

**US Fish and Wildlife Service
Division of International Conservation**

Asian Elephant Conservation Fund Summary FY 2008

30 Grants Total FWS Funding: \$1,413,160 Total Leveraged Funds: \$1,815,394

Bhutan:

ASE-0384: *Conservation of Asiatic elephant in Bhutan.* In partnership with World Wildlife Fund-USA. USFWS: \$50,000. Leveraged Funds: \$24,075. Support to collect and analyze baseline data on distribution and status of and threats to elephants, assess human-elephant conflict, support interim management initiatives, and develop long-term management plans for a herd of elephants stranded in a fragmented forest.

Burma:

ASE-0344: *Burma National Elephant Action Plan, Next Steps: How many elephants are left?* In partnership with Smithsonian Institution. USFWS: \$49,439. Leveraged Funds: \$24,341. Support to identify and maintain the remaining wild elephant population and their habitats, monitor their status, build professional and technical capacity, develop and implement a National Elephant Conservation Action Plan, assess causes and extent of human-elephant conflict, and develop strategies to mitigate human-elephant conflict.

Cambodia:

ASE-0333: *The Kouprey Express Mobile Environmental Education Unit: Direct Action Education Program 2008, Koh Kong Province, Cambodia.* In partnership with Wildlife Alliance. USFWS: \$56,673. Leveraged Funds: \$113,985. Support to continue an integrated action-based environmental curriculum based on wildlife protection, habitat protection, pollution prevention, and sustainable livelihoods, and deliver program to around 3,000 students aged 6-15. The schools will form a School Environment Network, and actively promote, habitat protection, pollution prevention, and sustainable livelihoods through collaboration with the government, local communities, rural schools and partner organizations.

ASE-0337: *The Cardamom Mountains Program: integrating elephant protection and sustainable development on a landscape in Cambodia.* In partnership with Fauna and Flora International. USFWS: \$60,965. Leveraged Funds: \$291,652. Support to strengthen the capacity of Cambodia's protected area to patrol and protect Phnom Samkos Wildlife Sanctuary, provide training to locally recruited rangers, and help the Ministry of Environment develop improved management practices and protocols. The team will also work with impoverished local communities to directly address the root causes of poaching and deforestation.

ASE-0339: *Establishing DNA-based monitoring of an Asian elephant population in Cambodia's Eastern Plains.* In partnership with WWF Greater Mekong, Cambodia Country Program. USFWS: \$54,900. Leveraged Funds: \$21,863. Support to conduct a survey and analysis of dung DNA to estimate Asian elephant population in Phnom Prich Wildlife Sanctuary, use DNA analytical results to estimate migration within Cambodia's Eastern Plains' landscape in collaboration with other conservation partners, and to develop a long-term plan for monitoring of the Eastern Plains elephant population in collaboration with conservation partners.

ASE-0355: *Ensuring improved wildlife protection and forest connectivity across the Managed Elephant Range, Southwest Cambodia.* In partnership with Conservation International. USFWS: \$46,621. Leveraged Funds: \$22,022. Support to improve the capacity of rangers to prevent, detect and suppress elephant hunters, by working with communities and developing their trust through incentives linked to conservation, conduct survey work and research into the pros and cons of dam development and conduct a cost-benefit analysis, in preparation to address the potential construction of a dam in this elephant range.

China:

ASE-334: *Setup a cross border protected area between China and Lao PDR and preserve transboundary Asian elephants in southern China.* In partnership with Beijing Normal University. USFWS: \$50,000. Leveraged Funds: \$65,000. Support to deploy GPS collars on elephants that travel between Xishuangbanna National Nature Reserve in China and Nam Ha National Biodiversity Conservation Area in the Lao PDR to understand the migratory movements and behaviors of these herds, design and establish safe corridors and cross-border protected areas, and build the capacity of the nature reserves in China and Lao PDR.

India:

ASE-0270: *Mitigation of the Human-elephant Conflict at the Fringe of Burhapahar Hill Range.* In partnership with Wildlife Trust of India. USFWS: \$28,892. Leveraged Funds: \$18,856. 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.

ASE-0332: *Community integrated approach of conserving Asian elephant habitat in Manas Reserve Forest in western part of Manas Tiger Reserve of Assam.* In partnership with Dolphin Foundation. USFWS: \$52,575. Leveraged Funds: \$14,078. Support to promote alternative sustainable livelihoods and resource use practices for forest dependent communities adjacent to Manas National Park and Manas Reserve Forest, and continue to provide some support to ongoing human-elephant conflict mitigation efforts.

