

Taman Nasional Kerinci Seblat
Fauna & Flora International

Pelestarian Harimau Sumatera Kerinci Seblat

Kerinci Seblat Tiger Protection Project

**Report on Activities and Progress
2003**



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On two occasions in 2003, confiscations of live protected animals were conducted and we thank veterinarians from Jambi province Department of Livestock for their assistance in ensuring the welfare of these animals. Thanks are due also to the chief of police (Polres) of Bengkulu City and his detectives whose professionalism and integrity were so apparent in December during and immediately after the arrest of a senior local politician.

In 1999, a young member of KSNP conservation department, Alip Tantun Hartana began to work with FFI and other colleagues in KSNP to develop an effective intervention against poaching and trafficking of Sumatran tiger. Alip subsequently in May 2000 became Field Manager (operations) for the PHS programme. In October 2003, Alip resigned as Field Manager to undertake a Masters degree programme, initially

at Gadjah Madah University, Yogyakarta. His analysis of data acquired while leading the PHS programme will be of immense value to Sumatran tiger conservation both within Kerinci Seblat National Park and elsewhere in Sumatra and he remains a valued friend and advisor of tiger conservation in this most important of tiger reserves.

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No protection and conservation programme can operate, effectively, in isolation given that while tigers are poached in forests, they are traded in towns and cities and decisions that impact on tiger habitat may be taken thousands of kilometres from the park edge. While many friends in tiger conservation worked with us, at a distance, sharing information and discussing tactics, we particularly thank Erwin of WWF Tiger Trade Monitoring team and Chris Shepherd of Traffic SE Asia for their friendship and willingness to work with this team and to share data and ideas.

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Finally, we thank all members of the PHS team itself for their hard work, loyalty and dedication, often in the most trying of circumstances, to the cause of conservation of Sumatran tigers and this national park.

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Project summary

The Kerinci Seblat Tiger Protection Project (TPP) aims to support Kerinci Seblat National Park (KSNP) in the implementation of the Government of Indonesia's commitment regarding protection of endangered species and particularly the critically endangered Sumatran tiger. In the longer term, the project seeks to develop a sustainable and effective species protection programme in one of Southeast Asia's most important national parks which may serve as a model for other species protection programmes elsewhere in Indonesia.

The TPP operates as a unit embedded within the national park operational structure and Tiger Protection and Conservation Units (TPCUs) operate under the day-to-day direction of a field (operations) manager on secondment from TNKS who reports directly to the Director of the national park who subsequently reports to the Director General of Protected Areas in Jakarta.

During 2003, pre-emptive action was taken to reduce the poaching of the Sumatran tiger within and around Kerinci Seblat National Park (TNKS) and against trafficking in tiger and tiger products outside the forest both through field patrols and through intelligence data collection and, where possible, enforcement of conservation law. The project team also worked to protect Sumatran tiger prey species, other protected species and tiger habitat and additionally intervened in and sought to identify the causes of human-tiger conflict incidents to protect both forest-edge communities and Sumatran tigers. Through working with national park rangers and individuals from other organisations as well as forest-edge communities, the project team additionally sought to build local capacity and awareness of tiger conservation issues and threats to survival of the species.

The day-to-day activities of the project were conducted by the TPCUs, with three four-man teams active and fully-staffed throughout 2003, operating from Base Camps at Sungai Penuh, capital of Kerinci district and Bangko, capital of Merangin district, 120 miles east of Kerinci. Active planning for implementation of two additional TPCU teams commenced in November 2003 and seven staff, including an auxiliary responsible for team support and Mess security in Curup were been recruited 'on trial' by the end of the year.

The additional Units and establishment of a base camp at Curup in Rejang Lebong district, Bengkulu allowed the team to start to provide cover, both through patrols and threat assessment and data collection (intelligence) in the critically important tiger habitats to the west and south west of the national park in Bengkulu province and provide a safer base for activities in Musi Rawas district of South Sumatra province.

Successful operations in 2003 included the arrest of a senior politician in Bengkulu province on trafficking charges and active, direct threat to tigers and tiger prey species in the form of active snares recovered in team patrol areas continued the downward trend first recorded in 2002. The team now faces new challenges with establishment of two new TPCUs and extension of operations to Bengkulu province where serious poaching of Sumatran tiger has been revealed while investigations confirm a town in South Sumatra, close to the park edge, is a regional centre for the trafficking of Sumatran tiger.

Summary of activities and outputs in 2003

In the following section, a summary of the activities which have been conducted, the key achievements in 2003 and lessons learnt are presented. Detailed data and findings relating to these are provided as appendices.

- **Extend field (patrol) cover beyond existing core areas of focus (primarily Kerinci and Merangin districts, Jambi province) to other priority areas of the national park where tiger populations are under threat.**

During the first six months of 2003, field patrols continued to focus on Kerinci, Merangin and, to a lesser extent, Muara Bungo districts in Jambi and a high-risk area on the Kerinci-Solok Selatan (West Sumatra) district borders (Figure 1). From July 2003, teams began to extend field patrol cover to the borders of Jambi and Bengkulu province in preparation for subsequent expansion of capacity to Bengkulu. In order to maintain sufficient presence in areas where threat had already been reduced in 2000-2, active recruitment to establish two additional TPCU teams began in November 2003 and by the end of December 2003, six new rangers and an auxiliary ranger, to provide support to the teams and in Bengkulu, were on trial with the team.



Figure 1 - Regular/routine patrol areas in 2003 (at least four patrols or more)

The new base camp for Units working in Bengkulu is located in the same town as the provincial headquarters of KSNP in Bengkulu - Curup (figure 2), the district capital of Rejang Lebong district, a medium-size town approximately six hours drive from the team's main base in Bangko via the Trans Sumatra highway. A disused ranger camp owned by TNKS has been renovated and outfitted as a mess for the Bengkulu teams, although, some office and communication equipment still needs to be acquired and installed. Field patrols from this base camp in Bengkulu province commenced in November 2003. Although teams working in Bengkulu province will be based in Curup, patrols in North Bengkulu district will also make use of the TNKS ranger station at Seblat, although it has poor communications and only intermittent electricity.

The additional staffing and the new base camp in Bengkulu will allow a considerable extension in scope of project activities to the west and south of the national park and provide a relatively safe base from which to seek to tackle rampant trafficking in Sumatran tiger and other protected wildlife in the town of Lubuklinggau, approximately 50km from Curup in South Sumatra.

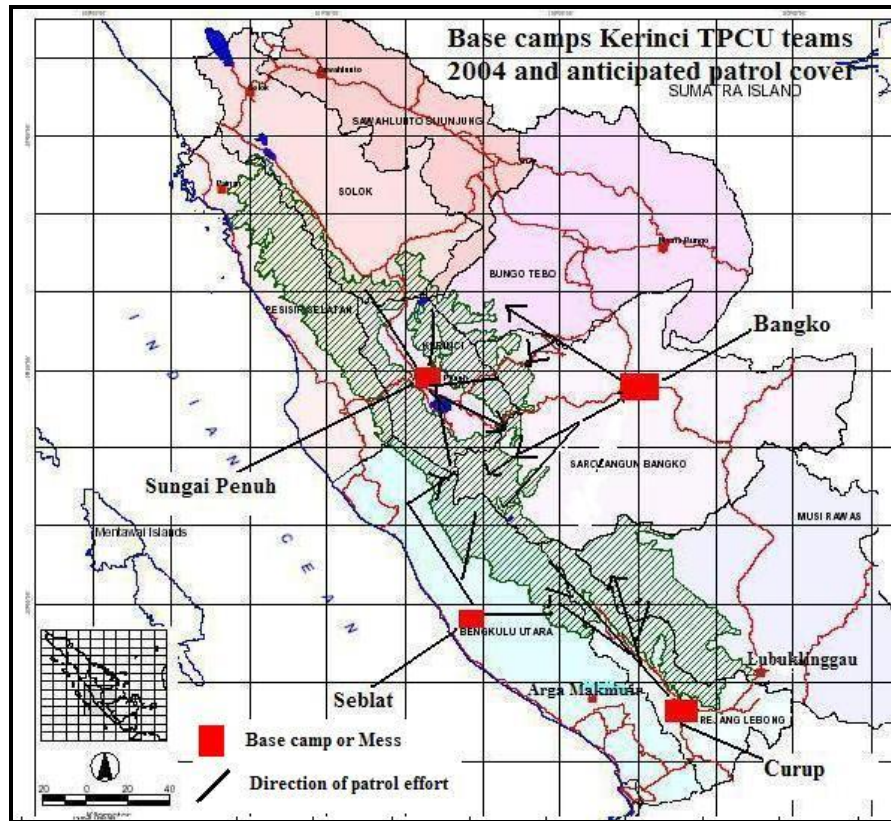


Figure 2: Base Camps and direction of effort in KSNP planned for 2004

During 2003, only two active tiger snares were found and destroyed, both in the Merangin area and evidence of a third, recently dismantled was found on a survey-patrol to a new location on the Jambi-Bengkulu borders. This compares with the year 2000-1, when 28 tiger snares either active or awaiting activation were found and destroyed. Active threat from ungulate and large mammal (non species specific) snares in areas regularly (once every three months or more often) patrolled or visited continued the downward trend first tentatively recorded in 2002. However the death of a Sumatran tiger in Kerinci district when it was trapped in an abandoned deer snare illustrates the danger to Sumatran tiger from snares set for other large mammal species.

In total, 649 ungulate snares were encountered in 2003, either active or already constructed and awaiting activation. More than half of these were found on one patrol in an area not previously visited on the borders of Jambi and Bengkulu province. A further 180+ were found on two patrols in forests above Sungai Penuh, Kerinci – these patrols were specifically made to counter the traditional rise in poaching before the Hari Raya/Idul Fitri feast. Although these snares were found in an area intermittently visited by the team, the routes taken were new and a result of information from local supporters of the project. In some areas where ungulate poaching remains a problem, poachers appear to be moving deeper into the forest or placing snares on small side trails and not

the preferred main animal routes apparently in the hope of avoiding detection. While this means that ungulate poaching remains a problem, often correlated to areas where people from the Siulak ethnic group are settled, it also means poachers have had to increase their effort due to the presence of regular patrolling.

While a continuing downward trend in threat was recorded in areas where the teams have been active since project start, recent or past poaching of ungulates, tiger and, in two sites, Sumatran rhinoceros – on occasion at high levels - was recorded in a number of areas new to the patrol schedule and on the basis of intelligence, threat to Sumatran tiger remains at a high level in Bengkulu province and, in particular, in North Bengkulu district .

Tiger presence – either by footmark, scrape, faeces, tree scratching or other secondary sign - was recorded on the majority of patrols made in Kerinci, Muara Bungo and Merangin districts in 2003 and a total of 49 tiger records were made between January and December 2003: these are likely to relate to at least 30 adult individuals. Few tiger sign were recorded on patrols in Rejang Lebong district, Bengkulu in November and December, this may be a due to teams being new to the area or the relative proximity to Lubuk Linggau, now identified as a centre for the tiger trade in Sumatra, could be a factor.

The TPCU teams aim to spend not less than 12 days per 20 day month on patrol however, over the course of 2003, field days on formal patrols averaged only 7.8 days per man per month. This is largely due to the increasing amount of staff time spent on travelling from base camps to patrol entry points, which may require one or more days. Thus, to spend 6 days on patrol in Jangkat area of Merangin or to TNKS forest edge in Tanah Tumbuh, Muara Bungo district requires an additional two days (return) travelling time from Mess to entry/exit point. Conversely, in Kerinci district, which accounted for much patrol effort in 2001 and 2002, no entry point for patrols is more than two hours drive from Sungai Penuh. Other factors include the travel time between Kerinci and Bangko base camps and, since November, to Bengkulu and the time required (three days per field patrol) for pre-patrol preparations and post patrol reports and rest.

