



Introduction

The Threatened Species Trail will take you around the zoo and allow you to discover more about some of the threats affecting animals and the conservation work that is being done to protect them.

The status of how threatened an animal or plant species is comes from the IUCN Red List of Threatened Species™. This list places species into categories based on the number of individuals left and the threats that they are facing. The most threatened category where there are still some animals left is 'Extinct in the Wild'. This means that you can only find these animals in places like Marwell Zoo and protected reserves as there are none left in the wild.

There are 8 trail signs for you to find around the zoo. You can use the map at the back of this pack to help you find them. They look like this:

Southern white rhino - a threatened species

Problems?

Hunting

Rhinos are poached for their horns. The horn is used in traditional Asian medicine and for ornaments.

Poaching has increased dramatically over recent years due to new uses of rhino horn as a proposed cancer and hangover cure. It is also becoming a status symbol in some countries.

Political instability

Civil unrest in some countries in southern Africa means that conservation measures can be very difficult and increasingly expensive to enforce.



What is being done?

Protected by law

White rhinos are protected by CITES, an international agreement signed by nearly every country in the world. CITES controls the trade in animals, plants and their products.

Protected areas

Law enforcement has been effective in some areas due to the development of fenced sanctuaries and conservation areas.

Monitoring

The management of rhino populations has been made more effective through close monitoring. This allows areas with high numbers of rhinos to be identified, so that some rhinos from these areas can be moved to increase populations elsewhere.

Education

Rhino horn is made out of keratin – the same material as our hair and nails! No scientific evidence has been found to support the idea that rhino horn has any medicinal properties. Sharing this message through education is really important to reduce the demand for rhino horn.





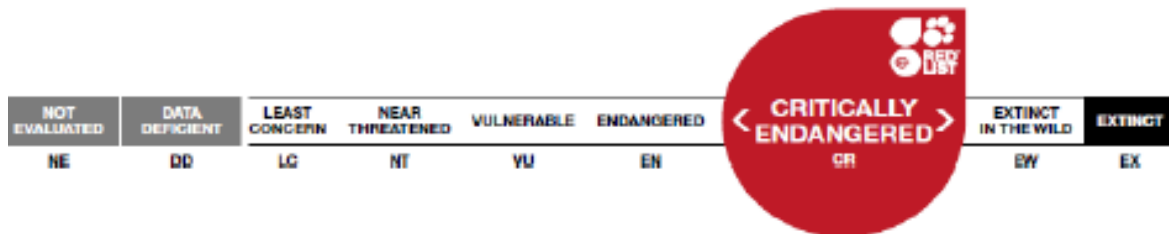


The mystery word

Collect a letter from each Threatened Species sign around the zoo and rearrange the letters to spell out our **mystery word**...

E	C	O	S	Y	S	T	E	M	S
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The status of how threatened an animal or plant species is comes from the IUCN Red List of Threatened Species™. You can find the status on this scale on the trail signs:



For each animal on the Threatened Species trail, tick what their current status is:

	LC	NT	VU	EN	CR	EW
Humboldt penguin			✓			
Southern white rhino		✓				
Amur leopard					✓	
Grevy's zebra				✓		
Cotton-top tamarin					✓	
Scimitar-horned oryx						✓
Pygmy hippo				✓		
Giant anteater			✓			

What can you do to help save threatened species?

Write your ideas in this box.



1. HUMBOLDT PENGUIN



a) i) What is being harvested in some places to make fertiliser?

Guano (penguin poo!)

ii) Why is this causing problems for Humboldt penguins?

Humboldt penguins build their burrows in guano. If there isn't enough guano they cannot construct their burrows, meaning their eggs and chicks will be more exposed to both predators and the weather.

b) What can you do or advise others to do to help Humboldt penguins?

Ideas can include: buy sustainable seafood, reduce your plastic use, and participate in a beach clean-up.

2. SOUTHERN WHITE RHINO



a) Why are rhinos being poached for their horn?

Rhino horn is used in traditional Asian medicine and for ornaments. More recently, rhino horn has been proposed as a cancer and hangover cure and is even becoming a status symbol in some countries.

b) What is rhino horn made out of?

Rhino horn is made from a protein called keratin - the same material as our hair and nails!

SOUTHERN WHITE RHINO CONTINUED...

- c) **What message is it important to share through education to reduce the demand for rhino horn?**

There is no scientific evidence that rhino horn has any medicinal properties. It would be as effective as using nail clippings as a medical treatment!



3. AMUR LEOPARD

- a) **Why do Amur leopards sometimes visit deer farms looking for food?**

Amur leopards' natural prey is being reduced due to over hunting by humans which means they sometimes visit deer farms in search of food.

- b) **What is being done to reduce the number of leopards being hunted?**

Funding has been provided to compensate livestock owners for any loss of livestock to an Amur leopard.

ALTA and the Phoenix fund run an education programme to help educate locals about the Amur leopard with the aim to reduce unsustainable poaching.



4. GREVY'S ZEBRA



a) How are Grevy's zebra tracked in the wild?

Marwell Wildlife, along with other partner organizations, have been placing radio tracking collars onto a select number of Grevy's zebra in the wild to get a better idea of where the zebra are and how they move.

b) Why is tracking the zebra important for Grevy's zebra conservation?

Knowing where zebra go, where they graze and find water means conservation efforts can be focused in these key areas. This means conservation efforts can be more effective.

4. SCIMITAR-HORNED ORYX



a) What is a studbook used for?

A studbook is used to give recommendations about which animals should breed together to maintain a healthy, genetically diverse captive population for a species.

b) Which country was the last place scimitar-horned oryx could be found in the wild and why was the conservation work in this area disrupted?

