

Supplement Report to NFWF & *Save The Tiger Fund*: June 2000

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Status of Memorandum of Understanding between the Sumatran Tiger Project and the Indonesian Ministry of Forestry

As an extension to the previous agreement for the period 1995 to 1999, and in order to provide a strong basis for future developments, it has been necessary to develop a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between the project and the Indonesian Ministry of Forestry. Extensive discussions have taken place over the last few months between The Tiger Foundation (TTF) and the Directorate General of Protection and Nature Conservation (PKA). National park chiefs from Way Kambas (Lampung), Bukit Tigapuluh (Riau) and Berbak (Jambi) have all been involved.

The agreement that has been developed involves two primary partners (PKA and TTF), who together will provide an umbrella under which other Sumatran tiger conservation funding and support can be pooled. Basic objectives of the 5-year programme are also described, in both the main document and the attached appendix. A more detailed work plan of activities is also currently being developed, following discussions between stakeholders and park chiefs, in order to direct and evaluate activities of the project on an annual basis.

In summary the 1999-2004 Memorandum of Understanding will allow the Sumatran Tiger Project to continue its support in Way Kambas National Park and surrounding forest areas. In addition, however, the project will initiate similar activities in the hill forests of Bukit Tigapuluh National Park, Riau Province. Extensive discussions have already been held with the chief of this park, and a number of priorities identified. We hope that in the next few years the Sumatran Tiger Project will be able to make a significant impact on this priority national park, promoting the Sumatran tiger as the emblem of the park, improving protection, infrastructure and human resources. Also, Bukit Tigapuluh National Park is still surrounded by extensive non-protected forests, plantations and logging concessions. For this reason we feel that immediate action is required, in order to maximise the future potential of the park as one of the priority sanctuaries for wild Sumatran tigers.

Although not included in the MoU, Berbak National Park of Jambi province has been identified as another priority national park for the Sumatran tiger. For this reason the Directorate General of Protection and Nature Conservation has provided permits for the Sumatran Tiger Project to carry out a preliminary phase of activities during the year 2000. Our priorities during this period will be to complete a tiger status assessment within the park, to conduct preliminary camera monitoring of tigers and their prey, develop essential human resources to improve tiger conservation management in the park, and also to plan and develop an operational plan for future cooperative work between Berbak National Park and the Sumatran Tiger Project. The Directorate General of Protection and Nature Conservation will be providing the permits and support for these activities.

Finally, the Directorate of Conservation of Flora and Wildlife (PKA) has agreed that the Sumatran Tiger Project will be ideally placed to respond to tiger management crises as they arise across Sumatra. With this in mind the MoU has been developed with a clause that will

allow the Sumatran Tiger Project and PKA to identify new areas for future project operations, in accordance with needs and priorities as they arise.

We believe that this adaptable MoU will allow the Sumatran Tiger Project, in partnership with the Directorate General of Protection and Nature Conservation, to respond effectively to tiger conservation issues across Sumatra as they develop during the next 5 years. We are grateful for the opportunity that has been provided to us, wish to show our appreciation to our primary partners, and also our thanks to the project funders and supporters. At the present time the completion of the MoU awaits the finalisation of a mutually suitable date for the signing of the document, following the recent promotion of a new director of biodiversity conservation within the Department of Forestry.

Tiger Conservation Teams - Tiger status in Lampung province

Introduction

The roles and responsibilities of the Tiger Conservation Teams are wide-ranging and encompass, to some extent, all of the conservation management priorities described in the Indonesian Sumatran Tiger Conservation Strategy of 1994. Rapid assessment of tiger status represents, although a high priority, only one of these many tasks. For this reason the teams have been fully involved in the training and technology transfer activities described in previous sections of this report. They have also focused on surveying remaining potential tiger areas of Lampung province, whenever the socio-political climate has allowed.

