

VETPAW - IN THE NEWS



VETPAW - Veterans Empowered To Protecting African Wildlife



**VETERANS EMPOWERED
TO PROTECT AFRICAN WILDLIFE**

IN THE NEWS

THE QUARTERLY DIGEST

OPERATION RHINO RISE

Launched Oct 2020 – 2021
A comprehensive effort to increase the population of Black and White Rhinos, and other endangered wildlife to a realistic and sustainable number.

RHINO HORN TRADE

South Africa
International commercial trade of rhino horn remains prohibited in terms of the Convention on the International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES).

COVID-19 & CONSERVATION

The Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) has responded by suspending rhino horn movement, which has reduced economic activity.

VETERAN NEWS

African Health
Conservation challenges, social distancing and isolation will see veterans' mental health, Veterans are feeling disconnected from their family, friends, or community.



Operation Rhino Rise is a comprehensive effort to extensively increase the population of Black and White Rhino and other endangered wildlife to a realistic and sustainable number, capable of continuous growth for generations to come. Since 2014, VETPAW has led the charge on the protection of Africa's endangered wildlife and precious ecosystem.

We have only been so successful due to various missions, campaigns, and partnerships. This has only been made possible with the help of gracious donors supporting our cause internationally. Through many successful endeavors in wildlife protection, we are able to refocus efforts towards conservation, preservation, and the repopulation of Rhinos, Elephants, Cheetahs, Lions, and Pangolin. Operation Rhino Rise is essential in continuing our mission of conservation and protection.

Operation Rhino Rise expands on the effort of endangered wildlife repopulation. Currently, we have relocated 18 Black Rhinos to protected territory with the help of local government and private landowners. One of the main efforts of this operation is to introduce an additional 82 Rhinos into the protected territory by 2022 via relocation and natural breeding.

HOW COVID-19 IS AFFECTING ORGANIZATIONS AGAINST POACHING IN SOUTH AFRICA



FROM THE VETPAW TEAM IN SOUTH AFRICA

COVID-19 is taking a detrimental toll in many facets of the world and the conservation industry is no exception. With international travel restrictions and tourism halted indefinitely, many non-profits and conservation organizations against poaching are struggling to bring in the necessary funds to remain effectively operational.

COVID-19 is escalating economic hardships on the people who rely on tourism as a means for survival.

As you probably know, VETPAWw provides anti poaching jobs for ex military members, placing them on reserves in Africa. Our Vetpaw team members on the ground in South Africa have a unique perspective of COVID-19 and its effects on conservation. This is our thoughts on COVID-19, conservation and how poacher hunting could increase during the pandemic.

VETPAW FIGHTS POACHING ON AFRICAN GROUND DURING COVID-19 CRISIS



New York, NY - VETPAW, a non-profit organization committed to protecting endangered wildlife from poachers, continues to fight against poaching in Africa during the coronavirus crisis.

While COVID-19 has brought serious change for millions of Americans, the virus has yet to disrupt poaching activity in Africa. With its outreach efforts and official writeups, such as [To enable links contact MENAFN], this team is working hard to halt poaching on African grounds during the pandemic by encouraging supporters to help in any way possible.

VETPAW stands for Veterans Empowered To Protect African Wildlife. As an anti-poaching operation of post-9/11 veterans, the team encourages people to donate money to fight the slaughtering of elephants and rhinos, which are on the path to extinction.

While elephants are killed for their ivory, rhinos are killed for their horns and sold on the black market. Illegal trading and wildlife trafficking are part of a multi-billion dollar industry. According to VETPAW, poaching funds terrorist organizations and criminal networks.

Made up of veterans with combat skills learned on the frontlines of war, VETPAW uses its knowledge and experience to educate African park rangers. VETPAW reports that many African park rangers are undertrained and don't have the necessary equipment to combat poaching effectively. This is why VETPAW dedicates time to training park rangers on how to combat poaching on African ground.

Not only does VETPAW train local rangers, but it also educates local communities on the long-term benefits received from conserving the wildlife community. Alongside law enforcement and African park rangers, they strive to give locals the tools they need to report poaching and act quickly to protect endangered species from extinction.

