



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



# Phoenix Fund

## Protection and Outreach Activities in tiger habitat in 2006

Final report  
January – December 2006



Vladivostok  
2006



## FINAL REPORT January 01 – December 31, 2006

**Grantor:** 21<sup>st</sup> Century Tiger  
**Project Name:** Protection and Outreach activities in tiger habitat in 2006  
**Grantee:** The Phoenix Fund  
**Report Period:** January 01 – December 31, 2006  
**Grant Period:** January 01 – December 31, 2006

### I. Project Overview

The objective 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

#### 1. Public environmental investigation teams



Checking documents  
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Two public environmental investigation teams were established in March 2001 to enhance the protection work of the state agencies. The teams work mainly in Northern Primorye, important tiger habitat, together with police officers, wildlife managers and fishing inspectors. The heads of the teams are experienced rangers that have been working in environmental law enforcement for more than 15 years. The teams carry out three- or four-day long patrols one or two times a week. For the period from January 01 to December 31, 2006 the teams conducted 89 patrols in Pozharsky, Krasnoarmeisky and Dalnerechensky districts of Primorye, drew up 84 reports on

violations of hunting regulations, confiscated 57 illegal rifles, 39 traps, 38 snares and other poaching devices and poached wildlife, and participated in ten meetings with schoolchildren (see Table 1). See the description and results of the project activities for the period from January 01 to June 30 in the Interim Report.

In July 2006 the public rangers' team worked in Pozharsky and Krasnoarmeisky districts to reveal and stop violations of hunting regulations, poaching and illegal logging. In their work the



officers closely collaborated with Primorsky Hunting Management Department and gamekeepers of hunting societies.



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Ranger drawing up a report

On July 04, 2006 while patrolling the territory of “Tiger” hunting grounds at 6 km distance from Sobolinoye village, in the bottomland of the Chumchuguza spring a motorcar without state registration plate with a group of people was caught sight of. The car turned to a deadlocked forest road. The rangers could not follow it as they were occupied with wheel change. About 20-25 minutes later the car reappeared with only a driver in it. The officers went to check the road and some time later stopped a group of five people: Mr. Voronov with his 14 year-old son, Mr. Gerasimov with his 15-year old son, and Mr. Zhiltsov. Zhiltsov had a 2/12-gauge shotgun Izh-58 and a permit for it. In the result of examination of a knapsack

the rangers found a cartridge belt with 18 cartridges loaded with small shot, buckshot and bullets. All detainees confessed they went to the forest with the purpose of digging out ginseng. Mr. Zhiltsov explained he took a gun with him in order to protect himself from a predator attack and to shoot hazel grouse. The rangers drew up a report on the violator for hunting during closed hunting period. The gun and cartridges were withdrawn.

In July the rangers paid special attention to revelation of illegal trade in wildlife derivatives as ginseng diggers get active at this period of the year. Ginseng is on the Endangered Species List of the Russian Federation. In the result of the operation, the rangers in cooperation with police officers detained Mr. Chaikovsky, resident of Luchegorsk city. The detainee was engaged in illegal cornering of derivatives. On July 10, Mr. Chaikovsky was withdrawn of 365 grams of ginseng roots and four bear paws. The report was forwarded to Krasnoarmeisky police station for initiating criminal proceedings.

On July 11, at 17 km distance from Svetlogorye village the rangers found car tracks and then a car camouflaged with branches. Inside there were clean clothes, that proved a man had changed and had gone hunting, probably to a hunting lick. It was getting dark and the rangers decided to block exit of the car in case someone would leave on it at night and wait till the morning. At about 5 a.m. the next day two rangers laid an ambush within 150 m from the car. Some time later a man appeared with a carbine. He was identified as M.M. Burovenko, dweller of Bikin village, a rail man. He explained that he had actually been hunting Siberian stag or roe on a salt lick, as he had to get some meat for his parent-in-law's anniversary. A report was made on Mr. Burovenko and his gun was withdrawn.



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In a patrol

On July 14, 2006 the ranger patrolled Strelnikov (Samur) ridge in the vicinity of the borderline with Khabarovsk krai. They heard a gunshot about 150 m far from them and laid an ambush on both sides of the road. Ten minutes later three residents of Zvenyevaya village turned up and





were detained. All of them are unemployed. One of them carried a 20-gauge single barrel gun Izh-17 with factory numbers erased. The detainee gave evidence that he had found a gun and seven cartridges on a former apiary among the ruins and made up his mind to fetch it just in case. His companions confirmed that. When asked about the purpose of their stay in the forest they answered without prevaricating that they had come to dig up ginseng but found nothing. They fired on order to see whether the arm worked well. The rangers drew up a report and confiscated the gun.

On July 15, in the Naumov spring natural monument Mr. Maslov was stopped during illegal hunt with a rifle SKS. He had no hunting license. A report was drawn up and a fine of 1,000 rubles (\$37) imposed on the violator.

On July 23, while examining a winter cabin the rangers revealed a hiding place with an unregistered 12-gauge shotgun TOZ-34. The owner of the arm was not identified. It was passed on to the local police station.

On July 26, the rangers patrolled in the vicinity of Limonniki and Glubinnoye villages. No violations of environmental legislation were discovered. On July 28, the officers revealed a violation of the Forest Code by a logging team of S.T. Shevchenko's private owned enterprise. Lumbering outside the cutting area is prohibited. A report was made up and a fine of 6,000 rubles (\$222) imposed on the Director of the company Mr. Shevchenko.

In August the public officers took an active part in conducting a census of muskrat and dove populations in Tayozhny wildlife refuge by request of its authorities. The officers were granted a note of thanks from the authorities of the refuge.



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Revealed case of illegal fishing

On August 08, while patrolling along the Bikin river the team saw two cars disguised on the shore. The team went to check the goal of the people. Coming up to the first car the rangers saw two men inflating a rubber boat and preparing nets. The fishermen did not refuse their guilt and confessed that they had 11 nets. The rangers drew up a report on violation of fishing regulations.

Furthermore, the team worked on revelation of environmental violations. Thus, on August 16, close to the Chetvyorty spring natural landmark a logging brigade of "Argillit" Ltd. committed a violation - felling outside the compartment. Mr. Shkoboy, foreman of the setup, was fined with 3,000 rubles (\$111).

On August 18, near the Basaev spring two men were apprehended when hunting badgers illegally with dogs. The detainees paid a fine of 500 rubles (\$19) each.

On August 25, during a patrol in the hunting grounds near Luchegorsk city, the public rangers' team detained Mr. Ponamorev on a motorcycle. Seeing the officers the passenger with covered rifle jumped off the motorcycle and tried to flee, but was captured. The driver voluntarily showed his rifle with optics. The detainees explained that they were going to go hunting badgers and on a salt lick. Both men had permits for weapon.

In September the environmental public officers conducted three many-days patrols by car and a patrol on foot. On September 15, the officer with two volunteers patrolled in the hunting grounds

of the hunting and fishing society of Luchegorsk city and in the evening close to the Kamenushka spring natural landmark they heard a red deer roar that did not resemble a real one and caused suspicion. The ranger had a bugle with him and imitated the stag's call with the help of it. Then he hid in a deserted timber storehouse and waited for the hunters. About 40 minutes later two men appeared. One of them carried a "Saiga" carbine and another one a birch-bark tube. Seeing a ranger a young man ran away and an older one stayed. He turned to be Mr. Murzin, resident of Luchegorsk city, a retired person. He explained that he went to the forest with his son to teach him how to hunt red deer and call them in.



Checking rifle

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On September 28, in cooperation with gamekeepers of "Promislovik" Ltd., the public rangers patrolled the flood-lands of the Solda river. The officers saw tracks of a vehicle leading into the forest. Having covered about 1.5 km on foot they discovered the car with three men near it. They were making a stock of Korean pinecones and had an appliance for grinding cones in their camp. Besides, they carried in readiness three shotguns and cartridge belts to them. All three detainees are Verkhny Pereval village dwellers. They had permits for carrying guns but no hunting licenses. The rangers drew up a report on administrative violation and passed it on to the Hunting Management Department of Pozharsky district. The violators claimed that they had taken the guns to defend themselves from bears and tigers. This explanation is doubtful as in the vehicle the officers found a bugle destined to attract red deer.

In October 2006 the public environmental law enforcement officers conducted three many-day patrols. The rangers worked in cooperation with officers of Primorsky Department of Federal Service for Veterinarian and Vegetation Sanitary Supervision.

On October 02-09, the public environmental law enforcement officers conducted a joint patrol together with a ranger of Fishing Inspection down the Bikin River by a wooden boat to the western border of Verkhnebikinsky wildlife refuge.

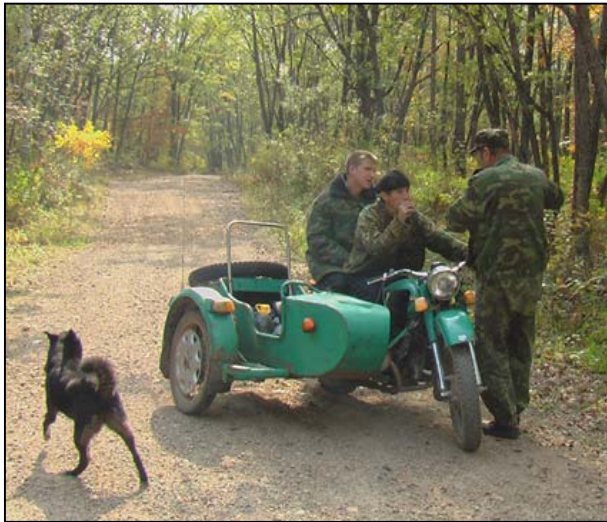
On October 04, the public rangers checked seven wooden boats and five rubber boats powered with an outboard motor. Near Tashanza channel, in one of the river bays the officers found seven fishing nets with fish in them: goldilocks (30 fish), Siberian salmon (1 fish), and graylings (8 fish). They did not have enough time to search for the owners of the nets as they had to cover 38 km (23.6 miles) more up the Kluchevaya River and it was already getting dark. It was difficult to boat because of strong shoals and shallow water. The rangers stopped for a night in a winter cabin.

On October 06, they fixed three warning signs. For that, they had cleared the ground from bushes and trees, stretched wire, made ladders etc. Afterwards the officers started for the checkpoint of Fishing Inspection in the mouth of the Panchelaza River. On that day they met only one boat with tourists from Vladivostok city. They caught legally three pikes and four goldilocks.

On October 07, six reports on fishing violations and two on hunting violations were drawn up.



On October 18, while patrolling in cooperation with a ranger of Hunting Management Department in the hunting grounds of “Alchan” Ltd. 7 km far from Zvenyevaya village near Funtasu natural landmark the public rangers heard two gun shots. Walking to the place of the accident they met a man with a gun, dweller of Bikin town. He hunted hazel-grouses without license. The officers made a report on the detainee and imposed a fine on him.



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**Ranger checks hunters' documents**

In November the public rangers in cooperation with officers of Primorsky Department of the Russian Service for Natural Resources (Rosprirodnadzor), Hunting Management Department, Special Police Force and Primorsky Economic Crime Department conducted nine many-day patrols in Pozharsky, Danlnerechensky and Krasnoarmeisky districts. During patrols the team members talked to people on infeasibility of hunting without a license.

