

Photography for a Reason

Advocating through the lens

Since photography was invented, the power of imagery to motivate action has been critical to societal change. This is particularly so for the conservation of our wild spaces... and species. On the following pages, we showcase images from the repertoire of professionals who are part of the International League of Conservation Photographers (iLCP). Since being founded at the World Wilderness Congress at Anchorage, Alaska in 2005, iLCP has promoted ethical photography as a foundational cog in the environmental and cultural conservation wheel. The Sanctuary Nature Foundation has joined purpose with iLCP to bring together photographers, from across India and the world, to capture the essence of raw wildernesses and the humans and species they support.

IN THE SPOTLIGHT

A female white-tailed deer *Odocoileus virginianus* peeks into the lens of a camera trap set up in the snowy mountain ranges of New Brunswick. Found along southern Canada to South America, they are crepuscular animals, which usually forage for leaves, twigs, nuts or berries at dawn or dusk.

Photographer: Nick Hawkins / iLCP
Location: New Brunswick, Canada
Details: Camera: Nikon D7100, Lens: Nikon 12-24 mm. f/4.0,
Aperture: f/13, Shutter speed: 1/160, ISO 400, Focal length: 16 mm.
Date: January 23, 2014; 07:41 p.m.





TRASH HOMES

Yellow coral goby *Gobiodon okinawae* feed predominantly on plankton, and prefer to roost in corals, which provide an ideal habitat for opportunistic hunting. With coral bleaching and warming ocean waters, these meek fish may have to contrive new homes such as discarded beer bottles on the ocean floor.

Photographer: Shane Gross / iLCP

Location: Anilao, Philippines

Details: Camera: Nikon D7100, Lens: Nikon 105 mm. f/2.8,

Aperture: f/3.5, Shutter speed: 1/250, ISO 125, Focal length: 105 mm.

Date: October 07, 2018; 11:55 p.m.

WHERE THE GRASS GROWS

A juvenile green sea turtle *Chelonia mydas* makes its way through the aqua-blue waters off the coast of Bahamas, foraging for sea grass. These ancient reptiles have survived from the time of the dinosaurs, but are currently endangered; they are hunted for their meat, eggs and skins, while their precious nesting grounds, the beaches, vanish under coastal 'development' schemes.

Photographer: Shane Gross / iLCP

Location: Bahamas

Details: Camera: Nikon D90, Lens: Tokina 10-17 mm. f/3.5-4.5,

Aperture: f/16, Shutter speed: 1/200, ISO 200, Focal length: 10 mm.

Date: April 24, 2017; 05:09 p.m.



GIANT TROUBLES

A North Atlantic right whale *Eubalaena glacialis* surfaces near the Bay of Fundy, Canada. The tell-tale entanglement scars on the tail stalk reveal the challenges these ocean giants face on a daily basis. Vessel strikes, entanglement in fishing gear and rising ocean noise levels that interfere with their communication pose fatal threats to this endangered species.

Photographer: Nick Hawkins / iLCP

Location: Bay of Fundy, Canada

Details: Camera: Phantom 4 Drone Dji Fc330, Lens: FOV 94° 20 mm. (35 mm. format equivalent) f/2.8, Aperture: f/2.8, Shutter speed: 1/150, ISO 100, Focal length: NA
Date: September 16, 2014; 11.21 a.m.

KIDNAPPED

This rare sloth was found sleeping in a crate, as it was bundled for sale in La Unión, Colombia. Tragically, sloths (both two toed and three toed) are popular in the illegal pet trade in South America because they are passive and don't show obvious signs of stress like most other animals.

Photographer: Jason Houston / iLCP

Location: La Unión, Colombia

Details: Camera: Canon 5D Mark III, Lens: Canon 24-70 mm. f/2.8 II USM, Aperture: f/5, Shutter speed: 1/125, ISO 100, Focal length: 47 mm.
Date: March 18, 2016; 09.22 a.m.





