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UN STORIES

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SOUTH AFRICA: RHINOS UNDER THREAT

VIDEO

RHINO CLOSE-UPS

TIME LAPSE WIDE SHOTS OF
KRUGER PARK

KEN MAGGS ON CAMERA

STILLS MONTAGE INC. STATISTICS

RHINO SKULLS

AUDIO

NARRATION:

Rhinos are facing their worst crisis in decades. Over the last few years the number of animals being poached has exploded.

Kruger National Park in South Africa has paid a heavy price for having the largest rhino population in the world.

KEN MAGGS: (In English) M

“I believe it is a big threat, a huge problem for us at the moment. The worst-case scenario is that we lose every single rhino on the African continent.”

NARRATION:

Rhinos have been near extinction before. // There were about 100,000 black rhinos in the 1960s, // but they were hunted and poached until just 2,400 remained.

Commercial trade in rhino horn was banned by CITES, The Convention on International Trade

in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora in 1977.

JOHN SCANLON ON CAMERA

JOHN SCANLON: (In English) M

“The only way we’re going to tackle this problem is by stopping the poaching, stopping the smuggling and stopping the consuming.”

WILDLIFE POLICE IN SOUTH AFRICA

NARRATION:

Wildlife crime is estimated to be worth billions of dollars a year.

STREETS OF HANOI

Rhino horn has been used in traditional medicine in China and Vietnam for centuries. But the demand for non-traditional uses is intensifying in the emerging economies in Asia.

ARMED SOLDIERS WALKING

NARRATION:

The government of South Africa is fighting back. Soldiers from the South Africa National Defence Force have deployed in Kruger Park.

RHINO TAGGING

And CITES is supporting a new DNA database which is aiming to profile the DNA of all of Africa’s Rhinos. // The new technique will allow any rhino horn seized by police at border crossings to be identified, linking all perpetrators along the crime chain and helping bring about a prosecution.

\YOUNG RHINO WITH MOTHER

It’s hoped that this new international cooperation will be a turning point in the protection of this incredible species.

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