

WildCats Interim (Mid-Year) Report Template

Section I. Project Information	
Project Title: MAINTAINING STABLE COLLABORATION FOR THE PROTECTION OF THE SUMATERA TIGER WITH CONSERVATION PARTNERSHIP GROUPS, PREACHERS AND GOVERNMENT	
Grantee Organisation: Lingkar Inisiatif Indonesia	
Location of Project: Kerinci Seblat National Park and its surroundings in North Bengkulu and Lebong Regencies, Bengkulu Province and North Musi Rawas Regency, South Sumatra Province. Specifically for investigations activities, the project are will be expanded to areas Bengkulu, Lebong and North Musi Rawas Regencies (Rejang Lebong Regency).	
Size of Project Area (If Appropriate):	No of Tigers and or Amur Leopard in Project Area, Giving Evidence & Source:
Partners: 1. The Leaders and Executive of the Indonesia Islamic Scholars Council (MUI) Lebong and North Bengkulu District; 2. Management Units (UPT) of the Ministry of Environment and Forestry (MoEF) - Kerinci Seblat National Park Authority and Bengkulu Unit for Conservation of Natural Resources (KSDA); 3. Lebong District Forestry Service; 4. Fauna and Flora International (FFI) KSNP Tiger Protection & Conservation Units (TPCU); 5. Lebong District Police Authority; 6. Local Community Religious Leaders, other Forest edge Community Leaders and Youth Groups.	
Project Contact Name: Iswadi	
Email: Iswadi.lingkarinstitut@gmail.com	
Actual Start Date of Project: 01 February 2024 - 31 January 2025	
Reporting Period: February - July 2024	

Section II. Project Progress
Summary of Progress for the First 6 Month: In general, in the first six months of the project period running from February to July 2024, Smart Patrol activities found an increase in hunting activities, especially hunting for prey wild lives. Sumatran Tiger hunting information has also increased when looking at the results of the 2024 investigation. Based on the results of the socialization of the Fatwa of the Indonesian Ulema Council in North Bengkulu Regency, there is an increase in the appearance of Sumatran tigers in plantations near community settlements. In the period from February to July 2024, the Lingkar Inisiatif together with the Bengkulu Natural Resources Conservation Center and Kerinci Seblat National Park officers have carried out conflict response activities 2 times in the North Bengkulu Regency and Lebong Regency areas. In the first six months of the project, there has been an increase in the number of hunters who are given assistance/counseling, an increase in the assistance of former hunters is carried out in Lebong district during which during this project period there will be a formal meeting between former hunters, Lingkar Inisiatif and the Kerinci Seblat National Park. In July 2024, the Lingkar Inisiatif collaborated with Kerinci Seblat National Park, the Bukit Daun Protected Forest Management Group, the University of Bengkulu Nature Lovers Student Group and the

Nature Lovers Students of the Bengkulu College of Administrative Sciences to carry out activities in commemoration of World Tiger Day with 7 activity agendas carried out in the Madapi Natural Tourism Forest, Rejang Lebong Regency. The World Tiger Day Commemoration activity was attended by the Governor of Bengkulu, Bengkulu Provincial Officials, the Head of the TNKS Center, students, Forest Farmer Groups and the community around the Kerinci Seblat National Park area.

Details of Activities and Result to Date:

1. Intensive socialization of the Indonesia Council of Islamic Scholars (MUI) FATWA No. 04/104 In the February-July 2024 period, the Lingkar Inisiatif team together with the Indonesian Ulema Council of North Bengkulu district has carried out the socialization of the MUI Fatwa 3 times. Socialization was carried out in the villages of Tebing Kaning, Armajaya and Air Napal. The socialization was attended by 165 people consisting of religious leaders, women leaders, village officials, police officers, community leaders, youth and the community in general. The socialization material was delivered directly by the chairman of the MUI of North Bengkulu district, the chairman of the MUI of North Bengkulu conveyed the importance of maintaining the sustainability of protected Wildlifes, including Sumatran tigers, to maintain the balance of the ecosystem. The Chairman of the MUI also conveyed to always maintain the preservation of the forest which is home to all protected Wildlifes. In this socialization activity, the police also appealed to all people present not to carry out Wildlife hunting activities that have been protected by the state.

Participants who attended the socialization said that they did not know the types of Wildlifes that had been protected, especially the types of birds. Participants said that there are still many people who keep birds that come from nature. Most (80%) of the participants have known that Sumatran tigers, elephants, rhinos, and deer are protected and currently endangered.

