



# RHINOS WITHOUT BORDERS

A PROJECT OF HOPE FOR THE RHINOS OF SOUTHERN AFRICA.



Executive Summary by  
Dereck Joubert (CEO Great Plains Conservation)  
and Joss Kent (CEO &Beyond)



Rhino conservation today is a story of despair as our rhinos are being killed at a rate of one every 9 hours. Last year over 1,000 rhinos were killed in South Africa alone. We have reached the tipping point where we lose more rhinos to poaching than at which the present population can breed. We have gone into deficit. Whether it's 10 years down the line, or slightly longer, the end is inevitable:

**THE EXTINCTION OF RHINOS.**

## **We're not the kind of people who do despair very well!**

'Rhinos Without Borders' is a joint venture between **Great Plains Conservation** and **&Beyond**, supported by **Africa Foundation**, combining our fundraising and project management efforts.

**Great Plains Conservation** was established to come up with solutions for Conservation and we use high-end tourism to facilitate that. With camps in Botswana and Kenya, we are all about making a difference wherever we are located. We lobby hard, we get involved with communities, and we do whatever we can to make Africa a better, more complete natural and working habitat. We recently established the Great Plains Foundation to fund and deal with some of our philanthropic ventures because not every effort can be funded from commercial operations.

**&Beyond** is one of the world's leading luxury experiential travel companies, designing personalised luxury safaris in 15 African countries, as well as India, Bhutan, Sri Lanka and Nepal. The company also owns and operates 33 extraordinary lodges and camps in Africa and India's natural highspots.

Established in 1991, **&Beyond** takes exceptional care of its guests in order to make a difference; its commitment to sustainable conservation, responsible travel and community empowerment is world renowned.

**Africa Foundation** was founded in 1992 as an independent non-profit tax-exempt organisation registered in South Africa to facilitate the development of rural communities living in or adjacent to wildlife conservation areas. It is supporting 'Rhinos Without Borders' with administrative and project management skills.

**Africa Foundation** is joined in this effort by two independent tax-exempt organisations: **Africa Foundation (USA)** in the United States and **Africa Foundation (UK)** in the United Kingdom.

## **Rhinos clearly represent one of the more urgent wildlife crises we all face today.**

"**Great Plains Conservation** and **&Beyond** have decided to take action. This is not a **Great Plains Conservation** project or an **&Beyond** one, it is a global one that we can all play a role in, small and large. I don't believe in branded conservation – it needs to be something we all get behind to save a species," says Dereck Joubert, **Great Plains** CEO.

"Translocations are fundamental to secure the on-going survival of endangered species and this ground breaking project aims to protect the species for future generations to enjoy. A project this size requires a strong partnership and a huge resource pool to pull it off. We are therefore very pleased to be joining forces with **Great Plains Conservation** for this mass translocation. We share the same mission and operating ethos and together we believe we can make this happen," says Joss Kent, **&Beyond** CEO.

It needed to be a global effort and one that recognizes that without the incredible efforts of the South African conservationists and parks, there would be no rhinos to source or save.

## **Poaching is at an all time high everywhere in Africa.**

This initiative is about taking rhinos from existing, high density populations which are attracting more and more poaching, and releasing them into the wild within a country that has low densities of rhino and the best anti-poaching record on the continent. It also secures rhino breeding diversity and provides a nucleus of stock in a different location, so that these animals are not all concentrated in one location. It's not a rescue, but it could be considered an Ark for rhino genes.

This is, however, a story of hope for rhinos, where conservationists, individuals, as well as industry and tourism professionals, roll up their sleeves and do something positive for two species that cannot speak for themselves and cannot protect themselves from our greed, corruption and abject stupidity.

If we can counter every unkindness with a kindness, every selfish act with a selfless one, and every atrocity against nature, with an equal and opposite proactive move like 'Rhinos Without Borders,' we will slowly win this battle for Africa.

A close-up photograph of a rhino's head, focusing on its eye and the deeply textured, wrinkled skin. The lighting is warm, highlighting the intricate patterns of the skin and the dark, circular eye.

