

**WILD
CATS**

**20
23**

**ANNUAL
REPORT**

WildCats Conservation Alliance

WildCats Conservation Alliance is a wild tiger and Amur leopard conservation initiative between Dreamworld Wildlife Foundation (charity ABN#61150274463) and Zoological Society of London (UK charity # 208728).

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ABOUT

WildCats Conservation Alliance is an initiative of the Zoological Society of London (ZSL) and Dreamworld Wildlife Foundation (DWF).

WildCats provides funding for conservation projects in China, Indonesia, Nepal, Thailand and Russia. Its total contribution to the conservation of wild tigers and Amur leopards over 24 years is £4,600,593 distributed to 103 projects in eight countries. WildCats is known as an honest broker for zoos wanting to give funds to wild tiger and Amur leopard projects with real conservation value. Those zoos made up 78% of donors in 2023. Funds also come from small corporate donors and the public, many of them being long-term supporters of over 20 years.

WildCats utilises internationally respected conservationists and scientists who comprehensively review all project proposals. They ensure that projects have sound practical conservation and/or scientific credibility and are making a fundamental contribution to the conservation of wild tigers and Amur leopards.

Our vision

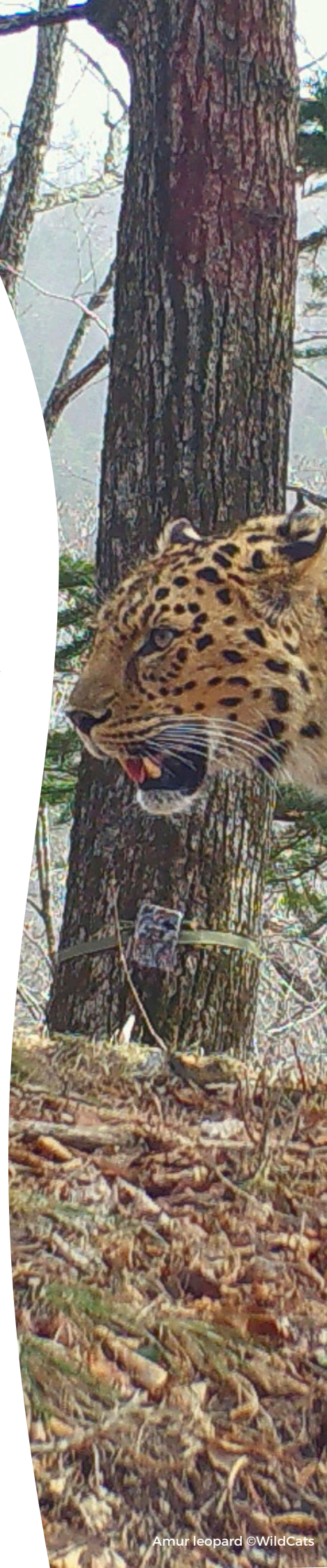
Tigers and Amur leopards are safe and thriving in the wild.

Our mission

To save wild tigers and Amur leopards for future generations by raising awareness of their status and funding carefully chosen conservation projects.

We aim to achieve our vision by addressing some of the key conservation issues. These include:

- Reducing the key threats to tigers and Amur leopards in the areas supported by WildCats Conservation Alliance by increasing the area protected by antipoaching activities, enabling community coexistence, mitigating conflict and addressing illegal wildlife trade, helping to create safe and secure sites for tigers and Amur leopards to exist.
- Deepening the understanding of the population ecology of tigers and Amur leopards through population monitoring, wildlife health monitoring, and other relevant research to inform conservation action.
- Creating and sustaining a cadre of experienced, knowledgeable tiger and leopard conservationists through a variety of capacity development approaches.
- Inspiring key stakeholders to act for tiger and Amur leopard conservation through education and outreach efforts.



2023 OVERVIEW

Building on the success of Year of the Tiger, the WildCats team had a busy year with several firsts. We launched the WildCats Professional Development Award in the first quarter of the year. Anna Klevtcova was the successful candidate whose PhD research will bring new insight into the drivers and behaviours of poachers in the Russian Far East. You can learn more about Anna on page 12 and follow her excellent contributions on our website.