The area to be covered by the teams is extensive, and represented by habitats of varying protective status. Surveys have also been carried out in plantations and logging concessions, since in many cases these still represent potential tiger habitat. The current status of land in Lampung province is shown in the graphic below, and is characteristic of the land use pattern in Sumatra in general (see Table 1).

This has provided valuable data regarding the status and threats of tigers for a complete province, and has shown that the situation outside national park boundaries, in other protected and non-protected forest areas, is very much worse than those within the sanctuary of a well-managed park. In the determination of current tiger status in Lampung the teams have focused on three main factors:

1) Present and historical distribution of tigers

Tiger distribution can be estimated using several techniques with varying levels of reliability. Secondary signs of tiger activity, direct observations by local people and photographs from remote cameras are combined and incorporated into GIS maps. This GIS map provides a graphical representation of tiger distribution in relation to the available habitat. Historical data and interviews of local people add a further dimension to this, identifying where tigers were once found but now no longer.

2) Potential tiger habitat, forest boundaries and rates of deforestation

Forest is disappearing at an alarming rate in Lampung province, a phenomenon that has accelerated during the recent socio-political upheaval. The team has focused on mapping current forest boundaries, and comparing these to the legal boundaries of protected areas and habitat according to historical satellite images. Information has also been collated regarding the factors behind the observed acceleration in deforestation since 1998.

3) Poaching of tigers and illegal trafficking of tiger body parts

In support of the Tiger Conservation Teams primary role of assessing current tiger status, the teams have assisted in the accumulation of information, and the maintenance of a comprehensive intelligence network, that has provided a detailed insight into the intensity and nature of the poaching problem in Lampung and across Sumatra.

Table 1. Protected areas in Sumatra by official Indonesian and IUCN categories.

Category	N	% Total N	Sum area (km ²)	Mean area (km ²)	SD	% Total area
Grand forest park	1	0.4	222	222	0	0.3
Hunting park	4	1.7	1,149	287	343	1.4
Recreation park	5	2.2	223	44	52	0.3
National Park	6	2.6	29,461	4,910	4,992	36.6
Nature reserve	9	3.9	567	63	76	0.7
Game reserve	13	5.6	5261	404	322	6.5
Protection forest	192	83.1	43,689	227	308	54.2
Total	231	100.0	80,572	348	1,095	100.0

(IUCN 1998)

Tiger Distribution

The only strictly protected areas of significance in Sumatra are the island's six National Parks (Taman Nasional), which represent 6.2% of the island's total area. In Lampung province only 43% (4,950 sq km) of the total protected area network (11,456 sq km) is designated as national park. Approximately 30% (3,393 sq km) is represented by the lower security protection forests and the remainder (3,113 sq km) as highly exploited production forest. However, these large tracts of land represent significant potential habitat for the tiger, and must be thoroughly evaluated in any status assessment of the tiger in Sumatra. Accurate assessment of tiger distribution in these areas is obscured by confusion with historical observations, difficulties in obtaining accurate topographical/boundary maps and the logistical problems of accumulating sufficient field data. It is thus a high priority of the teams to gather this data, and provide means of revising it on a regular basis.

Tiger presence within a region of habitat can be confirmed by the geographical plotting of various secondary signs indicative of the tigers' continued activity. These include paw prints, faeces, scratch marks, prey kills and other visual cues easily identified by the skilled survey team. Direct encounters of tigers, reported by third parties, are often more difficult to confirm though there are a number of interview techniques that can increase the reliability of such information. In all cases the most reliable evidence of continued tiger presence is that resulting from successful photo-capture by infrared activated remote camera. During this past period the teams have focused on accumulating this distribution data for all major forest blocks and forest fragments in the Lampung province. In many cases evidence suggests that in recent times tigers did still exist, but often direct evidence of their continued survival has been more difficult to accumulate.

