

US Fish and Wildlife Service
Division of International Conservation
Asian Elephant Conservation Fund Summary FY 2007

27 Grants Total FWS Funding: \$1,302,943 Total Leveraged Funds: \$2,155,039

Burma

Conservation of Wild Elephants and Elephant Habitat in the Hukaung Valley, Burma: Year 2. In partnership with Wildlife Conservation Society. USFWS: \$49,001. Leveraged Funds: \$69,613. Support to determine the distribution of elephant populations in the Hukaung Valley Tiger Reserve area, reduce the threats to elephants and their habitat, and train reserve staff and partners in modern elephant survey and conservation methods.

Cambodia

Developing a Sustainable Community Approach to Elephant Conservation in Cambodia. In partnership with Fauna and Flora International. USFWS: \$50,727. Leveraged Funds: \$62,700. Support to help stabilize wild elephant populations, improve stakeholders' attitudes, mitigate threats caused by forest clearing and poaching by involving community stakeholders, and develop team capacity in program management.

Elephant Conservation and Capacity-building in Seima Biodiversity Conservation Area, Cambodia: Year 2. In partnership with Wildlife Conservation Society. USFWS: \$51,202. Leveraged Funds: \$45,145. Support to estimate elephant population size, age and sex-structure using fecal DNA and dung-bolus circumference, train Forestry Administration staff in survey methods, data analyses and report-writing, and conduct patrolling activities.

Conservation of Priority Species in Cambodia's Eastern Plains Landscape. In partnership with World Wide Fund for Nature, Cambodia Country Program. USFWS: \$49,870. Leveraged Funds: \$131,925. Support to improve the conservation status of Asia elephant within Phnom Prich Wildlife Sanctuary, enhance protection of elephants and their habitat, improve Protected Area management, strengthen national, provincial and community capacity to implement cooperative and collaborative conservation programs, increase community outreach and conservation education, and conduct population surveys and monitoring.

Cambodian Elephant Population Census Using Fecal DNA. In partnership with Fauna and Flora International. USFWS: \$20,016. Leveraged Funds: \$43,682. Support to estimate elephant numbers and sex ratio in Southwest Cambodia using fecal-DNA, geo-reference elephant locations in a GIS database, explore regional capacity for cost-saving analytical methods such as DNA multiplexing, provide data for long-term monitoring, and develop capacity for the Asia-Pacific region to carry out analyses of fecal-DNA studies.

India

Mitigation of the Human-elephant Conflict at the Fringe of Burhapahar Hill Range. In partnership with GREEN GUARD--Nature Organization. USFWS: \$25,417. Leveraged Funds: \$20,348. Support to develop and install early warning systems such as a trip wire system which warns villagers that an elephant or herd is in the area, test elephant repellent crops as natural barriers in human-elephant conflict prone areas, and work with local people to establish cooperation and coordination to check elephant intrusions and drive them back to their natural habitats.

Action Plan for the Mitigation of Conflict Between Asian Elephant and People in India. In partnership with Asian Nature Conservation Foundation. USFWS: \$26,100. Leveraged Funds: \$10,150. Support to develop a strategic action plan taking into consideration what is already known nationwide about human-elephant conflict and mitigation measures, and identify areas of future studies that will keep the Action Plan updated.

Floating Anti-poaching Camp in Kaziranga National Park, Assam, India. In partnership with The Rhino Foundation for Nature in Northeast India. USFWS: \$46,376. Leveraged Funds: \$15,917. Support to build a floating anti-poaching camp that will operate on the Bhrmaputra river which forms the northern boundary of Kaziranga National Park, to enhance protection of elephants and other endangered species that live in the park.

Elephant Conservation through Community Outreach Education and Awareness Campaign in the Human-elephant Conflict Areas in Uttarakhand, India. In partnership with Conservation Himalayas. USFWS: \$49,987. Leveraged Funds: \$9,175. Support to reach grassroots communities, general public, students, foresters and forest guards with a comprehensive elephant conservation education message, to enhance in situ elephant conservation efforts in the elephant corridors in Uttarakhand.