The first-ever Global Leopard Conference, co-hosted by WildCats alongside several well-recognised NGOs, was attended by 355 people over five days in March. It brought together organisations and individuals who researched, observed and conserved the nine subspecies of leopards across the globe. As the only hosting organisation representing the Amur leopard, WildCats were influential in selecting keynotes and speakers engaged in that subject.

The WildCats project selection saw two changes for 2024 projects. Phoenix Fund was again unable to commit to the proposal they submitted due to a lack of appropriate personnel to lead the specialist Conservation Education Plan. On a more successful note, Fauna & Flora were offered a three-year grant for the Kerinci Seblat Tiger Protection and Conservation Project (paid each year depending on results).

Income in 2023 totalled over £290,000, with 78% coming from the world zoos. WildCats is proud of its association with conservation-focused zoos whose animals are ambassadors for the wild. Inspiring and educating visitors mobilises support for wildlife conservation and provides an opportunity to advocate for a better future for our planet.



Fitting camera traps in China ©WCS

PROJECT UPDATES

Between January and December WildCats funded nine projects in five countries to the value of £202,065 (see page 20).

The projects concentrate on the themes of threat reduction, human-wildlife coexistence, population monitoring, and education and outreach in China, Indonesia, Nepal, Thailand, and Russia. These projects were selected through a rigorous application process and were peer reviewed.

CHINA

Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS) China are working closely with the Hunchun Nature Reserve (HNR) part of the Northeast China Tiger and Leopard National Park (NCTLNP), to increase the understanding of the of populations of Amur leopards and tigers.



Hunchun Nature Reserve (HNR) monitoring

In 2023, long-term monitoring with camera traps demonstrated significant increases in the number of tigers and leopards in HNR and high productivity of females, demonstrating that HNR is becoming a “source site” for future expansion of tigers in northeast China. This monitoring work will be taken over entirely by HNR in 2024 ending 11 years of monitoring by WCS. After many years of collaboration, HNR is well-placed to drive this work forward.

Key activities and outcomes for this project area:

- Collaboration with Hunchun Bureau Branch across a 1,080 km² area in HNR, led to an increase in the number of sites for monitoring from 50 to 120.
- 814,996 images and videos of wildlife and human activity were collected. Tigers were recorded at 79 sites (66%), and leopards at 48 sites (40%). Thirty-six sites (30%) detected both species.
- By analysing the unique stripe and spot patterns, **45 individual tigers and 30 leopards were identified.**
- 15 tigers and 14 leopards were newly recorded by the team in this area. There was also evidence of breeding with both species.
- Analysis shows that 54% of all images in HNR were of wild animals.



Dahuanggou region monitoring

WildCats are also providing funds for monitoring in adjacent lands in the Dahuanggou region.

Key activities and outcomes for this project area:

- Camera traps were deployed in 30 sites covering approximately 270 square kilometres in the nearby region of Dahuanggou.
- From the monitoring in Dahuaggou, WCS identified nine individual tigers and four leopards, with four tigers and all leopards being newly recorded.
- Analysis showed extensive cattle grazing in this region highlighting the risk of human-big cat conflicts.
- **A decline in wild boar was detected, possibly indicating an outbreak of African Swine Fever.**



Northeast China Tiger and Leopard National Park (NCTLNP) Community involvement project

WildCats are also providing funds for WCS and the Northeast China Tiger and Leopard National Park (NCTLNP), to encourage community participation in conservation, through five community patrol teams, snare removal campaigns and public education in surrounding communities.

Key activities and outcomes for this project are:

- Seven communities conducted 255 daily patrols, covering 1,373km and **173 snares were removed from the forest.**
- Community rangers recorded wildlife signs (tracks and scat) and direct sightings during the patrols. Roe deer were the most recorded followed by wild boar, sika deer, badgers, Amur leopards and Amur tigers.
- Five public education campaigns were carried out, **engaging 200 villagers on the importance of tigers and leopards to the environment, increasing tolerance towards wildlife and managing human-tiger conflicts.**
- Open discussions on individuals' safety and livelihood helped the villagers understand more clearly the importance of their region for the recovery of Amur tigers and leopards in Northeast China.
- **WCS and Hunchun Municipal Bureau Branch of NCTLNP conducted several surveys during the year. Results suggest that conservation awareness in villages with patrol teams was higher than in those without community patrol teams.**



INDONESIA

Fauna & Flora (F&F) work in collaboration with the Kerinci Seblat National Park (KSNP) authority with a long-term goal of supporting a sustained, natural increase in Sumatran tiger populations.