Additionally, when a planned enforcement operation is likely, ranger teams may be on stand by for several days during the pre-operation planning period and so unable to go to the field on routine patrol duties.

In areas where there is a strong probability of meeting armed individuals or large groups of aggressive men, the teams cannot operate without some means of self-defence available to them. Continuing delays in the re-issue of national park firearms licences, and therefore of Ranger members of the TPCUs, and the aggressive tactics used by some illegal logging syndicates and a high incidence of illegal gun ownership in some areas of the park meant that, for safety reasons, TPCUs could not patrol at will in all areas of the national park. Potential threat to patrol units also meant that in high risk areas and where radio communications with base camps are unreliable or non-existent, rangers were posted outside of the forest to maintain radio communications with teams in the field.

Additionally, not all district and provincial administrations appear willing to demonstrate the political will to support and work with park authorities to conserve TNKS forests, in particular from illegal logging and expansion of plantations and other business interests.

Therefore, within available capacity, effort in 2003 has been particularly directed to areas where local authorities have demonstrated some commitment to conservation of the national park and where risk to staff can be measured and minimised.

In mid-August 2002, one of the project's two Toyota Hartop jeeps was burned in an incident involving illegal loggers from Tapan in Pesisir Selatan, West Sumatra. Upon investigation, it was found that the engine of the jeep was virtually undamaged and that the body, with substantial work, could be rebuilt although it is unlikely to be as strong as originally. Over the course of 2003, the jeep was rebuilt and once taxed will become usable again (Figure 3). The jeep will mainly be used in Kerinci district and its immediate surroundings particularly, for awareness – on occasion by TNKS staff on school visits – and for conflict resolution situations.



Figure 3 - The rebuilt Toyota Hartop jeep and TPCU rangers on their 'credit' bikes

A loan fund was established early in 2002 for the purpose of assisting project staff to buy their own transport to extend project mobility and give rangers an additional stake in the project. This scheme continues to operate successfully and eight ranger staff have now bought motor bikes which they use both privately and on project business with two more rangers in the process of buying bikes.

- **Develop and refine intelligence and work towards the successful identification of wildlife poachers and traffickers, supporting legal action when possible and further develop effective links with other national and international species protection organisations.**

Collection of intelligence is clearly important in identifying high risk areas, individuals engaged in poaching or trafficking protected wildlife and actual incidents. All significant wildlife-related protection operations and arrests since 2000 have been as a result of intelligence investigations and a significant percentage of patrols where tiger or other poaching activities were encountered also came as a result of local information or intelligence collection. Intelligence collection, either by team members or by members of

the community who actively support the team, was conducted in all four provinces of the national park in 2003, the first year in which some intelligence capacity has been developed in all four provinces of TNKS.

In Bengkulu, a cordial, informal working relationship has been established with a member of WWF's Tiger Trade Monitoring (TTM) team who is based in Curup and information sharing on threat is under way and the arrest of RK in Bengkulu on 9 December (Appendix V) followed an initial joint investigation by PHS team members and the TTM team member. A priority for 2004, will be to develop information collection in Bengkulu to identify threat and source of threat using community-based information networks, as previously developed in Kerinci and Merangin districts.

In Musi Rawas district of South Sumatra, accurate intelligence and information networking is required, however moving from intelligence collection to enforcement of conservation law in this area will require the active support and involvement of national authorities. Initial intelligence collection in 2003 strongly suggests that local provincial and district police forces and others are seriously compromised with regard to both the illegal wildlife trade as well as illegal logging. Intelligence collection for the purpose of active enforcement of conservation law in the Musi Rawas district will also require co-ordination with other organisations active in investigating and tackling trafficking since this town marks the effective start of a major animal trafficking route from Kerinci Seblat National Park.

Analysis of threat and changes in threat pattern across the park in 2003 is difficult to quantify accurately the level of threat and wildlife crime reported is likely to rise as the effectiveness of data acquisition and effort increases. Therefore the highest rate of known/recorded poaching and/or trafficking of Sumatran tiger recorded in 2003 was in an area with long-established intelligence/threat report coverage - Merangin district, Jambi. However North Bengkulu and Bengkulu City was the second highest ranked area for illegal activities relating to highly protected wildlife (elephant and tiger) even though intelligence collection has only recently begun and therefore it is likely that a smaller percentage of wildlife crime was recorded. The area accounting for the third highest number of confirmed tiger related reports was Kerinci district. Work in this area involved a relatively small number of incidents and the incidents recorded are likely to be all or the great majority of wildlife crime relating to Sumatran tiger and other highly protected species which occurred in this district.

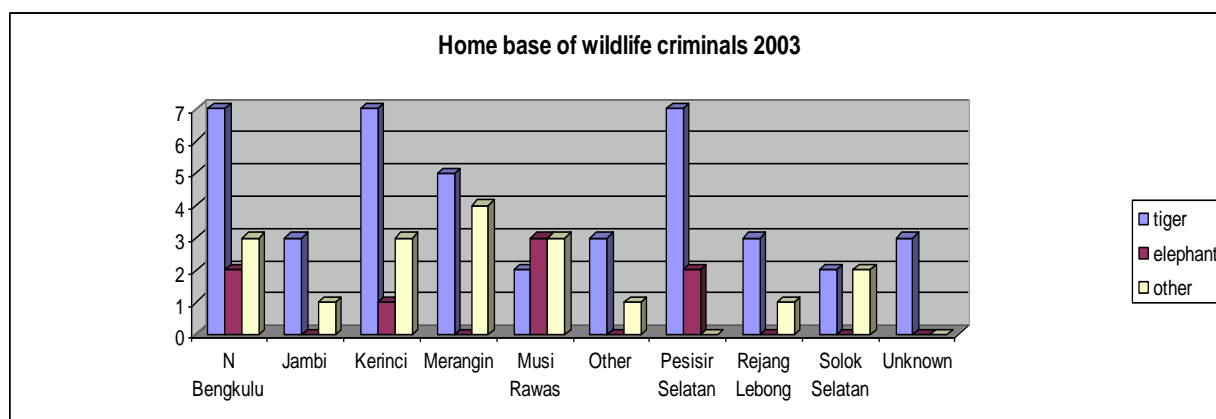


Figure 3: Home areas/localities of wildlife criminals identified as active or seeking to commit wildlife crimes in 2003

In Kerinci district, despite continuing monitoring of threat over the course of 2003, no intentional poaching incident concerning Sumatran tiger is known to have occurred in 2003, although three Sumatran tigers died, two in a conflict incident and one in a deer snare abandoned and left active. A fourth tiger was poached, apparently intentionally, in Solok Selatan district by a Kerincinese man. All but one of the seven individuals involved, either directly or peripherally, in these three cases were subsequently identified but no cases could be brought because evidence of the crime had been sold thus precluding legal action.

In Sungai Manau sub-district of Merangin, no confirmed cases of poaching of tiger by local hunters was recorded in 2003 – the first year in which this has occurred; however it is believed that at least one tiger and four or more Sumatran elephant were poached by a professional hunting syndicate, most of whose members are from Musi Rawas district of South Sumatra. and Sarolangun district on the Jambi-South Sumatra borders. One member of this syndicate has been known since 2001, two more were finally identified in late November 2003 and one of their main buyers in December. Planning is now in place for an operation to arrest these individuals and, providing communications operate effectively, this will be implemented if and when the gang next enters Merangin police district.

In Solok and Solok Selatan districts of West Sumatra to the north of Kerinci, disturbing quantities of information were collected concerning professional poaching of tiger and it is believed not less than four tigers were killed in this area excluding the animal poached by a Kerincinese lawyer mentioned above. It is suspected these tigers were poached in a large protected watershed forest (Hutan Lindung Batang Hari) to the east of the Sangir rift valley. These animals were mainly sold to a district level dealer in a small market town in Solok Selatan who is known to have links to other dealers in two nearby district capitals: one animal was sold to a representative of an Indonesian-Chinese dealer in Pekanbaru, Riau.

Conversely, in North Bengkulu and Rejang Lebong districts, intelligence collected on three brief visits to the area between March and August and in a more structured manner in November and December suggests that at least seven and possibly up to 10 Sumatran tigers were killed or traded in this area between January-December 2003 and that the majority of these incidents were poaching and not conflict related. Information relating to a number of individuals offering quantities (varying from 14-28kg) of elephant ivory was also received.

Evidence of tiger-related crime was seen on nine occasions in 2003, evidence varying from skin, canines, claws, flesh and bone to stuffed animals. Not all of these animals came from Kerinci Seblat National Park or buffer zone forests, and at least two of these animals were killed in 2002 or earlier.

Three skilled taxidermists operating in towns close or relatively close to TNKS were investigated in the course of 2003 – one as a result of the investigations of the Bengkulu TTM investigator. Two of these men confirmed to PHS investigators that they regularly taxidermise Sumatran tiger and alleged that senior politicians and officers of the Indonesian police and military establishment at both national and provincial level were among their customers. These claims cannot be confirmed and may have been an attempt to cite and name powerful organisations and individuals as their ‘protectors.’ However one of these taxidermists is known to have supplied stuffed tigers to two

provincial level politicians in Jambi and Bengkulu provinces in mid 2003 and if the claims are true, enforcement actions against these men will be complicated.

Unfortunately, stuffed Sumatran tigers are still seen as a status symbol and perquisite of position among some army and police officers and politicians and used as gifts to senior police and army officers as an instrument to rise in rank and, in the case of politicians, reportedly, to win friends and influence. If the forthcoming court case against Rabihe Kanel, the ketua DPRD (leader of the house) of North Bengkulu district legislature, who was arrested in December 2003 is transparently and fairly conducted, the case may serve to deter other politicians and individuals from powerful organisations who buy and sell Sumatran tiger on the assumption that they are above the law.

Through extension of activities to new areas, the team was able to confirm that many tiger and elephant poachers are very mobile, particularly poachers from the Tapan (Pesisir Selatan district) and Lubuklinggau (Musi Rawas) areas, (figure 4) Wildlife crime committed by individuals from the immediate surrounding area was most likely to be committed in Merangin district of Jambi, Solok Selatan, West Sumatra and Rejang Lebong in Bengkulu. Conversely, all reported cases of tiger poaching or attempted poaching in Muara Bungo district were apparently by individuals from other areas although two important dealers in tiger are based in Muara Bungo. However, insufficient data has so far been collected, as this district was not a priority investigation area for 2003, to draw conclusions about the source of the main threat in this area.

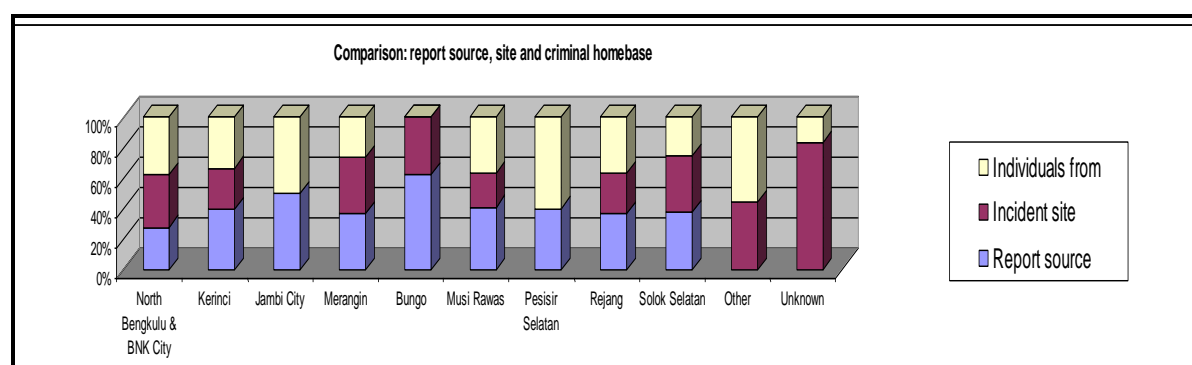


Figure 4: Home base of wildlife criminal(s) compared to area of crime and area where report received

Establishing where tiger products seen had originated from was sometimes difficult due to the increased level of contact with dealers and other 'second-tier' owners/vendors of tiger products. However dealers and taxidermists in Lubuklinggau claimed that the majority of tiger products in which they dealt originated from North Bengkulu district and, to a lesser extent, from unspecified areas in Jambi province. Two dealers in Bengkulu city stated that North Bengkulu district was the main source of supply of tiger skins and bone (via sub and district level dealers) to Lubuklinggau.

