



## WHAT AND WHO IS THE LTRS?

“Legal Trade for Rhino Survival” (LTRS) is a campaign initiated and funded by the Kingdom of Eswatini’s Big Game Parks to sensitize the world to the real plight of Africa’s rhinos and encourage effective action to ensure their long-term survival. The perceived plight of these iconic animals is believed to be understated; this, and the urgency of applying a realistic solution to reverse their current trend towards extinction, is given in the attached flyer.

LTRS supports and promotes the sustainable utilization of wildlife in accordance with the IUCN’s World Conservation Strategy. It is believed that an ethical, legal international trade in rhino horn will not only give rhinos their best chance of survival but will also unlock enormous much-needed funding for other important Nature conservation needs, at the same time bringing meaningful benefits to the rural communities and economies of African range states.

Since the ban on horn trade was put in place 42 years ago, only criminals have benefitted from the consequential illegal horn trade. It is long overdue that African countries and their people become the beneficiaries of their legally owned and valuable sovereign assets.

The Kingdom of Eswatini is presenting a proposal to the CITES CoP18 in Sri Lanka in May this year to allow international trade in its own rhino horn. The LTRS campaign has been designed and timed to encourage the 182 Member States of CITES to support Eswatini’s proposal and vote in its favour.

It is time for effective **ACTION** to help these globally loved, yet gravely endangered animals of Africa.

### Kingdom of Eswatini’s Big Game Parks

**Patrons:** His Majesty, King Mswati III, Ngwenyama of the Kingdom of Eswatini  
Prince Bernhard of the Netherlands †

- Mandated National Wildlife Authority of Eswatini on behalf of the King’s Office.
- Administers the Wildlife & Flora Act 51/1953 (The Game Act) and is the CITES Management Authority of Eswatini.
- Founded Nature conservation in Eswatini 58 years ago and governs three premier parks which underpin the Kingdom’s tourism industry.
- Initiated creation of the National Trust Commission to set up a park system for the Kingdom and founded the National Environmental Education Program.
- Restored 23 species of larger wild animals which had become locally extinct during Colonial rule and is home to all the Kingdom’s black and white rhino, elephant, buffalo, lion and rare antelope species such as suni, blue duiker, tsessebe, sable and roan.
- Is financially viable through self-generated revenue from tourism and the sustainable utilization of surplus wildlife but needs funds for some capital development and the escalating costs of rhino protection.

***“Conservation without finance is merely conversation”***

*– Dr. Anton Rupert*

## LTRS has the active, committed support of the following distinguished members:

### KINGDOM OF ESWATINI:

- **HRH Chief Senzangakhona Phešheya Dlamini**, Judge of the Supreme Court; former positions include Attorney General, Ambassador of the Kingdom of Eswatini to the United Nations, and High Commissioner of Eswatini to the Republic of South Africa
- **His Excellency, the Rt. Hon. Mr. Ambrose Dlamini**, Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Eswatini
- **Hon. Neal Rijkenburg MP**, Minister of Finance
- **Hon. Ms Pholile Shakantu**, MP, Minister of Justice & Constitutional Affairs
- **Hon. Moses Vilakati MP**, Minister of Tourism & Environmental Affairs
- **Hon. Senator Isaac Magagula MP**, former National Commissioner of Police
- **Hon. Marwick Khumalo MP**
- **Major General Manzemvula Mamba**, King's Office
- **Mr. Paul Dlamini**, former Deputy Prime Minister
- **Mr. Christopher Gamedze**, former Minister of Tourism & Environmental Affairs
- **Mr. Mshumayeli Knox Nxumalo**, former Senior Partner, Robinson Bertram Attorneys
- **Mr. Titus Dlamini**, Founder & Executive Director of Ecotone Africa, an environmental NGO
- **Dr. Themba Mahlaba**, Environmental Educator & Researcher, University of Eswatini

