

# Rhinoceros poaching continues

In the Kruger Park in South Africa, the number of rhinos has fallen drastically, while poaching remains as intense as ever. This finding comes from a study by ecologist Jasper Eikelboom and Herbert Prins, emeritus professor of Wildlife Ecology and Conservation. 'Around the turn of the millennium, the number of animals was still around 10,000 to 12,000. Two years ago, there were only 2,500,' says Eikelboom. The

scientists used a mathematical model to determine the pressure from poachers. They saw that the percentage of poached animals remained fairly constant. 'The absolute numbers of dead rhinos are dropping because there are fewer rhinos, but they are being poached just as much.' Eikelboom and Prins call for smaller, well-guarded parks to turn the tide.

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