Photographer: Jason Houston / iLCP
 Location: La Pampa, Madre de Dios, Peru
 Details: Camera: Fujifilm X-Pro2, Lens: Fujifilm XF 23 mm. f/1.4 R.
 Aperture: f/4, Shutter speed: 1/550, ISO 200, Focal length: 23 mm.
 Date: September 21, 2019; 09:12 a.m.

FOR THE LOVE OF GOLD

FACING PAGE: The Peruvian National Police near their field base, Mega 12. Following Peru's February 2019 militarised crackdown on illegal alluvial gold mining in the La Pampa region of Madre de Dios, Wake Forest University's Puerto Maldonado-based Centro de Innovación Científica Amazonia (CINCA), is researching the impact of mercury poisoning on Amazonian ecosystems. What they learn will help guide remediation, restoration, and reforestation and will hopefully serve as a model to resurrect one of the tropic's most dramatically devastated landscapes.

RIGHT: Sluices, shelters, and other infrastructure destroyed by the military are part of the aftermath of illegal alluvial gold mining after miners were forcibly evicted. It will take decades for the area to recover from the pollution and deforestation.

BELOW: Aerial drone photographs showing the extent of the deforestation caused by alluvial gold mining on the tropical forests of this region. Water was extracted from local rivers and wetlands for liquifying and sorting soil to extract gold. The dramatic changes in the water table, not surprisingly, impacted the vegetation.



Photographer: Jason Houston / iLCP
 Location: La Pampa, Madre de Dios, Peru
 Details: Camera: Fujifilm X-Pro2, Lens: Fujifilm 16 mm. f/1.4 R WR.
 Aperture: f/16, Shutter speed: 1/150, ISO 200, Focal length: 16 mm.
 Date: September 22, 2019; 09:48 a.m.



Photographer: Jason Houston / iLCP
 Location: La Pampa, Madre de Dios, Peru
 Details: Camera: Mavic 2 Drone, Hasselblad L1D-20c, Lens: Hasselblad fixed 35 mm. Format F/2.8 EQU 28 mm.,
 Aperture: f/4, Shutter speed: 1/120, ISO 100, Focal length: 10.26 mm.
 Date: September 21, 2019; 12:51 p.m.