In this MUI Fatwa socialization activity, the Lingkar Inisiatif team together with the MUI Management of North Bengkulu Regency distributed posters containing pictures of protected Wildlifes.

After the socialization was carried out, all participants (100%) knew the types of Wildlifes that have been protected by the state and are forbidden by Islam to be killed or hunted.

At the end of the socialization, the Lingkar Inisiatif team also said that if there is a conflict between humans and wildlife, they should not take action on their own, but must report it to the officers, in this case the Bengkulu Natural Resources Conservation Center, the village head or the police. The Lingkar Team also appealed to the public to report if there are people who carry out hunting activities for protected Wildlifes.

2. Regular informal meeting with Indonesia Council of Islamic Scholars (MUI) Leader in Lebong and North Bengkulu District regarding progress made and challenges recorder.

Meetings with the Chairman of the Indonesian Ulema Council (MUI) of North Bengkulu district have been held 2 times in the context of preparing a plan for the implementation of FATWA MUI No. 04/2014 in key villages around forest areas. The Chairman of the Indonesian Ulema Council (MUI) and the Lingkar Inisiatif agreed that for this socialization, participants will be given posters about protected Wildlife species

Meetings with the Chairman of the Indonesian Ulema Council (MUI) of North Bengkulu district have been held 2 times in the context of preparing a plan for the implementation of FATWA MUI No. 04/2014 in key villages around forest areas. The Chairman of the Indonesian Ulema Council (MUI) and the Lingkar Inisiatif agreed that for this socialization, participants will be given posters about protected Wildlife species.

The second meeting was held to evaluate the socialization activities that had been carried out, at this meeting the management of the Indonesian Assembly (MUI) proposed to the Lingkar Inisiatif to always distribute posters or other media when socialization activities were carried out.

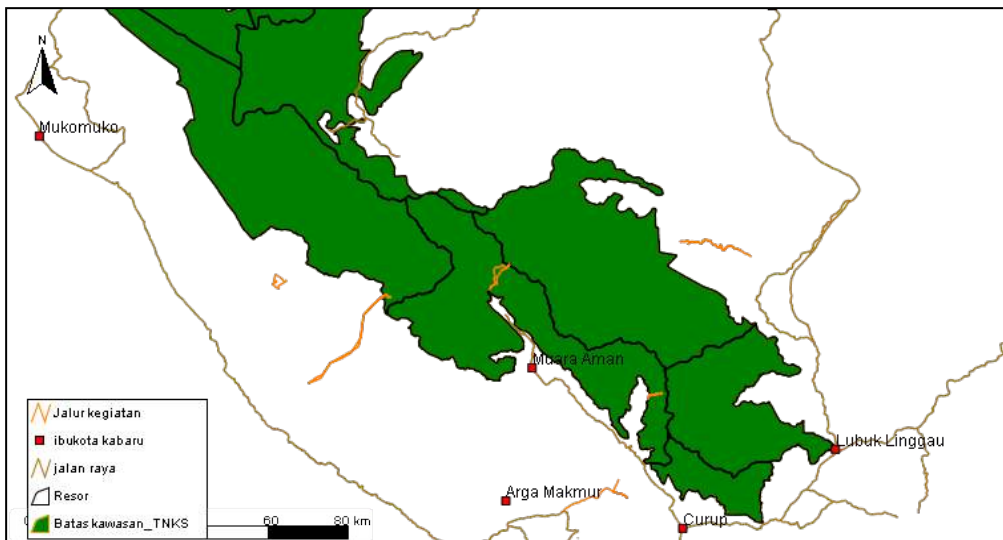
3. Regular SMART Forest Patrols are information-led, by rapid response patrol units focused to detecting and reducing threats to tigers, tiger prey and habitat

In the period of February – July 2024, the Lingkar Inisiatif has carried out 9 patrols with a total of 41 days with a patrol route length of 278 km. Patrols were carried out in North Bengkulu regency, Lebong Regency and North Musi Rawas regency. Patrols in North Bengkulu Regency and Lebong Regency, patrols are carried out together with personnel from Kerinci Seblat National Park, while patrols in North Musi Rawas Regency patrols are carried out together with former hunters and personnel from Kerinci Seblat National Park.

