

Myanmar

Setting up GTRP Monitoring

Hanoi, Vietnam

August 2, 2011

Implemented by Aug. 2011

- Renew the declaration of Section 144 of criminal procedure code at Hukaung TCL to ensure inviolate-core tiger habitat.
- Monitor attitude changes among local people on tiger conservation at Hukaung TCL. 75% positively responded with tiger during the survey.
- Disseminate the facts about wildlife law and rules through village level awareness programs at TCLs .
- Reform National Law Enforcement Task Force in compliance with new government policies, comprising of line government agencies ,viz, police, customs, GAD, trade, Office of the Attorney General, Supreme Court and Forest Department to combat domestic wildlife crimes as well as trans-boundary illegal activities.
- Hold 18th Setoral Level Bilateral Meeting between Myanmar & India on transboundary cooperation including wildlife crime control on 13-14 July 2011 at Mandalay.

Priority Activities 2011

- Provide necessary field equipments and Increase allowance of patrol staff at TCLs.
- Strengthen Tiger Protection Units (TPUs) with annual patrol plans for more area coverage.
- Conduct refresher training course for SMART patrolling in HVWS inclusive of Htamanthi Wildlife Sanctuary staff.
- Continue implementation of Management Plans in line with Action Plan at TCLs.

Priority Activities 2011

- Run anti-poaching & anti-wildlife trade campaigns at schools and markets around TCLs
- Practice CBNRM at HVWS and CF at TNR to reduce dependence upon nearby tiger habitats.
- Hold biannual coordination meetings at TCLs with District Government Agencies and NGOs for joint actions
- Set up billboards describing offences and penalties of wildlife crimes at markets around TCLs.
- Distribute rules and regulations of wildlife law and news on wildlife crime through local media.

Priority Activities 2011

- Continue monitoring of tiger and prey populations in HVWS and TNR using modern techniques such as camera-trapping and carnivore scat collection for individual identification of tigers.
- Conduct Opportunistic Tiger Surveys to Monitor Tigers outside of TCLs and specific mammal (elephant, tapir) surveys in TNR.
- Revitalize the ongoing process between India & Myanmar for cooperation on trans-boundary conservation & wildlife trade issues.
- Share intelligence with ASEAN-WEN and TRAFFIC for prompt actions on trans-border wildlife trade.

Getting Better

- Since St Petersburg Summit, Director General's office, Forest Department has been taking new initiatives towards instituting pragmatic policies in the field of tiger conservation by issuing instructions to carry out the tiger focus awareness programs and take strict actions against poaching and wildlife trade at TCLs.

Threats to Habitats / TCLs

- Recent unrests due to insurgency in Kachin State, northern Myanmar have caused restrictions to the movement of Hukaung patrol staff. Consequently, most critical areas become vulnerable to opportunistic encroachments e.g hunting and illegal gold mining. Even then, core tiger habitat of Hukaung is being maintained under strict surveillance of joint security team comprising of wildlife staff, wildlife police and local army units.

Monitoring Self-Assessment

- Mark- Recapture Camera-trapping.
- Results yield only presence-absence, because photo-capture is still less than minimum requirement, 10 individuals.
- Need to increase both survey effort and survey area.
- Technical support from GTF and GTI in the field of monitoring is needed.

Patrol coverage of core tiger habitat

- Hukaung 33 %
- Taninthayi 25 %
- NWCD is collecting materials to build capacity of its staff by opening a regular basic wildlife management training to be able to fill the existing gaps in the field of general monitoring.

National Monitoring System

Taninthayi TCL

- 7 outreach staff
- 10 Patrol staff
- 3-5 National Consultant
- In kind support -- Fiscal Government Budget inclusive of salary, field allowance and travelling cost .

Hukaung TCL

- 5 outreach staff
- 27 patrol staff
- 30 wildlife police
- 10 member of tiger monitoring team
- 5 baggage elephant
- In kind support -- Fiscal Government Budget inclusive of salary, field allowance and travelling cost plus WCS's financial and technical support.

THANK YOU