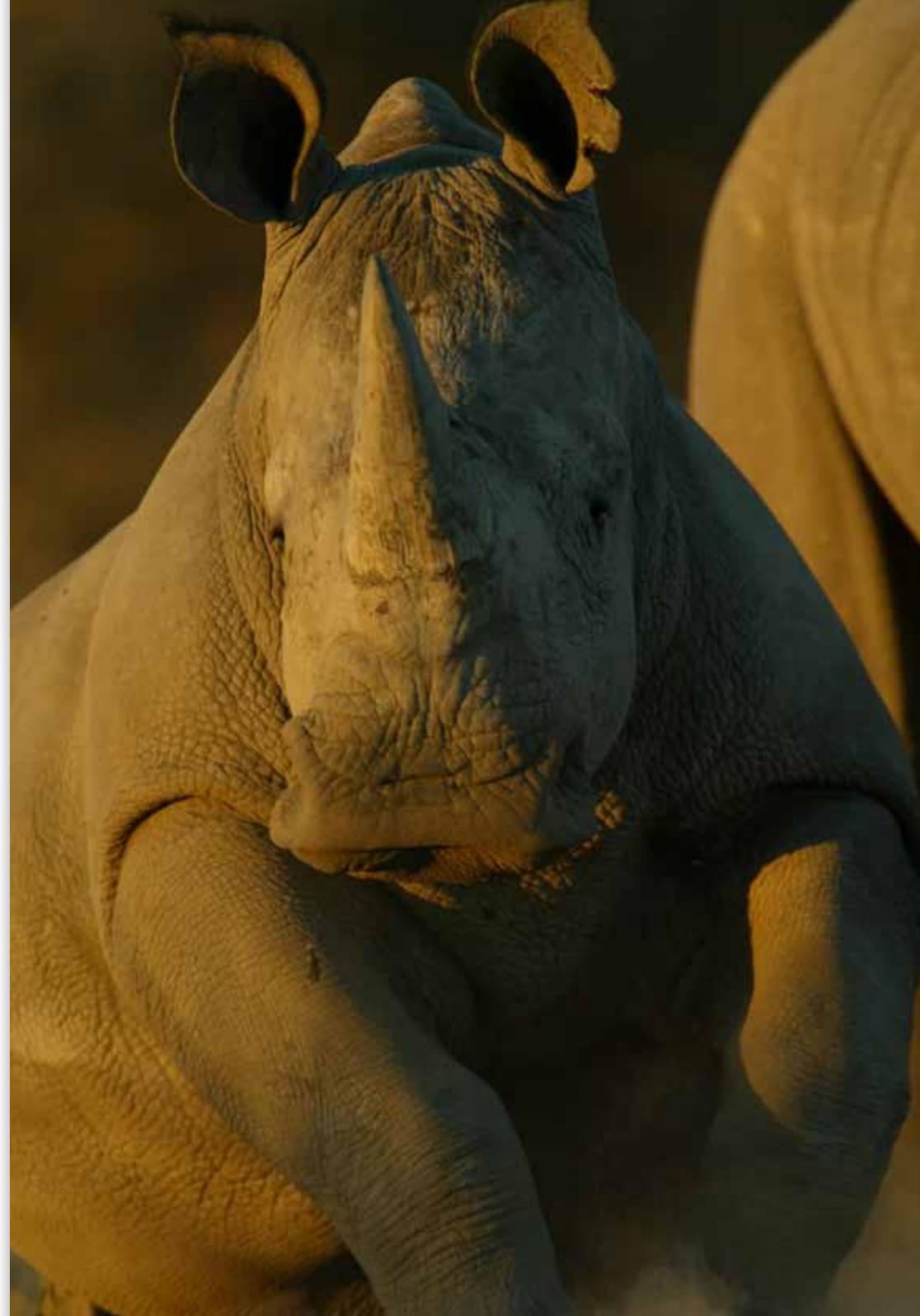
*Taking a  
closer look  
at the project*

## PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

- With rhino poaching at an all time high, concerned conservations need to be proactive. Great Plains Conservation and &Beyond, two leading conservation and tourism companies, have teamed up to safely translocate up to 100 rhinos from South Africa to havens in Botswana.
- The project and individuals recognize and celebrate the fact that there are rhinos to conserve only because of the efforts of parks officials and conservationists in South Africa.
- Now is the time to distribute stock and protect them in different ways and make it much harder for poachers to raid one concentrated resource of rhinos, clustered in parks and private land in South Africa.
- Distribution and Protection is a tactic that has worked around the world for precious gems, gold and other high value items. We are adopting the same techniques.
- Funding generated by this effort will go towards the conservation and protection of rhinos in both countries. 60% will go to continued conservation, protection and monitoring, beyond the effort to simply translocate the rhinos, and 40% goes to the capture, transport, bomas, quarantine and release.
- Anti-poaching, securing, surveillance, follow-up, prosecution and legislation are a large component of this effort.
- We are working in close cooperation with the Ministry of Environment and the Department of Wildlife in Botswana as well as the Botswana Defense Force.
- We are also working with other tourism operations, the industry as a whole, and a variety of NGO's. We may be taking a leadership role in this, but we do view it as a collaborative project.
- We will be moving both species of rhinos, Black (*Diceros bicornis*) and White (*Ceratotherium simum*) and both governments have vetted the sources of these selected animals.

