

TIGER CONSERVATION IN THAILAND



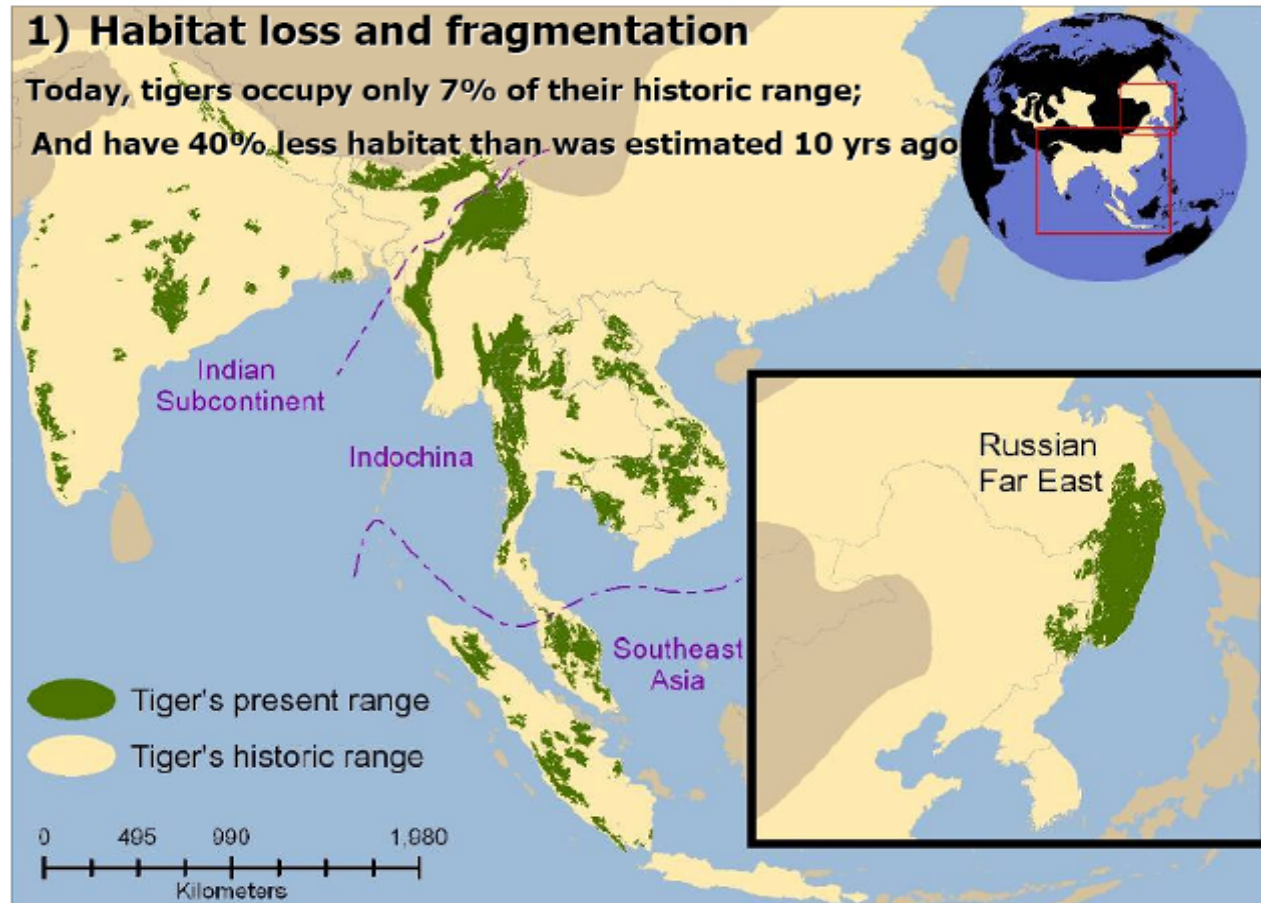
Tiger Conservation in Thailand

- Why is it important to save the tiger.
- Distribution & Threats.
- Tiger Conservation.
- Status of Tigers in Thailand.
- Thailand Tiger Action Plan.
- Progress on Thailand Tiger Action Plan.

Why is it important to save the tiger?

- 1. Tiger is the top predator, tigers require extensive habitat and thus serve as umbrella for the conservation of many other species and the last remaining large forested landscapes.**
- 2. Tiger, as the largest carnivores, have an important functional role in Thailand's forest ecosystem.**
- 3. Wild lands that protect the tiger provide opportunities for aesthetic, social and recreational areas for human.**

DISTRIBUTION & THREATS



**Distribution: India Nepal Bhutan Bangladesh
Myanmar Thailand Lao PDR Cambodia
Vietnam Malaysia Indonesia China Russia**

HABITAT LOSS & FRAGMENTATION



POACHING

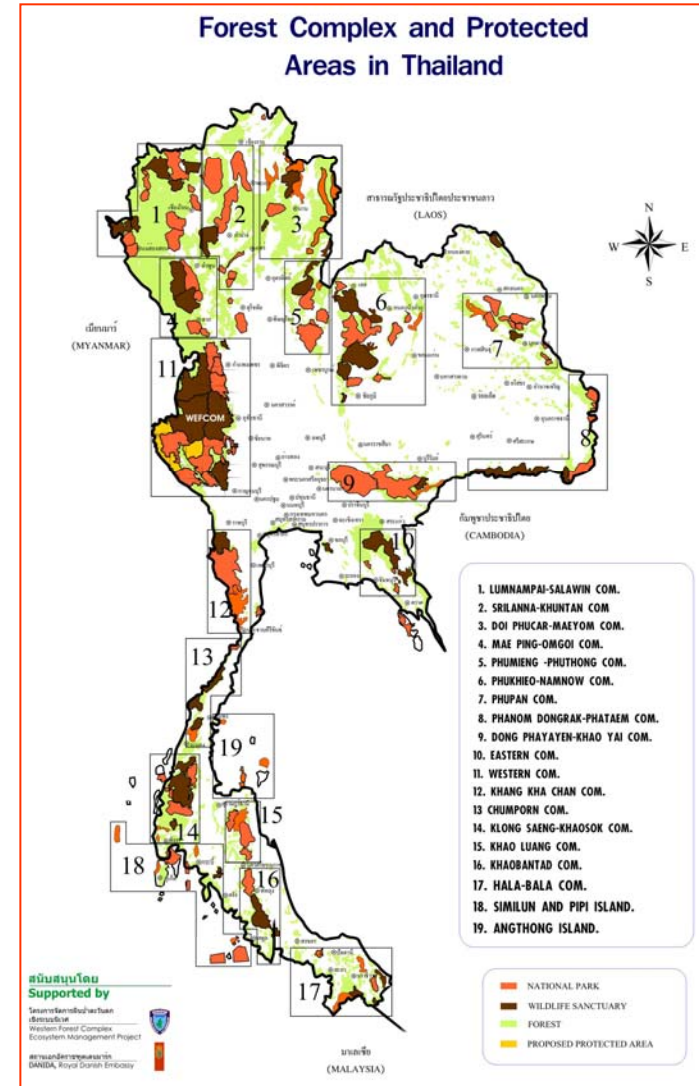


PREY DEPLETION



Thailand

- **Country Area: 513,115 Km²**
- **Forest Cover: 32 %**
- **Protected Area: 18 %**
 - **148 National Parks**
 - **57 Wildlife Sanctuaries**
 - **60 Non-Hunting Areas**



