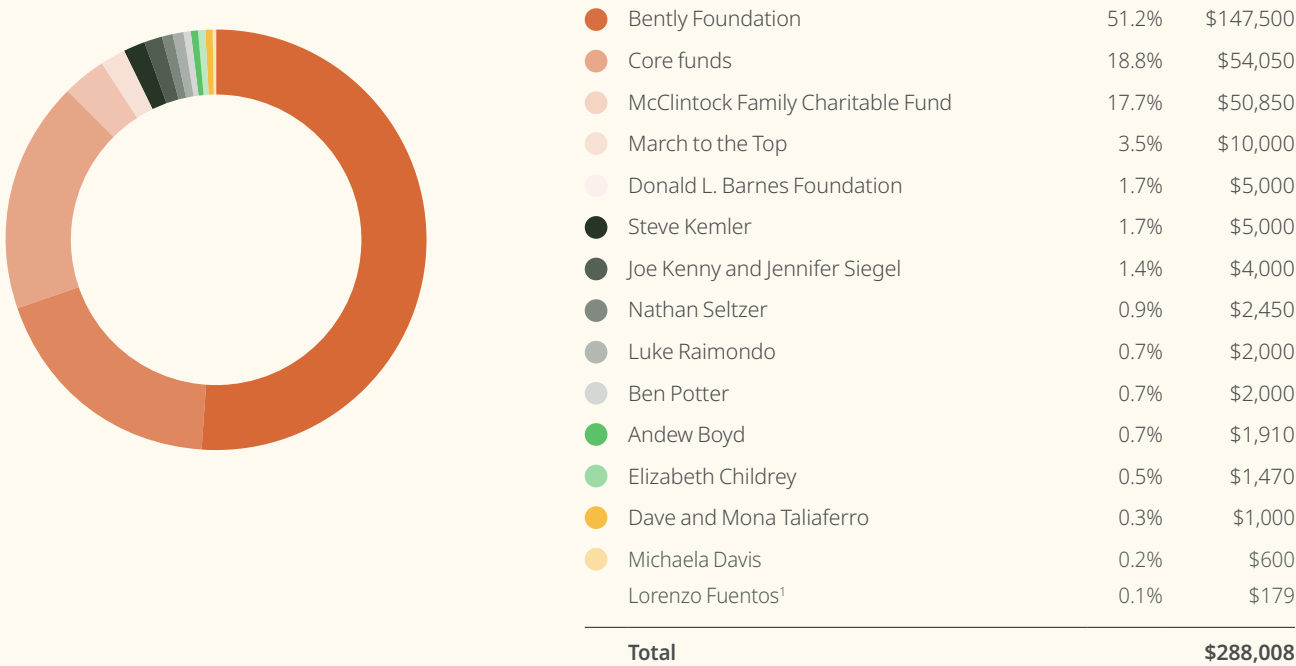
Fundraising and financials 2025–26

Please find below some analyses of the total grants awarded of \$288,008 during the year ended March 31, 2026.

Grants awarded per income source

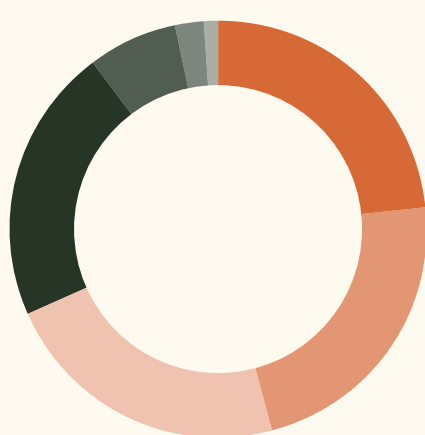


Grants awarded per donor



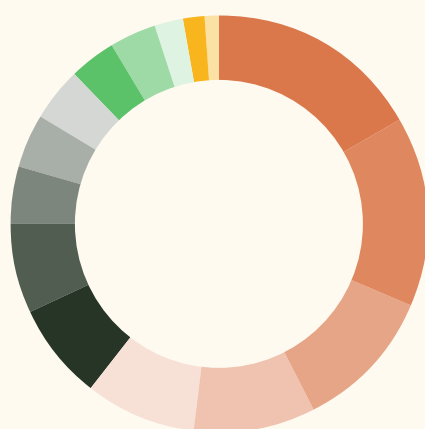
¹Figure not shown in pie chart. Rounding errors mean figures may not add up exactly to 100 %.

Grants awarded per country



Namibia	23.4%	\$67,490
South Africa	22.6%	\$65,065
Kenya	22.5%	\$64,748
Africa (miscellaneous)	21.2%	\$61,167
UK	7.0%	\$20,239
Indonesia	2.2%	\$6,300
The Netherlands	1.0%	\$3,000
Total		\$288,008

Grants awarded per beneficiary



Canine units	16.8%	\$48,500
Ministry of Environment, Forestry & Tourism	14.8%	\$42,637
Hluhluwe-iMfolozi Park	11.0%	\$31,750
Borana Conservancy	9.4%	\$26,970
Save the Rhino Trust	8.6%	\$24,853
uMkhuze Game Reserve	7.4%	\$21,315
Save the Rhino International	7.0%	\$20,239
IUCN SSC African Rhino Specialist Group	4.4%	\$12,667
Lewa Wildlife Conservancy	4.3%	\$12,471
KPMG	4.2%	\$12,000
Ol Jogi Conservancy	3.6%	\$10,347
ForRangers	3.5%	\$10,000
Ujung Kulon National Park	2.2%	\$6,300
Association of Private & Community Land Rhino Sanctuaries	1.7%	\$4,960
Rhino Resource Center	1.0%	\$3,000
Total		\$288,008



Save the Rhino International Inc.

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