Kerinci Seblat National Park (KSNP)

The project activities include detecting and reducing threats to tigers, prey and their habitat, and supported by collaborations with national and local government, local civil society and forest-edge communities.

Key activities and outcomes for this project area:

- Five Tiger Protection & Conservation Units (TPCUs) were operational in 2023.
- 87 SMART forest foot patrols were carried out covering a distance of more than 1,128 km.
- **Three active tiger snares were recorded, representing a small increase in 2022 but still below pre-Covid levels.** The detection rate was one active snare per 149 patrol days, compared to one in 85 patrol days for the period 2018-2021.
- **Snare poaching of key prey species remained low** and was recorded on only two patrols, one shortly before the start of the Ramadhan.
- Despite challenging weather conditions caused by El Niño, which made detecting tigers difficult, 52 tigers were recorded based on SMART patrol mapping analysis.



SMART patrolling in Sumatra © F&F



Collecting evidence while on patrol in Sumatra 2023 © F&F

- TPCUs conducted direct human-tiger conflict mitigation on three occasions during the project period, also providing back-up to Human-Wildlife Conflict Mitigation Taskforce groups as required.
- Levels of human-tiger conflict further decreased during the project period, likely due to the gradual recovery of wild boar populations, which had been decimated by the arrival of African Swine Fever in Kerinci Seblat in 2020-2021.
- Evidence of Illegal Wildlife Trade (IWT) was collected from park-edge districts of KSNP and collated into 50 reports. These were submitted to authorities and led to **one successful conviction led by the Kerinci District Police.**
- Intelligence collected recorded no measurable increase in IWT demand for Sumatran tiger body parts however it confirmed that demand for Malay pangolin, a species frequently 'traded in tandem' with tiger, has increased although still far below pre-COVID levels.
- This F&F team contributed to the formation of the Tiger Conservation Coalition, a global group of conservation experts focused on developing large-scale support for wild tigers.

87 SMART forest foot patrols conducted over 1,128 km recorded signs of 52 tigers, three active tiger snares were found and dismantled and 50 reports of Illegal Wildlife Trade were submitted to authorities leading to an arrest.



Sumatran tiger on a camera trap in 2023. ©F&F

INDONESIA

Lingkar Inisiatif Indonesia is working to secure a conservation area in Bengkulu, south of Kerinci Seblat National Park.



Bengkulu

The project activities include detecting and reducing threats to tigers, prey and their habitat by leveraging collaborations with national and local government, local civil society and forest-edge communities. Since 2020 Lingkar Inisiatif has targeted illegal forest hunting using a religious approach. Fatwa MUI No. 04/2014, issued by the Indonesian Ulema Council, prohibits the hunting and trading of tigers and other endangered species, reinforcing Islamic principles of environmental stewardship.

Key activities and outcomes for this project area:

- Six socialisation activities were carried out in key villages surrounding Kerinci Seblat National Park reaching 373 participants. Five mosques organised outreach events for their congregations.
- Six meetings were held with leaders of the Indonesian Council of Islamic Scholars (MUI) to evaluate and learn from the events.
- Lingkar and village rangers supported by the National Park, carried out 18 SMART patrols over 83 days to secure forest areas and clean animal traps. They walked 623 km together with the Conservation Partnership Group "JAGO IMAU" made up of ex-poachers.
- During the patrol activities, the team found no tiger snares however **108 sites showed various levels of human activity including illegal logging, mining and illegal clearing of plantation land. The results have been reported** to the Kerinci Seblat National Park Authority, the Bengkulu Provincial Forestry Service and the Police.
- Global Tiger Day was celebrated in conjunction with other local NGOs and the National Park Authority. Activities included conservation education for elementary school children, writing training and media campaigns for young conservation cadres in Bengkulu Province, and campaigns to save protected wildlife through national media talk shows.



