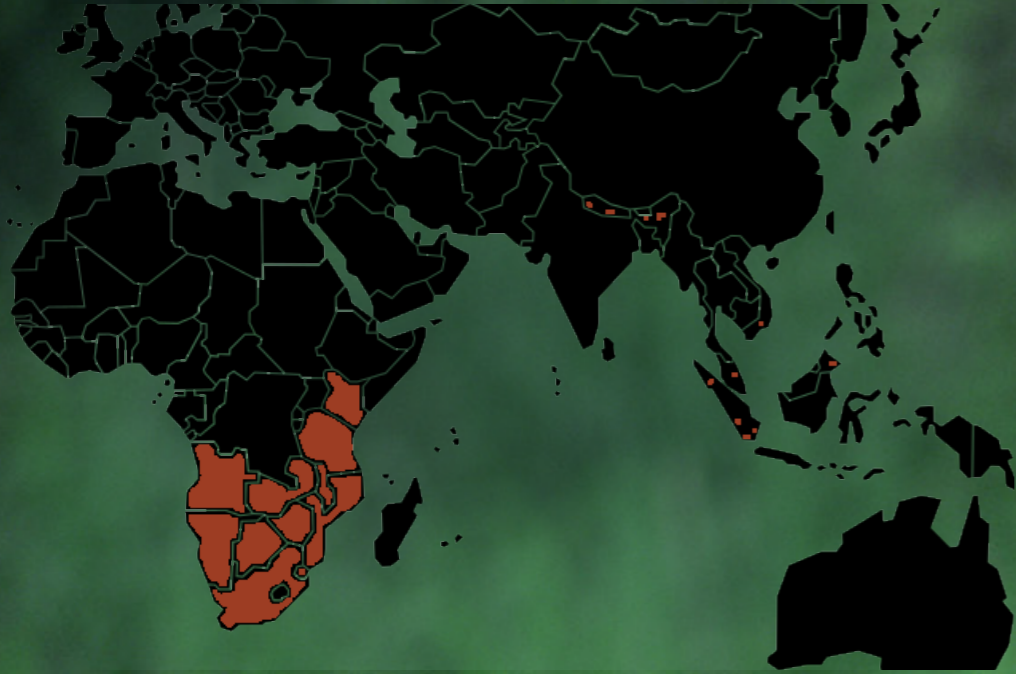


Photo courtesy Mark Carwardine



CONSERVATION STATUS

- EX Extinct
- EW Extinct in the wild
- CR CRITICALLY ENDANGERED
- EN Endangered
- VU VULNERABLE
- NT NEAR THREATENED
- LC Least concern

IUCN Red List of Endangered Species

Birds

Rhino will often be seen with birds perched on their back. These birds, like the mynah bird in India (pictured) and the oxpecker in Africa, eat ticks and other insects that they find on the rhino.

Horn

The Indian one-horned rhino (pictured) and Javan rhino have one horn each. The white, black and Sumatran rhino each have two horns. Rhino horn has no medicinal benefit but this use continues to create demand for rhino horn posing a threat to their survival.

Senses

Rhinos have poor eyesight, but very good senses of smell and hearing.

Mouth

Rhinos are herbivores. Each species eat a variety of plants including grass, fruits, leaves, branches of trees shrubs and aquatic plants.

Teeth

When an Indian one-horned rhino (pictured) is threatened it slashes and gouges with its long, sharp incisors and canine teeth of its lower jaw.

Skin

Rhinos have thick, heavy hides which can resemble armour plates. Still sensitive to sunburn and insect bites, wallowing in mud provides protection when the mud dries.

Legs

Rhinos can run very fast - up to speeds of 45km/hr and are surprisingly manoeuvrable.

Rhinos have lived on earth for 40 million years. In 1970 there were 70,000 rhinos. Today approximately 27,500 survive in the wild.

The David Shepherd Wildlife Foundation (DSWF) funds rhino conservation and education projects in India and Namibia and works to fight the illegal trade in rhino horn. www.davidshepherd.org

RHINO

