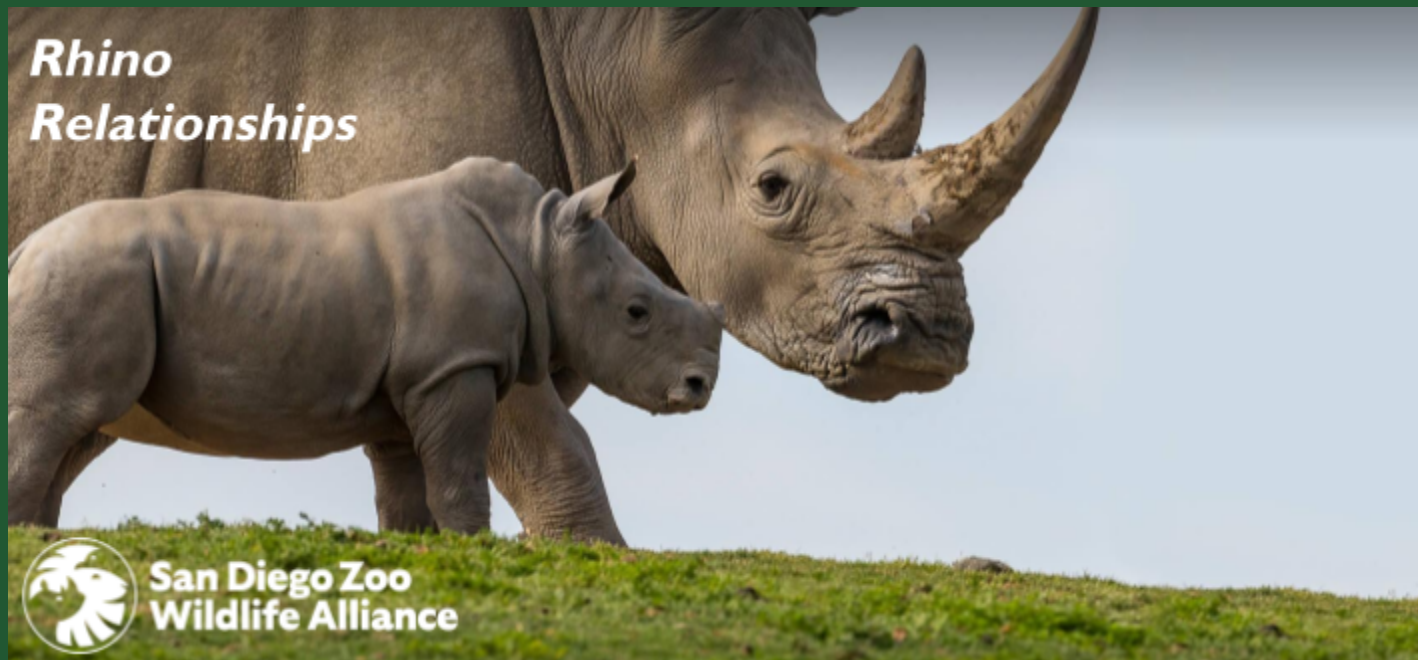
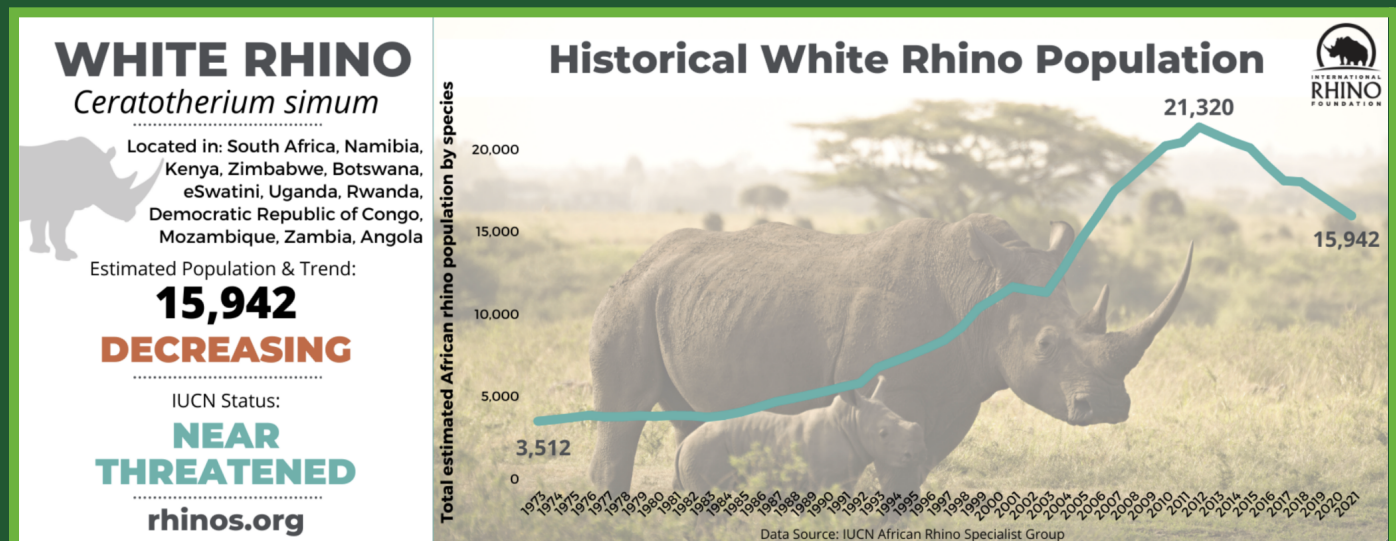




