

WILDLIFE PROTECTION SUCCESS STORY

ShotSpotter Combats Rhino Poaching in South Africa's Kruger National Park

PLACE**KRUGER NATIONAL PARK, SOUTH AFRICA****COVERAGE AREA****100 KM²****PRODUCT USED****SITUATION**

The use of guns to poach rhinos is a significant environmental concern in Africa where the horn of a single rhino can be worth hundreds of thousands of dollars. In the vast expanse of Kruger National Park, most poaching incidents go undetected with carcasses found days or weeks after the fact.

RESULTS

Since the introduction of SoundThinking's ShotSpotter gunshot detection system to detect, locate and alert park rangers to gunfire incidents in less than 60 seconds, there have been multiple poacher apprehensions within the coverage area. In 2018, ShotSpotter incrementally expanded to 100 square km inside the Intensified Protection Zone (IPZ) of Kruger National Park. IPZ is one of the world's major hotspots for rhino poaching.

60%

Of the world's remaining rhino live in the IPZ

58%

Reduction in the number of rhino killed in the coverage area

>50%

Interception rate within the coverage area

ShotSpotter was modified for use in the wilderness with sensors mounted on trees or masts and adapted to solar power. The system is helping park rangers respond with greater speed and accuracy to gunfire in Kruger National Park so they can take poaching teams out of circulation.



"ShotSpotter has allowed us to take back the night," said Ken Maggs, Head Ranger of the Kruger National Park. "We now have an interception rate well above 50% within the coverage area, which means the poachers are literally flipping a coin when they come in."

KEN MAGGS, Head Ranger of the Kruger National Park

Benefits **ALWAYS-ON FORCE MULTIPLIER**

Allows ranger teams to be exponentially more effective covering extensive areas with diverse terrain.

 **HIGH POACHER INTERCEPTION**

Fast and accurate alerts increase ability to arrive on the scene to apprehend suspects.

 **POWERFUL DETERRENT FACTOR**

Consistent monitoring and aggressive response changes dynamic to high-risk operation.



Learn More About SoundThinking

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