

Sadly, national parks in South Africa's KwaZulu-Natal Province (KZN) were hit hard by Rhino poaching gangs in 2022.

The majority of these devastating poaching incidents have been recorded in Hluhluwe-iMfolozi National Park (HiP), an important stronghold for Black and White Rhinoceroses.

In 2022, Action for the Wild donated £7,125 towards the purchase of vital equipment for extended camping kits. Extended patrol kit items include tents, backpacks, sleeping bags and cooking equipment.

This equipment allows rangers to camp for extended times at short notice in areas frequented by poaching syndicates; to assist early detection of poachers and increase the chance of saving the life of Rhino in the field.

The extended patrols help to maximise anti-poaching effectiveness, enabling rangers to remain within detection zones/hot spots for longer periods.

The equipment is carried in patrol members' backpacks and the team remains totally self-sufficient.

The superior quality of the kit will result in more effective patrols for the rangers who will be working under extremely tough conditions. This will enable them to remain alert and will also increase the amount of time for which they will be able to be deployed.