## PROJECT OBJECTIVES:

- To move at least 100 rhinos out of densely populated areas that are attracting poaching, and release them into the wild within Botswana where poaching is virtually non-existent.
- To increase the Botswana national herd and help them achieve their national objective to reach 400 rhinos by 2016, a target that without swift and large-scale intervention will not be achieved.
- To develop a new breeding nucleus away from the present clusters of breeding efforts.
- To raise the profile of bilateral national friendships based on conservation.
- To raise awareness that privately led conservation can have a positive and marked impact on outcomes, where the private sector can identify needs, solutions and then work with governments to achieve quick decision making processes and achieve goals that can substantially change the face of conservation. Conservation does not have to rest in government's hands alone and we are using this as an example that the private sector, and in particular the tourism sector that benefits most from wildlife, can play meaningful and positive roles.
- To highlight the successes of South African efforts over the last 50 years in rhino conservation.
- To enforce the sense of hope that rhino conservation is not a desperate situation that the average person cannot change. We can change this, but only by working together.
- To galvanize ideas and efforts to stimulate new initiatives up and down the continent inspired by this effort to save our endangered species.





## **THE DETAILS:**

### **PHASE 1 – FUNDRAISING:**

Timing: Financial commitments need to be established by July 2014, with all the physical funding to be received by September 2014. The aim is to raise US \$8 million for the relocation of these 100 Rhinos. Should we source rhinos cheaper, we will put the extra funding into securing even more rhinos. ± 30% of the budget is allocated for the investment in the source population and will be put to bolstering rhino anti-poaching in the source locations.

### **PHASE 2 – CAPTURE, TRANSLOCATE, RELEASE:**

Timing: Capture and relocation will begin in January 2015. This process will take around 9 months and will be determined by capture rate, seasonal temperatures, locations of release suitability, feed available (per season), flood waters in the release locations, the readiness of top level anti-poaching teams and the technology (drones) in place. ± 40% of the budget will be for the translocation and release itself.

### **PHASE 3 – POST RELEASE ASSISTANCE:**

Timing: From mid-2015 post release assistance will be given to the Botswana authorities, where possible, to secure and monitor the rhino (as per above).

± 30% for the investment in the actual destination security and monitoring systems, and anti-poaching.

Our budget contains elements that will kick-start a monitoring and anti-poaching effort in Botswana. Our exact plans for this are in an advanced stage and are being developed with some of the top experts in rhino anti-poaching, together with some of the best minds in technology and security, as well as in conjunction with the Botswana Defense Force and Ministry of Environment. The message will be clear:

**“Come poach the wildlife in Botswana at your absolute peril.”**

### **PHASE 4 – COMMUNITY EDUCATION & OUTREACH**

No time sensitivity, but this project includes continual community education and outreach. The communities are our eyes and ears on the ground and we aim to make the citizens of Botswana our partners in protecting their national resource. Already the tourism sector is the largest job creator in the Ngamiland district, with ready-made channels of discussion with communities. We aim to use these and establish more ways to talk to communities about how best to protect this asset against foreign poaching. Included in this plan is a facility for incentives for information leading to arrests.



## ABOUT THE OPPORTUNITIES TO DONATE

There are different levels of participation for you to consider. We realize that hard earned cash needs to be spent wisely, and while we would suggest that the world suffers when rhinos are killed in a range of intangible ways, the world also suffers dramatically in very real ways as well. It costs 100 times as much to push back the tide of poaching once it begins in an area, than it does to prevent it in the beginning. It costs many thousands of times more to rebuild animal populations once they are near extinction.

We urge anyone considering a financial donation to understand how it is being spent. Many NGOs keep between 15-40% of project dollars to cover administration. In combination, Great Plains Foundation and the **Africa Foundation** use 2.5% to cover basic bank costs. All advertising and marketing costs are taken up by **Great Plains Conservation** and **&Beyond** as their donation and further contribution to this effort.

