



21<sup>ST</sup> CENTURY TIGER  
giving wild tigers a future



# Phoenix Fund

## Protection and Outreach activities in tiger habitat in 2005

Final report  
January – December 2005



Vladivostok  
2005



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## FINAL REPORT January 01 – December 31, 2005

**Grantor:** 21<sup>st</sup> Century Tiger  
**Project Name:** Protection and Outreach activities in tiger habitat in 2005  
**Grantee:** The Phoenix Fund  
**Report Period:** January 01 – December 31, 2005  
**Grant Period:** January 01 – December 31, 2005

### I. Project Overview

The objective of this project is to ensure Amur tiger habitat protection and population survival in Primorsky region, including:

- Strengthening protection activities in tiger habitat by carrying out joint patrols consisting of state law enforcement officers and public environmental investigation teams
- Educating the public and engaging local communities to actively participate in conservation
- Gaining in support from the local people

The mission of the project is to protect the region's biodiversity by:

- Conducting regular patrols and arresting poachers
- Working with local communities through environmental lectures at schools, environmental Festivals, and a new Eco-centre

### II. Environmental Law Enforcement Activities

#### Public environmental investigation teams

In 2005 two public environmental investigation teams continued anti-poaching activities in the north of Primorye. From January 01 through December 31, 2005 public rangers in cooperation with wildlife managers, police officers, forest service staff and Inspection Tiger rangers conducted over 100 patrols in Pozharsky, Krasnoarmeisky and Dalnerechensky districts of Primorye. The raids were focused on conservation of the ungulates habitat as hunting was allowed only during the first month of the year. March and April are the months of a thawing season that leads to occurrence of thin crust of ice on the ground, and as a result, animals often hurt their legs and cannot elude pursuit by dogs and poachers. All patrols were documented and recorded on video camera. For the reported period the team drew up 92 reports on violations of hunting regulations, confiscated 69 illegal rifles, 11 traps and other poaching devices and poached wildlife (see Table 1 in the Attachment).



© Phoenix Fund  
The team is checking a winter house



## January

On January 11, 2005 on the road Roschino - Vostok the public rangers arrested a man transporting bear meat without proper documents. The rangers confiscated 52 kg of wild meat and imposed a fine of 500 roubles (\$18).

## February

On February 07, near the Pravaya Primanka stream the team checked a winter house and found a rifle. The owner of the rifle was not determined.

On February 10, on Melnichnoye site a man was arrested for illegal hunting. The rangers confiscated his rifle and imposed a fine of 1,000 roubles (\$36).

On February 13, the joint team was patrolling near the Perevalny stream when the rangers found two rifles hidden in a hollow tree. Unfortunately, the owners could not be determined. The rifles were handed over to the police department.



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Police officer found poached meat

For the period February 18 – 20 the joint team of the public rangers, wildlife managers, foresters and policemen carried out a patrol to reveal illegal logging sites and violations of hunting regulations in Dalnerechensky district. The team revealed and confiscated two illegal depots with hardwood logs of about 27 m<sup>3</sup>, 3 radio stations without permits, one saw, one hand-made rifled gun and five cartridges. For example, on February 19, at 1 a.m. in the flood-lands of the Kolozina Pad spring in Pozhiginsky forestry the team detained brothers Sergei and Vladimir Krikun and Vladimir's son Valery for illegal logging. Sergei watched the forest road 2 km far from the illegal logging site with the task to inform his brother nephew about all cars going in their direction.

Vitaly was cutting and bucking trees and his father was loading them onto a truck and drove to the buyer. In case of emergency (when law enforcement officers appear), the "sentry" sends a message and his brother with son leaves the logging site and it is impossible to run them down in the forest.

When the rangers saw fresh tractor tracks and heard sawing sound, two of them decided to move along the road so that the "sentry" did not see them. Having heard the rustle and crunch in the forest at night, the "sentry" thought that it was an animal and started climbing a tree. The rangers heard the noise of breaking branches and having come to the tree and lit up the "sentry" they saw pale and scared Sergei who had forgotten about his radio station and task to warn his brother and nephew and in his 54 years climbed 3 m up a thin larch. The rangers decided to wait for the tractor to come and detain the family with the goods. During examination of the tractor, the team confiscated a radio station, homemade rifle, saw, five cartridges, 12 m<sup>3</sup> of ash-tree and tractor and drew up a report on violation, which led to initiation of criminal proceedings.

On February 19, in the upper reaches of the Vorozhbity spring the team revealed an illegal logging site with 15 m<sup>3</sup> of felled logs. Having heard the sounds of working tractor and saw, the rangers walked through the forest to that place, but then heard shouts and sound of retreating



tractor. It was impossible to detain the loggers and catch up with the vehicle in the forest. A “sentry” must have worked well. The logs were confiscated.



© Phoenix Fund  
Rangers found poached meat during patrol in  
Verkhnebikinsky wildlife refuge

On February 20, the team stopped a jeep that belonged to the guard of “Dalnerechensk Forest” Co. The guard did not have a driver’s license and permits for radio stations. The police officers in the rangers’ team knew the guards in face, so the team did not confiscate the equipment, but drew up a report on administrative violation. Later that day the team stopped a truck, whose driver had a radio station without permit. The radio station was sealed up and confiscated.

For the period February 22 – 26 a joint team of public control rangers, wildlife managers and

“Eco-patrol” NGO was formed to conduct a patrol on snowmobiles in Verkhnebikinsky wildlife refuge, Northern Primorye. The goal of the patrol was to reveal logging and hunting

violations, get acquainted with the western part of the refuge and conduct nature conservation lectures-discussions with local people.

On February 23, the public rangers arrested two poachers with Siberian stag meat (55 kg) at the Situkha stream. Meat and rifles were confiscated. Each violator paid a fine of 1,000 roubles (\$36).

## March

On March 03, while patrolling the hunting grounds the joint team stopped a man carrying bear meat (25 kg). The rangers confiscated the poached meat and made the violator pay a fine of 500 roubles (\$18).

On March 11, near the Sanatorny stream the public rangers arrested two poachers with Siberian stag meat and without a permit. Each violator paid a fine of 1,000 roubles (\$36).

For the period March 11 – 13 the team were in the patrol together with the wildlife manager in

Pozharsky district, Northern Primorye, and confiscated 3 guns.



© Phoenix Fund  
Poached meat

On March 11, in the flood-land of the Shpalny spring during examination of a logging camp the team found a telescopic rifle with and 10 cartridges in a hollow tree 150 meters far from the trailer. The numbers on the rifle were erased. The owner of the rifle was not found. The team drew up a report and confiscated the rifle.

On March 12, during examination of a logging camp the team detained the camp watchman hunting with a homemade rifle. The team compiled a report on hunting during a closed hunting



season without license. The gun and cartridges were confiscated. Criminal proceedings were initiated.



© Phoenix Fund  
Ranger found a lynx caught in a snare

On March 14, the team joined the fishery inspection team and made a joint patrol to the logging camps in order to reveal pollution of rivers and springs. In one of the camps on the Poteryanny spring the team found 3 snares and a foot trap on the trail 1 km far from the camp. The snares were set up for lynx. Going up the trail the team found a lynx dead in a snare. The rangers tried to find a person who set up the snares but in vain.

On March 15, the rangers arrested a poacher with traps and poached mink without a permit in hunting grounds of "Krasnoarmeisky RZOP". The violator paid a fine of 500 roubles (\$18).

wildlife managers and police officers in order to reveal illegal logging sites. On March 17 the joint team stopped four logging trucks with about 30 m<sup>3</sup> each, a check-up of the documents revealed that all the documents had been forged. All trucks were conveyed to the police office in Rekitnoye village. On March 18, while patrolling in Malinovsky forestry, the rangers found fresh tractor tracks. The team followed the tracks on foot, heard the sound of working tractor and saw, made an ambush and arrested the loggers. Two of them made an attempt to flee, but ranger fired two shots in the air and one of them stopped, but the team found out the name of the other one. They happened to be brothers from Malinovo village. The arrested were conveyed to the police office in Rakitnoye village, the tractor and saw was sealed up and confiscated. The team drew up a report and initiated criminal proceedings on the case.



© Phoenix Fund  
Forged documents

## April

On April 03, the joint team arrested a man for illegal hunting near the Muziza spring in Pozharsky district. The rangers confiscated illegal rifle and drew up a report on violation of hunting regulations.

On April 06, near the Solnechny stream the team noticed two men with three dogs. The public rangers managed to detain only one of the violators. The rangers drew up a report on illegal hunting with dogs during the closed hunting season.

On April 09, the team arrested a man for illegal hunting in Krasnoarmeisky district. The rangers drew up a report on violation, confiscated a rifle and imposed a fine of 500 roubles. On April 11, a poacher was arrested for hunting during closed hunting season.



On April 12, while patrolling in Pozharsky district near the Prostrelny spring the team arrested three men building a hut without a permit from Pozharsky forestry. The public rangers informed the director of Pozharsky forestry about the fact of illegal logging and construction. It turned out that the violators had been already arrested for poaching.

On April 20 and 24 the public rangers and fishing managers carried out two joint patrols on the water in Pozharsky district. As a result, the rangers revealed violation of fishing regulations, confiscated 8 fishing nets 350 m long.

### **May**

On May 10, 2005 Mr. Zhevnovatenko was detained for transporting deer meat (30 kg) without proper hunting permits. The violator paid a fine in the amount 500 roubles (about \$18). The meat was confiscated and destroyed after a positive result on measles had been received from the veterinary laboratory.

On May 22 the rangers were patrolling the Dalnaya River drainage and found a rifle in a hunting hut. The owner of the rifle was not identified.

On May 23 the team detained Mr. Vegera at Melnichnoye site for hunting without documents. His rifle was confiscated and he paid a fine of 1,000 roubles (about \$36).

On May 30 in the drainage of the Svetly stream the rangers detained Mr. Likhachev with rifle without proper permits. The rifle was confiscated and forwarded to local police. The violator paid a fine of 500 roubles (about \$18).

### **June**

On June 02, 2005 near the Imagan stream drainage the rangers arrested Mr. Satev for poaching an elk. The rifle and 65 kg of elk meat were confiscated. The poacher paid a fine of 1,000 roubles (about \$36). He will also have to pay for the damage in the amount of 2,500 roubles (about \$90).

On June 14 during a patrol in "Sable" hunting lease the team detained Mr. Ignatiev with rifle during closed hunting season. His rifle was confiscated and he paid a fine in the amount of 500 roubles (about \$18).

On June 23 the rangers detained Mr. Velichko who was transporting moose meat (40 kg) in bags. The violator paid a fine in the amount of 1,000 roubles (about \$36). The moose meat was confiscated and donated to the children's home /asylum in Roschino village.

Besides, the public rangers together with state law enforcement officers patrolled in the Bikin river watershed. The joint team checked 11 boats, 4 vehicles and 30-35 people. No violations were revealed.

### **July**

From July 01 to September 30 the teams of public rangers carried out 27 patrols including patrols with police officers, forest and wildlife managers. The joint team patrolled hunting grounds in Krasnoarmeisky and Dalnerechensky districts, Tazhny wildlife refuge and hunting leases such as "Sidatun", "Sobol", "Okhotnichye", and "Krasnoarmeisky RZOP", checked 47 vehicles, ten logging settlements and seven hunting huts.



In July two teams of public rangers participated in a joint patrol with “Bars” team of Rosprirodnadzor and the officers of Special Police Force (OMON). As a result, a lot of ecological violations were revealed:

The joint team revealed 2 cases of illegal logging, 1 case of destruction of young trees, 5 violations of hunting regulations, 2 violations of laws on ecological expertise, 2 violations of fire prevention regulations and confiscated 2 tractors, 2 trucks, 1 crane, 4 chain-saws, 4 rifles and 16 bullets.

On July 7, in the drainage of the Iyunsky stream in Pikhtovoye forestry the Forest team revealed an illegal logging site. The logging

was carried out by 7 men. During examination of the site the team found tractor, car, crane, chain-saw, rifles and bullets. A closer examination of the car revealed that last figure



© Phoenix Fund  
Arrested illegal logger (background) and confiscated chain saw (foreground)



© Phoenix Fund  
Team found an abandoned tractor

in the identification number of the carriage was changed from 2 to 6. The team also found cedar logs in the camp. The rangers drew up reports on violations, confiscated the vehicles, equipment and rifles and detained 7 men who were later conveyed to police department in Roschino village.

On July 08, the Forest team received information that a person was transporting illegal logs (101 logs in total) from the logging camp. During examination of the logging camp the rangers revealed violations of the forest fire prevention regulations and hunting regulations. Having drawn up reports on violations the

rangers confiscated the rifle and are going to continue checking the logging camp from time to time in the future.