In the beginning of November the wildlife manager of Pozharsky district received information that a group of seven people with dogs was poaching at the Dedov spring, 80 km far from Vyazemsky village. On November 03, the joint team went to check the obtained information. Short of the winter cabin the public

rangers noticed three vehicles of the poachers. Having examined the vehicles, the rangers found the sacks containing meat of red deer. Then, the team went quietly towards the winter cabin, burst in and arrested the hunters with six dogs. All hunters were residents of Luchegorsk city. While checking the hunters' documents, the public rangers found out that Mr. Mosolov and his son had an overdue and unpaid hunting ticket. The rangers drew up two reports on violations and confiscated a rifle, 22 cartridges, poached meat and the hunting ticket. Then, the rangers checked the documents of the rest of the hunters. Mr. Zabolotny and Mr. Shtok had hunting licenses to hunt squirrel and hazel grouse. There were two more hunters' names along with the license owners. According to the hunting regulations, this is inadmissible and is considered to be a gross violation. “Alchan” Ltd. appeared to have allowed a round-up of squirrel by a group of hunters. According to the hunting regulations, each hunter should have its own one-shot license to hunt a certain animal or bird on the hunting grounds, and each of them should pay for the license. Probably, the bookkeeper of “Alchan” Ltd. who had issued the hunting license wanted to get some money illegally. He could have taken payment from two hunters officially and hidden the money from the others in his pocket. The rangers confiscated the hunting licenses and handed them over to a wildlife manager of Pozharsky district for further investigation.



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**Illegal rifles**

On the same day, while examining a hunters' hut in the hunting grounds in Tayozhny (Taiga) wildlife refuge the officers revealed a cache with an illegal 12-gauge shotgun. A fine in the amount of 500 rubles (\$19) was imposed on the violator.





On November 04, the joint team examined an abandoned logging base in the hunting grounds of “Alchan” Ltd. and found a shotgun IZH-17, 16 gauge, and 12 cartridges in one of the carriages near the Zubchenko spring. The parts of the gun had different serial numbers. The rangers did not manage to determine the owner of the illegal gun and confiscated it along with the cartridges.



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Checking documents

From November 08 through November 15 the joint team patrolled Pozharsky, Danilnerechensky and Krasnoarmeisky districts, especially the forest of Verkhneperevalninsky forestry and hunting grounds of “Tiger” hunting society of indigenous people. As a result, the team revealed five violations of hunting regulations and confiscated two rifles and 17 cartridges.

On November 08, the team stopped a Nissan-Datsun vehicle on the back road Verkhny Pereval – Sobolinoye, 7 km (4.3 miles) from Verkhny Pereval village. The rangers noticed a loaded rifle Saiga-12 on the back seat of the car. The gun-cover was taken off. Mr. Lopin, the car’s owner, told that he had loaded the rifle and forgotten to cover it. Such violation is considered to be gross and is equal to hunting using motor transport. The public rangers drew up a report and confiscated the rifle.

On November 10, while checking a logging base one km far from Yasenevoye village, the officers found two rifles under the mattress in one of the dwellings. The first rifle, IZH – 27E, 2-12 gauge belonged to Mr. Petukhov, director of the logging base. The second one, Saiga–12, belonged to Mr. Golovachev, chief engineer of the logging base. The rangers found out that both men did not have permits to hunt. Mr. Petukhov and Mr. Golovachev told that they had taken their rifles as means of self-defense and not for hunting. But if a person with a gun is in the hunting grounds he is considered to be hunting. The rangers drew up a report on violation of hunting regulations.

On November 11, Mr. Sinelnik was arrested for illegal hunting with dog and using traps for sable in the hunting grounds of “Tiger” hunting society of indigenous people. The violator did not have a permit to hunt. The rangers confiscated six traps and drew up a report.

Next day the joint team continued patrolling the hunting grounds of the “Tiger” hunting society. The rangers checked a winter cabin near the Severny spring and found a gun with eight cartridges 30 meters from it. The parts of the gun had different serial numbers that meant that it was illegal. It was impossible to determine the gun’s owner. The rangers drew up a report and handed the gun over to the local police department.

On November 14, while patrolling Tayozhny wildlife refuge in Krasnoarmeisky district, the joint team arrested Mr. Kirpichev, a retired local of Vostretsovo village, in the flood-plain of the Nadezhda spring. Mr. Kirpichev tried to flee, but had no luck. The arrested man had a carbine OP SKS with rifled barrel. The violator did not have a permit to hunt ungulates. The rangers drew up a report and imposed a fine.

On November 10-13, the public rangers also patrolled along the boundary of Tayozhny wildlife refuge. The rangers checked the activity of a group of loggers of PrimTransLes logging company and two hunters. No violations of hunting regulations were revealed.

On November 19, close to the Basayev spring natural landmark the team found an unwarranted felling of spruce and Korean pine in the total volume of 23.4 m<sup>3</sup>. Damage amounted to 123,340 rubles (\$4,744). The documents were forwarded over to the local police station for initiating criminal proceedings.

On November 23, in the vicinity of the Grigoriev spring natural landmark the rangers found five snares for roe deer and destroyed them.

On November 24, on Melnichnoye – Novopokrovka road the team of environmental law enforcement officers stopped a jeep. Examination of the car revealed a Himalayan black bear head in the boot. Mr. Mokroborodov, the driver, denied his immixture in poaching the bear. The team will continue investigation.

From November 27 to December 01 the joint team carried out patrols in Krasnoarmeisky district. As a result, the rangers drew up nine reports on violations of hunting regulations, confiscated three rifles, roe deer meat, badger, kolinsky and red deer.



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Driver shows poached meat hidden in his vehicle

On November 28, while checking a winter cabin owned by Mr. Daniluk the rangers revealed a violation. Mr. Daniluk had a permit to hunt sable, but the rangers found 10 kg of red deer meat in a special cache (*lobaz*) 120 meters far from the cabin. Besides, they found two poached hazel grouses. While examining Mr. Daniluk's clothes, the rangers found 11 cartridges in a pocket of his jacket. Mr. Daniluk said that he had not have a gun and that he had been hunting sable with traps. He also said that the jacket had belonged to other person and it had been the first time he had put it on. Then Mr. Daniluk explained that it was his acquaintance from Plastun town who had given him red deer meat. The rangers did not believe his story and went to examine the paths around

the cabin. As a result, they found a loaded gun IZH-17, 1-28 gauge against a tree, 60 meters far from the winter cabin. The parts with different serial numbers indicated that the gun was illegal. The rangers confiscated the gun and poached wildlife products, drew up a report and imposed a fine.

On November 28, the team was examining a dead-end road near Chertova Polyana tract when the rangers saw a man with a rifle walking along the road. As soon as he heard a patrol car, he rushed into the forest with hope to escape. Fortunately, the public rangers managed to catch the runaway. The arrested man turned out to be a local of Melnichnoye village. He had a loaded rifle TOZ-34, 2-20 gauge and two poached hazel grouses in his rucksack. The violator had gone hunting without a permit. The rangers confiscated his rifle and poached birds and drew up a report. Later on, an interesting incident took place near the Borisov spring of the Naitukha river when the rangers were examining a winter cabin. When they entered the cabin, they saw a man who had come from Novopokrovka village to hunt for squirrel and sable. Mr. Matsarsky, the hunter, had a permit to hunt. Everything was all right with his documents on rifle. Three harvested squirrels were in the cabin, but there was no rifle there. On the rangers' demand to show the rifle the hunter said that he had left it on a path not far from the winter cabin and went out. The rangers had some suspicions about this. If rifle is legal, hunter never leaves it in the forest. When Mr. Matsarsky brought his rifle IZH-18, 1-28 gauge, the rangers determined that the serial numbers on the rifle parts coincide with the numbers in the documents.



Nevertheless, some suspicions still lurked in their minds. Besides, Mr. Matsarsky was very nervous. When one of the rangers started to examine the squirrels' carcasses, he found out that they were killed with a different gun. After that the hunter's nervousness became obvious. The rangers asked the hunter to take away a mattress from a bed. Mr. Matsarsky drew aside the mattress, and the rangers saw a gun "Belka", 5.6 – 28 gauge. The hunter said that he had found it four days earlier and was going to hand it over to a police department. Several minutes later, the rangers found a box with 29 cartridges, 5.6 mm gauge and six cartridges, 28 gauge. It was no doubt that the hunter had gone hunting with the illegal gun and that he had hidden his legal rifle in the forest. Thus, the rangers drew up a report on violation of hunting regulations, confiscated two guns and the cartridges, and forwarded all documents to the local police department to initiate criminal proceedings.

On November 29, the joint team decided to check the obtained information on illegal logging near the Markelov spring. When the team was 3 km far from a winter cabin a huge fallen birch barred the way. Having examined the tree the rangers came to conclusion that it had been felled earlier in the morning. They decided to track the footprints leading from the tree to the winter cabin. When the officers reached the cabin, they saw 27 felled trees of various species barring the way. There were three dogs on the leash near the cabin. A local of Melnichnoye village was inside. He told that he barred the way with trees in order to eliminate intrusion into his hunting grounds. As a result, the rangers drew up a report on violation of the Forest Code of the Russian Federation. Later on, the rangers continued their patrol and arrested Mr. Golovsky with three dogs near the Berezovy spring. The arrested man confessed that he wanted to kill a badger. The officers drew up a report on violations of hunting regulations.

On November 30, Mr. Yakovets was arrested for illegal hunting. The violator was poaching badger with traps. On the same day the rangers detained Mr. Gavrilenko at a winter cabin near the Situkha spring. While checking his gun license and a permit to hunt a wild boar, the rangers did not reveal any violations. They asked the man to show them his backpack. When Mr. Gavrilenko opened it, the rangers saw a trapped kolinsky (Siberian weasel) in it. As the man did not have a permit



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Traps and poached meat

to hunt fur-bearing animals, the rangers drew up a report on violation of hunting regulations and confiscated the poached animal. Later on, at night the team stopped a vehicle going from a logging base near the Naitsukha river. While examining the luggage space of the vehicle, the rangers found a white sack with eight hunks of frozen roe deer meat. Mr. Vereschagin, the vehicle's owner, said that he had found the sack in the forest and decided to take it home. Further examination revealed six cartridges, 16 gauge. The hunter explained that he had a rifle MTS 21-12 at home and that he had forgotten to take the cartridges out after hunting two days earlier. Then, the rangers asked him to show the place where he had found the sack. He refused to show and confessed that he had killed roe deer two days earlier, put the meat into the sack and hidden it in the forest. In two days he decided to take the meat home. The rangers drew up a report on violation of hunting regulations and confiscated the meat.

On November 30, on returning home the rangers decided to check a winter cabin near the Olkhov spring. While approaching the cabin, the team members saw a light of lantern flashing among the trees. The rangers hid behind the trees and waited for a coming man. Several minutes later the rangers arrested Mr. Motsarsky with a gun IZH-56, 2-12 gauge. The hunter had a permit to hunt fur-bearing animals, but his gun was loaded with buckshot to hunt ungulates. The rangers drew up a report and imposed a fine.

Besides anti-poaching activities the public rangers continued the educational project through lectures at local schools. In November the team gave lectures on the following themes: “Human-tiger conflict cases”, “Goals and values of protected territories”, and “Nature conservation activities of the federal law enforcement services”. During the lectures the rangers showed films and photos illustrating their field work.