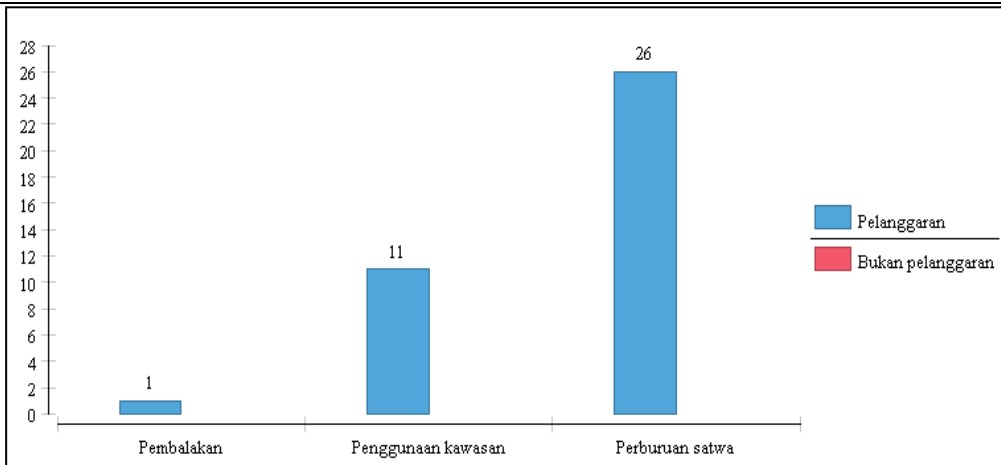
Patrolling in the Air Seblat area, North Bengkulu Regency, the team found a snare hole that had been inactive for a long time, patrols in this area were carried out because of public information about Sumatran Tiger hunting activities. Patrols in Lebong district in the Bukit Daun and Topos areas the team found hunting threats in the form of nylon snares for prey Wildlifes and interlocking snares estimated for Sumatran tiger snares. The paroli which was carried out in the Air Tiku area, North Musi Rawas district, the team did not find a threat of hunting but the team found illegal logging activities in the patrol area.

Of the 9 patrols carried out, the team found 26 poaching threat points consisting of 20 units of nylon snares, 2 interlocking snares and 4 glue traps. Against these findings, the patrol team carried out dismantling and documentation actions against the snares.

In the period of February – July 2024, the patrol team only found indications of Sumatran tigers at 3 points, the lack of findings of indications of Sumatran tigers was due to the very dry condition of the route so that it was difficult to identify indications of Sumatran tigers through the site. This condition is the impact of El Nino which hit most of Indonesia.



Patrol Route Map



Graph of Human Activity Findings

4. Investigation and law enforcement of wildlife crime and illegal wildlife trade

In the period of February – July 2024, investigations of crimes against protected Wildlifes, especially Sumatran tigers, have been carried out 5 times. In this period of investigation, investigations were carried out in North Bengkulu and Lebong Regencies. In Lebong Regency the team found 5 senior hunters, from the information of the hunters currently many tigers are already naughty and approaching community settlements, hunters also provide information that now the demand for Sumatran tigers has increased again and there has been an increase in prices. One of the senior hunters said that lately there has been a request from the community to hunt tigers that are close to settlements and community plantations, if successful, there are already those who want to buy the tiger at a price that is quite high from the usual price. But the hunter is still hesitant because currently the officers often enter and there are already several people who remind him to stop hunting tigers. Investigations are also carried out in areas where conflicts between Tigers and Humans often occur. According to information from several communities, currently many residents have seen tiger tracks or seen tigers directly, but until now the tiger is still safe from hunters because no hunters dare to hunt it.

In North Bengkulu Regency, the team met a senior hunter who, according to information from an informant, was currently installing a Sumatran tiger snare. When the team met with the hunter, he said that he was not snared by the Sumatran tiger, he went to the forest only to hunt birds or look for fish in the river. This hunter is a hunter who is very cautious and difficult to open up to the Investigator because there have been 2 colleagues who have been caught by the police because of the Sumatran tiger trafficking case.

5. Regular meetings with the Kerinci Seblat National Park authorities

During the period February-July 2024, Lingkar has held formal meetings with Kerinci Seblat National Park 4 times. At a meeting in February 2024, the Lingkar Inisiatif and KSNP agreed to continue carrying out routine activities even though there has been no approval from the Ministry of Environment and Forestry regarding the extension of the Cooperation Agreement. The Kerinci Seblat National Park through the head of Region III of KSNP will always issue a Duty Order to carry out each Lingkar Inisiatif activity while still involving personnel from Kerinci Seblat National Park. At the 2nd meeting in April 2024, the Lingkar Inisiatif submitted a document on the analysis of KSNP forest cover in the Bengkulu and South Sumatra Sector III areas. At this meeting, it was also agreed on a priority area plan to carry out patrol activities.

