



**Illegal Wildlife Trade (IWT) Challenge Fund
Half Year Report**

(due 31st October 2018)

Project reference:	IWT 049 ref 376
Project title:	Reducing IWT in Sumatra across two globally important tiger landscapes
Country(ies):	Indonesia
Lead organisation:	Fauna-Flora International
Project leader:	<i>Donny Gunaryadi</i>
Report date and number (e.g. HYR1):	31 October, 2018, (HYR1)
Project website/blog/social media:	www.fauna-flora.org

1. Outline progress over the last 6 months (April – Sept) against the agreed project implementation timetable (if your project has started less than 6 months ago, please report on the period since start up to the end September).

Output 1: Collaborative (community and state) law enforcement delivering effective routine and intelligence-led patrols, investigations and responses to HWC in target landscapes.

1.1 Establish, train and embed three CPUs (UM)

The informant network training was held on the 16th of October 2018 in Banda Aceh for 9 people, attended by community rangers, community members and undergraduate students. The training aimed to strengthen the capacity of team members to carry out information seeking activities, as part of a strategic process intended to lead to law enforcement efforts against wildlife hunting and trade in Ulu Masen. The expected result of the training is that the trainee (the informant) will have advanced ability to search for information and analyse the information obtained.

The material presented in this training is as follows:

1. The law on protected animals delivered by Mr. Edward, S.Hut, M.Si (Head of the Sumatra Regional Office of Security and Law Enforcement)
2. Techniques for gathering information material and flow of information provided by Mr. IPTU. Gujono, S. Sos, M.Sc (Panit Sub-District Head of IV IV Aceh Regional Police).
3. Introduction to protected wildlife delivered by Ms. Ita Mailida (Aceh Natural Resources Conservation Center).



Figure 1: Presentation of material by Sumatran GAKKUM Center

Rather than forming a new patrol unit, the patrol team will be composed of existing community rangers with community members. This patrol team will bring together people nominated from their community, by the community.



Figure 2: Presentation by the Aceh Natural Resources Conservation Centre

1.2 Establish and train five rapid response LEUs in conjunction with KSNP-BKSDA Aceh, Forestry Service and local police across both landscapes

Kerinci: Following discussion with trusted police partners and the National Park, FFI would like to propose that this activity is amended slightly. Rather than establishing and training five rapid response LEUs across both landscapes, we would prefer to focus on two areas of the national park in Kerinci, by supporting collaborative intelligence-led anti-poaching law enforcement patrols in the far south-west of the protected area in Bengkulu province and in the west of the national park in West Sumatra where there is a need for additional LEUs.

This change follows discussions with park partners regarding ranger resources in one area and, in a second area, concerns that some personnel in a key government agency proposed to partner on these patrols may have been compromised. The purpose of these patrols will not however change, will be conducted under the leadership of National Park rangers and be strengthened by personnel from other government agencies where suspects are believed to be armed.

In the south-east of the national park, national park rangers will partner with *Buser* (elite) Rapid Response Agency officers from the district police to conduct intelligence-led patrols in National Park forest adjoining Village Forest areas, where likely valid information is secured on active poaching threat. However these patrols have not yet commenced as secure intelligence networking has yet to be fully implemented as a source for law enforcement patrol planning

1.2 Conduct routine and intelligence-led patrols and investigations and respond to HWC in KSNP

A total of 27 SMART patrols were conducted by the collaborative patrol units in the National Park and adjoining forests, covering a total walking distance of 554km (338 miles) by GPS Waypoint with 145 days spent on forest patrols.

Patrols made a total of 30 tiger presence records either first hand or on the basis of secondary indicators (pugmarks, faeces, scrapes) with effort to record tiger presence at 1- 4.85 days compared with 1 tiger per 5.9 patrol days in the same months of 2017 and 1- 6.4 days indicating that a fragile recovery may be taking place in tiger populations following a spike in IWT-driven poaching threat recorded between 2012-2016.

Four Conservation Protection Unit (CPU) patrols were cut short due to the seizure a total of six chainsaws and two guns, one a muzzle loader or *kecepek* and the second an illegal 4.5 calibre or greater airsoft gun of the type favoured by helmeted hornbill (*Rhinoplax vigil*) hunters.

Formal legal warnings were issued to three men in one of these cases while in the others, suspects either absconded or were not present. A further three formal legal warnings and orders to quit the protected area were issued to wild songbird hunters by patrol units.

