

**U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Division of International Conservation
Rhinoceros and Tiger Conservation Fund
FY 2015 Summary of Projects**

In FY 2015, The United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) awarded funding to 47 projects from the Rhinoceros and Tiger Conservation fund totaling \$2,784,033, which was matched by \$8,755,951 in additional leveraged funds. Field projects in 14 countries (in alphabetical order below) as well as three projects spanning multiple countries will be supported.

BHUTAN

RT 1541

F15AP00773

Capacity building to crack down on tiger poaching and trade in Bhutan. In partnership with World Wildlife Fund. This project will build Forest Protection and Surveillance Unit (FPSU) ranger capacity in law enforcement monitoring tools, intelligence tools, and standard anti-poaching ranger trainings as per the IUCN standards for national roll-out. The project will support capacity building of FPSU and divisional field staff to train others on SMART (Spatial Monitoring and Reporting Tool) and standard anti-poaching ranger training, as well as to best utilize the Bhutan Forestry Enforcement Database (BhuFED), integrate SMART with BhuFED, and increase national awareness on FPSU law enforcement tools and trainings in Bhutan.

USFWS: \$50,000

Leveraged Funds: \$6,953

INDIA

RT 1550

F15AP00805

Strengthen the protection measures in Manas National Park as a part of the program 'Indian Rhino Vision 2020' to expand the numbers and range of wild rhinos in Assam, Phase - IX. In partnership with Wildlife Areas Development and Welfare Trust. The purpose of this project is to support the salary of 20 (out of 50) guards (besides the existing staff of the Forest Department) for 12 months to keep vigil and monitor the rhino habitats of Manas National Park. The salaries of the remaining 30 guards will be supported by Bodo Territorial Council and National Tiger Conservation Authority.

USFWS: \$37,950

Leveraged Funds: \$85,300

RT 1551

F15AP00816

Conservation of rhino and tiger in Orang National Park, Assam, India, through infrastructure development. In partnership with Wildlife Areas Development and Welfare Trust. This project will enhance the quality of living condition of the anti-poaching patrol staff of Orang National Park. The project will be responsible for the construction of three anti-poaching camps with watch towers, and making drinking water available for all three camps.

USFWS: \$66,550

Leveraged Funds: \$142,420

RT 1554**F15AP00818**

Prioritizing conservation landscapes for recovery of a low-density metapopulation of tigers in Andhra Pradesh, India. In partnership with Centre for Wildlife Studies. This project will map the current distribution of tigers in the state and factors that drive tiger occupancy, map threats to tiger distribution and population recovery, and train Forest Department personnel and civil society volunteers in rigorous techniques for monitoring tigers, their prey, and threats to their survival.

USFWS: \$48,200

Leveraged Funds: \$48,300

RT 1568**F15AP00823**

Educating local communities for mitigating human-large carnivore conflict and conservation of tigers and leopards, India. In partnership with Tiger Research and Conservation Trust. This project will ensure that the 72 conflict mitigation teams become self-reliant and capable of minimizing conflict between humans and large carnivores, increase the area and villages under this program, create a network among these teams, and strengthen the Early Warning System for local communities.

USFWS: \$49,998

Leveraged Funds: \$27,080

RT 1569**F15AP00825**

Capacity building for frontline forest personnel for the mitigation of human-animal conflict (tiger and elephant) in and around protected areas of Tamil Nadu, India. In partnership with Zoo Outreach Organization Trust. This project will address human-animal conflict issues through training, equip frontline staff with modern research tools, and create a network of frontline staff for elephant and tiger reserves in Tamil Nadu.

USFWS: \$41,335

Leveraged Funds: \$6,000

RT 1579**F15AP00839**

Noninvasive genetic identity based on monitoring of tiger (Panthera tigris tigris) in Manas Tiger Reserve, India. In partnership with Aaranyak. This project will undertake field surveys in Manas Tiger Reserve (MTR) to collect scat samples for genetic analysis, estimate population size of tigers in MTR through this genetic analysis, facilitate transboundary monitoring through capacity building, and estimate the dietary habits of the sympatric carnivore species in MTR.

