Or will the massive over population of elephants
in Botswana eventually result in this ?



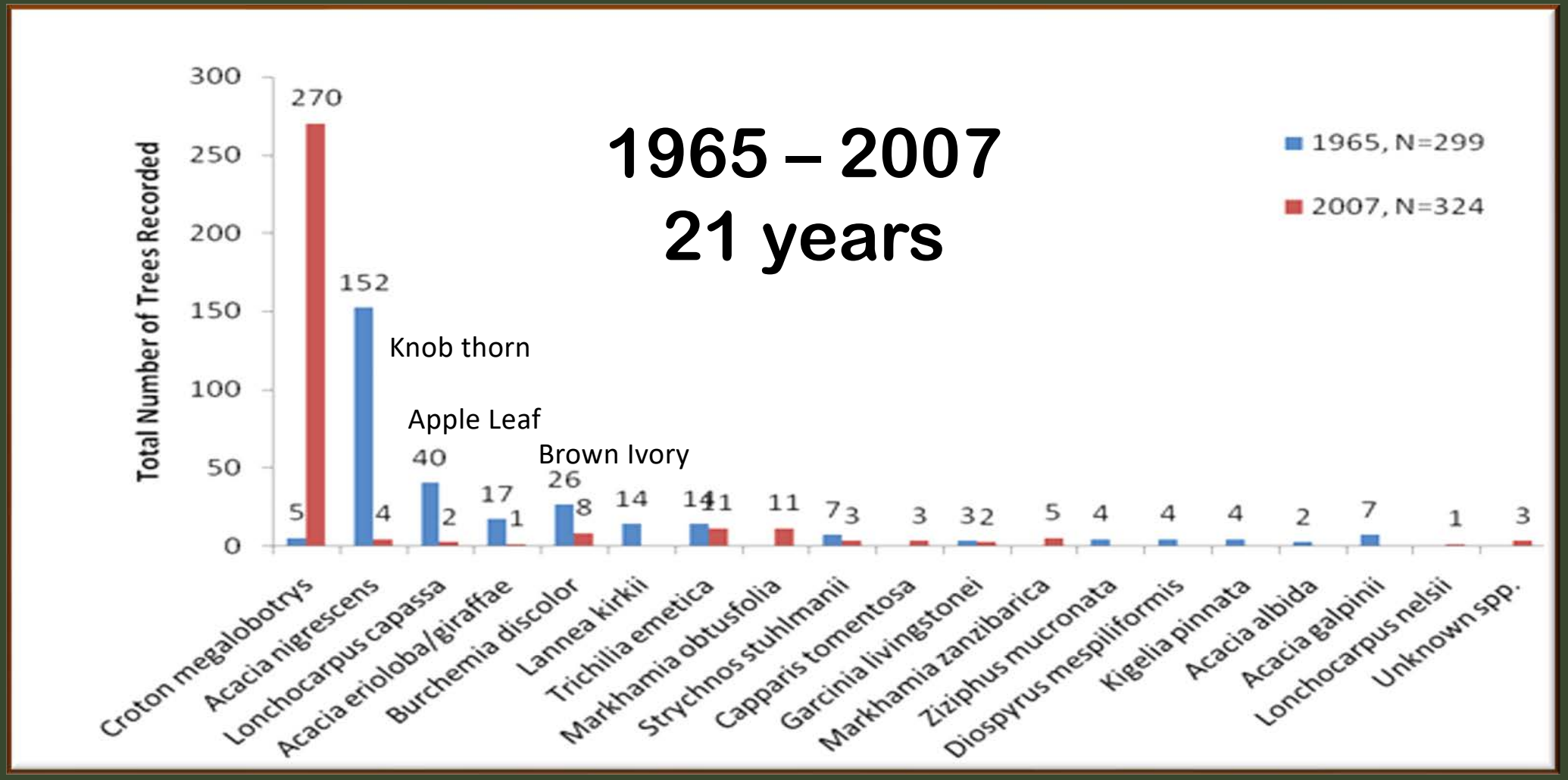
Experts on Elephant management are of opinion that
recent Elephant deaths in Botswana are already signs
of starvation due to habitat loss rather than anything else.

Are these elephant experts wrong ?



Tourist game viewing in Chobe (2019)

What happened to the Plants / Trees ?