Those interested in helping this cause can donate to help fund the fight against illegal wildlife trade, support African communities, and serve veterans. VETPAW welcomes donations as this is what makes its work possible, especially during trying times like COVID-19. It also educates individuals in America about how to contribute to conservation efforts and protect endangered animals.

GUN-TOTING POACHER HUNTERS OR ANTI-POACHING CONSERVATIONISTS?



The year is 2020 and rhino horn has been falsely labeled as a miracle drug, rumors dictated by poaching syndicates and black-market commerce. This has placed some of the world's last living dinosaurs on the brink of extinction. Today there are about 5,500 black rhinos left in the world. And although poaching has decreased over the past several years, every single year, thousands of rhinos and elephants are being gruesomely slaughtered for their horns and tusks.

IS VETPAW ACTIVELY FIGHTING POACHERS?

Since its conception, 8 years ago, VETPAW has maintained a presence on South African reserves, providing security, training and anti-poaching services to keep wildlife safe from poaching threats. But it's not just the rhino that is suffering, local populations are barely thriving, unable to gain exposure to things that can pull them out of poverty – some unable to access or afford food. Vetpaw provides impoverished villagers with employment, training and various sustainable humanitarian efforts.

In a nutshell, what is Vetpaw?

VETPAW is a nonprofit organization with on-ground professionals dedicated to combating rhino and wildlife poaching in South Africa. The organization is funded by those who would also like to see an end to the poaching epidemic in South Africa – people like you.

SAVING EARTH: MEET VETPAW, THE GROUP OF US MARINE VETERANS WHO FIGHT POACHING AND PROTECT AFRICAN WILDLIFE



Planet Earth is in dire need of solutions. Astronomer Carl Sagan once said that we have a responsibility “to deal more kindly with one another, and to preserve and cherish the pale blue dot, the only home we’ve ever known”. Our campaign Saving Earth focuses on nature and wildlife conservation and this column will feature stories on the pressing needs of our planet and hopefulness of our fight.

Africa is home to a wide array of wildlife, and unfortunately, many of these magnificent creatures fall prey to poaching. Illegally taking animals from the wild

also threatens many of these species with extinction. Poaching is a serious problem in Africa, with many wild animals being killed or captured from their habitats or endemic regions. It also provides organized crime syndicates and violent extremists with revenue. Poaching poses a grave threat to elephants, rhinos and other animals including smaller invertebrates such as lizards and monkeys. One night, after stumbling upon the barbaric reality in Africa in a documentary on television, a US Marine veteran swore to dedicate his life to a new fight. While no stranger to battle, he took on a new mission and with his fellow veterans, formed the non-profit Veterans Empowered to Protect African Wildlife (VETPAW).

217CAST 014: RYAN TATE; PRESIDENT AND FOUNDER OF VETPAW



Myles and Mack had the honor of having Ryan Tate on the podcast in this episode. Ryan is the president and founder of VETPAW, Veterans Empowered To Protect African Wildlife. Ryan tells his story on how he got involved in conservation, the efforts they are making overseas to protect African wildlife,

and the programs VETPAW is putting in place in the United States of America to get more people involved in conservation. Ryan also talks about how he has balanced the different personalities within VETPAW and how to keep everyone on mission.

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https://www.google.com/maps/place/VETPAW/@40.742549,-73.9866801,15z/data=!4m2!3m1!1s0x0:0x6bcaf10495b8a131?sa=X&ved=2ahUKEwiR2pKwt-vtAhV57HMBHfGI_DFQQ_BlwEnoECC0QBQ

Google Folder -

<https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1NRb5Ab3YjnDyS3Ea4EIWUwWR8hIMcDvH?usp=sharing>

Google Site - <https://sites.google.com/view/vetpaw-org>

Google Photos -

https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1pqp_4Z1Y63jaMru2OCaABoRg85tWbiuq?usp=sharing

Business.Site - <https://vetpaw.business.site/>

YouTube - <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCpdGYu8zsXibcsqOV8r7yzA>