ASE-0335: *Creating Community Educational Destinations for Ecotourism in the Manas Biosphere Reserve, Assam, India.* In partnership with Community Conservation, Inc. USFWS: \$28,820. Leveraged Funds: \$148,100. Support to create a rural ecotourism/education center in

two Reserve Forests of the Manas Biosphere Reserve. These centers will be an attraction for community based tourism within an important elephant corridor, provide environmental education, and the project will initiate a text book about the natural history of the Manas Biosphere Reserve.

ASE-0347: *Studies of developing a predictive model for human-elephant conflict (HEC) mitigation in India.* In partnership with Clemson University. USFWS: \$35,973. Leveraged Funds: \$36,112. Support to develop an early warning system for local communities potentially affected by elephant conflicts, reduce agricultural and property damage, reduce human and elephant deaths, and develop a community-based conservation approach.

ASE-0353: *Easing human elephant conflict through strengthening of Forest Department and community interface in Golghat district and adjoining areas of Karbi-Anglong, in Assam, India.* In partnership with AARANYAK. USFWS: \$37,130. Leveraged Funds: \$13,840. Support to monitor seasonal movements of elephant herds and prepare a GIS map, prioritize and protect key corridors, strengthen community participation by way of self-help groups, provide assistance through additional self help groups to families affected by marauding elephants, provide deterrents such as firecrackers and sirens to keep elephants away from village premises, and set up nurseries to grow local, native plant species for habitat restoration and elephant corridors.

ASE-0379: *Strengthening the protection measures by improving departmental elephant care for faster mobility of frontline forest staff in Manas National Park for the conservation of Asian elephants, Phase II.* In partnership with Wildlife Areas Development and Welfare Trust. USFWS: \$22,440. Leveraged Funds: \$38,763. Support to continue to improve the protection of elephants, rhinos, tigers, gaur, and other species in Manas NP, by providing better mobility for the frontline staff who patrol the park, protect wildlife and prevent poaching of wildlife.

ASE-0400: *Strengthen the protection measures by involving fringe villages in Manas National Park for the conservation of Asian elephants, Phase-II.* In partnership with Wildlife Areas Development and Welfare Trust. USFWS: \$56,980. Leveraged Funds: \$78,695. Provide support for 50 trained volunteers who will assist in the protection of the park primarily in anti-poaching efforts.

Indonesia:

ASE-0352: *Protection of threatened megavertebrates in Bukit Barisan Selatan National Park, Sumatra, Indonesia by anti-poaching units.* In partnership with International Rhino Foundation. USFWS: \$49,959. Leveraged Funds: \$208,302. Support to highly trained wildlife protection units to continue providing long term protection to wildlife including elephants, rhinos, tigers, tapirs and other protected wildlife, against poachers at the Bukit Barisan Selatan National Park.

ASE-0361: *Getting along with elephants:HECx=Teacher training in Human Elephant Coexistence in Sumatra..* In partnership with Zoo Outreach Organization Trust. USFWS: \$79,591. Leveraged Funds: \$32,320. Support to develop dynamic and exciting educational materials and provide training to a variety of target groups in Sumatra, Indonesia, including

teachers, NGOs, forest and wildlife staff, volunteers, zoo personnel, researchers, and other selected individuals, who live and work in areas where wild elephants and humans coexist across Sumatra.

ASE-0367: *Sumatra-wide elephant survey, human-elephant conflict mitigation, and elephant poaching reduction project (Year 2).* In partnership with Wildlife Conservation Society. USFWS: \$50,866. Leveraged Funds: \$49,441. Support to continue to promote reduction of human-elephant conflict and elephant poaching, train Indonesian Government forest rangers in design and implementation of peer-reviewed sampling-based survey methods and effective methods to reduce human-elephant conflict.

ASE-0387: *Conserving elephants in the Bengkulu landscape II-assessing elephant conservation status.* In partnership with Durrell Trust for Conservation Biology. USFWS: \$29,970. Leveraged Funds: \$4,860. Support to increase the capacity within the Department of Forestry staff and project staff to monitor elephant populations in and around Kerinci Seblat National Park, disseminate project information to project partners and policy makers, and develop an elephant conservation management plan.

ASE-0388: *Conserving elephants in the Bengkulu landscape I-mitigating human-elephant conflict.* In partnership with Durrell Trust for Conservation Biology. USFWS: \$49,955. Leveraged Funds: \$8,585. Support to continue to increase capacity within the Department of Forestry staff, local communities and project staff to monitor and mitigate human-elephant conflict outside the Kerinci Seblat National Park, raise stakeholder awareness, disseminate project information to partners and policy makers, and monitor and evaluate project results and effectiveness.

ASE-0391: *Sumatran elephant Conservation Response Units in Bengkulu Province.* In partnership with International Elephant Foundation. USFWS: \$37,200. Leveraged Funds: \$55,004. Support for the Conservation Response Units (CRUs) who help protect the forests, provide education and training assistance to mahouts during the Third Mahout Workshop, and continue to provide ongoing education to and help build capacity of staff to address human-elephant conflict.