USFWS: \$38,910

Leveraged Funds: \$17,670

RT 1570**F15AP00826**

Infrastructure development for strengthening of protection measures in Pabitora Wildlife Sanctuary, Assam, India. In partnership with Wildlife Areas Development and Welfare Trust. This project will conserve greater one-horned rhinoceros and enhance the living conditions of the anti-poaching staff at Pabitora Wildlife Sanctuary. The project will provide support for the construction of two anti-poaching camps with watch towers and available drinking water.

USFWS: \$73,883

Leveraged Funds: \$31,767

INDONESIA

RT 1524

F15AP00682

Protection and conservation of Sumatran tiger in Kerinci Seblat National Park, Sumatra, Indonesia. In partnership with Fauna and Flora International. This project will reduce levels of threat to Sumatran tigers, especially from organized illegal poaching and trade syndicates, through focused and practical actions in and around the national park. The project will support government partners in combating poaching and organized illegal trade in Sumatran tiger and other protected species, support actions to reduce threats to tiger habitat, and mitigate human-tiger and human-wildlife conflicts, thus reducing revenge killings. The project will also maintain technical support to the national park authority and park police, and monitor the impact of the multi-stakeholder Wildlife Conflict Mitigation Taskforce in Bengkulu established as a result of an earlier USFWS grant.

USFWS: \$64,561

Leveraged Funds: \$64,230

RT 1526

F15AP00694

Conservation of the tigers of Gunung Leuser National Park through improved law enforcement and reduced human-tiger conflict, Sumatra, Indonesia. In partnership with Wildlife Conservation Society. This project will bring tigers back to their natural carrying capacity in Gunung Leuser National Park (GLNP), which will be a level that is both capable of sustained breeding and compatible with the human activities legally permitted within GLNP. This is to be done through improving and strengthening law enforcement and decreasing human-tiger conflict in the GLNP landscape.

USFWS: \$57,553

Leveraged Funds: \$58,766

RT 1527

F15AP00692

Conservation of the tigers of Bukit Barisan Selatan through improved law enforcement and reduced human-tiger conflict, Sumatra, Indonesia. In partnership with Wildlife Conservation Society. This project will bring tigers back to their natural carrying capacity in Bukit Barisan Selatan (BBS), and will bring the tiger population of Bukit Balai Rejang (BBR) to a level that is capable of sustained breeding. This is to be done through improving and strengthening law enforcement and reducing human-tiger conflict in the BBS/BBR landscape.

USFWS: \$58,886

Leveraged Funds: \$59,607

RT 1530

F15AP00757

Javan Rhino Protection Units in Ujung Kulon National Park, Java, Indonesia. In partnership with the International Rhino Foundation. This project will prevent the extinction of the Javan rhino, as well as protect other threatened species and critical habitats within and around the national park. The project will support 15 days per month patrolling for each four-man Rhino Protection Unit (RPU), ensure that no traps are permitted to be placed or remain long enough to entrap rhinos, apprehend or at least identify to the local authorities all suspected poachers so they can be prosecuted, monitor populations of rhino and other endangered mammals, and enable the

addition of a fifth RPU to patrol and monitor the additional habitat opened up with the creation of the 5,000-hectare Javan Rhino Study and Conservation Area.

USFWS: \$83,197

Leveraged Funds: \$82,808

RT 1533

F15AP00758

Developing effective markers for censusing of Sumatran and Javan rhinoceros by local researchers. In partnership with Board of Trustees of the University of Illinois. This project will develop microsatellite markers for Sumatran and Javan rhinoceros species that can be effectively used by Indonesian researchers to census rhino populations, build capacity of Indonesians with respect to numerous aspects of wildlife genetics including sample collection, DNA extraction, sequencing, genotyping, censusing, analyses, and interpretation of results to compare genomic sequences. This project will help Indonesian researchers conduct genetic censusing and sexing of rhinos in local laboratories in order to monitor and manage their own rhino populations.

