

WildCats interim (mid-year) report template

This report will be made public. If it contains confidential or sensitive information, please also provide a revised report for sharing with the public.

Section I. Project Information	
Project Title: Kerinci Seblat Tiger Protection and Conservation	
Grantee Organisation: Fauna & Flora International	
Location of project: Kerinci Seblat National Park, Sumatra, Indonesia	
Size of project area (if appropriate): 1,386 m ha (KSNP) excluding adjoining buffer-zone forests, some also important tiger habitat. Field activities are primarily focused to the central section of the national park and buffer-zone forests in an area of approximately 350,000ha however investigations and other activities extend impacts more widely across the Kerinci Seblat landscape.	No of tigers and / or Amur leopards in project area, giving evidence & source: Based on park-wide Occupancy Surveys by the FFI Kerinci Seblat Tiger Monitoring team (2019-2020) and camera trapping in the KSNP Core Area (2020) Kerinci Seblat NP and adjoining forests protects 128 Sumatran tigers with 119 individuals of these tigers within the national park and 29 in the Tiger Core Area. This figure <i>excludes</i> tigers in the wider Kerinci Tiger Conservation Landscape, in particular the 300,000ha Batang Hari watershed forest, and is the single-largest tiger population in Sumatra.
Partners: <i>(Please give details of partners, including communities, academic institutions etc. for this project.</i>	
Kerinci Seblat National Park (KSNP): The programme operates under a long-standing partnership between FF-IP, KSNP and National Park (NP) officers, who lead or supervise field operations and report to the Director of KSNP through a field manager, also a National Park secondee. This provides a clear legal framework and remit for activities. All project personnel, both KSNP and FF-IP, are formally tasked by the NP with conservation and protection actions for Sumatran tiger in and adjoining KSNP, which are conducted under monthly letters of legal authority (SPT) issued by the Director of the NP. Under this system, community rangers are recognised as auxiliary NP officers during the 20 days per month that warrants are active and have legal authority to conduct a range of activities in the park in and around the national park in four provinces of Sumatra island.	
Provincial Conservation of Natural Resources Agency (BKSDA): Primarily in Jambi, West Sumatra and Bengkulu provinces. BKSDA are operating units of the Ministry of Forestry (MoF) responsible for nature and wildlife conservation outside the NP. They lead multi-stakeholder Human-Wildlife Conflict (HWC) mitigation task force groups, or <i>Satgas</i> , established in three park-edge provinces since 2014.	

Indonesia National Police and MoF Law Enforcement directorate: Traditionally, park-edge police divisions are the programme's main partner for tiger law enforcement actions, who send a clear message to offenders and the wider community that poaching or trading Sumatran tiger is a serious offence under Indonesian law and not just an offence against forestry regulations. The MoF, of which KSNP is an operating unit, has extensive national-level agreements with the Indonesia National Police. This gives the project team access to a wide range of specialist support by police forensic specialists where required. However, in particular sites far from NP-edge districts, the project also provides credible data to officers of the MoF Law Enforcement directorate where Gakkum officers are best placed to respond. All communications, planning and decision-making relating to wildlife law enforcement is at the discretion of, and under the command of, NP members of the project team and the Director of KSNP.

FF-IP Kerinci Seblat Tiger Monitoring (MHS): The TPCU team will continue to work closely with partners from the MHS team, routinely sharing patrol and monitoring transect results and concerns identified. During this project period, the MHS team provided practical 'on the job' training to TPCU rangers in the basic principles of camera trapping and this will continue in the future so allowing TPCUs to conduct occasional camera trapping exercises in areas of KSNP where the MHS does not conduct tiger monitoring.

The Kerinci Seblat Village Forest Programme (VFP) is strongly focused on building sustainable community-led management of park-edge forests, with more than 148,000 Ha now recognised under licences issued by MoF. Working with park-edge district forestry management units (KPH) and villagers, the VFP supports SMART community patrols in village forests, where key villages have received training in HWC mitigation. During this project period, selected Tiger Protection & Conservation Unit (TPCU) personnel provided informal guidance to the VFP team coordinators in recognising and responding to suspected illegal wildlife trade (IWT) threats to tigers and other wildlife. Information exchange between TPCUs and Village Forest coordinators will be strengthened, over the next two years, to broaden and extend the capacity to identify and reduce threats to tiger and their prey with ratification of Indonesia's new wildlife and nature conservation Act 32/2024 which likely to strengthen capacity to address and reduce threat.

