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German Reallusion Forum

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Creating and Integrating a video with alpha channel

With iClone 4 one has the ability to integrate the unterschiedlichsten videos. Particularly interesting is the possibility of a video with a Alphanal mask. Using this method can be animated characters from other entertaining programs like Poser, Cinema 4D, Bryce, or Carrar easily connected to the scenes.

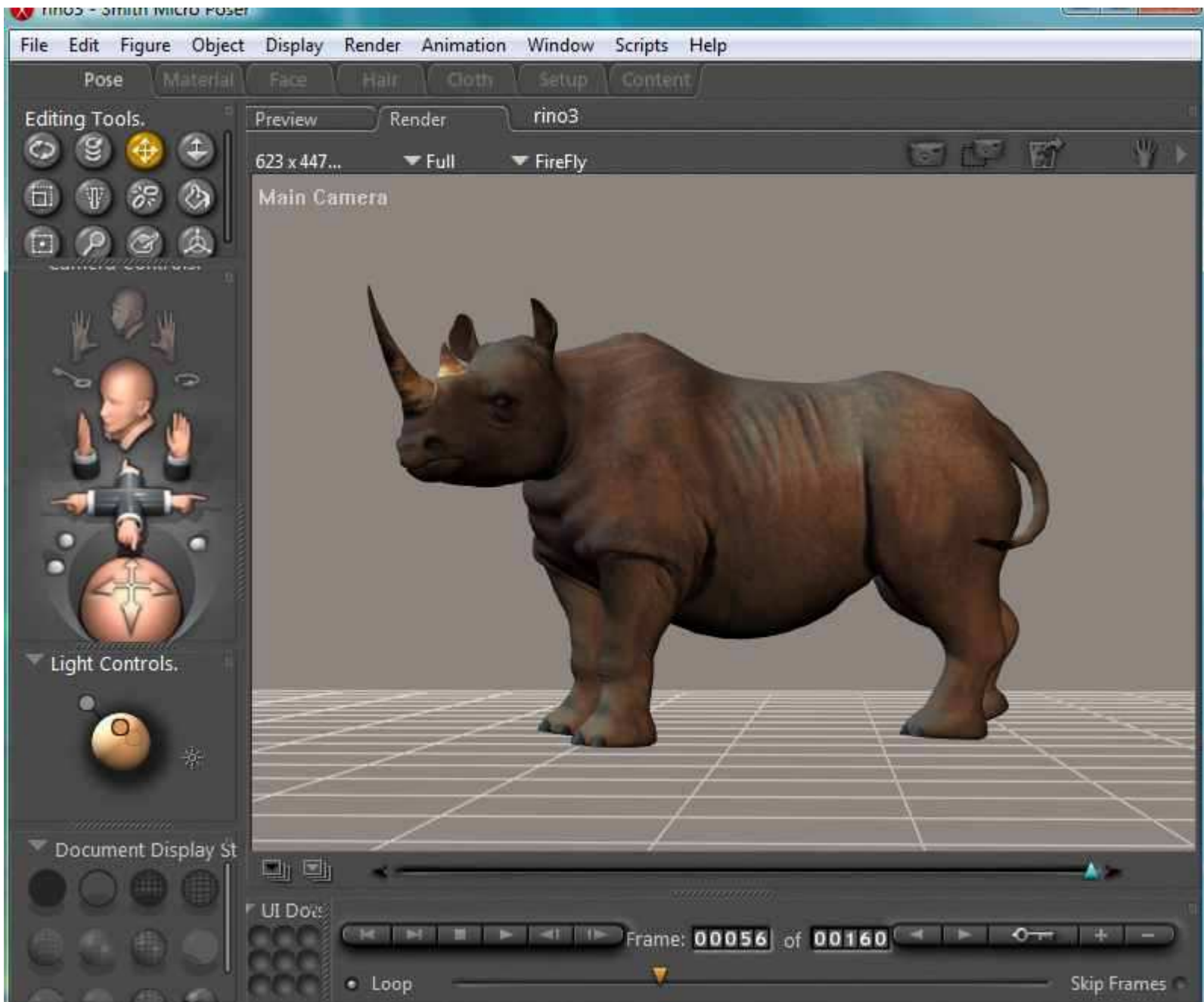
You need a AVI movie with a film mask. Unfortunately, the problem does not solve the pop video converter from Reallusion. You must be available to the movie screens have.

The film is not the problem, but the problem is how to screen the film erstellen.Leider there are no instructions about this from Reallusion. In the English forum, there are some points of discussion about this.
There I also learned that a Videocodec that can create Lagarith Lossless Video Codec, AVI video with an alpha channel. The video codec is free and works with Windows XP and Vista, both 32 and 64-BIT. What makes the codec, you can read here. Http://lags.leetcode.net/codec.htm. Also you can download the codec here. This codec simplifies the creation of a mask film considerably, because he created an alpha mask, which can then be used by a video program.

First, a short info about Alpha channel:

- The alpha channel or α-channel is an additional channel) in raster graphics in addition (to the color transparency the transparency of individual pixels (picture elements) stores. The representation of an image with alpha channel on a background will read bezeichnet.hier as alpha blending further
<http://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Alpha-Kanal>

Described below is how to make a Poser can include animation of a Rino in Iclone 4th
There are any other programs that can output animations as AVI movie.