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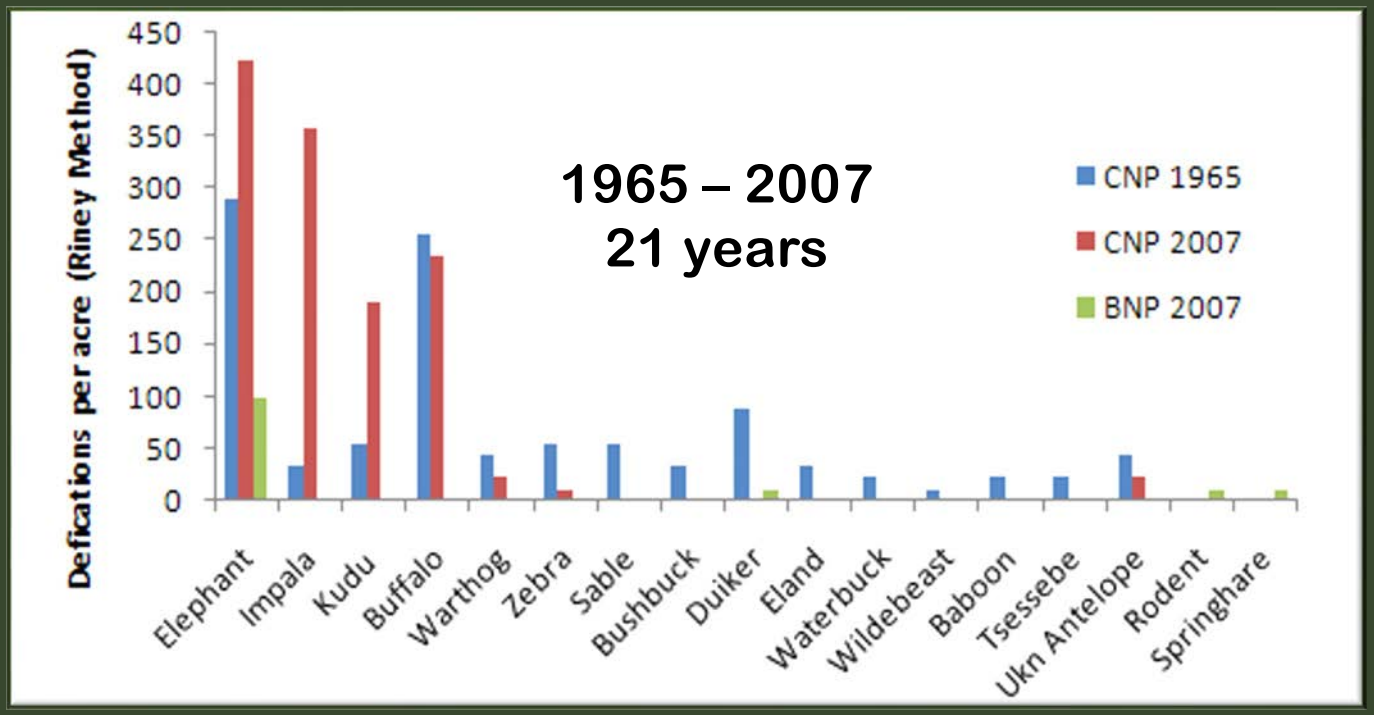
Pioneer shrubs replace large, edible riverine trees

Big trees mostly dead; greenery is shrubs and creepers

Chobe 2019

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What happened to other animals ?



Increasing





Decreasing



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What are the management options Botswana can implement ?

Option 1: Let the elephant population grow until it destroys itself and most of the other species relying on the same habitat ?

Remember 1972 in Tsavo, Kenya: No culling lead to over population of elephant resulting in severe loss of habitat resulting in the loss of >12,000 elephant & >4,000 black rhino when the severe drought came.

Option 2: Contemplate culling ?
Down to carrying capacity or cull 100,000 just to curb severe habitat loss ?


100,000 elephants = 1,235
times these 81 animals
How does one manage the culling of 100,000 elephants ?

How factually relevant, and realistic is this protest then ?