In June 2024, the Lingkar Inisiatif held a meeting with the leaders of Kerinci Seblat National Park to agree on a series of agendas to commemorate Global Tiger Day which will be held in July 2024. In

July, the Lingkar Inisiatif held another meeting with the Kerinci Seblat National Park and it was agreed that the Kerinci Seblat National Park would again send a letter to the Ministry of Environment and Forestry to ask for approval for the signing of the Cooperation Agreement between the Lingkar Inisiatif and the Kerinci Seblat National Park Center.

6. Kerinci Seblat National Park Forest Cover Analysis Study.

Aanalis studi Tutupan Hutan dilakukan pada bulan Maret 2024, kesimpulan hasil studi ini antara lain :

1. Land Closure of KSNP Sumatra focuses on KSNP Region III which has an area of 591,187.90 hectares spread across two provinces, namely Bengkulu Province covering an area of 340,574.90 hectares and South Sumatra Province covering an area of 250,613.00 hectares
2. Details of the land closure of TNKS Region III consist of:

No	T	Luasan/ha	Percentage
1	Primary Dryland Forests	545.980.50	92.4%
2	Secondary Dryland Forests	27.354.92	4.6%
3	Bush	7.123.48	1.2%
4	Mixed Dryland Farming	7.514.98	1.3%
5	Open Land	1.737.72	0.3%
6	Water Body	1.476.30	0.2%
T		591.187.90	

3. There has been encroachment of the KSNP Region III area covering an area of 16,376.18 hectares, this is shown by the discovery of non-forest cover in the forest area consisting of 7,123.48 hectares of Bush cover, 7,514.98 hectares of Mixed Dry Land Agriculture and 1,737.72 hectares of Open Land.
4. The natural forest cover of KSNP Region III in Bengkulu Province is still relatively maintained with an area of 328,965.65 hectares (96.6%). Meanwhile, the remaining 10,851.19 hectares (3.2%) have been converted to non-forest.
5. The natural forest cover of KSNP Region III in South Sumatra is still relatively maintained with an area of 244,368.78 hectares (97.5%). Meanwhile, the remaining 5,524.99 hectares (2.2%) have been converted to non-forest.

The results of this cover study have been submitted to the Kerinci Seblat National Park in April 2024.

7. Project Administration and Financial Management Training for the Lingkar Inisiatif Indonesia Team

This activity will be held in October 2024, the Lingkar Inisiatif will send financial staff to take part in training for 15-30 days at the office of the Kanopi Hijau Indonesia Foundation.

8. Commemoration of Global Tiger Day.

A series of activities to commemorate World Tiger Day will be held on July 22-29, 2024, a series of activities will be held in the MADAPI Natural Tourism Forest of Kerinci Seblat National Park. The activities carried out in commemoration of World Tiger Day are:

1. School of Conservation
2. Conservation Camp
3. Talk show with the theme of Living Harmony
4. Public Speaking Competition for Elementary School Children
5. Film Screening entitled "The Last Snare"

The results of these activities are:

1. School of Conservation

The conservation school will be held from September 23 to 27, 2024, the conservation school

will be attended by 20 nature loving students in Bengkulu province. The material presented at the conservation school includes: Biodiversity Inventory, smart patrols, techniques for extracting information on crimes against protected Wildlifes, communities and conservation, conservation campaign strategies and techniques for handling conflicts between humans and wildlife. The resource persons who provided material to the conservation school include: Lingkar Inisiatif, Kerinci Seblat National Park Officer, Conservation Activist and Independent Journalism Association of Bengkulu. After the conservation school activities, all participants of the conservation school agreed to join the Tiger Heart Bengkulu volunteers and will be involved in the Lingkar Inisiatif activities and activities that will support the Sumatran Tiger conservation campaign, especially in Bengkulu province.

2. Conservation Camp

The Conservation Camp was held on September 24-26 which was attended by the Governor of Bengkulu, officials of Bengkulu Province, the Head of the Kerinci Seblat National Park Center, all officials of Kerinci Seblat National Park at the echelon III level, nature lovers in Bengkulu province. The participants of the conservation camp amounted to 135 people. On the night of the conservation camp, the Governor of Bengkulu held a dialogue or friendly greeting to all participants of the conservation camp. The Governor of Bengkulu conveyed his commitment to maintain the sustainability of the forest that is the habitat of Sumatran tigers.