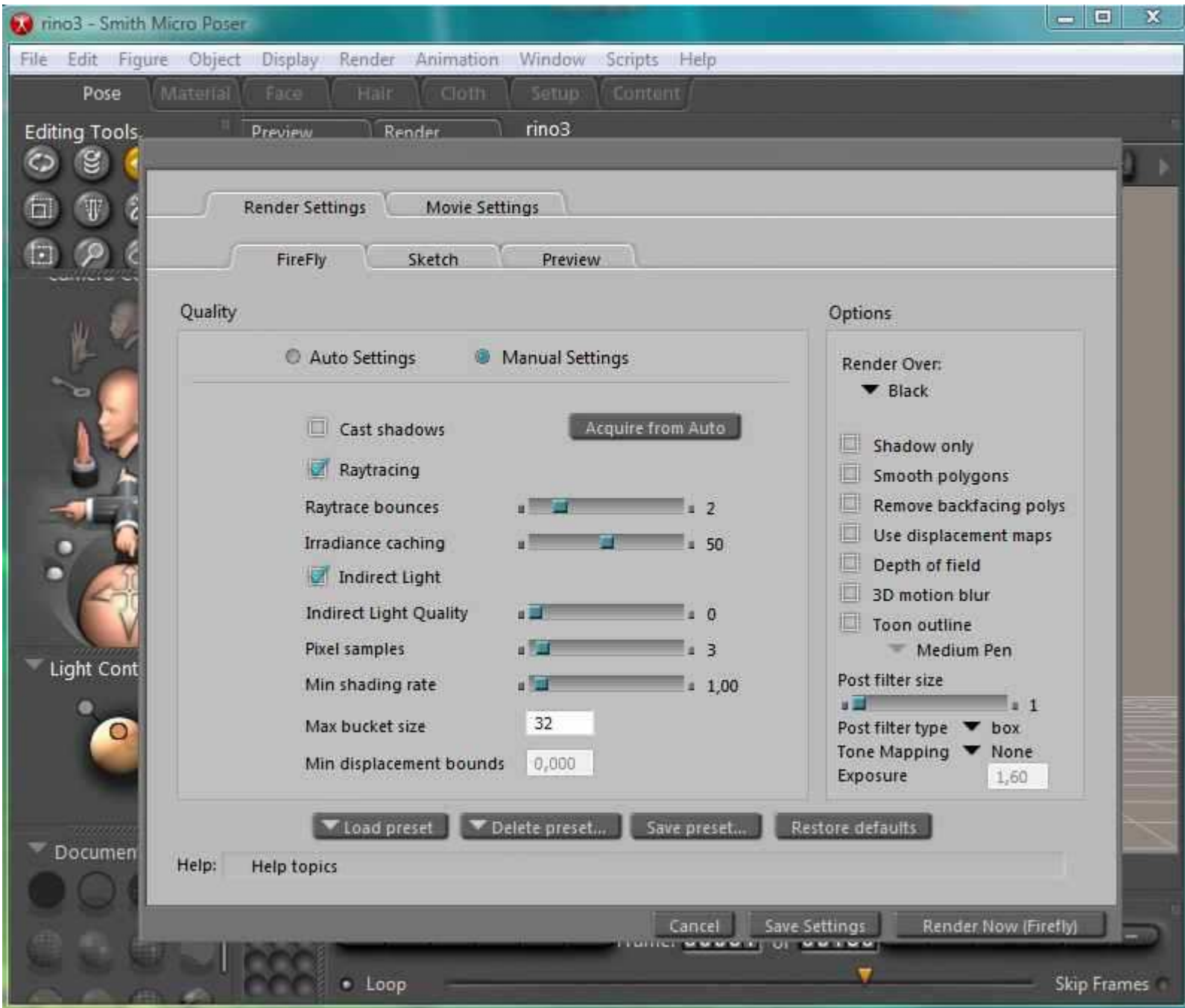
I chose Poser, because I had this program since Version 1 know and have collected a lot of content. Similarly, also works the free rendering program from DAZ.

1. Creating an animation.

Before an animation can be rendered using Poser, of course, one must first create the animation. For human avatars there to help with the Walk Designer. In animals, you have to build on key Frameming the typical movement itself. That is not always easy and usually requires some knowledge of the conduct of an animation. A movement is only natural when one knows the right timing to do so.

2. Render animation

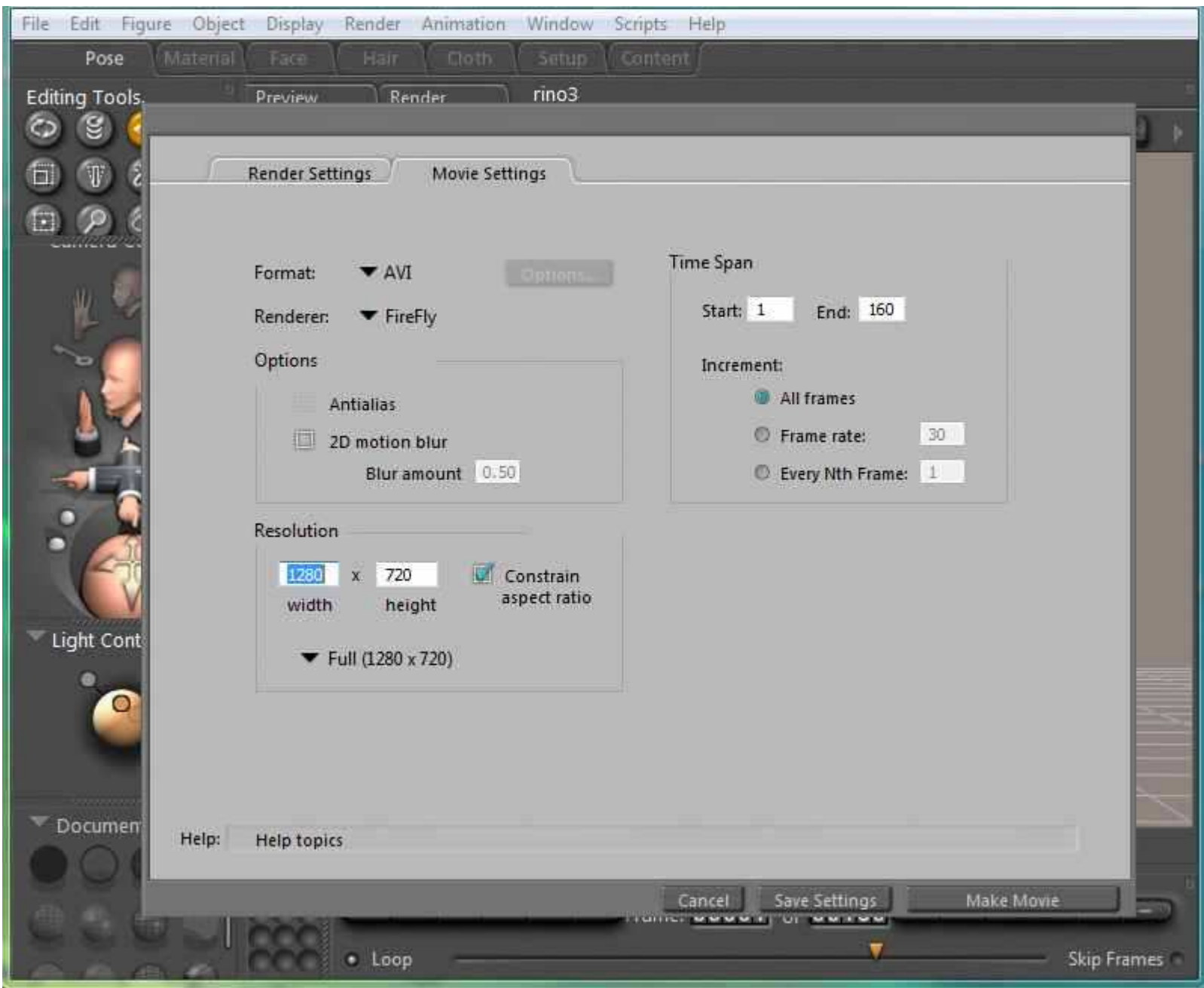
If only the character, such as the Rino is desired, then renders on a black background and turns out all the shadows in Poser 8th The shadow adds iClone. This is preferable to use for flexible use in Iclone as the shadow from Poser.



- As a dimension of 1280 x 720 selects, so that the textures are clean.

The size of the film does not matter if your computer is ready for some videos. This film is indeed later used only for iClone. The size of this film affects the output size of iClone movie not much because all the movie images will be re-rendered and mixed into the iClone iClone movie.

