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Rhinos poached on Ghaub

Guest company praises reward for successful arrest

A restaurant in the Otavi triangle complains about the loss of two white rhinos, which fell victim to poachers last weekend. In both cases it was cows that were carrying young calves - one was found, but another is missing. Only one of the animals was dehorned. The other escaped the criminals, but then died in agony in the bush as a result of an abdominal injury.



This picture of the rhinoceros cow Zanna with her almost one-year-old calf was taken a few weeks ago on the guest farm Ghaub. Photo: Joachim Rust



The rhinoceros cow Zanna was found dehorned in the open area of the guest house Ghaub. Photo: Joachim Rust

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By Frank Steffen, Windhoek

Yesterday, the extremely shocked and deeply disappointed Joachim Rust from the guest company Ghaub Nature Reserve & Farm reported that he had lost at least two rhinos as a result of poaching. He was particularly concerned about the dead white rhinoceros Zanna, which the Rust couple had rescued as a calf and raised with a milk bottle. But the "big cow", who died miserably after being shot in the stomach, gave the farmer a hard time. Rust is now promising a reward of N \$ 50,000 for clues from the public leading to an arrest and conviction.

"I'm not quite sure what to say about it, because no one will readily understand how much effort, time and money we put into preserving these animals - and that at a time when the COVID-19 pandemic is so difficult for us Has done damage," said Rust to the AZ. The female Zanna was rescued as an orphan after her mother, "the first Zanna" (according to Rust), sank into the mud after heavy rain on the farm in the Waterberg area and then got buried so tight that she died exhausted. The calf could be caught and raised - that was in 2014.

As a two-year-old young animal, Zanna and other white rhinos (*Ceratotherium simum*) were relocated to the Ghaub nature reserve (private property) belonging to the farm, where the animal was shot last Sunday (May 16, 2021) and found dehorned in the Veld. The incident is made worse by the fact that her almost one-year-old calf has not yet been found (as of yesterday afternoon).

Meanwhile, while searching for the calf, the other female rhinoceros "Big Cow" was discovered dead in the bush. "Judging by the tracks, the animal fled from the poachers, seriously injured by a shot in the stomach, and hid in the bush, where it died miserably and painfully after two days," wrote Rust in a message to AZ. This cow also had a young calf, which has since been found and added to other animals.

Also known as the broad-lipped rhinoceros, the often used expression "white rhinoceros" is derived from the English expression "white rhinoceros". This in turn is probably based on the misunderstood word "wide", ie broad (based on white rhinoceros). The white rhinoceros is listed as "near threatened" on the Red List of Endangered Species of the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN). In contrast, the black rhinoceros or black rhinoceros or

pointed-lipped rhinoceros (*Diceros bicornis*) are even considered to be “critically endangered”.

Despite repeated attempts yesterday to get a comment from the police, this did not materialize until the editorial deadline.