USFWS: \$49,993

Leveraged Funds: \$57,088

RT 1536

F15AP00763

Protection of Sumatran rhinos and other mega-fauna by anti-poaching units in Way Kambas National Park, Sumatra, Indonesia. In partnership with International Rhino Foundation. This project will protect Sumatran rhinos and other mega-fauna in Way Kambas National Park. This protection will be accomplished by the Rhino Protection Units (RPUs). RPUs will patrol and survey the full extent of Way Kambas National Park, monitor rhino and threatened mega-fauna populations, curtail hunting and trapping of wildlife, minimize effects of human encroachment, raise awareness in neighboring villages, and implement conservation education and other community-based programs.

USFWS: \$82,250

Leveraged Funds: \$78,199

RT 1537

F15AP00767

Strengthening tiger conservation in Leuser-Ulu Masen landscape, Sumatra, Indonesia. In partnership with Fauna and Flora International. This project will strengthen capacity of integrated tiger conservation units, increase tiger conservation effectiveness in and around Ulu Masen, and build landscape constituency for tiger conservation by raising awareness and disseminating information.

USFWS: \$59,860

Leveraged Funds: \$48,200

RT 1567

F15AP00822

Protecting and expanding the Sumatran rhino population in the western Leuser ecosystem, Sumatra, Indonesia. In partnership with Forum Conservasi Leuser. This project aims to ensure a sustained increase in the rhinoceros population in the western Leuser ecosystem. The project will recruit and train two additional anti-poaching teams, equip the anti-poaching teams with necessary equipment such as tents, field clothing, GPS units, and cameras, and reduce poaching activities in patrolled areas.

USFWS: \$ 49,770

Leveraged Funds: \$134,480

RT 1575**F15AP00830**

Engaging Muslim leaders in rhino and tiger conservation in Indonesia. In partnership with Alliance of Religions and Conservation. This project will create a working model of conservation and religion partnerships that develop strong support among Muslim communities for the conservation of tigers and rhinos. MUI (*Majelis Ulama Indonesia*, Indonesia's most influential Muslim body) recently issued national edict on biodiversity protection, and encouraged conservation non-governmental organizations working in key tiger and rhino sites to more fully integrate religious partners and perspectives into conservation activities.

USFWS: \$49,985

Leveraged Funds: \$20,600

KENYA**RT1500****Grant # F15AP00308**

Safeguarding the security of Kenya's newest black rhino population in Borana Conservancy. In partnership with Save the Rhino International. To enhance protection and monitoring of eastern black rhinos on Borana and Lewa Conservancies, these funds support (1) ongoing foot- and vehicle-based ground patrols; (2) aerial surveillance; (3) individual rhino monitoring; (4) dog-handler training; (5) training in processing poaching crime scenes; and (6) the construction of accommodation for six additional security staff.

USFWS: \$58,708

Leveraged Funds: \$704,184

RT1509**Grant # F15AP00325**

Protecting the free-ranging black rhino population of the Chyulu Hills National Park, Kenya. In partnership with Save the Rhino International. To improve security for eastern black rhinos and other wildlife in the Chyulu Hills National Park, funds support ongoing rhino monitoring patrols within the National Park and on the adjacent Mbirikani Group Ranch, and anti-poaching patrols and investigations to detect, deter, and prosecute illegal activities.