Tiger Natural History

- ✓ *Panthera tigris corbetii*
- ✓ Size: 2.82 m (nose to tail)
- ✓ Weight: 120 – 200 kg
- ✓ Produce on average 3 cubs
- ✓ Home range: 100 – 290 sq kms.
- ✓ Prey: deer, wild boar, wild cattle

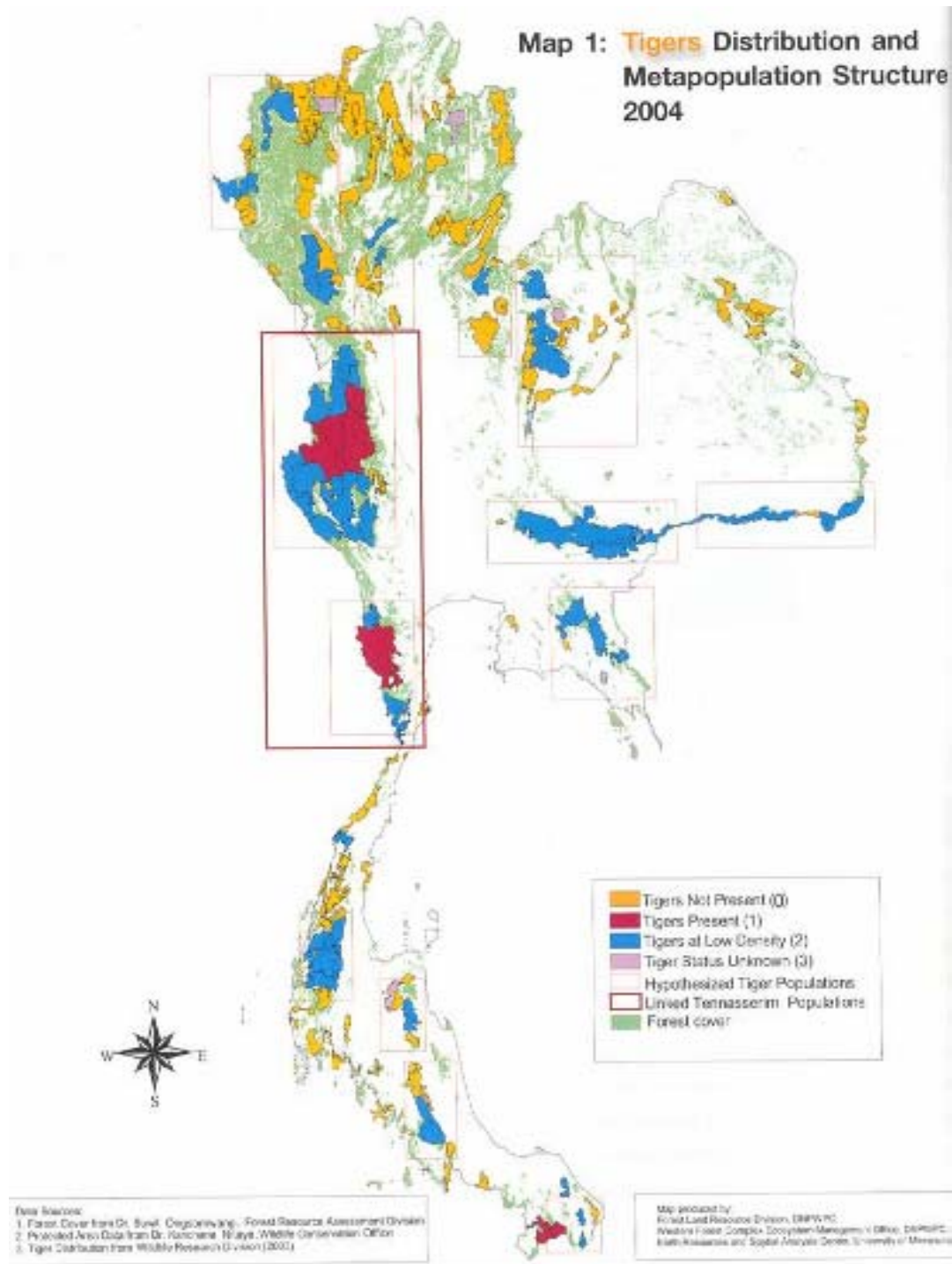


Tiger Conservation

- ✓ Prey need to be sustainably managed and conserved
- ✓ Tigers require large and connected blocks of tiger habitat
- ✓ Tigers can persist only with low levels of tiger poaching
- ✓ Tiger human conflict must be mitigated