### INTERNATIONAL – some of the world-renowned Nature conservationists and experts in their field:

- **HRH Prince Dipati Benjamin Maenetja**, Balepye Community, South Africa.
- **Professor Brian Child**, Associate Professor, Centre for Africa, University of Florida, USA; actively promotes solutions to the complex and debilitating problems facing Africa's wildlife heritage.
- **Mr. David Cook**, former Deputy Director of Natal Parks Board where the white rhino was saved from extinction; Founder Member with Dr. Ian Player and others in 2008 of "*The Conservation Imperative*", an NGO created to promote the sustainable utilization of natural resources, including rhino horn trade.
- **Dr. David Cooper**, principal Veterinarian for 23 years with Natal Parks Board/Ezemvelo KZN Wildlife, responsible for *inter alia* wildlife capture and translocation including black and white rhino to many African countries.
- **Dr. JG (Kobus) Du Toit**, consulting wildlife Veterinarian with extensive experience, co-author of books Game Ranch Management, Capture and Care Manual, author of Veterinary Care and Management of the African Elephant.
- **Mr. Michael Eustace**, former Senior General Manager of Nedcor Investment Bank in South Africa; Co-Founder of African Parks, which now administers 15 game reserves in Africa covering 10 million hectares.
- **Dr. John Hanks**, zoologist with 45 years' experience in conservation, education and research in several African countries and beyond. Former postings include Professor and head of Dept. of Biological Sciences, University of Natal, Director of the Africa Program for WWF International (Switzerland), Chief Executive of WWF-South Africa and first Executive Director of Peace Parks Foundation. Published over 150 scientific papers and three books.
- **Dr. George Hughes**, former CEO of NPB/KZN Wildlife where he served with distinction for most of his working life; Founder Member of the IUCN Sea Turtle Specialist Group; Founded the Natal Parks Board Conservation Trust in 1989 (now the Wildlands Conservation Trust), has received 8 National and International conservation awards and written 317 scientific and popular publications and published two books.
- **Mr. Eugene Lapointe**, former Secretary General of CITES and Founder of the IWMC (International Wildlife Management Consortium) World Conservation Trust, promoting a global coalition for sustainable use.
- **Dr. Arne Lawrenz**, Veterinarian and Director of Zoo Wuppertal, Germany, operating in Europe as Chair of the Veterinary Committee of the European Association of Zoos & Aquaria (EAZA).
- **Dr. Rodgers Lubilo**, Chairperson, Zambia CBNRM Forum.
- **Mr. Zig Macintosh**, photographer and filmmaker for 35 years, documenting various subjects in 30 countries, highlighting sustainable use of natural resources as an important tool for conservation.
- **Mr. Tebogo Mogashoa**, President, Wildlife Ranching South Africa.
- **Mr. Mavuso Msimang**, Conservation enthusiast, South Africa.
- **Dr. Mathews Phosa**, South African activist, attorney, business leader and philanthropist.
- **Mr. Andrew Van Heerden**, Chairman, *The Conservation Imperative*, RSA.
- **Professor Francis (Frank) Vorhies**, Director of the African Wildlife Economy Institute, Stellenbosch University SA, Academic Director of the School of Wildlife Conservation at the African Leadership University, Kigali, Director of Earthmind, a Swiss NGO; former positions include CEO of Earthwatch Institute (Europe), Chief Economist at IUCN, and Natural Resource Economist at the African Wildlife Foundation.
- **Dr. Douglas Wise**, Lecturer in Dept. of Veterinary Medicine, University of Cambridge, UK.
- **Mr. MG (Thug) Haines**, Executive Officer of LTRS, [mghaines@wandata.com](mailto:mghaines@wandata.com)



The Kingdom of Eswatini's  
**BIG GAME PARKS**  
CITES Management Authority

***Big Game Parks records its deep appreciation to all the above accomplished people for identifying with and supporting the LTRS mission.***