

**George Adamson Wildlife Preservation Trust**  
**Rhino news. April 2010**

Dr Peter Morkel has spent a few days in Mkomazi, firstly to change the transmitters in the horns of the 3 x Czech rhino. The original transmitter life-spans were coming to an end. It was quite an intensive day, at least 10 hours field work. The Rhino Sanctuary personnel were outstanding as always, with Fred Ayo on Pete's right hand side and Semu Pallangyo tracking the rhinos and directing the men in the field.

Pete started darting Jamie, the oldest bull (4 years old). It is extremely difficult to get a dart into a rhino in this very thick bush but Pete made a successful shot, Jamie ran for about 4 minutes and then came down under a tree. The guys cleared the area where he had come down, Pete got to work immediately and one hour later Jamie was brought round again.

Pete then went back to do Deborah (who is always with Jamie). He got the dart in and she ran for about 5 minutes so it took quite some time to find her with 11 guys spanning a huge area. The spanner in the works was Jamie who was on guard. So they had to work extra hard to get round him and get to Deborah. They succeeded and again one hour later Deborah was brought round with a new transmitter.

Pete then did Jabu, the youngest bull (3 years old). The dart went in successfully and his transmitter was replaced.



**Clearing the area around the rhino after he has come down.  
Chain saws and pangas used.**



**Moving the body so that the legs and head are in the best position**



**Pete Morkel preparing**



**Jabu sedated. Horn transmitter replaced and secured into place with dental acrylic. Masking tape wrapped around the horn.**



**Drilling into the horn. Fred holding the rhino head**



**Drilled hole ready to take the transmitter. Semu holding the rhino head.**



Head resting on a log. Horn about to be drilled. Monitors on the breathing and oxygen levels.



Pete holding the dental acrylic in place on the front horn whilst it sets. Penieli in the background with a bottle of tick medication which each rhino was washed down with.

Each rhino was checked over thoroughly and washed down for ticks whilst sedated.