As of August 1999, 52 sites of potential tiger habitat in Lampung have been evaluated. Based on interviews with Indonesian Forestry Department staff, local people, and preliminary site surveys we found that only 15 these were intact enough to contain tigers. Teams of three people each using the methods developed at Way Kambas National Park carried out surveys of the 15 sites. Of these sites, signs of tigers were present at six. However, only in two, the national parks, were tigers found in any abundance. By contrast in Way Kambas National Park at least 40 individual tigers have been identified. Signs of known tiger prey species,

including Sambar deer (*Cervus unicolor*), Barking deer (*Muntiacus muntjak*), wild pigs (*Sus scrofa*), were observed in nine sites and tigers signs (photographs, scrapes, footprints, urine sprays, or faeces) were observed in six locations (Table 2).

Table 2. Potential tiger habitat and number of sites with tigers and tiger prey in Lampung Province, Sumatra, based on preliminary field evaluations.

Protected area status	Potential tiger habitat		Field observations	
	No. sites	Area (km ²)	No. sites with prey	No. sites with tigers
Protection forest	26	3,033	7	4
Production forest ¹	9	1,674	0	0
Production forest—conversion allowed ¹	8	1,439	0	0
Nature reserve and tourist area	7	360	0	0
National Park	2	4,950	2	2
TOTAL	52	11,456	9	6

¹ Insufficient survey data available, though preliminary observations have provided no evidence of tigers to-date

The geographical location of the areas found by the teams to contain tigers is represented in the graphic below. What has become clear during this assessment is that the current distribution of tigers in Lampung is now highly fragmented. This is a result of a number of immediate threats, further outlined in the section to follow. Populations found outside the national parks also appear to be numerically very small. Only the national parks contain populations that are viable without immediate intervention. Evidence collected, however, suggests that the distribution of tigers in Lampung was, in only very recent times, very much more widespread.

Potential Tiger Habitat and Deforestation

The habitat managed for wildlife protection officially exceeds 17% of Sumatra's total area. However, of its 230 protected areas, 75% are less than 300 square kilometres in size and only 10 (4%) are greater than 1,000 km². These largest ten reserves account for 44% of the total protected area of Sumatra. More than half of Sumatra's total protected area system is not managed primarily for ecosystem protection. Eighty-three percent of the total number and 54% of the total area of the island's protected area system is classified as Protection Forest (*Hutan Lindung*), forests whose primary function is to control soil erosion and for watershed protection, and from which forest products can be removed. These protection forests, though appearing to provide more than adequate habitat for the tiger, are only very loosely protected, and have experienced considerable pressures on them during the recent economic crisis. The teams have focused on establishing the boundaries of the current available habitat, comparing this with the legal boundaries as recognised on current maps. In addition, the factors behind the recent disturbance of these protected forests have been investigated and habitat ground truthing by teams and more recent satellite imagery incorporated into GIS maps.

At its simplest the loss of, and disturbance to, protected forests in Lampung can be attributed to a rapidly increasing human population. In Lampung, human population growth exceeded 5% per year between 1961 and 1981 and was still 2.7% between 1980 and 1990. None of the protected areas in Lampung are immune from the impact of this population growth. As illustrated in the graphic above, high human population densities surround every protected area in Lampung. Population densities surround Way Kambas National Park are illustrative of the challenges facing many protected areas in Sumatra. More than half a million live in the first tier of sub-districts (170 villages), a distance encompassing approximately five km from the park border. The population density today ranges from a low of 60 to a high of 700 people/km² in the 27 villages nearest the park. The most intensely inhabited region of Lampung lies between the two national parks, Way Kambas and Bukit Barisan Selatan, ensuring that there is no possibility of decreasing isolation between resident tiger populations.

The protected forests provide the buffers around the rapidly expanding human settlements, and have suffered as a consequence.

Investigation by the teams suggest the observed massive discrepancy between the legal boundaries of protected forest and the actual habitat recorded by the teams, can be explained by a combination of diminished protective status during the recent socio-economic crisis, in combination with severe drought and resulting fires brought about by El Niño Southern Oscillation (ENSO) events of 1997-98.