Two tiger poaching cases originating in or around Bukit Tigapuluh National Park on the Jambi-Riau borders were reported in Muara Bungo area and information passed to tiger protection programmes operating around that park. Team members also received information regarding two men from Lampung province who were ejected from a forest edge village in Muara Bungo district after villagers learned they planned to set tiger snares.

Jambi city, Dumaie and Pekanbaru (Riau province) were the most frequently cited destinations for Tiger skins and bone from towns and villages to the east of the national park and Lubuk Linggau, Bengkulu and Padang cities to the west. Travelling dealers from Medan (1) and Pekanbaru (2) were also recorded as visiting park-edge sub-dealers to buy tiger products. Lampung province (town(s) unspecified) was also cited as a destination for tiger pelts from the southern area of KSNP.

Prior to establishment of the PHS team, poachers were generally willing to conduct transactions outside of their home village or area. By 2002, this had become most unusual and poachers in areas where PHS patrols and operations have occurred are rarely willing to agree to a transaction outside of their home village where they feel secure from risk of law enforcement. The team's experience in North Bengkulu in December and initial intelligence collection in Rejang Lebong district confirms that this change in behaviour by poachers is likely to be a result of PHS interventions. Additionally, it appears that some dealers are deliberately by-passing local district capitals where the team has capacity to intervene and are selling wildlife products direct to distant areas – even where this involves a long journey with accompanying risk and, reportedly, lower prices paid. At least two suspected dealers were reported to have started chartering vehicles to transport tiger skins/elephant ivory to provincial capitals and on scouting trips around the national park even though they own vehicles.

Informal contacts between the project and various police officers around the park continued to be developed in 2003 with the intention not only of developing and maintaining a good working relationship but also to build awareness among selected police officers of the correlations between wildlife crime and other criminal activities, in particular illegal ownership and use of guns and cultivation of marijuana and trafficking in drugs. A wildlife crime training workshop for park edge police officers and judiciary is planned for 2004 which will strengthen inter-institutional linkages to more effectively tackle wildlife crime issues on a regional level.

Raising the public profile and respect for the partner institutions involved in activities has been important for increases staff pride in their institutions and furthers co-operation between the team and partner organisations. Public credit for successful arrests of criminals is always given to the national park and to police or to the relevant conservation authority.

As a founder member of the Jaringan Advokasi Harimau Badak Gajah (Tiger, Rhino and Elephant Campaign Group) in 2002, the PHS team remained committed to working cooperatively and actively with other institutions and organisations investigating and combating wildlife crime both within Sumatra and on a regional level. In addition to information sharing and working co-operatively with WWF and other NGOs working on tiger conservation issues in Sumatra as well as PHKA, the program also maintained contact with TRAFFIC SE Asia, LIPI and other national and international organisations.

Distance and poor communications continued to hamper the team's ability to immediately respond to reports of poaching, trafficking and conflict even in areas where information networks have been established. Furthermore, while team members are now experienced at weighing information and making initial assessments of a report and whether to proceed, a substantial percentage of reports can either not be validated or cannot proceed on to an arrest or are found to relate to other protected species – in particular Asian golden cat. In late 2002, an advanced radio transceiver/scanner and two

miniature body microphones and radio transmitters were acquired in England for use in situations where team members' contacts with suspect individuals needed to be monitored. This equipment was used on two occasions in 2003, once to monitor the safety of a team member operating undercover and, on the second occasion during the operation with Bengkulu City police which resulted in the arrest of a Bengkulu politician on tiger trafficking charges. It would have been almost impossible to conduct the actual arrest of RK without clear confirmation that the tiger skin was in the suspect's possession.

- **Assist the National Park management in development of an integrated anti-poaching strategy.**

The Tiger Protection and Conservation Units are managed, on a day-to-day basis by a senior member of the National Park's Conservation division who reports directly to the head of the National Park. Alip Tantun Hartana SSI, who was a main architect of the tiger protection program and acted as field manager operations from May 2000 stepped down from this position in October 2003 to undertake a Masters degree program and his place was filled by Rudijanta Tjahja Nugraha who will continue in this role through to July 2004 when he is scheduled to also undertake a Masters degree program but in Australia.

Full reports on activities and significant developments from the project are made to monthly planning meetings of park directors and managers from all four provinces and integrated into the National Park's operational planning procedures. Data from field surveys and patrols is also supplied to the park for input to the National Park's information systems.

Effective reporting is integral to development of strategies and responses and rangers in Jambi and Bengkulu provinces are now much more aware of tiger poaching and human-wildlife conflict as an issue and so more likely to report to the park or Tiger team with important information. Unfortunately, the end of the Kerinci Seblat Integrated Conservation and Development Project in September 2002, saw a considerable reduction in central government funding to the national park causing difficulties for the park to implement effective anti-poaching and habitat protection strategies in the field. Therefore, although an increasing number of park managers and senior rangers are more aware of species protection issues and enthusiastic to work with the PHS team and develop local strategies for species protection, there is little capacity to implement an integrated species protection strategy at local level or even respond to incidents as they occur.

- **Increase the capacity of the National Park and its rangers to successfully detect, pursue and prosecute the individuals or groups involved in the poaching of tigers.**

Basic ranger training and Department of Forestry procedures are heavily orientated towards habitat protection – in particular illegal logging – therefore the project continues to aim to achieve capacity of park rangers across the whole of the park regarding species protection issues.

In order to raise the practical capacity of rangers to respond to threat and to encourage a close and effective working relationship between the specialist Tiger unit and the main body of the park ranger staff, Park rangers continued to join TPCU patrols and operations over the course of 2003 as project funds allowed. This allowed teams to give informal, practical field training to rangers and raise awareness of the range and scale of threats to Sumatran tiger and other highly protected species. As a result, in 2003, a number of park rangers and staff provided valuable information to the project both regarding human-tiger conflict as well as suspected poaching and trafficking incidents and on two occasion handled incidents on the team's behalf where PHS members were otherwise occupied. Park rangers undertook one species protection operation (confiscation of a young adult male golden cat) on the team's behalf after the preliminary investigation had been conducted and, under team direction, also conducted a two-day investigation into a reported incident of human-tiger conflict. TNKS rangers also provided support to KSDA in Bengkulu regarding the killing of a Sumatran tiger following a human-conflict incident on a palm oil plantation

- **Educate specific local communities on the protected status of tiger and the species' role in forest ecology and to develop an effective education programme which is clearly linked to enforcement.**

TPCU team members offer advice and education informally to forest edge communities in areas regularly patrolled and awareness of tiger status and the species' needs is now much higher in these communities. Education focuses on the practical value of Sumatran tiger to local farmers as a controller of crop pests – in particular wild pig – rather than on the species as a charismatic and endangered species.

Progress towards instituting a more formal public awareness program has not been made since this would require a trained and dedicated member of staff and back-up resources and funds not available to the team. However the FFI team member has now prepared plans for a pilot community awareness scheme in the Kerinci area intended to revive local beliefs regarding Tiger as central to the health and welfare of the local community. Funds are being sought for this program and if secured, implementation will be through a small local NGO, run and staffed by Kerinci people who will work with Tiger shaman and traditional community leaders to implement an awareness program based on local cultural values.

- **Involve and motivate communities to report poaching activities and possible conflict situations and reduce incidence of human-tiger conflict for the welfare and protection of local communities and the Sumatran tiger.**

As individual members of local communities come to trust members of the project, so information has generally become more freely available and villagers may travel long distances to report a problem. The project team received much support from an informal network of Ham Radio operators who assist both in passing on communications from teams in the field to their base camps and information from remote communities far from telephones. In 2003 a total of 15 individual (as opposed to on-going) cases of human-tiger conflict were reported or subsequently became known to the PHS team. This total is likely to be a substantial under reporting of the actual figure for conflict

incidents around TNKS since human-tiger conflict is unlikely to be reported in areas where many poachers are resident or in areas where forest edge communities are not yet aware that assistance in mitigation of conflict is available.

In areas where the team has worked regularly or where park rangers have become aware of the potential risks of tiger moving through farmland, local people are now reporting human-tiger 'conflict' *before* any negative incident has occurred allowing pre-emptive interventions where necessary. In total, four and possibly five Sumatran tigers died in conflict-related incidents in 2003 although one case, upon investigation, was found to have been *pure* poaching since the victim (a pack pony) had been deliberately staked out as bait. This tiger was subsequently shot dead and sold to a rogue police officer who is also heavily involved in illegal logging.

In a further four cases of 'human-tiger' conflict, investigation revealed that the 'tiger' was in fact an Asian golden cat (*Catopuma temmincki*) and, in one case, a clouded leopard (*Neofelis nebulosa*). At least two Asian golden cat died as a result of conflict retaliation and a third was sold, alive. A fourth, possibly trapped following a conflict situation, was sold to a cinammon dealer but rescued and subsequently released in a safe site. The prevalence of human-Golden cat conflict reports and the fact that Asian golden cat are among the most regularly encountered – albeit less sought after – skin trade items suggests that the conservation status of this felid, deserves close study.

In 2004, dependent upon funds being available, it is hoped that more minor incidents or initial investigation of reports of human-tiger conflict may be on occasion handled by selected national park rangers. A simplified analysis of the causal factors of human-tiger conflict made in 2002 was used by PHS rangers in conflict mitigation education in 2003 and was well received by communities, especially where traditional beliefs were incorporated into the counselling.

Team members continued to prioritise an immediate response to any report of human-tiger conflict, however apparently minor, not only to provide protection to both community and tiger but also to stress the fact that park rangers serve to protect both community *and* forest.

- **Monitor tiger and other large mammal populations through field research and phototrapping.**

Although a full programme of biodiversity survey and monitoring and phototrapping was not conducted throughout 2003, due to time and resource constraints, the TPCUs continued to collect base line data on flagship and keystone species and frequency of encounter, forest quality and threat and changes in threat on each patrol made and these field sheets provide valuable data on tiger movements and general biodiversity in and around the national park and are now being analysed by former Field Manager Alip Tantun Hartana.

The team maintains close contacts with local universities and national and international researchers to encourage active field research in the national park, particularly with regard to tiger and in 2003 was in discussion with researchers in Britain and USA and local universities regarding a variety of field-based research initiatives that would be

complimentary to this particular programme but which this project does not have the capacity, either financial or staffing, to implement.

- **Support national park authorities in the control of illegal logging and land clearance.**

The massive scale of illegal logging in Sumatra is an issue of international concern and authorities in some areas around the national park are making some effort to tackle the issue. Unfortunately, overcapacity in the Indonesian timber and pulp industry continues to place excessive demand on natural forests and there is strong evidence of overseas links, mainly in Malaysia and Singapore, to the illegal logging interests in and around TNKS forests, particularly in the Jambi area. Additionally, during the course of 2003, PHS rangers observed that following exhaustion of natural forests in Riau and South Sumatra, illegal logging syndicates and sawmills from South Sumatra and Riau are now operating in Jambi province

Members of the PHS team intervened, when possible, in 2003 where illegal logging was encountered on patrol, but as one chainsaw is generally supported by up to six men and without the re-issue of national park gun licences their ability to act is compromised. The willingness of illegal logging syndicates to take violent action against any authority seeking to uphold the law was illustrated in May when police were forced to shoot an illegal logger who, with a number of other men, attacked a small group of police officers who were attempting to arrest illegal loggers from Tapan, Pesisir Selatan who were logging illegally in Kerinci district.