STATUS OF TIGERS IN THAILAND

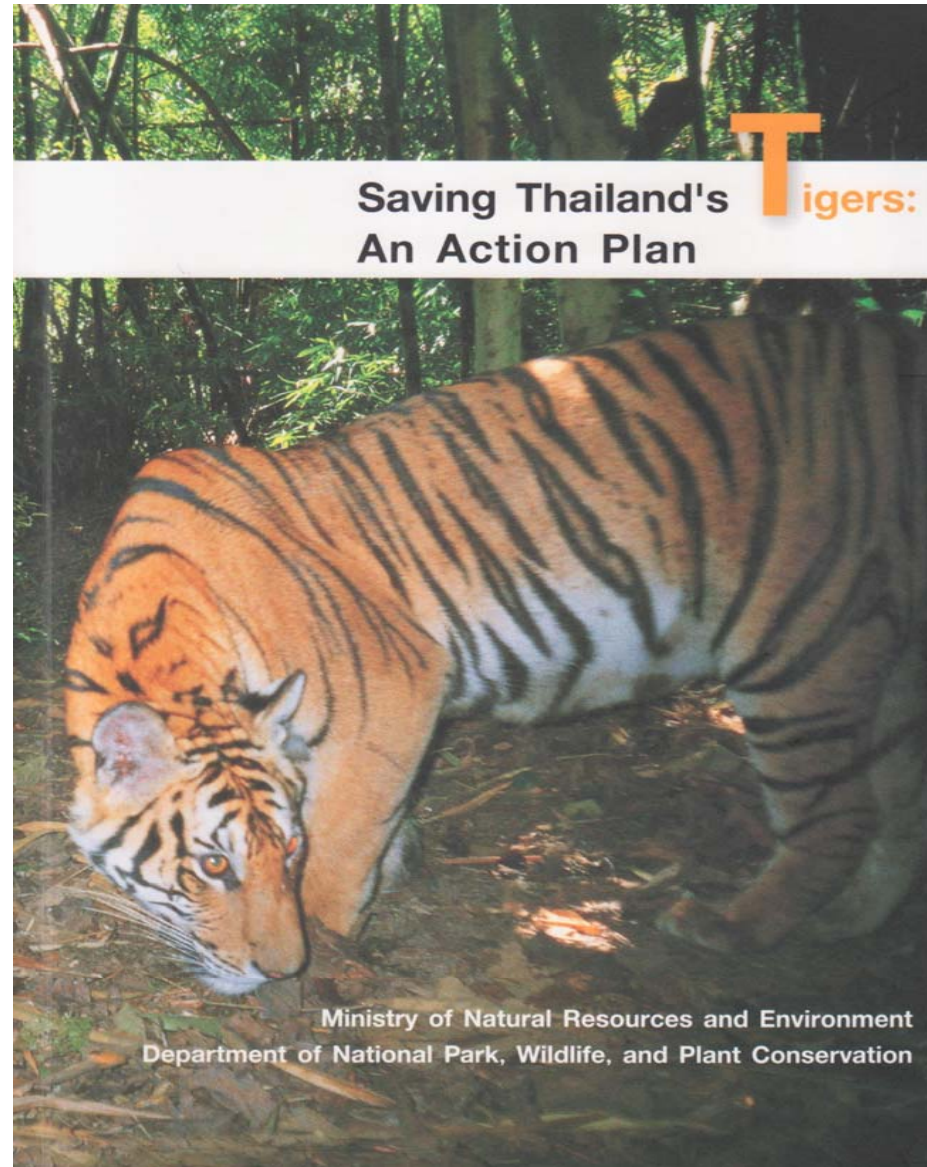


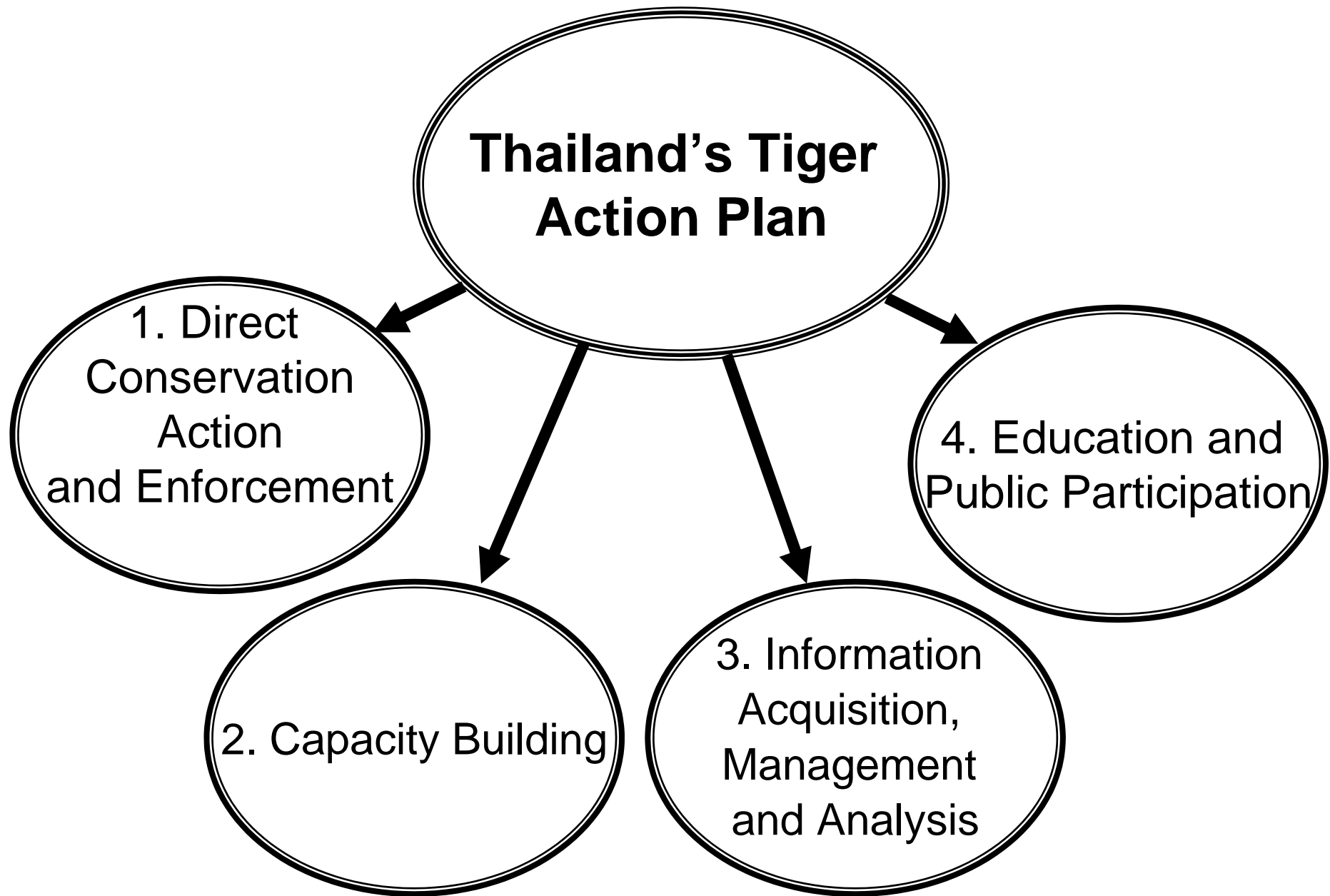
CORE SITE FOR TIGERS IN THAILAND

Western Forest Complex (WEFCOM)

- 
- A satellite map of Thailand showing the Western Forest Complex (WEFCOM) and the Huai Kha Kheang & Thung Yai Wildlife Sanctuaries (HKK-TY). The WEFCOM is outlined in blue, and the HKK-TY is outlined in pink. A red rectangle highlights the core area within the HKK-TY. The map shows the Andaman Sea to the west and the Gulf of Thailand to the east.
- Total area of WEFCOM 18,000 sq km
 - Core area : Huai Kha Kheang & Thung Yai Wildlife Sanctuaries (HKK-TY)
 - Core area of HKK-TY 6,000 sq.km
 - **World Heritage Site**
 - Support Endangered & Threatened Large mammals & birds spp.
 - Tiger Conservation Landscape **Class I + Global priority**
 - ~ 38 Ranger stations in HKK-TY
 - ~ 400 Rangers protecting HKK-TY

Thailand Tiger Action Plan





Thailand's Tiger Action Plan

1. Direct Conservation Action and Enforcement.

- 1.1 Promote tiger conservation efforts at the scale of entire tiger population.
- 1.2 Support local communities in developing sustainable economies that reduce dependence on forest resources.
- 1.3 Encourage community participation and cooperation in protected area conservation activities.
- 1.4 Increase the suppression of wildlife crimes – especially as they relate to tigers and tiger prey.
- 1.5 Increase national and international efforts to suppress the production, trade and consumption of products that contain tiger parts.
- 1.6 Facilitate regional cooperation in tiger conservation efforts.
- 1.7 Support national and international efforts to responsibly manage captive tigers.

Thailand's Tiger Action Plan

2. Capacity Building.

- 2.1 Develop and support appropriate human resources.
- 2.2 Procure other key resources such as funding and equipment.

3. Information Acquisition, Management and Analysis.

- 3.1 Implement a permanent, nation-wide monitoring tigers, their prey and the ecosystem in which they live.
- 3.2 Undertake research that contributes to our understanding of tiger ecology and conservation.
- 3.3 Support efforts that increase our understanding of the production and use of products that contain tiger parts.
- 3.4 Ensure that all relevant information for tiger conservation can be managed and accessed in a systematic way.

Thailand's Tiger Action Plan. (cont.)