USFWS: \$50,000

Leveraged Funds: \$748,719

RT1516**Grant # F15AP00341**

Strengthening protection and monitoring of the Key 1 black rhino population at OI Pejeta Conservancy, Kenya. In partnership with Fauna and Flora International. To enhance black rhino conservation at OI Pejeta Conservancy, these funds sponsor training for rhino scouts at the Kenya Wildlife Service (KWS) Field Training School in Manyani, improve the visibility and discipline amongst rhino scouts by providing uniforms for 84 scouts, and improve the patrol efficiency, response times, and mobility of rhino patrol teams through the provision of a 4x4 vehicle.

USFWS: \$90,588

Leveraged Funds: \$44,300

MALAYSIA

RT 1573

F15AP00828

Conservation of the tigers of the Endau-Rompin Landscape, Malaysia, through on-the-ground law enforcement, 2015-2016. In partnership with Wildlife Conservation Science (Malaysia) Berhad. This project will maintain anti-poaching enforcement activities in the states of Johor and Pahang, including multi-agency anti-poaching foot patrols and vehicular patrols, mobile checkpoints, and surveillance camera-trapping for poachers.

USFWS: \$59,318

Leveraged Funds: \$84,833

MYANMAR / BURMA

RT 1525

F15AP00689

Empowering local ethnic communities to conserve tigers and their habitats in Myinmoletkhat Key Biodiversity Area (KBA), Myanmar - Year 2. In partnership with Wildlife Conservation Society. This project will promote a community-based conservation approach to establishing a protected area in the Myinmoletkhat KBA that contributes to national protected area expansion targets in Myanmar. The project will continue empowering local community representatives in monitoring tigers, tiger-prey, and their habitats, and will establish baseline information on wildlife and habitats. The project will also continue facilitating a collaborative wildlife protection system between local communities, the Forest Department, and Karen National Union, and will support the establishment of a protected area.

USFWS: \$39,705

Leveraged Funds: \$46,365

RT 1528

F15AP00714

Setting conservation priorities for tigers, their prey and other threatened mammals in the proposed Tanintharyi and Lenya National Parks and surrounding forests, Myanmar. In Partnership with Fauna and Flora International. This project will ensure the survival and increase the population and habitat of tigers in Myanmar by establishing the Tanintharyi National Park, Lenya National Park, and connecting forests that in combination cover 8,338 sq. km of key tiger habitat in Myanmar. The project will assess the conservation status of tigers, tiger-prey, and other large mammal species, raise tiger conservation awareness, and set tiger conservation priorities for future protection of the proposed Tanintharyi National Park.

USFWS: \$53,701

Leveraged Funds: \$61,525

NAMIBIA

RT1501

Grant # F15AP00310

Informant and crime management training course for rhino program field managers and investigators in Namibia. In partnership with Save the Rhino International. To assist Namibia in strengthening their ability to investigate and prosecute wildlife crime, this grant supports a ten-day training course conducted by experienced wildlife crime investigators for 24 participants

from a range of rhino areas in Namibia, and subsequent refinement of the training course based on emerging issues and participant feedback for use in future training sessions in other African range states.

USFWS: \$22,840

Leveraged Funds: \$69,650

RT1504

Grant # F15AP00315

Equipping the Namibian national rhino program with a new wildlife veterinarian field vehicle. In partnership with Save the Rhino International. Namibia's wildlife authority has posted a veterinary team in Etosha National Park in order to provide emergency veterinary care for black and white rhinos in northern Namibia more rapidly and efficiently. This grant supports the purchase and customization of a four-wheel drive vehicle for the veterinary team, equipped with all the necessary equipment for rhino capture for ear-notching, dehorning, implant of tracking devices, DNA sampling, capture and translocation of rhinos out of risky areas, and emergency veterinary care for injured rhinos.

USFWS: \$64,076

Leveraged Funds: \$255,540

RT1506

Grant # F15AP00320

A proactive approach to combating black rhino poaching in the Kunene and Erongo community areas of Namibia. In partnership with Save the Rhino International. To ensure the long-term security of the desert-adapted black rhino of the Kunene and Erongo Regions and prevent poaching and other illegal activities, these funds provide the training and operational expenses necessary to conduct anti-poaching patrols and rhino monitoring, to conduct aerial surveillance and to liaise with law enforcement officials if suspicious activities or threats to rhinos are encountered, and to conduct scene-of-the-crime investigations.