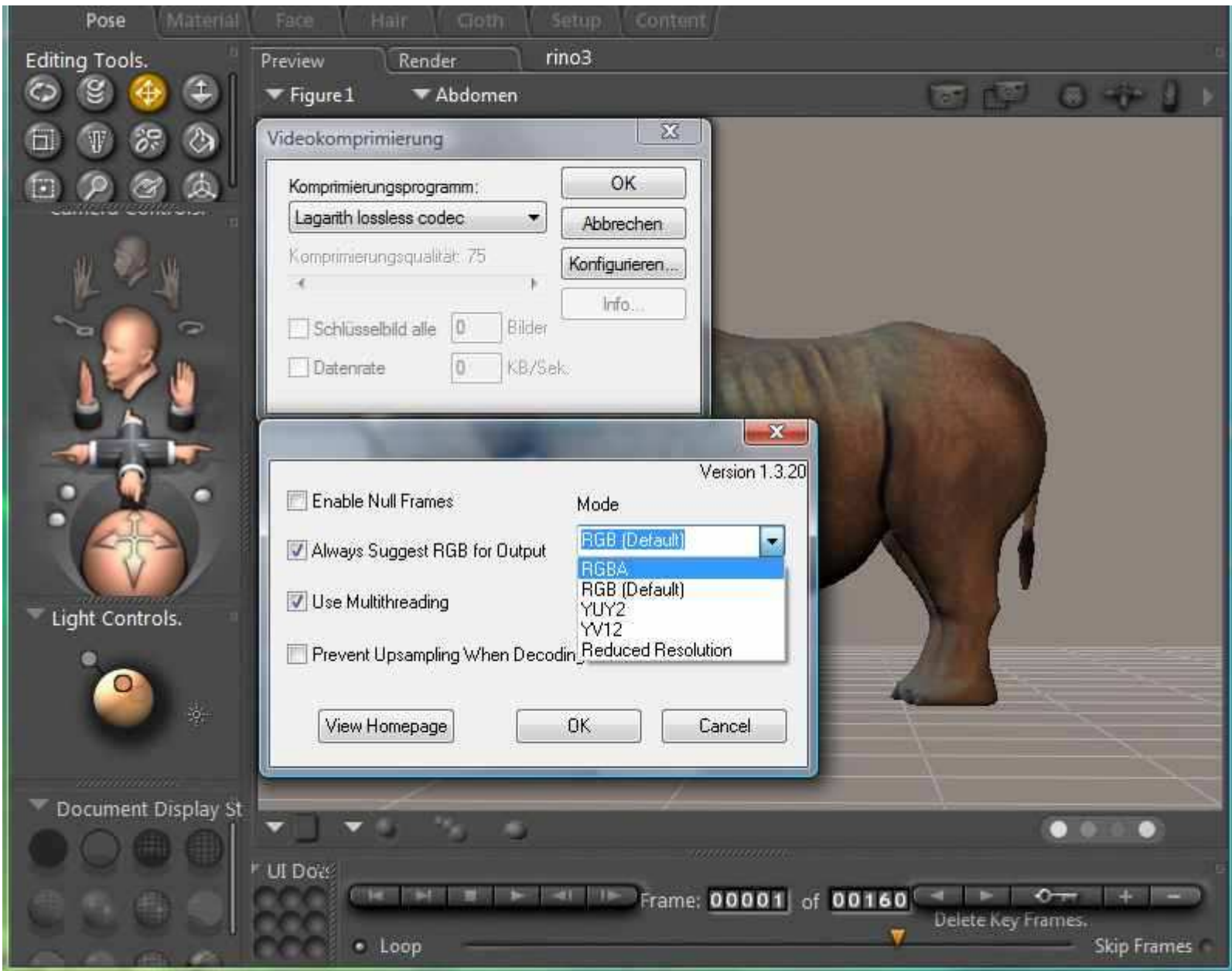
- Forget the rendering of the animation in Poser does not set the options so that the render settings are available for the animation.



- "Make Movie" would mean that you must first enter a movie name.
- Be selected in the video compression have an AVI codec.



- Now the Lagarith Lossless codec chooses.



You must still configure the codec.

- Under "Mode" selects RGBA.

This means that a movie with an alpha mask created wirds.
Rendered with the okwird AVI movie. The film with the Rino is ready and now needs to be further processed. We need as a result of a film of the mask.

Editing of the film with a video program

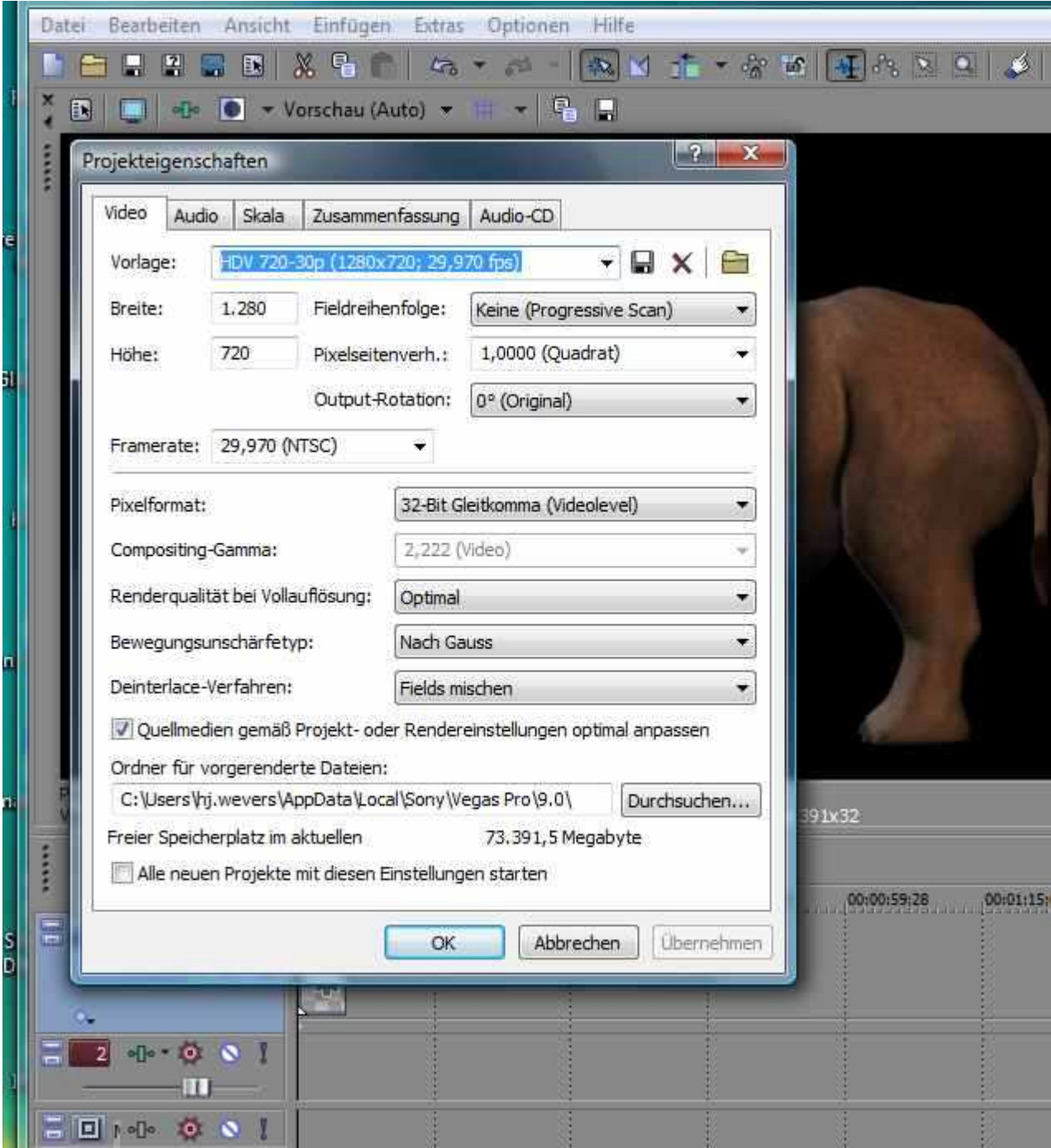
Now it is important that you have a video editing program or concern you can use the video with alpha channel RGBA.