On July 10, during a patrol in Vedensky forestry the team revealed illegal logging there. They found three loggers, a tractor, a carriage for loggers, two chain saws, and a rifle there. The team confiscated the chain saws and the rifle and conveyed three men to the local police.

During a check-up at the apiary situated 500 meters far from an illegal logging site, the team found a rifle without a cover (which is strictly forbidden during the closed hunting season). The rifle was confiscated and a report on violation of hunting regulations was drawn up.



© Phoenix Fund  
Rangers draw up a report



On July 13 the team conducted an examination of the saw mill and storehouse that belonged to Terneylesstroy Ltd. and revealed the following violations: lack of the state ecological assessment for construction of the saw-mill and the houses, violation of forest fire prevention regulations etc. The rangers drew up reports on violations and will conduct an additional check-up there.

### August

On August 08, 2005 the joint team arrested 8 men for unauthorized forest cutting, initiated criminal proceedings and confiscated about 100 m<sup>3</sup> of felled wood. Besides, the rangers found the "Saiga" 12-gauge shotgun and Izh-18, 2-gauge shotgun without proper documents. The law enforcement officers drew up a report on violation of hunting regulations and confiscated the guns.

On August 11 a staff of Izmailikhinsky forestry (4 people) joined the team. As a result of joint patrols a group of illegal loggers was arrested. Two violators managed to escape. The rangers confiscated a tractor DT-75 and took arrested people to the local police office.

In August the team carried out over 8 patrols to reveal illegal hunting, but did not find any violations. Pouring rain made roads impassable and reduced poaching for a short period of time.

### September



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Rangers found a wild boar's skin

On September 09 while patrolling on the territory of "Svela" logging company, the rangers met local people who informed that Mr. Stasenko had fired at them. Half an hour later Mr. Stasenko was arrested. The rangers confiscated a rifle and drew up a report.

On September 10, in Vedenskoye unit of Dalnerechensky forestry a group of three people was arrested for illegal logging of oak trees. The public rangers drew up a report, confiscated two chain saws and took arrested men to Dalnerechensky police office. In the same region the team checked an apiary and found an ownerless Izh-17 shotgun. The gun was handed over to the local police department.

On September 8 while patrolling near the Mikhailovsky Spring the joint team arrested Mr. Shirenikov for illegal hunting outside the hunting period. The rangers confiscated Izh-18 shotgun and drew up a report on violation of hunting regulations.

On September 13 the public ranger apprehended Mr. Feoktistov near the Korolev Spring for illegal hunting. As a result, Izh-27, 12-gauge was confiscated.

On September 21 three people were arrested for illegal hunting on wild boars. The rangers found meat of a poached wild boar, confiscated three rifles, and imposed a fine of 1,000 roubles (about \$35) on each violator.



On September 27 while patrolling on the road Roschino-Melnichnoye, the rangers stopped a car and found two illegal rifles inside. As a result, the rifles were confiscated and two violators paid a fine of 500 roubles (about \$17) each.

On September 28 near Taborovo village the team arrested Mr. Tabachny for illegal hunting with the use of car lights. The Saiga, 7.62-gauge shotgun was confiscated and the violator paid a fine of 1,000 roubles (about \$35).

On September 30 during a joint patrol on the territory of Meteoritnoye logging company the rangers found a wild boar's skin, four legs and a head, and drew up a report. On the same day the team checked Limonniki logging company and found an ownerless rifle.

For the reported period the public rangers, together with forest managers and law enforcement officers of Rosprirodnadzor, revealed 13 illegal logging sites. The forfeit estimated 24,654 roubles (\$880).

## October

On October 01, 2005 while checking the loggers of "Siromolot" private enterprise in the 8<sup>th</sup> section of the western forestry unit of the Roshinsky forestry, the rangers found and confiscated a homemade logging mark with Russian letters "PY" (maintenance cuts) in a carriage for people; the mark was welded to the head of the axe. An official investigation will be carried out and a criminal case will be initiated on this fact. On the same day the rangers arrested Mr. Fischuk with a rifle and without a permit to hunt. His hunting ticket was overdue. As a result, the rangers confiscated the rifle Saiga - 410 and imposed a fine of 1,000 roubles (\$35).



Illegal fishing

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While checking the loggers in the 62nd section of Golubichny forestry unit of Izmailihinsky forestry, the rangers revealed a number of violations of forest legislations such as: damaging the trees (cedar, oak, lime tree) and felling the trees that were not destined to be felled. A report was drawn up on the revealed violations.

While checking the loggers' base belonging to "Skif" Co. Ltd. the rangers found a rifle Saiga – 410 in the car of Mr. Pishiuk. The man did not have a hunting license. The rangers drew up a report on violation of hunting regulations.

On October 02 near Vorobievka village of Krasnoarmeisky district in the soy fields the rangers stopped a tractor Belarus – T40, from which the local residents Mr. Voronov and Mr. Nosov were illegally hunting at night using the vehicle's headlights. While checking the tractor the rangers found a 7.62 gauge gun with rifled barrel Vepr belonging to Mr. Voronov. The gun with the documents was confiscated and the report on violation was drawn up.

Near the retransmitting tower in the 13<sup>th</sup> section of Dalinnoye forestry unit of Izmailihinsky forestry on the logging road the rangers found a Delica vehicle with informant Mr. Bokovoy inside. Special Police Force officers arrested him and he failed to inform the illegal loggers. While patrolling the forest area the rangers heard sounds of a working chainsaw and a tractor DT-75.



In the forest the officers arrested three men – Mr. Miheev, Mr. Cilishev and Mr. Fomin, residents of Dalnerechensk City. The rangers estimated the damage and the marking of the oak timber. The rangers confiscated the chainsaw 'Husqvarna', tractor DT-75 and drew up a report on the fact of illegal logging. The confiscated tractor was transported to Izmailihinsky forestry. The arrested men were brought to the police office of Dalnerechensk city. A criminal case was initiated on the violation.

On October 04 while patrolling Pozharsky district, the rangers arrested Mr. Tchupin, a citizen of Khabarovsk near the bridge on the road Khabarovsk – Nakhodka within 3 meters (9.6 feet) from the water line of the Bikin River. They confiscated a gun with the documents. The man did not have any hunting documents. A report on administrative violation was drawn up and forwarded to the Hunting Management Department. The confiscated gun was brought to the police department of Lutchegorsk town.



© Phoenix Fund  
Rangers with confiscated bags of hemp

On the territory of Sobolinsky forestry unit of Verhneperevalninsky forestry in the middle current of the Bolshaya Tahalo river, on the right bank within 500 meters (1,600 feet) from the water the rangers found people of "MEK" Co. from Khabarovsk city. This company was burning charcoal. There were 4 units for burning charcoal on the adjacent territory. The capacity of each unit was 2.5 tons of the end product from one load of timber. The rangers revealed a number of violations such as: 1) the absence of EIA statement, permitting charcoal burning, 2) unauthorized use of the forest resources. An administrative procedure was started on this fact.

Near the Stroitelny Spring in Pozharsky district while examining a winter house, on the sauna attic and the roof the rangers found, confiscated and burned 4 bags of hemp and 1.5 litre of hemp seeds. There was a cultivated hemp plot around the winter house. The rangers interrogated the people that were there at the moment and found out that the house belonged to three men – brothers Medvedevs and Igor Morosov, residents of Yasenevo village. All the materials on this case were handed over to district police officer of Krasny Yar village.

On October 06 on the right bank of the Tahalo River within 300 meters (960 feet) from the water line the public rangers checked a logging base belonging to "Bikin" Co. from Khabarovsk. On the base territory they found a power-saw bench, a big number of tractors and large containers for petroleum. There were no documents authorizing the location of the base. According to the given violations the rangers drew up a protocol which stated: 1) absence of the land allotment certificate, 2) absence of the EIA statement, 3) registration certificate issued by Pozharsky district administration, 4) unauthorized use of the forest, 5) pollution of the forest by petroleum. The base has been illegally logging for 5 years. The base is located on the territory of Sobolinsky forestry unit of Verhneperevalny forestry. An administrative procedure was initiated on the violation.

On October 08 on the territory of the hunting grounds of "Promislovik" Co. of Pozharsky district, the rangers detained three citizens of Dalnerechensk city, illegally hunting with rifles. The arrested men did not have hunting licenses. Mr. Kuksa was shooting squirrel with the rifle Izh – 18, 12 gauge, № 885227. Mr. Davidenko was hunting with the rifle Izh – 27, 2×12 gauge № 992706759. Mr. Kravtsov was arrested with a rifled barrel weapon TOZ-78, 5.6-gauge № 0401427. The rangers drew up reports on violation of hunting regulations. The rifles were confiscated and handed over to the police department of



Dalnerechensk City. The reports were handed over to Mr. Samolenko, wildlife manager in Dalnerechensky district, for further investigation.



**Arrested tractor**

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On October 9, 2005 on the administrative border between Dalnerechensky and Krasnoarmeisky districts, while driving out of the forest, the rangers arrested an 'Ural' truck loaded with oak timber in assortment of 27 items. The driver left his truck and managed to escape. Two men who escorted the truck on jeeps were detained by the Special Police Force officers. The arrested truck with timber and the detained people were brought for further investigation to the police department of Dalnerechensk City.

On October 10, 2005 while checking the loggers of Dalnerechensky timber enterprise, on the territory of Vedensky forestry unit of Dalnerechensky forestry, in one of the carriages for people the rangers found and confiscated a state mark in the triangle with the Russian letter 'K' (control), welded to the head of the axe, and the map of forests for administrative use belonging to Vedensky forestry. The map was handed to the director of Dalnerechensky forestry, and he failed to explain how it could have disappeared from the forestry. An official investigation concerning the confiscated mark will be held, and a criminal case will be initiated on Vedensky forestry activities. The confiscated mark is a tool of very strict accounting with the Russian letter 'K' (control) on it. It is used for marking the timber only by the forestry or the forestry unit employees.

On October 13, 2005 on the main road Dalnerechensk – Nakhodka within one kilometre (0.6 mile) from LDK village the rangers stopped two vehicles –Ural truck and GAZ-53 jeep loaded with timber in the assortment of 24 items. The drivers did not have any accompanying documents. They explained to the rangers that an unknown man had asked them to transport the timber to LDK village, because his own car had broken. The officers wrote a report to the head of the police department of Dalneretchensk City. The detained vehicles and the drivers were brought to the Department for Economic Crimes of Dalnerechensk City. Later on, it became known that the driver of the jeep is a former policeman with 20 years of service.



**Ranger with confiscated chainsaw**

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On October 16, the team arrested a poacher near the Mayachny spring, confiscated illegal rifle Izh-54, 2-12 gauge, and 19 cartridges.

On October 26, during a joint patrol near the Chanza channel the rangers arrested Mr. Korpenko for illegal hunting on waterfowl. The violator did not have a permit to hunt. The rangers drew up a report on violations of hunting regulations and imposed a fine.

On October 29 the team arrested five people with illegal rifle. The owner of the rifle did not have a hunting permit. As a result, the rangers drew up a report, confiscated the rifle and 19 cartridges. On the same day Mr. Yuri Oleinikov was arrested with three poached mask-rats. The man did not have a permit to hunt. The



rangers drew up a report on violations of hunting regulations and imposed a fine of 600 roubles (about \$20).

On October 31 Mr. Nikolai Oleinikov was detained with six poached squirrels. The rangers drew up a report, confiscated a rifle and imposed a fine of 500 roubles (\$17). On the same day the team revealed illegal woodcutting near Vetvisty stream. This information was forwarded to Roschinsky forestry for further investigation.

## November



© Phoenix Fund  
Public ranger with confiscated badger

On November 02, while patrolling in the hunting grounds the rangers arrested Mr. Poshekhonov for illegally hunting badgers with dogs. The rangers drew up a report on violations of hunting regulations and imposed a fine of 500 roubles (\$18).

On November 07, in bottomland of the Zalomnaya river the rangers arrested Mr. Vakhrushev for illegal hunting, confiscated a rifle Izh-54 with removed factory numbers and 21 cartridges, and drew up a report.

On November 08, the team patrolled near the Razboy stream and arrested Mr. Konovalov with a rifle IZH-18, 32 gauge, and two poached squirrels. The violator paid a fine of 500 roubles

(\$18). On the same day near the Pryamoy stream in Krasnoarmeisky district the public rangers arrested Mr. Kupryazhkin with rifle and without a permit to hunt. The violator had meat of poached roe deer. The rangers drew up a report on violations of hunting regulations and imposed a fine of 500 roubles (\$18). Later on, Mr. Miroshnikov was arrested for illegal hunting with his dogs. He paid a fine of 500 roubles (\$18).