2023 Fatwa socialisation activity @Lingkar



Evidence of illegal deforestation found on patrol in 2023 @Lingkar

- **10 information-led wildlife crime investigations were initiated.** Three of the investigations responded to information that tiger snares had been set. A recidivist was identified as having links to a poaching group. These investigations in collaboration with the Tiger Protection and Conservation Teams (TPCUs), are ongoing.
- Face-to-face counselling was conducted with 15 ex-hunters who publicly pledged to stop hunting and instead protect the forests and formed the Conservation Partnership Group Jago Imau.
- Counselling was provided to two active hunters from Lebong Regency and one active hunter from North Bengkulu Regency.
- In May 2023, Lingkar signed the Annual Work Plan with the Kerinci Seblat National Park Authority to validate its work.
- Collaboration with Garda Animalia, a wildlife-focused film company resulted in a film about the conversion of Mawi, the founder of Jago Imau, from hunter to protector of the forest. The film can be seen on [YouTube](#) where it has had 57,000 views.

373 participants took part in Fatwa socialisation activities, 18 collaborative patrols over 623 kilometres were conducted, and 15 ex-hunters were engaged through the guardianship scheme.



Signing annual workplan in 2023 @Lingkar

THAILAND

In the heart of Thailand's Khao Laem National Park, Freeland Foundation is conducting an ambitious project to secure the Indochinese tiger population.



Khao Laem National Park

Surveys over the past five years have confirmed that Khao Laem National Park has a resident tiger population. Monitoring tigers, prey and threats is critical to maintaining the site as both a connecting wildlife corridor and as a site supporting its own breeding tiger population. The information gathered enables the implementation of measures to mitigate the challenges this landscape faces. This project works with the Department of National Parks (DNP) to monitor threats, raise institutional capacity and engage communities living in poaching hotspots.

Key activities and outcomes for this project area:

- Law enforcement and technical skills were enhanced in 100 rangers during training activities.
- Camera trap surveys conducted by the DNP with Freeland's help covered 225 km² and recorded six individual tigers in the study area.
- Fourteen cases of poaching, logging and encroachment were recorded by nine patrol teams which conducted 525 anti-poaching patrols over 1,519 days and covered 18,827kms. Results were presented to the authorities for investigation and prosecution.
- Community outreach was instigated in nine schools and four villages noted as hotspots for poaching activities to encourage understanding of the importance of biodiversity of the park and how to avoid wildlife conflict.
- 306 livestock owners were interviewed to understand why cattle grazing numbers in the park were not reducing despite government orders to remove them. Results from these will help to formulate plans to support villagers' compliance.
- A new radio system was installed high in the mountains to improve patrol effectiveness and safety in the National Park.



NEPAL

This ZSL project in Parsa National Park (PNP) is strengthening institutional capacity and improving collaboration amongst stakeholders.



Parsa National Park

Increasing numbers of tigers in PNP may result in increasing conflict with humans. This project aims to improve coexistence between people and tigers, reduce conflict and combat illegal activities.

Key activities and outcomes for this project area:

- A tiger conservation workshop was held, engaging 38 stakeholders, including key staff of Parsa National Park, the Nepal Army, representatives from the Buffer Zone User's Committee, the National Trust for Nature Conservation, and the Mithila Wildlife Trust. The workshop aimed to share the major findings of the 2022 National Tiger Survey, tiger dispersal patterns from 2013-2022, and to promote human-tiger coexistence through tiger-based tourism opportunities.
- Two informal meetings were held with the Nepalese Army and PNP staff to discuss the installation of GSM-enabled (Global System for Mobile) cameras to combat illegal wildlife crime.
- An awareness session was held for 35 community members of the Kusum Batika and Sunakhari Buffer Zone User Committees where tigers had been seen. The session championed tiger conservation and its significance to the stability of the ecosystem.
- 40 personnel were trained in the installation and deployment of GSM-enabled cameras to control illegal wildlife activities in restricted areas. The training included understanding the system, identifying suitable locations, record keeping, database management and photo analysis.
- **Following the training, 20 GSM cameras were installed to record evidence of illegal activity which resulted in the arrests of one poacher and three illegal loggers.**
- A desktop computer for analysis and first aid kits, camping equipment and flashlights were provided for patrols.



Learning how to use poacher-cams in 2023 ©ZSL



Bengal tiger next to artificial watering hole in 2023 ©ZSL



Anna Klevcova

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT AWARD

Anna Klevcova - Award Winner

Exploring, understanding and addressing Amur tiger poaching in the Russian Far East.