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Checking documents

Also, the public rangers cooperated with local mass media and often provided interesting materials. For example, a local TV channel of Luchegorsk city broadcasted a program devoted to mass gathering of pine nuts. This year there was a rich yield of pine nuts in Northern Primorye. Primorsky Forest Agency did not set a quota for free nut-gathering. The unregulated harvest of pine nuts attracted many people. The Chinese buy up the nuts. One kilogram of nuts costs 90 rubles (\$3.4). The unemployed as well as well-off people rushed into the forest from all parts of Primorsky region to earn extra money.

In December the officers continued their work in cooperation with Federal nature protection agencies of Primorsky Department of Federal Service for Veterinarian and Vegetation Sanitary Supervision, namely with Krasnoarmeisky branch of Hunting Management Department. In total, the team carried out ten patrols, four of them lasted many days. In the process of work nine reports on violation of hunting regulations and four reports on violation of forest regulations were made. The officers checked 13 hunters and fishermen, 16 vehicles, one logging camp and six winter cabins. They confiscated 55.6 m<sup>3</sup> of illegally felled timber, four shotguns, 27 cartridges and 119 foot snares. They withdrew meat of one wild boar, two badgers, one sable, and one kolinsky.

On December 05-08, the team patrolled Tayozhny wildlife refuge with an aim to reveal violations of nature protection laws. The rangers found no violators but remarked tracks of an adult male tiger in the vicinity of the Osoka spring; of a tigress with two cubs near the Rogaty spring; and of a young tigress close to the Chisty spring. As regards to the last animal, the rangers saw it at 50-70- meter distance.

On December 11-16, the rangers conducted three patrols together with officers of Hunting Management Department and a forest manager of Izmailikhinsky forestry. As the result, eight reports on violators of hunting regulations were made and illegal guns and objects of prey were confiscated.

On December 12, while being on duty on the crossroad of Novopokrovka – Glubinnoye – Limonniki at 7 p.m. one of the rangers noticed a man with a gun coming out of the forest. When asked to stop for examination of the documents, the man threw away the gun and escaped in the forest. The hunter was not identified. A 28-gauge gun was illegal as all its parts had different factory numbers.

On December 12, in the hunting grounds of Krasnoarmeisky district 16 km far from Glubinnoye village the team remarked a parked mini- truck. In the cabin there was a 12-gauge cartridge, obviously fallen out a cartridge belt or a pocket. The officers decided to lay an ambush and managed to detain Mr. Zakharov, resident of Glubinnoye village. He had a license for hunting a squirrel and a sable and carried a preyed squirrel. Close to the place of the accident he hid a rucksack with wild boar meat.



On December 12, in the public hunting grounds of Krasnoarmeisky district in the vicinity of the Vinogradny spring the rangers stopped Mr. Barinov, resident of Roschino town who was taking the skin off the preyed Siberian weasel/kolinsky. He poached it with the help of the snares and had no hunting license. The officers drew up a report on the violator.



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Public ranger with two confiscated rifles

On December 13, in the public hunting grounds near the Levy Meteoritny spring in a derelict winter cabin the team discovered a hidden rifled hand-made gun gauged 7.62 – 39 mm and confiscated it.

On December 13, in the upper reaches of the Meteoritny spring the rangers stopped an off-road vehicle. The driver and the passenger had poached a badger and a raccoon dog and had eight snares in the car. The men had no hunting licenses. The officers drew up a report on the violators and confiscated the snares and the objects of prey.

On December 15, close to the Shpalny spring in Krasnoarmeisky district the rangers saw a man in a camouflage cloak. He examined thoroughly the animal tracks. When the officers surrounded him, the man looked frightened. In his backpack the team members found a frozen badger killed in a snare. The young hunter of Izmailikha village had no hunting license. He said he was going to his winter cabin. The officers accompanied him to make a report there. In the cabin they saw another man, who was cooking and kept a preyed sable near the oven for defrosting. He had no hunting license either. The team withdrew the prey and 11 snares.

On December 15, the team patrolled the hunting grounds near Luchegorsk city. In the vicinity of Chanza natural landmark which is a part of the protected area (zone of peace for wild fowl), where hunting is prohibited, the officers saw a parked vehicle with an opened door and waited for the owner. He appeared with a Saiga shotgun, 7.62 mm gauge. Mr. Chulkov, a resident of Luchegorsk town, said he knew nothing on the ban to hunt in the territory and did not notice the warning signs. The public officers made a report on the fact and passed it on to the Hunting Management Department of Pozharsky district.

On December 16, the group of rangers stopped a “Kamaz” off-road truck with linden-tree timber assortments without documents. In the course of investigation the officers discovered that Mr. Murin, resident of Novopokrovka town, felled illegally the trees. He showed the logging site. In total, he felled eight trees. The documents were forwarded to a police station for initiating criminal proceedings.

On December 19, near the Kapitulinsky spring the team apprehended a tractor and two cars loaded with illegal timber (22 oak trees).

On December 22, at 03 a.m. on Romni-Novopokrovka road the team stopped a car that transported linden, oak and nut wood assortments. The violator Mr. Dunaev will appear before the court.

On December 25, in the vicinity of the Smirnovsky spring the rangers seized a man who was dragging three oak assortments by a tractor T-40. He felled the trees in water protection zone. The team passed the document to a police station for initiating criminal proceedings.



### Other

Besides anti-poaching activities the public rangers continued the educational project through lectures at local schools. In September, within the framework of the ecological educational project the public rangers conducted a trip to a secondary school in Ignatievka village. There they held two lessons, demonstrated a video and handed educational materials to teachers. In November the team gave lectures on the following themes: "Human-tiger conflict cases", "Goals and values of protected territories", and "Nature conservation activities of the federal law enforcement services". During the lectures the rangers showed films and photos illustrating their field work. In December two visits to local schools were carried out within the framework of the educational project.

Besides, the public environmental law enforcement officers cooperated with the local mass media: television of Luchegorsk and "Energy" television, and local newspaper "Pobeda" (Victory).

### 2. Western wildlife managers' team of the Hunting Management Department



The Wildlife managers' 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). From January 01 to December 31, 2006 the team revealed 116 ecological violations, confiscated 16 illegal rifles and 36 poached wild animals, and initiated 11 criminal proceedings. See the description and results of the project activities for the period from January 01 to April 30 in the Interim Report.

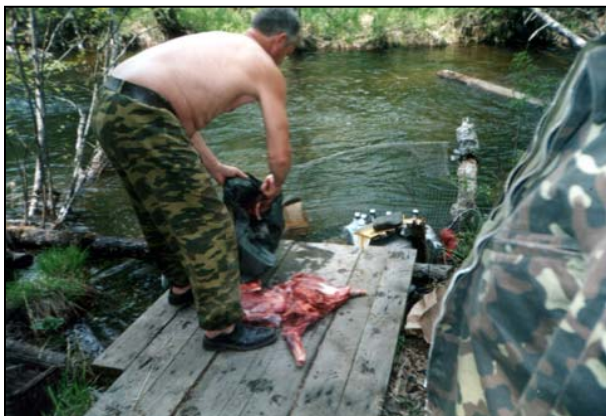
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Arrested poacher

On May 02, in the hunting grounds of Dalnerechensky district the rangers detained

Mr. A. Sharapov and Mr. N. Bondarev for hunting ducks during the closed hunting period.

On May 05, in the hunting grounds of Lesozavodsky district Mr. S. Nosov, a resident of Nevskoye village, was stopped while hunting ducks during the closed hunting period.



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Violator with poached wild meat

On May 09, in the vicinity of Vedenka village a group of violators – S. Pochtar, Z. Pochtar and N. Pochtar - who felled illegally oaks were spotted. The violators and their equipment (truck "Belorus" and a chain-saw) were taken to the police station to initiate criminal proceedings.

On May 16, in the hunting lease of Dalnerechensky district the team detained Mr. S. Krivosheev, a dweller of Orekhovo village, for hunting on salt licks during closed hunting season.

On May 27, in the vicinity of Mezhdurechye village close to the Zelyony spring the rangers detained Mr. G. Kondratyuk, a resident of Dalnerechensk town, who was hunting ungulates on salt licks.

Administrative proceedings were initiated against all the afore-mentioned violators and fines were imposed on them.

On June 03, a group of poachers was detained in the vicinity of the Pravaya Primanka spring in Krasnoarmeisky district headed by a gamekeeper who shot a Siberian stag and a roe deer during closed hunting season. The group consisted of residents of Melnichnoye village, a police officer, a dweller of Bolshoy Kamen town, and an employee of the Marine Inspection. Administrative proceedings were initiated against the violators; they paid a fine for poached animals.



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**Arrested violator**

On June 04, at 50 km's distance from Melnichnoye village close to the Levaya Primanka spring the rangers detained V.S. Khvashinsky, inhabitant of Roschino village, for carrying a gun during close hunting period.



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**Poacher with killed deer**

On June 18, Mr.A.Sokolov and Mr.S.Perga were stopped for hunting on salt licks in Tayozhny wildlife refuge in Privolnaya Pad.

On June 22, in the hunting grounds of Primorokhota Ltd. In Terneisky district near the Lebedevka spring 55 km far from Amgu village the team spotted two men who preyed a roe deer during close hunting period. On June 24, in the hunting lease of Primorokhota Ltd, in the vicinity of the Udachny spring 95 km far from Amgu village Mr. Yakimenko was detained with a gun and meat of a Siberian stag. On June 24, in the hunting lot of Primorokhota Ltd. Mr. V. Dorofeev was detained with an illegal gun during closed hunting period.

On June 26, near the Pravaya Primanka spring in Krasnoarmeisky district the rangers stopped a gamekeeper with a gun and Siberian stag during close hunting period. On June 26, in the hunting lease of "Polyany" company in Dalnerechensky district Mr. Yu. Permyakov, a resident of Martinovo village, was detained with an illegal gun during closed hunting period. The gun was withdrawn and a criminal procedure initiated against the violator according to Article 222 of the Criminal Code of the Russian Federation.

On June 02 and 07, the hunting manager of the team witnessed during public hearings of the criminal cases against Mr. A. Baurov for illegal logging in July 2005; against Mr.V. Krikun, V. Krikun, S. Krikun for illegal logging in February 2005; and against Mr.S. Prikhozhay for collusive





illegal logging in big volumes in November 2005 and for false crime information in order to escape from punishment for violation of forestry legislation. The violators were conditionally sentenced to two years, a year and eight months imprisonment with probation period.

In July the team worked on protection of wildlife and fish resources in the district. On July 10-18, a joint patrol in cooperation with the officers of Fish Protection Inspection was carried out along the Bikin River in Pozharsky district. The rangers inspected the area of Berkhnebikinsky wildlife refuge along the Bikin river up to the confluence with the Zeva river and down the Bikin as far as Verkhny Pereval village. They covered over 400 km by boat.

During the patrol three violations of hunting regulations were revealed. Reports were drawn up on dwellers of Krasny Yar village for carrying arms in the hunting grounds during closed hunting period. The reports were forwarded to the Hunting Management Department of Pozharsky district. Besides, two violations of fishing regulations were discovered. Twelve fishing nets were withdrawn.



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Checking hunters' vehicle

On July 21-27, the team conducted a joint patrol with the officers of Fish Protection Inspection to Terneisky district aimed at protection of fauna and fishing resources. The rangers patrolled the territory up the Maksimovka river from the entry to the upper reaches as far as the borderline with Pozharsky district. Supposed places of poaching were also examined. As a result, four violations of fishing regulations were disclosed, nine fishing nets were confiscated.