On November 11, while patrolling hunting grounds of Sobol Ltd. the rangers arrested Mr. Butsilov for hunting badgers without a permit to hunt. The violator paid a fine of 500 roubles (\$18).

On November 12, while patrolling with wildlife managers in Krasnoarmeisky district two kilometers (1.2 miles) far from Romny village the team heard gunshots. Later on, the rangers arrested Mr. Grachev with a rifle TOZ-34E, 2-28 gauge. The detained man did not have documents on the rifle and a permit to hunt. The public rangers drew up a report and confiscated the rifle with 16 cartridges. On the same day in Dalnerechensky district, five kilometres (about three miles) far from Polayna village near the Zeleny spring the rangers checked an apiary. As a result, they found two badger skins hanging on the wall inside the house. There was only Mr. Konstantinov, a guard, who explained that six dogs living at the apiary had caught two badgers the evening before and he had killed them with a stick. Then he skinned the dead animals and cooked their meat. The rangers drew up a protocol and imposed a fine. Later, on the same day, the team stopped a group of three Chinese on the bank of the Malinovka River. The men were fishing using illegal fishing device. The rangers drew up a report and confiscated poaching device.

On November 13, while patrolling in Dalnerechensky district two kilometers (1.2 miles) far from Lubitovka village the joint team stopped a car Toyota Corolla. As a result of checking the car the rangers found a loaded rifle TOZ, 2-16 gauge. In the car trunk they revealed a poached badger. The car owner did not have a license for the rifle and a permit to hunt. The rangers drew up a



report, confiscated the rifle, eight cartridges, and the poached animal. The violator was escorted to the local police department in Rakitnoye village.

On November 22, during patrol in Roschinsky forestry the joint team arrested Mr. Shushanov with a rifle Zauer, 12 gauge, without a gun license and a hunting permit. The arrested man paid a fine of 500 roubles (\$18).

On November 24, the public rangers and wildlife managers patrolled in Pozharsky district in hunting ground of Promyslovik Ltd. On the dead-end forest road near the Shulga spring, one kilometre (0.6 mile) far from Nagornoye village the joint team stopped a vehicle for checking documents. There was an uncovered rifle between the passenger seat and the driver's seat, 7,62-51 gauge. The driver had a license for the gun, but did not have a permit to hunt. The rangers drew up a report and confiscated the rifle.



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Arresting a truck with lime tree

On November 25, the rangers were patrolling in the bottomland of the Gnilyoy spring when they noticed two men with weapon. The hunters tried to hide from the rangers and one of them managed to escape. The other one was arrested with a rifle. The hunter had a license for that rifle, but did not have a permit to hunt. Mr. Saprun, arrested violator, told that they had hunted roe deer. The public rangers drew up a report and imposed a fine.

### December

On December 03, the public rangers participated in joint patrol with wildlife managers in Krasnoarmeisky district. They decided to conduct a patrol with local journalists to reveal illegal logging. Near Soldatskaya hill the joint team stopped URAL truck with trailer leaving the forest. According to provided documents, the truck must have been loaded with ash trees. Instead, there were logs of lime-tree prohibited to cut ( $18 \text{ m}^3 = 60$  cubic feet). The rangers drew up a report and forwarded documents to the local police department. On the same day the team heard working chainsaw near the Basaev spring. The rangers went to the sound and noticed a group of loggers. When the loggers saw the rangers, they threw down their chainsaws and ran away. Unfortunately, the team did not manage to catch the violators. The rangers took two chainsaws and handed them over to the local law enforcement officer for further investigation. Later on, two teams of public rangers and wildlife managers arrested Mr. Antonuk for illegal logging oak trees. The violator tried to escape, but the rangers managed to catch him. The violator paid a fine of 1,500 roubles (\$53). His chainsaw was confiscated. On the same day two hours later the joint team revealed violation near the Basaev stream where a man was illegally logging birch trees. The violator escaped, but two days later he came and confessed his guilt. The rangers confiscated his chainsaw and imposed a fine in the amount of 1,500 roubles (\$53).

On December 04, the team patrolled in Krasnoarmeisky district 200 km (124 miles) far from Krutoy Yar village. As a result, Mr. Shestakov was apprehended for illegal hunting with a hand-made rifle. The rangers confiscated the rifle, ten cartridges and drew up a report on violations of hunting regulations. On the same day the public rangers arrested Mr. Perminov for poaching. The violator did not have a permit to hunt. The rangers drew up a report and confiscated a rifle with 19 cartridges. Later on, near Krutoy Yar village, Mr. Sorokin was arrested for illegal hunting. The rangers confiscated his rifle IZH-17, 1-20 gauge and 23 cartridges, and drew up a report. Then, on road Dalny Kut – Krutoy Yar the team stopped a small truck. While checking it



thoroughly the rangers found meat of wild boar in a sack. The driver explained that his friend had given it to him, but he did not remember his friend's name. The rangers drew up a report, imposed a fine, and confiscated poached meat. On the same road the team stopped Toyota Surf, in which they found two poached squirrels and a carbine. The driver did not have a permit for hunting. The rangers drew up a report on violations of hunting regulations.



© Phoenix Fund  
Ranger with two confiscated badgers

On December 06, the joint team patrolled in Dalnerechensky district near the Mescheryakov spring five kilometres (three miles) far from Savinovka village. Near an apiary the rangers found footprints on the snow leading to the spring bank. Following the footprints the rangers found a man hiding in the bushes. He had a working Kenwood radio station. The man did not want to answer any question of the rangers. The team decided to check the nearby territory, as they were sure that someone was logging illegally in the forest. Their suspicion proved to be true. Walking up 350 meters (1,120 feet) from the apiary the rangers found three felled oak trees. There was a fresh tractor track going up the hill. The rangers heard the sound of the working tractor and chainsaw. One public ranger and one wildlife

manager went to arrest the violators. They saw a tractor DT-75 hauling timber and driving towards them. A man with a chainsaw followed the tractor. It was decided that the wildlife manager would hide behind the tree to arrest the man with the chainsaw. The public ranger was supposed to stop the tractor and arrest the driver. When they appeared to arrest violators, the man with the chainsaw rushed away. The public ranger made two warning shots from gas pistol. This threw the runaway into confusion and the wildlife manager managed to catch him. The arrested men were taken to the apiary. In total, five people were arrested for illegal logging. The poachers cut nine oak trees. As a result, all documents were handed over to local police department to initiate criminal proceedings.

On December 06, while patrolling on the road Roschino - Dalny Kut the rangers stopped a car. As a result of examination, 7 kg of poached wild boar meat were found. The car owner paid a fine of 500 roubles (\$17). On December 06, near the Rogaty stream the team arrested Mr. Sorokin with a rifle and without a proper permit. The rangers confiscated his rifle Izh-17, 20 gauge and imposed a fine of 500 roubles (\$17).

On December 10, the team patrolled in Dalnerechensky district 16 km (about 10 miles) far from Pozhiga village, the rangers stopped Toyota Surf on the forest road. The driver appeared to be Mr. Zaitsev, ex-head of Pozhiga village. There were two more people in the car, and one of them held an uncovered carbine "Saiga", 7.62-39 gauge. No one had a permit to hunt. As a result, the rangers drew up a report on violations of hunting regulations.

On December 11, the public rangers patrolled in Pozharsky district. The team received information that Mr. Myasnik, director of Far Eastern Energy Company, had arrived in Luchegorsk city and would like to go hunting by cross-country vehicle at night. This man had already been arrested for such violation. The public rangers, together with wildlife manager, made an ambush in the forest. But no violation was revealed during that night.

On December 18, near Romny village the rangers arrested Mr. Chevzhik and Mr. Sheverya for hunting badger and destroying its habitat. The violators paid a fine of 500 roubles (\$17) each.



On December 20, the public ranger detained Mr. Popravko with poached badger. The rangers drew up a report and handed all documents over to wildlife managers for further consideration.

### Other



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Ranger is giving a lecture

Besides anti-poaching activity, the public rangers continued working on educational project. The team took an active part in conservation-oriented seminars and round tables: 1) Round table "Conservation of the Bikin River as condition for sustainable development of the Udege" organized by Primorsky Minorities Association on February 16 in Vladivostok; 2) seminar "Less words, more work" organized by the youth organization "Green team" on March 21; and 3) seminars and hands-on experience "Ecological education and outreach" organized by the Phoenix Fund on March 25-26 in Luchegorsk City.

The head of the Northern team has carried out 5 lectures (11 hours) at secondary schools of Ignatievka, Fedoseevka, Pozharskoye, Verkhny Pereval and Nagomoye villages of Pozharsky district. The lectures covered such themes as radio tracking, conflict tiger cases, human behaviour in tiger habitat, Far Eastern leopard and its population, CITES etc, and included games, video-films, and photos. In April-May the team continued meeting with schoolchildren. The rangers visited schools in Ignatievka, Nagomoye, Pozharskoye villages and gave lectures on the following themes: "Amur tiger at home", "Guidelines for human behaviour in tiger habitat", etc. At the lectures the rangers showed video made by the team in the field. The team's activities were covered by local TV channel.

On November 30, the public rangers participated in a round table «Development of public control over nature use in Pozharsky district». The main problem discussed at the meeting was how to prevent chaos and disorder in Verkhnebikinsky wildlife refuge. The participants declared that there was a need to raise the status of the refuge from the regional level to the federal.

In December they gave eight lectures (12 hours) on the following themes: "How to conserve Amur tiger, unique and rare big cat", "Purposes and values of the nature reserves and wildlife refuges", "Activities of the federal services and special departments in the field of nature conservation", etc. The public rangers continued cooperating with children's ecological TV, tourist club, "Flowerspring" NGO, and local mass media. Nine footages were showed on local TV channel.

### Western wildlife managers' team

Western wildlife managers' team is part of the Hunting Management Department. The team operates in the North of Primorye, still rich in wildlife and cedar forests. Recently, the area has become a hotbed for setting up logging practices and trade due to its proximity to the Chinese border. Table 2 shows anti-poaching results of the wildlife managers' team (see Attachment).



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Questioning the poacher



During the reported period the Western wildlife managers' team cooperated with Federal Security Bureau and police officers, public rangers and journalists in anti-poaching activities in Dalnerechensky district of Primorye.

On January 03, the joint team patrolled in hunting grounds near Stakhanovets stream and arrested two men for illegal hunting with 6 dogs. The wildlife managers drew up the report on violation, confiscated illegal rifle and imposed a fine. At the same day the team found footprints on the snow and decided to check them. As a result, they found a hand-made rifle in the snow. The owner was not determined.



Arrested illegal loggers  
© Phoenix Fund

On January 05, a rifle was found near Kalinych stream, 25 km far from Malinovo village. The owner could not be determined. The rifle was handed over to the local police department.

On January 20, the team arrested two people 3 km far from Mezhdurechie village. Violators were poaching with illegal rifles. Two rifles and 9 cartridges were confiscated. One poacher incurred administrative liability and the other was charged with possession of weapon without holding a permit.

On January 25, the wildlife managers were patrolling 8 km far from Salskoye village, when they arrested two men for poaching. On January 29, in the upper River Malinovka, 40

km far from Ariadnoye village the team arrested a local with 2 poached sables and 4 squirrel skins. The poacher did not have a game-license.

On February 06, while patrolling near Zimniki village, the team arrested 3 men for illegal logging of ash-tree. The wildlife managers drew up the report and handed over all documents to Dalnerechensky police department to initiate criminal proceedings.

On February 15, a man with poached pheasant was arrested for illegal hunting. The wildlife managers drew up the report, imposed a fine and confiscated illegal rifle.

For the period February 18 – 20 the joint team of the public rangers, wildlife managers, foresters and policemen carried out a patrol to reveal illegal logging sites and violations of hunting regulations in Dalnerechensky district. The team revealed and confiscated two illegal depots with hardwood logs of about 27 m<sup>3</sup>, 3 radio stations without permits, one saw, one hand-made rifled gun and five cartridges (see Public rangers).

On March 13, three men were arrested for illegal logging near Kholodny spring 8 km far from Zimniki village. The violators fell 8 oaks and 4 ash-tree. The wildlife managers drew up the report and handed over all materials to the local police department to initiate criminal proceedings.



Joint patrol  
© Phoenix Fund



For the period March 17 – 19 the team patrolled together with public rangers in Dalnerechensky district. On March 18 the joint team arrested two people for illegal logging 20 km far from Malinovo village. The violators fell 5 oaks. The wildlife managers confiscated a tractor and chain saw, and initiated criminal proceedings.