In summary the current status of available habitat in Lampung is considerably diminished by the recent intensive disturbance resulting from over-exploitation by surrounding human settlements. Results of surveys, interviews and ground truthing by the teams have shown that the only potentially viable populations of tigers are currently in the two national parks. It is also likely that the pressure on surrounding protected forests will continue in its intensity.

Tiger Poaching and Illegal Trafficking

In recognition of the severe effects on tiger populations of artificial extraction of individuals, the tiger conservation teams have endeavoured to implement the first comprehensive province-wide study of poaching and trafficking. The details of methods used are omitted from this report in order to protect the operators, but a primary component of the study involves the maintenance of an extensive network of informants. A team member collects information periodically, the information verified, and further tasks assigned. This has proved to be a very powerful method of accumulating significant quantities of reliable data.

It has become clear that poaching and trafficking of tiger body parts is much more widespread and common than previously thought. A minimum number of tigers poached over the period 1992 to 1998 can be constructed from verifiable reports received by the team (Table 3). A total of 75 tigers are reported to have been hunted in the Lampung area during this time, or an average of 10.7 individuals per year. Evidence from recent years is more easily available, and thus accounts recorded between 1992-94 may represent underestimates of the true intensity.

Table 3. Minimum number of tigers poached in Lampung between 1992 and 1998.

Total Poached	'92	'93	'94	'95	'96	'97	'98
75	1	3	8	10	15	19	19

The teams have collected considerable data from their informants regarding the *modus operandi* of poachers, techniques employed, the groups involved, the common trade routes and the current costs of tiger body parts at various stages between poacher and the final market place. It is clear that tiger poaching is a lucrative business, though the real financial rewards achieved by the final retailer greatly outweigh the relatively low compensation paid to the actual poacher. In Table 4 market prices of various tiger body parts are summarised, representing the price that such materials can be obtained from middlemen in Lampung. A higher price is placed on these items in more distant towns such as Jakarta.

Two distinct groups of poachers are identified; the professional poacher and the amateur hunter. The most popular methods of poaching are using shotguns or rifles, wire snare-traps and baited cages. In the last two years the use of poisoned (e.g. TIMEX) animal carcasses has become increasingly widespread and common. Poisoning destroys the longevity of the tiger's coat, and the trend towards the use of poison appears to be occurring in tandem with the growing realisation that the market price of bones outweighs the value of good quality skins.

Table 4. Costs of tiger body parts based on data from poachers and traders in Lampung (1998-99). Based on Indonesian rupiah at 7,500/USD.

Body part type	Price (Rupiah)	Details
Complete skin (a)	3,000,000 – 5,000,000	Length 1.5 – 2 m
Complete skin (b)	2,500,000	Length 1.25 m
Complete skin (c)	900,000	Old and poor quality
Bones	15.000 – 85.000/kg	Price depends on quantity
Whiskers	20.000 – 50.000 each	-
Skin of face	50.000 – 100.000/piece	Piece 10 cm ²
Scrap of body skin	10.000-25.000/piece	Piece 10 cm ²
Claw	10.000-25.000 each	-
Incisor	50.000-150.000 each	-

A weak currency in comparison to the US dollar has led to a significant increase in the export value of tiger body parts, and this has been recognised in increasingly reckless and intense poaching across the tigers range in Lampung. Even national parks as well protected as Way Kambas have been subject to this phenomenon, as poachers are becoming more prepared to face the risk of capture. This is further exacerbated by weak enforcement in many areas and a poor track record in convicting felons (Table 5).

Table 5. Criminal sentences dealt to tiger, elephant and rhino poachers in Lampung (1998-1998).

