

ENDANGERED SPECIES

Issued 10th October 1989

(Extracts from Philatelic Bureau Bulletin No 4 of 1989)²

Wildlife is one of the main tourist attractions of Zimbabwe and the conservation of this national heritage for future generations is safeguarded by many fine Parks and Wildlife areas. Certain species are nevertheless endangered and six of those species are depicted on this issue.



15c: Black Rhinoceros

Diceros bicornis

The Black Rhino is found in the Zambezi Valley and have been translocated to other protected areas. It is smaller than the White Rhino and has a prehensile lip which helps it to browse. One young is born which always follows behind the mother as she walks. The Black Rhino is facing severe persecution by poachers who seek after the horns for illegal sale. It is the centre of a special "Save the Rhino" conservation campaign as Zimbabwe has the largest population of Black Rhino left in Africa.

23c: Cheetah

Acinonyx jubatus

The Cheetah is a large slender cat which pursues its prey at speeds of up to 112km per hour. Cheetah usually hunt the smaller antelope as well as hares and game birds. Two to four kittens are born in lairs among tall grass or undergrowth. Cheetah are found in Hwange National Park, the Zambezi valley and the southern lowveld. Once widespread in Africa their numbers are greatly reduced and are now endangered in many areas.



30c: Wild Dog

Lycaon pictus



The Wild Dog is easily recognised by its dog-like appearance, very large rounded ears, white-tipped tail and black, yellow and white speckled markings. They occur in packs from three or four to larger groups. They hunt small or medium size antelope but can kill larger antelope too. They give birth to their young in antbear holes and have two to eight in the litter. Once widespread in Africa their numbers have drastically dropped. They are found in Hwange National Park and the Zambezi Valley.

35c: Pangolin

Manis termminki

Pangolins are covered with large overlapping scales and when in danger roll into a tight ball. They are solitary and mostly nocturnal. They feed on ants and termites which they dig up from the termite nests. They walk on their back legs with their tails giving them balance. One young is born which clings to the mother's tail or back. Pangolins are widely distributed but are not common and are in danger due to lack of habitat and because of capture.



38c: Brown Hyena

Hyaena brunnea



The Brown Hyena is smaller than the Spotted Hyena and has a long shaggy coat and heavy mane. The ears are pointed and it has stripes on the legs. The Brown Hyena is mainly nocturnal and hides during the day in holes or undergrowth. They are solitary or found in pairs. At night they scavenge but also hunt young animals, antelope, birds, insects, eggs and even eat fruit. Two to four young are born in holes or undergrowth. Brown Hyena occur in southern African countries and in Zimbabwe only in the extreme western areas. Because of poisoning, trapping and shooting their numbers have depleted and in some areas they have been exterminated.

45c Roan Antelope

Hippotragus equinus

The Roan Antelope is one of the largest antelopes and has distinct black and white facial markings and backward sweeping horns. The long drooping ears have tufts at their tips. Roan are mostly grazers and occur in small herds with the old bulls sometimes on their own. A single young is born. Roan occur in Zimbabwe north and south of the central watershed but not on the high country. Roan Antelope were once widespread through Africa but are now uncommon and endangered.



The Stamps



Catalogue listings

SG	ZSC ¹	Value	Description
762	189	15c	Black Rhinoceros
763	190	23c	Cheetah
764	191	30c	Wild Dog
765	192	35c	Pangolin
766	193	38c	Brown Hyena
767	194	45c	Roan Antelope

Technical details

Stamp size:	All values	35 x 30 mm
Sheet Size:	50 stamps (10 rows of 5 stamps), two panes per printed sheet	
Artist:	Roland Pletts	
Paper:	ZSC paper type D – HS8, fluorescent front and back, with cream PVA gum.	
Print colours:	Black, magenta, cyan, yellow (note the yellow can vary to a light orange)	
Perforations:	SG 14½ x 14, ZSC 14¼ x 14 Top margin: Perforated through. Other margins: Imperforate	
Printer:	National Printing & Packaging, Harare, Zimbabwe	

Printer's Imprint: Bottom Margin, below Row 10 Columns 2 to 4. Imprint printed in black

Cylinder numbers: Top margin above R1/5. Colours from left – cyan, magenta, yellow, black

Colour register: Type TL 4– round boxed – right margin opposite R1/5. Colours reading down – cyan, magenta, yellow, black

Sheet Value: Top margin, above 1/1, printed in black.

Sheet Number: Type SN 4a with 'PTC' prefix, left margin opposite R1/1, reading down

Print numbers:	15c	1,500,000	23c	550,000
	30c	350,000	35c	380,000
	38c	320,000	45c	320,000

Issue date: 10th October, 1989

Withdrawal from sale:

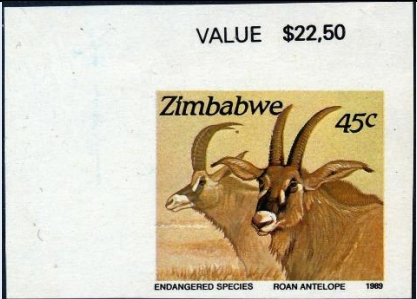
Demonetisation: 31st January, 1994

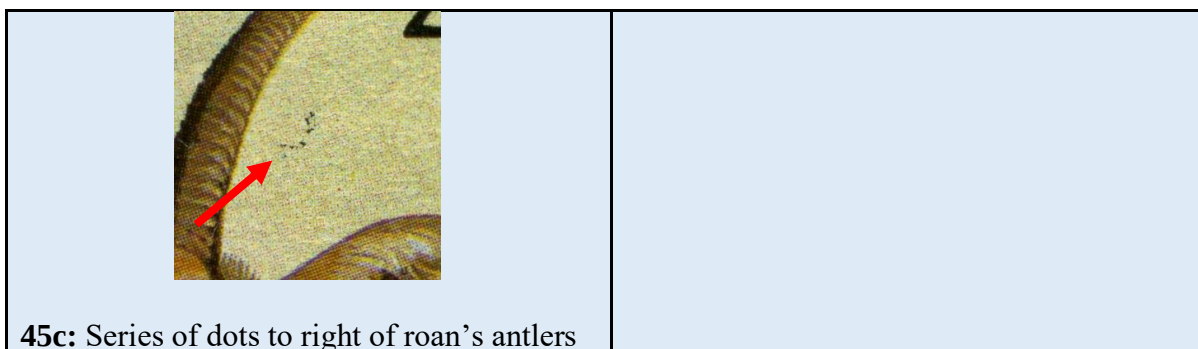
Listed varieties

No listed varieties have been noted

Unlisted Varieties

There are numerous small dots and specks in the printing of these stamps, particularly in the backgrounds. Some dots and specks shown below are a bit more distinctive, some may be constant.

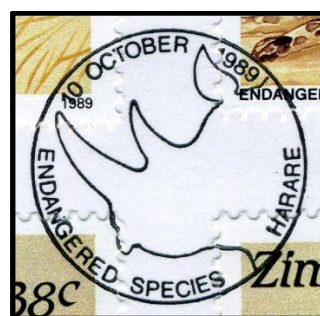
 35c: Imperforate stamp with wide right margin. The margin above is much larger than usual, suggesting that this is not from a printing sheet that was trimmed. Probably a proof sheet (Source eBay July 2017)	 45c: Imperforate stamp from top left corner, with sheet value. Margin to left wider than normal, no sheet number, suggesting this is nor from a sheet that was trimmed. Probably a proof sheet. (Source eBay Sept 2019)
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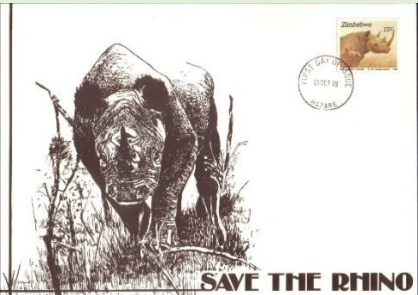
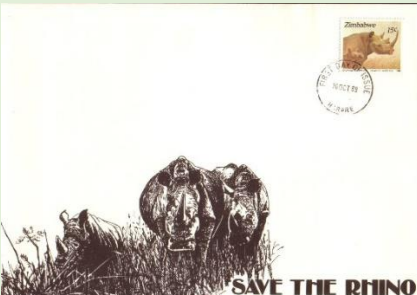


First Day Covers

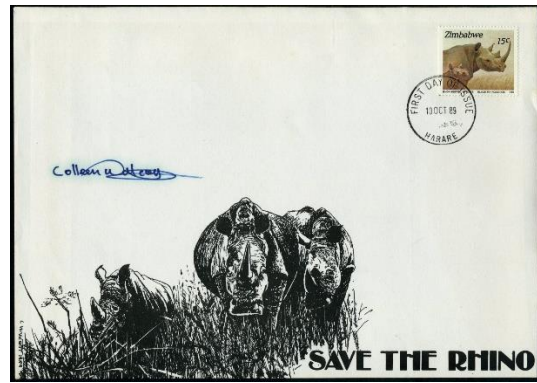
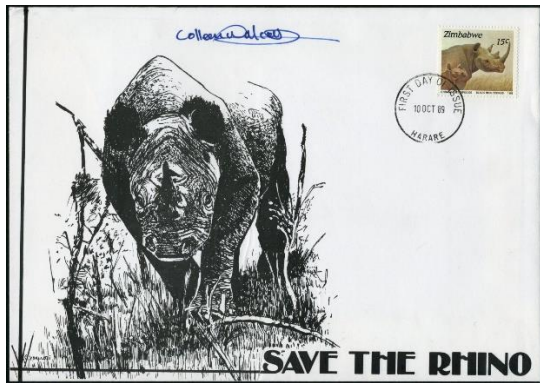
The cover numbering comes from the catalogue produced by Geoff Brakspear.

A pictorial first day of issue canceller was produced for this issued and was used by the Philatelic Bureau. Other first day cover cancellers continued to be used at main post offices.



ZW040.1 (PTC)  220 x 110 mm	
ZW040.2.1 	ZW040.2.2 
The above two covers were designed by Colleen Walcott, for Zimbabwe Stamp Company. The proceeds of the sale of the covers were donated to "Save the Rhino Fund".	

Related Material



“Save the Rhino” covers, signed by artist Colleen Walcott

Bibliography:

1. “The Zimbabwean Concise Postage Stamp Catalogue”, published by Harare Stamp Company, edited by Ken Allanson, Mike Amos and Geoff Brakspear. The catalogue continues to be updated and expanded by Geoff Brakspear
2. PTC Philatelic Bureau Bulletin No 4 of 1989.