One active and three recently (<two months) active tiger snares were recorded on two CPU patrols, with the active and inactive tiger snares strongly suspected to have been set by a man arrested on tiger poaching charges in September. Both these patrols were information-led.

Two further inactive tiger snares dating to the end of first quarter of 2018 were reported on one patrol in July launched on the advice of a forest-edge community informant. In this case, it is possible the patrol was 'misdirected' by the informant who is known to act as a 'double agent' supplying information both to this team but also to local poachers and other forest criminals.

A fourth intelligence-led patrol confirmed that a tiger involved in a conflict in late May was subsequently killed (shot) using information from an informant managed by a CPU community ranger. This patrol identified the site where the animal had been buried and confirmed the grave had subsequently been opened and bones and canines removed by a named individual.

The identity of a second individual seeking to sell this tiger's bones was subsequently secured and a decision taken that the follow-up investigation be managed through district police to reduce likelihood of the informant in this case becoming known.

Current or recent evidence of bird catching for the lucrative wild songbird trade was recorded on four of 27 patrols with six men receiving formal or informal legal warnings and counselling regarding wildlife conservation law and recent changes in protected status of some wild song birds.

More than 70 wildlife crime investigation or 'for information' reports, some based on information from forest-edge community informants, were logged during the period July-September.

Investigations and information collection was conducted in seven park-edge districts of three of the four provinces which form the Kerinci landscape with additional information on the activities of a national level trader, (tiger canines, elephant ivory) in Jakarta provided through a long-standing daily-paid informant.

Two of these investigations subsequently supported successful tiger law enforcement. The team withdrew from a third investigation after discussions with colleagues from KSDA Jambi who subsequently proceeded to conduct tiger law enforcement in Jambi City.

1.4 Conduct routine and intelligence-led patrols and investigations and respond to HWC in UM

This is due to begin in Q4 of Year 1

1.5 Cultivate new community informant networks (UM)

This is due to begin in Q4 of Year 1

1.6 Cultivate and maintain existing community informant networks (KSNP)

Informant networks, both open and closed (where the informant is not aware of the investigator's identity and may also be a hunter or trader) were maintained in park-edge districts of four provinces with CPU rangers maintaining communications with informants both directly and through telephone or WhatsApp messaging. These networks frequently acted as the initial providers of information forming the basis for subsequent investigations while also supporting patrol deployment and with all active or recently active tiger snares recorded on information-led patrols.

Valuable information on IWT and networks was received from a group of young people from a forest-edge community in an area to the west of the national park which is recognised as significant source of poaching and trade threat to tiger – and previously Sumatran rhino in the Kerinci landscape and more widely in Sumatra.

With logistical support from the project team, this group conducted an information-led patrol which successfully detected and removed two active tiger snares while identifying two tiger poachers previously-unknown to the project team.

The project will now commence to provide some operational support to this group of young people to conduct anti-poaching patrols under the direct (field) supervision of National Park or forestry management unit officers in an area of the national park where existing CPU capacity does not allow for a field presence at the level required to combat and deter wildlife and forest crime.

Inter-agency collaboration and information sharing enabling effective law enforcement responses and identification of trans-landscape sources of illegal wildlife trade demand across Sumatra.

Two tiger law enforcement actions were conducted in partnership with park-edge district police divisions in Jambi and Bengkulu provinces following investigations by Kerinci CPU rangers resulting in the arrest of three men and seizure of complete body parts of two Sumatran tiger.

In the first case, conducted in early August in Merangin district of Jambi province, a tiger poacher and his 'broker' partner were arrested and the body parts of an adult tiger seized as evidence following a CPU investigation launched in July using information secured during an investigation in another park-edge province. Covert pre-law enforcement interviews advised that these men had previously poached and traded tigers to an unidentified trader based in Pekanbaru city, Riau province in eastern Sumatra. This case has now advanced through the case development process with support from Expert Witnesses facilitated by the project and legal hearings will shortly commence.