4. Education and Public Participation.

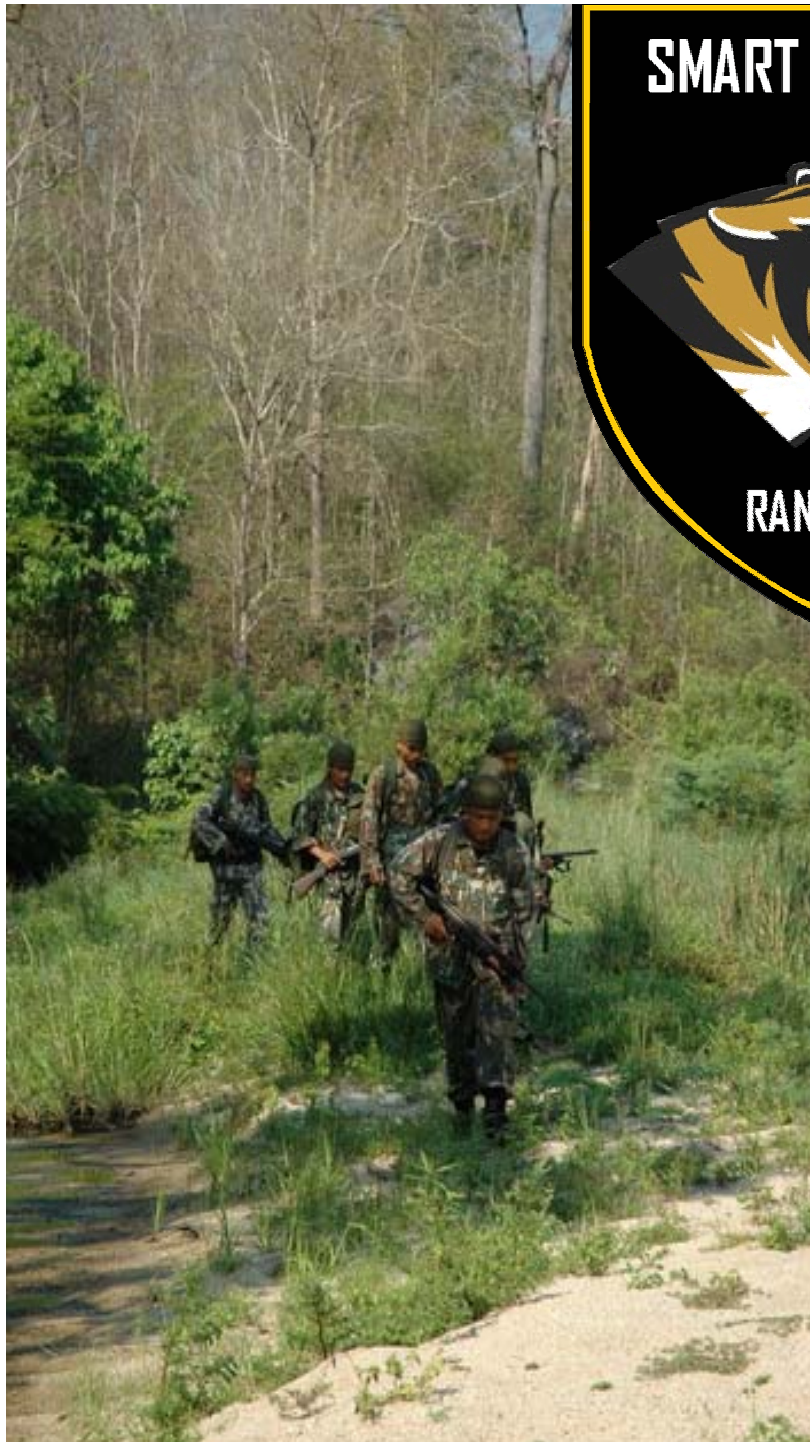
- 4.1 Ensure that basic concepts of the tiger's ecological and cultural significance become part of the Thailand's standard curriculum at several educational levels.
- 4.2 Support efforts to convey tiger conservation- related messages to a diverse Thai public and involve them in the conservation process.

Progress on Thailand Tiger Action Plan



1. Direct Conservation Action and Enforcement

- 1.1 Smart Patrol System in Western Forest Complex
- 1.2 Strengthening CITES Checkpoint
- 1.3 Establishing Wildlife Center and Crime Units in 16 Regional Offices
- 1.4 Establishing Forest Change Monitoring Center
- 1.5 Increase National Efforts to Suppress the Production, Trade and Consumption of Products that Contain Tiger Parts.
- 1.6 Facilitate Regional Cooperation in Tiger Conservation Efforts.
- 1.7 Support national efforts to responsibly manage captive tigers.