MANGROVE SHELTER

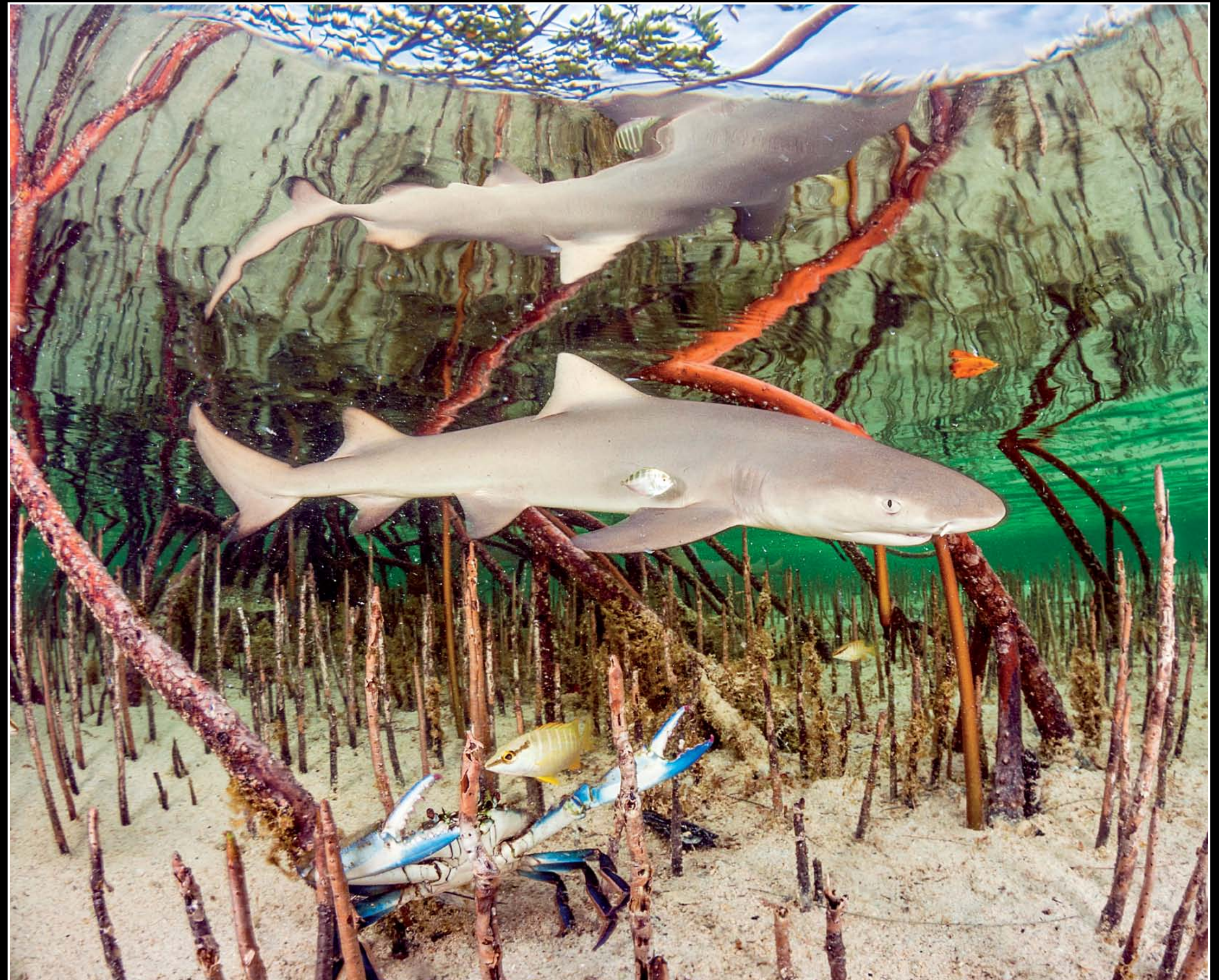
A lemon shark pup *Negaprion brevirostris* swims in its mangrove home off the Bahamas coast. When young, sharks find refuge here, as they are protected from being attacked and eaten by larger sharks found in deeper waters. This ecosystem is also a breeding ground for other juvenile fish and crabs. A female shark will spend the first five to eight years of her life in this mangrove creek and return to the same area to give birth to her offspring.