Anna holds a degree in geography from a Russian university and completed a master's in Natural Resources in the USA in 2017. She is pursuing a PhD in Interdisciplinary Ecology at the University of Florida. Anna has worked for the Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS) since 2018.

Anna used her experience in geographic information systems (GIS) and spatial data analysis, together with social sciences in “an integrative social-ecological framework” to bring together social, natural and spatial factors to explore, understand and address Amur tiger poaching in the region. Her long-term goal is to determine ways to reduce the extent of wildlife crime in the area and contribute to knowledge and understanding of this subject.

Anna wrote three blogs in 2023 for the WildCats website sharing her extensive knowledge and study of local communities. Her studies will continue to be funded into 2024.

WILDCATS CONSERVATION ALLIANCE PROJECT IMPACT

£196,800 was granted to **9 projects** in **5 countries** in Asia protecting over **33,838km²** of vital wild tiger and Amur leopard habitats.

2023

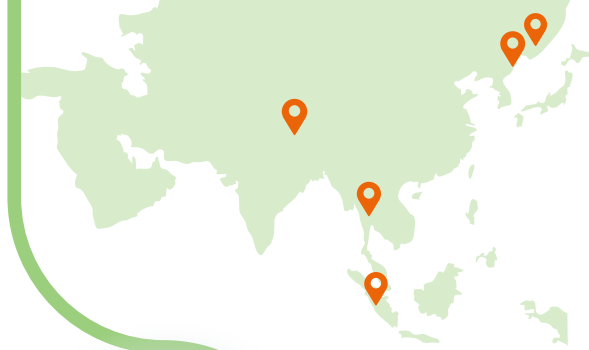
Rangers from WildCats funded projects traversed an impressive **12,816 km** on foot patrols and spent a staggering **84,533 hours** in the field in 2023.

In 2023, WildCats supported the training of **151 rangers**, enhancing their skills and preparedness to tackle the challenges they face in the field.

With **358** wildlife and poaching surveillance camera traps deployed, the rangers were able to capture images of **96 tigers** and **70 Amur leopards** on camera.

Rangers recorded **358 reports of illegal activities** within the protected areas in 2023. **9** of these reports led to successful law enforcement actions.

2,249 adults and children living alongside big cats in Asia were engaged with conservation messaging to try and foster a deeper understanding and relationship between people and wildlife.



INFORMING CONSERVATION

Only with long-term monitoring can we determine whether conservation actions are having a positive impact. Monitoring methods include setting camera traps and tracking secondary indicators such as pugmarks, territorial scratches and faeces.



WildCats have been ongoing funders of the Zoological Society of London in Parsa National Park, Nepal. Since 2018 the team have recorded an **128% increase** in Bengal tigers in this national park.



WildCats funded monitoring of Amur leopards in Northeast China has recorded a **70% increase** in Amur leopards using the landscape since 2018.



REDUCING THREATS

Reducing the key threats to tigers and Amur leopards by addressing illegal wildlife trade, increasing the area that is protected by antipoaching activities, enabling community coexistence and mitigating conflict helping to create safe and secure habitats.



Since 2001, WildCats-funded activities have led to the imprisonment of **67** tiger poachers/ traders in Kerinci Seblat National Park. At the same time, active tiger snares in the park have decreased by **95%** since 2015.

The construction of **60** predator proof corrals has been funded by WildCats since 2019 for vulnerable Nepalese households. This helps to reduce human-wildlife conflict with big cats.



BUILDING CAPACITY

Creating and sustaining a cadre of experienced and knowledgeable in-country tiger and leopard conservationists through a variety of capacity development approaches.



1,011 staff including veterinary, educators, rangers and judiciary were trained between 2018 - 2023 to improve in-country expertise and skills.



Ongoing training workshops funded by WildCats has increased project areas covered by SMART trained staff by **70%** since 2018. This means these areas are able to gather, store and analyse data to better plan and target protection efforts.



INSPIRING

Inspiring key stakeholders to act for wild tiger and Amur leopard conservation through education and outreach efforts to encourage collaboration and participation in conservation.



107 individual proposals have been funded by WildCats since 1997 which have engaged with communities and young people to promote human-tiger coexistence.



71,211 adults and children living alongside big cats have been engaged with by the project teams since 2018.