1.1 Smart Patrol System In Western Forests



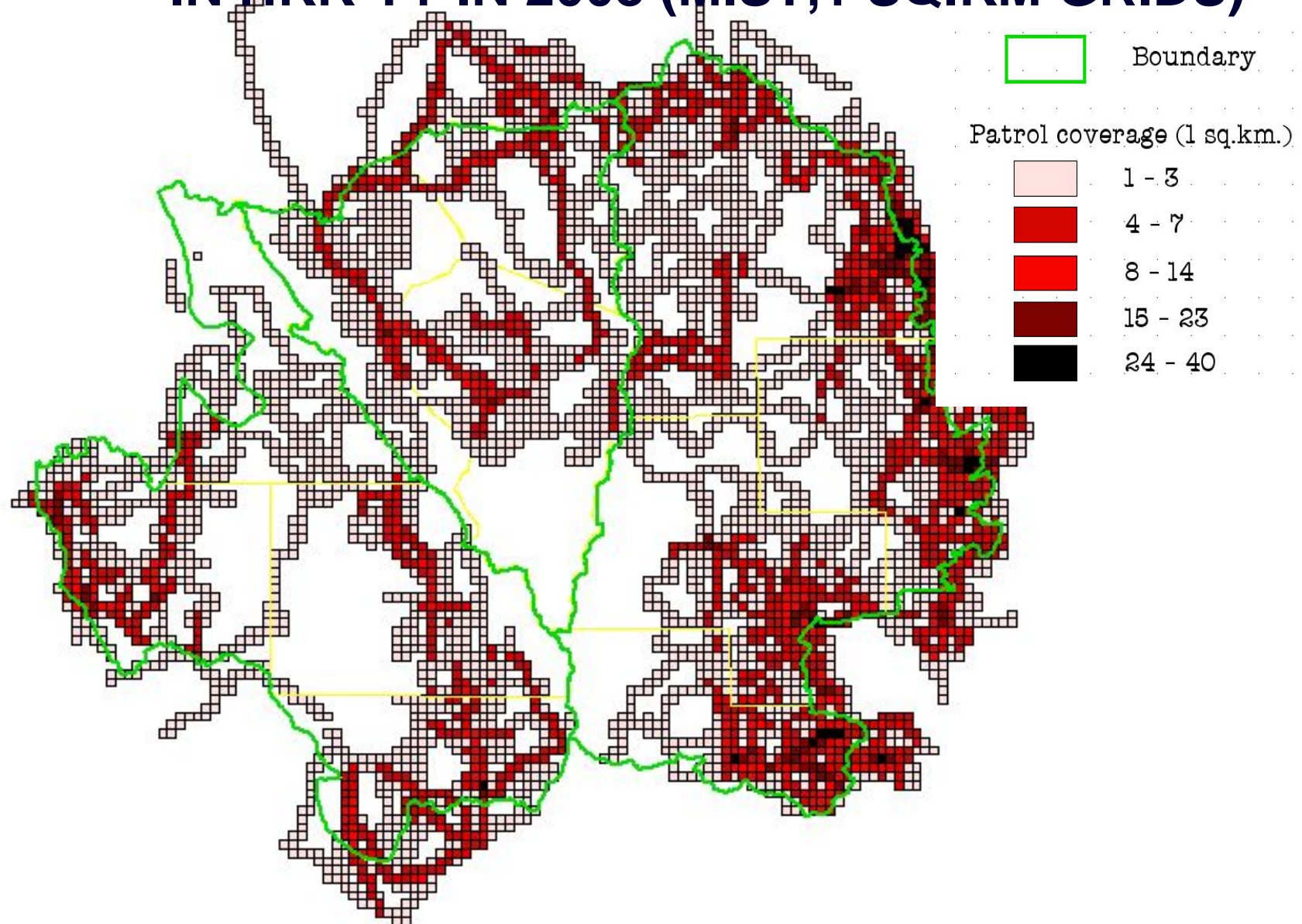
Supporters



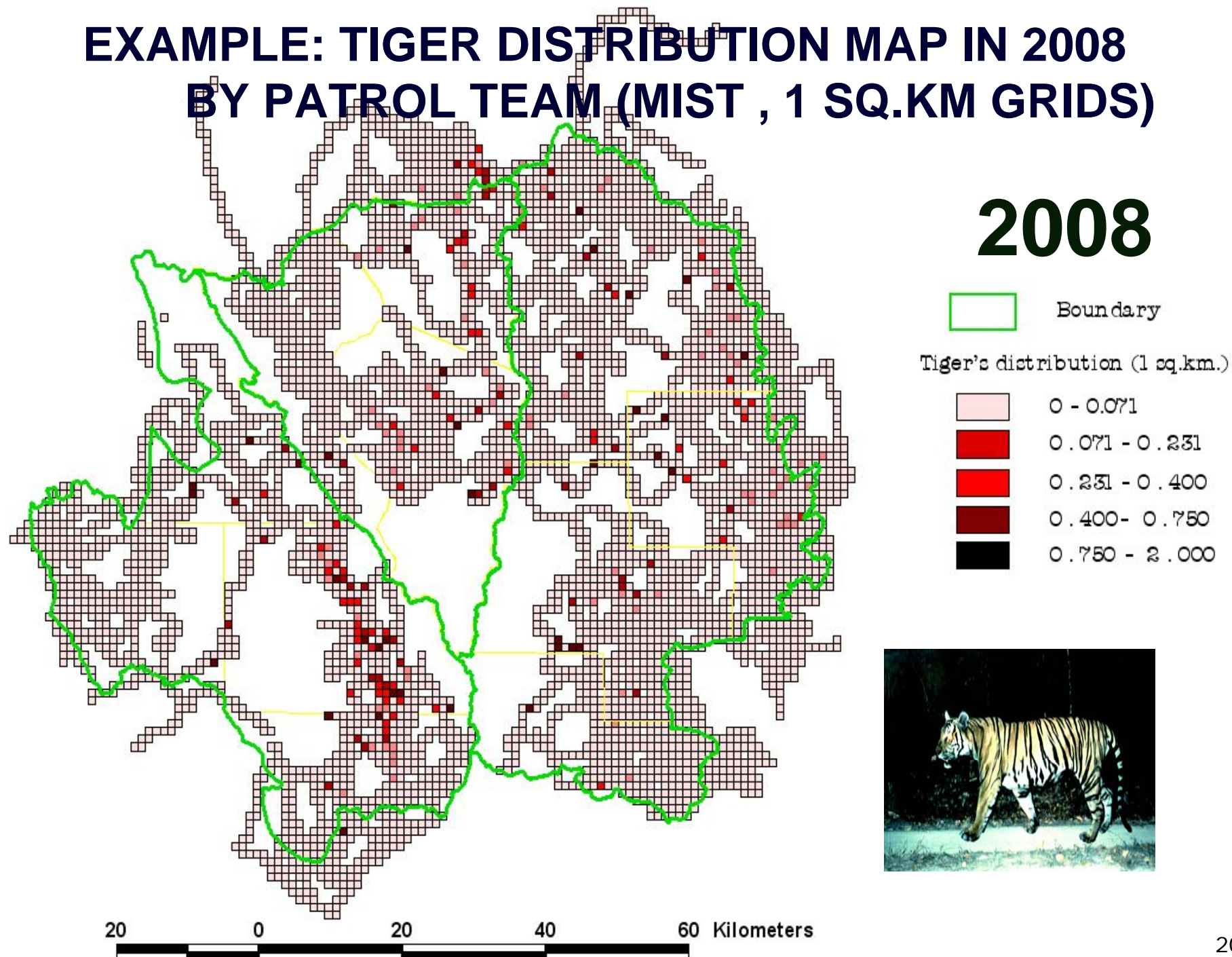
Example of outputs produced by MIST

- **Indices** for monitoring of wildlife populations and human activities
- **Distribution maps (Threats, Wildlife, Patrol intensity)** for planning and monitoring
- Baseline information for **patrol deployment planning**
- Performance **indicators**
- All **reporting** requirements

EXAMPLE: PATROL COVERAGE & INTENSITY IN HKK-TY IN 2008 (MIST, 1 SQ.KM GRIDS)

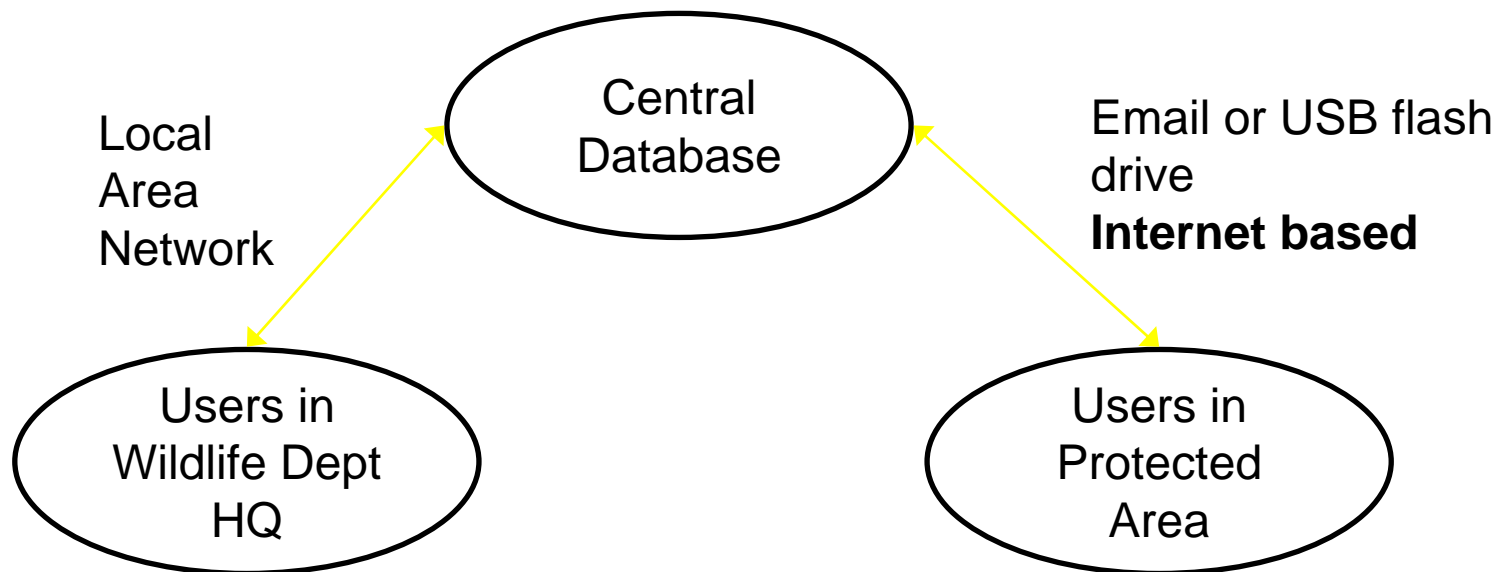


EXAMPLE: TIGER DISTRIBUTION MAP IN 2008 BY PATROL TEAM (MIST , 1 SQ.KM GRIDS)