In early September, intelligence-led tiger law enforcement was again conducted, this time in partnership with Mukomuko district police of northern Bengkulu province and resulting in the seizure of the complete body parts of a sub-adult tiger. The suspect was the subject of an arrest warrant issued by Bengkulu police in early 2016, also for tiger poaching, but had absconded and his whereabouts were only detected by CPU investigators in the second quarter of 2018. The arrested man posed threat to tigers not only in three provinces of the Kerinci landscape but also in northern Sumatra, including in Aceh province. This case is now proceeding through the development process

A warrant for the arrest of a second man was subsequently issued following immediate post law enforcement interviews but this man absconded and has yet to be traced. The law enforcement team was interested to note that, following law enforcement this individual's mobile phone was turned off and it appears he was aware that police partners would seek to locate him using his mobile phone.

Information was also shared with a law enforcement team operating out of Jambi Unit for Conservation of Nature Resources (KSDA) who conducted tiger law enforcement in early July in Jambi city resulting in the arrest of two men from a park-edge market town in Merangin district on tiger trade charges, one of whom was known to the CPU team as an intermediary between local poachers and traders in South Sumatra province and Jakarta and using a government parcel delivery service to despatch protected species' body parts between provinces.

1.7. Train and cultivate collaboration with Village Forest community teams on HWC mitigation and community-level IWT responses

This is due to begin in Year 2

Output 2: Inter-agency collaboration and information sharing enabling effective law enforcement responses and identification of trans-landscape sources of illegal wildlife trade demand across Sumatra

2.1 Review current data management mechanisms across key agencies, and identify priority actions to strengthen inter-agency data sharing and reporting (UM)

The meeting of the parties in the effort of law enforcement and poaching of wildlife in Aceh was carried out on the 15th October 2018. The parties' meeting was aimed at sharing information relating to the conditions and situation of the problem of wildlife hunting and trade that occurred in Aceh. Participants involved in this meeting amounted to 48 people consisting of

- Government representatives, including: Aceh BKSDA, Law Enforcement Unit (Gakkum) Sumatera Region, Aceh Regional Police, Aceh Environment and Forestry Office, Regional I, II, IV KPH, TAHURA PMI
- Academics from the Forestry Department of University of Syiah Kuala (Unsyiah) and the Foundation for Forestry Sciences (STIK)

- Civil Society Organisations, including WCU-WCS IP, YOSL-OIC, FKL, WWF, Walhi, LBH and CRU Foundation
- Community and Media representatives, including Community Ranger, Community, Electronic Media and Online Media.

The meeting began with opening remarks from FFI, represented by Ms. Silfi Iriyani, S.Hut, M.Si then continued with remarks from the Head of Aceh KSDA Office Mr. Sapto Aji Prabowo, S.Hut, MSc which formally opened the kick-off meeting.

The meeting was followed by presentations as follows:

1. BKSDA Aceh presented the Role Model in terms of law enforcement and mapping of the TSL hunting network, by Mr. Sapto Aji Prabowo, S.Hut, M.Sc.
2. The Sumatra Region Regional Office explained Law Enforcement on the Hunting and Trade of Protected Wildlife, by Mr. Edwar Sembiring, S.Hut, M.Sc
3. WCU-WCS IP presented on collaborative law enforcement on wildlife and crime at the site and national level, delivered by Mr. Giyanto.
4. Aceh Region I FMU, who outlines the Strategy and Commitment of Region I FMU in Handling the Hunting and Trade of Protected Wildlife, by Mr. Sulaima, S.Hut
5. Fauna & Flora International - Aceh program, who described the role of FFI in conservation efforts in Aceh, by Dedi Kiswayadi.



Figure 5: Delegates attending the kick off meeting



Figure 6: Speakers presenting from the Aceh BKSDA, Balai Gakkum and WCU-WCS IP



Figure 7. Presentations by KPH Region I and FFI

The meeting also included a discussion on how to support the role model of the BKSDA Aceh in relation to law enforcement of protected wildlife hunting in Aceh. Through the discussion, a joint collaboration unit was formed to map the Wildlife Hunting and Trade Network. The collaboration unit consists of the BKSDA Aceh, the Wildlife Crime Unit (WCU-WCS IP), Fauna & Flora International (FFI-IP), the Leuser Partnership Forum (FKL) and the Orangutan Information Center (OIC). Currently the collaboration unit is in the stage of collecting data and information on hunting networks and wildlife trade in Aceh.

