

# South African Hunters and Game Conservation Association



## The sustainable use imperative:

In search of African solutions for  
African conservation challenges



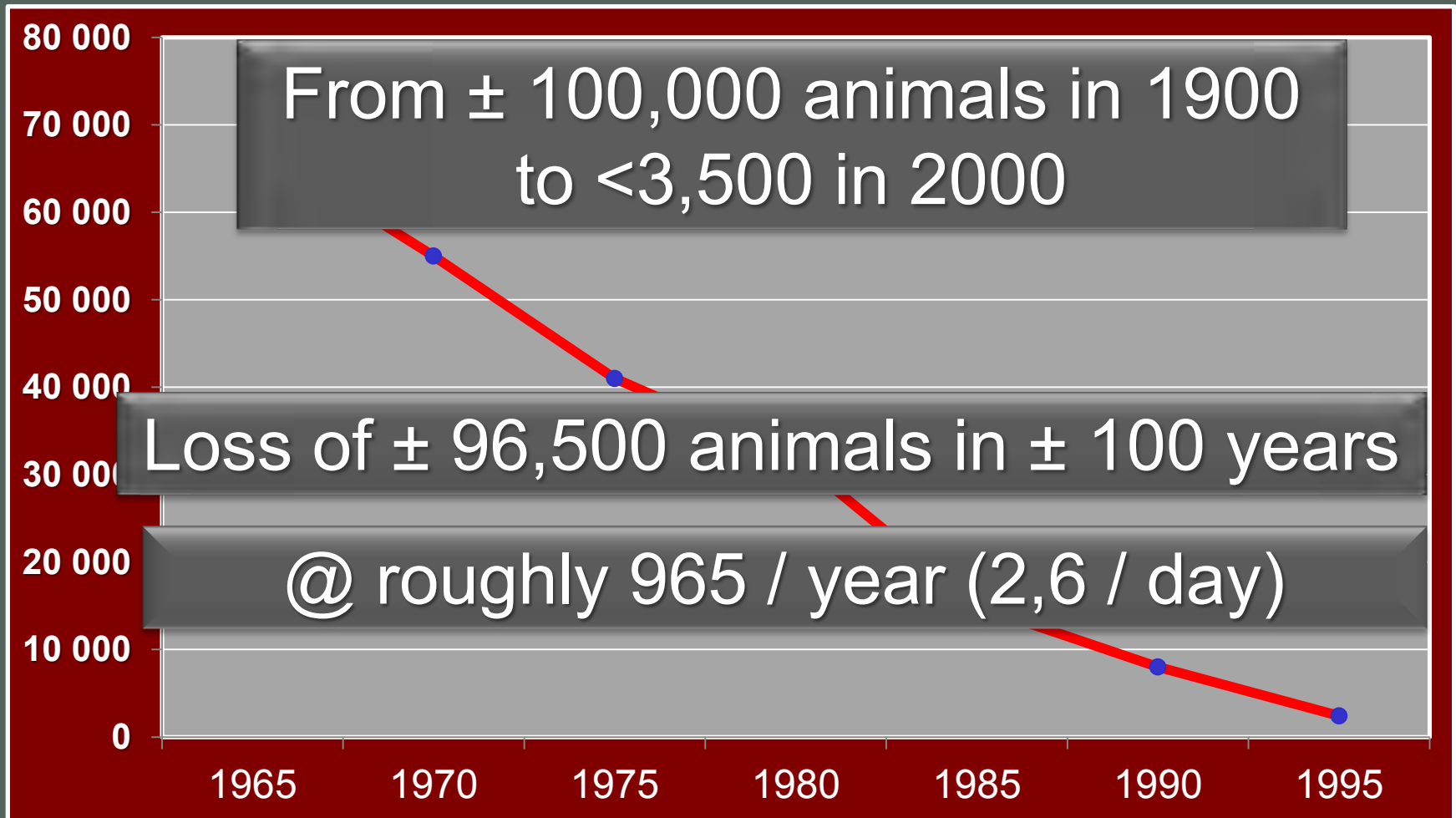
One has to ask whether the persistent ban on the legal international trade in the products of the so-called high profile species have really been beneficial to their protection and conservation.



The proven sheer difficulty of, and unsuccessful policing of the illicit trade in the products of these species strongly suggests that as a matter of urgency, additional strategies have to be introduced to try and save the majority of these these species from extinction in the wild.