USFWS: \$90,637

Leveraged Funds: \$345,129

RT1508

Grant # F15AP00322

Dehorning Namibia's rhinos to stem the rising tide of rhino poaching. In partnership with Save the Rhino International. In response to the increasing threat of poaching for rhino horn, Namibia has adopted a proactive strategy of dehorning rhinos. This grant supports an outreach and publicity campaign to make it known locally and internationally that Namibia's rhinos do not have valuable horns, rhino immobilization operations to conduct dehorning and veterinary monitoring, implantation of tracking devices in all rhinos and all removed horns, ear-notching unmarked rhinos to facilitate identification and monitoring from a distance, collecting DNA samples of all rhinos and horns, and ensuring safe transport of horns from field sites to the secure national stockpile.

USFWS: \$85,321

Leveraged Funds: \$277,947

NEPAL

RT 1538

F15AP00769

Protect tigers and other endangered wildlife by building Nepal Police's capacity to address wildlife crime. In partnership with World Wildlife Fund. This project will combat wildlife crime in Nepal by building the capacity of Nepal Police and other key stakeholders. The grantee will develop a wildlife identification manual and curriculum for training Nepal Police staff to address wildlife crime, select and train 20 proficient trainers to build police capacity to control crime, and build the capacity of regional law enforcement agencies to identify and investigate wildlife crime.

USFWS: \$48,315

Leveraged Funds: \$9,112

RT 1543

F15AP00779

Scaling up tiger conservation initiatives among traditional hunting communities in the northern buffer zone of Bardia National Park, Nepal. In partnership with National Trust for Nature Conservation. The purpose of this project is to secure Bardia National Park from poaching and develop community stewardship in conservation in a meaningful way. The project will improve the livelihood of poor and marginalized traditional hunting communities by strengthening the capacity of rural cooperatives, promoting agro-based enterprises and nature-based tourism, increasing conservation awareness, and strengthening community-based anti-poaching initiatives. Specific activities include conducting joint patrols, providing field equipment, building local capacity for community based anti-poaching units, increasing conservation education campaigns, providing refresher courses for eco-teachers, and supporting eco-clubs.

USFWS: \$56,309

Leveraged Funds: \$29,337

RT 1546

F15AP00781

Mitigating human-tiger conflict engaging local community in Parsa Wildlife Reserve, Nepal. In partnership with National Trust for Nature Conservation. This project will significantly reduce human-tiger conflict in Parsa Wildlife Reserve through community engagement programs, aims to establish a baseline database, and double the tiger population. The project will identify underlying causes of human-tiger conflict and implement conflict reduction strategies engaging local communities, promote improved husbandry practices for enhanced daily subsistence of the local community, and, to minimize pressure on buffer zone and core area, conduct awareness-raising activities in the buffer zone area and implement poaching reduction strategies.

USFWS: \$51,480

Leveraged Funds: \$12,700

RT 1547

F15AP00804

Strengthening local capacity for human-tiger conflict management in Chitwan National Park, Nepal. In partnership with National Trust for Nature Conservation. This project will maintain and gradually increase the number and survival of tigers in Chitwan National Park (CNP). The project will build capacity of the rescue team to capture and rescue or radio collar stray tigers

and other carnivores as necessary, develop an action selection framework for human-carnivore conflict in CNP, establish a web-based human-wildlife conflict database with graphics and visual maps, make buffer zone communities more responsible for human-tiger conflict management through capacity building and awareness, pilot preventive measures to minimize loss from tigers, generate scientific information about stray tigers living in the fringe areas to understand and predict the behavior of these animals, and provide support to the families of wildlife conflict victims.