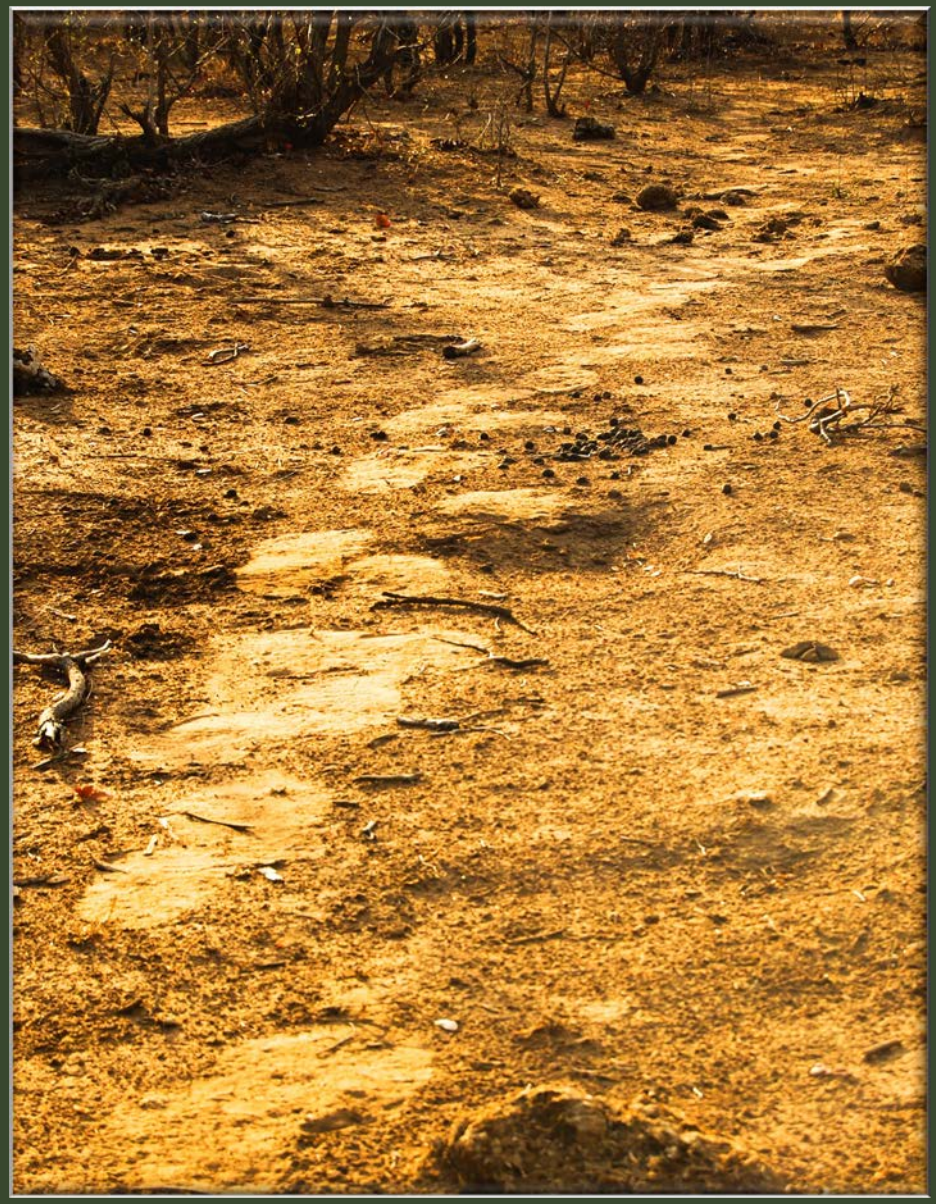


A campaign driven under false pretext by misrepresentation and misusing the assumptions (and money) of gullible people.