The team patrolled in the vicinity of the Bikin river close to Verkhnebikinsky wildlife refuge of Pozharsky district as well as in Terneisky district in order to get better acquainted with the area. For this purpose local people were involved. In the long view this must positively influence work of the environmental law enforcement team of the Hunting Management Department.



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Arrested illegal loggers

On September 05, in the upper reaches of the Malinovka river at 65 km from Pozhiga village a group of people was detained. All of them are residents of Lesozavodsk city and Lesozavodsky district: V.V. Gladun (gamekeeper assistant of Kirovsky forestry), S.V. Zonov (forest manager of Kirovsky forestry), A.G. Kamlin (employee of security agency). A. Cherenyuk, inspector of Kirovsky branch of Hunting Management Department, headed the group. All the detainees had uncovered loaded shotguns without hunting

license in a jeep. Reports on administrative violations were drawn up and a fine imposed on violators. The inspectors wrote a staff report on

Mr. Cherenyuk addressed to the Chief of Primorsky Department of federal Service for Veterinarian Sanitary Supervision.





On September 07, in Dalnerechensky district at 10 km from Lubitovka village, Mr.S. Pilipchuk was stopped with a chainsaw. The officers made a report, withdrew the saws and passed it to a local police station for further investigation.

On September 11, in the upper reaches of the Malinovka river in Dalnerechensky district within 75 km from Pozhiga village the inspectors apprehended Lyu Guishen, Li Gosyue, Yan Tzin, citizens of People's Republic of China for fishing beyond the standards. An administrative report was made on each of the violators and claim for damage 29,500 rubles (\$1,113) in total.

On September 12, in Krasnoarmeisky district at 10 km from Melnichnoye village on the Bolshaya Ussurka river the rangers detained three fishermen, dwellers of Dalnegorsk town who had fishing and hunting products beyond established limits. Reports were made and fines imposed on the violators. Claim for damage totals 40,450 rubles (\$1,526).



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Confiscated rifles

On September 13, at 3 km far from Tayozhnaya settlement in Krasnoarmeisky district the rangers stopped N.V. Leontyev,

dweller of Bolshoi Kamen town; K.N. Koinosov, resident of Nakhodka town and V.Y. Ovcharenko, inhabitant of Tayozhnaya settlement, with illegal arms by them without hunting license. Two shotguns IZH-43 and IZH-34 and eight cartridges were withdrawn from the detainees and forwarded to Krasnoarmeisky police station for further inquiries. The rangers made up a report on the violators and imposed a fine on them.

On September 14, in the hunting grounds of "Tiger" hunting and fishing society in Pozharsky district the rangers stopped a car for examination. The driver, resident of Vladivostok city, had a smoothbore gun by him without hunting license. A report was made up and a fine imposed on the violator.



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Ranger draws up a report

On September 16, in the hunting grounds of Krasnoarmeisky district at 1.5 km from Molodyozhnaya village a car Toyota Duna was stopped for examination. N.N. Zonov and O.V. Kuligin, dwellers of Molodyozhnaya village, who were in the vehicle, carried two illegal shotguns and cartridges to them and had no hunting license. The officers made reports on the violators, imposed fines on them. The arms were forwarded to Krasnoarmeisky police station for further inquiries.

On September 17, at 35 km from Melnichnoye village in Krasnoarmeisky district the rangers stopped A.R. Sharipov carrying a gun without permit. A report was drawn up and a fine imposed on the violator.



On September 14, in Krasnoarmeisky district at 35 km from Melnichnoye village three dwellers of Lesozavodsk town, who had fishing production beyond the allowed limits were detained. A report was made and a claim for damage in the amount of 63,250 rubles (\$2,387) brought.

On September 19, at 30 km from Pozhiga village in Dalnerechensky district the rangers examined a vehicle by a dweller of Pozhiga village who had a smoothbore gun by him without hunting license. A report was made and a fin imposed on the violator.

In total, 28 reports on administrative violations were made in September, 17 of them on hunting violations and 11 on fishing violations. Five illegal guns were confiscated. Fines in the amount of 25,000 rubles (\$943) were imposed on the violators. Claims for damage caused to nature equal 158,000 rubles (\$5,962).

In November the team revealed 16 violations of hunting regulations and drew up 17 administrative reports. One criminal procedure was initiated. The officers confiscated two units of shotgun and removed nine snares.



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**Checking hunters**

On November 13, in the hunting grounds of “Sadatun” hunting and fishing society 30 km far from Melnichnoye village of Krasnoarmeisky district the rangers stopped a minibus for examination. There were two residents of Melnichnoye village. In their car they kept a homemade rifled carbine gauged 7.62 x 54 without license, four cartridges for the gun, and a poached roe deer. The environmental officers drew up a report and imposed a fine on the violators. The gun was confiscated and passed on to district police department for further investigation and initiating a criminal procedure.

On November 14, in the same hunting lease 38 km far from Melnichnoye village the officers stopped two men: a resident of Krolnorechensk village of Dalnegorsky district and a local villager. They carried uncovered loaded guns without hunting permits. Administrative reports were made and fines imposed.



**Illegal rifle**

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On November 14, in the same area the officers stopped a car driven by Mr. Postnov, a local resident. They made a report on administrative violation for keeping his gun uncovered.

On November 14, while patrolling in Krasnoarmeisky district 100 km far from Melnichnoye village close to Arasenska natural landmark near the Tigrovy (Tiger) spring 100 km far from “Gefest” Ltd. the team discovered nine snares and confiscated them. They drew up reports on the fact.

On November 14, in the hunting lot of Terneisky hunting and fishing society 13 km far from Plastun town in the vicinity of the Sinancha spring the team apprehended Mr. Gavrilov, resident of Plastun town, with an uncovered loaded shotgun without hunting





license. The rangers made up a report on the violator and made him pay a fine.

On November 15, in the hunting lease of Krasnoarmeisky district close to the Nakonechny spring 40 km far from Glubinnoye village the officers detained a resident of Roschino town. He kept a gun uncovered in his car and had no hunting license. The violator paid a fine. The team drew up a report on administrative violation.

On November 15, at 10- km distance from Glubinnoye village in Krasnoarmeisky district the officers stopped a vehicle driven by a resident of Roschino town and examined it. He turned to have an uncovered gun with a magazine fastened to it. A report was made up and a fine imposed.

On November 16, about 3 km far from Novopokrovka town in Krasnoarmeisky district apprehended two men who drove an off-road vehicle without registration numbers and carried a gun without hunting license. The rangers drew up a report on administrative violation and imposed a fine on the detainees.



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Drawing up a report

On November 17, in the vicinity of Nikitovka village of Pozharsky district the team stopped Mr. Shvetsov for carrying a gun without hunting license. A report was made and a fine imposed on the violator.

On November 18, in the hunting lease of "Tiger" Ltd. close to Sobolinoye village of Pozharsky district a man, resident of Krasny Yar village, was stopped for keeping an illegal gun. It was handed on to Luchegorsky district police station for further investigation and initiating criminal proceedings.

On November 18, Mr. Davletshin was stopped by the officers at the same area for carrying his gun loaded and uncovered without hunting license. He paid a fine and an administrative report was drawn up against him.

On November 18, in the hunting grounds of "Alchan" Ltd. 45 km far from Yasenevo village of Pozharsky district the rangers detained a man with a gun having no hunting license. They made an administrative report against him and imposed a fine on him.

On November 19, a car was stopped for examination near Melnichnoye village of Krasnoarmeisky district. The driver had two uncovered loaded carbines and meat of preyed wild boar. The officers formed necessary documents.

On November 20, in the vicinity of the Propuschenny spring in Krasnoarmeisky district three inhabitants of Vladivostok city was hunting



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Illegal rifles





without a hunting license. The environmental law enforcement officers made up an administrative report and imposed fines on the each member of the group.

On November 25, the team patrolled the hunting grounds of “Dalprimdor” Ltd. in Partizansky district. In the hunters’ camp the rangers discovered a skin of a badger preyed by a staff gamekeeper of this company. He had no license for hunting badger. A report on administrative violation was made and compensation for damage imposed on the man.



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Unauthorized woodcutting area

Mr. Andryushak, resident of Vladivostok city, was stopped with a preyed red deer. By the moment of detention he had not made a sign in his hunting license, which is a violation. The rangers made a report on the violator, imposed a fine on him and withdrew his hunting license.

In December the Western wildlife managers’ team revealed 29 violations of hunting regulations and confiscated poached wildlife products including five red deer, one bear, one roe deer, one musk deer, three sables, two Indian martens and one wild boar.

On December 05, the Western wildlife managers’ team arrested Mr. Pantin in the hunting grounds of Krasnoarmeisky district, 60 km far from Melnichnoye village. The arrested man had two poached musk deer and one sable. After checking the document, the rangers found out that Mr. Pantin had a permit to hunt musk deer and sable. According to the law, hunter should mark the game in the hunting ticket as soon as he shoots it. Mr. Pantin violated the hunting regulations, as he had not marked his game in a proper way. The wildlife managers confiscated the poached wildlife, drew up a report and imposed a fine.

On December 07, while patrolling the hunting grounds in Krasnoarmeisky district, the team stopped a vehicle 35 km far from Roschino village. The wildlife managers examined the vehicle and found a rifle belonging to Mr. Kryuchkov, the vehicle’s owner. Mr. Kryuchkov did not have a permit to hunt. The rangers drew up a report on violation of hunting regulations, confiscated the rifle and forwarded it to Krasnoarmeisky police department for further investigation.

On the same day, 25 km far from the Levaya Beglyanka spring the team arrested Mr. Mironov, a resident of Dalny Kut village, with rifle. The man had neither a gun license, nor a permit to hunt. The wildlife managers drew up a report, imposed a fine on the violator, confiscated his rifle and handed it over to Krasnoarmeisky police department for further investigation.

Later on, the team detained Mr. Leonov, a resident of Dalny Kut village, with one poached

sable. The rangers drew up a report, imposed a fine and confiscated the poached animal.



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Filling in a reporting form



On December 08, the team was patrolling the hunting grounds 16 km far from Dersu village and arrested two violators. Both men were hunting without a permit. The wildlife managers drew up two reports and imposed a fine on each violator. On the same day, the team stopped a car 9 km far from Dalny Kut village. The rangers examined the car and found a rifle. The gun-cover was taken off. It meant that the car's owner was going to hunt, but it appeared that he did not have a permit. Thus, the rangers drew up a report and imposed a fine. The similar violation was revealed 30 km far from Roschino village. Mr. Kyalunziga had a rifle in his vehicle without a permit to hunt.

On December 09, the wildlife managers patrolled the hunting grounds 80 km far from Roschino village. They checked Savitskye logging area and found a wooden box with 10 kg of red deer meat. The loggers did not have a permit to hunt. The wildlife managers imposed a fine on Mr. Savitsky, a resident of Novopokrovka village and a director of Savitskye Ltd. On the same day, the team arrested a group of three hunters 50 km far from Glubinoye village. Among the violators there were: Mr. Fedurov, deputy director of Primorsky ore mining and processing enterprise; Mr. Oleg Shibakov and Mr. Alexander Shibakov, gamekeepers of Krasnoarmeisky hunting society. The hunters were arrested in a cabin with 50 kg of poached red deer. None of them had a permit to hunt. The wildlife rangers drew up reports and imposed a fine on each violator.