**Rhinos Without Borders** is supported by, and donations may be made through:

- Great Plains Foundation, a US public charity, contributions to which may be deductible for US federal income tax purposes under Section 501(c) (3) of the US Internal Revenue Code. Visit: [www.greatplainsfoundation.com](http://www.greatplainsfoundation.com)
- **Africa Foundation**, a separate independent organization registered with the South African Revenue Service as a Public Benefit Organization (PBO) and as a Nonprofit Organization (NPO). Visit: [www.africafoundation.org.za](http://www.africafoundation.org.za)
- **Africa Foundation** (USA), a US public charity, contributions to which may be deductible for US federal income tax purposes under Section 501(c) (3) of the US Internal Revenue Code. EIN: 88-0461880. Visit [www.africafoundation.org](http://www.africafoundation.org)
- **Africa Foundation** (UK), a separate independent organization registered with the UK Charities Commission. UK Registered Charity Number 1092616. Visit: [www.africafoundation.org](http://www.africafoundation.org)

Please request that your donation be applied to the 'Rhinos Without Borders' initiative.

**Great Plains Conservation** has also elected to donate its green season beds (for travel between 01 November 2014 and 31 May 2015) under an initiative called Zeros For Rhinos. Here you can stay in selected Great Plains Botswana camps and donate the cost of that directly to the Foundation for this effort. Travel options are available via the Great Plains Foundation.

**&Beyond's** conservation efforts have included groundbreaking translocations on two continents, and this collaboration between **Great Plains Conservation** and **&Beyond** is another example of the leadership role that the two organisations have in leveraging tourism for conservation outcomes.



**We are offering various levels of sponsorship packages:**

<b>From \$5 000 to \$49 999</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- A fine art print signed by Beverly Joubert</li></ul>
<b>From \$50 000 to \$99 999</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- A stay for 2 guests for 2 nights at either Phinda Mountain or Forest Lodge or Xaranna or Xudum set in the Okavango Delta</li><li>- Participate in a <b>&amp;Beyond</b> rhino conservation initiative with their land management team, rhino monitors and anti-poaching unit</li><li>- Season restrictions: Not available June - September</li></ul>
<b>From \$100 000 to \$249 999</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- A stay for 2 guests for 3 nights at either Phinda Mountain or Forest Lodge OR Xaranna or Xudum set in the Okavango Delta or a <b>Great Plains Conservation</b> camp in Botswana (release locations dependant)</li><li>- 2 x 1 hour helicopter flights whilst at each <b>&amp;Beyond</b> camp</li></ul>
<b>From \$250 000 to \$1 Million</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- A stay for 2 guests for 3 nights at either Phinda Mountain or Forest Lodge AND Xaranna or Xudum set in the Okavango Delta AND a <b>Great Plains Conservation</b> camp in Botswana (release locations dependant)</li><li>- 2 x 1 hour helicopter flights whilst at each <b>&amp;Beyond</b> camp</li></ul>
<b>Corporate Sponsors: \$250 0000</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Brand a rhino relocation container which will be filmed during the capture and/or release</li></ul>
<b>\$1Million and over</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- As per the \$250 000 donation</li><li>- Founder member of the Great Plains Foundation</li><li>- Filmed by National Geographic as part of their documentary</li><li>- Become an advisory member of the <b>&amp;Beyond</b> Conservation team</li></ul>

Any donations will be greatly appreciated. Please clearly mark your donation 'Rhinos Without Borders'.



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WE NEED YOUR HELP TODAY.

CONTACT ANY OF THE FOLLOWING PEOPLE:

**Dereck Joubert** – CEO and Chairman of Great Plains Conservation and Great Plains Foundation:  
[dereckjoubert@greatplainsconservation.com](mailto:dereckjoubert@greatplainsconservation.com)

**Joss Kent** – &Beyond CEO:  
[ceo@andbeyond.com](mailto:ceo@andbeyond.com)

**Caitlin Carter** – Great Plains Foundation Director  
[caitlin@greatplainsconservation.com](mailto:caitlin@greatplainsconservation.com)

**Les Carlisle** – &Beyond Group Conservation Manager:  
[les.carlisle@andbeyond.com](mailto:les.carlisle@andbeyond.com)

**Hilton Walker** – Sales and Reservation Director at Great Plains Conservation:  
[hilton@greatplainsconservation.com](mailto:hilton@greatplainsconservation.com)

**Jacky Humphries** – &Beyond Chief Marketing Officer:  
[jacky.humphries@andbeyond.com](mailto:jacky.humphries@andbeyond.com)



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