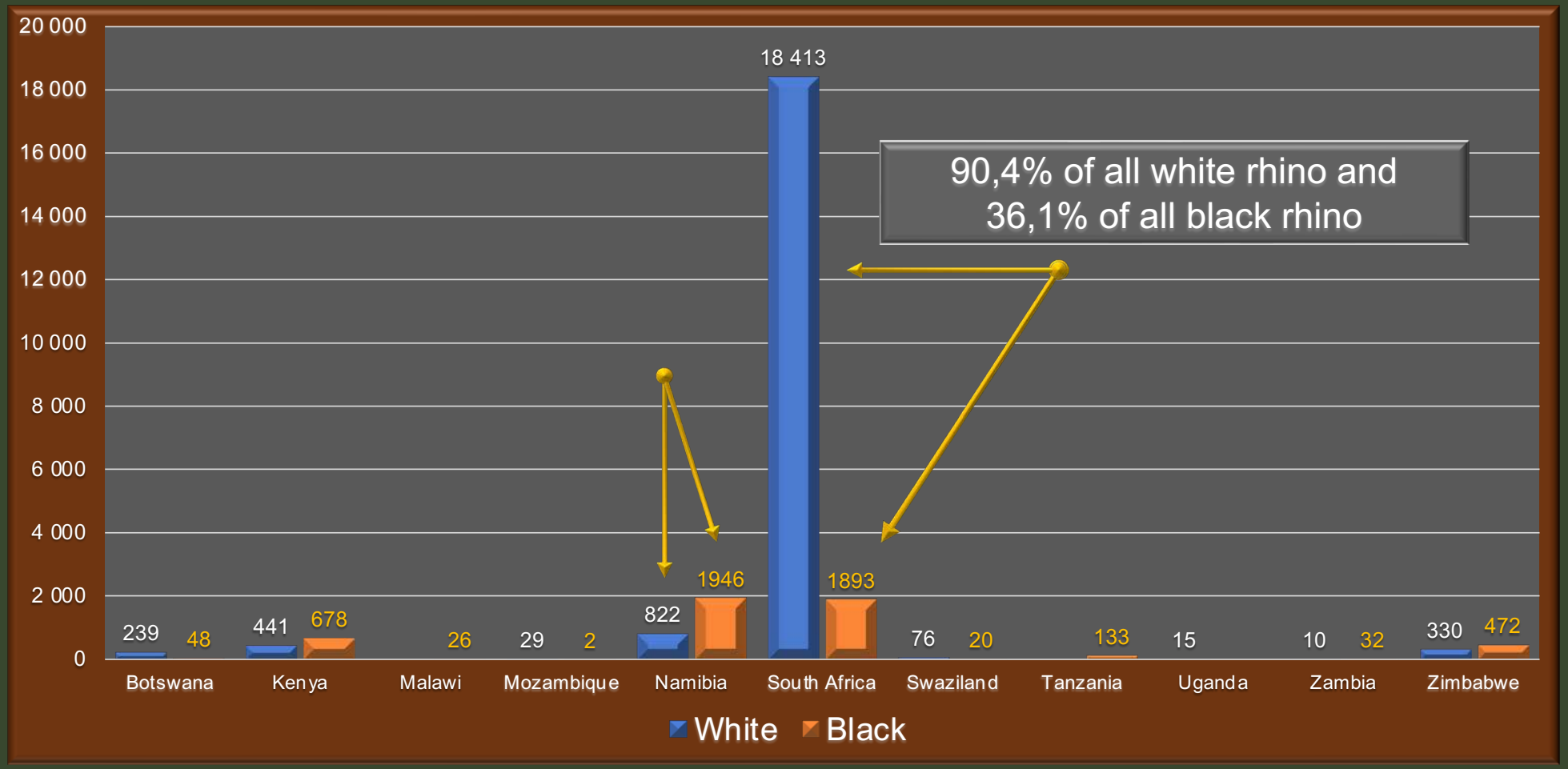


It borders the ridiculous and could eventually possibly be described as criminal !

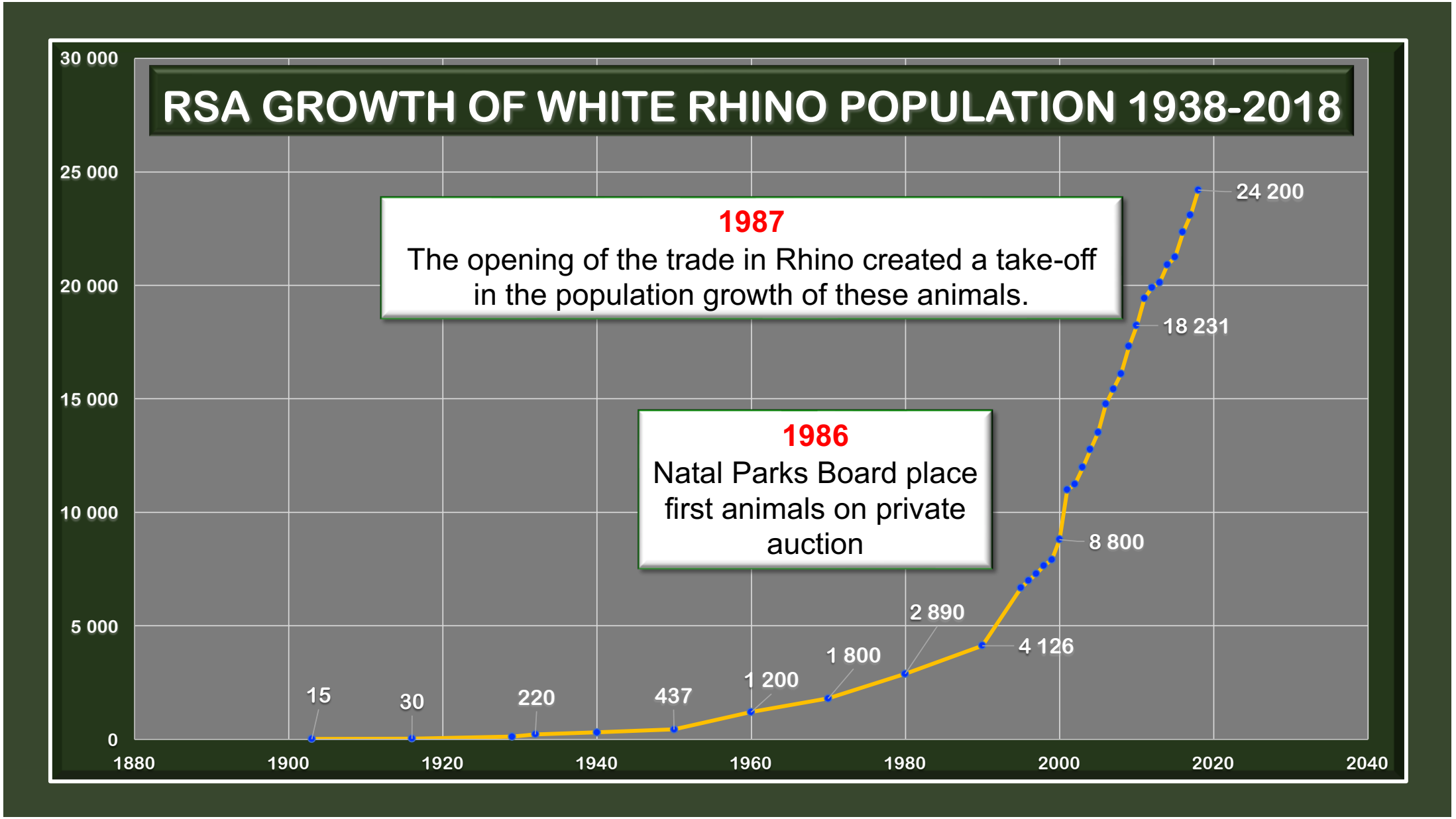
Hopefully this is not all that will remain of Botswana's elephants.