# Decline of the World's Tiger Population



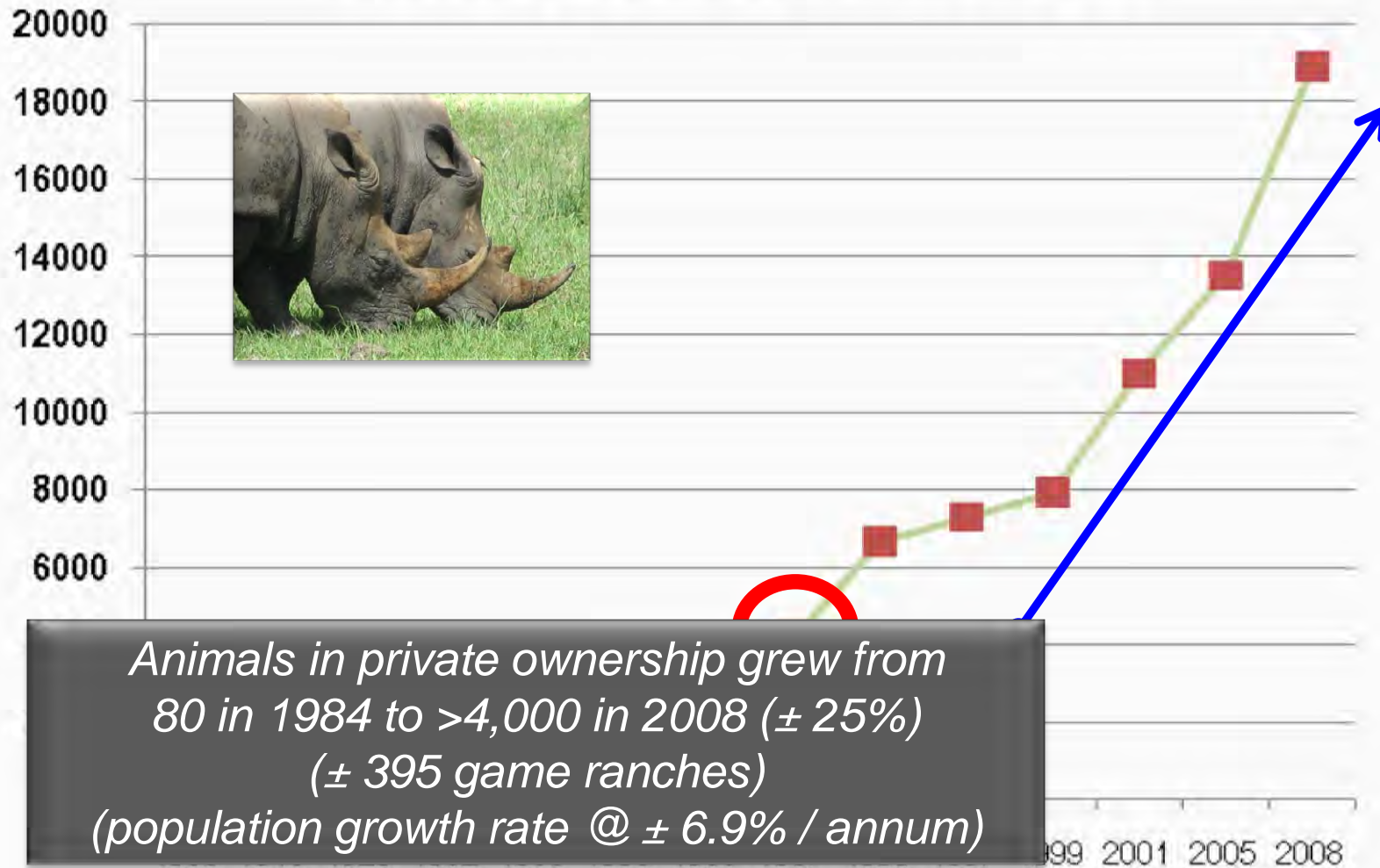
In trying to find answers to these challenges it serves one to remember that the only real long term beneficiaries of the 1920 to 1933 prohibition in the USA were the Mafia and today's NASCAR industry





Rhino Conservation is a South African success story as a reported 93% of the world's White Rhino are in this country !