People arrested	Species poached	Year	Location	Sentence	Details
28	Rhino	1990	TNKS Bengkulu	3 - 8 months	Several released
3	Rhino	1996	TN BBS	3 months 20 days	Not enough evidence
2	Tiger, elephant	1997	TN BBS	6 months	
2	Tiger	1998	Way Kambas	In process	

Summary

The information summarised above, resulting from the intensive work of the Tiger Conservation Teams in Lampung, has shown that the status of the wild tiger is currently at a precarious point in its history. A combination of severely limited and disturbed habitat, fragmented subpopulations of tigers, poor protection and the severe intensity of poaching have led us to one conclusion; that the future responsibility for the wild tiger in Sumatra rests with the national parks. Only these better-protected regions appear to be able to offer the conditions that will promote long-term viability of the tiger, and even then it will not be without significant technical support and encouragement.

Preliminary surveys in areas outside of Lampung province have suggested that the situation is no different across much of Sumatra. In the future focusing our efforts on areas, such as national parks, where it is still feasible to provide ideal sanctuary conditions, may better preserve the tiger.

Further Development of the Tiger Conservation Team Concept

As a result of continuing the rapid assessment of forest areas throughout Lampung, the teams have gained valuable technical experience and have further developed the potential of the Tiger Conservation Team concept. This will serve as the template for future activities in the wider geographical working area outlined in the MoU for the period 2000 onwards. The extended terms of reference for the teams are outlined below. This holistic approach puts them on the front lines of tiger conservation in Sumatra, allowing them to adaptively respond to tiger conservation needs as these arise.

- 1) **Orientation and local needs assessment.** The team introduces local PHPA and civilian authorities to the plight of the Sumatran tiger and the goal of the Sumatran Tiger Project, which is to secure the tiger's future in Sumatra. While doing this, the team reviews the known status of tigers with local PHPA staff, verifies protected area and habitat boundaries, and learns first-hand what local factors affect tiger conservation. A local "needs" assessment is conducted in collaboration with management staff. During this orientation a field plan is created and surveys begin immediately. Information about the tiger rescue team (how to deal with "problem tigers") is also disseminated during initial meetings.
- 2) **Forest ranger training and motivation.** During the initial orientation forest rangers receive training in basic survey methodology from the team. These park rangers become familiar with standard recording protocols for field observations, understand basic tiger ecology, and gain skills in the accurate annotation of survey maps using GPS and compass.
- 3) **Ranger team facilitation and equipment provision.** Selected ranger personnel can be formed into teams and provided with the basic field equipment to operate effectively in the field. More extensive training takes place at this time to prepare the core ranger teams for fieldwork.
- 4) **Rapid assessment surveys for tiger status.** Prior to the field work the team assesses habitat characteristics by GIS, by maps provided by PHPA, and then conducts ground truthing field trips. Information about the presence or absence of tigers, their prey species, habitat security, and human intrusion is collated. The team records all field data on standardised forms, thus enabling the information to be entered into a standardised database on exiting from the field. The information, once presented in a Geographical Information System (GIS) format, can then be used as the basis for future operational decisions by the project, as well as providing a steady source of information for the park managers and PHPA administration. Data is also gathered for a wide range of other indicator species.
- 5) **Remote camera verification of tiger presence and prey abundance.** Due to the political climate and security situation it has not been possible to use remote camera monitoring in sites outside national parks during this last period. However in the future this will be an important component of the teams work. At selected sites where more thorough information about tigers is considered important infrared-activated remote cameras and passive trail monitors can be used to document the presence of tigers and their prey. Correlation between tiger density and the encounter frequency of tiger secondary signs can be evaluated. Tiger photographs obtained can also be used in the generation of support and awareness at a provincial governmental level, as has been so effective in Way Kambas National Park.
- 6) **Village and community awareness.** During the periods out of the field the teams are, in rotation, to conduct public awareness sessions in schools, villages and forest-edge communities. Slide presentations are given where appropriate, and media materials be distributed at every opportunity. In the future the teams will also be responsible for surveying local attitudes toward tigers and other wildlife. Assessment of local needs will be carried out to identify where implementation of community programmes could be more effective.
- 7) **Anti-poaching and protection.** Tiger Conservation Teams facilitate the effective operation of PHPA forest rangers in their law enforcement and protection routines. This includes the removal of tiger snares, interception of poachers, documentation of poaching observations, and a rapid response to perceived threats. Apprehension protocols have been made familiar to all team members, and local police commanders

are informed and aware of the need for close co-operation through the local forestry department head. In the future it is hoped that the collated information resulting from this will be used to apply pressure on the police and legal system, through the Indonesian Tiger Steering Committee, to ensure prosecution where appropriate.