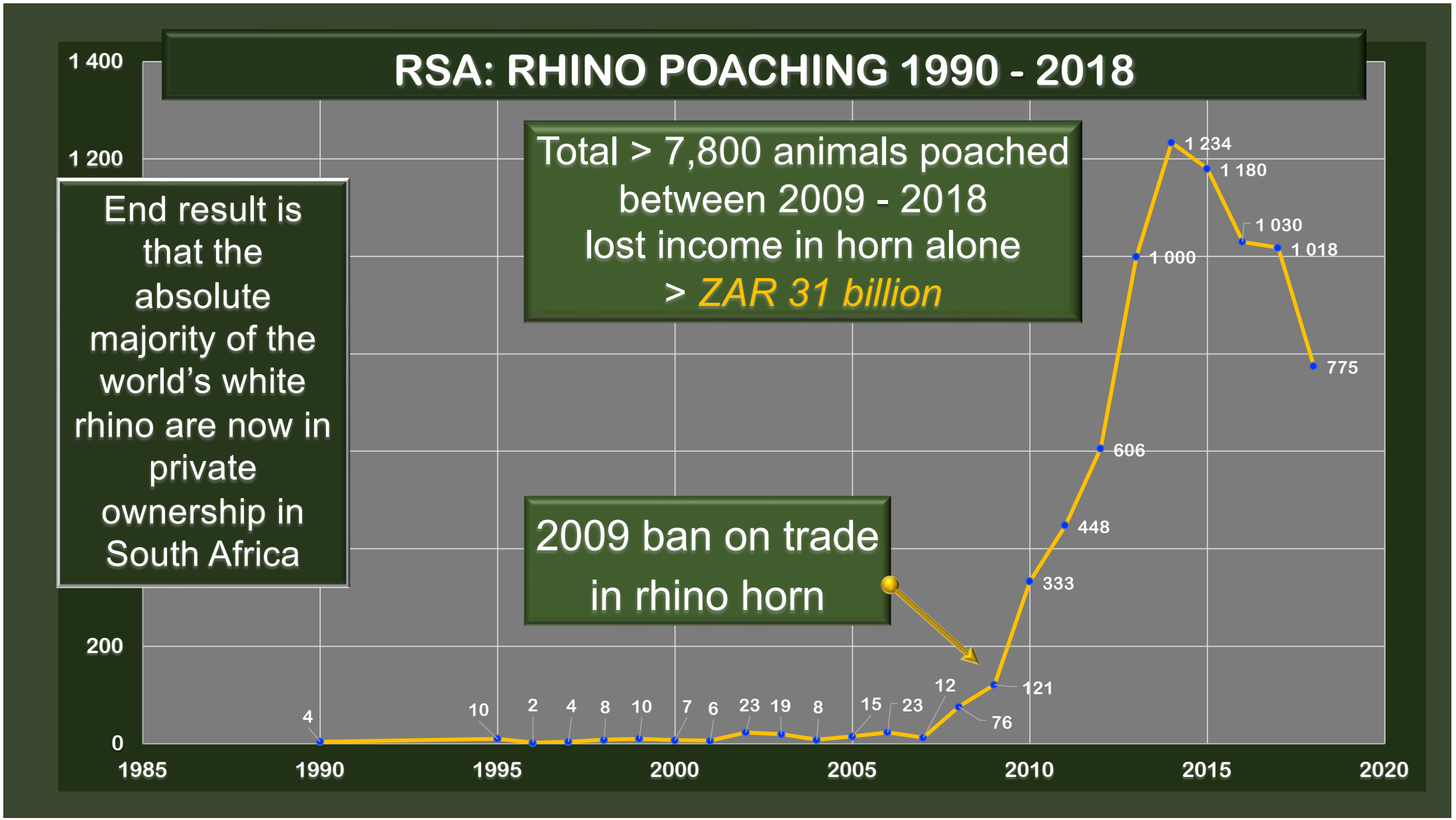
IUCN SSC Estimated Number of African Rhino Species - 2015