- CorelvideoStudio 12, I could not test that crashed in movies with Windows Vista 64 with the codec.
- Magix Video Pro 1.5 is an alpha channel information in the AVI movie not to use it. At least I did not get this done.
- Sony Vegas or Adobe Premiere Pro using the AVI alpha channel.

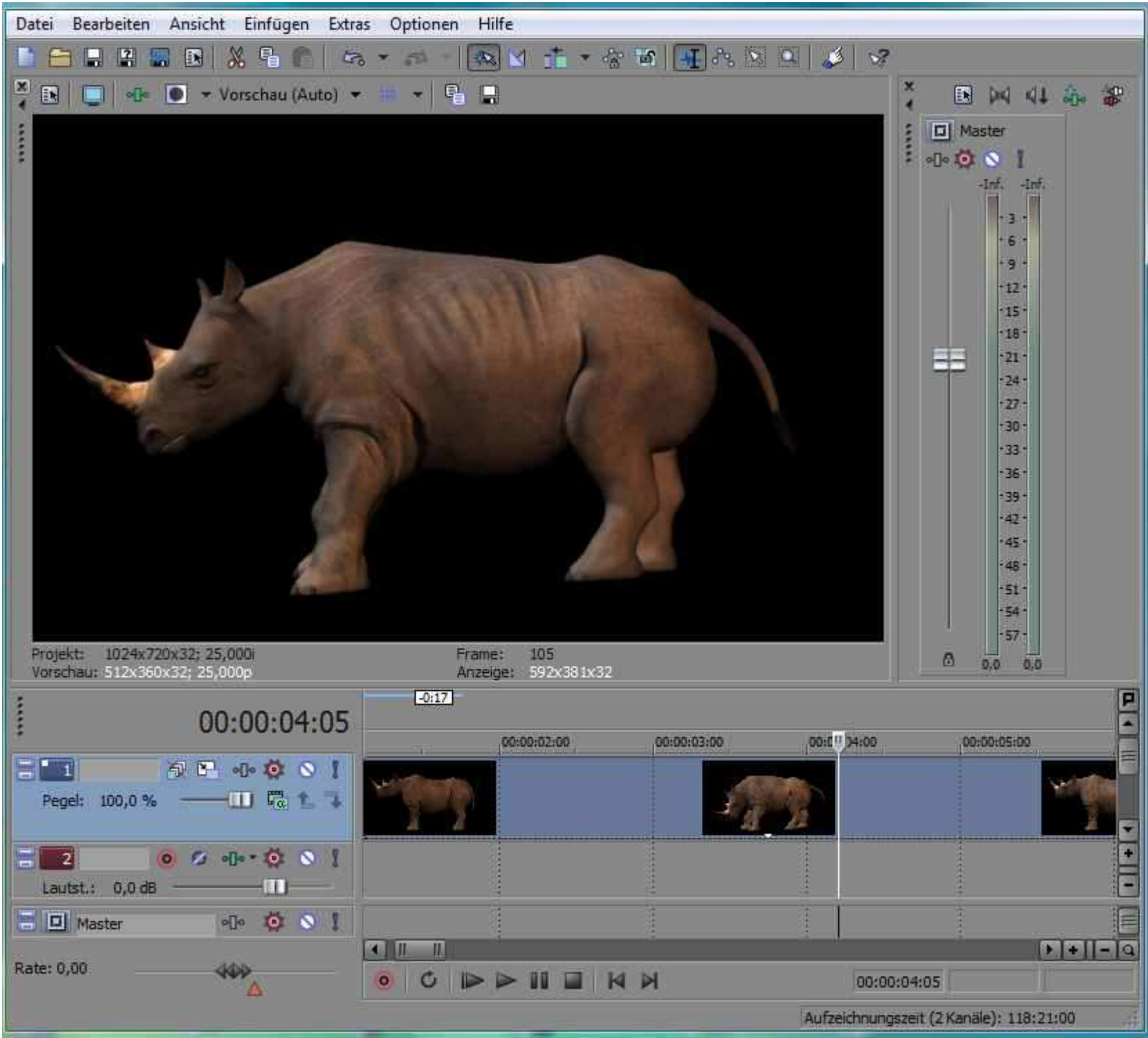
The most experience I have with Sony Vegas Pro. It is a video editing program that can be fairly intuitive to use and display professional results. Other video programs I have not tested for lack of time for this possibility.