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**Revealed illegal logging**

On March 24, two people were arrested for illegal logging near Malinovo village. Five oaks and two cedars were fell. The team confiscated a chain saw and forwarded all documents to the local police department.

On March 25, two illegal loggers were arrested who fell 18 oaks 25 km far from Zimniki village. At the same day the wildlife managers found a rifle hidden in the snow 4 meters far from the loggers' hut. Later on, the team checked apiary near Kabarga spring and found 960 cartridges. The owner was no determined.

Besides anti-poaching activities, in January and February the Western wildlife managers' team participated in Amur tiger census. In March the team members questioned the hunters on the status of Asiatic black bear population.

In May there was an accident in Dalnerechensky district. Some criminals burnt a jeep of Mr. Samoilenko, head of the Western wildlife managers' team. He is famous for his irreconcilability with poaching and illegal logging. The team cooperates with police and Federal Security Bureau officers, fishing and forest managers. In 2005 Mr. Samoilenko has been patrolling with "Bars" forest team of Rosprirodnadzor (Federal Nature Use Service). For the first half of 2005 six criminal proceedings were initiated on the facts of forest violations.

In July-October 2005 Western wildlife managers' team in cooperation with law enforcement officers, representatives of public ecological organizations (NGOs) and mass media continued patrolling in Dalnerechensky, Krasnoarmeisky, Chuguevsky and Dalnegorsky regions of Primorsky krai.

On July 28 on section #28 of Zmenikovskogo forestry the team arrested two tractors for illegal logging. Mr. Baurov, the tractors' owner, did not have necessary documents on equipment and permission for woodcutting. As a result, the tractors were confiscated and all materials were forwarded to the court.

On July 30 the wildlife rangers arrested Mr. Saiko with two rifles near the Stakhanovsky spring. The team confiscated the rifles and imposed a fine.

On August 05 a group of 4 people was arrested with ginseng roots (38 grams). The team drew up a report on violation and handed it over to the environmental law enforcement officer of Krasnoarmeisky district.

On August 11 the Western wildlife managers' team apprehended Mr. Dzhunkovsky 80 km far from Pozhiga village for illegal hunting



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**Wildlife manager found an illegal rifle**



during closed hunting season. The wildlife managers drew up a report, confiscated a rifle and imposed a fine. Near the place of arrest the team found meat (9 kg) of poached Siberian stag.

On September 08 near the Namov spring the team stopped “Nissan safari” vehicle with three passengers. As a result of checking the jeep the wildlife managers found a hand-made rifle, drew up a report on violations of hunting regulations and initiated criminal proceedings.



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**Illegally harvested wood**

On September 10 Mr. Eremenko with a rifle was arrested near the Namov spring for poaching during closed hunting season. The violator paid a fine.

On September 21 near Zimniki village a man with a rifle was arrested for illegal hunting during closed hunting season. Next day the Western wildlife managers’ team apprehended three violators near the Orochenks stream in Krasnoarmeisky district. On the same day two more poachers was arrested near the Berezovy spring.

On September 24 the wildlife managers patrolled the hunting grounds in Dalnegorsky district and it resulted in an arrest of one poacher. The violator paid a fine. On September 25 the team arrested two men for illegal logging near Stretenka village in Dalnerechensky district. The violators paid a fine.

On September 28 the wildlife managers stopped a truck with 17 oak logs. The truck’s driver did not have a document or permit to transport harvested wood. On September 29 the team arrested Mr. Kurzyn near Mrtynovo village for illegal hunting. The poacher did not have a hunting license.

On September 30 while patrolling the hunting grounds in Krasnoarmeisky district the team arrested a man with a rifle and without a hunting license.

On October 01 the team conducted a patrol in Krasnoarmeisky district and detained Mr. Shevkunov, a resident of Roschino village, on the territory of the hunting lease with an illegal rifle “Squirrel”. The rangers confiscated the rifle and drew up a report on administrative violation. On the same day in the hunting grounds of Krasnoarmeisky district the team members apprehended Mr. Pilipchuk, a resident of Novopokrovka village, with a rifle, but without hunting permit. The violator incurred administrative liability.

On October 02 in the hunting lease of Krasnoarmeisky district in the soy fields near Verbovka village the rangers arrested Mr. Tabachny, a resident of Novopokrovka village, who was hunting with his rifle “Saiga” without a hunting permit. The inspectors drew up a report on administrative violation.

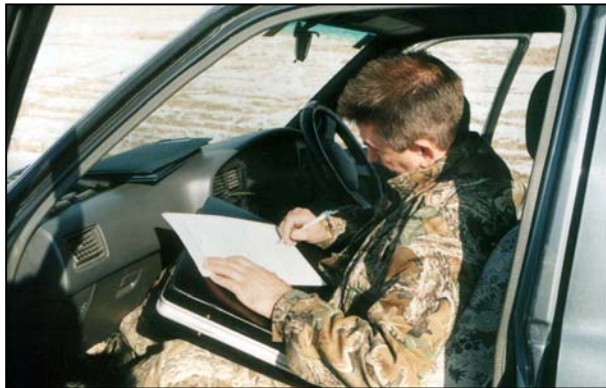


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**Poacher with two illegal rifles**



On October 08 in Pozharsky district the rangers apprehended two violators: Mr. Davidenko and Mr. Kravtsov, residents of Dalnerechensk city, for hunting without permits. The rangers drew up a report on administrative violation. On the same territory, the team arrested Mr. Kuksa, also a resident of Dalnerechensk city, for shooting squirrels during closed hunting season. The violator incurred administrative liability and paid a fine.



© Phoenix Fund  
Wildlife manager draws a report

On October 18 in the soy fields of Dalnerechensky district near Zvenigorodka village, the team rangers arrested Mr. Ponafidin, a resident of Dalnerechensk city. The man had a rifle but not a hunting permit. The violator was brought to administrative liability.

On October 22 in the hunting grounds of Ussuriysky district near Monakino village the rangers detained Mr. Fedotov with a carbine. The violator had no hunting permit. The gun was confiscated and a report on administrative violation drawn up.

On October 23 in the fields near Ussuriysk city the team members arrested Mr. Murchenko, Mr. Kudriavtsin, and Mr. Yun with two poached pheasants. The violators were brought to administrative liability and paid fines.

On October 30 in the hunting lands of Chuguevsky district near Breevka village the rangers seized two violators, Mr. Kovalev and Mr. Pavlenko, who were hunting at night time without hunting permits. A report on administrative violation was drawn up.

In November team of Primorsky Federal service for Veterinarian and Vegetation Sanity Supervision, together with the law-enforcement officers, wildlife managers, representatives of public ecological organizations and mass media conducted patrols in hunting leases of Chuguevsky, Krasnoarmeisky, Pozharsky, Ussuriysky and Dalnerechensky districts.

On November 03 while patrolling near Lubitovka village in Krasnoarmeisky district, the team detained a Kamaz truck loaded with oak timber in the assortment of 20 logs of 10-12 feet long. The driver, Mr. Dubov, did not have any documents for the timber. The vehicle with the timber was brought to Rakitnoye village police department in Dalnerechensky district.

On November 04 in the hunting lease of Krasnoarmeisky district near Roschino village the rangers arrested two residents of Novopokrovka town with rifles. The violators did not have hunting permits and documents for their rifles. The guns were confiscated and a report on administrative violation was drawn up.



© Phoenix Fund  
Arrested illegal logger

On November 05 in the hunting grounds of Dalnerechensky district near Zimniki village the rangers arrested Mr. Prikhozhai, a resident of Lesozavodsk city, while he was illegally logging



oaks. On the place of illegal logging the team found a tractor DT-75. A criminal procedure was initiated on the case.



© Phoenix Fund  
Arrested vehicle with illegal wood

On November 12 in the hunting lands of Krasnoarmeisky district near Romni village the team detained Mr. Grachev for hunting without permits and documents for the rifle. The rangers confiscated the rifle and drew up a report on administrative violation. On the same day in the hunting lease of Dalnerechensky district near Bogoliubovka village the rangers seized Mr. Konstantinov, who with the help of dogs had poached two badgers. The violator incurred administrative liability and paid a fine.

On November 13 in the soy fields near Maslenovo village of Dalnerechensky district the rangers apprehended Mr. Ragimov with a rifle and a poached badger. The detained did

not have a hunting permit and a rifle license. A report on administrative violation was drawn up and the violator paid a fine.

On November 18 in the hunting lease of Dalnerechensky district in the soy fields near Stretenka village the team rangers arrested Mr. Shurshenko who did not have a hunting permit. The violator was brought to administrative liability.

On November 19 in the hunting grounds of Dalnerechensky district in the soy fields the team arrested Mr. Mishkin on a car. He had no hunting permits. A report on administrative violation was drawn up.

On December 04 in the hunting lease of Dalnerechensky district the team members detained a group of violators, including Mr. Belousov, Mr. Kravtsov, Mr. Pazhkov and Mr. Shalutkin, who had poached a roe deer without a license. The violators were brought to administrative responsibility and paid fines. In the same hunting ground the ranger caught another violator, Mr. Gavrilov, who was hunting without permits. A report on administrative violation was drawn up.



© Phoenix Fund  
Wildlife manager talks with arrested poachers

On December 06 while checking the area near Savinovka village of Dalnerechensky district, the rangers seized a group of Lubitovka village residents, Mr. Agaev, Mr. Severiuk, and Mr. Romarenko, while they were illegally logging timber (13 oaks, an ash-tree, and a spruce). The team rangers confiscated a tractor DT-75, chainsaw and a radio set "Kenwood". Criminal proceedings were initiated on the case.

On December 08 in the hunting grounds of Pozharsky district near Strilnikogo village the team inspectors apprehended Mr. Liashok, who had poached a sable without a license. The violator was brought to administrative liability and paid a fine.



On December 10 in the hunting lease of Dalnerechensky district the rangers arrested Mr. Starovoitov, a resident of Ussuriisk city who works as a wildlife manager of Ussuriisky Hunting Society. In his car the team rangers found a rifled barrel "Saiga". The violator did not have a hunting permit. The rangers drew up a report on administrative violation.

### III. Environmental Education and Outreach

#### Support for Tiger eco-centre in Novopokrovka Town

Since January 2004 the Phoenix Fund has been supporting Tiger eco-centre in Novopokrovka Town, Northern Primorye. In 2005 the teacher carried out over 136 eco-classes and over 300 children visited the eco-centre.



© Phoenix Fund  
Eco-class in Tiger eco-centre

In January 2005 the teacher gave 5 lessons for preschoolers and pupils of elementary school. On January 18, 20, 25 three lessons on the theme "Nature reserves of Primorye" were carried out at the eco-centre for 60 pupils (11-12 age) of the 5<sup>th</sup> form. During the lesson the children worked with cards. The card contained a table with 6 cells according to a number of nature reserves in Primorye. The names of nature reserves were written on the cards and some letters were missing. The children had to guess the name of the reserves and put down the missing letters. Then teacher discussed with the children why the reserves had got such names. After that the pupils watched "Asiatic black bear" and "Amur goral" video films.

On January 21 and 28 the teacher carried out the lessons on the theme "Fir-tree and cedar" for 40 children of 5-6 years old at the eco-centre. During the lesson the children examined fir and cedar cones and branches, compared them and explained why those tree are useful. Then, the teacher gave out cedar and fir needles to the children and asked them to compare length and colour. After that, the children played the game. They tried to imitate the trees and show how their leaves and needles changed during the seasons. At the end of the lesson the teacher showed the film about sable "Who lives under cedar?"

In April 2005 10 eco-classes were carried out in the Tiger ecological education and outreach centre in Novopokrovka town:

On April 09, the lecture covered the theme "City as human habitat and pollutant". Children discussed why it is convenient to live in the city and how the city pollutes the environment around it. They also learned about ways to recycle trash and why noise is considered a pollutant.

On April 11, the educator conducted a class on lichen, the plants – sphinx. Children learned the basic information on lichen and how to



© Phoenix Fund  
Children are feeding aquarian fish



identify the level of pollution of the territory. Children were offered to draw a fairy-tale forest and tell about it, after the discussion the children noticed main distinction of the fairy-tale forest – there was no trash in it.

On April 12 – a discussion of air pollution and possible ways to prevent it. Children answered questions: Why acid rain is dangerous? How one can make the air cleaner? What is the danger of carbonic acid if its concentration increases?

On April 13 – a discussion of water pollution and conservation of reservoirs. What bogs are for? Why it is necessary to save water? The meaning of water for man. After the discussion children made a conclusion: "A day is tough if spent without water".

On April 18 the lecture covered forest fires and fire fighting activities. How to start a fire safely. After the lecture the children drew posters "No fires in the forest!"