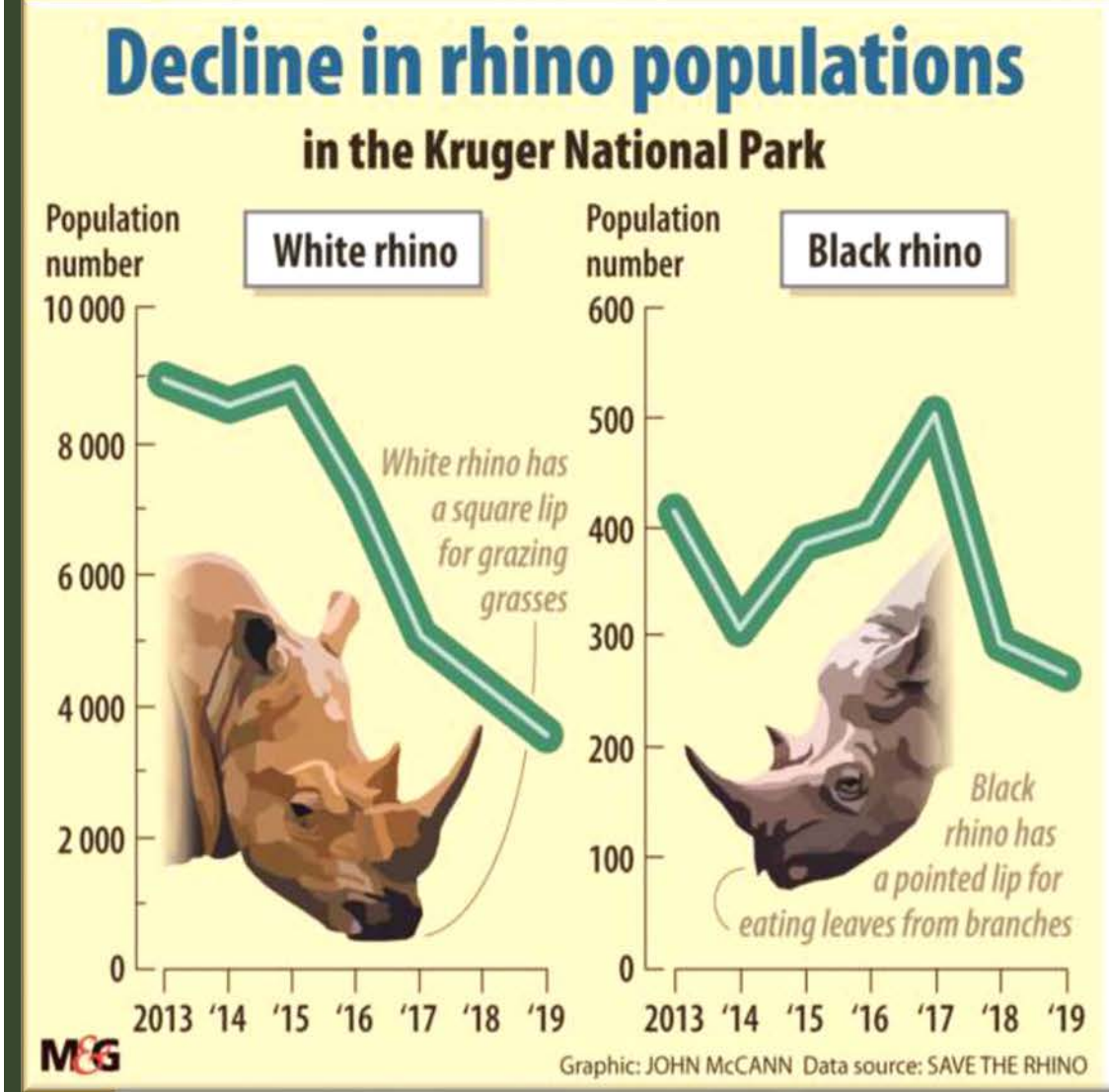


CITES CoP 17 - African and Asian Rhinocerous – Status, Conservation and Trade. A Report from the IUCN Species Survival Commission (IUCN SSC) African and Asian Rhino Specialist Groups and TRAFFIC


RSA GROWTH OF WHITE RHINO POPULATION 1938-2018
30 000
25 000
20 000
15 000
10 000
5 000
0
1880
1900
1920
1940
1960
1980
2000
2020
2040
1987
The opening of the trade in Rhino created a take-off in the population growth of these animals.
1986
Natal Parks Board place first animals on private auction
15
30
220
437
1 200
1 800
2 890
4 126
8 800
18 231
24 200


Unfortunately the imposition of a ban on trade of rhino horn in 2009 results in legal hunting being surpassed by poaching
350
300
250
200
150
100
50
0
2005
2006
2007
2008
2009
2010
Legally hunted
Poached
Source: Du Toit, JG; 2011


RSA: RHINO POACHING 1990 - 2018
1 400
1 200
200
0
1985
1990
1995
2000
2005
2010
2015
2020
End result is that the absolute majority of the world's white rhino are now in private ownership in South Africa
Total > 7,800 animals poached between 2009 - 2018 lost income in horn alone > ZAR 31 billion
2009 ban on trade in rhino horn
4
10
2
4
8
10
7
6
23
19
8
15
23
12
76
121
333
448
606
1 000
1 234
1 180
1 030
1 018
775