Look closely at the following figures.

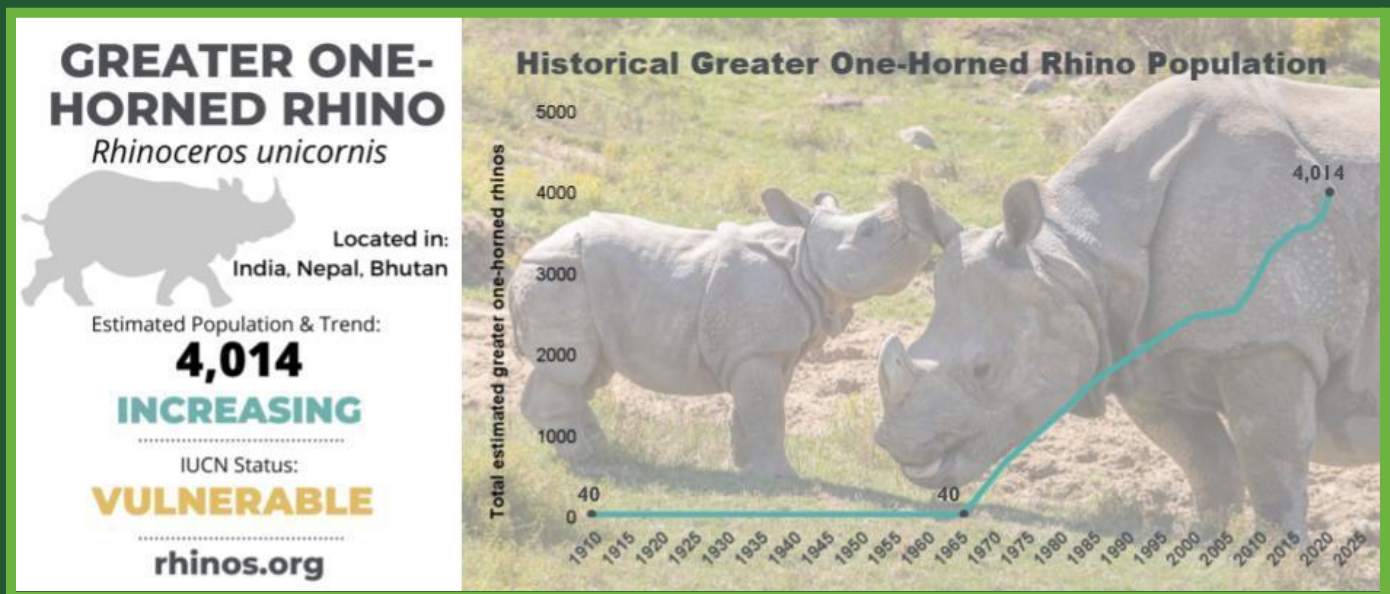
How do you think the white rhino and greater one-horned rhino populations are doing in the wild?