Project settings in Vegas Pro

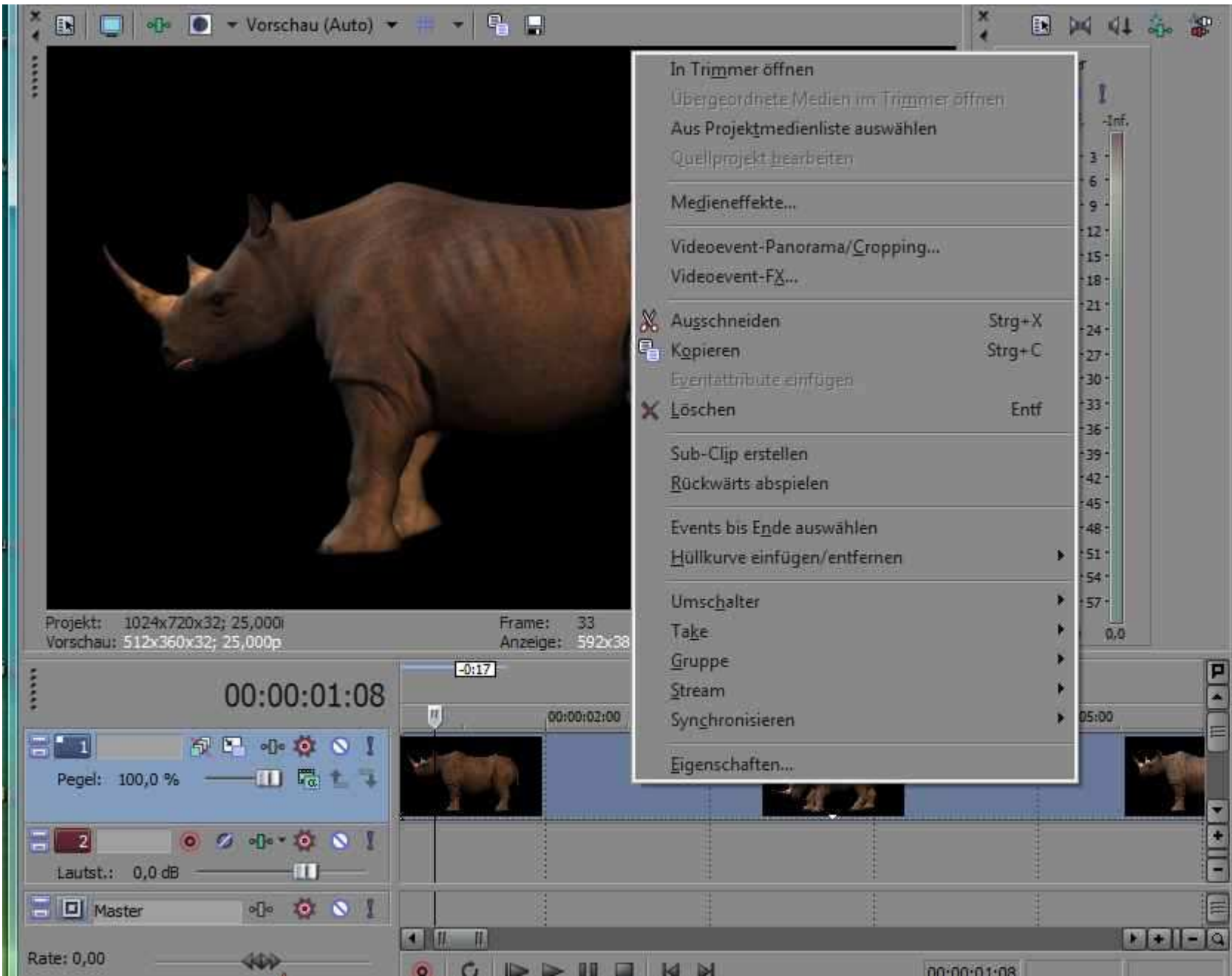
For me has proven itself as a setting:



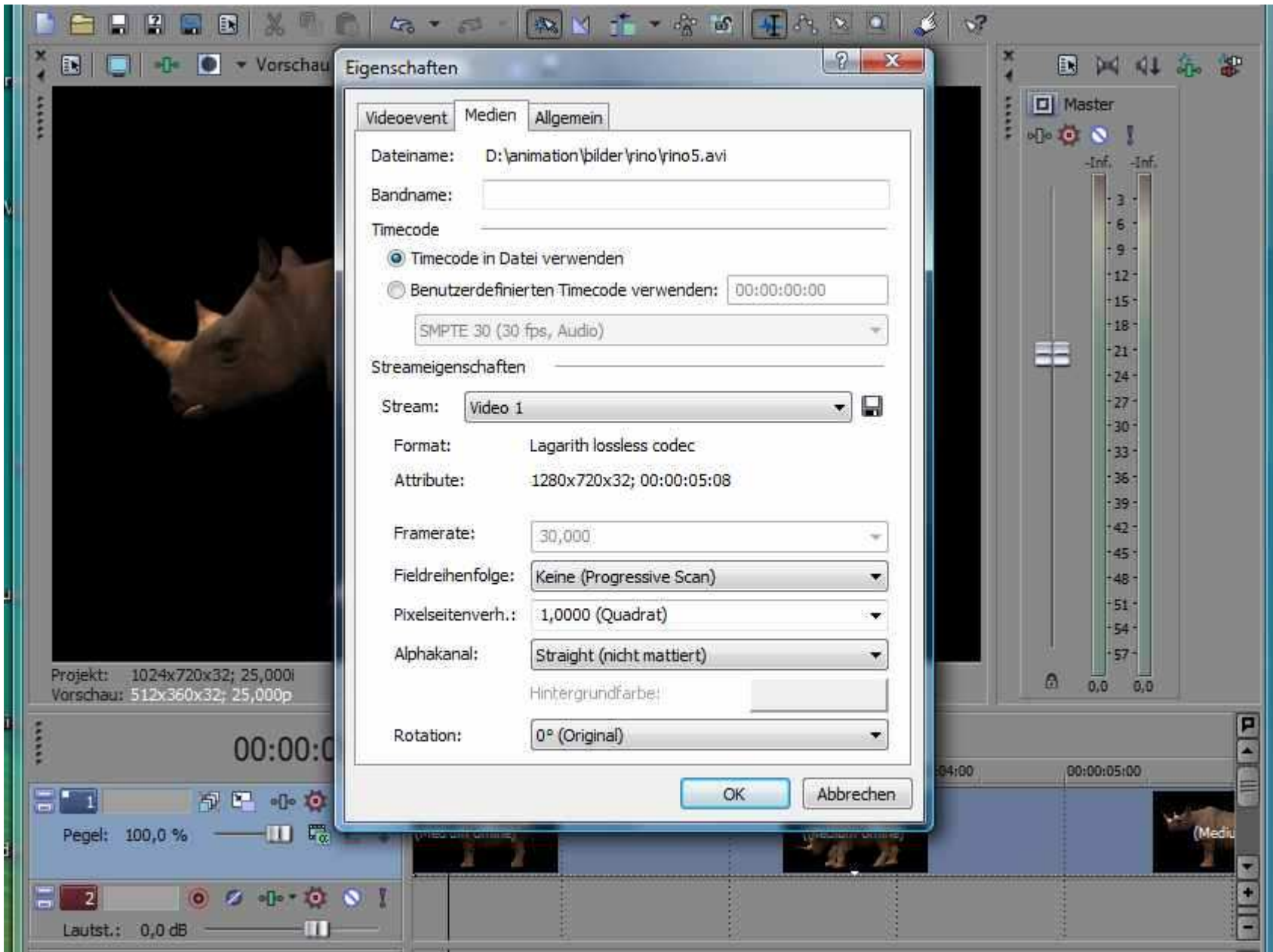
- Does the animation in the render hint of Vegas Pro.
- Next is to make sure that the AVI movie has an alpha channel.