In August, PHS team members arrested an illegal logger on Mt Kerinci, however within approximately 15 minutes, more than 50 men had arrived on the scene with knives, machetes and other offensive weapons and surrounded the five PHS rangers. A strategic withdrawal was conducted and only the chainsaw chain could be retained as evidence. However in November, team members were able to seize a large quantity of sawn timber ready to be taken to a sawmill from TNKS forests in southern Kerinci and in May a four-man patrol seized two chainsaws from illegal loggers in Kerinci without incident at the time although there was subsequent low-level intimidation from the chainsaws' owner.

While illegal logging is a serious and highly publicised issue, land clearance is potentially a more serious issue regarding conservation of Sumatran tiger. In Tabir Hulu sub-district on the borders of Merangin and Muara Bungo districts, not fewer than two Sumatran tiger were killed by poachers whilst forest was being cleared for a transmigration site less than 6km from the National Park and which is likely to have a serious future impact on national park forests.

Following discovery that a large palm oil company, owned by a close family member of former President Soeharto, was sponsoring the clearance of TNKS forests for an alleged 'community' palm oil project, the PHS team worked to support TNKS. The land clearance appears to have links to powerful illegal logging interests operating out of Solok Selatan district, West Sumatra and, in February 2003, a young Sumatran tiger was reported to have been killed in forests bordering the plantation. In November it was learned that this animal was almost certainly subsequently given or sold to the owner of an illegal sawmill in Solok Selatan district, West Sumatra.

However the single most serious land clearance issue identified by the team was the discovery that incoming farmers from South Sumatra, Lampung and South Bengkulu provinces and from as far away as Java were clearing large areas of critical tiger and elephant habitat in the ex-Sarestra II logging complex in Merangin district. At least 4000 ha of the 90,000 ha Injapsin and ex-Sarestra II concession forests have been cleared to date bringing the squatters to within 8km of a crucial salt lick area within the national park. Incoming land squatters were observed selling sambar meat and local information advised that many of the squatters were supplementing income by hunting and one group are known to have shot and killed a Sumatran elephant in April 2003. Unclear legal status regarding these forests has prevented either TNKS or other organisations from taking any action to prevent further illegal clearance by the squatters. FFI and the PHS team lobbied local and regional government and the Department of Forestry for an urgent resolution to this issue and clarification of the area's legal status and, through local government contacts, raised this issue in local and provincial press.

• **Training & Local Capacity Raising**

In addition to offering practical experience of conservation and protection issues in the field to National Park rangers, other training and capacity raising exercises were run in 2003. The most significant of these was a three-day training workshop in Jambi city in March 2003 in collaboration with the Zoological Society of London, the International Zoo Veterinary Group and Taman Safari Indonesia.

The workshop was planned to give practical experience to approximately 25 trainees in responding to wild animal emergencies, in particular large mammals in snares – and wild animal welfare issues. In the event, more than 50 trainees from three national parks (Kerinci Seblat, Bukit Tigapuluh and Berbak), KSDA Jambi and vets from around Jambi province attended the workshop to receive practical training including in the use of anaesthetic guns. In order that the vets and ranger trainees got practical experience of anaesthesia issues, trainees took part in exercises to anaesthetise tigers, bear and smaller mammals and how to prepare for any possible complications. As no specific training had previously been given to rangers issued with anaesthetic guns by the Department of Forestry, rangers also received training in the care, maintenance and operation of anaesthetic guns. Basic approaches to wild animal handling were also offered and basic animal welfare issues relating to live animal confiscations or rescues where an animal must receive veterinary treatment or be held, temporarily, before resolution of a case.

In late 2003, a subsequent issue arising from the workshop – that of access to drugs in the case of emergencies was resolved with a very generous donation from Australia to provide three comprehensive veterinary kits. These kits will be placed at three sites around the national park – Sungai Penuh for the north and north west and immediate west of the national park, Bangko for the east and north east area and Curup for the south east and south west. Other tiger conservation and protection projects operating in adjacent national parks have been advised of the availability of the kits.

In late January 2003, team members received training in self-defence and safe responses to threatening situations from a former member of British special forces who donated his time and met his own international travel expenses.

Issues Arising

Management:

Extension of team activities to Bengkulu and South Sumatra province (Musi Rawas district) raised a number of management issues, primarily how to maintain impetus, and support for teams now operating across four provinces. Experience has shown that momentum is best maintained by hands-on management with leadership fully focused on the team's mission. Some difficulties were encountered in May 2003 when the team's Operations Manager was instructed to attend a training course in Jakarta in preparation for a government scholarship for a Masters degree program at just over one week's notice with the park's Bengkulu provincial manager (Rudijanta Tjaha Nugraho) also being sent to Jakarta for the same training course. This meant that a number of plans were impossible to implement until late in 2003 once the management situation had been clarified. In October, Rudjanta became Field Manager and will remain in post until mid 2004, by which time a new field manager is expected to have been fully trained and in a position to take over the day-to-day operational management of the team. To ensure operational support for the team as required, a senior and enthusiastic member of the park management for Jambi province has agreed to act as a liaison officer between TNKS and KSDA rangers in Jambi, TPCU teams operating in Jambi, police and other institutions.

Communications:

Although larger towns around the national park now all have telephone lines and some have limited mobile telephone coverage, the issue of communications particularly for teams in the field and/or in remote forest-edge communities continues to be a major issue affecting team capacity. It is particularly important that teams have communications available to them where arrests have been made or are likely to be made since it is essential that immediate support is available to the team as it reaches a road head.

The project now operates across an immense area of south western Sumatra and telephone costs are high due to the need for teams operating in three centres to maintain contact and communication. The project has a satellite telephone however this is expensive to operate and is not a routine communications tool. After consideration of the options for effective communications both for the PHS teams and from park headquarters to all park offices it is clear that the most efficient and effective would be a Repeater system, which would provide coverage over at least 80 per cent of the national park including very remote areas. Acquisition, installation and maintenance of a repeater system for a three-year period will cost about USD31000, and funding is actively being sought. Until support is received, patrol teams in many areas will have no direct contact with base camps or the national park and up to 7 per cent of the teams routine monthly operational budget is subsumed by telephone costs.

Team safety:

In early 2002, national park firearms were withdrawn by the police for routine processing of park gun licences, a process which normally takes between 3 and 6 weeks. In July 2003, seven licences were re-issued, including one to a TNKS ranger member of the PHS team, due to be withdrawn for processing again in January. Although the process of licence renewal is theoretically free, in fact an administration fee is required by police, however, the park has no budget for this as the fee charged is not officially recognised by

central Government. Furthermore, the national park has encountered continual and unusual administrative difficulties in processing these permits.

Although most tigers are poached through snaring, the normal method of despatching the trapped animal is by shooting. All professional or semi-professional tiger (and elephant) poachers known to the PHS team are armed, usually with guns assembled in small illegal workshops and using a variety of ammunition types. There is strong evidence of increasing ownership of illegal firearms and apparently of an increased level of deer hunting using shotguns rather than traditional snares. On one occasion in 2003, team members could only monitor reports of armed poaching syndicates from the Lubuklinggau area of South Sumatra entering national park forests because even the elite Brimob police units felt unable to support the team in an enforcement operation. On at least two patrols, teams heard gunfire from hunters, again no intervention was possible. No patrols were undertaken in the Musi Rawas area of South Sumatra in 2003 because of the high level of gun ownership in this area and this situation is likely to continue in Musi Rawas and some other areas of the park until team members are able to act effectively and decisively against threat and defend themselves.

Wild boar hunting:

Wild pig are among the most important of all tiger prey species, particularly around Kerinci Seblat National Park where park-edge communities are predominantly Muslim and in areas where hunting of deer is a significant problem. Pig are hunted in a number of areas around the national park as a traditional pastime, however in some areas, notably in Muara Bungo and in North Bengkulu districts, hunting clubs also hunt pig and other species. The harvest of wild pig by traditional village hunting – undertaken with dogs and spears – is unlikely to be significant in terms of animals killed (although it is known that deer and other species, including tapir, will be killed if they are encountered. However no clear data is available on the impact on tiger prey species of hunting clubs who use high-powered hunting guns, spotlights and other techniques to maximise harvest. In 2003 the Kerinci district government announced plans to promote pig hunting as a tourist activity through traditional pig hunting clubs, which is of considerable concern particularly as some individuals in these clubs are known poachers of ungulates. During village and forest-edge education exercises, therefore, the team promoted the importance of wild boar as a tiger prey species, especially in areas where poaching has decimated deer populations.

Research and Monitoring:

Research and monitoring of tiger populations, changes in threat and biodiversity is vital both for effective management of the national park and its surviving buffer zone forests and for raised awareness, nationally and internationally, regarding the global importance of TNKS forests. A number of research and monitoring initiatives are now in the planning stage for implementation by colleagues from various academic institutions and will involve local academic stakeholders working with the national park and the PHS team to build an integrated approach to tiger conservation in and around TNKS.

Judicial and Police support:

In some areas of TNKS, the park and team received valuable support for conservation of the park and Sumatran tigers, however the continuing failure to reach a fair and transparent settlement of the case against Nursamsi, a man caught red-handed in September 2002 in possession of body parts of two Sumatran tigers illustrates the serious difficulties in proceeding with legal action against wealthy or well-connected individuals

in some areas of Sumatra, especially in their home base area. Late in 2002, prosecutors requested a two years, six month sentence for this man, however the panel of judges proposed only a 12 months sentence and small fine, the case was referred to the appeal courts in Jambi where this sentence was upheld and, subsequently, to the High Court in Jakarta for final determination. To date, Nursamsi, a man believed to have traded not fewer than seven tigers between 2000-2002 has not spent a single night in prison and continues to serve as a high-ranking civil servant in the Kerinci local government administration.

Appendix 1 - Primary activities (one day or more) conducted in 2003

MAIN ACTIVITIES JANUARY-DECEMBER 2003 - not including incidental observations, village counselling during patrols, one-off (one day or less activities), reports dismissed /filed without further action and trafficking of less protected species (deer, protected birds/primates etc)				
Month	Personnel	Activity	Sub-district	Details in brief
			district/province	
January	Full Team	Search & rescue	Gunung Kerinci, Kerinci, Jambi	Bodies of three Javanese students found and brought off Mt Kerinci: Tiger sign present at 2500m. One active snare (serow) found and destroyed at 2800m+
January	Team members	Human-tiger conflict	Gunung Kerinci, Jambi	Sungai Asam – Confirmation that a man killed in late November was victim of a tiger attack (6km from forest edge) . Counselling, discussion with village community. Patrols.
January	Team members	Tiger protection patrol	Sungai Manau, Merangin, Jambi	2 tiger snares destroyed: Tiger (1) present.
January	Team members	Tiger protection patrol	Sungai Manau, Merangin	No new snares found. Tiger not present
January	Informant	Intelligence: poaching	Sungai Penuh, Kerinci	Hunters, two armed: Both identified, visiting forest edge area about Sungai Penuh to hunt deer: Standby for men to enter again & seek police support to arrest
January	Full Team	Training	Mess Bangko	Self-defence training for team by ex-member of British special forces donating his time
February	TPCU II	Routine patrol - check conflict report	Gunung Kerinci, Kerinci	North Kerinci area: Short patrol in response to report of a tiger eating a dog and owner setting snares in revenge. No evidence of threat or tiger presence found
February	Members of TPCU 1, III and TNKS PolHut	Routine patrol: TNKS ranger training	Sungai Penuh, Kerinci	Routine patrol in former high risk ungulate poaching and human-tiger conflict area. Tiger (1) present: check reports of armed poachers (see Jan)