Later on, the team arrested a resident of Vostretsovo village 50 km far from Glubinoye village. He had a lot of poached wildlife: three sables, four squirrels, two Indian martens, and one wild boar. Mr. Kistyuk did not have a permit to hunt wild boar and Indian marten. He had a permit to hunt sable, but as he did not mark it in the hunting ticket that he had shot sable it meant that he was poaching. Thus, the wildlife managers drew up a report on violation of hunting regulations and imposed a fine.

On December 10, while patrolling the hunting grounds 20 km far from Glubinoye village, the team stopped a car. The car's owner, Mr. Fischuk, appeared to be a forester of Roschinsky forestry. The wildlife managers examined his car and found a gun, with gun-cover taken off. The violator paid a fine. Several hours later, 30 km far from Glubinoye village, near the Tigrinka river the Western team detained two men with two poached red deer (about 70 kg). The detainees did not have a permit to hunt. The wildlife managers drew up reports and imposed a fine on each violator. On the same day, the team arrested Mr. Lutaenko with one sable and one red deer (40 kg) in his vehicle. The poacher did not have a permit to hunt. The rangers imposed a fine and drew up a report.

On December 11, Mr. Ganchenko with poached bear meat (about 10 kg) was arrested in the hunting grounds 25 km far from Glubinoye village. The violator did not have a permit to hunt. The wildlife managers drew up a report and imposed a fine on him. In several hours, the team arrested a resident of Vostretsovo village with gun IZH-27. The violator did not have a permit to hunt. Later on, the wildlife managers detained Mr. Orlov, a gamekeeper of Krasnoarmeisky hunting society, with poached wildlife: five sables, four squirrels and one roe deer. As he did not have a permit to hunt, the wildlife managers drew up a report on violation of hunting regulations and imposed a fine on him. On the same day, Mr. Piskarev, a police officer of Krasnoarmeisky police department, was arrested with a carbine and without a permit to hunt 12 km far from Glubinoye village. The wildlife managers drew up a report on administrative violation and imposed a fine on him.



### III. Environmental Education and Outreach

#### 1. Eco-centre in Novopokrovka town, Northern Primorye

In January 2004 the Phoenix Fund set up the Tiger eco-centre in Novopokrovka town, Northern Primorye. The city authorities provided a classroom for the centre at a local school and an experienced educator conducts ecological classes, lectures, slide presentations and other activities for children and adults. The classes have been hugely successful and have attracted 2,500 children from around this vast region. For the period from January to June 2006 the teacher carried out over 160 eco-classes and over 2,940 children visited the eco-centre. See the description and results of the project activities for the period from January 01 to June 30, 2006 in the Interim Report.

In July 223 children of 6-11 years old attended eco-classes and took part in ecological games.

In Boguslavets village a game “Lonely tiger’s way” was conducted at a school summer camp. The kids went from start to finish with the help of dice, map and chips (three children in tiger dress). Three players started the game, as this is a usual amount of cubs born in a litter. The winner is the only person who will go through all the way on the map. In the process of the game the children met with all the troubles tiger cubs actually come across in taiga – Mom’s death, snakes’ bites, enemies such as bear, wild boar, poacher, male tiger, and bad weather. All of that is very dangerous for a young and inexperienced cub. Forty children participated in the game.



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Children preparing for a game at the eco-center

The educator held a quiz on Amur tiger’s size and habits. The winners were awarded with certificates of tiger experts. After a short report on Far Eastern softshell turtle made by the children regularly attending the center, the other children asked questions and shared their observations. Thus, we learned that due to pollution of the lake of the village the locals had not seen the turtles for already two years. Little ecologists spoke about how they clean the rivers’ banks from litter and set signs with an appeal not to pollute the environment.



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Lesson “World with Amur tiger”

An outdoor game “Forest is agitated” was organized for children of eco-club and a summer camp in Novopokrovka village. The essence of the game is as follows: a player moves and after the leader’s signal stands still imitating some animal or plant. The leader is to guess what he/she imitates. If he manages to do that, he/she asks a question. E.g. questions about tigers: How many of them are there in the wild in the region? What are the problems of their reproduction? What is an average weight of an adult tiger? The teacher is often chosen as a leader and in that case it is possible to fix knowledge got at the previous lesson asking questions on its topic. If the leader did not guess, the other player takes his/



her turn. The advantage of the game is that it can last from five minutes to a longer period of time.

A game “Recognize me” was carried out for the children of the eco-club and school summer camp in Novopokrovka and Lukyanovka villages. Labels with the names of animals or plants are put on the players’ backs. In order to guess “what they are”, they are to ask questions to which the other kids can answer just “yes” or “no”.

A similar game was organized for children of the same villages. The difference was that the players were to ask questions and got “mute” answers. The spectators answered with gestures and mimicry. E.g. In what way do I eat? The children liked the game better than the previous one, as it is dynamic and funny. In August, about 120 children attended lessons and other environmental actions carried out in the tiger eco-center. During the month the teacher and 13 permanent visitors of the center kept the premise in order. The primary task was to get children acquainted with the center’s nurslings (wild pets) and to teach the children how to take care of them.



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Results of “Clean Coast” action

The children and the educator visited a local library and saw an exhibition titled “Young naturalist”. During the visit, the librarians told about ecological magazines, including the famous “Young Naturalist” magazine. The children learnt the main columns of the magazine, read notes made by ecologists and solved riddles about animals and plants.

In August the teacher organized an excursion “Blooming walk-around” for 12 children. The main goal of the excursion was to get children acquainted with plants blooming on flowerbeds of Luchegorsk city. During the excursion the children were asked to examine the flowers growing around the eco-center. The teacher read poems about flowers, offered riddles, and told about the use of plants. The children came to a conclusion that flowering plants need to be conserved.

The educator conducted an ecological lesson “Day of Baikal Lake”, with 16 children attended. The main purpose of the lesson was to inform about the unique lake and to describe its critical situation. The teacher told about the origin of the lake and reasons for including it into the UNESCO Heritage List. To check new information gained by the children during the lesson, the educator carried out a quiz with questions about Baikal Lake.

Eighteen children took part in a press conference of the Third International Children’s Ecological Symposium. Two members of “Namba” eco-club were awarded with memorable prizes for their work on conservation of the Far Eastern soft-shell turtle.

The educator conducted a lesson “World with Amur tiger” for 22 children. Using maps, tiger posters and leaflets, the teacher told about the unique nature of the Russian Far East and organizations involved in conservation of rare and endangered species. Amur tiger was told about in detail. The children learnt about main threats for survival of tiger population, such as habitat destruction and poaching. The educator told about the work of the eco-centre and about ecological actions carried out by “Namba” eco-club. The pupils of the 2<sup>nd</sup> form did not want to leave the centre. They promised to help save the nature and be active participants of different environmental action, including Tiger Day celebration.

In order to prepare for the Tiger Day festival the educator organized several rehearsals and discussions of the holiday's scenario and costumes to be used in festive ecological performance.

In September the teacher conducted eight gatherings of the club. Twelve children attended them. Since September 1<sup>st</sup>, the young ecologists started preparing for the most important event of the year "Tiger Day". The schoolchildren were responsible for organization of playgrounds.

On September 04, the kids worked out a draft of the map of the outdoor game "Life of tiger cub" with the "alive chips". The idea of the game was taken from "Amur tiger" kid's book. On September 06, the children started learning their parts. On September 08 and 11, the children made a map on a 12-meter long plastic sheet. They laid out the pictures, fixed them and discussed the moves. On September 13, the teacher with the kids rehearsed the game.



© Phoenix Fund  
The children gathered around a big toy tiger  
at the eco-center

On September 16, the teacher together with the kids inflated balloons to decorate the column and the square of the town with them.

In the meantime the educator accepted entries for participation, handmade things and paintings from the town schools. On September 15, a jury was invited. They selected the best entries for an exhibition on the square. The teacher signed the certificates, allocated the presents, bought products and arranged with the local canteen that they would cook cereal and stewed fruit for the children who would take part in the holiday. On September 17, a "Tiger Day" festival took place (Tiger Day Festival report is available below).

On September 25, the educator awarded the participants of the festival with the certificates. Handmade articles and drawings were returned to the schools. The children looked after the animals living in the club. On September 27, the teacher organized a game "Recognize me". Labels with the names of animals or plants are put on the players' backs. In order to guess "what they are", they are to ask questions to which the other kids can answer just "yes" or "no".



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Lesson "Is fire good or bad?"

On September 29, the teacher together with 11 children carried out a "Clean Coast" action on the bank of the Bolshaya Ussurka river.

On October 02, the teacher conducted an ecological game "Tigers and deer" for 16 schoolchildren. The essence of the game is that the third person is superfluous. Children form pairs and take one another by the arm. All of them stand in a circle facing its centre. They are different "trees" and "bushes" in the forest that give shelter to deer. In the centre of the circle there are "a tiger" and "a deer". The tiger tries to catch the deer. The deer can hide under a tree; that is s/he can link any player acting as a tree. The third person becomes a



deer. From time to time the leader of the game (the teacher) disbands certain pairs, thus, there become less shelters and more deer that have to hide from the tigers. Consequently, number of tigers grows as well. In the process of the game kids realize how important it is to preserve enough places that animals might use as refuges.

On October 03, the teacher conducted an ecological contest of erudites “Dump named the Earth”. Before the game starts the teams of participants are formed and structure of the jury defined. Music accompanied the game, created certain mood and filled occasional pauses. The game was devoted to one of the most up-to-date subjects – pollution of our planet. Its aim is to make children understand that with such indifference towards nature we are doomed to live among rubbish for a long time. The game had four stages. The first one was “Golden deposits of dumps”. The teams got three plates with numbers 1, 2, and 3. The teacher asked a question, suggested three answers and gave a sign. The players were to raise the plate with the number of the right answer quickly.

The second stage is called “out of child’s mouth”. Children got acquainted with the most widely spread waste and methods of its secondary use.

The third round of the game was called “Main allies of ecologists”. Judging by appearance of a plant or herbarium the participants were to determine what pollutant caused changes in these or those organs. It turned out to be the most difficult for children as the questions were from the sphere of chemistry and biology and required additional knowledge in these disciplines.

The fourth stage titled “What depends on each person?” presupposed that the children would continue some phrases and sayings. In this way they summarized the information they got before in the previous tasks.

On October 04, the teacher organized “Cabbage kickback”. It is a tradition in Russia to cook sour cabbage. At this kind of holiday children told about the history of cabbage, subspecies of this vegetable. Girls in folk dresses sang couplets. “Doctor” told a lesson on health and spoke on advantages of vegetable diet. The children guessed riddles and ate cabbage patties.



Eco-lesson

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On October 07, the educator organized a round table with representatives of the Geographical Society of Vladivostok. Nineteen schoolchildren and five adults attended the meeting. The children of the ecological centre as well as members of “Namba” ecological club met with the organizers and participants of a motor rally devoted to a 100 year anniversary of V.K. Arseniev’ expedition. He was a well-known traveler and explorer of the region. The guests acquainted the audience with his life, discoveries, and personal documents. Both children and adults were glad to learn how the Tiger Day was celebrated in Vladivostok, the capital of the region. And the teacher, together with the club members, shared their own experience of the Tiger Day festival, which had already become a tradition in Novopokrovka

town, capital of Krasnoarmeisky district.

On October 14, twenty-six children accompanied by four adults cleaned the banks of the local river once again.