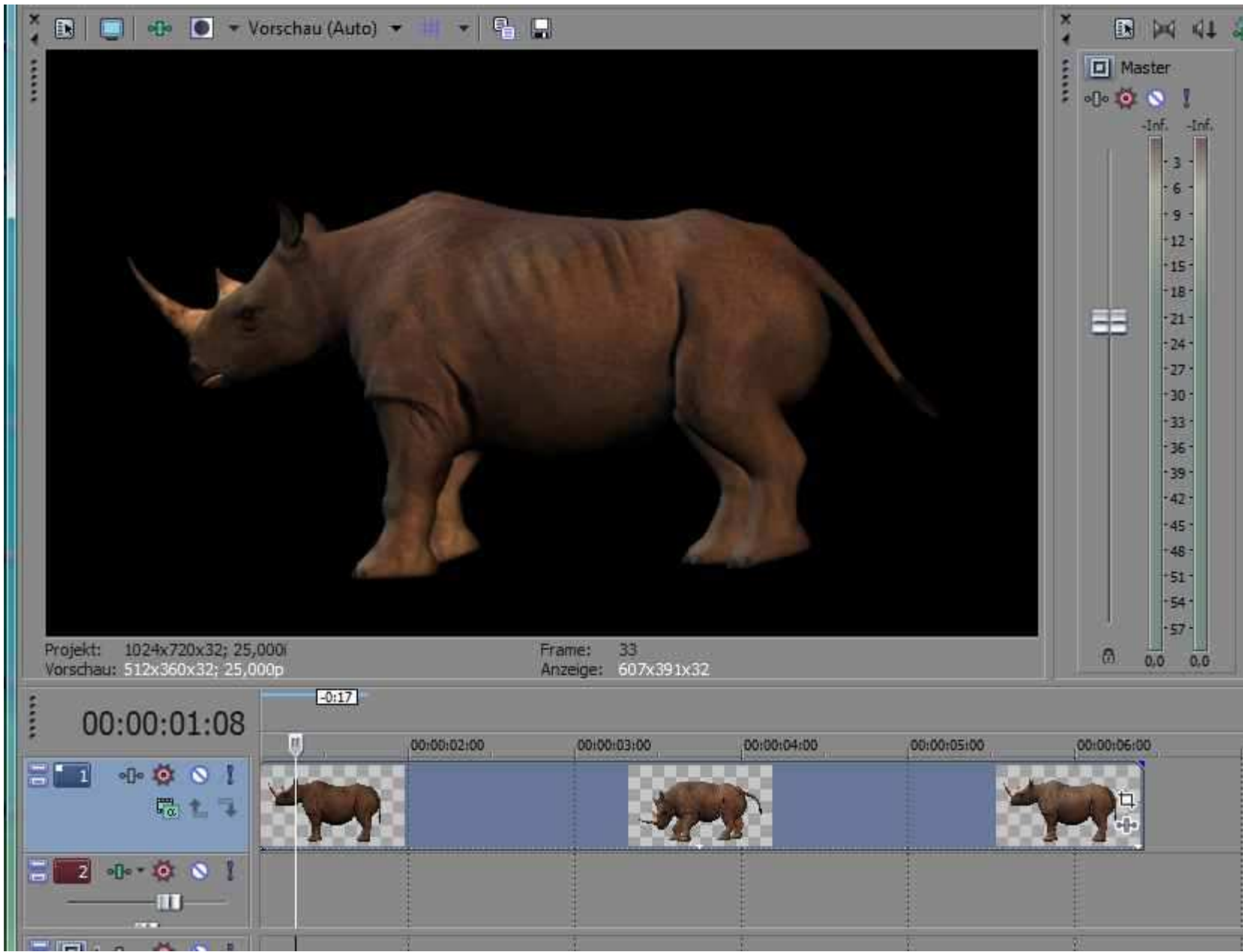
- To see the alpha channel characteristics, you must edit the "Properties" of the film.



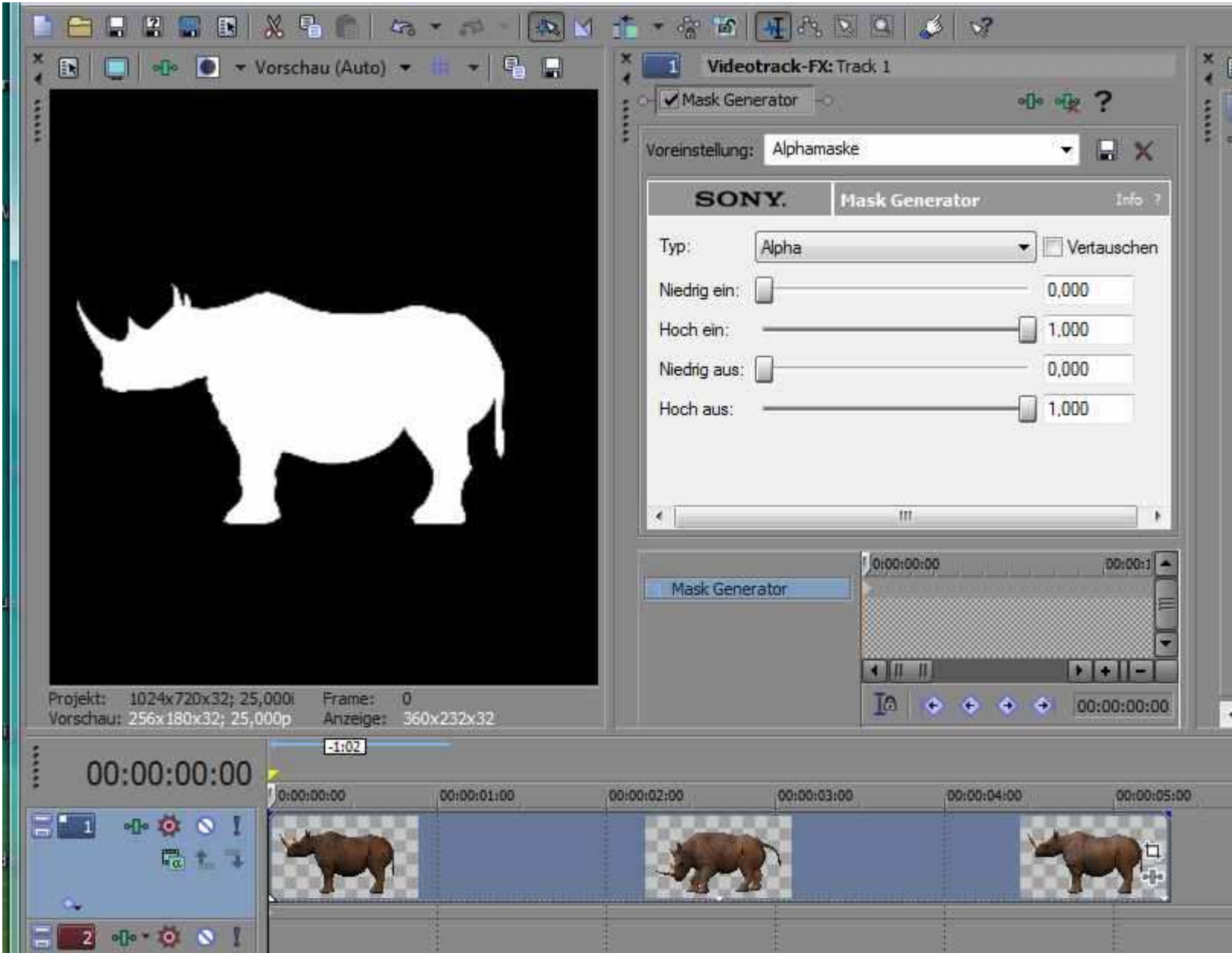
- Down in the Properties window is the setting for the alpha channel. You can select between different possibilities.