PLAN FOR MIST AT NATIONAL LEVEL

SMART PATROL MONITORING CENTER WILDLIFE CONSERVATION OFFICE



The databases from the PAs are synchronized with the central MIST database through automatic database replication using digital data transfer

BEST PRACTICE FOR ALL LEVELS

POLICY LEVEL

- GOOD GOVERNANCE AND TRANSPARENT SYSTEM

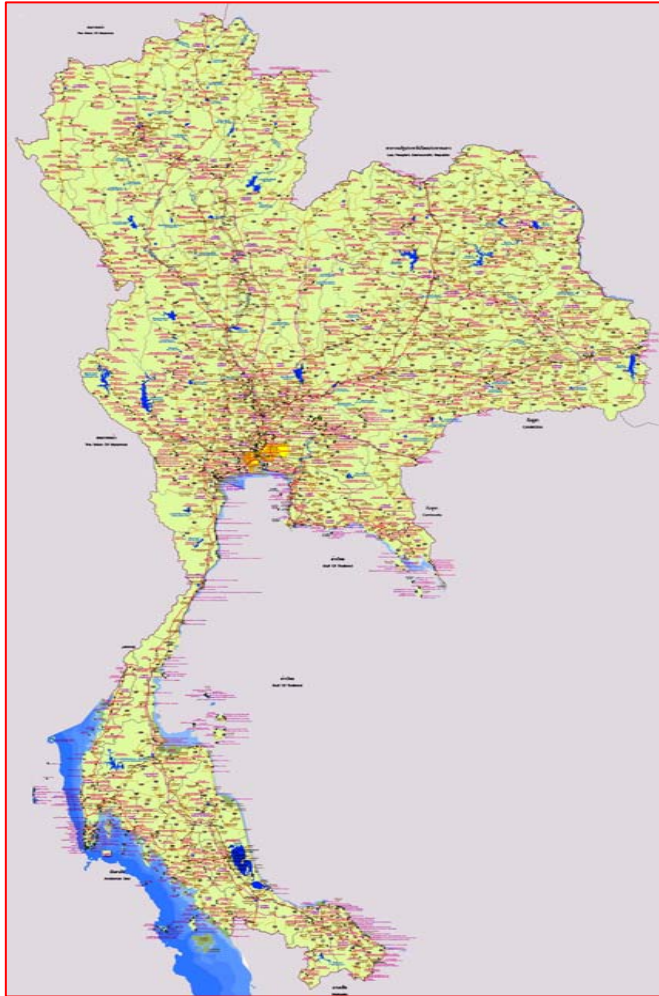
MANAGEMENT LEVEL

- QUALITY INFORMATION - BASED DECISION MAKING
- SHORT AND LONG TERM PLANNING
- DATA SYSTEM: SYSTEMATIC AND STANDARDIZED
- BETTER MONITORING TOOL

RANGER & GUARD LEVEL

- HIGH MORALE AND SELF ESTEEM (WITHOUT TOPUP)
- TRUE CAPACITY BUILDING FOR STWARDSHIP
- CONCRETE PERFORMANCE MONITORING

1.2 Strengthening CITES Checkpoint



Highway Checkpoint



1.3 Establishing Wildlife Center and Crime Units in 16 Regional Offices



1.4 Establishing Forest Change Monitoring Center

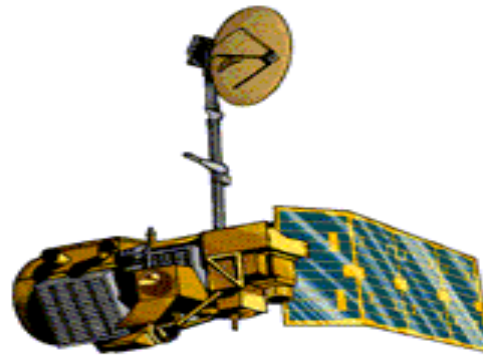
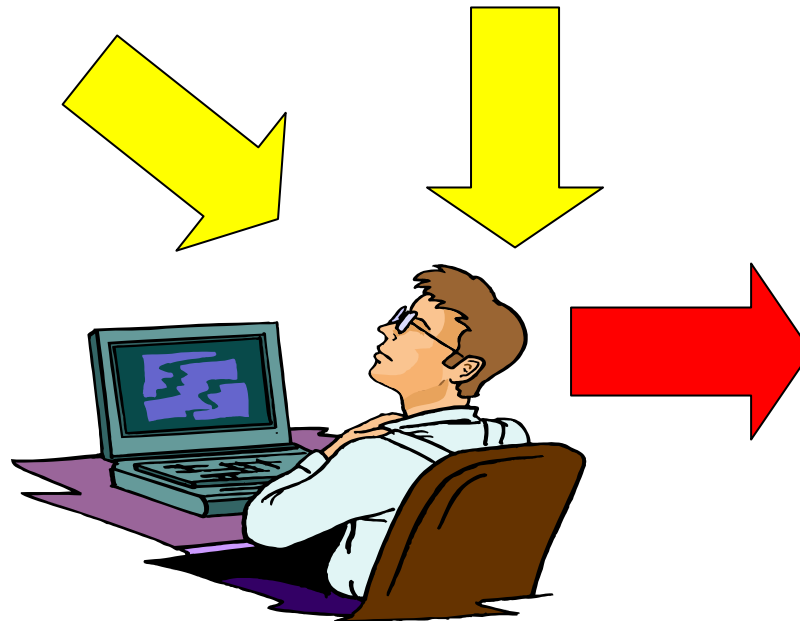


Image provided by USGS



1.5 Increase National Efforts to Suppress the Production, Trade and Consumption of Products that Contain Tiger Parts.

- Requested the Food and Drug Committee to stop the utilization of tiger bone in the traditional medicine and educated the traditional medicine producers about the illegal issue of tiger parts consumption according to the Wildlife Conservation and Protection Act B.E. 2535.

1.6 Facilitate Regional Cooperation in Tiger Conservation Efforts.



Press

1.6.1 An intensive two-week joint training course for rangers from the Mekong region designed to boost their capacity to protect forest reserves from poaching, illegal logging and other threats. (Nakhon Ratchasima, 2009)

1.6.2 Conducted special investigation group workshop on pangolins and big cats in Bangkok (January, 2009). The participants were polices from ASEAN member countries along with polices from China and the United States.

1.7 Support National Efforts to Responsibly Manage Captive Tigers.

- Captive tiger data base has started in order to control and manage tiger population in captivity.
- Each tiger has different pattern of black stripes on the back and sides. Therefore, it is an important tool for the identification of the individual in tiger captive breeding .Initially, captive tiger data base was conducted to collect stripe pattern and other bio-data of 30 tigers at Wat Pa Luang Ta Maha Bua in Kanchanaburi. Afterward, this data base will introduce to all Wildlife Breeding Stations under the National Parks, Wildlife and Plant Conservation Department and plan to introduce to the private zoos and tiger farms.



2. Capacity Building

2.1 Develop and Support Appropriate Human resources

2.1.1 Training on Smart Patrol Techniques for
Protected Area Management.

2.2 Procure other Key Resources such as Funding
and Equipment.

2.2.2 Saving Thailand's Tiger Project
(2006-2009).

2.1.1 Training on Smart Patrol Techniques for Protected Area Management. (Rangers)



2.2 Procure other Key Resources such as Funding and Equipment

2.2.1 Saving Thailand's Tiger Project 2006-2009

During 2006-2009 PTTEP funded Khao Nang Rum Wildlife Research Station to conduct Saving Thailand's Tiger Project.

