

PROA

A stylized silhouette of a rhinoceros is integrated into the letter 'R' of the word 'PROA'. The rhino is depicted in profile, facing right, with its head lowered as if grazing. The silhouette is filled with a solid olive green color and has a thin black outline. The letters 'P', 'O', and 'A' are in a bold, black, sans-serif font, while the 'R' is replaced by the rhino silhouette.

Private Rhino Owners Association



CoP 17
27/09/16
Johannesburg

'Rhino in Crisis'
Pelham Jones



Private Rhino Owners Association





Discussion Topics

- Situation Analysis ~ National
- Impact on Private Reserves
- Role of Private Reserves in Rhino Conservation
- The trade debate

What is the future for rhino?





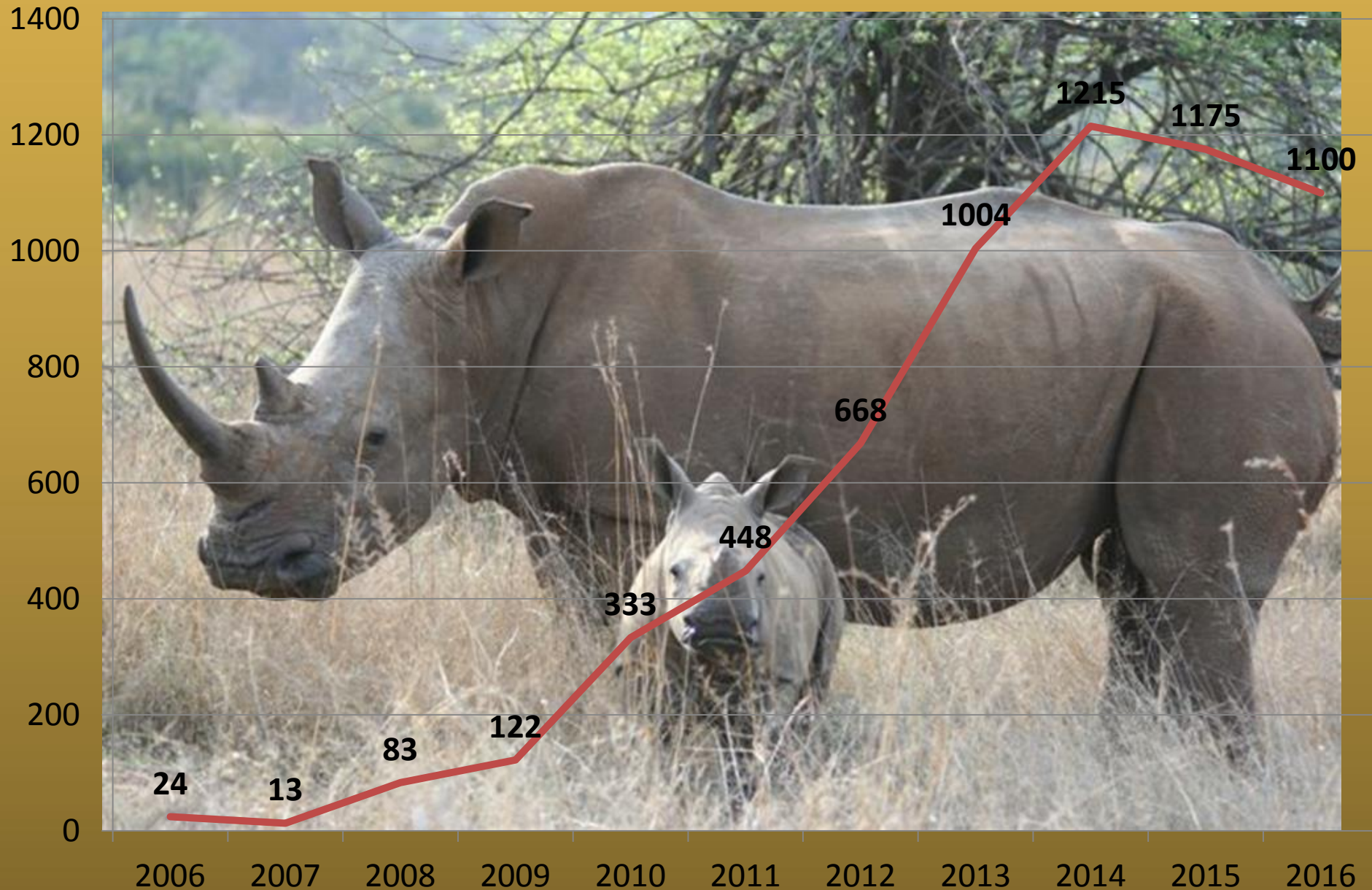
Population & Distribution (Africa Total)