After the ok, you can immediately see the effect of the alpha channel in the render track.



- To create the mask, you have to choose among video-output FX and adjust the mask generator optional alpha mask.



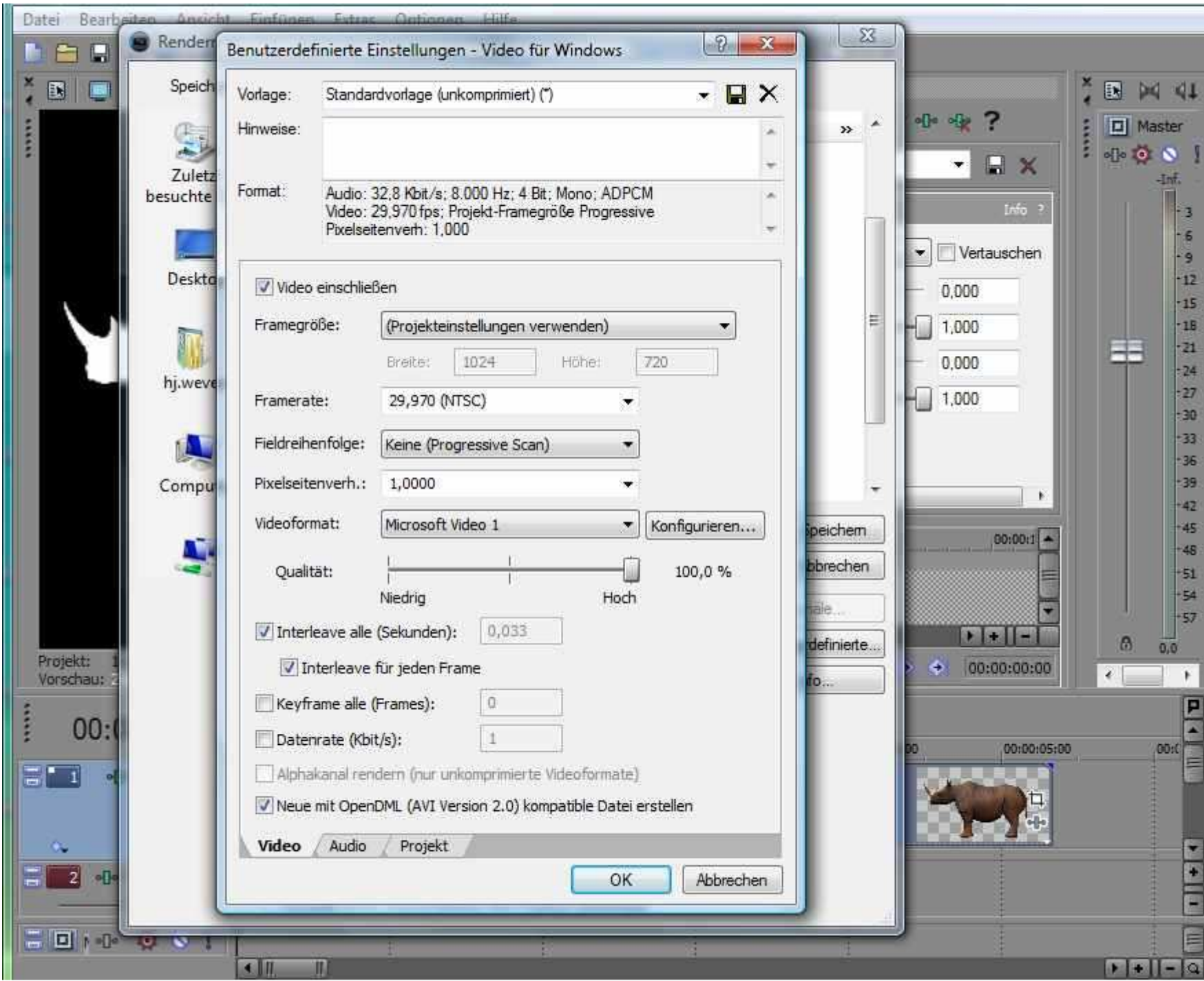
The slides can modify the mask. In this case, this setting is appropriate.

Render mask film

After entering a file name will appear the settings.

It is important to:

- adjust the field order to "none".
- select the frame rate at 29.970 NTSC.



First, I had chosen for the frame rate **PAL**, but then I had described similar results Vidi in the Reallusion forum. Mask and film, not always have a fit in between. I had initially forgotten the Poser renders in NTSC format. Changing the frame rate should be no problem. However, there were poor results in the mask. Only when I chose the framerate 29.970 NTSC, there was the desired result.

- After the mask film, the film also rendered normal re-enabled both films has actually übereinstimmen.Die guarantee you, if you can render both films, with and without a mask, by a program

If you use the pop video converter, then it must be, in any case, otherwise he takes the film does not.