# The RSA Rhino Conservation Story

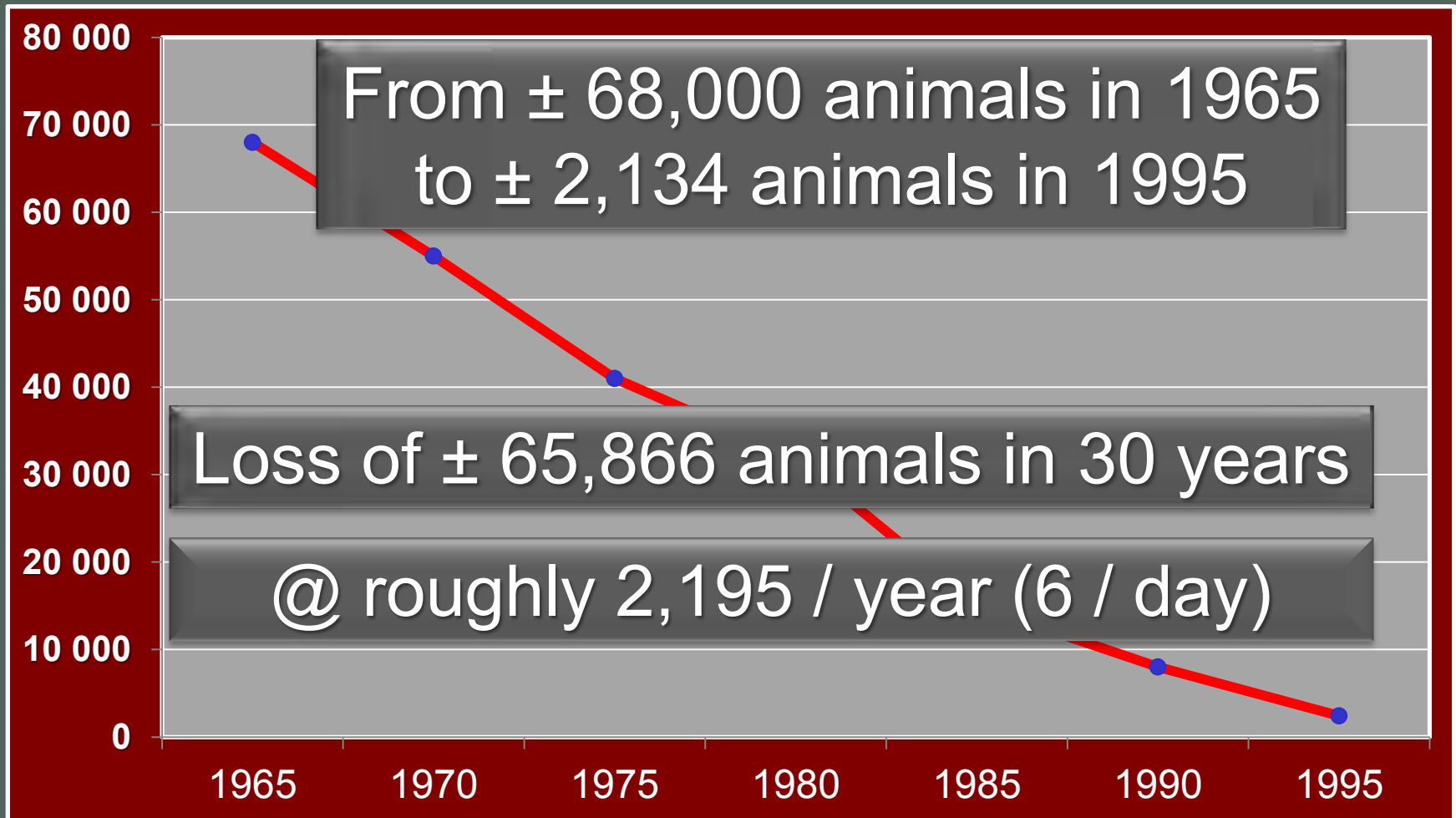




In sub-Saharan Africa  
this positive graph  
portrays the exact  
opposite...