- Black Rhino 5 225
 - SA 1 893 or 36%
- White Rhino 20 378
 - SA 1 8413 or 90%

SA 80% of all African Rhino



Rhino Poached in South Africa





Impact of Poaching in SA

- +6 000 rhino poached 2006 to end 2016 (forecast)
- Population stagnation
- Asset loss + \$145 m + Devaluation
- Annual security costs \$85 m to \$140 m
- \$1.050 Billion illegal horn trade @ \$30 000 per kg
(5.88kg x 6 000 = 35 tons)





SA Private Rhino Reserves

- Own + 6 287 rhino (B&W) ~ 33% SA pop
- NB rest of Africa combined 5 222 rhino
- 330 (were 400) private rhino reserves: 2 million ha
- 2014/15 estimate 80% had poaching incidents
- 280 poaching incidents with threat to human life





Impact on Private Reserves

- Of the 6 000 rhino poached
- Over 1 200 on Pvt Reserves : value loss + \$30m
- Population decline in certain provinces
- Horn value (pvt. sector alone) +\$ 1 90m could have been used in rhino conservation and protection





Private Reserve Security: Rhino Costs

Vary from \$20 000 to \$2,5 m per annum

- Based on owner survey ; divide rhino security costs by reserve size, multiplied by 2m ha

Average \$12 ha pa x 2m ha = \$25m

Zero Government assistance/incentives





RMG-PROA Owner Survey 2015

- 70% support legal hunting , sustainable use
- 85% support legal trade in rhino horn
- 50% intend to maintain population but not buy
- 26% intend to sell 25-75% of their animals
- 12% intend to buy
- 12% undecided





Private ownership on a cliff edge

- Loss of asset \$30m (plus devaluation)
- Annual security costs 2009 – 2016 \$115m
- Total Loss and cost \$145m!!
- Ownership risk has resulted in:
 - ~ Rhino distribution loss of + 200 000 ha
 - ~ 70 reserves no longer have rhino due to;
 - ~ Impact of poaching, (costs and loss)
 - ~ The domestic Moratorium
 - ~ Failed international CITES trade ban!





Law enforcement and impact on reserve management

- Substantive increase of budget allocation to security
 - Severe impact on reserve profitability
 - Deployment of staff into security responsibilities
 - Reserve upgrades or projects on hold
-
- Need to deploy armed APU teams
 - Sophisticated security equipment
 - Run informer net and gather/maintain intelligence





Security but at what cost??

- Management and owners targeted/attacked
- Reserve staff exposed to bribes
- Security staff showing increased stress impact
- Lack of support funding and no Gov. incentives
- But carry out high % of national arrests and rhino conservation responsibility