- 8) **Intelligence and informant networking.** The teams are also responsible for collecting information relating to the poaching and trade of tiger body parts, both overtly and covertly where required. Informant networks, such as that operating successfully in Way Kambas and Bukit Barisan Selatan National Parks, have been initiated, and the information resulting carefully verified and collated. The information will be recorded in secure databases and transferred back to the project headquarters for further action.
- 9) **Communication and cooperation.** The extension of the Tiger Conservation Teams into remoter areas of the tiger's range expands the cooperative base for tiger conservation in Sumatra. One of the outcomes of meeting face-to-face with local PHPA staff is that they become more aware of the Sumatran tiger's situation and are encouraged to provide ongoing information to the project about tiger status in their area. Communication channels are initiated that facilitate this dialog, promoting cooperation between forestry offices of the provinces and with the Sumatran Tiger Project. In this way the team builds a larger constituency for tiger conservation.
- 10) **Verification and data processing.** The Tiger Conservation Teams, whilst facilitating and coordinating ranger teams in their ongoing survey and protection programmes, provide a system for verifying and cross-checking results, observations and sightings. Where survey data provided by the PKA ranger teams lacks reliability the Tiger Conservation Teams can be deployed to conduct more intensive and vigorous field assessments of tiger status.
- 11) **Implementation of pilot conservation actions.** Now that the political climate has improved the Tiger Conservation Teams will be in the perfect situation to assess where conservation resources can most effectively be implemented. Local conditions and socio-cultural considerations are of such importance, and are so variable in the physically and culturally diverse island of Sumatra, that any conservation action must have a strong basis in order to be effective. As such, when conditions are judged as suitable, pilot models will be developed that tackle some of the immediate conservation problems for the Sumatran tiger. This will include local community involvement, improved protection regimes, intensified intelligence, and other similar schemes. Proposals will be developed where a need is recognised, funds sought, and the programmes implemented and co-ordinated by the Tiger Conservation Teams as they carry out their other responsibilities. In the coming months this approach will provide the opportunity to conduct feasibility studies, preparing the way for more intensive and widespread implementation of tangible community projects.

Tiger Conservation Teams – Tiger status in Riau Province

Riau province, in central eastern Sumatra, represents one of the most important remaining ranges of the Sumatran tiger. Despite the extensive forest coverage the current rate of logging and forest conversion raises concerns, particularly since the province only has one national park – Bukit Tigapuluh National Park. Only recently gazetted as a protected area on 5th October 1995, the park encompasses 110,143 hectares of primary hill and submontane rainforest (between 200 and 850 metres a.s.l.). Of the park area 33,000 hectares are within the

adjacent province of Jambi, though the park's administrative headquarters are firmly within Riau.

The park's biodiversity value is characterised by relatively large populations of mega fauna such as tiger, tapir and elephant, as well as abundant avifauna and a unique flora (including three species of the giant flowering *Rafflesia*). Despite a lack of recent observations to confirm, it is clear that the park also remains a potential sanctuary for the rare Sumatran rhino. Unfortunately, to this date no surveys have ever been carried out in the park, and this itself remains one of the most serious obstacles to its efficient management.

Future activities of the Sumatran Tiger Project will focus on Bukit Tigapuluh National Park and its surrounding area. Initial orientation surveys have already been carried out and automatic cameras placed in the field under the guidance and direction of the park manager. Operational plans have been developed, and these activities will be initiated following signing of the MoU for the period 2000 to 2005.