What claim can you make based on this figure?

What evidence is there to support your claim?

Explain your reasoning.



What claim can you make based on this figure?

What evidence is there to support your claim?

Explain your reasoning.

Let's take a closer look at the two rhino species the data describes.



White Rhinos of Africa



Greater One-Horned Rhinos of Asia

Use the information from the sources linked in the images above to complete the worksheet “**I Know That Rhino!**”.

All of the world's rhinos have a unique role to play in their ecological neighborhood.

What species live alongside rhinos in **India**? How do you think they interact with rhinos? [Protecting Rhinos in Kaziranga National Park | Nat Geo WILD](#)

What species live alongside rhinos in southern **Africa**? How do you think they interact with rhinos? [Pride of Namibia](#)

Even though these two rhino species have several differences, we can use the same set of words to describe their interactions with the other organisms in their environment. In other words, their **ecological relationships**.

Competitive
(-/-)

A relationship is *competitive* when both species are harmed by each other's presence.

This typically occurs when both species use the same limited resources to survive.

Predatory
(+/-)

A relationship is *predatory* when one of the species benefits but the other is harmed.

This typically occurs when one species **is** a resource the other species uses to survive.

Mutually Beneficial
(+/+)

A relationship is *mutually beneficial* when both species benefit from each other's presence.

This typically occurs when each species has a resource the other needs to survive.

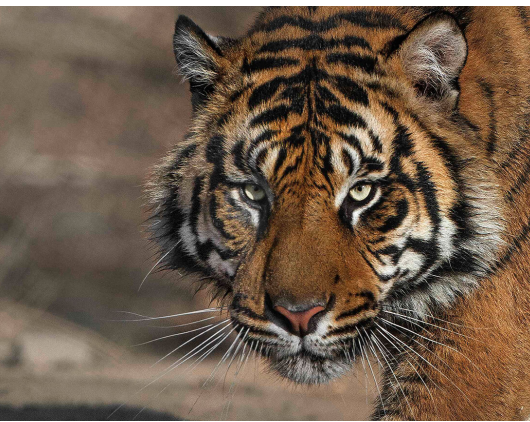
How would you categorize these ecological relationships?



Animals need powerful tools like big teeth and sharp claws to hunt a rhino. The lions and hyenas of Africa can sometimes catch a baby rhino by working together in groups. The massive bengal tigers of Asia are the only animals that can take on even a baby rhino by themselves.

In Africa, birds called oxpeckers are often seen riding on the backs of white rhinos. These birds are *insectivores* or insect-eaters, and they get an easy meal by plucking ticks off the rhino's body. In Asia, cattle egrets provide greater one-horned rhinos with the same service.

The savannas of Africa are home to many different species. Some of those species, like African buffalo and wildebeest, eat grass just like the white rhinos. The greater one-horned rhinos eat other plants in addition to grass, just like their Asian elephant neighbors on the floodplains.



These relationships are...

These relationships are...

These relationships are...

The reason I think so is...

The reason I think so is...

The reason I think so is...



Complete the “**How Humans Relate to Rhinos**” worksheet
to investigate the interactions between humans and rhinos.



#RhinoHornIsNotMedicine
#SaveTheChubbyUnicorns

Created by the Community Engagement Lab of the San Diego Zoo Wildlife Alliance



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