3. Talk show with the theme of Living Harmony

The Talk Show activity was carried out on September 26, 2024 which was attended by the Kerinci Seblat National Park forest farmer group, Social Forestry Group, Women's Group and nature lovers student group. The resource persons in this activity were the Governor of Bengkulu and the Head of the Kerinci Seblat National Park Office. In this activity, the Head of the Kerinci Seblat National Park Office handed over patrol equipment assistance to former hunters assisted by Lingkar Inisiatif. In this activity, the Governor of Bengkulu also provided assistance to forest farmer groups and women's groups who succeeded in maintaining forest conservation in their respective areas.

4. Public Speaking Competition for Elementary School Children

The public speaking competition was held on September 27, 2024, which was attended by 15 elementary school students from Kepahyang district and the city of Bengkulu. The theme of this public speaking competition is Sumatran Tiger. Coming out as 1st place were students from Ujan Mas elementary school in Kepahyang regency and for 2nd and 3rd place were elementary school students from Bengkulu City.

This activity aims to provide knowledge to early childhood about the Sumatran Tiger and the importance of preserving it.

5. Film Screening entitled "The Last Snare"

The screening of this film was witnessed by all participants of the conservation school, all committees and officers of Kerinci Seblat National Park. The film is a film produced by Garda Wildlifeia with Lingkar Inisiatif with the story of a former Hunter who has now quit / repented and is currently helping Lingkar Inisiatif carry out campaigns and protection for Sumatran tigers. After the screening, the audience also gets an explanation about the filming process.

Other activities:

Response to handling community report of human and wildlife conflicts

During the period February-July 2024, The Lingkar Inisiatif together with the Bengkulu Natural Resources Conservation Center and Kerinci Seblat National Park Officers have carried out conflict response activities in 2 locations, namely Rice Fields Mining Village, Lebong Regency and Alas Bangun Village, North Bengkulu Regency. In Bengkulu district, 3 trap units have been installed spread across 3 villages, namely Alas Bangun Village, Tanjung Muara Village, and Tanjung

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Kemenyan Village, Bnegkulu Uara Regency. For the conflict in Alas Bangun Village, based on information from the head of the hamlet, the Sumatran Tiger has preyed on 2 cows and 9 goats of the community in the period of 2024. In the Rice Field Mining Village, they only expel Sumatran tigers so that they re-enter their habitat. This conflict response activity was carried out in June and July 2024.

Give Details of any Obstacles to Success that the Project has Encountered Over the Last 6 Months:

In general, during the first six months of the February-July 2024 period, we did not encounter any obstacles, the entire program went well and is still on schedule. Hopefully this condition will continue in the second six-month period August 2024-January 2025, pending confirmation of funding support from other partners (Auckland Zoo) in this second period.

Budget:

(Expenditure of the activity budget is still in accordance with the plan)

Media:

1. <https://www.rri.co.id/daerah/941728/perburuan-harimau-meningkat-di-bengkulu>
2. <https://www.antarafoto.com/id/view/2264219/patroli-sapu-jerat-harimau-sumatera>
3. <https://www.bengkuluinteraktif.com/mantan-pemburu-diusulkan-jadi-duta-harimau>
4. <https://bandungbergerak.id/article/detail/159228/menyelamatkan-harimau-dan-cendrawasih-melalui-film-documenter>
5. <https://www.antaraneews.com/berita/4219739/gubernur-bengkulu-usulkan-mantan-pemburu-menjadi-duta-harimau>
6. <https://regional.kompas.com/read/2024/07/29/120933778/gubernur-bengkulu-usul-mantan-pemburu-harimau-jadi-duta-harimau>
7. <https://curupekspress.bacakoran.co/read/6064/global-tiger-day-2024-gubernur-kampanyekan-pencegahan-kepunahan-harimau-sumatera>
8. <https://www.siberspace.id/gubernur-bengkulu-harimau-adalah-indikator-hutan-sehat>
9. <https://radarutara.bacakoran.co/read/7131/eks-pemburu-harimau-bisa-jadi-ikon-penyelamatan-satwa-dilindungi>

PHOTO GALLERI



Socialization of MUI FATWA in Air Napal Village, North Bengkulu Regency



Socialization of Fatwa MUI in Tebing Kaning Village, North Bengkulu Regency



Lingkar Inisiatif Indonesia Patrol Team



Lingkar Inisiatif Indonesia Patrol Team



Governor of Bengkulu together with participants of the Conservation School in the Commemoration of World Tiger Day



Participants of the 2024 World Tiger Day Commemoration Talkshow



Public Speaking Competition Winners for Elementary School Children



Participants and Committee of Public Speaking Competition for Elementary School Children

WildCats Conservation Alliance is a wild tiger and Amur leopard conservation initiative between Dreamworld Wildlife Foundation and the Zoological Society of London, (UK charity# 208728).