Project activities were divided in 2 parts.

- Study on ecology and behavior of tigers in the Western Forest Complex.
- Production of posters and educational media for tiger conservation.



3. Information Acquisition, Management and Analysis.

3.1 Implement a permanent long-term monitoring system.

3.1.1 Long-term monitoring system (TY-HKK).


3.1.2 The study on the status and distribution of large mammals in Thailand's protected areas.

3.2 Undertake research that contributes to our understanding of tiger ecology and conservation.

3.2.1 Ecology, Habitat & Food

3.1 Implement a Permanent Long-Term Monitoring System.

3.1.1 Long-term monitoring system (TY-HKK)

- 
- A. Tiger population & trends
 - Camera trapping
 - Capture-Recapture sampling
 - B. Prey population & trends
 - Transect
 - Distance sampling

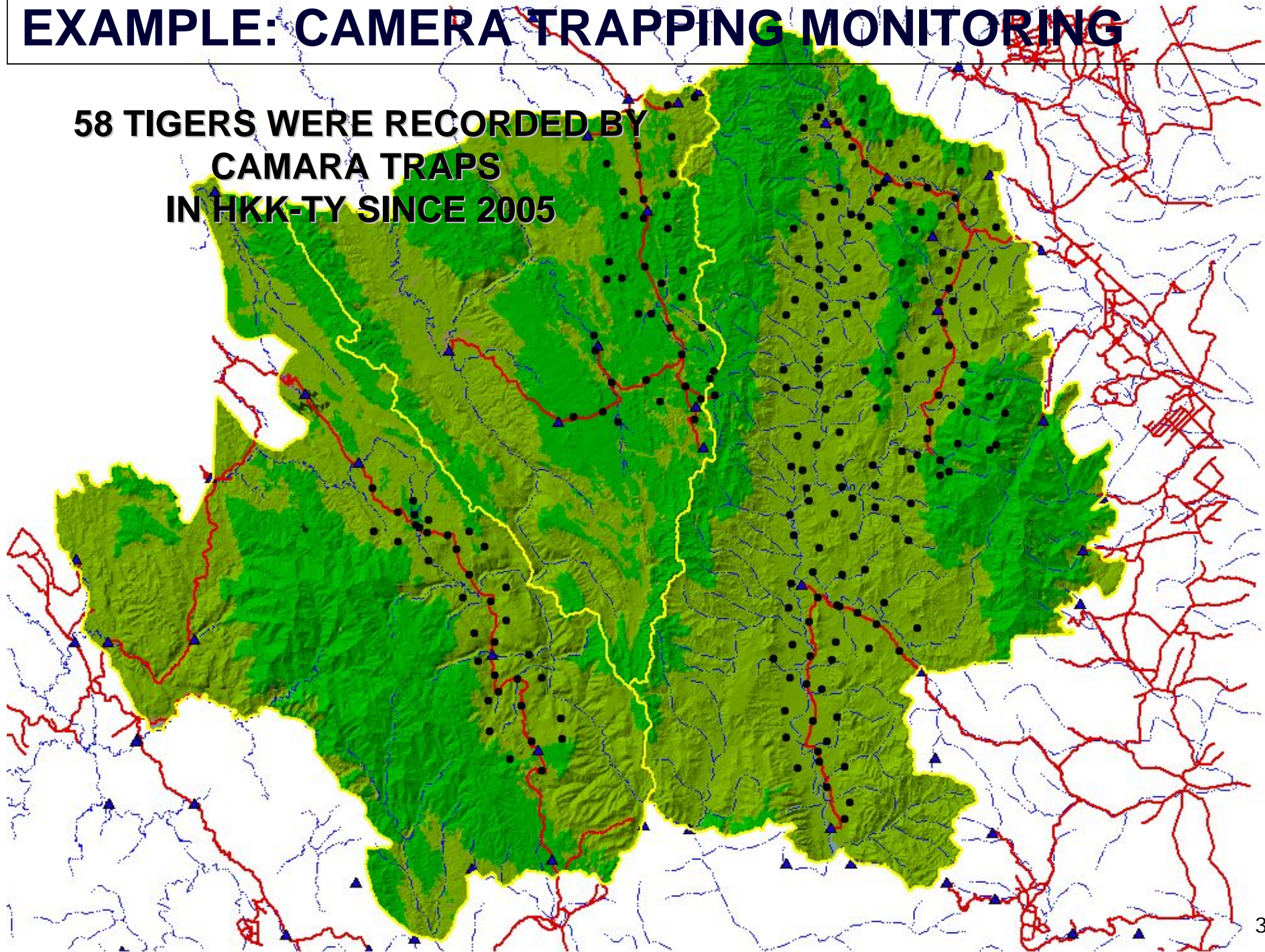


UNIVERSITY
OF
MINNESOTA



EXAMPLE: CAMERA TRAPPING MONITORING

**58 TIGERS WERE RECORDED BY
CAMARA TRAPS
IN HKK-TY SINCE 2005**



3.1.2 The Study on Status and Distribution of Large Mammals in Thailand's Protected Areas



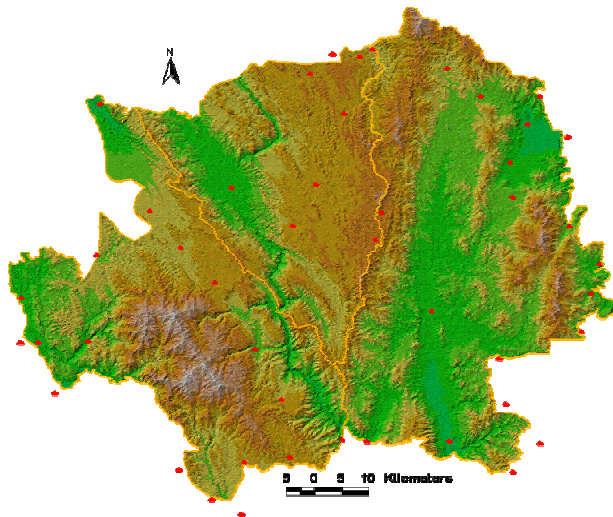
*16 species of large mammals included tigers and their prey were surveyed along the natural trails in 149 protected areas throughout the country.