USFWS: \$54,491

Leveraged Funds: \$40,420

RUSSIA

RT 1523

F15AP00681

Mitigating human-tiger conflict in the Russian Far East. In partnership with Wildlife Conservation Society. This project will reduce the loss of wild tigers by mitigating human-tiger conflict. The project will support Russian government agencies in their human-tiger conflict mitigation efforts, monitor the movements of young tigers rehabilitated and released back to the wild, and establish long-term monitoring protocols for rehabilitated tigers.

USFWS: \$44,951

Leveraged Funds: \$48,024

RT 1578

F15AP00832

Minimizing the impacts of human activities on Amur tigers in the Russian Far East through improved monitoring and law enforcement. In partnership with Zoological Society of London. This project will evaluate the effects of tourism on tiger movements, distribution and space use, develop a tourist management plan that contains quantitative guidelines for mitigating those effects, and provide support for a database computer specialist to work with Zov Tigra National Park and Lazovsky State Nature Reserve during and after they transition from the MIST (Management Information System) to the SMART (Spatial Monitoring and Reporting Tool) law enforcement framework. This work is in collaboration with Wildlife Conservation Society and Phoenix Fund who together support inspector training and bonuses.

USFWS: \$42,363¹

Leveraged Funds: \$60,605

SOUTH AFRICA

RT1505

Grant # F15AP00316

Protecting Hluhluwe-iMfolozi Park's Key 1 black and white rhino populations. In partnership with Save the Rhino International. To protect the black and white rhino populations of Hluhluwe-iMfolozi Park and significantly help law enforcement staff combat further rhino poaching losses, funds will be used to upgrade camp infrastructure for security outposts throughout the park, to support and equip teams to monitor rhinos and provide anti-poaching presence through ground patrols (foot, vehicle and horseback) and aerial surveillance patrols, and

¹ Of this, \$14,979 is supported by proceeds from Save Vanishing Species Stamp

to provide capacity building and operating expenses related to building cases against and prosecuting poaching crimes.

USFWS: \$50,000 Leveraged Funds: \$1,795,541

RT1510

Grant # F15AP00326

Supporting the costs of the 12th African Rhino Specialist Group meeting, to be held in 2016 in Kruger Park, South Africa. In partnership with Save the Rhino International. This project provides support for a continent-wide meeting of experts and range state representatives in 2016 in order to assess the state of all Africa's rhino species and subspecies, and to proactively address the alarming upsurge in poaching. The last specialists' meeting was in 2013 and the rhino poaching crisis has continued to escalate since then. This meeting will focus on emerging trends and on successes and failures in combatting poaching and trafficking.

USFWS: \$44,635 Leveraged Funds: \$85,239

RT1512

Grant # F15AP00332

Enhancing the efficient use of resources to better monitor and protect the black and white rhino populations of the uMkhuze section of iSimangaliso Wetland Park World Heritage Site. In partnership with Save the Rhino International. To optimize security presence throughout the rhino range in uMkhuze Game Reserve, funds will support upgrading of infrastructure at twelve remote camps, and operating costs for daily rhino monitoring and analysis of rhino sightings, anti-poaching patrols, and rapid response to security incidents.

USFWS: \$49,546 Leveraged Funds: \$1,051,975

TANZANIA

RT1502

Grant # F15AP00311

Providing vehicle support for rhino monitoring and security efforts in Mkomazi Rhino Sanctuary, Tanzania. In partnership with Save the Rhino International. In collaboration with USAID-Tanzania, this grant supports ongoing expenses for ground and aerial patrolling, and maintenance of essential park infrastructure in Mkomazi National Park. Funds will be used to purchase an additional vehicle specifically for maintaining security and infrastructure of the fenced rhino sanctuary.