On April 19 – a discussion of the importance of the nature reserves and their conservation. Children told about the reserves of our region and animals that inhabited the reserves and tried to develop the best protection system for the reserves.

On April 20 – Influence of the nature on man. Children divided into two teams and played games, for example one team told how man influences nature, while the other told how the nature influences man.



© Phoenix Fund

Children release Far Eastern soft-shell turtles into the river

"Trash should be in a dump and not on the beach".

On April 23 – a field trip to the riverbank to collect trash left behind by the tourists. After the clean-up the children started a fire (and told how to start a fire safely in the forest), drank tea and discussed the conservation activities.



On April 25, the educator held a discussion on guidelines for human behaviour and livestock management in tiger habitat and why people may want to shoot a tiger and what happens if a tiger is wounded.

On April 26, the children drew paintings for the information boards

On April 27, the educator helped children create leaflets for the eco-patrol.

Since April the Tiger ecological education and outreach centre has been working every day, an educator conducts regular classes for children there.

In May 2005 the educator carried out 14 lessons at eco-centre and 18 children of 10-11 years old attended classes regularly.

On May 04 the educator told about the Amur / Siberian tiger, its features, habits and behaviour. During the lesson the children played a game, in which one player held a card with an animal image and asked if tiger could eat it. The other player answered "yes" or "no", and the pupils discussed if



tiger hunted that animal. On May 05 the children continued listening to a lecture on Amur tiger and its habits, participated in a quiz and answered the questions on nature of Primorsky region.

On May 15 the educator organized an walk into the forest where the children gathered plants for herbarium. During the walk the children discussed a problem of forest pollution with waste products. On May 16-18 the children watched video films about nature of Primorsky region, ecological problems and conservation efforts.

On May 21 and May 28 the educator organized a clean-up on the bank of the Bolshaya Ussurka river. The children collected the waste along the riverside and put it into trash bags. On May 24 the children listened to a lecture on attitude of the indigenous peoples towards tiger and discussed why they worshiped tiger as a god. Then, the educator asked the children to write several sentences about Amur tiger.

On May 30 the children read stories, articles about Amur tiger, retold them and answered the questions about tiger habits.

In June the educator carried out 17 lessons at the eco-centre and 25 children of 6-11 years old attended the classes regularly.

On June 01 the children celebrated the Wildlife Protection Day at the eco-centre. Each child chose a wild animal and contrived ways of protecting it. Then children discussed the most acceptable ways with the educator.



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Eco-class on Amur tiger

On June 02 lesson was devoted to the Amur / Siberian tiger. The children read the books, articles and discussed their attitude towards tiger.

On June 09 the educator told about the rules of human behaviour in tiger habitat. The children imagined that they were lost in the forest. The educator explained how to avoid unwanted encounters with wild animals and asked them to write 5 rules.

On June 10,14, 18, and 28 the educator organized a clean-up on the bank of the Bolshaya Ussurka river. The children collected the waste along the riverside and put it into trash bags.

On June 13 the lesson covered the theme "The biggest cats in the world". The educator told about the habitat of the Amur tiger and leopard and their habits. During the lesson the children watch photo albums and consulted encyclopaedias.

On June 15 the children played a game "Guess tracks". The cards with animals' tracks were set in the class and the children tried to guess the tracks. On June 16 the educator told about the nature reserves of the region and conservation methods used in the reserves.

On June 23 the children listened to a lecture on anti-poaching activities. The educator explained why illegal hunting posed a danger for animals

In July the educator conducted 21 lessons at the eco-centre and 12 children of 11 years old attended the classes regularly. During the month there were 10 film screenings and ecological talks with the children from school summer camp.



On July 01 the educator told about nature reserves, rules of human behaviour on protected territories, and prohibited activities there. On July 04 the children watched a cartoon named “Dump” and discussed how to fight pollution.

On July 07 the teacher showed a cartoon about tigers and explained why tigers need to be protected.

On July 11 the educator told about illegal hunting and how poaching influences tiger’s fate.

On July 13 the children listened to the story about tiger cubs. Next day after watching a cartoon they looked through the photos of live and dead tigers. The children shared their impressions and promised never to kill animals.



© Phoenix Fund  
Play “Visiting Primorye”

On July 18 after watching a cartoon the children played an ecological game. Every child should imagine that a tiger lived in his/her home and told what problems it would face. As a result, the children came to conclusion that forest was the best place for wild animals.

On July 19 the children made handcrafts to exhibit them during the Tiger Day celebration in Novopokrovka village.

On July 20, 22, 26, and 27 the educator and the children set up warning signs on the bank of the Bolshaya Ussurka river.

On July 25 the lesson was devoted to Amur tigers. The children read articles about the predator, told stories and watched cartoons about wild cats.

On July 28 the educator told how indigenous people treat tiger, explained why they worship and are afraid of it.

The premiere of the conservation-oriented play “Visiting Primorye” took place on July 29. About 40 young spectators of 7-14 years old came to watch the play. After the performance the audience discussed the play and told about the unique nature of Primorye, rare and endangered animals, ways and methods of wildlife conservation etc.

In August 12 children of 10-12 years old attended the classes regularly. On August 02 the villagers brought 6 Far Eastern soft-shell turtles (listed in the Russian Red Book of Endangered Species) to the eco-centre. The children decided to release them into the river. On August 03 the educator and the children set up two signs warning people to protect forest from fires. From August 14 to August 17 the educator and 12 children visited Sikhote-Alin nature reserve (see Outdoor educational activities). From August 29 the children started preparing for the Tiger Day Festival.

In September the teacher carried out 22 eco-classes for 20 children of 10-12 years old.

From September 01 to September 13 the teacher and the children rehearsed the opening ceremony of the Tiger Day Festival, prepared riddles and puzzles about tiger, repeated poems and songs, tried on fancy suits, and took care of the animals living in the eco-centre.



On September 13 the children rehearsed the opening ceremony on the square of Novopokrovka town where the Tiger Day was to be held. The teacher asked the young actors to tell why they needed to celebrate the Tiger Day and how the holiday helped to save that rare animal. The children answered that thanks to the Festival people became aware of the tiger conservation problems and helped save its population from extinction. They decided to make leaflets about the status of the Amur tiger population and the Tiger Day Festival, and to distribute them among local people.



Children's paintings

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On September 18 the Tiger Day Festival was celebrated in Novopokrovka town (see Tiger Day Festival).

On September 20 – 21 the teacher read the book "Amur tiger" and played the game "Tsar-tsarevich".

On September 22 the children learnt how scientist study the tiger, about snow and radio tracking, and recalled their trip to Sikhote-Alin nature reserve and meeting with the staff.

On September 23 the teacher organized an excursion to the park where the children observed the changes that happened to the trees that they had planted in spring.

On September 26 there was a test on gained knowledge on Amur tiger. The children answered questions about size, weight, habitat, and prey base of the tiger.

On September 28 the teacher and the children created a "tiger" library, which included various books, magazines, and newspapers on the theme at the eco-centre.

In October the teacher carried out 21 eco-classes for 25 children of 6-11years old.

On October 03, 12 and 17 there was a lesson devoted to the relations between man and tiger. The teacher read articles from local newspapers and discussed them with the children. Then the pupils told their stories about tigers and discussed with the teacher whether they were true or made up.

On October 04, 06 and 28 the children played game "Guess the tracks".

On October 10 and 24 the children played game "Let's live in harmony". They divided into four groups. Each group chose an animal that they considered useless. The competitors had to prove an important role that the animal played in nature balance.

On October 11, the educator taught children how to behave in the forest in case they got lost. Then the children were asked to write five important rules of human behavior in the forest.

On October 18 and 21 the teacher read a lecture "The biggest cats in the world", showed photographs and enciclopedias. The children learnt about the tiger habitat, its prey and methods of hunting.



Besides lessons devoted to big wild cats, the teacher told about the rules of looking after the centre's nurslings. The children were allowed to feed animals and birds living at the eco-centre and keep their cages clean.

In November the teacher carried out 16 lessons for 15 children of 6-11 years old at the Tiger eco-centre. Besides, 118 children visited the eco-centre to see and take care of wild pets there.

On November 01 the teacher, together with the children, gathered grass, twigs, seeds, and wild plants to feed animals living at the eco-centre. On November 02 the children listened to a lecture on how to look after the centre's nurslings (wild pets).

On November 09 and 11 the teacher gave lessons on Amur tiger, its habits and traits. The children told tiger stories and took an active part in tiger quiz. On November 11 the children attended a lesson on the Far Eastern leopard. The educator told about its size, weight, behaviour and habits, its prey and habitat. Then the children played board game from "Amur tiger" book.

On November 16 the teacher told about the birds living at the centre. Then the children listened to a lecture on nature reserves of the region. On November 17 the teacher showed a number of films about Amur tiger and conflict cases between tiger and people. On November 18 the children attended a lesson on Amur tiger and learnt the methods to help keep tiger population stable.

On November 23 the teacher gave a lesson on monitoring tiger population in Primorsky krai. The children learnt how tiger census is carried out and how scientists determine the numbers of tigers. On November 24 the children watched the film "To kill a striped animal".

Besides lessons devoted to big wild cats, the teacher told about the rules of looking after the centre's nurslings. The children were allowed to feed animals and birds living at the centre and keep their cages clean.

On November 29 the teacher told the children about the pollution of the Amur River as a result of explosion at chemical plant in China.

In December the educator carried out 10 lessons for 15 children of 6-11 years old at the Tiger eco-centre. Besides, 156 children visited the eco-centre to watch and take care of wild pets there.

On December 01, 06, 07, 08, and 12 the children of primary school visited the Tiger eco-centre, fed guinea-pigs, became acquainted with the birds living there (siskin, bullfinches, greenfinches, canary birds, buntings, budgerigars etc.). The schoolchildren told about poultry and wild birds. The teacher asked what wild birds could eat and the pupils named seed, cones and herbs representing food for birds. The teacher also asked the children to share their knowledge about taiga. The pupils told about various plants, such as ginseng and aralia, and rare animals, such as Amur tiger and Far Eastern leopard.

On December 15, children brought seeds of wild plants for birds living in the eco-centre. The teacher informed the schoolchildren about forthcoming trip to the "Utyos" rehabilitation centre in Khabarovsk region and instructed on rules of human behaviour in the forest and safety rules.

On December 17-18 the children visited the Utyos rehabilitation centre for wild animals.

On December 20, 29, 30 the children of the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> forms visited the Tiger eco-centre. The teacher told them about the trip to the Utyos rehabilitation centre, animals living there including tigress named "Volya" (Freedom), six bear cubs, seven sika deer, a fox and two lynx. The



teacher showed pictures of those animals and explained the meaning of the word "rehabilitation". The children learnt that a resident tiger "Lyuti" (meaning "ferocious" in Russian) was captured in taiga as a cub when poachers had killed his mother. Loggers found the cub in the forest and severely injured it (broken jaws and both right canines) in attempt to catch it. Unable to survive in the wild on its own, it was taken to the Centre. In May 2000 the dentists and veterinarians from Russia and the U.S. operated on his jaw and implanted an artificial canine made of silver-palladium alloy. Lyuti lives in a long narrow pen, which contains natural habitat. Then the children listened to a story of tigress "Volya" found in January 2005 with a suppurating wound on the head, injured upper jaw and lacking right upper canine. The teacher explained the difference between hunters and poachers.

### Ecological education in the North of Primorye

From January 01 to December 31, 2005 the Phoenix Fund continued carrying out ecological education and outreach projects in the North of Primorye. Phoenix worked closely with experienced educators in Krasnoarmeisky and Pozharsky districts, provided educational video films on nature and wildlife, CDs, transparencies, paints and papers. Most of environmental materials were purchased thanks to support from the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Tiger.



© Phoenix Fund

Children clean up forest from the rubbish

### Krasnoarmeisky district

The educator gave slide presentations at "School forestry" club and local schools of Krasnoarmeisky district. For the reported period 1,284 children attended 127 eco-classes and obtained ecological knowledge on rare and endangered species.



© Phoenix Fund

During eco-class

On January 21 and 28 the teacher carried out the lessons on the theme "Fir-tree and cedar" for 40 children of 5-6 years old at the eco-centre. During the lesson the children examined fir and cedar cones and branches, compared them and explained why those tree are useful. Then, the teacher gave out cedar and fir needles to the children and asked them to compare length and colour. After that, the children played the game. They tried to imitate the trees and show how their leaves and needles changed during the seasons. At the end of the lesson the teacher showed the film about sable "Who lives under cedar?"