On October 16-20, the teacher held lessons “Is fire good or bad?” Two hundred schoolchildren of 7-11 years old attended it. In the classroom the teacher hang a map of Primorye, a portrait of K. Paustovsky (Russian wildlife writer, author of numerous tales for children), paintings of “Namba” eco-club members and prepared sheets of paper and felt pens. She put booklets “Guidelines for tourists” on each desk. The schoolchildren learned about the history of fire, got notions of “fire triangle” and its components. In a game form they spoke about advantages and disadvantages of fire. The teacher read a story “Hare’s paws” by K. Paustovsky after which the young ecologists came to a conclusion that the consequences of forest fires are horrible and only the most quick, brave and canny animals can survive in them. The pupils got to know about three types of forest fire. Using the map of the region the teacher spoke about the greatest fires that are considered global ecological catastrophes. According to the statistics, only 15% of forest fires are caused by lightning and people are guilty of the rest of them.

Children divided into groups and read “Guidelines for tourists” in turns and draw illustrations for the rules of behavior in the forest. The teacher started a story about two boys who dried their wet clothes over a gas oven on and the kids gave two different continuations of the story. Afterwards, the children practiced how to behave if a fire arouse in the building. At the end of the lesson everybody came to a conclusion that it is impossible to call fire bad or good. It depends on people. The teacher suggested drawing “bad/good fire” with its causes or consequences as a home task.

On October 25, twenty children attended a lesson devoted to the 68<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Primorsky region. History of Primorye, its flora and fauna, nature reserves, animals and plants under protection are some of the topics covered.

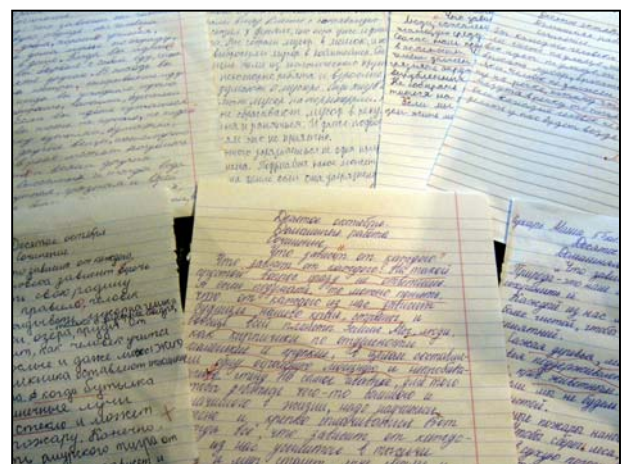
On October 26, twelve pupils removed faded flowers from the school flowerbed. During October the teacher coordinated a children’s contest of compositions on the subject “What depends on everyone?” The winners’ works were published in the Sikhote-Alin local newspaper. Eight members of the eco-club took part in a painting contest “A day of tiger’s life”.

In November 2006 the educator conducted 16 different lessons and events that covered 278 children. On November 01, the educator carried out a game “Do I know tiger well?” for 21 schoolchildren. They agreed or disagreed to the teacher’s statements and got points for right answers.

On November 02, the educator held a lesson “Signs of coming danger” for 19 children. The Constitution of the Russian Federation claims that each person has a right to live in sane environment. According to the World International Organization of Health Protection, the state of the environment accounts for 25-30% of everyone’s health. Toxins, global warming and epidemics were among the topics discussed at the lesson.

On November 03, fourteen schoolchildren attended a lesson “Get acquainted with Phoenix”. They got to know the legend about the Phoenix bird and about the Phoenix Fund’s activities aimed at conservation of biological diversity of the region.

On November 08, twelve kids participated in



© Phoenix Fund

Children’s compositions on the subject “What depends on everyone?”

the lesson “It’s us who will live here”. They conducted a regular clean-up of the centre, cleaned the pet’s cages and watered the plants.

On November 09-10, two groups of pupils (16 and 7 persons accordingly) listened with great interest to a story “Hello, Amba!” (a native name for tiger) by S. Kucherenko. It was published in “Natural Scientist” magazine in October 2006. The action takes place in the Sikhote-Alin Mountains and the main personage is a young wildlife manager Gennady. He studied the habits of the striped predator thoroughly and dreamt of meeting it in taiga. The pupils discussed whether the gamekeeper had acted correctly at that definite situation and also the ways tiger behaves in the forest.

On November 13 and 17, the teacher organized a lesson for 24 and 20 schoolchildren called “Russian language with a tiger”. As the educator works both at the eco-centre and conducts Russian language courses for junior schoolchildren she has a possibility to use the information on tiger when preparing different tasks that would enliven the lesson and make children stir their memory and imagination. Thus, she invented various exercises: to find and correct lexical/grammar/spelling/punctuation mistakes in the text; to insert the missing letters/parts of speech/words using the context; to analyze a word/sentence structure; to entitle the text etc. She plans to use information from the teachers’ guide “Russian language with a tiger” in the future for tests, compositions, dictations, and expositions.

On November 14, twenty children took part in an ecological lesson “Felines of the world”. They learned about our close neighbours – Far Eastern leopard and Amur tiger, conditions they live in, their prey base, the way they bring up their cubs etc. During a break they imitated the roar of a domestic cat (during breathing-in and out) and that of tigers and leopards (only at expiration).

On November 15, the teacher told 25 children about nature reserves of the region: Sikhote-Alin, Lazovsky, Ussuriisky, Marine, Kedrovaya Pad, and Khankaisky reserves.



© Phoenix Fund

Children with birdfeeders

On November 20 and 23, forty-nine pupils attended a lesson “Nose to nose” where they learnt how to behave when seeing a “master of the taiga” in the forest. At the lesson the teacher used the booklet “Guidelines to human behaviour and livestock management in tiger habitat”. The children that can read well and already know this information were suggested to say what was right and what was wrong in the stories about different people meeting a tiger. These stories are based on real facts. Afterwards, the children gave way to imagination and made up a story “Hello, Tiger!” describing the place of the meeting, his/her emotional state, actions etc. The teacher considered important to empathize that aggressive tigers attacking people are an

exception rather than a rule and that peaceful coexistence is always possible. At the end of the lesson everybody expressed his/her opinion on the article “Tiger shot in Khasan” in the “Komsomolskaya Pravda” paper.

On November 22 and 24, the teacher made a “tiger test” destined to check knowledge obtained at the previous lesson. Thirty-four children took part in the test and 82% of them showed good level.

On November 27, nine pupils studied the Red Book of Endangered Species. Everybody knows that red colour is a sign of danger and prohibition. But the children discovered with surprise that there are also yellow, white and even gray sheets signifying various levels of threat for survival! Unfortunately, the green ones indicating species that have recovered and are not in danger, are very few.

In November eight children volunteered for constructing birdfeeders. At the end of the month all the works were awarded under such nominations as “The smallest”, “The biggest”, “The comfiest”, “The quickest”, and “The neatest”.



© Phoenix Fund  
A girl tells about rare birds

On December 06, the educator showed a video film “Save every one” for schoolchildren of Novokreschenka village. On the same day they attended a lesson “Forest as an eco-system”.

On December 08, the educator arranged a meeting with biology teachers of Novopokrovka town, Novokreschenka, Lukyanovka, Gogolevka villages at the eco-centre and told them about new visual materials, showed new books, explained how to work with disks and work plans for 2007.



© Phoenix Fund  
Lesson “Forest as an eco-system”

On December 12, children of “Romashka” kindergarten in Novopokrovka town had a lesson “A Fir-tree was born in the forest”. In the process of the lesson the children learned that forest was divided into coniferous, deciduous and mixed. They realized that careful attitude to books saved fir -trees. Children discussed who, in their opinion, could not live well without fir-trees (birds, squirrels, bears and even tigers). They also watched a film on forest fires and concluded that one should be very careful with fire.

On December 14, schoolchildren of the Children’s Art Centre watched a film “Kedrovaya Pad”. After that, the educator checked their knowledge by asking questions. Most active participants were presented with tiger bookmarks. Now the pupils know for sure the reserve’s age, its territory and what protected species inhabited it.

On December 22, the teacher contacted directors of all district schools with a suggestion to bring schoolchildren to the eco-centre during winter vacations to watch films from its collection. Many schools were very interested, as they do not have their own conditions for that.



On December 26, the teacher held a lesson “A fir-tree was born in the forest” for children of “Svetlyachok” kindergarten in Novopokrovka town.

## 2. Ecological education in the North of Primorye



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Eco-lesson in Pozharsky district

In 2006 the eco-classes started in the mid-January because of winter holidays (January 01 through January 15). From January 15 to December 31 over 3,470 children attended 114 ecological lessons, performances, round tables, conferences and festivals. See the description and results of the project activities for the period from January 01 to June 30, 2006 in the Interim Report.

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.

On September 01, the educator gave an environment-oriented lesson for 14 pupils of the 8<sup>th</sup> form in Guberovo village. The schoolchildren got information on rich natural resources of Pozharsky district. The teacher told about the unique plants of northern as well southern areas (oak, maple, yew tree, Manchurian walnut, wild rose, Labrador tea, bergenia, lingonberry and others). The Bikin River with its still virgin islets of Ussuri taiga has over 50 fish species including the ones listed in the Red Book of Endangered Species of the Russian Federation. About 300 bird species (mandarin duck, black stork, blue-and-white flycatcher, and others) inhabit this area. The educator told about wild animals such as Amur tiger, brown and Asiatic black bears, red deer, roe deer, wild boar, musk deer, fox, badger, sable, squirrel, etc. Nowhere in the world there is anything similar to the Korean pine forest like in Ussuriiskaya taiga. After a short discussion, the schoolchildren came to conclusion that this area of unique nature should be national heritage site and get high-protected status.



© Phoenix Fund

Lesson “Ecological situation in Pozharsky district”

On September 05, the teacher gave lesson on the theme “Ecological situation in Pozharsky district” for 11 pupils of the 7<sup>th</sup> form in Guberovo village. The teacher said that according to statistics, in 2005 local plant facilities ejected over 72.7 thousand cubic tons of contaminants in the air and discharged about 14 million cubic meters of sewage water. Over 36.8 million tons of garbage and industrial waste are on the local scrap heaps. The teacher explained the problem to the schoolchildren and asked them to name methods to keep region clean.

Twenty-two pupils attended a lesson devoted to feline family at school No.2 in Luchegorsk city on September 11. The teacher gave an interesting lecture on two representatives of



this big family, namely Amur tiger and leopard. At the end of the lesson the schoolchildren watched a video film "Leopard's son".

On September 25, the teacher carried out a lesson on the theme "Fire is the forest's enemy" for 10 pupils of the 6<sup>th</sup> form in Ignatievka village. The educator said that it was forest fire season. Long-term lack of rains aggravated the situation. The children gave brief reports on reasons and consequences of forest fires. All pupils knew that over 95 % of forest fires are caused by people. The teacher asked the schoolchildren about the rules of human behaviour in forest. At the end of the lesson the pupils watched two films: "Features of forest in Primorye" and "How one should behave outdoors".

In October the educator conducted four ecological lessons in the eco-club for schoolchildren of the 3<sup>rd</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> forms (8-14 years old), 67 children in total.

On October 27, the educator held a lesson "Reserved Primorye" where she showed a cartoon "Rehashed tale about the Gold Fish" for small children.

On October 30, "Reserved Primorye" lessons were conducted for senior schoolchildren. They included an interactive moment. The children wrote three wishes on their sheets of paper and put them onto the Hope Tree. Among the wishes were: "I want that people were friends with the forest and understood each other", "I wish there were no List of Endangered Species on our planet", "I wish there became more nature protectors in Luchegorsk city", "I wish tigers came back", "I wish people did not kill animals", "I wish the forest were well and animals in this forest lived happily" and others.