Intelligence Management

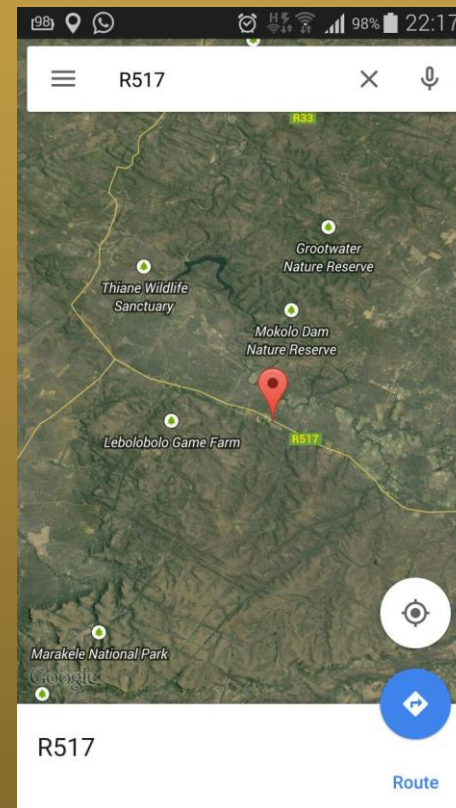
- Gathered and shared – risk warnings
- Tracks, incursions
- Monitor risk points
- Incident date and time analysis
- Access points
- Social media
- Staff profile





Special Projects & Emergency

- Helicopter deployment
- Veterinary needs
- Relocation costs
- Orphanages
- K9 response units
- Task team





Crime Scene Management

- Know the 101 protocol ~ Crime Scene Guide
- Do not contaminate the crime scene
- Crisis management and SOP's





We cannot continue with failed strategies

- 1980 – 2015 83% decline in black rhino population
- 100 000 rhino killed across Africa in the last 45 years
- 23 range states lost all rhino despite \$ billions of aid
- “More of Same” including 1977 CITES ban not working

-Illegal trade = 100% \$ benefit to criminals
= Urgent need for change in policy direction





Past to Present

- 1977 CITES trade ban in Rhino horn

1992 CoP “The strategy of banning all international trade in rhino products has failed to provide protection to rhino in the wild and should be discarded as a viable conservation measure”

2008 Rhino poaching hits SA





Past to Present cont.

- Over 300 NGO's , NPO's and other Social Media 'Key Board experts' have arisen as 'authorities' to Save the Rhino (many for own financial gain) with little financial contribution to rhino conservation
- Own no rhino and carry no risk
- Offer no viable alternate solution
- Critical of legal trade/sustainable utilization
- Dilute the efforts of true rhino conservation





Conservation Polarization the Anti Trade Debate

- Unethical to sell 'bogus product'
- Legal trade will launder 'Blood Horns'
- Didn't work for elephant
- Pvt sector wants to make money
- Trade is not the 'Silver Bullet'
- Rhino horn bans do work?
- Parallel markets will occur





Trade debate continued; Economic theories etc.

- Legal Trade will provide for market growth
- Under cutting illegal trade will fail
- Burn the horn stocks..... But this will reduce available horn and increase price and poaching!

Debates and surveys while rhino die since 1992

Bans will not prevent illegal trade

Illegal trade and demand despite \$ billions spent





Trade debate continued; unintended consequences

- Many actions indirectly 'Aid and Abet' criminal syndicates who only wish for an illegal market; Take 100% of benefit and will not stop!
- AR NGO's argue on weak economic theories or credible data
- State and Pvt Owners have invested billions in rhino conservation but now told not trade and to; 'Burn the Dividends' ??





What is the solution; Integrated approach!

- Focus on demand management
- End user education; remove the exclusive status
- Importance of sustainable utilization in rhino conservation
- DNA control over all sold horns
- Better policing/law enforcement/prosecutions
- Revenue back to rhino conservation and security
- Lift the CITES ban allow International trade





Conclusion

- If we do not get a 2/3 majority vote at CoP 17 in support of Swaziland
- We face the potential demise of wild rhino populations per 23 other range states
- We require a policy turn around based on sustainable utilization bringing benefit to state, provincial, private, communities and “RHINO”





Discussion and Resolution

- *Rhino conservation will only be assured when its value as a living animal is greater than when it is dead*
 - *Challenge the failed CITES trade ban*
- With legal trade rhino will become the most protected and valuable animal in Africa*



Failure is not an option!!!

