



## White Rhino

[Source: IE](#)

**The Resurrection Quest**, a documentary on **cloning, gene editing, and species de-extinction**, won the Gold Dolphin Award for showcasing efforts to save the **northern white rhino**.

## White Rhino

- **About:** White rhinos are the **second-largest land mammal**.
- **Subspecies:** The **species** is split into **two genetically distinct subspecies** - **Northern white rhino** and **Southern white rhino**.
- **Habitat:**
  - **Northern White Rhino:** Only **two females left (functionally extinct)**, both living in **Ol Pejeta Conservancy, Kenya**.
  - **Southern White Rhino:** Found mostly in **South Africa, Namibia, Zimbabwe, and Kenya** (98.8% population).
- **IUCN Status of White Rhino:** Near threatened.
- **Social Behavior:** Groups of up to **14 rhinos** form, mainly **females with calves**. **Adult males** defend **territories** marked with **scraped dung piles**.
  - **Adult females** have **larger home ranges**, while **breeding females** stay within a **dominant male's territory**.
- **Primary Threat:** **Poaching** is the **primary threat**. The **northern white rhino** nears extinction from decades of **horn poaching**.

# RHINOCEROS

World Rhino Day - 22nd September (declared by WWF in 2010)

## 5 Main Species of Rhino

Species	Found in	IUCN Red List Status	Habitat
African White	Africa	NT	Long/short grass Savannah
African Black	Africa	CE	Semi-Desert Savannah
Greater one-horned	Asia	Vu (CITES - Appendix I, WPA - Schedule I)	Tropical grassland
Javan	Asia	CE	Tropical, subtropical forests
Sumatran	Asia	CE	Same as Javan

Ujung Kulon National Park (a UNESCO WHS) is home to the last remaining wild Javan rhinos on Earth

## Greater One-Horned Rhino

Only species found in India (aka Indian Rhino)



### CHARACTERISTICS

- Largest of the 5 species
- Identified by a single black horn and a grey-brown hide with skin folds



### Threats

- Poaching for horns
- Habitat loss
- Decreasing Genetic diversity



### Protected Areas (India)

- **UP**
  - ◆ Dudhwa TR
- **West Bengal**
  - ◆ Jaldapara NP ◆ Gorumara NP
- **Assam**
  - ◆ Pabitora WLS
  - ◆ Orang NP
  - ◆ Kaziranga NP (max no. of Rhinos: ~2400)
  - ◆ Manas NP



### Conservation Efforts (India)

- National Rhino Conservation Strategy
- Indian Rhino Vision 2020 (launched in 2005)

#### New Delhi Declaration on Asian Rhinos 2019

Signed by 5 rhino range nations (India, Bhutan, Nepal, Indonesia and Malaysia)



Drishti IAS

Read More: [White Rhinos](#)