The teacher chose this subject for the lessons on purpose as on October 25 a Day devoted to Primorsky region is celebrated. At the lessons the children discussed actively a number of species and richness of the region, recollected the names of nature reserves, wildlife refuges, animals and plants listed in the Endangered Species List. Furthermore, they spoke on ecological problems of Primorsky region and suggested ways to solve them. The children of "Vesnyanka" ("Caddis fly") eco-club started working on slide presentations for ecological lessons. They are supposed to carry out lessons for children of their age themselves. Now they collect information, search for photographs, learn to make presentations themselves and use them at their lessons. They work with enthusiasm.

On October 27, the children of "Robinsons" group (19 persons) were conferred ecologists. During the event the pupils fulfilled some creative tasks, among which there were questions on ecology and different assignments to check their tourist skills.

It already became a tradition for the children of "Vesnyanka" and "Robinsons" groups to hike in autumn. All of them liked most of all a trip to the Muziza River behind Verkhny Pereval town. Fifteen children took part in it. During the hike the young ecologists went on with their research, biological monitoring of the Bikin River.

The teacher organized two excursions around the ecological centre for children of the 3<sup>rd</sup> – 4<sup>th</sup> forms, 44 children in total.

On November 02, 07 and 28, the educator conducted excursions in "Pervotsvet" eco-centre. Sixty-four children of Luchegorsk city and Svetlogorye village took part in them. They brought vegetables to feed the pets living in the eco-centre.



© Phoenix Fund  
Eco-lesson in Luchegorsk city

On November 02, nineteen pupils of “Robinsons” eco-team participated in an eco-lesson and watched a film “Tiger Odyssey”.

On November 07, the educator held a lesson “Reserved Primorye” for 25 schoolchildren of the 2-4<sup>th</sup> grades of secondary school No.1. In the process of the lesson the children watched a cartoon “Tale on the Golden Fish”. Afterwards they discussed how dangerous were oil spills at the sea and how harmful it was for the sea inhabitants. They disapproved the arguments the main personage, a greedy and cross old lady who was ready to take everything from the nature without giving anything in return.

On November 08, twenty-five children of the 2-4<sup>th</sup> grades attended a lesson “Reserved Primorye”.

On November 23, seventeen members of “Robinsons” eco-group, pupils of the 5-7<sup>th</sup> grades, took part in the action “Life without dumps is possible”. They made birdfeeders and other useful objects of solid domestic waste. After the lesson they hung the birdfeeders with food onto trees.

On November 18, the teacher initiated a trip to the forest on Lysaya (“Bold”) mountain. Twelve teenagers joined her. In the course of the event they remembered the rules of behaviour outdoors in order not to cause harm to nature.

On November 11, a game “Searching for treasures” took place in the suburbs of Luchegorsk city in which 14 schoolchildren participated.

In November, eight pupils of the 6-7<sup>th</sup> grades, members of “Robinsons” eco-group, worked on slide presentations for ecological lessons on the following topics: “Nature Reserves of Primorye”, “Relict plants of Primorsky region”, “Big felines”, “Useful plants”, “Korean pine is a life-giving tree”.

In the course of the month 18 students of the 5-11<sup>th</sup> grades prepared articles and published them the issue of “SHIP’ovnik” newspaper. “SHIP” is abbreviated from Russian as “School Information Project”. The young journalists covered different subjects in their articles including ecological ones: “Tiger in the Sky and on the Earth”, “Story of a Sad Tiger”, “The Camp that We Built” and others.



© Phoenix Fund  
Lesson “Nature reserves of Primorye”

In December 2006, ninety-nine children took an active part in environmental education and outreach activities organized by the educator in Pozharsky district of Primorye.

On December 15 and 16, the educator conducted four classes “Long life to the beautiful fir-tree!” at the eco-centre for 55 children in total. In a discussion children learnt to evaluate the advantages and disadvantages of a life fir-tree versus artificial one. First, children divided into three groups and each of them tried to identify the advantages and



disadvantages. Their goal was to find arguments to persuade the other groups. Then all groups presented their ideas and discussed them. Usually, the group that defends the right of the fir-trees to live and advantages of the artificial Christmas trees wins over. After the discussion children drew leaflets on conservation of fir-trees during Christmas period and presented them.

On December 17, the educator organized a hike for schoolchildren along an eco-trail to Lysaya Mount. Before the hike they studied the compass and orientation theory. During the hike, they learnt the orientation skills in practice.

On December 26, there was an excursion of schoolchildren of school No. 34 to the eco-centre. Children brought some vegetables to feed the pets at the eco-centre and enjoyed taking care of the animals there.

On December 26, there was an eco-class for 11 junior schoolchildren at the eco-centre. After an excursion and acknowledgement with the pets there children took part in an eco-class "Protected Primorye" where they discussed their knowledge about nature reserves and learnt much new information about endangered animals and plants. Having discussed ecological problems and threats, children watched a cartoon "Goldfish tale", after which they tried to analyze what had happened to the Goldfish, reasons for pollution and lessons of that tale.



© Phoenix Fund  
Children write their wishes on the Hope Tree leaves

In December the educator, together with children of "Vesnyanka" eco-team completed slide presentations for eco-classes on the following themes: "Nature reserves of Primorye", "Relict plants of Primorye", "Big felines", "Useful plants", and "Cedar is a tree of life". In January 2007 children will try to present their own lessons on these themes.

Besides, in December 2006 the educator collected paintings for the art contests organized by the Phoenix Fund and wrote a number of grant proposals, such as "Nature museum" for Verkhny Pereval village, "School park" for Krasny Yar and Guberovo villages.

### 3. Outdoor education activities

On May 20, 2006 the educator and 50 schoolchildren from "Vesnyanka", "Nezabudka" and "Robinsons" ecological clubs carried out "Clean ponds" action. The main purpose of that action was to gather garbage and clean the territory around the ponds in Luchegorsk city. While cleaning the ponds' shores the children discussed with the educator negative impact of the garbage on the environment. As a result, the children gathered 300 kg of garbage that was later taken to the city's scrap heap. Besides, they took out a lot of bulky rubbish from the ponds.



© Phoenix Fund  
"Clean ponds" action

#### 4. Tiger Day Festival

On September 24, 2006 the city of Vladivostok, Primorye, Russian Far East, celebrated one of its most colourful and exotic holidays – “Tiger Day”. Over three thousand citizens and guests of the city took part in the holiday devoted to the Amur (Siberian) tiger, an inhabitant of the Far Eastern forests listed in both Russian and international Red Books of endangered species. This year was the seventh anniversary of the holiday and nowhere in Russia is it celebrated on such a wide scale as in Primorsky Region. The tiger resides on the coat of arms of Vladivostok City and Primorsky Region and is pictured on logos of various sports clubs and businesses, but not everybody knows that the Amur tiger lives almost exclusively in Primorsky and Khabarovsk regions and its population is on the verge of extinction. The threats to tiger survival are poaching for tiger parts and prey, severe logging and degradation of the habitat, as well as conflict tiger situations with local people. Many of the damaging human activities result from ecological ignorance of local people and lack of information. In such a situation, ecological education and outreach play the main role in conservation of the endangered species and its habitat. That is why the main goal of the holiday is to help save the Amur tiger for future generations in the wild and not just on logos and coats of arms.



© Phoenix Fund

Tiger face painting

The first Tiger Day Festival was organized in Vladivostok in 2000, and every year the celebration attracts new cities of Primorye. Last year, Tiger Day was celebrated in the city of Luchegorsk (Pozharsky district of Primorye) and town of Novopokrovka (Krasnoarmeisky district); and this year three new towns – Terney, Lazo and Partizansk – joined the Festival. Northern towns of Primorye – Terney, Luchegorsk, Novopokrovka, Chuguevka, and Partizansk – were first to celebrate the Tiger Day Festival this year (each town chooses its own date to celebrate). Children’s

ecological clubs and eco-centres “Uragus”, “Pervotsvet”, “Rostok”, and “Tiger” were the primary organizers of the holiday. Many people of

these northern districts of Primorye have seen tigers and most have seen tiger tracks. Where else, if not on tiger land, should the holiday start?

#### Terney town

This year the holiday devoted to endangered Amur / Siberian tiger was celebrated for the first time in Terney town, Northern Primorye, on September 15, 2006. Terney town is a capital of Northern district of Primorye, Russian Far East. Located on the northern ridges of the Sikhote-Alin, the area represents the very important and most untouched habitat for Amur tiger, whose population hardly exceeds 400 animals. The district has the biggest nature reserve in the region, which plays an important role for tiger conservation.



© Phoenix Fund

Small and big “tigers” came to celebrate the holiday





Hundreds of schoolchildren from near-by villages gathered in the district capital to take part in the celebration, which included various games, quizzes and entertainments for children in the park, a parade along the town's main street, as well as speeches by local authorities, a slide presentation by tiger biologist and performances prepared by children for the holiday. Schoolchildren from remote villages were taken to the district capital to take an active part in the holiday. They painted their faces in tiger colours, wrote wishes for the tiger, competed in knowledge on tiger biology and received memorable prizes. Local children's dance groups showed performances on the outdoor scene.



© John Goodrich, WCS  
A Tiger Day march through the town of Terney

Then children and adults marched through the main streets of Terney with big conservation banners and loud mottos. On the central square, the local authorities took the word in front of the children and promised support for the holiday that attracted so many people and brought so much happiness in children's hearts.

The parade was followed by a slide presentation by Dr. John Goodrich, coordinator of the Siberian Tiger Project, Wildlife Conservation Society, who told children about

the tiger biology, ecology and habitat, as well as the research results. Every group of children that came to the holiday prepared a performance, a dance or a song and presented it to the audience.

The first in history of Terney holiday devoted to Amur tiger was a huge success, attracted a lot of children and adults and has everything to become an annual even in the district.

"There is something we can be proud of - we have tigers and we can save them together." – said Sergei Bereznuik, Director of the Phoenix Fund.



© Phoenix Fund  
Theatrical performance in Terney

### Luchegorsk city



The bicyclists

© Phoenix Fund

On September 16, seven groups of schoolchildren from Pozharskoye, Fedoseevka, Nagornoye, Ignatievka, Novostroika, Svetlogorye and Verkhny Pereval villages gathered near one of the schools in Luchegorsk town at 9:45 a.m. The children from Luchegorsk schools and Children's Arts and Crafts Centres also came there. There were probably about 600 children there in total.

The colourful festive columns of children and adults marched along the main street of Luchegorsk city. A decorated jeep with a "tiger cub" on its hood headed the festive



procession. The bicyclists dressed in orange T-shirts, with black and orange balloons representing tiger stripes, followed the jeep.

The children with soft toys, gas balloons, and posters went right after the bicyclists and yelled out ecological mottos.

Finally, the march included children and their parents, all in costumes of forest dwellers, reached the city park where theatrical performance began. Mr. Morev, head of Luchegorsk city gave, a welcoming speech addressed to the citizens and guests of the city.

Then, theatrical studio “Sorvanets” (“Romp”) appeared on the stage and gave a breathtaking performance with love and tenderness towards wild animals of Ussuriiskaya taiga.