The combined projects, supported by Wildcats Conservation Alliance protect:

6% of the global wild tiger population.

93% of the Amur leopard population.

13 . conservewildcats.org

IMPLEMENTING PARTNERS



WildCats Conservation Alliance is a funding initiative of Dreamworld Wildlife Foundation (Charity ABN #61150274463) and the Zoological Society of London (charity #208728)





WildCats at Chessington World of Adventure on Global Tiger Day

COMMUNICATING OUR STORIES

In Person Events

Engaging face-to-face with the general public and other supporters is one of the most rewarding aspects of our work. At the Green Man Festival's "Einstein's Garden," a section dedicated to science engagement, we contributed to the "Living Library." In this unique setup, conservationists acted as books, and visitors "checked them out" for conversations.

Engaging with the public at zoo events gives us the chance to connect directly with visitors, sharing the vital importance of conservation and highlighting the incredible role zoo collections play in protecting wildlife. This year, we were thrilled to inspire the next generation of animal care professionals, speaking with aspiring veterinary students at the Royal Veterinary College London's open evening and engaging with passionate Animal Management students from a local London college.

Keeperfest was an excellent opportunity to network with zoo representatives to inspire them to communicate our stories. Keepers play a crucial role in deciding the direction of conservation funds within zoos, so building a strong relationship with them is a win-win for wildlife.



WildCats at the Royal Veterinary College



WildCats at Chessington for Global Tiger Day



WildCats at Greenman Festival

Conference Attendance

In 2023, WildCats was represented at five conferences in three countries, presenting our work at four of them. The events included three zoo conferences, vital for connecting with existing and potential donors. With international zoos providing 78% of the WildCats' income, it is an important way to showcase our impact.



Esther at EAZA Annual Conference

Online Events - inspiring youth

Online presentations and interviews included individual chats with overseas-based senior school students and an opportunity to talk to a primary school class fundraising for Amur leopard conservation.

Field Visit

Amy, our Communications Specialist, visited the ZSL Nepal field site in Parsa National Park to gain firsthand insight into the conservation actions funded by WildCats. During her trip, she met with field staff, country partners, national park authorities, and local villagers. These interactions enabled her to assess the project's impact and to create digital resources for our communications campaigns.

The images she captured were effectively utilised in our Big Give Green Match Fund campaign, on social media throughout the year, by ZSL to promote their conservation efforts in Nepal, and in the CEO's end-of-year video.



Amy with ZSL Nepal and Parsa NP staff



Amy with a buffer zone community



Digital Outreach

Digital communications in 2023 centred on delivering impactful messages that resonated with our audience, fostering engagement across platforms, and driving awareness of WildCats' mission to protect big cats. While challenges arose, including shifts in platform algorithms and the demands of podcast production, we adapted and refined our strategies to maintain strong connections with our supporters.



Podcasts

1,146
unique
downloads

Email

42.88%
open rate

KEY HEIGHLGHTS

Website

14%
increase in
website users

Social Media

169k
Meta reach

FINANCIAL REVIEW

INCOME

In 2023, Wildcats received a total income of **£291,574**, a 16% increase from the annual target of **£250,000**. The team were pleased to surpass the goal during a time of global economic instability.

INCOME STREAM	TOTAL
Zoos	£227,833
Corporate	£13,048
Public and Trusts	£50,693
TOTAL	£291,574

ZOO CONTRIBUTIONS

Zoo contributions totalled **£227,833**, 14% above the target.

The income from zoos is the lifeblood of WildCats Conservation Alliance. This is made possible by the generosity of the visitors, guests and the staff who inspire them. 48 zoos from across three continents contributed **£227,833** to our funds during 2023 making up 78% of all WildCats income.

TOP 10 ZOO CONTRIBUTORS IN 2023

Walter Zoo	Chessington World of Adventure
Wellington Zoo Trust	Dreamworld
Wilhelma Zoo	Auckland Zoo
West Midlands Safari Park	Fota Wildlife Park
Greenville Zoo	NaturZoo Rheine

TRUSTS AND CORPORATE

Trust and corporate donations have risen slightly on 2022 figures to £50,692 and £13,049 respectively.