USFWS: \$84,044² Leveraged Funds: \$412,768

RT1503

Grant # F15AP00312

Reinforcing black rhino protection through environmental education in schools surrounding Mkomazi National Park, Tanzania. In partnership with Save the Rhino International. In collaboration with USAID-Tanzania, this project aims to raise awareness and promote understanding of the importance of Mkomazi and its rhinos to the local ecology and economy, in order to foster a sense of ownership and responsibility among the park's neighbors. Through this grant, the *Rafiki wa Faru* (Friends of Rhinos) Program will host at least 30 groups of school

² Funding from USAID-Tanzania.

teachers, students, and local residents from 14 local villages in the park for a day of environmental education and interaction with park and rhino project staff.

USFWS: \$16,385³

Leveraged Funds: \$30,268

THAILAND

RT 1522

F15AP00675

Conservation of tigers and tiger prey in Thailand's Western Forest Complex (WEFCOM) through law enforcement and education-Year 8. In partnership with Wildlife Conservation Society. This project will bring the tiger population back to its natural carrying capacity in the World Heritage Site, including Huai Kha Khaeng and Thung Yai Wildlife Sanctuaries. The project will maintain the SMART (Spatial Monitoring and Reporting Tool) patrol system, and provide continuous training and necessary equipment to ensure a strong law enforcement staff to protect tigers, tiger-prey, and other wildlife against poaching. The project will also build a conservation volunteer network at Huai Kha Khaeng Wildlife Sanctuary.

USFWS: \$53,027

Leveraged Funds: \$59,013

RT 1535

F15AP00762

Extending a multifaceted tiger conservation approach from Huai Kha Khaeng Wildlife Sanctuary to Thung Yai East Wildlife Sanctuary, Thailand. In partnership with Seub Nakhasathien Foundation. This project will combine management, monitoring, and applied research activities developed in Huai Kha Khaeng Wildlife Sanctuary to a portion of the Thung Yai East Wildlife Sanctuary (TYE), in order to increase the number and distribution of tigers in TYE in areas where tigers and tiger prey density is below carrying capacity due to human activities. Increased patrolling, camera trapping, radio collaring of female tigers and subadult young, and local participation in patrolling will be part of a coordinated effort to better understand why tigers and prey abundance are low in areas where they should occur at higher densities.

USFWS: \$67,020

Leveraged Funds: \$24,214

ZAMBIA

RT1466

Grant # F14AP00312 (modification)

Black rhino population monitoring and protection management operations in North Luangwa National Park, Zambia. In partnership with Grzimek's Help for Threatened Wildlife (Frankfurt Zoological Society). This grant, supported since 2014, fortifies protection of the North Luangwa ecosystem for the protection of Zambia's only black rhino population. Funds in 2015 support (1) specialized training courses on site for senior and junior rangers from the national wildlife authority and from local communities; (2) refurbishment and running costs of an airplane for surveillance and security patrols; (3) annual veterinary operations to deploy security tracking

³ Funding from USAID-Tanzania.

equipment on individual rhinos; and (4) operating costs for rhino monitoring and for anti-poaching ground patrols.

USFWS: \$33,599

Leveraged Funds: n/a

RT1507

Grant # F15AP00321

Increasing the impact of Lolesha Luangwa, the black-rhino focused environmental education program in North Luangwa, Zambia. In partnership with Save the Rhino International. In addition to traditional security, anti-poaching, and wildlife management, the North Luangwa Conservation Program (NLCP) works to promote support among local people for conservation through outreach and education. To increase support for black rhino conservation and the protected areas, this grant supports the production of lesson plans and resource materials for 21 local schools, school visits by the NLCP outreach officer, training and mentoring for the officer and for appointed conservation teachers at each school, and holding Conservation Celebration Days and field trips by school or community groups into North Luangwa National Park.