February	TPCU II	Routine Patrol	Gunung Kerinci, Kerinci	No active ungulate snares found: Tiger (1) present. Prey base severely depleted due to historic poaching pressure by Siulak hunters: fishermen causing damage by cutting trees down to smoke fish
February	TPCU III	Routine patrol	Gunung Raya, Kerinci-Muko-Muko Utara, North Bengkulu rtn	Tiger (1) present. No snares found but indications of illegal fishing methods (poison) & area more visited than before
February	Informant	Intelligence: poaching	Sungai Manau, Merangin	Poacher implicated in incident in September 2002 reported to have shot dead Sumatran tiger Report carefully investigated: subsequently believed to be untrue
February	Team members	Market observation	Jambi City	Strips of tiger skin (old) and newer canine being offered for sale by sidewalk salesman
February	Informant	Information	Sungai Penuh, Kerinci	Armed men (2) looking for deer above Sungai Penuh: ongoing
February	Team members	Conflict: animal welfare: Trafficking	Muara Labuh, Solok Selatan, West Sumatra	Golden cat caught alive by villagers (conflict). Two days spent negotiating animal's release. Failed. Police refused to intervene on safety grounds. Animal sold day before team could take alternative, less orthodox action to secure animal's release
February	Informant	Trafficking	Pancung Soal, West Sumatra and Bangko, Merangin	Turtle and snakeskin dealer reportedly soliciting tiger skins. No further information received: not subsequently validated
February	Informant	Trafficking, poaching	Muko-Muko Selatan, North Bengkulu, Bengkulu	Tigress reported killed, cub caught alive. Informant unable to identify buyer and unwilling to identify poacher: KSDA Bengkulu subsequently took over this case and continues to investigate
February	TPCU I	Routine patrol	Gunung Raya, Kerinci	South Kerinci area. No obvious threat. Tiger sign not recorded
March	Training - with ZSL	training workshop Wildlife emergency & wildlife medicine	Jambi Zoo	Three-day training workshop for rangers from 3 national parks, KSDA Jambi and vets into wildlife emergencies and basic wildlife veterinary issues.
March	Team members	Market observation	Jambi City	Sidewalk salesman (see above) offering genuine (1) and false tiger canines(1), also portions of tiger vertebrae

March	TPCU III	Routine patrol	Muara Siau, Merangin-Batang Merangin, Kerinci	Carcass of elephant found at Inum Rahasia, ulu Sipurak (FFI former camera trap placement) shot dead. Tusks missing. Remains of many inactive (recent past) snares - none triggered. Kerinci (Siulak) poachers suspected. Gunfire heard - edge of forest above ex Sarestra II concession. Tiger (2) present
March	TPCU I	Routine patrol	Jangkat, Merangin	Non-timber forest products collection (manau vines) recently occurring. Bird collection (liming) recently occurring. Many old shelters. No tiger sign
March	TPCU III & FFI	Routine patrol	Merangin	Report of elephant poaching. Very heavy, extensive and organised clearance of ex-Sarestra II forests by individuals from outside of Jambi province. Many recent snare placements found. Gunfire heard. Tiger (1) present
March	Informant	Intelligence: poaching	Muara Siau, Merangin	Ungulate poacher from South Sumatra province allegedly caught and killed a tiger in a serow snare. Not proven.
March	Full Team	Investigation patrol	Muara Siau-Jangkat, Merangin	Investigate extent of illegal forest clearance in Sarestra II forests. Seek to reach site where two elephant carcasses reported (failed). Tiger (1) present
March	Team members	Intelligence: poaching	Muara Siau, Merangin	Tiger reported shot dead after killing a horse/pack pony:
April	Team members	Human-tiger Conflict	Sungai Manau, Merangin	Tiger killed a goat. Team on standby for eight days. Event occurred during durian fruiting season. Tiger present at early stage. Subsequently moved on and safe
April	TPCU III	Law enforcement patrol	Gunung Kerinci, Kerinci	Patrol standing by for deer poaching gang to enter the area - two entries during this month. Gang did not enter. Tiger present (1)
April	TPCU II	Law enforcement patrol	Batang Merangin, Kerinci	Patrol seeking elephant poachers from South Sumatra. Rivers flooded. Poachers not found. Tiger (1) present
April	TPCU I	Human-tiger Conflict Management	Sungai Penuh, Kerinci	Tiger killed and ate a pig close to village edge. Socialisation. Individuals visiting this area to hunt deer not entered recently
April	Team members	Intelligence - ongoing: poaching. Trafficking	Muara Siau, Merangin	Horse was staked out as bait for tiger which was then shot. Tiger sold to unknown individual in Bangko

April	Team members	Intelligence: Poaching. Trafficking	Pancung Soal, Pesisir Selatan, West Sumatra & Muko Muko Utara, North Bengkulu	Tiger killed in North Bengkulu: sold to dealer in Pesisir Selatan then sold again within 24 hours to dealer from Medan, North Sumatra for US\$26 . Sample tiger bone (spinal column) obtained as evidence
April	Team members	Intelligence: poaching	Rupit, Musi Rawas, South Sumatra	Tiger reported shot and sold to an illegal taxidermist in Lubuk Linggau, South Sumatra
May	Team members	Intelligence: taxidermy, trafficking	Lubuk Linggau, Musi Rawas, South Sumatra	Illegal taxidermist – pivotal to regional tiger trade and using forged permits for his clients. Indicators of two tigers on his premises at time of visit (not seen), also two golden cat (seen) and two clouded leopards (1 seen).
May	Team members	Intelligence: trafficking. Taxidermy	Bengkulu City	Illegal taxidermist – confirmed. Supplying stuffed tigers to Marines and others
May	Team members	Intelligence: trafficking	Bengkulu City	Snake and turtle dealer - confirmed as also dealing in tiger bones: bones seen and fresh
May	Team members	Intelligence: trafficking	Rejang Lebong, Bengkulu	Trafficking in Asian pangolin (<i>Manis javanicus</i>) – dealer buying up to 50kg per week of pangolin scales and selling to Bangko (family member) for onward sale to Palembang, South Sumatra
May	Team members	Intelligence: Ongoing: trafficking	Bangko, Merangin	Tiger killed in Muara Siau in March was sold to a rogue police officer & taxidermised in Lubuk Linggau
May	Team members	Routine Patrol	Sungai Penuh, Kerinci	Check reports of deer snares at forest edge. No snares present but many deer eating farmers' chilli plants
May	Member of TPCU I & II	Routine patrol & training TNKS rangers	Tanah Tumbuh, Muara Bungo, Jambi	Serious illegal logging ongoing: Tiger (1) present. Forest conversion by oil palm estate (close to but not within NP yet)
May	Members of TPCU II and III	Routine patrol	Sungai Penuh, Kerinci	Check reports of tiger coming down to forest edge. Confirmed, Adult female (1)
May	TPCU II	Routine patrol	Batang Merangin, Kerinci	Tiger (1) present. No threat observed. No snares found in this area since 2001
May	TPCU III	Routine patrol	Batang Merangin, Kerinci & Sungai Manau, Merangin	Tiger (1) present. No threat observed. Farmers advised poachers may now be avoiding area due to regular TPCU patrols
May	Team members	Intelligence: trafficking	Batang Merangin, Kerinci	Broker seeking to sell two tigers: Not validated possibly relating to a tiger killed south of Kerinci in 2002

May	Team members	Intelligence: ongoing. trafficking	Batang Merangin, Kerinci	Seeking to advance case of two tigers reported for sale by approach to suspected dealer (identified in 2001) who is also head of local hunting club. : Team member offered golden cat pelt and two muntjak pelts. Dealer claimed to have recently brokered tiger pelt sale to Lampung. Unconfirmed
May	Team members	Conflict management	Gunung Kerinci, Kerinci	Two curious tigers causing some alarm to tourists and farmers at Mt Tujuh tourist spot. No active threat recorded to either community or tiger
May	Team members	Intelligence: ongoing. trafficking	Muara Labuh, Solok Selatan, West Sumatra	District level dealer working with three poachers finally identified: skin of clouded leopard in dealer's house. Dealer normally selling to district capital of Solok
May	FFI & team members	Donor Visit	Kerinci	Three days
May	Informant	Intelligence: poaching	Tabir Hulu, Merangin	Poachers operating in a transmigration site: 2 tigers killed. Team unable to respond. Police informed, also unable to respond (many guns and this village violent and prone to riot). Some justice at end of month with one poacher killed in a motor cycle accident
May	Informant	Intelligence: poaching. Conflict: Follow up	Gunung Kerinci, Kerinci	Tiger killed by Siulak poacher early in 2003 after eating dog. Skin and bone sold direct to Jambi city: if correct likely to relate to February conflict report in this area
June	TPCU I	Routine patrol	Jangkat, Merangin - Muko Muko Selatan, North Bengkulu	Patrol survey:- very heavy past poaching of ungulates - virtually no sambar or muntjak recorded. Tiger (1) present.
June	TPCU II	Routine patrol	Jangkat, Merangin - Muko Muko Selatan, North Bengkulu	Patrol survey:- very heavy past poaching of ungulates recorded from snare placements. Tiger (1) present. Extreme concern regarding prey base in this area
June	TPCU III	Routine patrol	Jangkat, Merangin - Muko Muko Selatan, Bengkulu Utara	Patrol survey:- Tiger (2) present. Evidence of past rhino poaching (old -2-3 years - snare placements). Very heavy past poaching of ungulates. Prey base very low
June	Team members	Routine patrol: Law enforcement	Sungai Penuh, Kerinci	Routine patrol cut short after team seized two chainsaws
June	PolHut TPCU II & III	Law Enforcement: trafficking	Sungai Penuh, Kerinci	Two stuffed leopard cats confiscated and formal legal warnings issued to would-be vendor and a second man

June	Information	Intelligence: trafficking	Jambi City	Man believed to be a major dealer in Sumatran tiger now suspected to have changed his identity and moved from Java to Jambi after serving nine months in prison on wildlife trafficking charges (West Java: 1992) : see Nov 2002
June	Team members	Intelligence & Conflict Management	Muara Siau, Merangin, Jambi	Tiger reported shot dead in village rubber forests; February 2003. Tiger dismembered and buried.. Bones subsequently dug up and stolen. Team called late June by villagers reporting tiger present again. Not tiger but clouded leopard (<i>Neofelis nebulosa diardi</i>). Case resolved by counselling.
June	Informant	Intelligence: possession, trafficking	Sangir, Solok Selatan, West Sumatra	Report of a Minang farmer holding a stuffed bear and stuffed clouded leopard and offering recently killed Sumatran tiger (160cm) for sale: Pelt taken to Dumai, Riau and sold before validation - but cross-checked with other information collection
June	Team members	Intelligence - trafficking: follow-up	Muara Labuh, Solok Selatan, West Sumatra	Dealer buying from poachers in this district (see May 2003) just sold a tiger to a Chinese dealer in Pekanbaru (Riau): Buyer's name and telephone number obtained. Dealer offered possible 160cm long tiger 'if not sold' see above
June	Team members	Market observation	Sungai Penuh, Kerinci	Only one old tiger whisker (previously seen) and one old (fake) canine recorded. Shops previously dealing/offering advised no longer in the market
June	Team members	Market observation	Bangko, Merangin	Team member offered tiger whiskers: source local
June	Informant	Market observation	Bangko, Merangin	Kubu hunter gatherers selling fake tiger skin and teeth to police officers: police request help in how to verify tiger teeth so don't buy fakes again
June	Informant	Information	Bangko, Merangin	North Sumatra (Batak) transmigrant offering stuffed clouded leopard and stuffed bear for sale in transmigration area
June	Informant	Information - trafficking/ poaching: Follow up	Bangko, Merangin	Rogue police officer offering stuffed tiger (see Muara Siau, April, May) for sale for Rp10m (US\$1183). Checked. No longer in his possession. Unclear if sold or given as gift to commanding officer in Jambi.
June	Team members	Information - trafficking/ poaching	Gunung Kerinci, Kerinci & Sangir, Solok Selatan	Tiger offered for sale from Solok Selatan. Checked. First information suggests tiger sold to Dumai. Further investigation indicates different animal and sold to Jambi direct by an unemployed lawyer