2.2. Implement priority actions to strengthen inter-agency data sharing and reporting between key agencies including direct transfer of patrol data to Police (UM)

This is due to begin in Q4 of Year 1

2.3 Launch a landscape-wide inter-agency forum for information sharing and to support coordinated IWT responses (UM)

This is due to begin in Q4 of Year 1

2.4 Deliver actions under the MoU between four provincial police departments and KSNP enabling more effective coordination and information sharing (KSNP)

The Kerinci team is now liaising with Jambi provincial police forensic and scenes of crimes officers to prepare to deliver training for 24 national park, CPU and district forestry management unit officers in Scene of (Wildlife) Crime management to build capacity to use forensics to advance wildlife crime investigations.

The Kerinci team Advisor and Jambi teams' Coordinator also maintained routine informal communications with a senior member of the national police Environmental Crimes division and with long-standing contacts in detective's divisions of Jambi and Bengkulu provincial police authority to informally discuss findings and progress.

In 2019 it is planned that a meeting will be facilitated to review progress made under a 2017 MoU between the national park and provincial police chiefs as a precursor to renewal of this MoU in 2020.

2.5 Facilitate a mechanism for regular information sharing by eight Village Forest community teams in the wider landscape with LE agencies (KSNP)

This is due to begin in Q4 of Year 1

2.6 Establish and facilitate an island-level network for IWT intelligence sharing and coordination (Sumatra-wide)

This is due to begin in Year 2

2.7 Share information with regional and international bodies, including ASEAN-WEN, IUCN specialist groups, an international IWT conference, and others.

The London Conference on Illegal Wildlife Trade held in October 2018 offered an important opportunity for UK and field-based personnel to share learning and network with others working to address IWT. Four FFI field staff attended (presenting both landscapes in this project), and FFI also supported the Director of the KSNP to participate. All attended the London Conference, as well as 'Evidence to Action: Research to Address IWT' and 'Community Voices: Local Perspectives in Global Responses to IWT' side events immediately preceding the conference.

An informal meeting was held with attendees from a range of national and international wildlife conservation NGOs and government officers from six South East and East Asian countries to build informal networking to share information on changes in IWT demand and trade routes

detected. This informal network is in development and will make use of the WhatsApp tool to ease communications between field teams.

The Kerinci team also informally discussed changing IWT pressure on wildlife at a trans-boundary level with other wildlife protection teams in Sumatra and more widely, including from WCS in Indonesia, Panthera in Malaysia and FFI Myanmar and these information and trend sharing discussions formed the basis for the proposed wider WhatsApp discussion group.

Iswadi, an experienced Community Ranger from KSNP, presented at the 'Community Voices: Local Perspectives in Global Responses to IWT' side event, contributing to inputs later presented in plenary at the London Conference itself.

Output 3: Strengthened advancement of wildlife crime cases through to prosecution and appropriate sentencing in both landscapes and associated wildlife trade transshipment ports across Sumatra are one of the main agendas.

3.1 Provide Wildlife Scene of Crime Management training to CPU rangers (KSNP & UM)

This is expected to begin from Q4 Year 1.

3.2 Oversee wildlife scene of crime management and application of forensics and improve as needed (UM & KSNP)

This is scheduled for Year 2

3.3 Organise and oversee specialist wildlife law training for Prosecutors and Senior Judges by nationally recognised legal authorities (KNSP & UM)

This is scheduled for Year 2

3.4 Benchmark sentencing and legal judgements, highlight to key stakeholders and make accessible (Sumatra-wide)

None in this reporting period.

3.5 Support Forestry and Police Case Development Officers and Prosecutors as needed (KNSP & UM)

No support was required during this period.

3.6 Facilitate Expert Witnesses (KNSP & UM)

Two tiger law enforcement actions were conducted in park-edge districts of Kerinci in partnership with district police agencies with the project team in August and September. The project team subsequently facilitated Expert Witnesses from KSDA Jambi and KSDA-Lampung-Bengkulu to provide technical support to police Case Development officers and, upon P21 certification (marking the transfer of cases from post-law enforcement case development to court jurisdiction) will provide Expert Witness support to court prosecutors including advice on recent benchmark sentencing for tiger poaching or trade crime.

2a. Give details of any notable problems or unexpected developments/lessons learnt that the project has encountered over the last 6 months. Explain what impact these could have on the project and whether the changes will affect the budget and timetable of project activities.

The Indonesia team is concerned by revisions made to the list of protected species in Indonesia issued by the Minister of Environment and Forestry in mid- 2018 and then revised, again, following protests by song bird traders and hobbyists.