- The Big Give Trust matched donations in our Big Give fundraising campaign with **£10,000**.
- The James Gibson Trust supported our mission with a contribution of **£8,000**.
- Boehringer Ingelheim in New Zealand, makers of NexGard Spectra parasite control treatment for cats, supported Sumatran tiger rangers with **NZ\$50,000** in association with Wellington Zoo.
- Selatan Crafted Giftware, based in Australia and owned by long-term supporter and tiger keeper Monique Counihan, donated **£9,700**.
- Altacia Association, a small conservation organisation, held an event at Hodonin Zoo in Czechia to celebrate Global Tiger Day and raised close to **£5,000** for Sumatran tigers.
- Bennetts, the Melbourne-based coffee distributor continued its support with a further donation of **£1,500**.
- Team Lewis, a global marketing agency with a history of supporting community causes donated **£1,000** following a successful staff member nomination.



PUBLIC CONTRIBUTIONS

Individual giving declined from £39,321 in 2022 to £28,971 in 2023 due to global economic uncertainty and a fall in disposable income. A new public donation interface developed to move one-off donors away from PayPal is being developed to launch in 2024.

FUNDRAISING CAMPAIGN- The Big Give

In 2023 we were given the opportunity by The Big Give to increase the match amount from £10,000 to £15,000.

Date: 20th-27th April 2023

Total online donations: £14,958

Total amount raised: £29,916

Gift aid: £537.25

Grand total: £30,453

Net total: £30,021

Double? Double!

Your donation doubled!

Double up on wild tiger numbers.

SCAN TO DONATE

For this week only, we can double YOUR impact allowing YOU to make an extraordinary difference to the biggest challenges facing wild tigers. Give today and your donation will be doubled by the Big Give initiative helping to secure the future of this iconic big cat.

4,500 tigers in the wild
According to the latest data from the IUCN

Green Match Fund @biggive

Double? Double!

conservewildcats Edited • 17w

Exciting news! The @biggiveorg Green Match Fund has officially begun! From the 20th-27th April, every donation made to WildCats Conservation Alliance, via the campaign page (link in bio), will be doubled.

We are fundraising to provide ordinary items for extraordinary conservation heroes working to protect big cats across Asia.

We are hoping to raise £15,000 which will be doubled to £30,000 by @biggiveorg to help cover everyday items which increase the effectiveness