June	Team members	Information – poaching	Sungai Manau, Merangin	Elephant shot dead by Musi Rawas man illegally opening farmland in NP forests
June	Team members	Information – trafficking	Sarolangun, Jambi	Snake skin dealer buys tiger pelt and bones and sells to cities in Riau
June	Team members	intelligence – trafficking	Batang Merangin, Kerinci	Brother of a known deer poacher offering tiger canine (old) for sale for Rp300,000 (US\$35.5). Contact made, no other evidence of tiger poaching
July	FFI and FMU	Presentation	Jakarta	To PHKA regarding PHS activities and program
July	Team members	Tiger promotion	Bangko: Batang Merangin, Kerinci	Host visit from student film maker (Holland) making film for cable television in Amsterdam
July	TPCU III	Routine patrol: Law enforcement	Batang Merangin, Kerinci-Sungai Manau, Merangin	Tiger (1) present. Formal warning letters issued to two farmers clearing forest in NP. No other active threat
July	TPCU I & II	Routine patrol & support for TNKS rangers	Batang Merangin, Kerinci-Sungai Manau, Merangin	Tiger sign (2) animals routinely present in this area: 10 recent snare placements found for deer (placed end June by three men from North Kerinci). Two team members escorted a TNKS ranger team making their first patrol to this area.
July	Team members	Routine patrol	Sungai Penuh, Kerinci	Routine check. Tiger not present. No threat observed
July	Team members	Patrol survey	Sungai Penuh, Kerinci	Looking for route to western lowlands. Tiger present (+/2 weeks ago). Preybase low but serow present
July	Team & support from TNKS rangers	Intelligence: Animal welfare	Jangkat, Merangin	Information from PHS informant led to rescue of a young male Golden cat (<i>Catopuma temmincki</i>) alive - animal had been bought by a Kerinci cinammon dealer (identity known). Animal held at Bangko team HQ and subsequently released in safe location in co-ordination with local village leaders. Second Asian golden cat (carcass) confiscated from nearby village - poisoned after killing a goat
July	Informant & TPCI II and III	Intelligence: Animal welfare	Gunung Kerinci, Kerinci	Report of tiger alive in pig snare +5km from park edge. Report not confirmed but subsequently believed true but too late to respond. Infant Leopard cat (<i>Prionailurus bengalensis</i>) confiscated on welfare grounds and remains in TNKS hands
July	Informant	Information trafficking	Bangko, Merangin	Tiger skin reported sold at 0400h to unknown buyer in cheap hotel. Vendor from Jangkat area and known deer

				poacher
July	Team members	Intelligence trafficking: ongoing	Batang Merangin, Kerinci	Team member called by dealer (May and June). Offered python skins. Also offered pelts of two tigers reported for sale in Tabir Hulu district, Merangin
July	Team members	Intelligence: trafficking	Muara Labuh, Solok Selatan, West Sumatra	Maintain contact with dealer and poaching syndicate to collate threat and trafficking data.
July	Team members	Intelligence: poaching	Balai Selasa, Pesisir Selatan West Sumatra	Poacher using a gun with laser sights provided by a Malay Chinese dealer
July	Team members	Intelligence: false tiger trafficking	Sarolangun, Sarolangun district, Jambi	Individual selling false (painted) tiger skin portions
July	TNKS rangers under PHS direction	Conflict	Rantau Pandan, Muara Bungo	Report of palm oil plantation workers scared by a tiger and a tiger entering a village: Adult tiger and cub moving close (+/-5km) to plantation along river valley, tiger in village was a dark or melanistic Asian golden cat.
July	Team members	Intelligence: trafficking	Kerinci/Pesisir Selatan/ North Bengkulu districts	Kerinci man seeking to facilitate sale of skins of tiger (2) and elephant ivory (+/-14kg) reportedly owned by two different Tapan poachers: no evidence seen but possibly items subsequently sold to Pekanbaru (see Aug & September)
August	TPCU III	Routine patrol & TNKS ranger training	Sangir, Solok Selatan-Gunung Kerinci, Kerinci	Tiger (adult female and cub) present. No active snares. Hunting group from Siulak pursued but lost. Illegal logging intervention: chainsaw seized but many men arrived and threatened team: Chainsaw returned but chain retained as evidence: Incident reported to police
August	TPCU I & II	Routine patrol & TNKS ranger training	Gunung Merangin, Kerinci-Muko-Muko Utara, North Bengkulu	No tiger sign. Many old shelters - illegal collection of manau and bark of Medang keladi tree. Four men caught red-handed and issued with warning letters - suspected of catching fish using electricity. One elephant present
August	TPCU I, II & III	Patrol & survey: new area	Jangkat, Merangin-Muko Muko Selatan, North Bengkulu	Tiger present in only one area: Population of large mammals appeared very low but possible impact of difficult terrain. Evidence of past Sumatran rhino poaching observed

August	Team members & KSDA Bengkulu	Intelligence: law enforcement (failed)	Lubuk Linggau, Musi Rawas and Bengkulu City	Stuffed tiger and two stuffed golden cats seen being taken out of house of illegal taxidermist & loaded into two vehicles, one with government (red) number plates. Information late reaching PHS. Information to KSDA Bengkulu too late - road blocks placed but animals already reached destination. Government vehicle registered to a very senior politician in Bengkulu provincial legislature
August	TPCU II and III	Information: Conflict intervention: Intelligence	Gunung Kerinci, Kerinci	Cow reportedly attacked by a tiger: Community & village headman denied incident had occurred. Site not found and cow owner not identified. Subsequently established incident happened in late July but was not reported due to marijuana plantations in area. Poison bait placed by owner of cow. Two tigers suspected killed, one on site, second animal +/-7km to the north (see Sept). Owner of cow suspected to have sold one tiger to an unknown individual in Bangko, Merangin
August	PolHut TPCU I, II & III	Conflict management	Tanah Tumbuh, Muara Bungo	Information from PHS and TNKS auxilliary that tiger had killed a goat close to edge of TKI palm oil plantation. Team visited area and advised of a serious problem with bearded pigs (<i>Sus barbatus oi</i>) killing livestock. Tiger had eaten a dog two weeks previously but community not concerned. Two Lampung men expelled by the community in July after arriving with plans to set tiger snares
August	Team members	Intelligence: poaching	Gunung Kerinci, Kerinci & Sangir, Solok Selatan	Evidence (smoked flesh sample) obtained to validate May/June reports of a tiger killed in Solok Selatan by sacked lawyer. Skin and bone sold to Jambi direct: buyer unknown, Flesh sample sent to Bogor for DNA analysis
August	Team members	Intelligence: poaching: ongoing	Pancung Soal, Pesisir Selatan & Putri Hijau, North Bengkulu	Report of Tapan poachers working in North Bengkulu snaring two Sumatran tigers: additional report of 15kg of elephant ivory made by same informant (would-be broker) but different poacher. At end of month identity of sponsor of poaching identified as illegal logging (sawmill) owner.
August	Informant	Intelligence: possession	Jambi city and Lubuk Linggau, Musi Rawas	Senior provincial level politician bought a stuffed tiger from Lubuk Linggau taxidermist and holds (false) letter of permit issued by taxidermist

August	Team members	Possession	Sungai Penuh, Kerinci & Jambi City	Army officer moving post to Jambi given live baby sunbear as farewell gift
August	Team members	Intelligence: threat assessment	Lubuk Linggau, South Sumatra	This town confirmed as hub for illegal wildlife trade in central-southern Sumatra: in addition to known taxidermist(s), six wholesalers (buyers) and three professional tiger poachers identified during a five day investigation by team members
September	TPCU I & II members	Routine patrol	Sungai Penuh Kerinci	Tiger (1) present. Of ungulates, only serow present. Asian golden cat sign. Indications of individuals just left the area and 30 ungulate snare placements awaiting activation destroyed
September	TPCU II & III members	Routine patrol	Sungai Penuh Kerinci	Tiger (1) present. No threat observed.
September	Team members	Intelligence: trafficking	Solok, West Sumatra	District level dealer in tiger identified – buying locally and from Pesisir Selatan area
September	Team members	Intelligence: trafficking/ poaching: follow up	Pancung Soal, Pesisir Selatan	Operation to arrest illegal sawmill owner known to be in possession of two tiger skins from North Bengkulu (Tapan poachers) abandoned - skins sold to Pekanbaru day before operation planned to happen. Vendor is the man who ordered burning of PHS jeep in August 2002
September	Team members	Intelligence: trafficking	Muara Bungo, Muara Bungo Jambi	Credible information on an important dealer in Sumatran tiger secured via a disgruntled former employee of the man. Information on two poaching incidents secured, one from Bukit Tiga Puluh NP and one from Riau (site unknown). Information passed to STF/WWF as outside PHS operational area
September	Team members	Intelligence: trafficking/ conflict: ongoing	Gunung Kerinci, Kerinci	Two men (Siulak) sold tiger found dying/dead (late July) to a third man in Kerinci (skin subsequently sold to Pekanbaru.). Tiger believed second of two young transients poisoned after attacking a cow in July (see above)
September	Team members	Intelligence: poaching (historic) & trafficking	Gunung Kerinci, Kerinci	Former professional poacher trying to sell skin of a tiger hidden away since 1992. Skin seen and badly damaged by rodents. No action taken but individual being monitored.

				Skin subsequently stolen by this man's former accomplices.
September	Team members	Intelligence: poaching	Tabir Hulu, Merangin	One and possibly two tigers reportedly snared in remote enclave area of upriver Tabir, skin(s) subsequently sold to a rogue militia officer and then, reportedly transported to 'M', a transmigration site and illegal sawmill centre on the Trans Sumatra highway between Muara Bungo and Bangko. No action possible. Possible link to offer of two tiger skins allegedly from this area made by a broker in Kerinci but not pursued because the broker was suspected to be setting a trap for investigator
September	Team members	Trafficking	Sungai Penuh, Kerinci	Travelling medicine salesman displaying traditional items including very old elephant teeth and very old bits of tiger bone
September	Team members	Trafficking protected species	Sungai Penuh, Kerinci	Ornamental fish (aquarium) shop displaying various stuffed animals & birds for sale: Taxidermist variously described as from Bukittinggi and from Solok. Investigators shown photograph of old and amateurishly taxidermised tiger reportedly for sale in Riau province for Rp11m (US1309)
September	Team members	Trafficking - elephant and Tiger	Pancung Soal, Pesisir Selatan	28kg of elephant ivory reported sold early September to Pekanbaru for Rp30m (US3571) - Tapan poachers, elephants killed in North Bengkulu district. Two tiger pelts, source unknown but suspected from North Bengkulu also sold in same transaction
September	Team members	intelligence – poaching	Air Hangat, Kerinci	Tiger reported snared early 2003 in remote enclave area. Not validated – possibly relating to report of clouded leopard in pig snare
September	FFI and FMU	Presentation	Bogor	Presentation and discuss cross-cutting issues regarding tiger and elephant conservation in Sumatra with other FFI program staff
October	TPCU 1	routine patrol	Sungai Penuh, Kerinci	138 snare placements for serow and sambar destroyed. No tiger sign. Golden cat present.
October	TPCU I & II	routine patrol	Jangkat, Merangin	No tiger sign found during 6 day patrol, sambar present. Signs of bird poaching. No active threat observed