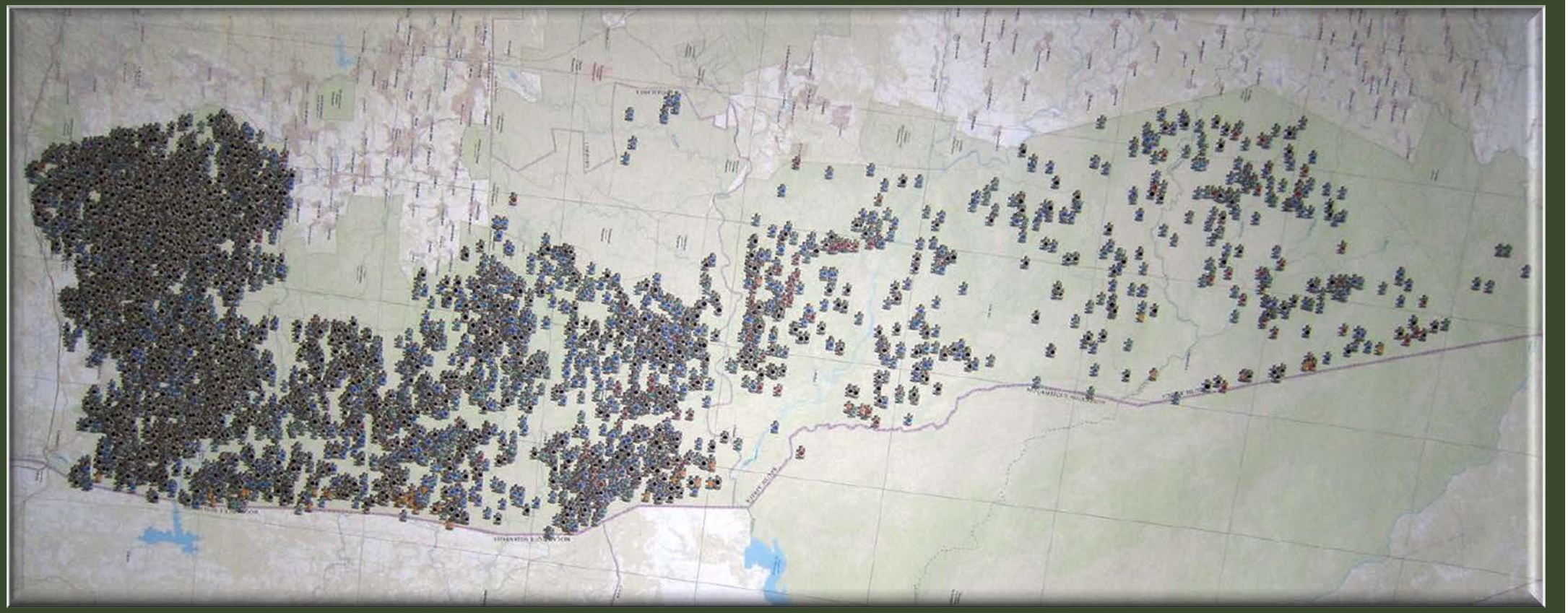
2019 Estimates

Reported ± 3,000 left

67%

Decline in Population

Up to 2020 – Poached Rhino Carcasses Whole of Kruger



The result of the so-called precautionary approach to no trade in rhino horn

COST IN HUMAN LIVES

RHINO POACHING - KNP 2012 TO 2016

Rhino poachers killed (KNP) – 2012 to 2016 = *261*

52 per annum

Rhino rangers killed (KNP) – 2012 to 2016 = *48*

9 per annum

Did the death of >400 humans (2020) justify this?



VALUE OF RHINO HORN ON BLACK-MARKET

On the black-market, rhino horn sells @ US$ 65,000 / kg

Rhino horn thus = US$ 1,840 / ounce

Gold sells for US$ 1,609 / ounce

The ban on trade in rhino horn will clearly NOT stop poaching



The ban on trade in rhino horn will clearly NOT stop poaching

09-12-2021



The HLP of so-called Experts on Lion, leopard, elephant and rhino, based their report on the following so-called “working vision”

To provide an aspirational horizon against which to reference our thinking, we identified the following consensus “working vision”:

Secured, restored, and rewilded natural landscapes with thriving populations of Elephant, Lion, Rhino, and Leopard, as indicators for a vibrant, responsible, inclusive, transformed, and sustainable wildlife sector

Secured, restored, and rewilded natural landscapes with thriving populations of Elephant, Lion, Rhino, and Leopard, as indicators for a vibrant, responsible, inclusive, transformed, and sustainable wildlife sector

Again one can ask: Isn’t this the panicle of arrogance - or is it ignorance ?

Secured, restored, and rewilded natural landscapes with thriving populations of Elephant, Lion, Rhino, and Leopard, as indicators for a vibrant, responsible, inclusive, transformed, and sustainable wildlife sector

Where is the science which even suggests that lion, leopard, elephant and rhino can even begin to be the scientific baseline to serve as indicators against which to measure the sustainability of our wildlife sector ?

Where will the Minister find the additional land to rewild to keep these four species as indicators of the sustainability of our wildlife sector ?