Others:

Local civil society and academia: Primarily Yayasan Lingkar Inisiatif (conducting tiger and other wildlife conservation actions in the south of KSNP where TPCUs do not have the capacity to maintain a routine presence). Stakeholders include the Institute Conservation Society (Solok Selatan, West Sumatra province), Flight, Biology Faculty of the University of Andalas, and Padang. National: Forum Harimaukita, representing tiger conservation practitioners in Indonesia. International TRAFFIC Southeast Asia, EIA, ENV (Vietnam), Panthera Malaysia.

Project Contact Name: *(main contact via email)*

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Actual start date of project: (if different from 1 st February)	
Reporting period: February – July 2026	

Section II. Project Progress

Summary of progress for the first 6 months: *(Please provide a summary that describes how your activities are addressing the problems you identified in your application and what successes you have achieved in this 6-month period which we can use in our communication materials.)*

The Kerinci Seblat Tiger Protection and Conservation project maintained a range of field actions to protect and conserve wild Sumatran tigers in Kerinci Seblat National Park and adjoining areas, with a total 31 of SMART forest patrols conducted, where 68% (21 out of 31 patrols) have confirmed the presence of Sumatran tiger. This was a lower rate compared to the same six-month period in the previous year (2025) when approximately 80% of forest patrols conducted recorded the presence of Sumatran tiger. The 2026 encounter rate, however, is greater than that of the same six-month period in 2024 (59%).

The direct threat to the Sumatran tiger from snaring in the project area during this reporting period has remained low, however, the team did detect one active tiger snares in the KSNP tiger core area. Moreover, The TPCU and the tiger monitoring teams has detected of 10 non-active tiger snares, most of them being old snares which had been placed more than three years prior. Snaring for tiger prey species (mainly for sambar and muntjac) in early 2026 did increase, which the team believed was likely related to preparations for the Eid Fitri celebrations, a similar trend to that seen in 2025. In total, 10 of the active prey snares were recorded across two different forest patrols during this reporting period, a decrease from the 35 of the active prey snares recorded during the same period in 2025.

The TPCU team issued two formal written letters to two farmers who had been using a KNSP area for oil palm cultivation, and issues six informal verbal warning to eight fishermen and wild songbird hunters encountered by the teams in the national park. After collecting the information for each the individual, all of them been asked by the TPCU team to stop their illegal activities and quit the national park directly.

The project team continued their support of the Human-wildlife conflict mitigation task force in responding to reports of wildlife-human conflict across the local area. During this reporting

period, one incident of Sumatran tiger conflict was reported by the community located in the Kerinci Regency, in the centre area of the KSNP landscape in Jambi province.

Details of activities and results to date: *(Please give details of progress made towards the objectives & outputs of your Logframe by carrying out the activities included in your Workplan. Please include the appropriate quantitative and qualitative data from the measurable indicators that you identified in your Logframe. Please add any relevant charts, maps and images.)*

Objective 1 SMART forest patrols detect, address and contain threat to Sumatran tigers, their prey and habitat

A total of 31 SMART forest patrols were conducted by the TPCU and Tiger monitoring teams in Kerinci Seblat National Park and the surrounding forest from February to July 2026. The patrols covered a total of 843 km walking distance when measured by the tracklog or 682 km by the GPS waypoint; a total of 199 days were spent in the forest on patrol. The majority of patrols were conducted in the Jambi and Bengkulu section of the national park forest area (see map below). Several patrol focus areas were selected in response to requests from the national park authority to assess threats within the national park area, and to support Sumatran elephant camera-trap monitoring by the tiger monitoring team in the southern part of the national park in Bengkulu Province.

68% of SMART forest patrols conducted (21 out of 31 patrols) during this reporting period have confirmed a present of Sumatran tiger based on pugmarks, faeces, scrapes, and fresh scratches recorded. This percentage is lower when compared to same six-month period in 2025 (80%), however it was higher compared to same period on 2024 (59%).

The effort to record tiger presence across the park during this reporting period is 1 tiger per 6.9 days of forest patrol compared to 4.9 days in 2025, and identical with the same period of month in 2024. The Frequency of Encounter (FoE) for tiger during this period was 1 tiger on 23.5 km forest patrol walked (based on waypoint).

13 out of 31 forest patrols during this period were conducted in the Tiger core area of the national park (see SMART forest patrol map above) compared to 16 during the same period in 2025, which may explain the decrease overall FoE for tiger in this reporting period. Only



one of the patrols in the tiger core area did not record the presence of Sumatran tiger. The effort to record a tiger presence in the tiger core area was 1 tiger on 5.6 days, or 1 tiger per 14.2 km which was significantly higher than the park-wide FoE. This is comparable to the FoE of 1 tiger for 14.3 km walked in 2025, 1 tiger per 15.4 km in 2024, and 1 tiger per 18.5 km in 2023.