The teacher continued working with ecological club "Namba" and conducted 3 classes for the children of 11-14 years old (on January 10, 15, 29). During the first class the children learnt to

watch the weather, make notes in dairy (put down temperature, precipitation etc) and discussed signs of changing seasons. The second class was a walk in the forest. The children sought for animal tracks on the snow and tried to identify the animal that had left them. Besides, the



children observed the birds. During the third class the children drew animal tracks on the paper and watched the film "Microcosmos"

On February 11, the educator visited remote village Vostretsovo and held three classes on nature reserves of the region for 11-16 year old schoolchildren there. During the classes the children played games, solved riddles with the names of the local nature reserves and endangered animals there, consulted the map, and watched colourful slide presentations. The children worked with cards with information on types of ecological systems of each reserve and animal populations there. Children watched several short video films on animals that had been unknown to the children and discussed during the class (triton, goral). At the end of the class the children repeated and summarized the information. 85 schoolchildren took an active part in the classes.



© Phoenix Fund

Eco-class on Amur tiger

4 meetings of the ecological youth club "Namba" (Novopokrovka town) were conducted in February. During the meetings the 10-12 year old club members discussed the peculiarities of six nature reserves of Primorye, endangered flora and fauna in them, problems and conservation efforts. The children watched movies on endangered animals: "Kill a striped beast", "Lynx", "Daurian crane", "Far Eastern stork" etc.

In March the ecological youth club members met three times in March. They rehearsed the talk-show "Save biodiversity of the planet" from the scenario by B. Mirkina and L. Naumova. They plan to play the talk show and conduct eco-classes for other groups of Novopokrovka school.

In April the educator developed a lecture on spring flowers (on the basis of the lecture showed during the seminar) and conducted six classes on the theme. The 9 –13 year old schoolchildren of Novopokrovka town school learned about spring flowers, their importance for the nature and man. The educator also told about their connection with the insects and adaptation to harsh spring conditions. The classes also covered the factors that lead to extinction of plant species. Children watched "Springflower" movie and played games with the names of the flowers, their photos, descriptions etc. At the end of the lecture they summarize the information and discussed what they could do to save spring flowers.

The "Namba" eco-youth club members met four times in April and the educator held one of them together with the children's parents. During the meeting with the parents the educator discussed the outdoor plans for the summer, told about a summer camp in Sikhote-Alin nature reserve and showed a slide presentation about the "Young foresters" summer camp that had been organized a year before. The parents were instructed to vaccinate children against tick encephalitis, so that they could go the camp.

On the 3<sup>rd</sup> of April the club members attended the "Spring flower" lecture, on April 24 the children were taken into the forest to search for spring flowers. They also collected garbage on the riverbank and found a bag with trash from a town shore; they identified the store by the checks and applied to the commission of the town authorities to investigate the case.

To fight with unauthorized scrap-heaps around Novopokrovka town, the schoolchildren plan to make big boards and have already started making paintings for the boards. The city



administration announced a contest of the paintings for the boards and promised to provide funds for installation of the boards.

In May the educator carried out 8 lessons on spring flowers for preschoolers (5-6 years old) and pupils of elementary school (7-10 years old) in Novopokrovka town. During the lesson the children watched "Spring Flower" movie and played games with the names of the flowers, their photos, and descriptions. The educator drew flowers and trees on Whatman paper and discussed with the pupils why forests need flowers. The children worked with herbarium.

4 meetings of the ecological youth club "Namba" (Novopokrovka town) were held at the eco-centre in May. The educator organized hikes for 10-12- year old children in the forest where they collected herbarium of different spring flowers. Besides, the children made informational boards on spring flowers and set them up in recreation zones. They also prepared leaflets with appeal to tourists to save rare plants. During the hikes in the forest the schoolchildren carried out an action to clean up forest from rubbish, gave out the leaflets and rubbish bags to holidaymakers and tourists.



© Phoenix Fund

A girl puts on a paper model of tiger claws

In June the educators wrote a conservation -oriented play "Visiting Primorye", which tells about the unique nature of Primorsky region. During the play two Muscovites visit a remote area in Primorye and get acquainted with local people and learn about wild plants and animals - tigers, vines etc as well as learn the guidelines of human behaviour in the forest. In June – August there were no eco-classes, because it was the season of summer holidays.

The design and work on the interior of the eco-centre has almost finished. Nowadays there are two aquaria, turtle Sonya donated to the eco-centre by a nature-lover. Children love to watch and take care of the animals. To attract children to the eco-centre we showed cartoons with a 5-minute "ecological digest" for children in form of short stories from the movies "Garbage", "Ussury taiga", "While it is not late" etc.

Summer is a traditional fishing season. But during this season the Far Eastern turtles often get caught in the nets. Children discussed the problem and told that they or their neighbours had turtles at home. After the discussion they decided to set the turtles free and persuade the neighbours to follow their example.

In the beginning of September there was an active preparation to the 3<sup>rd</sup> anniversary of the Tiger Day Festival that took place on September 18, 2005 in Novopokrovka town. This year the Education and Culture Departments of Krasnoarmeisky district authorities took an active part in its organization. Schoolchildren of 12 schools came to celebrate this popular holiday. Children of six schools could not come to Novopokrovka town because of the transportation problems, but they celebrated the holiday locally by participating in drawing contests and attending lessons on Amur tiger.

On September 18 the Tiger Day Festival was celebrated in Novopokrovka town. On the main square local people and guests watched four performances and 11 dances of children's dance groups, listened to 13 songs and 26 poems about Amur tiger and other animals living in the taiga. In total, 120 children were involved in amateur theatricals. About 80 paintings, 70



handicrafts made of wood, glass, plasticine, nature materials, and fabrics were exhibited on the square. During the holiday the volunteers handed out leaflets with appeal to save Amur tiger population from extinction. Standing next to the tiger posters the children- volunteers told people about tiger biology. A lady in tiger costume treated all participants to special “tiger food”.



© Phoenix Fund  
Children attend ecological lesson

From September 19 to September 29 the teacher developed a new lesson named “Tiger arithmetic”. On September 30 the teacher carried out a lesson for the pupils of the 1<sup>st</sup> form (25 pupils). The children saw a “The tiger got lost” play performed by 10 young members of “Namba” ecological club. Then the teacher showed a slide presentation and told a tiger cub story from the “Amur tiger” book. After that, the children were asked to size a big tiger toy that had a size of an average adult tiger. It turned out that one tiger had as long as two boys or two girls and a half of its tail. Then, the teacher asked the children about the weight of the tiger and it turned out that only 4 big boys could overweight one tiger. Next question was about the size of tiger claws. A girl put on a paper model of tiger claws (10 cm) in order the

children could imagine real length of tiger claws. At the end of the lesson the activists were awarded with tiger photos.

In October the educator carried out 8 lessons “Tiger arithmetic” for 190 schoolchildren of 6-11 years old. The lessons were conducted in form of slide presentations: the educator told a story about a tiger family that consisted of a tigress and four cubs. It appeared that only two cubs survived to become adults. The other two tigers perished. While listening to the story the schoolchildren looked at the pictures from “Amur Tiger” book through multimedia projector. During the lessons the pupils discussed why adult tigers and cubs may die in taiga and named the following reasons for the animals’ death: starvation, poaching, injures, etc. The teacher explained the difference between hunters and poachers. Then the educator brought a tiger toy that had a size of an average adult tiger and asked the children to size a “predator”. At the end of the lesson the most active pupils were awarded with tiger photos. After the lessons the schoolchildren went to the Tiger eco-centre in Novopokrovka town to see animals living at the centre and to visit exhibition of handicrafts made for Tiger Day celebration.

In November the educator carried out four lessons in remote villages of Krasnoarmeisky district such as Limonniki and Izmailikha and four classes at the ecological centre for 58 schoolchildren.

The secondary school for 29 pupils in Limonniki village is situated 97 km (59 miles) far from Novopokrovka town. The teacher arrived in the afternoon. It turned out that electricity was given only till 01 p.m. according to the schedule of diesel-powered electric station. Thus, the teacher had to ask the village administration of the electric station not to switch off the electricity.

At school the teacher gave the “Animals of Primorye” slide presentation devoted to the unique nature of Primorye, rare and endangered species of flora and fauna. The pupils looked through the photographs of different animals, got acquainted with the map of Primorye, and watched a cartoon “Far Eastern leopard” from a computer game “Let’s save the leopard”. After watching the cartoon the schoolchildren discussed the reasons for decline in animal’s numbers, such as



poaching, forest fires, illegal logging. At the end of the lesson the pupils watched a video film "Lynx".

The educator carried out a lesson "Tiger arithmetic" in the form of a slide presentation. She told about tiger lifetime based on a story from "Amur tiger: kids' book" showing illustrations from the book through the projector. The pupils discussed the reasons for death of tiger cubs, talked about the difference between hunters and poachers, and learnt the size, weight and other characteristics of the tiger. At the end of the lesson the teacher asked questions to test how the children learnt new material. The pupils who gave correct answers were awarded with "Amur tiger" book. The same lessons were conducted in a secondary school of Izmailikha village situated 70 km (43 miles) far from Novopokrovka town. Only 100 pupils study at that school.



© Phoenix Fund  
Utyos rehabilitation centre

In December the teacher gave three eco-classes at the eco-centre for children of pre-school age (on December 21, 23 and 26) and for 56 children from the kindergarten. During the lessons the teacher showed slide presentations on tiger. The children learnt why tigers of their region are named "Amur". Then the educator brought a tiger toy of an average adult tiger size and asked the children to size a "predator". At the end of the lesson the teacher asked questions to test how the children learnt the new material. The pupils who gave correct answers were awarded with "Amur tiger" book for kids. After the lessons, the children visited the Tiger eco-centre in Novopokrovka town to watch animals living there.

On December 17 and 18 two educators with a group of 12 children visited the Utyos rehabilitation centre for wild animals in Khabarovsk region. During the visit the children saw a tigress named "Volya" (Freedom), resident tiger Lyuti, six bear cubs, seven sika deer, a fox and two lynx. It was the first time children could see how animals were kept and fed. They also met Mrs. Kruglova who told about the centre's history, its goals, and histories of animals living in the centre. The children learnt that all animals got into the rehabilitation centre because of cruel human treatment. All of them had been injured by poachers.

### Pozharsky district

Besides, during the reported period the Phoenix Fund supported work of two teachers in Pozharsky district. In January 01 - December 31, 2005 over 1,766 schoolchildren attended 75 ecological classes at local schools and eco-centre in Pozharsky district.

In January 2005 the educator in Pozharsky district developed a lesson "Ussury taiga" on the basis of the Russian movie with the same name that was filmed in 1979. During discussion of the movie, children compared the nature in those days with the one that we have in our days. For example, children were surprised to see how much fish there had



© Phoenix Fund  
Eco-class on Amur tiger



been in the Bikin River and how many animals had been roaming in the forest 25 years ago and what had happened to the environment. Children understand that this process needs to be stopped. After watching the movie and its discussion, children made conclusion and expressed their concerns about biodiversity conservation in the region.

On the 12<sup>th</sup> of January, 25 pupils of the 7<sup>th</sup> form attended a lesson on the theme “Animals of our forest” in Ignatievka village of Pozharsky district, Northern Primorye. The teacher told about unique biological diversity in Primorye. The children saw colourful posters with photos and information on Amur tigers and leopards and listened to a lecture on the threats for survival of big cats and ungulates in the Russian Far East.



© Phoenix Fund  
Schoolchildren read tiger leaflets

On January 14, the teacher gave a lesson on the local environment for 25 pupils of the 9<sup>th</sup> form in Luchegorsk city. The children learned that over 76 thousand tons of contaminants had been discharged in the air and 14 million tons of sewage were poured into the rivers last year. Environmental pollution constitutes a menace not only for that region, but also for the whole country. The pupils took an active part in the discussion of the theme. On January 18 and 27, the same lesson was conducted for the pupils of the 9<sup>th</sup> form at the other school in Luchegorsk city. The children watched a video on the consequences of careless attitude towards environment.

In February the educator developed a lesson called “Big cats of Primorye” devoted to Amur tigers and leopards. Children worked in groups and looked for the similarity and distinction patterns in tigers and leopards. Each group appointed a child-expert who worked with informative posters and supplemented information found by the rest of the group. After that the children looked for the reasons of the population decline in Primorye and the ways to conserve the big cats in the wild.

On February 03, a lesson “Cat family” was carried out for 27 pupils of the 7<sup>th</sup> form in Luchegorsk city. The teacher showed colourful posters with photos and information on Amur leopards and tigers and told about the world’s rarest cat, the Amur leopard, of which only 30 remain in the wild. The main threats for leopard survival were called: forest fires, poaching, illegal logging, road construction etc. At the end of the lesson the children watched a video on Russian nature reserves. The same lesson was given on February 10.