October	All team	Donor visit & assessment	Kerinci	Visit by Save the Tiger Fund
October	TPCU 1, II and III	routine patrol	Sungai Manau, Merangin-Batang Merangin, Kerinci	All teams entering: different locations of the Sipurak area: Tiger sign found in five sites: Likely to be not less than four animals (three residents whose sign is usually found in these areas)
October	Team members	Conflict	Tabir Hulu, Merangin	Tiger reported killed in remote enclave area after non-fatal attack on a 15 year-old boy. Not confirmed: not possible to enter area.
October	Informant	Intelligence: poaching	Air Hangat, Kerinci	Tiger reported shot in Renah Pematik enclave on 24.10.03
October	Team members	Trafficking protected species: ongoing	Sungai Penuh, Kerinci	Taxidermist identified as younger brother of aquarium shop owner, individual seeking to establish himself in the 'antique' business and seeking partners
October	Team member	Market observation	Jakarta: Soekarno Hatta airport:	Large number (12+) bears galls bladders, claws of a smaller felid - possible Asian golden cat, and claws of sunbear being offered openly for sale: Also sharks fins and crocodile penises (CITES status unclear) In November 2002, this shop was also selling tiger claws and in June 2002, tiger canines (report by a reliable, expert informant): Information passed to KSDA Jakarta:
November	Team members	Intelligence: trafficking	Arga Makmuir, North Bengkulu	Senior member of North Bengkulu district parliament observed in possession of a juvenile Sumatran tiger skin which he proposed to sell. Bones also in this man's possession and allegedly bought for approximately Rp300,000 per kg..
November	TPCU I, II & III	Routine patrol	Katenong area, Rejang Lebong, Bengkulu	No tiger sign encountered. Topography unlike indicated on maps. No active threat to tiger or ungulates but indicators of past heavy poaching of song and other birds. Very steep terrain
November	TPCU II	Routine patrol: Law enforcement	Gunung Raya, Kerinci-Muko-Muko Utara, North Bengkulu	No tiger sign but heavy rain may have caused prints to be lost. 92 logs illegally felled in national park forests seized - logging gang escaped

November	TPCU III	Routine patrol: Law enforcement	Gunung Raya, Kerinci	Tiger sign (1 animal, probable resident. Two farmers issued with warning letters for clearing NP forest. Community warned two men, armed with home-made shotguns had recently entered this area. Not found
November	Team members	Intelligence – trafficking	Arga Makmuir, North Bengkulu	Businesswoman offering Sumatran tiger skin for sale in October: skin sold to Pekanbaru,: Individual believed to be regular dealer in protected species
November	Team members	Information- animal welfare	Batang Merangin, Kerinci	Melanistic golden cat (young adult male) caught in wild pig snare: died shortly before team arrived to assist
November	TPCU III	Conflict management	Sungai Manau, Merangin,	Tiger moving in farmland (durian harvest ongoing). Tiger prints seen. Team patrolled/counselled.
November	Team members	Intelligence: poaching: ongoing	Sungai Manau, Merangin,	Owner of a minibus reported being chartered by men (5) from Lubuk Linggau, poaching elephant and tiger in Sipurak area and selling to a town south of Sarolangun. Men armed (3 guns). Informant will advise when he is next approached by these individuals so an arrest can be made
November	Team members	Intelligence: poaching	Gunung Kerinci, Kerinci	Report of tiger shot in October untrue - animal shot may have been a golden cat. Poacher identified and was using a gun borrowed from a local police officer
November	Team members	Intelligence: poaching	Muko-Muko Selatan, North Bengkulu	18kg of elephant ivory reported for sale by a rogue police officer
November	Informant	Intelligence: poaching	Lunang-Silaut, Pesisir Selatan	Tiger skin for sale in village south of Tapan
November	Team members	Information: conflict	Ketaun, North Bengkulu	Human-tiger conflict incident reported to have occurred in upriver Ketaun river area in late September
December	Team members	Intelligence: poaching: follow up	Lunang-Silaut, Pesisir Selatan	Report of tiger skin for sale south of Tapan untrue and informant sacked
December	Team members	Patrol -poaching	Gunung Kerinci, Kerinci	Three-day patrol seeking site where Siulak poachers reported to be poaching. Location identified but snares already removed
December	TPCU I & III members join	Tiger protection: patrol	Jangkat Merangin-Muara Aman, Rejang Lebong, Bengkulu	Threat assessment patrol (plain-clothes) with priority to check reports of active snares in this area. No active threat recorded but information received during overnight stays in two remote village gave cause for concern: Indications of two adult tigers present in the Jambi-Bengkulu borders area

December	TPCU I	Routine patrol	Air Hangat, Kerinci	No tiger presence recorded but farmers reported a tiger had eaten a dog a week earlier. One sambar snare recovered. Signs of heavy bird trapping dating back 1 month +
December	TPCU II	Routine patrol	Gunung Kerinci, Kerinci	No tiger presence recorded. No active threat recorded. Some possible indications that ungulate population may have recovered slightly (comparison with 2 years ago). Fishermen have agreed not to cut wood to smoke their catch at the lake.
December	Team members & Bengkulu City Police Officers	Intelligence and Law enforcement	Arga Makmair North Bengkulu & Bengkulu City	Final stage intelligence operation and subsequent joint operation with Bengkulu police to arrest head of North Bengkulu district parliament on tiger trafficking charges
December	Team members	Intelligence: poaching	Muara Aman, Rejang Lebong	TNKS ranger reported information from a bird dealer regarding tiger poaching activities and a tiger skin for sale in an enclave area to the north east.: subsequent investigation revealed bird dealer is a sun-district level dealer in tiger skins & was probably passing information to establish response by park because he had seen unknown park rangers (Tiger team) entering area a month earlier. Patrol (under cover) to enclave villages in this area as a result of information on threat received from this man – no threat observed and two tigers present but report being treated seriously.
December	Team members	Intelligence: poaching/ trafficking	Ketaun, North Bengkulu	Tiger reported killed and subsequently sold (buyer unknown) in October. If correct, likely to be animal involved in conflict incident in late September 2003
December	Team members	Information: trafficking	Ketaun, North Bengkulu	Identify of a district level dealer reported dealing in tiger and other non-timber forest products and selling mainly to Padang, West Sumatra
December	Informant	Information: possession	Sangir, Solok Selatan, West Sumatra	Illegal sawmill owner (3 mills) in possession of a 130cm stuffed tiger bought from his logging crews in February/March from Muara Bungo area (borders of TKA palm oil plantation): Taxidermised animal not for sale: report to be made to KSDA

December	Team members	Intelligence: possession	Gunung Kerinci, Kerinci	Retired army officer still in possession of 9kg of mixed tiger and clouded leopard bone & <i>still</i> trying to pass to PHS team member. Individual is former partner of Nursamsi (arrested Sept 2002). Suitable course of action which does not involve arrest of a 76 war hero being sought
December	Team members	Intelligence: trafficking	Curup, Rejang Lebong, Bengkulu	Initial information from WWF: Stuffed tiger for sale (animal from Lubuk Linggau): skin damaged, quality of taxidermy very poor and price low Rp9m (US1071)
December	Team members	Intelligence: poaching/trafficking	Batang Merangin, Kerinci	Tiger reported killed in deer snare in South Kerinci area in October, found rotting by hunter. Tooth sold to friend and bones to a Siulak man who sold to Jambi (price and buyer unknown)
December	Team members	Intelligence: trafficking	Rejang Lebong, Bengkulu	Tiger killed (?October?), sold by broker to unknown individual in Lubuk Linggau. Body length 165cm, Rp6.5m (USD774). Neck injured. Likely to be the taxidermised animal for sale in Curup (see above). Poacher not yet identified
December	FFI team member	Awareness	University of Andalus, Padang	Talk to students on active conservation interventions using PHS project as example
December	FFI team member	Awareness	Kerinci	Brief director of international consulting organisation on tiger trafficking/trade issues with hope of pro-bono support to PHKA and voluntary sector in tackling international tiger trafficking networks operating out of Sumatra

Appendix II – Examples of prices quoted or known prices paid for protected wildlife in 2003 by poachers, dealers and taxidermists

No	Species	Area	Item	Weight/ Length	Price	Vendor
1	Sumatran tiger	North Bengkulu	Skin & bones complete	130cm: bone weight unknown	Packet price: Rp3500000 USD399	Poacher
2	Sumatran tiger (No 1)	North Bengkulu-West Sumatra borders	Skin & bones complete	130cm: bone weight unknown	Packet price: Rp4500000 USD513	District level/sub-dealer
3	Sumatran tiger	Bengkulu City	Bones	3kg+/-	Rp375000 USD43.6 per kg	Dealer
4	Sumatran tiger	Bengkulu City	Bones	6kg	Rp200000 USD22.35	Taxidermist
5	Sumatran tiger	Bengkulu City	Taxidermised	-	Rp1400000 USD1627	Taxidermist
6	Sumatran tiger	Lubuk linggau	Taxidermised	-	Rp1400000 USD1627	Taxidermist
7	Clouded leopard	Lubuk linggau	Taxidermised	-	Rp4000000 USD1627	Taxidermist
8	Sumatran tiger	Merangin: Bangko	Taxidermised	-	Rp1000000 USD1169	Police Officer
9	Sumatran tiger	Kerinci	Canine	-	Rp300000 USD35.2	Brother of deer poaching suspect
10	Asian golden cat	Muara Labuh, Solok Selatan	Live Golden cat	+/-90cm	Rp1500000 USD171	Villagers: animal involved in conflict
11	Asian golden cat	Jangkat Merangin	Live Golden cat	+/-85cm	Rp300000 USD35.9	Farmer/poacher
12	Asian elephant	Tapan, West Sumatra	Ivory	15kg	Rp1.5m USD183	Poacher/sub-dealer
13	Sumatran tiger	Jambi/Riau borders	Tiger skins	150cm & 50cm Tiger skins	Rp1500000 USD1785	Sub dealer/poacher
14	Sumatran tiger	Jambi (tiger from Solok Selatan)	Tiger skin and bones	150cm: bone weight unknown	Rp4500000	Poacher
15	Sumatran tiger	Kerinci	Tiger skin: (stored since 1992: damaged by mice	160cm	Exchange for marijuana seeds 'super'grade specified - or a gun	Poacher
16	Clouded leopard	Kerinci	Taxidermised by poacher	-	Offered in exchange for second-hand TV or Rp300,000	Poacher

17	Sumatran tiger	Riau	Taxidermised	+/-150cm	Rp11000000 USD1325	Broker
18	Asian elephant	North Bengkulu	Ivory	28kg	Rp1.07m per kg (USD 120)	Broker
19	Sumatran tiger	North Bengkulu	Skin & bones	110cm: bone weigh unknown	Rp1,750,000 skin, bones Rp1,000,000 (USD33.8 per kg)	Poacher
20	Sumatran tiger (No 19)	North Bengkulu	Skin	110cm	Rp5m USD599	Opportunist dealer
21	Sumatran tiger	Rejang Lebong	Skin	150cm	Rp7m (US\$825): 155cm	Poacher/sub dealer
22	Sumatran tiger (No 21)	Rejang Lebong	Taxidermised	-	Rp9m (USD 1058)	Old and poor quality sub dealer
23	Sumatran tiger	Kerinci	Canine	-	Rp100,000 USD11.97	Friend of poacher
24	Sumatran tiger (No 23)	Kerinci	Bone	-	Rp80,000 per kg USD 9.58	Ungulate poacher
25	Clouded leopard	Solok Selatan	Skin	110cm	Rp800,000 (USD95)	District level Dealer

Note: While the project accepts and welcomes press interest in the issue of tiger poaching, trafficking and conservation, the team has been concerned to note the high level of focus on *price* of tiger products – in particular tiger skins.

Towards the end of 2003, a number of press articles appeared, mainly appearing to come from information collected in Lampung province. These quoted exceptionally high prices for tiger skins and stuffed tigers - on occasion four and even five times higher than the prices PHS team members recorded being paid by dealers in Jambi, Bengkulu and West Sumatra in 2003.

Even though it is unlikely that village-level poachers and opportunist sub-dealers will often read such reports – most appear to be published in national press and news magazines - the team is concerned that promoting these very high prices may actually serve to *encourage* opportunist poaching and dealing in Sumatran tiger.