Tiger monitoring team removed an active tiger snare on a forest patrol conducted in April 2026 in the KSNP Tiger core area

One of the forest patrols conducted during this period recorded an active tiger snare. The snare was detected during a SMART patrol carried out by the tiger monitoring team in the northern part of the KSNP tiger core area in April 2026. Although it was found to be active, the team believed that the snare had been set several months earlier and had not

trapped any wildlife. The patrol members dismantled the snare and conducted a search in the surrounding area but no additional snares, either active or inactive, were detected.

The team recorded a total of 10 inactive tiger snares during reporting period, nine of the snares were recorded by the tiger monitoring team in two different patrols area and the team believed these snares had been placed approximately three- to five-years before. One of these two patrol areas was located in the north of national park forest in Kerinci Regency, where there has been a lower frequency of deep forest patrol conducted. The second patrol area was in the Northern part of the national park located in a production forest in North Bengkulu regency. The remaining 1 inactive snare was recorded by the TPCU teams in the national park forest close to the tiger core area in Bengkulu province. The team assessed that this snare had likely been in place for more than one year and had not trapped any wildlife (*see map in objective 3*).



TPCU patrol team destroyed more than 200 of active ground bird snares recorded in a forest patrol in February 2026

A total of 10 active prey snares were destroyed across two different patrols. The majority of those snares were located close to the forest edge and farmland. The team believes that these snares are related to preparations for the Eid Fitri celebrations, a time when, traditionally, consumption of meat increases. This increase in tiger prey species snares surrounding Eid Fitri

celebrations was also recorded in 2025, during which time 35 active and 2 inactive tiger prey snares were discovered and destroyed. In addition to tiger prey species snares, the patrol team also recorded and destroyed more than 200 of active ground birds in February 2026.

Apart of Sumatran tiger presence and the threat to wildlife and habitat, the patrol team recorded the presense of other critical critically endangered wildlife species including Asian giant tortoise (*Manourya emys*) which the largest and rare land tortoise in Asia. This species has been recorded in several locations in the Kerinci Seblat national park and surrounding forest during the last two decades of patrol



Tiger monitoring team recorded an Asian Giant Tortoise (*Manouria emys*), encountered during a forest patrol in July 2026

and monitoring conducted in the area. Another species recorded include the Malayan sun bear, Tapir, primate species such as Agile gibbons, Siamang and Sumatran Surili, and several hornbill species including the Helmeted hornbill, Rhinoceros hornbill and White-crowned Hornbill.

Objective 2: Investigations conducted under government approved PULPAKET procedures identify those poachers and IWT traders who still pose threat to wild tigers, their networks and trade routes and support law enforcement where evidence is available

Collection of information on suspected poaching and illegal wildlife trade by TPCU team members was carried out in several district in the Kerinci seblat landscape and focused mainly on the northern part of the national park districts in Jambi and West Sumatra and the southern part of the national park in South Sumatra province. Overall, activity levels were lower than in previous periods due to limited resources, including financial constraints. The TPCU personnel who conducted information collection during this reporting period, identified individuals involved in illegal wildlife hunting and trade, but reported facing increasing difficulties finding buyers. The TPCU investigators believe that this lack of buyers may be due to their exercising greater caution due to concerns about increased law enforcement. However, this theory remains unverified and requires further assessment in the coming months. The team continues to monitor illegal wildlife trade traffic and coordinate with relevant stakeholders to obtain additional information and support ongoing wildlife protection efforts. As of the date of this report, no further information has been obtained to confirm this initial report.

Additionally, the team maintained communication with trusted informants to gather information related to illegal wildlife hunting and trade involving several species. This information is being used to support ongoing monitoring efforts and guide appropriate follow-up actions concerning suspected wildlife trafficking and trade activities.

Objective 3 Support fair and appropriate law enforcement through partnering with the most appropriate government agency and deliver a significant deterrent which contains and further reduces the threat to Sumatran tiger and tiger prey

During the reporting period, TPCU team continued to record active threats to Sumatran tiger and its habitat such as illegal logging, illegal forest clearance for agriculture and illegal mining. During this reporting period, patrol teams recorded 14 pieces of evidence relating to illegal logging activities, both inside the national park and its protected buffer zone including the production forest. In June 2026, the patrol team in southern part of the national park, in Bengkulu province, record active illegal logging through their

discovery of illegal timber, a chainsaw, and camp used by the illegal logger. However, following their discovery, two men in the illegal logging camp fled the location in response to the patrol team's arrival. The team then destroyed a camp and confiscated a chainsaw at the site.



Chainsaw used by an illegal logger and confiscated by the TPCU team on a forest patrol in June 2026



TPCU patrol team recorded illegally logged timber within the park during a patrol in June 2026.