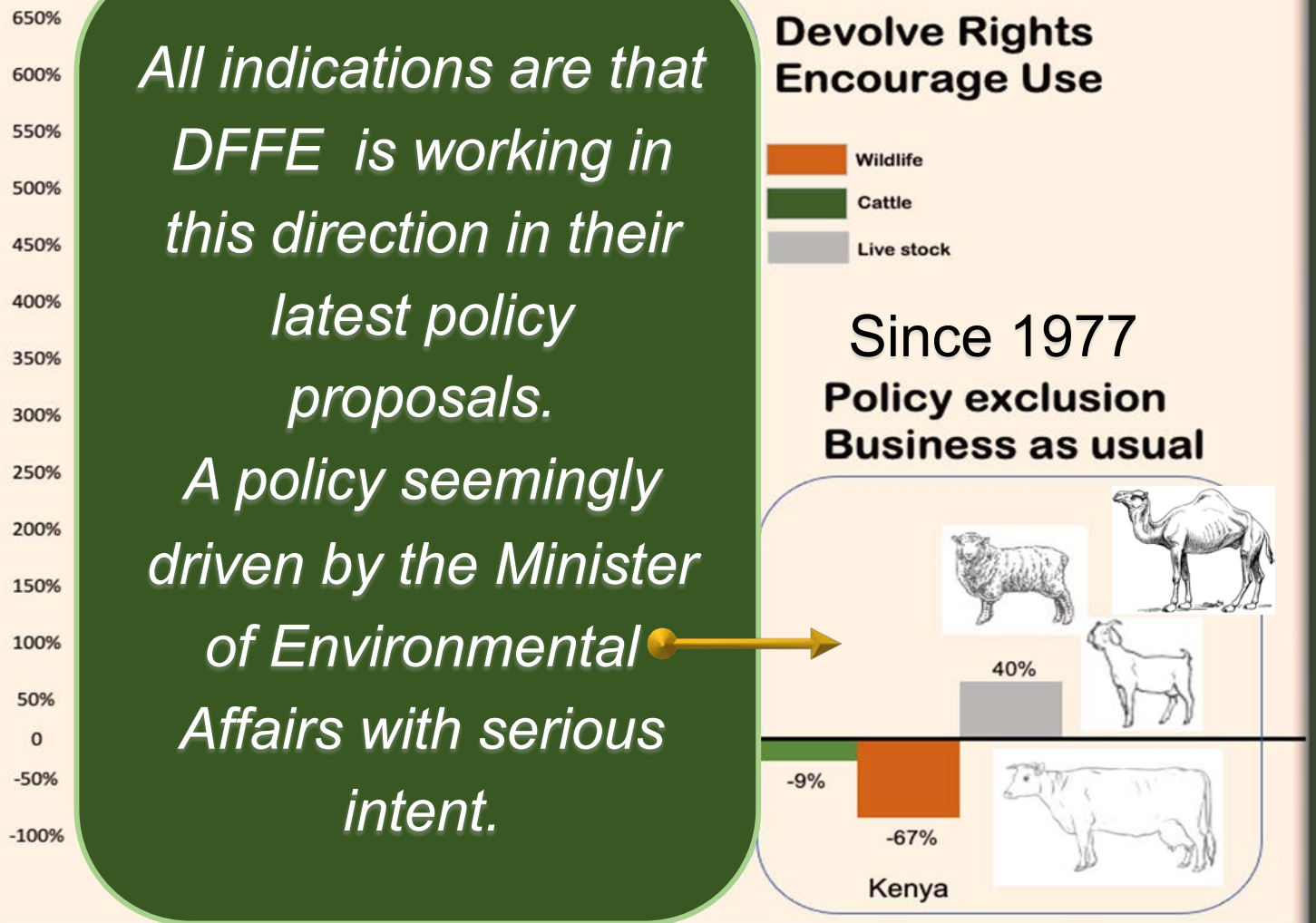
Who will fund the acquisition of more land ?

Who will fund the stocking and management of this rewilded land ?

What will the lion and leopard eat ?

The scientific baseline for the HLP report can thus be seriously questioned as it seems to be based on pure assumptions – especially in its suggested mitigations of perceived challenges.

All indications are that DFFE is working in this direction in their latest policy proposals.
A policy seemingly driven by the Minister of Environmental Affairs with serious intent.



OWNERSHIP:
"King's Game"
- *Government control*
- *Neo-colonialist*
- *Protectionism*
- *Habitat & biodiversity destruction*
- *Devaluation of wildlife*

Child, B. 2021. Building a sustainable multi-billion dollar wildlife economy. Presentation at SCI AWCF, 8-12 November, Kasane, Botswana 2021

Excellent Vision for the Wildlife Economy Lab
- March 2016 -





"A thriving, inclusive and sustainable wildlife economy *for the well-being of all South Africans*"





Vision for the Wildlife Economy





Judged against recent conservation results, and under the protectionist and biocentric wildlife management regime currently proposed by DFFE under the auspices of the proposals of the so-called HLP of experts, the future of this ideal, is, however, in serious jeopardy