Several rangers were identified by the chief of Bukit Tigapuluh National Park, and seconded to the Tiger Conservation Team for a period of two months. These ranger staff were familiarised with remote camera monitoring techniques, rapid assessment methods for tigers, their prey and habitat. Basic tiger ecology and conservation issues were presented and discussed, and the application of these to the Bukit Tigapuluh region considered. Use of maps, GPS and other field equipment was also covered during the intensive period. These rangers will form the team leaders for the project's preliminary operations in the park from 2000 onwards.

Activities during this period will focus on the following:

1) Tiger protection units

Dedicated teams to protect the tiger population; comprised of forest rangers and local indigenous people, with technical assistance provided by STP. Teams will be based on the Rhino Protection Unit model, with modifications derived from STP experience in T.N. Way Kambas. It is recommended that 3 teams be initiated in T.N. Bukit Tigapuluh, and one team in T.N. Way Kambas. Discussions with the Rhino Conservation Project manager will be initiated.

2) Camera trap biodiversity inventory and tiger monitoring

Installation of infrared activated remote cameras within the park, carried out by PKA rangers, to assess and monitor the tiger population in the park. A secondary benefit of this will be the development of a complete, photographic database of the mammal biodiversity existing within the park. Cameras will allow long-term monitoring of the tiger population, identifying core tiger areas and allowing evaluation of the success of tiger conservation management initiatives.

3) Training and development of ranger staff

PKA ranger staff will be trained and familiarised in all modern conservation methods, particularly with reference to the Sumatran tiger. STP developed rapid assessment methods will be used, allowing efficient data collection by the rangers. Remote camera monitoring will be covered in this training, allowing PKA teams to independently manage camera monitoring for the long-term benefit of the park.

4) Field equipment for ranger staff teams

Many essential items of field equipment will be sought for the park rangers involved in tiger conservation activities. These include GPS units, communication equipment, motorcycle transportation and other basic field items.

5) Infrastructure development in the park

Park chiefs recognise that the strategic placing of guard posts would have a significant effect on controlling intrusion into the park. Support should be sought for the development of guard posts in several key areas over the lifetime of this project. In T.N. Bukit Tigapuluh the project will also rehabilitate a base camp in a central location of the park, to be used for project activities, training and ultimately for ecotourism. This will be returned to the PKA on completion of the project.

6) Community development

There are many opportunities for the inclusion of local communities in the activities of the Sumatran Tiger Project. The project would, in cooperation with the PKA, seek to develop several small pilot projects around the parks that will be of direct benefit to the people, while minimising disruption to the Park itself. Close dialogues will be developed among local people, NGO's and the park management. Pilot projects will be sensitive to local conditions, and specific to cultural needs. Further discussions will be held with park chiefs to identify worthy projects.

7) Evaluation and feasibility study for in-situ tiger breeding facility

In line with recommendations made by the chief of T.N. Bukit Tigapuluh, it will be within the scope of this project to carry out a detailed feasibility study for the possibility of developing a semi-captive – insitu breeding centre for the safe-housing of problem tigers, and the breeding of tiger offspring for future translocation and reintroduction. Should the development of this be feasible, the project will attempt to identify funders for this activity and support the long-term initiatives of the PKA.

8) Development of local human resources

The project will actively promote local PKA staff, university students and local people in all activities. In cooperation with park chiefs it will be a goal of the project to identify project counterparts and trainee staff from the regions within which the project is operational. Close cooperation with local NGO's and universities will be a priority. Links will be made with local universities in order to promote regular and active cooperation.

9) Other objectives

Other objectives of the Sumatran Tiger Project will be identified following discussions with park chiefs, project manager and technical staff of The Tiger Foundation. These detailed plans will be developed in an annual Planning Document, used to define and evaluate project activities on a yearly basis over the 2000 to 2005 period.

End of Report