



Thwarting Poachers

Poachers slaughter rhinos and elephants by the thousands every year for their horns and tusks. Unfortunately there aren't enough rangers to patrol the vast territories where the animals roam, so poachers can kill and profit with little fear of capture. Recently a team of computer scientists gathered data on animals' locations, previous poaching activity, weather, etc. and used probability and graph theory to help put each team of drones and rangers in the right place at the right time. In the first test of their algorithm that assigns patrols, rangers arrested poachers within minutes of them exiting their vehicle—just before they climbed a fence separating them from a female rhino and her calf.



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