Additionally, the team recorded active illegal forest clearance for agricultural producing including illegal oil palm, in national park forest. This resulted in two formal written letters issued to the two farmer who had been using a KNSP area for oil palm. Both farmers have agreed to leave the area immediately and the team destroy the planted seedling oil palms.

TPCU team members also recorded a total of six occasions where informal verbal warning were issued to a total of eight fishermen and wild songbird hunter who were encountered in the national park. After collecting the information for each the individual, all of them been asked by the TPCU team to stop their illegal activities and quit the national park directly.

In addition to these incidences, one patrol in March in Merangin district, Jambi province was launched at the requested of the national park authority to record illegal gold mining operations in the production forest were close to the KSNP forest. The team recorded three excavators outside of the KSNP area with no miners found. In July, one patrol conducted in the southern part of national park forest in Lebong regency Bengkulu province, recorded an active illegal gold mining operation using traditional gold mining methods inside the park area, however none of the miners were discovered.

Objective 4: The Human-Wildlife Conflict Mitigation Taskforce swiftly respond to and mitigate human-tiger conflicts reported with the purpose of protecting both tigers and forest-edge community livelihoods

The human-tiger conflicts in edge of the national park recorded during this reporting period were managed and mitigated by local units of natural resources agency BKSDA leading the human-wildlife conflict (HWC) mitigation task force. There was one reported incident of human-tiger conflict . This incident was reported by the local communities in the central part of the KSNP landscape in Kerinci districts in Jambi province. Community members reported observing a tiger moving through agricultural land adjacent to the forest boundary of the national park. In response, a team led by the National Park Authority visited the reported location with local community members to verify the sighting and subsequently forwarded the information to the BKSDA team for further action. The BKSDA team coordinated with the national park authority to visit the reported incident's location and meet with the communities and to confirm that no fatal incidents occurred, including any incidences with domestic livestock or dogs. Following this confirmation, the team conducted awareness and outreach training on best practice for dealing with wildlife conflicts, especially for Sumatran tiger. The team also provided local communities with firecrackers, which will be kept by the village authorities, as an emergency non-lethal noise deterrent for use during similar incidents in the future. These can be used by community members to help prevent tigers from entering

agricultural land and to drive them back to the forest while awaiting the arrival of the response team.

Other activities - Stakeholder liaison/Co-ordination:

All programme activities and outputs were reported, monthly, to the director of KSNP; moreover, the KSNP authority has conducted monthly formal discussions through offline or online meetings with the project team to review and discuss monthly progress and planning for regular activities conducted in the KSNP area. The meeting involved not only the KSNP staff and officials in the KSNP headquarters office, but also several from the regional and section offices in Jambi and Bengkulu provinces.

The project team component also actively contributed to several national conservation initiatives related to the Sumatran tiger and other wildlife conservation species. One of which was assessing the national Red List status of Indonesia wild cats in KSNP. Additionally, the team was invited to contribute to updating the Conservation Strategy and Action Plan for the Sumatran Tiger, led by Indonesia's Ministry of Forestry and the Sumatran Tiger Conservation Forum. This document is being updated through a collaborative process involving Sumatran tiger conservation practitioners including government and NGO staff, as well as researchers, and academics from across Indonesia, with the aim of strengthening conservation efforts for the species over the coming years. The TPCU project's long-term conservation and monitoring activities have provided valuable information for the development of these documents, helping to strengthen the scientific basis for assessing species status and identifying conservation priorities at the national level.

Give details of any obstacles to success that the project has encountered over the last 6 months. *(Please provide detailed examples, explain what impact these will have on the project results and the changes to the budget and timetable of project activities)*

During this reporting period, only four of the TPCU teams were fully operational, two in the eastern part of the national park in Jambi province and two others in the southern part in Bengkulu province. This is due to four long-serving TPCU personnel formally resigning to begin work for government officers in 2024. Recruiting additional personnel for the TPCU team member to cover these gaps was still on hold during this reporting period due to financial challenges, which had an impact on the team's ability to implement SMART forest patrols. This has also meant that the team's investigation capacity is currently operating at a reduced intensity. To maintain SMART forest patrol capacity, the tiger monitoring team, who also have extensive experience in SMART forest patrols, has joined the TPCUs to conduct a forest patrol.

Budget: Is the spend on target? **If not, please give details and provide an updated budget sheet.**

Yes

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Media: Please provide a list of recent publications and media both local and national which mentions the work funded by this project and/or mentions WildCats Conservation Alliance

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WildCats Conservation Alliance asks for at least 7 relevant high-resolution jpeg files of images of the project activities during this time period.

Will send these as separate documents.