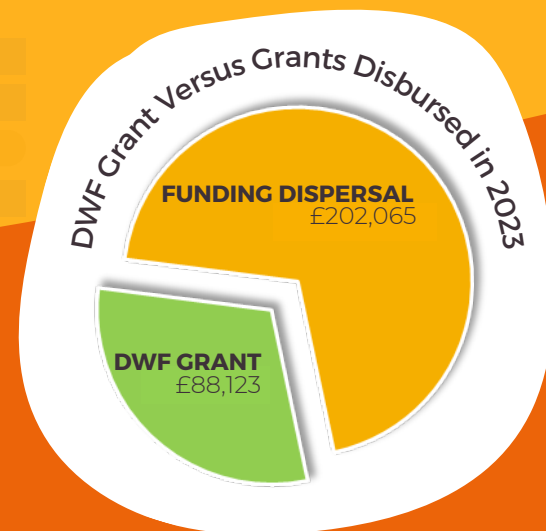
56 likes
22 APRIL

FINANCIAL REVIEW

EXPENDITURE

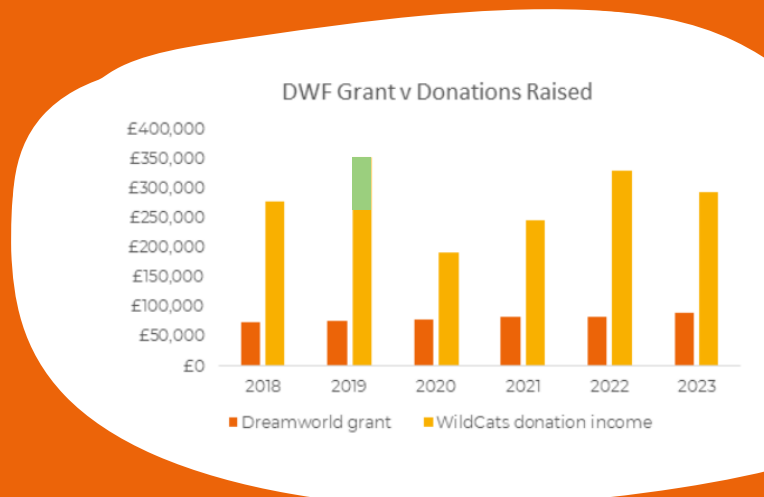
GRANT EXPENDITURE

Jan-Dec 2023	Expenditure
GRANT MANAGEMENT AND OUTREACH	
2 part-time salaries plus costs	£74,350
EQUIPMENT, MERCHANDISE AND SUPPLIES	
Marketing & merchandise	£938
Pilot camera trap installation (cancelled)	£0
TRAVEL	
BIAZA Annual Conference - fee, travel, accom x2	£1,338
EAZA Annual Conference - as above x1	£1,067
AZA Felid TAG meeting (Ohio) x1	£2,422
Field Visit x1	£976
ADMINISTRATION	
Minor expenses, bank charges & web hosting	£2,130
Administrative costs to ZSL	£3,000
TOTAL	£86,221
Carry over into 2024	£2,975



GRANT LEVERAGE

The Dreamworld Wildlife Foundation Grant for Operational Costs has been instrumental in empowering WildCats Conservation Alliance's significant contributions to wildlife conservation efforts. It represents outstanding value and consistently yields a substantial return. As shown on the right, the grant's budget has maintained remarkable stability over the past six years. Fluctuations in donation levels are primarily attributed to the "Helsinki Zoo" effect in 2019, (marked in green) from a generous donation exceeding £100,000, and the pandemic in 2020, which notably impacted zoo contributions.



PROJECT FUNDING

Between January and December WildCats funded nine projects in five countries to the value of **£202,065**.

In addition to the below grant payments, we paid an outstanding amount from 2022 to Phoenix Fund of **£7,879** in September 2023.

Organisation	Project	Location	Grant
Freeland Foundation	Khao Laem: Tiger Conservation Project	Thailand	£18,000
Fauna & Flora	Kerinci Seblat Tiger Protection Project	Indonesia	£30,000
Lingkar Iniatif	Tiger Protection in the Bengkulu Area	Indonesia	£17,964
Lingkar Iniatif*	Tiger Protection in the Bengkulu Area	Indonesia	£10,326
Wildlife Conservation Society	Monitoring Amur Tiger and Leopards	China	£30,000
Wildlife Conservation Society	Community Anti-poaching Efforts	China	£25,000
Zoological Society of London	Promoting human-tiger coexistence	Nepal	£17,435
Wildlife Conservation Society	Monitoring in Southwest Primorsky Krai	Russia	£30,000
Wildlife Conservation Society	SMART anti-poaching patrols	Russia	£23,340
Total			£202,065

*Funded by a grant from Auckland Zoo



An artificial waterhole built in Nepal

WILDCATS TEAM



Esther Conway is responsible for project and donor liaison, report writing, managing the project selection process and also oversees the finance and general administration. Esther works 30 hours a week.



Amy van Gelder is the WildCats Communications Specialist. Amy is a skilled science communicator with an academic background in conservation. Amy is responsible for engaging all stakeholders through digital and in-person comms. She works 30 hours a week.



Monica Wrobel, Head of Strategic Development at ZSL provides line-management, strategic management and represents WildCats within ZSL's senior leadership team.



SPECIAL THANKS

- Dreamworld Wildlife Foundation and its team for funding the WildCats operations, allowing it to continue to spend 100% of the contributions received on wild tiger and Amur leopard projects.
- Monica Wrobel for her passion for conservation, strong leadership and keen sense of impact reporting.
- Monique Counihan for being a true tiger champion.
- The Big Give Trust.
- Altaica Prague.
- James Gibson Charitable Trust.
- Stebon Primary School.

The following zoos donated funds in 2023

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The following American Association of Zoo Keepers Chapters and friends groups

AAZK Cape May County Zoo, AAZK Milwaukee Zoo, Zoo, Friends of Berlin Capital Zoos.

The following Zoo Associations that collaborated with us in 2023

Association of Zoos and Aquariums (AZA), British and Irish Zoo Association (BIAZA), European Association of Zoos and Aquaria (EAZA), Zoo and Aquarium Association Australasia (ZAA) and World Association of Zoos and Aquariums (WAZA).

Individual donors over £100

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