© Phoenix Fund  
Theatrical performance on the stage



© Phoenix Fund  
Children awarded for the best tiger costumes

The children participated in various games, quizzes and contests, like the contests of costumes, tiger make-up, and drawings on asphalt, art contest “One day from Amur tiger's life», and others. The winners were awarded with colourful calendars, toy tigers, and “big sweets” filled with gouache, brushes and Whatman paper.

After the awards ceremony a game program “Together with the tiger!” started. Pipi Longstocking and Little Tiger performed the play and kept the spectators amused for hours with stories and quizzes devoted to Amur tiger. A festive

discotheque followed the entertainment program.

One of the most favourite contests was drawings on asphalt. All drawings were focused on tiger. There were no scary or angry tigers on asphalt. The children drew the tiger as if it was their good friend. Over one hundred children were awarded with small gifts such as bookmarks, badges and sweets for taking part in this contest.

A flight of a big garland made of gas balloons and flag with tiger face was the final point of the holiday. The children thunder applauded and said good-buy to the holiday symbol.

Free diner for the children was a novelty of the holiday, organized by local private company “LuTEK”. There is a hope that more representatives of local business will take part in annual Tiger Day celebration.



© Phoenix Fund  
Tiger drawings on asphalt on the central square

### Novopokrovka town

The festival opened with forming up of columns near the auto-station in Novopokrovka town. At 11 a.m. the procession started moving towards the central square. Representatives of schools got scenarios to be more organized. During the pageant the schoolchildren of ten educational institutions of the district chanted by turns about tiger and other endangered plants and animals. For example, children from Vostretsovo village are much bothered with deforestation of the district. In their poems they spoke how Amur tiger depends on Korean pine forests.

Having made an honour lap, the participants lined up in front of the stage. All the children presented their teams for the jury and the guests already waiting at the square, and scanned poems. The jury noted originality of the costumes, colourful banners, high spirits and ardour with which the kids presented themselves. The teams competed for a Grand Prix – a printer, sponsored by “Vityaz” hockey club.



© Phoenix Fund

The festive procession in Novopokrovka town

After the contest a floor was given to the honorary guests of the festival – Mr. Kruaglyakov, Deputy Chief of the district, and Ms. Ilyina, Deputy of the Legislative Assembly. They congratulated the participants and wished them good luck.

The festival went on with a performance of “Namba” ecological club. The masters of the ceremony paid the audience’s attention to a column of cyclists coming to the square with a flag. They were guests from Luchegorsk town. After solemn passing of the flag a floor to speak was passed to Mr. Trush, public anti-poaching ranger. Theatrical studio “Sorvanets” (“Romp”) showed a dance performance. Afterwards a concert prepared by different

institutions of the district began. The schools showed 19 dance and song turns. All the songs were devoted to the biggest feline on the Earth and contained an appeal to save it. In the dances the spectators could see fierce tigresses defending their funny cubs, small cubs playing on the fringe of the forest, bellicose male tigers at hunt. There were no bounds to children’s imagination! In their songs and dances they showed knowledge of tiger habits and, what is the most important, love for a tiger. In the course of the festival a contest on the best tiger costume was held. A small cub from Vostok settlement won the prize. “The Tiger” treated everyone with cereal and stewed fruits.

Alongside with the concert a “Lonely tiger cub’s way” game took place. Kids in tiger suits led it. All the players who made the finish got valuable gifts (books on animals). Besides, an exhibition of paintings and ornamental art on Amur tiger subject was organized on the square. All the schools of the district and three kindergartens took part in it. All of them were awarded with tiger expert diplomas.

After the concert on the main square the jury announced a school, the winner in the best column contest. Lukyanovka village school won the prize. All participants and guests agreed that this year the performances were well prepared and interesting. The festival was dynamic and merry. In the end volunteers from the eco-club cleaned the square.



Partizansk city

© Phoenix Fund  
Tiger Day in Partizansk town

This year Tiger Day was celebrated for the first time in Partizansk city, Southern Primorye, on September 23. The holiday started with carnival procession made by schoolchildren, little children from kindergartens, and guests from Uglekamensk and Kazanka villages of Partizansky district. In total, over 400 people took part in the festive parade. Nikolay Kovalchuk, famous hunter, professional tiger catcher, ginseng-breeder was the honorary guest at the holiday. On the central square he told children about his encounters with wild tigers. The children gave theatrical performance, read poetries and sang songs devoted to Amur tiger. Over 500 paintings of Amur tiger and other wild animals living in Ussuriiskaya taiga were exhibited on the central square. All participants in tiger costumes were awarded with memorable prizes. The children radiated indescribable joy and had fun. Next year the Phoenix Fund would like to involve more citizens as well as business people in Tiger Day celebration in Partizansk city.

Vladivostok city

On September 24, the festive holiday was greeted by the citizens of Vladivostok, where it traditionally started with a parade along the main street to the central square. The march gathered over 3,000 people and included children and their parents, groups of schools and children's clubs, all in costumes of forest dwellers (animals, birds, insects, and plants). A prize was given for the best group in the procession. The opening of Tiger Day was held on the Central Square along with a theatrical performance "Happy birthday, tiger cub!", which included active participation of the winners in dance, song and other contests. Until 4 p.m., on specially prepared plots, children took part in various games, quizzes and contests, like the contests of costumes, tiger make-up, and drawings on asphalt, all devoted to Amur tigers and Primorsky nature. We are happy that this year some businesses decided to make their contribution to Tiger Day celebration. For



© Phoenix Fund  
Master of Ussuriiskaya taiga

example, local confectionery "Mechta" (Dream) provided five tasty fruitcakes for the contests' winners, local Electronics Company "Spector" provided a TV-set, DVD player, and stereo system, and local travel agency "Terra" provided a special tour. Every year the Tiger Day Festival in Vladivostok attracts more and more people and companies as well as local authorities and help ensure safe future for both animals and men in taiga.



On September 24 Tiger Day was also celebrated in “Green Island” Park in the city of Ussuriisk and in the Far Eastern Zoological Garden in the city of Khabarovsk.

### Lazo town



© Phoenix Fund  
Lynx' dance in Lazo

On October 14, Lazovsky district of Primorye held a large-scale celebration of Tiger Day-2006. Local administration and Lazovsky nature reserve actively participated in organization of the holiday in Lazo town. Many schoolchildren from local villages such as Sokol'chi, Benevskoye, Chernoruchye, Kievka and Preobrazhenye, gathered at 10 a.m. at one of the schools in Lazo. At 11 a.m. a colourful parade marched along the main street of the town. At midday all participants gathered in the culture centre where diverse contests and mini-shows were performed on the stage. Hundreds of children's paintings and handicrafts devoted to Amur tiger and other rare species were placed in the centre's

hall. The jury of the Tiger Day awarded all local schools with memorable prizes for active participation and good knowledge on Amur tiger and ecological problems. At the end of the holiday the children tasted different dishes specially prepared for the holiday by local canteen. Alexander Laptev, director of Lazovsky nature reserve, said: “I am happy that the holiday was a success. I hope the Tiger Day will become an annual event in our district. The fate of Amur tiger depends on future generations, and nowadays it seems to me that Amur tiger population has its future. At least, in our district”.

Since 2000, the Tiger Day Festival has become a series of events in Primorsky krai. Each year, the holiday attracts more and more participants and spreads to new cities. Zoos and organizations from Europe, Asia and America also celebrated Tiger Day. We hope that by its tenth anniversary, the Tiger Day Festival will be celebrated on the regional level and that the people of Primorsky krai will be proud of Amur tigers and the unique nature of the region and help conserve it for future generations.



#### **IV. Project outcomes**

Thanks to support from the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Tiger the following outcomes were achieved:

- Enhanced protection of the habitat for Amur tigers and their prey. In 2006, two public environmental investigation teams and Western wildlife managers' team conducted over 160 anti-poaching patrols. For the reported period 238 environmental violations were revealed. The rangers confiscated 73 illegal rifles, 52 fishing nets, 42 traps, 40 snares and other poaching devices.
- Increased awareness of the local people on importance of wildlife and habitat conservation. From January to December 2006 over 6,000 children attended 274 ecological lessons, performances, round tables, conferences and festivals in Pozharsky and Krasnoarmeisky districts of Primorye.
- Over 10,000 people participated in Tiger Day Festivals in the cities of Primorye. In 2006 three towns joined the holiday celebration: Partizansk, Lazo and Terney.
- Increased awareness of conservation issues amongst official agencies, government, the local community and the wider conservation environment.

#### **V. Acknowledgment**

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 Amur/Siberian tiger population stable in 2006, 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. Sophie Darlington for all patience and assistance and hope for our fruitful co-operation in the future.



## VI. Appendices

Table 1. Summary of enforcement and outreach activities of two public environmental investigation teams, January – December 2006\*

Activity	Northern team	Southern team	Total
<b>I. Violations documented:</b>			
1.1. Hunting	42	42	<b>84</b>
1.2. Fishing	13	-	<b>13</b>
1.3. Forest resources	19	6	<b>25</b>
1.4. Protected areas	-	-	<b>-</b>
1.5. Other	-	-	<b>-</b>
<b>2. Illegal weapons confiscated and handed over to the police</b>	38 rifles (393 cartridges)	19	<b>57 rifles (393 cartridges)</b>
<b>3. Confiscated poaching devices:</b>			
a) Traps	39	3	<b>42</b>
b) Snares	38	2	<b>40</b>
c) Fishing nets	31 items (1,085 meters)	-	<b>31 items (1,085 meters)</b>
d) Knife	1	-	<b>1</b>
<b>4. Wildlife confiscated :</b>			
4.1. Musk deer	1	-	<b>1</b>
4.2. Bear meat	-	-	<b>-</b>
4.3. Wild boar	4	1	<b>5</b>
4.4. Roe deer	2	2	<b>4</b>
4.5. Siberian stag meat	3	2	<b>5</b>
4.6. Sable skin	3	-	<b>3</b>
4.7. Fish	66	-	<b>66</b>
4.8. Kolinsky	2	-	<b>2</b>
4.9. Badger	4	-	<b>4</b>
4.10. Raccoon	1	-	<b>1</b>
4.11. Mandarin duck	1	-	<b>1</b>
4.12. Hazel grouse	5	-	<b>5</b>
<b>5. Initiated criminal proceedings</b>	6	-	<b>6</b>
<b>6. Meetings with schoolchildren</b>	10	-	<b>10</b>
<b>7. Mass media coverage</b>			
7.1. TV reports	13	-	<b>13</b>
7.2. Radio reports	-	-	<b>-</b>
7.3. Articles	1	-	<b>1</b>
<b>8. Participation in round tables, conferences, trainings</b>	3	-	<b>3</b>





Table 2. Summary of anti-poaching activities of the western wildlife managers' team, January – December 2006\*1

Activity	January – December 2006
<b>I. Violations documented :</b>	
1.1. Hunting	110
1.2. Fishing	6
1.3. Other	-
<b>2. Illegal weapons confiscated and handed over to the police</b>	16
<b>3. Wildlife confiscated :</b>	
3.1. Wild boar	10
3.2. Roe deer	8
3.3. Deer	1
3.4. Duck	2
3.5. Siberian stag	10
3.6. Musk deer	1
3.7. Bear	1
3.8. Sable	1
3.9. Indian marten	1
<b>4. Confiscated poaching devices</b>	
4.1. Nets	21 items
<b>5. Arrested violators</b>	116 people
<b>6. Initiated criminal proceedings</b>	11
<b>7. Condemned people</b>	13

\* Results of joint patrols