



NEWSLETTER

OCTOBER 2022



SAVE RHINOS, TO SAVE PEOPLE, TO SAVE TOMORROW

SPIRIT, GREY, JEMU AND LILLI RELEASED

In January 2019, Spirit, Grey, Jemu and Lilli entered the first stages of rewilding and were released into the Intensive Protection Zone. Over the last three and half years, this crash of young, orphaned rhinos has learned to survive through harsh winters and hot summers. They have been schooled by the older rhinos in crash hierarchy, group dynamics and social interaction. Given Storm's recent interest and behaviour, it seems likely that both Spirit and Jemu have also entered oestrus. With this milestone ticked and competition for resources increasing, the decision was made to move Spirit, Grey, Jemu and Lilli to the next stage of their rewilding journey.



This month, vets from wildlifevets.com, the Mpumalanga Tourism and Parks Agency and SANParks, joined the Care for Wild team to relocate this crash of rhinos to their new home and protected area. The rhinos were darted in pairs to ensure that they were with their friends when they woke up. First Spirit and Grey were immobilised by the veterinary team. Blindfolds and ear plugs were applied. Intravenous catheters were placed in their ears for emergency IV access during the move. As part of the ongoing security and protection of the rhinos, their horns were also trimmed. Grey was also fitted with an AI enabled tracking collar.



Spirit and Grey were then given drugs to partially reverse the immobilisation allowing them to walk to the transportation truck and onto the stretcher. Additional drugs were then given to make them sleep for the remainder of the journey to ensure they were as comfortable as possible.



The stretchers were then fastened to the crane and Spirit and Grey were lifted onto the truck. Gone are the days when man power alone was enough to carry these orphans! They are both weighing over 1 tonne now! Once settled on the truck, they were both given supportive oxygen for the remainder of the journey.



After arriving at the release site, the crane was again used to remove Grey and Spirit from the truck. The two rhinos were positioned together and laying next to each other as the vets prepared to wake them up. A teff bale and lucerne had already been prepared ready for when they awoke. After the reversing agent was given, both Grey and Spirit stood up quickly. Although a little confused and calling for their friends, they soon settled and began to eat. With Grey and Spirit busy settling in, the team returned for Jemu and Lilli.



Jemu and Lilli proved to be a little harder to dart! With the commotion of trucks and cranes, and the disappearance of their friends, Lilli and Jemu were very skittish. The vets tracked them on foot in order to dart and immobilise them. The same process as for Grey and Spirit then followed. Both Lilli and Jemu were also loaded onto the truck and driven to the release site. By this time, Grey and Spirit had wandered off in search of water. After Lilli and Jemu woke up, they too began to eat from the bale of teff and soon Spirit and Grey returned. The crash was united once more and ready for their next stage of rewilding together. We are so proud of this rhino group!





With the first small amounts of rainfall earlier this month, the dried-up mud pools became a haven in the tropical heat. Daisy has discovered that she really does enjoy a good muddy wallow. Despite being sceptical of puddles, Daisy enjoys a roll in the mud. Her favourite thing to do after a mud bath is to lick her zebra friend or wipe the mud onto her beautiful stripes! Whilst Daisy can't see anything wrong with this, we are not sure Modjadji is a fan!



The Intensive Protection Zone has become the Moms and Babies club over the last year and we couldn't be happier! Whilst the supplementary feed for the other rhinos has begun to be reduced, we are still feeding all three Moms twice a day (including at night). After each feed, feedback is reported to the Operations Centre and then through to the Caregivers.

River and Wyntir have been spending more and more time together with their babies. Olive and Axl are still fairly solitary but they are beginning to integrate back into the bigger group.



WELCOME ZACH

Care for Wild welcomes Zach Froneman to the team as our new Anti-Poaching Manager who will provide leadership and strategic direction as well as support the ongoing training and development of the existing team.