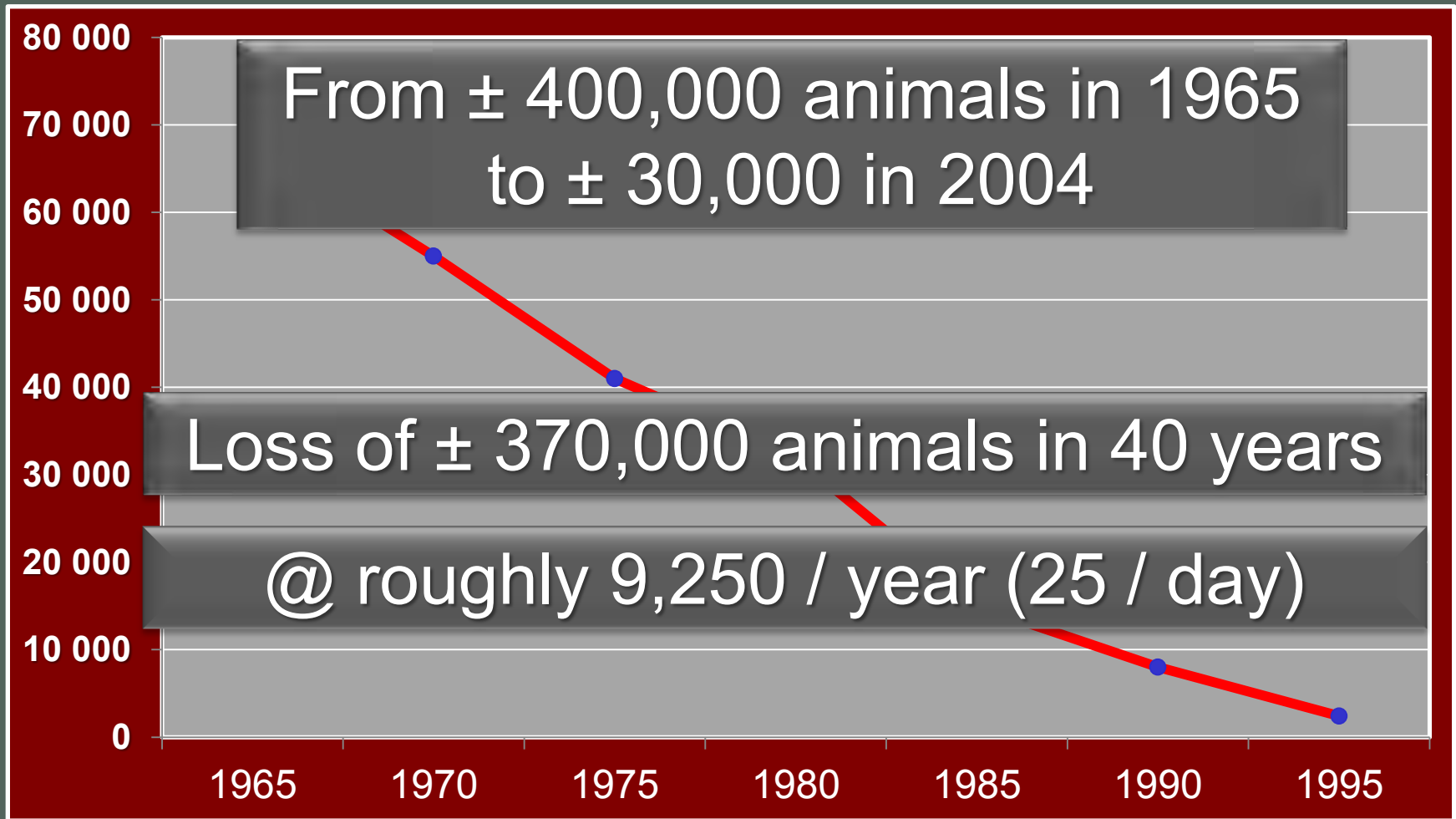
# Decline of Africa's Black Rhino Population



# Decline of Africa's Elephant Population



# Decline of Africa's Lion Population



Its clear we are loosing our wild populations of Rhino, Elephant and Lion in Africa, which leads to the black market value of the products of these animals constantly increasing

In Africa we thus cannot afford to see valuable assets go up in smoke while conservation can barely pay for itself  
– let alone pay for anti-poaching actions.



= R 153 million up in smoke

On the other hand there is, however, clear proof that the numbers of game managed under a system of conservation through sustainable use are, internationally, showing dramatic increases.

Not only in number of animals plus the added advantage of biodiversity conservation resulting through habitat conservation brought about by this management system, but also in terms of the contribution these management systems make to national economies all over the world.



# ...in the USA...



## Approximately 12 million hunters:

- contribute US\$ 7,5 million per day to conservation coffers during the hunting season;
- and US\$ 12,7 billion to conservation per annum;
- their contribution supports 600,000 jobs per annum;
- and contribute US\$ 5,9 billion to federal taxes...

# Rocky Mountain Elk



41,000 in 1920 to >1,600,000 in 2007

# White Tailed Deer



500,000 in 1920 to >32,000,000 in 2007



# Wild Turkey



100,000 in 1920 to >7,000,000 in 2007

# Waterfowl



$\pm 1,000,000$  in 1920 to  $>34,000,000$  in 2007

## ...in the UK...

### Approximately 800,000 hunters:

- Contribute £ 2 billion on goods and services related to hunting per annum;
- and £ 1,6 billion to the economy through related expenditure;
- support 70,000 jobs per annum;
- contribute 2,7 million days to conservation and manage 2 million ha of land under conservation



In 2008 approximately  
**19 million gamebirds**  
were hunted in the UK.



Of these 80% were Ring necked pheasant.

99% of these birds were destined for sale in restaurants and in food stores.

In the EU hunting activities of 7 million hunters are worth  
> €16 billion per annum.

The hunting sector has become a very important  
development initiative in declining rural areas.



# In South Africa...

- **Up to middle of 20<sup>th</sup> Century**
  - Wildlife had no monetary value (*res nullius*)
  - Regarded as competitors for grazing land
  - Resultes ?

Left in 1943...

- ± 19 Bontebok;
- ± 2,000 Blesbok;
- ± 45 Mountain Zebra;
- ± 4,000 Black Wildebeest;
- ± 7,000 Blue Wildebeest



## In South Africa...

Early 1960s:  $\pm$  500,000 head of game

Today: reportedly  $>$  20,000,000

Early 1960s: First game ranch

Today:  $\pm$  12,200 ranches ( $>$ 18mil ha)

This means that 70% of areas under wildlife management in this country are in private ownership !