On February 18, the pupils of the 10<sup>th</sup> form attended a lesson on the theme “Ecological problems of Pozharsky district”. The children discussed air and water pollution in their region.

On February 21, the teacher carried out a lesson “Eco-systems and their protection” for 26 pupils of the 10<sup>th</sup> form in Luchegorsk city. During the lesson the children were told about the dependence of our planet’s future on well being of eco-systems.

In March the educator developed a lesson “Look after the birds!” that covered information on diversity of bird species, reasons for population decline and migrant birds, as well as games and quizzes. During the lesson the children watched a short movie “While it’s not too late” and discussed ecological problems and reasons for death of birds. The children named spring hunting as one of the main reasons of the birds’ death and they think that spring hunting should be banned as in European countries. At the end of the lesson the educator organized a contest “Bird matters” which helped children make conclusions on the theme. The children also played



games “Sparrows”, “Crows”, and “Who will fly and who is already at home?” At the end of the lesson children drew leaflets on birds conservation.

On March 03, a lesson “Cat family” was conducted for the pupils of the 8<sup>th</sup> form in Fedosievka village. During the lesson the teacher used colourful posters with Amur tigers and leopards.

On March 10, in Ignatievka village the pupils of the 7<sup>th</sup> form attended a lesson “Animals of our forest”.

On March 17, the “Pervotsvet” eco-centre held an excursion for schoolchildren of Novostroika village. When the children got acquainted with the exhibits at the centre (birds, fishes, guinea-pig), the educator organized a discussion on nature conservation and showed ecological short movies “Coloured windows” and “How children saved a woodpecker”. On March 21, the children’s NGO “Green ecological brigade” organized a seminar on the theme “Less gab - more action”. During the seminar the children reported about their nature –oriented activities in 2004, results and prospects.



© Phoenix Fund  
Lesson “Look after the birds!”

On March 25-26, the Phoenix Fund organized training for the teachers in Ecological centre in Luchegorsk city. The schoolteachers from Krasnoarmeisky, Khasansky and Pozharsky districts took an active part in it and shared experience.

For the reported period the educators made digital copies of the movies: “To kill a striped beast”, “Ussury taiga”, “Sorrow for the Bikin River”, “Descendants of the Chzhurgens”, “Indian tigers”, “Worrier in high grass”, “Tiger odyssey”, “Hunter” etc for future lessons at schools.

On April 05, the teacher carried out a lesson “Nature reserves in Russia and Primorsky krai” for 25 pupils of the 6<sup>th</sup> form in Luachegorsk. During the lesson the children discussed the reason of wildlife extinction. The teacher told that according to scientific estimates we have already lost about 600 species since 1950 and every minute 5.5 ha of the forest are disappearing from the Earth’s face. If such a tendency continues, half of Earth’s biodiversity will become extinct. After the discussion, the schoolchildren watch a film about Russian nature reserves.

On April 10, the children of the 6<sup>th</sup> form attended the lesson “Animals of our forest” in Ignatievka village. The teacher told about the unique diversity of fauna in Primorye, threats to animals’ survival, especially Amur tigers, leopards, and gorals. The schoolchildren saw the colourful posters about the most beautiful wild cats – tigers and leopards. The teacher told that only 28 species of Amur leopards remained in the wild and habited in the southwest Primorye, and discussed with the pupils an anthropogenic factor, the main negative influence on the leopard population. The same lesson was given for the pupils of the 9<sup>th</sup> form on April 14 in Nagornoye village. At the end of the lesson the schoolchildren watched a film “Taiga’s Odyssey”.

On April 20 in Luchegorsk the teacher conducted a lesson about the garbage for the pupils of the 9<sup>th</sup> form. During the lesson the schoolchildren discussed a problem of dumps in Pozharsky district. The teacher gave the pupils contact data in case they saw places of illegal dumps.

On April 27 the teacher carried out two lessons on Amur tiger for students of vocational school in Pozharskoye village. After an interesting lecture the students watched films about tigers.



In April apart from general ecological lessons in eco-centre and schools in villages the teacher carried out the following actions:

- Excursion to the ecological centre for the pupils of the 7<sup>th</sup> form. As usual, the children not only got acquainted with inhabitants in the ecological room, but also watched a video about Ussuriiskaya taiga. After that, the pupils discussed ecological problems presented in the film that was made 20 years ago and compare with the current ecological situation in Pozharsky district.
- In the beginning of April there was a round table "Environmental plight in



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Ecological class in Luchegorsk school

Pozharsky district" in the ecological center "Flowerspring". Young ecologists and activists, representatives of

environmental law enforcement organizations and state agencies took part in this meeting. The children from "Robinzones" team reported about the results of their research on fresh-water fish, invertebrate and lichen in suburbs of Luchegorsk town. The observation data arouse great participants' interest.

- On the Earth's Day an action against the dumps was carried out. On the same day the schoolchildren participated in the art contest on environmental theme and "Garbage carnival".
- A lesson "Save birds" was organized for the pupils of the 5<sup>th</sup> - 6<sup>th</sup> forms in Ignatevka and Nagornoye villages. The lesson included three units such as "Diversity of bird species", "Reasons for birds extinction", "Migratory birds" and games. The children took active part in discussing the problem of spring hunting.

In May the educator developed and carried out an ecological class "Goldfish tale" at schools of Luchegorsk city, Northern Primorye. Over 92 schoolchildren took an active part in the lesson. First, they answered questions about local environmental problems and named such problems as poaching, forest fires, dumps, air pollution and others. After that the educator showed a cartoon "Goldfish tale" that told about a greedy old woman who demanded treasure from her husband. Oil derricks became symbols of wealth and started growing from the sea as huge monsters. The sea and the land gradually turned black, and all life disappeared. After that the children discussed the cartoon and realized the problem of nature conservation and pollution.

Later, the schoolchildren watched the cartoon one more time and gave comments while watching it. During the second review they noticed details that they had missed during the first one, for example that the sky also turned black and the sea started looking more like an oil pool.

Apart from the ecological classes, the educator conducted 8 excursions in the eco-centre for 180 children. Children got acquainted with the work of the eco-centre and animals that live around them.

On May 05, the teacher gave a lesson "Fire is the forest enemy" for 24 pupils of the 8<sup>th</sup> form at school in Luchegorsk city. The schoolchildren learnt that in spring-summer season a lot of forest fires occurred in the district and they damaged not only the forest, but also wild and domestic animals, harvested logs and human settlements. More than 95 % of the forest fires are started by human. The teacher asked the pupils about human behaviour in the forest.



The children gave correct answers. At the end of the lesson the teacher showed two video films "Characteristics of Primorsky forests" and "How to behave in the forest". The same lesson was given on May 12 for 27 pupils of the 8<sup>th</sup> form.

On May 20, 34 pupils of the 6<sup>th</sup> form attended the lesson on wild cats. The teacher told about cats that lived 5-10 million years ago and cats were the best "hunters" created through the evolution of animals. The schoolchildren saw colourful posters on Amur tigers and leopards and listened to the teacher's story about threats and problems wild cats faced every day. At the end of the lesson the schoolchildren watched a film "Taiga's Odyssey". On May 24, the same lesson was given for 37 pupils of the 5<sup>th</sup> form.

In June – August there were no eco-classes, because it was the season of summer holidays.



© Phoenix Fund  
Children watch a film on ecological theme

In August and September the educators carried out preparations for Tiger Day celebration in Pozharsky district. Ms. Tsvetkova coordinated all organizational issues, met Luchegorsk city administration and Education Department of Pozharsky district. Various contests (art, poem, poster, fancy dress etc.) were announced in all local schools. Ms. Tsvetkova, together with other teachers and representatives of environmental NGOs, prepared a scenario of the holiday, developed calendars and diploma and purchased prizes for the contests' winners.

Prior to the Tiger Day Festival, "One day from Amur tiger's life" drawing contest was held. On September 17, 2005 the Tiger Day Festival was

celebrated in Luchegorsk city. Over 500 schoolchildren from 7 schools of Luchegorsk city and Novostroika, Fedosievka, Nagornoye and Pozharskoye towns participated in a parade on the main street of the city (see Tiger Day Festival).

On September 12 the teacher carried out a lesson on the theme "Forest is the main treasure of our region" for the pupils of the 10<sup>th</sup> form. The schoolchildren learnt that once primeval coniferous forest had been in Pozharsky district. But after the years of merciless land use and uncontrolled logging the forest has changed. There is only underwood now. The forestries protect the forest from poachers and fires and reforest the region. The forestries used to reforest 500 ha every year, but now they cover only 100 ha per year. The teacher told about precious trees that one could find in the forest of Pozharsky district.

On September 21 the teacher gave a lesson on the theme "Animals of our forest" for the pupils of the 7<sup>th</sup> form. The educator told about the unique biodiversity of flora and fauna of Primorsky krai, threats of the habitat reduction for Amur tiger and other endangered animals. At the end of the lesson the schoolchildren watched a film "Tiger Odyssey".

On September 27 there was a lesson on the theme "Ecological systems and their protection" for the pupils of the 10<sup>th</sup> form. The teacher told how air, water and land pollution influence ecosystems and showed a film on the theme.

During September and October the educator was preparing a series of eco-lessons "Garbage is resources!" In November she started implementing this elaboration in classroom. During the lessons the educator made slide presentations and two assistants, Ksenya Minchenko and Victoria Kartushina, talked with the children on the subject of solid domestic waste. The form of the lessons was interactive: children not only obtained complete information on the damage to



the environment that is caused by the waste that stay decomposed for many years, but also learned in practice how to press empty tetra pack cartons and plastic bottles to minimize the damage to the environment. During the lessons children also talked about food waste. They not only observed how animals, living in the pet's corner of "Flowerspring" eco-centre, were eating watermelon peels, but also learned about Californian worm - a specific species of earth worms that can quickly process domestic waste into humus.



© Phoenix Fund  
**Excursion to the forest**

Other educators that were present at the lessons highly evaluated the series of lessons "Garbage is resources!". During November the educator also conducted lessons in "Forget-me-not" children study group. Little children were looking after animals, indoor plants and learned a lot of useful facts about the world of nature. With active participation of those children "Coloured windows" program created a new rubric, named "Whyer".

On October 05, the educator conducted an eco-class for 17 pupils at school of Svetlogorye village. The theme was "Deterioration of the environment around us". In the third millennium the devastation of the nature goes along with realization of the

nature's rights, which are as important as human rights. But the nature dies quietly putting off its vengeance, threatening with typhoons, tsunamis, and other cataclysms. Little people had given thought to that, but it was them who had created solar panels, started using sustainable energy resources, and conducts reforestation. A lot of health and social problems are connected with ecological deterioration. Over 300 million people live in areas with limited water resources, and the state of fresh water sources in many countries is in danger.

On October 13, the educator conducted an eco-class for 19 pupils of the 10<sup>th</sup> form at school of Svetlogorye village. The class covered the theme "Ecological systems and their protection". Eco-system is a combination of interconnected animals and abiotic components. If one of the components is taken out from the chain, the system will fall apart. Air, water and soil pollution leads to deterioration of the ecosystem. At the end of the class the pupils watched a movie "Ecological systems". The same class was given for 18 pupils of the 11<sup>th</sup> form at school of Svetlogorye village on October 20. On October 27, the educator conducted an eco-class "Nature reserves of Primorye" for 18 pupils of the 10<sup>th</sup> form at school No.4 of Luchegorsk city. Today's daily extinctions rate is 50 – 150 species, which is much higher than the evolutionary rate. With this rate, over 50% of all species may become extinct in the next 50 years. The nature reserves are created to conserve the biodiversity of the Earth. The children learned about the nature reserves of their region and problems of their protection. The planned construction of the Siberia – Pacific Ocean oil pipeline and terminal in Perevoznaya bay may also threaten unique biodiversity of the region.

On November 01, the educator carried out an eco-class on "Ecological systems and their protection" for 25 pupils of 11<sup>th</sup> form of school No. 4 in Luchegorsk city. At the end of the lesson the pupils watched "Tiger Odyssey" movie. On November 15, the educator gave a lecture on wild cat species for 23 pupils at school No.1 of Luchegorsk city. Children were shown colourful posters of tigers and leopards and learned about the status of the species, threats to survival and conservation efforts. At the end of the lesson the children watched the movie "Tiger Odyssey". The same lecture was given for 23 pupils of the 8<sup>th</sup> form at school No. 1 of Luchegorsk city on November 23 and for 28 pupils of the 7<sup>th</sup> form at school No. 4 of Luchegorsk city on December 01.