USFWS: \$26,350

Leveraged Funds: \$72,535

RT1515

Grant # F15AP00614

Black rhino protection monitoring operations and elephant conservation management in North Luangwa Park, Zambia. In partnership with Grzimek's Help for Threatened Wildlife (Frankfurt Zoological Society). This grant supports ongoing expenses for monitoring, management, and protection of North Luangwa National Park's reintroduced population of southern black rhinos. Specific activities include (1) immobilization operations for ear-notching and implanting tracking equipment; (2) ongoing monitoring through aerial and terrestrial operations to detect and respond to potential threats; and (3) support for law enforcement capacity of the Zambia Wildlife Authority (ZAWA) through provision of specialized and in-service refresher training courses, uniforms, patrol equipment, and digital radio communications.

USFWS: \$299,633⁴

Leveraged Funds: \$1,260,905

ZIMBABWE

RT1440

Grant # F14AP00311

Continued support for rhinoceros management operations, Zimbabwe 2014-2015. In partnership with International Rhino Foundation. This grant, supported since 2014, provides funding for veterinary interventions for black and white rhinos in the South East lowveld of Zimbabwe for emergency health care and essential management operations in order to improve rhino security, monitoring of individuals and metapopulation management. The recipient works with an experienced team to locate and immobilize rhinos when necessary in order to treat the animals for (1) emergency veterinary treatment of snare injuries and other injuries; (2) ear-notching and fitting horn implant transmitters to aid rhino monitoring; (3) translocating rhinos in vulnerable areas to places of greater safety; and (4) dehorning to reduce poaching risk.

USFWS: \$50,000

Leveraged Funds: n/a

⁴ Of this, \$17,667.69 was provided by proceeds from sales of the Save Vanishing Species stamp.

MULTIPLE COUNTRIES – AFRICAN RANGE STATES

RT1511

Grant # F15AP00330

Supporting the core work of IUCN SSC's African Rhino Specialist Group's Secretariat at a time of extreme pressures on African rhino populations. In partnership with Save the Rhino International. This grant supports a portion of the core services provided by the Secretariat of the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) African Rhino Specialist Group (SSG), including compiling continental data for the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) and other meetings, providing impartial advice to range states, and maintaining timely communications among range states and experts on emerging issues.

USFWS: \$15,000

Leveraged Funds: \$138,279

MULTIPLE COUNTRIES – NEPAL, CHINA, AND INDIA

RT 1576

F15AC00623

Trilateral Transborder Wildlife Interception (TTWI). In partnership with National Trust for Nature Conservation. This project will reduce illegal trafficking in wildlife products, particularly for rhinos and tigers. The project will provide support for training of Customs personnel on Nepal-India and Nepal-China border crossings, strengthen capacity for investigating potential wildlife trafficking incidents and building wildlife trafficking prosecution cases, and improve relationships and commitment among border Customs officials to lead to better interdictions of wildlife products on those border crossings. Training will also be provided on building wildlife trafficking prosecution cases between key customs personnel and wildlife crime law enforcement personnel, including criminal investigators and prosecutors from Nepal, China, and India, and will strengthen relationships between these key Customs personnel and wildlife crime law enforcement personnel from Nepal, China, and India.

USFWS: \$68,640

Leveraged Funds: \$5,000

MULTIPLE COUNTRIES – SOUTH AND SOUTHEAST ASIA

RT 1539

F15AP00772

Enhancing SMART capacity building in South and Southeast Asia to strengthen, monitor and evaluate anti-poaching effectiveness. In partnership with World Wildlife Fund. This project will reduce poaching and other illegal activities, and improve compliance with laws protecting tigers, elephants, and rhinos by establishing mechanisms to improve the effectiveness of law enforcement at critical conservation sites. The grantee will boost the capacity of government, non-governmental agencies and community organizations in Asia to implement a SMART (Spatial Monitoring and Reporting Tool)-based adaptive management approach to the operation, monitoring, and evaluation of protected areas, and leverage SMART as a global platform to provide standardized measures of threat levels and enforcement efforts at priority tiger, elephant and rhino sites across Asia.

USFWS: \$50,470

Leveraged Funds: \$12,356