3.2 Undertake research that contributes to our understanding of tiger ecology and conservation.

3.2.1 Ecology, Habitat & Food (HKK)

- Radio telemetry (~ 6 tigers collared)
- Scat analysis

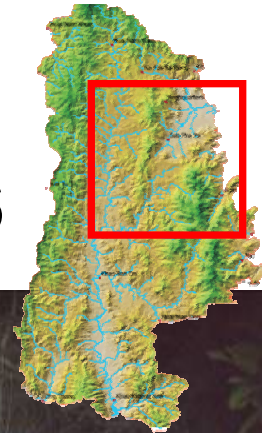


World Heritage Site : Huai Kha Khaeng – Thung Yai WS

EXAMPLE: GPS COLLARED DATA

Home Range

2005-06



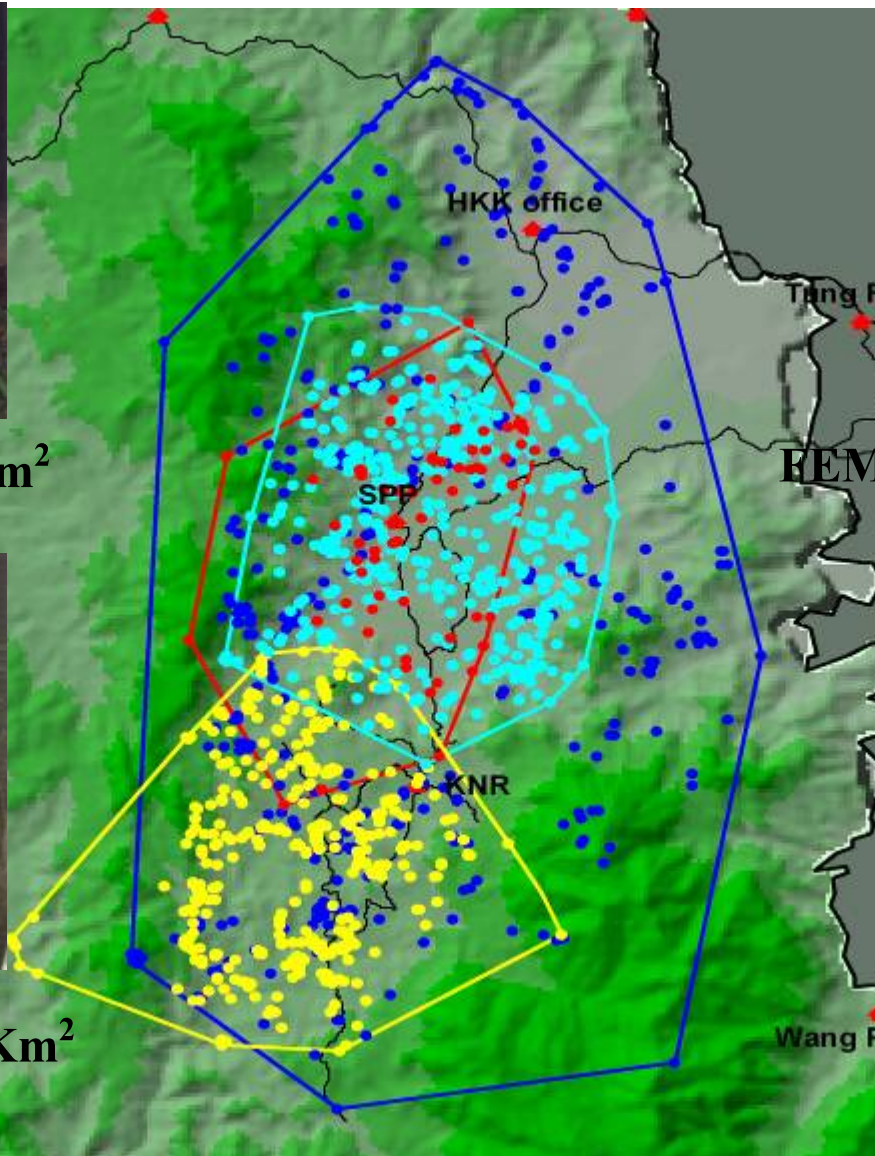
FEMALE 1 = 63.07 Km²



FEMALE 4 = 76.13 . Km²

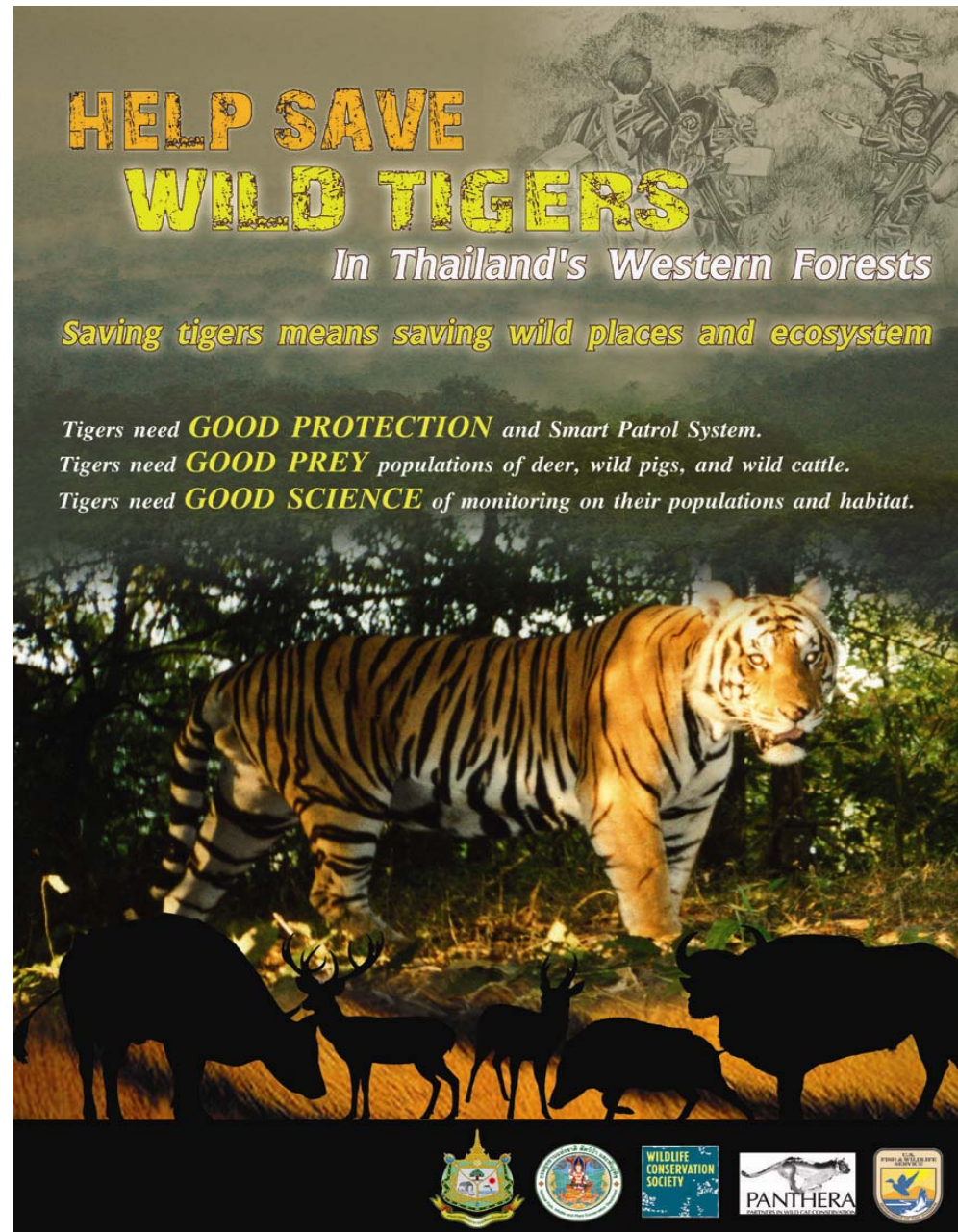


FEMALE 5 = 78.23 . Km²



MALE 1 = 291.25 Km²

4. Education and Public Participation



4.1 Ensure that Basic Concepts of the Tiger's Ecological and Cultural Significance Become Part of the Thailand's Standard Curriculum at Several Educational Levels.

PANORAMA SPECIAL

2005-2008 Khao Nang Rum Wildlife Research Station incorporated with Panorama World Wide Limited Company and TV Channel 3 ,TV Channel 5 produced television programs to educate the public about tiger conservation. Those programs are following.

- To know the tiger with uncle 'Too'
- Secret of the tiger
- I SEE U
- Navigator
- Nature survey



Thank you