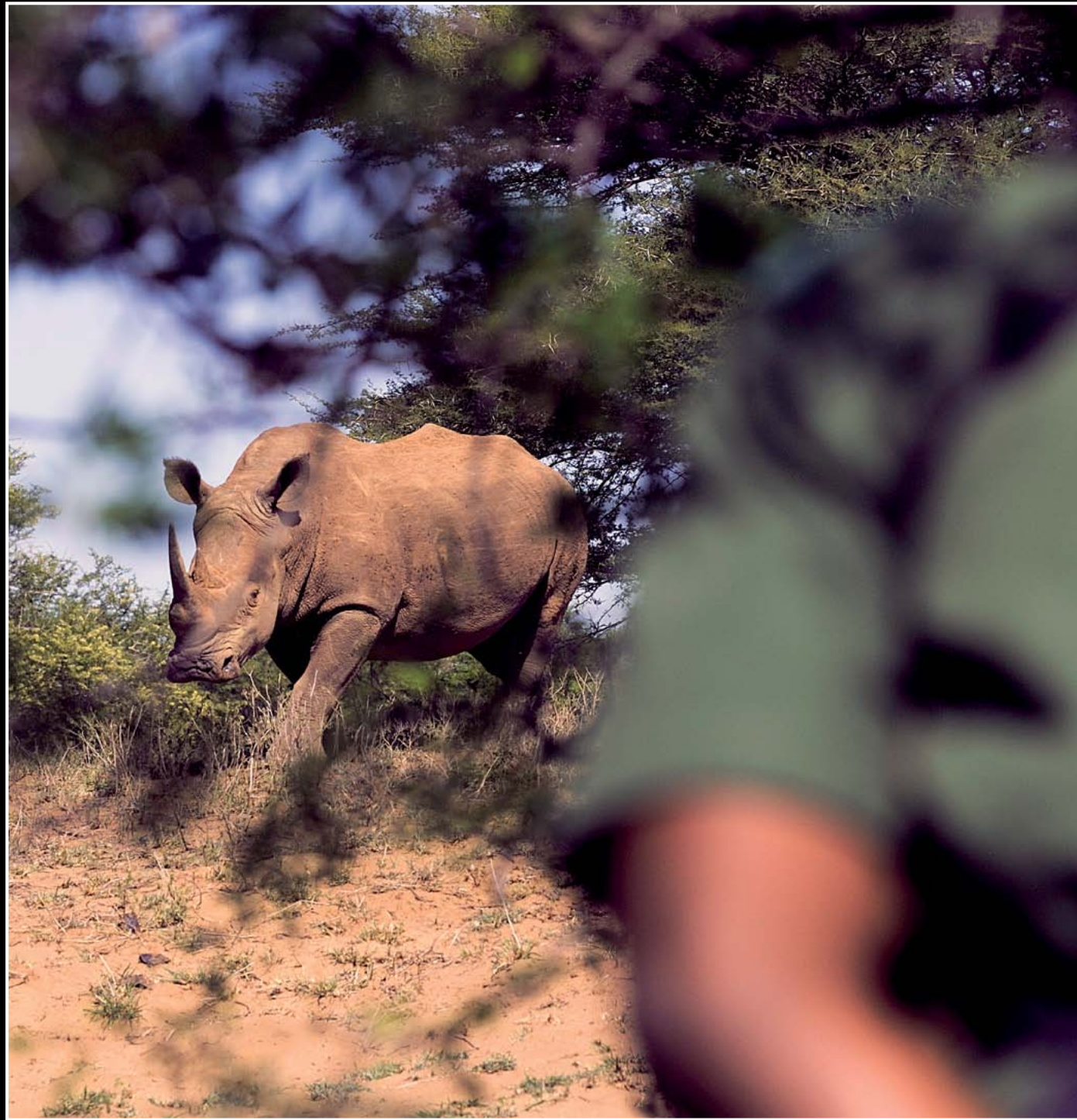
Photographer: Shane Gross / iLCP
 Location: Eleuthera Island, Bahamas
 Details: Camera: Nikon D90, Lens: Tokina 10-17 mm. f/3.5-4.5,
 Aperture: f/16, Shutter speed: 1/50, ISO 100, Focal length: 10 mm.
 Date: June 04, 2017; 05:46 p.m.

DIVE FOR DINNER

A boy wearing improvised goggles, dives during low tide in the sea beds around Bailang-Bilangan Island, Philippines, in search of nudibranch eggs for his family's dinner. These marine gastropod molluscs survive in various parts of the world, from the intertidal zone to depths of 2,500 m. Over 3,000 species of nudibranchs have been identified so far, with some species known to be extremely toxic.

Photographer: Luciano Candisani / iLCP
 Location: Danajon Banks, Bailang-Bilangan island, Philippines
 Details: Camera: Nikon D4, Lens: Sigma 15 mm. f/2.8,
 Aperture: f/16, Shutter speed: 1/160, ISO 400, Focal length: 15 mm.
 Date: April 12, 2013; 06:43 a.m.





POACH WATCH

A white rhinoceros *Ceratotherium simum* cautiously watches an anti-poaching squad guard at the Hluhluwe Imfolozi National Park in South Africa. A historical home of the near threatened white rhino, the park also hosts an important population of black rhino. Both species have benefited from the stringent protection strategies employed to fight poachers.

Photographer: Staffan Widstrand / iLCP
Location: Hluhluwe Imfolozi NP, South Africa
Details: Camera: Nikon D3s, Lens: NIKKOR 70-200 mm. f/2.8E AF-S FL ED VR,
Aperture: f/8, Shutter speed: 1/2000, ISO 640, Focal length: 160 mm.
Date: October 24, 2011; 02.45 p.m.