Chad was the last stronghold of scimitar-horned oryx in the wild. The conservation in this area was disrupted due to civil unrest in the country.

5. COTTON-TOP TAMARIN

a) What is threatening the last major stronghold for cotton-top tamarins?

Flooding from the construction of an hydroelectric dam is threatening the cotton-top tamarin habitat.



7. PYGMY HIPPO





a) Why is the legal protection for the conservation of pygmy hippos difficult to enforce?




Civil unrest and a lack of resources in the pygmy hippo range means it can be difficult to enforce the law.

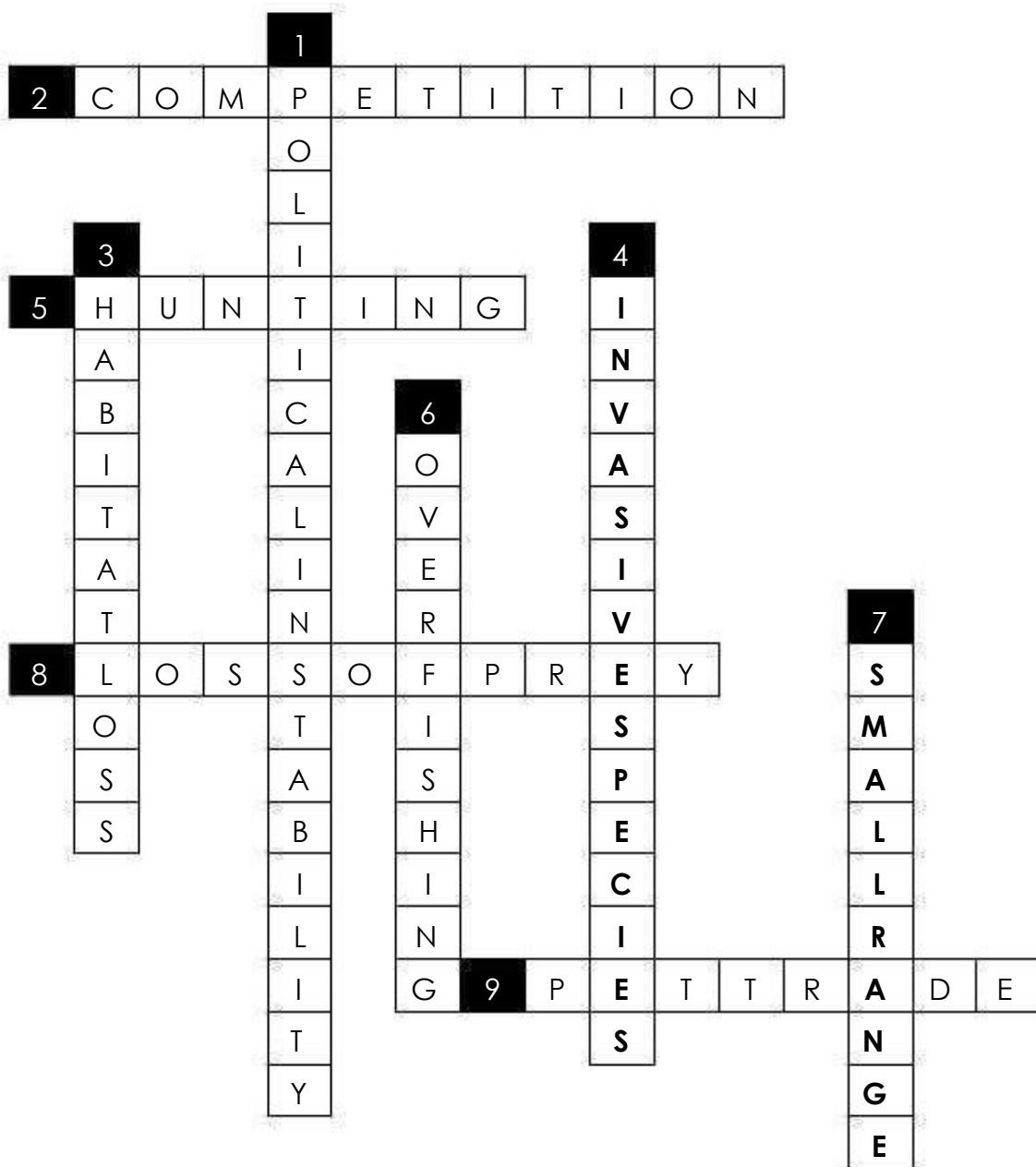
THREATENED SPECIES TRAIL CROSSWORD

Complete the crossword below by adding some threats animals can face in the wild. Use the icons on the signs to help you.

1 = Political instability ~~✕✕~~ 2 = Competition  3 = Habitat loss 

4 = Invasive species  5 = Hunting  6 = Overfishing 

7 = Small range  8 = Loss of prey  9 = Pet trade 



Threatened Species Trail

1. Humboldt penguin
2. Southern white rhino
3. Amur leopard
4. Grevy's zebra
5. Cotton top tamarin
6. Scimitar-horned oryx
7. Pygmy hippo

KEY

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|--|---|--|---|
| | Information | | Penguin Station rail train |
| | Toilets / disabled & baby change | | Road train stops |
| | Changing Places facility (Radar key required) | | Adventure playgrounds |
| | Café Graze & Coffee Corner - Open all year | | Under cover area |
| | Outdoor picnic tables | | First Aid Emergency? Call: 01962 777983 |
| | Seasonal refreshments ice creams / coffee | | |



Science & Learning Centre
Pre-booked education groups or special events



Marwell Hall
Special events & private bookings



Information correct: 04/18.