Getting Along with Asian Elephants: Prevention and Mitigation of Conflict Between Humans and Pachyderms in India (West Bengal), Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, and Nepal. In partnership with Zoo Outreach Organization Trust. USFWS: \$128,850. Leveraged Funds: \$86,140. Support to minimize human-elephant conflict and death of humans and elephants, provide a positive image of elephants while promoting practical methods people can adopt to mitigate conflict, train educators in techniques and provide accurate and effective educational tools that promote attitudinal and behavioral changes to avoid conflict and produce measurable results, and create a momentum which would continue to build on itself long after the 12 training workshops in India, Nepal, Sri Lanka, and Bangladesh.

*Conservation of Asian Elephants *Elephas maximus* Through Research, Education and Community Participation in Manas National Park, India.* In partnership with Aaranyak. USFWS: \$49,542. Leveraged Funds: \$18,182. Support to estimate elephant populations, study their habitat utilization and movement patterns, stratify their habitat based on elephant density, monitor human-elephant conflict and address immediate threats, continue to build local capacity while promoting conservation, and encourage the local communities to cultivate alternative crops that are not palatable to elephants.

Increasing Protection of the Manas Biosphere Reserve. In partnership with Community Conservation, Inc USFWS: \$50,000. Leveraged Funds: \$133,670. Support will double the Bodoland Forest Protection Force to maintain active patrolling in Ripu-Chirang Elephant Reserve, create a network of community protection groups across Manas Biosphere Reserve, which is a very important for elephants, tigers, rhinos and numerous other species, prevent illegal logging and hunting in the reserve, and help strengthen the Assam Forest Department by attempting to integrate BFPF closer to the Forest Department.

Conserving through Community: Strengthening the Protection of Chirang-Ripu Elephant Reserve, Assam by Adopting an Inclusive Approach of Community Participation in Protection, Conservation Education, Capacity Building and Extension. In partnership with Primate Research Center. USFWS: \$43,535. Leveraged Funds: \$57,200. Support to train volunteers to protect forests, provide conservation education, create awareness campaigns, promote sustainable livelihoods, and monitor elephant movements to reduce wildlife persecution and human-elephant conflict adjacent to Chirang-Ripu Elephant Reserve.

Indonesia

Sumatra-wide Elephant Survey, Human-elephant Conflict Mitigation, and Elephant Poaching Reduction Project (Year 1). In partnership with Wildlife Conservation Society. USFWS: \$49,499. Leveraged Funds: \$73,495. Support for a Sumatra-wide survey to identify key elephant populations and human-elephant conflict hotspots, reduce and mitigate human-elephant conflict, reduce poaching, protect elephant populations, and train rangers and other wildlife staff on elephant survey and conflict reduction methodologies.

Assessing the Conservation Status of Elephant Populations in Kerinci Seblat National Park Landscape, Indonesia. In partnership with Durrell Trust for Conservation Biology. USFWS: \$28,815. Leveraged Funds: \$10,765. Support to survey elephant populations including their distribution, abundance using dung-based survey techniques, and their habitat, train Department of Forestry staff in these rigorous survey and monitoring skills, disseminate information to project partners and policy makes, and develop an elephant conservation management plan.

Mitigating Human-elephant Conflict in Kerinci Seblat National Park landscape, Indonesia. In partnership with Durrell Trust for Conservation Biology. USFWS: \$49,995. Leveraged Funds: \$13,960. Continued support for human-elephant conflict mitigation, evaluation of traditional crop guarding measures, and test of novel guarding measures.

Sumatran Elephant's Dietary Ecology, Movement and Habitat Use: Using Ecological Approach to Save Endangered Asian Elephant and their Habitat in Indonesia. In partnership with University of Massachusetts. USFWS: \$49,100. Leveraged Funds: \$72,190. Support to investigate elephant dietary ecology in various habitats, determine elephant movement, home range behavior and habitat use within the Seblat Elephant Conservation Center (SECC) area and the corridor to Kerinci Seblat National Park, and build a predictive model of crop raiding around SECC.

Sumatran Elephant Conservation Response Units in Bengkulu Province. In partnership with International Elephant Foundation. USFWS: \$49,910. Leveraged Funds: \$62,584. Continued support to further develop Conservation Response Units, initiate a much needed community program by conducting baseline surveys on community attitudes and needs as a way to develop a positive relationship between the community, the elephant camp, wild elephant populations and forest habitat.