In these revisions, wild Malay porcupine, now clearly threatened by international trade demand for gall bladder stones (and, to a lesser extent, for its quills), and a target species for this project was removed from the list of protected species in Indonesia while five endangered wild song bird species, placed on the list of protected species in mid-2018, were subsequently removed.

These latter revisions were reportedly made without reference to the Indonesia Academy of Sciences (LIPI) while withdrawal of protected species status for Malay porcupine appears to have been made without acknowledging international trade demand for body parts of this species under which traders clearly specify they wish to secure body parts of wild and not farm-raised porcupine. The Indonesia team is concerned that these changes potentially have wider and more serious ramifications for wildlife protection in Indonesia which was previously based on status of the animal in question as assessed by science. The environment NGOs (national and international) have sent a formal protest directly to the DG of KSDAE about this by having formal meeting on 21st September 2018 about a Refusal of a group of people to the Minister of Environment Regulation Life and Forestry No P.20 / MENLHK / SETJEN / KUM.1 / 6/2018 concerning Types of Plants and Animals Protected ones (P.20 / 2018).

The Kerinci team was also concerned that poaching threat to tiger recorded on patrols in 2018 has fallen too far to be realistic and that hunters may have changed their *modus operandi* to a less easily detected method. Through our activities under 1.3, in addition to investigations focused to IWT threat to tiger, the project team also collected material directly or through informant networks on IWT threat to Malay porcupine, Sumatran elephant and Malay pangolin.

Our learning is that an individual known to trade wild tigers from the Kerinci landscape is now also investing heavily in porcupine bezoar for sale to a Singaporean trader with transactions conducted in the Riau province capital of Pekanbaru. The identity of the Singaporean trader is not yet known but it is suspected that this is an individual previously implicated in trade in helmeted hornbill casques between 2013 and 2015.

Investigations and correlation to field patrols, advised that threat to Helmeted hornbill *Rhinoplax vigil*, has reduced considerably since 2017. This is likely to be due to the impact of intense IWT-driven poaching pressure on hornbill in the landscape and Sumatra more widely since early 2013 so that hunters must expend more effort for less reward while traders appear to be no longer funding hornbill poaching since they can no longer guarantee a return on their investment.

Black market prices for Malay pangolin were recorded as rising slightly during this period to between per kg for an entire animal at the start of 2018. However this is still far below the per kg for pangolins recorded in 2017 before law enforcement by Riau province sea police and subsequently Riau police authority against national level pangolin traders exporting pangolins, by sea, to 'rat run' ports in peninsular Malaysia.

Investigations confirmed that black market prices for Sumatran tiger body parts, with the exception of tiger canines, have fallen sharply since they peaked in 2015 but with continuing strong demand for tiger bone and canines from traders in provincial capitals and the national capital, Jakarta. While there is a long-standing traditional market for tiger canines in Indonesia, it is extremely likely that the high prices offered for larger tiger canines is a consequence of

international demand.	
2b. Have any of these issues been discussed with LTS International and if so, have changes been made to the original agreement?	
Discussed with LTS:	Yes/No
Formal change request submitted:	Yes/No
Received confirmation of change acceptance	Yes/No

3a. Do you currently expect to have any significant (e.g. more than £5,000) underspend in your budget for this year?	
Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Estimated underspend:	£
3b. If yes, then you need to consider your project budget needs carefully. Please remember that any funds agreed for this financial year are only available to the project in this financial year.	
If you anticipate a significant underspend because of justifiable changes within the project, please submit a rebudget Change Request as soon as possible. There is no guarantee that Defra will agree a rebudget, so please ensure you have enough time to make appropriate changes if necessary.	

4. Are there any other issues you wish to raise relating to the project or to IWT Challenge Fund management, monitoring, or financial procedures?
No

If you were asked to provide a response to this year’s annual report review with your next half year report, please attach your response to this document. Additionally, if you were funded under R4 and asked to provide further information by your first half year report, please attach your response as a separate document.

Please note: Any planned modifications to your project schedule/workplan can be discussed in this report but **should also be raised with LTS International through a Change Request.**

Please send your **completed report by email** to Victoria Pinion at IWT-Fund@ltsi.co.uk. The report should be between 2-3 pages maximum. **Please state your project reference number in the header of your email message e.g. Subject: IWT001 Half Year Report.**