© Phoenix Fund  
Lecture "Animals of our forests"

On December 07, a lecture "Animals of our forests" was given for 27 children at school No. 1 of Luchegorsk city. The pupils learned about the unique fauna of Primorye and threats for the species survival. The children watched colourful posters of the endangered Amur tiger and Far Eastern leopard. Nowadays southern Primorye is the only habitat of highly endangered leopard. At the end of the lesson the pupils watched "Tiger Odyssey" movie.

On December 15, the educator conducted two eco-classes for 15 pupils of the 10<sup>th</sup> form at

school of Pozharskoye village. The lecture covered pollution problems. The children learned about water, air and soil pollution and

statistics for their district. They also learned that the nature couldn't be used as a scrap heap. The pupils were also told about rare, endangered and endemic animal and plant species of Primorye. At the end of the lesson they watched the movie "Environment. Conservation and control". The same lectures were given for 17 pupils of Pozharskoye village on December 22.

In December the educator developed Guidelines "Organization of environment conservation activities in Pozharsky district" and "Organization of ecological control". In December the teacher developed a new lesson "Ecological problems of the Earth" with interactive elements. The children worked in groups and answered the teacher's questions. For example, to the question: *"What ecological problems does the Earth have?"* the children named forest fires, poaching, exhaustion of natural resources, air and water pollution, extinction of some flora and fauna species etc. After that, the pupils answered the question: *"What needs to be done to help the Earth?"* and gave a lot of answers, such as *"Make tougher laws, plant trees, stop logging, not to make fire in the forest"* etc. The last question that the pupils found difficult was: *"How to persuade adults and children to protect the nature?"* The children suggested writing leaflets, articles, press releases, making documentary, holding mass-meetings etc. The teacher came to the conclusion that the children were well-informed about ecological problems, could discuss and argue about those issues, felt anxious and concerned about the destiny of our planet. On December 17, the children participated in a school research conference at the eco-centre. The pupils prepared slide presentations and 16 research works on various ecological problems.

### Other

For the period September 15 - 25 Ms. Tsvetkova took part in "Environment conservation" exchange program of "Open World" Institute in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, USA. The objective of the program was to gain and share experience and knowledge on environmental education between Russian and American NGOs. During the exchange program, the educator visited National Parks, refuges and protected territories, met with the refuge's staff that told about ecological education for schoolchildren, took many



© Phoenix Fund  
Ms. Tsvetkova with two awards



photos and video materials that will be used in her eco-classes in the future. Gained knowledge, information and all materials will be used to demonstrate a rational approach of Americans to the nature use and conservation. In November the educator participated in the work of Primorsky forum of educational initiatives – 2005 and won two medals (silver and bronze) in two nominations.

### Tiger Day Festival



© Phoenix Fund  
Amur tiger heads the carnival procession  
in Vladivostok, September 25, 2005

Celebration of the Tiger Day Festival is a wonderful tradition in Vladivostok, Russian Far East. The Festival reminds people about the uniqueness and beauty of the territory they live in. Amur tiger is a symbol of Vladivostok city and Primorsky krai, the animal most respected in the Russian Far East. One of the central Vladivostok streets is called “Tigrovaya” in Russian (“Tiger’s”) and there is a hill with the same name in the city.

The Tiger Day Festival was initiated in 2000 in Vladivostok by the Phoenix Fund and was carried out with support from the Russian and international nature conservation NGOs. In 2001 the Head of Vladivostok City Administration signed the regulation to hold it

every fourth Sunday of September yearly. The Tiger Day won the city holiday status. In 2003-2004 the Tiger and Leopard Day was celebrated in Vladivostok, Luchegorsk, Novopokrovka, Khabarovsk cities and zoos all over Russia, CIS and Europe.

This year the holiday has become really international as many events and actions were taken before, during and after International Tiger Day (September 25th) round the world (China, India, Thailand, USA). For example, on the eve of International Tiger Day, Save The Tiger Fund (STF) launched the Campaign Against Tiger Trafficking (CATT) in concert with



© Phoenix Fund  
Phoenix staff with fancy tiger toys for awards

partners and related events around the world. On the 23<sup>rd</sup> of September 2005 International Fund for Animal Welfare-Russia (IFAW-Russia) and the Phoenix Fund organized a press conference in Vladivostok, Russian Far East, to inform about the Campaign Against Tiger Trafficking (CATT) and appealed to local authorities and communities to stop killing the world's big cats and destroying their priceless forest habitats. This information was covered by the local press, radio, and television.

As usual, a month prior to the Festival a



© Phoenix Fund  
Tiger Day Festival in Luchegorsk city



specially designed street advertising was set up in Vladivostok streets to draw attention of local people to the event. The advertising board (3 m x 6 m) was placed on the main street of the city. A colourful photograph of four tigers made by Dr. Yudin was used to attract people's attention. A light-reflecting banner (1.1 m x 10 m) with information on Tiger Day was stretched out above the main city road.

Besides, Phoenix designed, produced and purchased a lot of different awards for the winners in contests (special T-shirts, badges and medals with the Tiger Day logo, amusing tiger toys candies, books etc.). This year the Phoenix Fund ordered cakes with the Tiger Day logo at the local confectionery to award the best groups that participated in the holiday celebration.

This year a series of public environmental events devoted to conservation of Amur tigers and leopards started on the 17<sup>th</sup> of September in Luchegorsk city, Pozharsky district of Primorye, and began with a parade on the main



© Phoenix Fund

Young actors show a play in Novopokrovka town



© Phoenix Fund

Cake with the Tiger Day logo

street of the city. The Tiger Day in Luchegorsk coincided with Pozharsky District Day celebration. The organizers noticed that more schoolchildren and adults (over 500 people) came to celebrate the festival in comparison with the last year. There was a theatrical performance in the Culture Palace where professional actors in animal costumes staged a play and involved children in various games, contests, dances etc.

Next day, on the 18<sup>th</sup> of September, the Tiger Day Festival was carried out in Novopokrovka town, administrative centre of Krasnoarmeisky district, in Northern Primorye, Russian Far East. This year the Education and Culture Departments of Krasnoarmeisky district

authorities took an active part in its organization. Schoolchildren of 12 schools came to celebrate this popular holiday. Children of six schools could not come to Novopokrovka town because of the transportation problems, but they celebrated the holiday locally by participating in drawing contests and attending lessons on Amur tiger.

On the main square local people and guests saw four performances and 11 dances of children's dance groups, listened to 13 songs and 26 poems about Amur tiger and other animals living in the taiga. In total, 120 children were involved in amateur theatricals. About 80 paintings, 70 handicrafts made of wood, glass, plasticine, nature materials, and fabrics were



© Phoenix Fund

Carnival procession is moving  
to the Central Square of Vladivostok  
September 25, 2005



exhibited on the square. During the holiday the volunteers handed out the leaflets with an appeal to save Amur tiger population from extinction. Standing next to the tiger posters the children- volunteers told people about tiger biology. A lady in tiger costume treated all participants to special “tiger food”. The winners of the contests were awarded with memorable prizes.



© Phoenix Fund  
Children are drawing tigers on asphalt

On the 25<sup>th</sup> of September Vladivostok celebrated the 6<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Tiger Day. In 2005 the Festival in Vladivostok was organized by Phoenix, WWF-RFE, Wildlife Conservation Society (Russia) in conjunction with city administration and was supported by 21<sup>st</sup> Century Tiger, the Save the Tiger Fund, the David Shepherd Wildlife Foundation and International Fund for Animal Welfare. Besides, some businesses, which decided to make their social contribution, were involved in Tiger Day celebration. Local Electronics Company “Spector” provided support and prizes for contests’ winners.

The holiday started with a carnival procession down the main street to the Central Square. The long “black and yellow” column included

dance groups, children in fancy tiger and leopard costumes, artists and circus actors, schools, kindergartens, educational organizations of Vladivostok and Primorsky krai, adults, students – those who are not indifferent to the fate of Amur tiger. Last year about 4,000 people participated in Tiger Day celebration in the cities of Primorye, and this year about 5,000 people came only to the central square of Vladivostok to participate in unique ecological festival. It indicates that Tiger Day Festival became unique and popular ecological holiday between people living in the Russian Far East.

Organizers made a welcoming speech on the Vladivostok Central Square. Then different folk and modern dances, theatrical and musical performances, prepared by the local artists and children, were carried out on a stage of the Central Square. During the festival there were different contests, quizzes and games. The winners received special awards, including T-shirts, tiger photos, toys, books, magnets etc.

Young residents of Vladivostok were drawing tigers of various sizes and shapes on the city's central square. In 2004 over 180 children took part in the tiger face painting contest and over 150 in tiger paintings on asphalt contest during the Tiger Day Festival in Vladivostok. In 2005 there were twice as many children and their parents that participated in the contests with great pleasure.



© Phoenix Fund  
Happy “tiger” family

The following contests took place during the Festival:

- the best costume (mask) of an animal of Ussuriisk taiga;



- tiger make-up;
- tiger drawings on asphalt;
- poems, songs, drawings and dances devoted to Amur tiger and the Tiger Day Festival;
- the best decoration of a festive column (car).

Five pleasure-grounds functioned on the Central Square. The Tiger Day itself drew thousands of participants and spectators to the Central Square of Vladivostok.

During the holiday the Phoenix Fund, together with the colleagues from IFAW-Russia collected more than 750 signatures under the appeal to the Russian and Chinese governments to ensure the law enforcement against tiger poaching and smuggling as well as to prevent legalizing trade in bones and developing of tiger farms.

We are happy that every year the Tiger Day Festivals in the cities of Primorye attract more and more people and companies as well as local authorities and help ensure safe future for both animals and men in taiga. There is a hope that Primorsky krai administration will pay attention to this wonderful, unique and popular festival and will support it in nearest future.

#### **IV. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

This project is the result of joint efforts of many people and organizations. Thanks to support from the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Tiger, we helped keep the Siberian tiger population stable in 2005, managed to increase the capacity of the anti-poaching teams to reduce poaching and enhance wildlife and habitat protection in Primorye, and increase awareness of the local communities about the importance of wildlife and habitat conservation through education and outreach activities. We show our appreciation to Ms. Sarah Christie and Ms. Hanna Beach for all patience and assistance and hope for our fruitful co-operation in future.



## V. Appendices

Table 1. Summary of enforcement and outreach activities of two public environmental investigation teams, January – December 2005\*

Activity	Northern team	Southern team	Total
<b>I. Violations documented:</b>			
1.1. Hunting	39	53	92
1.2. Fishing	4	-	4
1.3. Forest resources	25	4	29
1.4. Protected areas	-	-	-
1.5. Other	9	-	9
<b>2. Illegal weapons confiscated and handed over to the police</b>	35 rifles (181 cartridges)	33	69 rifles (181 cartridges)
<b>3. Confiscated poaching devices:</b>			
a) Traps	1	10	11
b) Fishing nets	9	-	9
c) Snares	4	-	-
d) Radio stations	7	-	7
e) Chainsaws	8	-	8
f) DT tractors	7	-	7
g) Trucks	7	-	7
<b>4. Wildlife products confiscated:</b>			
4.1. Squirrel skin	2 items	2 items	4 items
4.2. Poached wood	67 m <sup>3</sup>	-	67 m <sup>3</sup>
4.3. Wild boar meat	2 species	-	2 species
4.4. Siberian stag meat	60 kg	277 kg	337 kg
4.5. Lynx	1 species	-	1 species
4.6. Badger skin	3 items	-	3 items
4.7. Bear meat	-	52 kg	52 kg
<b>5. Initiated criminal proceedings</b>	11	2	13
<b>6. Meetings with schoolchildren</b>	18	-	18
<b>7. Mass media coverage</b>			
7.1. TV reports	24	-	24
7.2. Radio reports	-	-	1
7.3. Articles	7	-	7
<b>8. Participation in round tables, conferences, trainings</b>	6	2	8

Table 2. Summary of anti-poaching activities of the western wildlife managers' team, January – December 2005\*<sup>1</sup>

Activity	January – December 2005
<b>I. Violations documented :</b>	
1.1. Hunting	66
1.2. Fishing	-
1.3. Forest	6
<b>2. Illegal weapons confiscated and handed over to the police</b>	14 (3 cartridges)
<b>3. Wildlife confiscated:</b>	
3.1. Poached sable	1
3.2. Poached squirrel	4
3.3. Pheasant	4
3.4. Badger	3
3.5. Siberian stag meat	9 kg
<b>4. Arrested violators</b>	75 people
<b>5. Initiated criminal proceedings</b>	8 items
<b>6. Condemned people</b>	-
<b>7. Mass media coverage</b>	
7.1. Articles	1

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\* Results of joint patrols