Protection of Threatened Megavertebrates by Anti-poaching Units in Bukit Barisan Selatan National Park, Sumatra, Indonesia. In partnership with International Rhino Foundation. USFWS: \$49,996. Leveraged Funds: \$328,923. Continued support for eight anti-poaching units to be operational throughout the year protecting wildlife including elephants, rhinos, tigers and tapirs, and other biodiversity and their habitats in BBS National Park.

Lao PDR

Elephant Management and Human Elephant Conflict Project in Lao PDR (EM-HEC). In partnership with World Wide Fund for Nature, Greater Mekong Program. USFWS: \$57,212. Leveraged Funds: \$64,924. Support to determine the distribution of elephant populations, human-elephant conflict, elephant poaching, and identify appropriate management and conservation measures, develop guidelines for human-elephant conflict mitigation, and improve national capacity for elephant management issues.

Building Public Support for Asian Elephant Conservation in Lao PDR with “Friends of Wildlife” Radio Program-II. In partnership with Wildlife Conservation Society. USFWS: \$40,651. Leveraged Funds: \$38,461. Continued support to raise and increase awareness and knowledge of the status of Asian elephants by reproducing and disseminating existing radio programs, and train DJ’s.

Malaysia

Conservation Genetics of Bornean Elephant in Sabah. In partnership with University of Malaysia Sabah. USFWS: \$50,163. Leveraged Funds: \$446,095. Support to collect information on the elephant population status, population genetics and dispersal patterns in the State of Sabah and provide this information to the Sabah Wildlife Department to include in the Bornean Elephant Management Plan in Sabah, and build capacity of young scientists and conservationists in Sabah.

WCS/GoM West Malaysian Elephant: Year 2, Population Surveys and Capacity Building in Endau-Rompin National Park, Malaysia. In partnership with Wildlife Conservation Society. USFWS: \$60,043. Leveraged Funds: \$99,659. This is the second year of the proposed 5-year collaboration between WCS and the Government of Malaysia. WCS will initiate elephant population surveys using the reconnaissance survey method followed by the line transect based dung count method in Endau-Rompin State Parks, and continue with training and capacity building programs.

Human Elephant Conflict Mitigation in Sabah, Malaysia: Support to the Community-based KOCP “Elephant Conservation Unit”. In partnership with HUTAN (Kinabatangan Orang-utan Conservation Project). USFWS: \$32,970. Leveraged Funds: \$75,150. Support to raise awareness and address issues faced by local people, monitor elephant movements and behavior, actively control human-elephant conflict, identify bottlenecks, erect electric fences where necessary, reinforce capacity of Elephant Conservation Units, conduct outreach education and awareness events, contribute to the “International Workshop on Bornean Elephants in Sabah,” and share data with partners.

Sri Lanka

Asian Elephant Behavioral Ecology and Individual-based Demography in Sri Lanka. In partnership with University of Pennsylvania. USFWS: \$34,911. Leveraged Funds: \$15,380. Support to establish a biological field station at Uda Walawe National Park, gather behavioral data on elephants, document human-elephant conflict, and provide training and education to park personnel and the community.

Thailand

Developing an Innovative Management Plan for a Key Population of Asian elephant in Kaeng Krachan National Park within the Tenasserim Range. In partnership with WWF-Thailand. USFWS: \$47,550. Leveraged Funds: \$61,000. Support to conduct elephant and other mammal and vegetation surveys in collaboration with Kaeng Krachan National Park staff, and develop a living management plan for the park in consultation with local Kaeng Krachan National Park Advisory Committee with clear strategies for improved elephant conservation.

Asian Elephant Surveys and Human-elephant Conflict Mitigation in Kaeng Krachan National Park, Thailand, Year 3. In partnership with Wildlife Conservation Society. USFWS: \$61,497. Leveraged Funds: \$88,606. Third year of support to continue elephant surveys to estimate population size, sex and age ratios in Thailand’s largest national park using a fecal DNA based capture-recapture method, reduce threats to elephants and their habitats, reduce human-elephant conflict, promote effective human-elephant conflict mitigation methods, and build capacity within park staff and among other local participants.