Zach was born and raised in the Laeveld with Kruger National Park as a backyard. During his time with the UK Armed Forces, he was trained in all frontiers including air, land, and sea. Zach holds a SERE qualification (Survival, Evasion, Resistance and Escape) and has extensive training and experience in close protection. Deployed on various operations globally Zach was involved with conventional warfare, counter-insurgency, reconnaissance, peacekeeping, and counter-terrorism.

"I am honoured to return to South Africa and become part of this hard-working team to safeguard rhinos and biodiversity" Zach.

We are very pleased to welcome Zach to the Care for Wild team and look forward to the journey ahead.





SUPPORT FOR A SUPERSTAR

Care for Wild was able to help support a very special little boy this month and the son of one of our amazing caregivers. Thulilie always gives so much love and attention to the rhino orphans that we were humbled to be able to return this kindness to her own family. This month we were able to gift a new bed and medical support mattress as well as a mobility aid chair. This is making life a lot easier for Grandma who takes care of him during the day whilst Thulilie is at work.

We would like to say a special thank you to Molly Millis Young for the mattress.

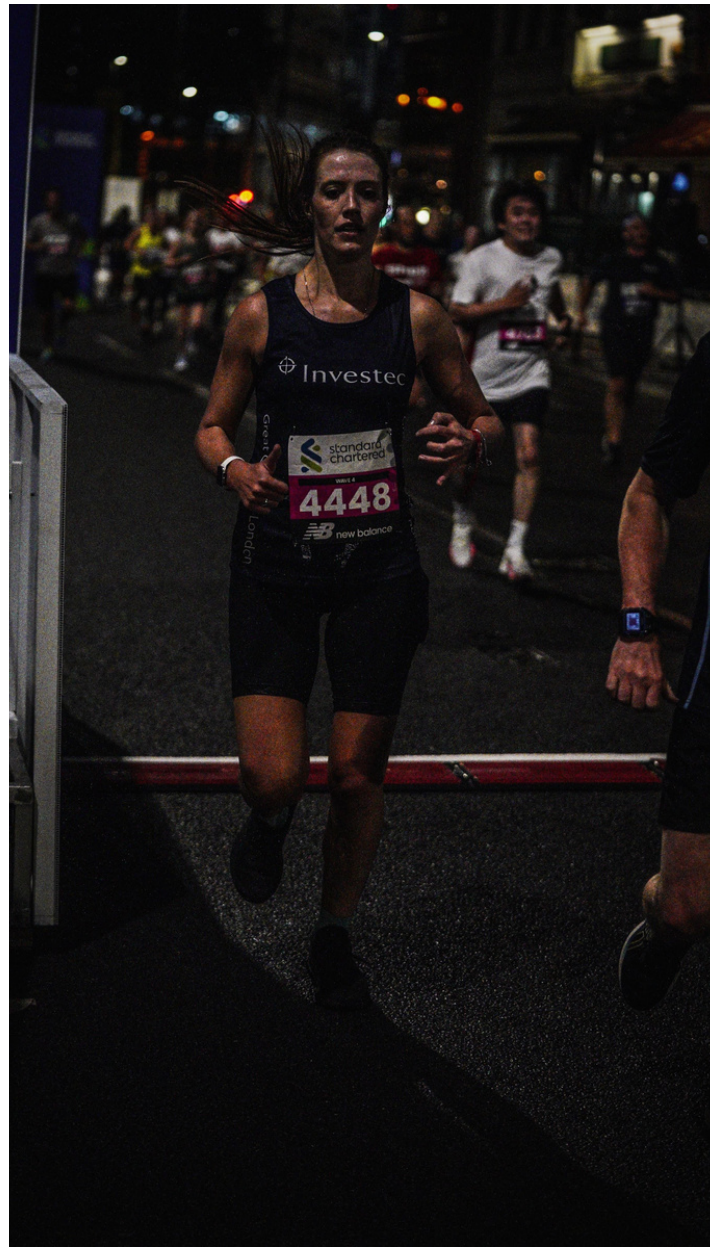
We would also like to thank Stepmad and Paediatric Care Africa for the mobility chair.



PLANTING SEASON BEGINS

Planting season has officially begun at the Lomshiyo Community Farming Project and the days are very busy.