Appendix III - Outline patrol/field results

Month	Staff	sub district	Days	result				Note
		District		Sites with tiger sign	Tiger snare	Deer snare	Bird snare	
Jan	1	Sungai Manau: Merangin, Jambi	2	1	2	0	0	Find & destroy snares Illegal logging ongoing
Jan	3	Sungai Manau	2	0	0	0	0	see above
Jan	3	Gunung Kerinci, Jambi	6	0	0	0	0	Conflict intervention Man killed by tiger in November 2002
Jan	4	Gunung Kerinci	4	1	0	0	0	Conflict intervention As above
Feb	4	Muara Labuh: Solok Selatan, West Sumatra	4	0	0	0	0	Conflict intervention Asian golden cat
Feb	2	Curup, Rejang Lebong, Bengkulu	5	0	0	0	0	Conflict mitigation: farmers alarmed by adult female tiger & 2 cubs
Feb	3	Sungai Penuh: Kerinci	5	1	0	0	0	Resident female regularly encountered in this area
Feb	4	Gunung Kerinci	5	1	0	0	0	Routine patrol
Feb	1	Gunung Kerinci	1	0	0	0	0	Conflict intervention: Sungai Asam site
Feb	4	Gunung Kerinci	4	1	0	0	0	Routine patrol
Feb	4	Gunung Raya: Kerinci: Muko-Muko Utara, North Bengkulu	4	1	0	0	0	Routine patrol
Feb	3	Gunung Raya: Kerinci	3	0	0	0	0	Routine patrol
March	5	Muara Siau, Merangin & Batang Merangin, Kerinci	8	1	0	0	0	Carcass of elephant shot, ivory missing. Gunfire heard in forest NTFP extraction
March	4	Jangkat	6	1	0	0	0	Many old snare sites: gunfire heard in forest> Largescale illegal forest clearance underway
March	4	Jangkat & Muara Siau, Merangin	8	0	0	0	0	Routine patrol
April	4	Curup, Rejang Lebong	4	1	0	7	10	Report of conflict : no risk observed

April	6	Gunung Kerinci	6	1	0	0	0	Routine patrol
April	5	Gunung Kerinci	4	1	0	0	0	Hot pursuit for reported poachers: no sign
April	2	Batang Merangin	4	1	0	0	0	Poachers reported: no contact
April	8	Sungai Manau	2	1	0	0	0	Conflict monitoring
April	4	Jangkat-Muko Muko Selatan, North Bengkulu	6	1	0	7	0	Many snare (historic) 7 sambar snares destroyed
April	3	Sungai Penuh	2	1	0	0	0	Conflict monitoring
May	4	Batang Merangin, Kerinci	6	1	0	0	0	
May	7	Tanah Tumbu, Muara Bungo	4	2	0	0	0	Land clearance. Illegal logging
June	5	Jangkat-Muko Muko Selatan	8	2	1	344	0	much historic poaching
June	2	Sungai Penuh	4	1	0	0	0	2 chainsaws seized
June	5	Jangkat-Muko Muko Selatan	8	2	0	0	0	much historic poaching
June	5	Batang Merangin, Kerinci-Muara Siau, Merangin	6	2	0	0	0	much recent and historic poaching
June	5	Muara Siau	5	0	0	0	0	Conflict mitigation in site where a tiger killed in April
July	5	Gunung Raya	7	1	0	0	0	Illegal logging occurring. Report of ungulate poaching not validated
July	5	Sungai Penuh-Pancung Soal, Pesisir Selatan, West Sumatra	4	0	0	5	0	Routine patrol and survey
July	4	Batang Merangin, Kerinci-Muara Siau, Merangin	6	2	0	10	0	many snares recently removed - no animals caught
Aug	4	Gunung Raya-Pancung Soal	4	1	0	0	0	Illegal fishing methods – formal warnings made
Aug	5	Sangir, Solok Selatan-Gunung Kerinci	5	2	0	0	0	chainsaw seizure: case passed to police.
Aug	5	Jangkat-Muko Muko Utara	8	1	0	0	20	Patrol-survey: Preybase very low
Aug	5	As above	7	1	0	0	0	Patrol-survey: recently removed rhino snare found
Aug	2	Tanah Tumbu, Muara Bungo	2	1	0	0	0	Conflict investigation
Sept	4	Gunung Raya	4	1	0	0	0	Routine patrol
Sept	3	Sungai Penuh	4	1	0	8	0	Snares built: wires not yet placed

Sept	3	Sungai Penuh	4	1	0	132	0	Snares built: wires not yet placed
Oct	4	Jangkat	6	0	0	0	0	Routine patrol
Oct	4	Jangkat	6	0	0	0	0	Routine patrol
Oct	4	Sungai Penuh	4	0	0	1	0	Routine patrol
Nov	4	Batang Merangin-Muara Siau	6	1	0	0	0	Routine patrol
Nov	4	Batang Merangin-Muara Siau	6	2	0	0	0	Small-scale land clearance underway
Nov	4	Batang Merangin-Muara Siau	6	2	0	0	0	Routine patrol
Nov	10	Katenong, Rejang Lebong	5	0	0	0	0	Patrol-survey – teams different route, same area: Serow present.
Nov	6	Gunung Raya-Muko Muko Utara	5	0	0	0	0	truckload of timber seized
Nov	4	Sungai Manau, Merangin	3	1	0	0	0	Conflict intervention
Dec	5	Gunung Kerinci	4	0	0	0	0	Some indications of prey base recovery by frequency of encounter with deer
Dec	5	Air Hangat, Kerinci	4	0	0	1	0	Conflict report encountered: tiger ate a dog at forest edge.
Dec	4	Jangkat-Katenong, Rejang Lebong	6	2	0	0	0	Patrol-survey – response to report of tiger poaching active. Two tiger present on route
Dec	3	Gunung Kerinci	3	0	0	0	0	Hot pursuit: poachers left empty-handed
	0					0		
				49	3	649	30	

January – December 2003

Total number of Sumatran tiger encounter records (encounters not individuals)	49
Probable number of adult Sumatran tigers recorded Jan-Dec 2003	31
Total patrols	51
Patrols/surveys/operations on which no tiger sign was recorded	16
Man days on patrol	1129

Appendix IV - Arrest of a politician in Bengkulu province in December 2003

More than 30 years after Sumatran tiger became a protected species under Indonesian law, ownership of a stuffed tiger remains a sought-after status symbol among some sections of Indonesian society. Army and police officers on postings to Sumatra are still often advised to offer the skin of a Sumatran tiger as a gift to a new commanding officer or to high ranking individuals who have the power to offer sought-after postings or promotion. Similarly, stuffed tigers or ready-to-be stuffed tigers are known to be used as gifts to win political influence or contracts and are often prominently displayed in the houses of wealthy or powerful individuals as an indication of status.

Under Indonesian law, it is illegal for a private individual or organisation to buy, sell, transport or (conceal/possess) a Sumatran tiger without permission at Ministerial level and, in theory at least, no such permits have been issued since the expiry of an amnesty in April 1992. However in 2003, PHS team members learned of three occasions in which local politicians at district or provincial level bought or sold Sumatran tigers: on two of these occasions no arrest operation was possible – although in one of these cases KSDA Bengkulu sought to intercept and arrest the politician transporting the tiger. A fourth politician, the leader of a district parliament in a park-edge district who has extensive illegal logging and sawmill interests, is now known to own two stuffed tigers, complete with falsified permits for ownership which were obtained from a notorious taxidermist in South Sumatra province. In another park edge district where poaching of Sumatran tiger remains a serious problem and illegal logging is rampant, the head of district (bupati) is reported to have advised a neighbouring bupati that he had five tiger skins in store and available as gifts to important individuals as required.

In early November 2003, TPCU Leader RA with a member of the WWF Tiger Trade Monitoring (ES) team visited North Bengkulu district to conduct an initial assessment of tiger trafficking and poaching threat and meet a WWF local informant for a briefing on the current situation in the area. The informant advised that he believed a well-known local politician (RK) had recently bought a tiger skin and it was decided to visit the politician in the district capital of Arga Makmuir to attempt to confirm the report.

Later that day, the politician exhibited the skin of a juvenile Sumatran tiger (subsequently found to measure approximately 110cm head and body) which was soaking in spirit solution and also the bones of the animal. The individual clearly stated he 'owned' these items and further advised that both skin and bones were for sale for a satisfactory price and that he was happy to transport the skin and bones to the city of Bengkulu if buyers were anxious about illegally transporting a highly protected species. The investigating team, having confirmed evidence of a crime, conducted a strategic withdrawal by offering to buy the tiger's skin and bones for a price much lower than that likely to have been paid by the individual to the poacher. No immediate response to this incident could be made because if an arrest was quickly made the informant and possibly the WWF TTM investigator and, especially, his informant, would be placed in serious danger, so their protection needed to be arranged. However the team continued to monitor the case closely with the help of a TNKS ranger who has since joined the TPCU team on trial.

In early December three team members visited RK and learned that he was planning to transport the skin of the tiger to a hotel in Bengkulu where he planned to sell it. Following co-ordination with Bp Agus Priambudi, director of Konservasi Sumber Daya Alam, Bengkulu the institution with territorial responsibility for conservation issues outside of a protected area and with detectives in Bengkulu city, the politician was arrested on December 9 in possession of the skin of a juvenile male Sumatran tiger which had been snared by the foot prior to death.

Elected members of local, provincial and national assemblies all enjoy parliamentary immunity from prosecution which must be lifted before prosecution can proceed. In the case of RK, he was held in police custody until shortly before Christmas when he was released on bail under the responsibility of his family and the Bupati of North Bengkulu and, early in the New Year, the Governor of Bengkulu province gave permission for the prosecution to proceed. The team hopes that the court hearing into this case will proceed fairly and

transparently and deliver a clear message that the laws protecting Sumatran tiger apply, equally, to all members of society.

During the final (arrest) stage of this investigation, the team made use of equipment purchased in 2002 in UK but widely available in Asia and elsewhere: namely a transmitting body microphone which broadcasts on a UHF frequency which can be monitored by an air-band scanner but which cannot be monitored by standard VHF transceivers. The transmitting microphone has been found to be effective at up to 200m distance (and in theory, even further) and use meant that the suspect's conversation could be monitored until it was absolutely clear the tiger skin was in his possession and there was no risk of an arrest in error. The team is very happy to pass details of this equipment and where it may be sourced to other teams working in species conservation for whom this equipment may prove useful.

Appendix V - Seizures, confiscations, arrests, legal warnings and evidence held

No	Action	Case	Evidence
1	Arrest	Tiger trafficking	Pelt of sub-adult male Sumatran tiger
2	Confiscation and formal legal warning	Possession and proposed sale of protected species	2 stuffed leopard cats <i>Prionailurus bengalensis</i>
3	Confiscation and formal legal warning	Possession of protected species	1 live leopard cat kitten <i>Prionailurus bengalensis</i>
4	Confiscation	Logging in National Park forests	2 chainsaws: operators escaped
5	Confiscation: legal action requested	Logging in National Park forests	Chainsaw chain (1) – operator released after TPCU team threatened by mob attack
6	Confiscation	Illegal firearms	1 muzzle loader gun (confiscated by Tiger auxiliary)
7	Confiscation	Conflict: Killing a protected species	Pelt of an adult male Golden cat <i>Catopuma temminki</i>
8	Seizure	Illegal logging	Sawn logs: 90: from National Park forests:
9	Investigation	Poaching of Sumatran tiger	Approximately 150g of dried flesh: sent to LIPI for DNA analysis: other evidence sold before operation could be effected
10	Investigation	Poaching of Sumatran tiger	Small quantity of alleged tiger flesh – other evidence sold before operation could be effected
11	Investigation	Poaching and trafficking of Sumatran tiger	Foot bone (1) – other evidence sold before operation launched
12	Warning letter	Clearance of national park forest	Slash and burn farmer(s)
13	Formal legal warning	Catching fish using illegal methods	Electro-shock fishing: Individuals also reported to heads of village customary law
14	No action	Snare caught a protected species	Carcass of a young adult male melanistic golden cat (<i>Catopuma temminki</i>)