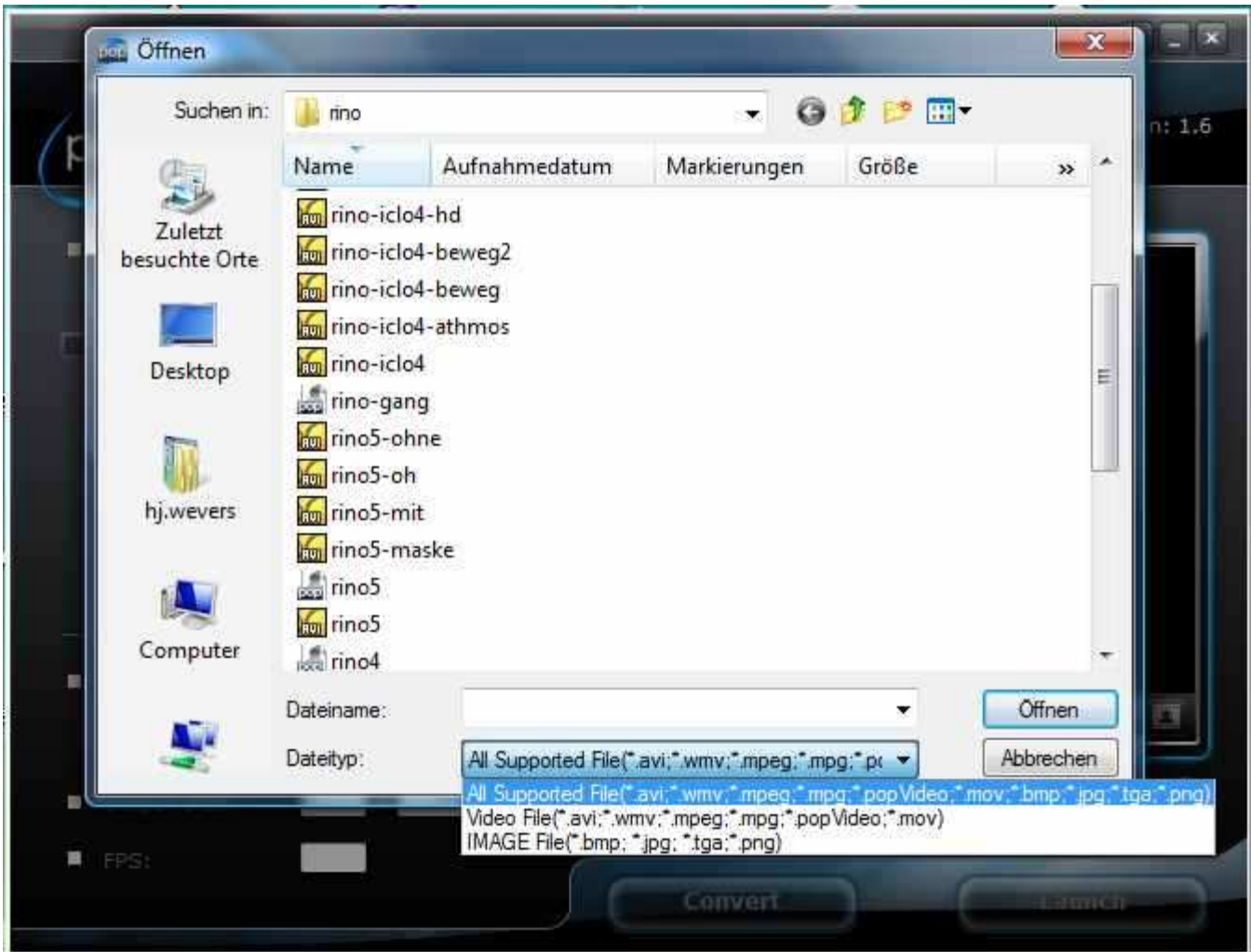
Pop video converter from Reallusion

Endwerder adds her drawn immediately iClone 4, a video or you created previously a pop video with video converter from Reallusion.

- An advantage of the converter all in one file packs and also the size significantly reduced.

What is the quality losses, I can not tell here, plus I have so little experience.

- Another advantage of the video converter is that he made images with alpha channel. ie, TGA or PNG formats generated immediately in a pop video movie mask.

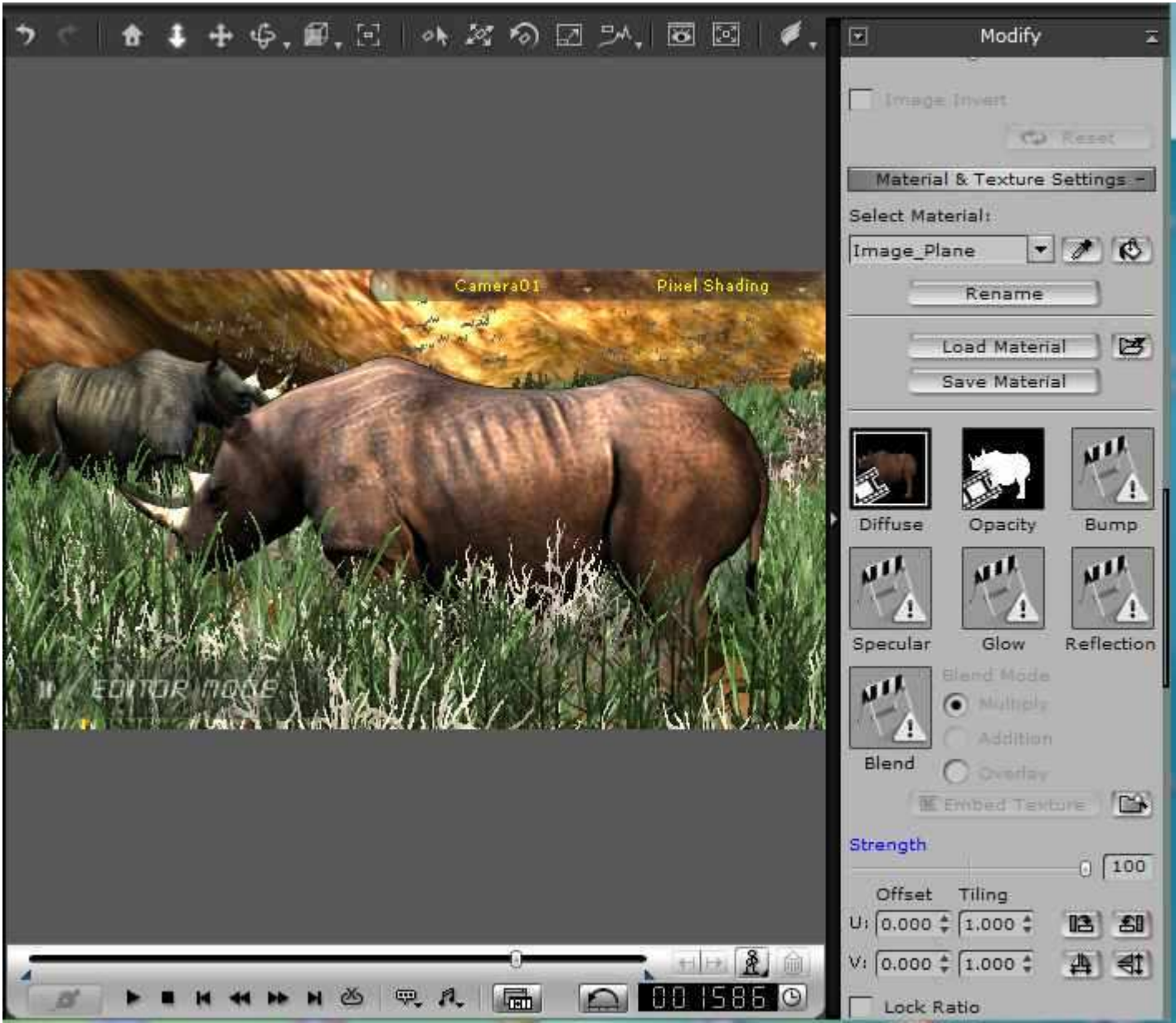


- At the film and the corresponding mask film invites.



- Among features is yet to set the video and audio quality. For video choose the best setting, otherwise the textures are washed out too much. But that you have to experiment yourself.

Now only remains to integrate the results into iClone. While holding the CTRL key one takes the film to the stage. Is so integrated a pop video at the scene, the mask film in immediately. Otherwise, must be added under "opacity" of the mask movie yet. In preview mode it can sometimes seem as if no mask and film about mood. This is the live rendering, and is depending on the configuration of the computer perform differently.



When rendered, the film should show no more. The video might look like.

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