A new mesh tunnel will help maximise the growth and protection of the growing crop while the recent rains are bringing life back to the land.



THANK YOU SHANNON LILFORD & INVESTEC

We would like to congratulate and thank Shannon Lilford of the London Investec team for running the London Marathon earlier this month in support of Care for wild.

Shannon volunteering in 2021 and hasn't stopped finding way to help support our work. She is truly inspirational and we are so grateful for her dedication.

"I am so proud to be running the London Marathon 2022 to the benefit of Care For Wild. The life-changing experience and privilege it was to volunteer for the cause in 2021 has opened my eyes and heart to so much. The non-stop, selfless work put in by all the those involved in this charity alone is inspirational. This charity does so much to save and protect endangered species, preserves scarce and beautiful eco-systems and aids and empowers people by developing communities. Care For Wild will always have a special place in my heart." Shannon

THANK YOU LEKKER COFFEE!**LEKKER**

COFFEE & WATERING HOLE

Care for Wild US would like to extend its gratitude to our partner Lekker Coffee & Watering Hole for its amazing quarterly donation of \$3,877.41 USD! We truly appreciate all you do on behalf of Care for Wild and the rhinos at your awesome shop!

THANK YOU SANDRA AND RUSTY!

Care for Wild US would also like to thank Sandra and Rusty for their successful efforts in getting their \$10,000 USD grant donation from June matched! This is amazing and we cannot thank you enough for your efforts!

THANK YOU DR. AND MRS. CHARLES H. BROWN JR

Care for Wild US would like to thank Dr. and Mrs. Charles H Brown Jr. for the generous donation of \$2,500 USD. We greatly appreciate it!





THANK YOU ONE LAND LOVE IT

We would like to say a very big thank you to One Land Lovelt (OLLI), Collegiate Junior School for Girls and Clarendon Park Primary School, for raising R4000 towards supporting the rehabilitation and ongoing care of little Daisy.

Thank you for making such a difference and for being inspirational young people in the fight to conserve and protect our heritage.

onelandloveit



THANK YOU STS GROUP!

Employees from Sectional Title Solutions (STS group) undertook a virtual challenge this month to raise funds and awareness for Care for Wild.

Participants could walk, run, cycle, swim or crawl! There were prizes for the best dressed and furthest distance travelled.

STS' CEO Johnny Wates also pledged R50 per kilometre for all participants up to 20km. This cost their beloved CEO R 15 951.50 which he generously rounded up to R16 000 and donated to Care for wild - what a legend!

The total amount of kilometres run by all participants was a whopping 309.39km (406 023.6 steps to be exact) to help protect our Rhinos.

A very big thank you to everyone involved for your support, creativity and dedication. We are truly appreciative of this effort.





THANK YOU OLIVIA SCHILLER

We would like to say a big thank you to Olivia Schiller for her immense effort in completing the Comrades Marathon, the ultimate human race! Of the 13 213 runners that took part in the 2022 Comrades Marathon, 11 709 managed to make it to the finish of this year's down-run.

Thank you Shannon for taking on this challenge in support of the rhino orphans here at Care for Wild and raising R13950.



THANK YOU MPUMALANGA RHINO'S CRICKET TEAM

The Mpumalanga Rhino Cricket Team visited Care for Wild earlier this month. With the rhino species playing such an important role in their team's identity, they felt it important to learn more about the poaching crisis and the efforts made to save a species from extinction. In support of Care for Wild they will also wear our logo on their uniforms as they stand beside us in this fight to save rhinos. Thank you so much!



VERSUS SOCKS FOR RHINOS

Versus socks have just launched their new rhino socks and in support of Care for Wild, they will be donating 10% of all proceeds to the rhinos.

Versus socks spend countless hours perfecting sock designs perfect for cyclists, runners and if you just love training!

Check them out now!

[CLICK HERE](#)

THANK YOU

WITH DEEPEST GRATITUDE, THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS FOR THE AMAZING SUPPORT OF THE INDIVIDUAL RHINOS, ANTI-POACHING, AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

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