ASE-0399: *Way Kambas National Park abandoned well closure project.* In partnership with Ecolodges Indonesia Wildlife Rescue Fund and Indonesian International Rural Agricultural Development Foundation. USFWS: \$48,828. Leveraged Funds: \$22,500. Support to locate and close wells inside Way Kambas National Park in Sumatra, as the wells, that once belonged to the communities who have been relocated out of the park since the park was established in 1984, have become a death trap for wild animals including baby elephants.

Malaysia:

ASE-0350: *International workshop on the conservation of the Bornean elephant (*Elephas maximus borneensis*) in Sabah, Malaysia.* In partnership with Institute for Tropical Biology and Conservation. USFWS: \$24,200. Leveraged Funds: \$ 29,900. Support for a workshop on Bornean elephant ecology, distribution, movement, habitat use, population genetics, and human-

elephant conflict, resulting in an updated Action Plan, draft of the Sabah Elephant Management Plan, a set of resolutions and recommendations to the Sabah State Government toward conservation and management of Bornean elephants, and an increased awareness of Bornean elephant conservation issues and efforts.

ASE-0366: *WCS/GoM West Malaysian Elephant Project: Year 3, human-elephant conflict (HEC) assessment and reduction, and capacity building.* In partnership with Wildlife Conservation Society. USFWS: \$58,217. Leveraged Funds: \$82,175. Support to initiate surveys to assess human-elephant conflict and begin mitigation measures around Endau-Rompin State Parks, and continue programs in training and capacity building.

Nepal:

ASE-0340: *TB treatment for critical park patrol elephants in Chitwan National Park in Nepal.* In partnership with World Wildlife Fund Inc. USFWS: \$52,451. Leveraged Funds: \$11,510. Support to diagnose and treat elephant caretakers who have tuberculosis, and prevent the spread of tuberculosis to captive elephants and within the elephant based ecotourism programs. Captive elephants interact with wild elephants, so it is very important to prevent the spread of this deadly disease to endangered wild elephant. WWF will also upgrade the elephant holding facilities and support the Government of Nepal to curb the spread of tuberculosis within the captive elephant-caretaker-wild elephant communities.

ASE-0343: *Elephant conservation in transnational border of eastern Nepal.* In partnership with Wildlife Conservation Nepal. USFWS: \$51,082. Leveraged Funds: \$36,005. Support to identify migratory routes of elephants between Nepal and India, monitor elephants near human settlements, conduct a policy level workshop to protect elephants, and carry out an outreach program on elephant conservation.

ASE-0348: *Nepal Elephant Healthcare and Tuberculosis Surveillance Program.* In partnership with Elephant Care International. USFWS: \$48,064. Leveraged Funds: \$42,303. Support to mitigate the spread of TB to wild elephants by minimizing or eliminating TB in captive elephants, build capacity of Nepali veterinarians to direct the program, and develop a Nepal Elephant TB surveillance and Control Program as a model for Asian elephant range countries. Infected captive elephants will be treated, and wild elephants, rhinos, and other ungulates will be opportunistically tested for TB.

Sri Lanka:

ASE-0346: *Establishing a community based electric fence program to mitigate human elephant conflict in the Mahaweli System C in Sri Lanka.* In partnership with Sri Lanka Wildlife Conservation Society. USFWS: \$50,000. Leveraged Funds: \$66,340. Support to restore existing electric fences, help train 55 community fence maintenance committees to maintain and manage these fences, and establish a bio-fence with Agave to evaluate the effectiveness of this plant species in deterring elephants.

Thailand:

ASE-0377: *Asian elephant surveys and human-elephant conflict mitigation in Kaeng Krachan National Park, Thailand, Year 4.* In partnership with Wildlife Conservation Society. USFWS: \$51,969. Leveraged Funds: \$62,908. Support to provide improved protection for elephants and their habitats, law enforcement monitoring, continue mitigation efforts for human-elephant conflict and assess the success of mitigation efforts, look into land-use changes to resolve human-elephant conflict on a more permanent basis, and promote standard elephant survey techniques.

ASE-0386: *Strengthening the conservation of a key population of elephants and their habitat in Salakpra Wildlife Sanctuary (West Thailand) by facilitating the involvement of local communities in collaborative PA management, protection and restoration.* In partnership with Zoological Society of London. USFWS: \$49,999. Leveraged Funds: \$129,709. Support to establish a network of functioning community groups as active members of a Salakpra Elephant Conservation Alliance, develop a system of community rights, responsibilities and regulations covering the use and protection of forest resources in designated areas, and provide alternative income-earning options, decreasing the dependence on forest.

Range-wide:

ASE-0362: *Development of an integrated spatially referenced Global (African and Asian) Elephant Database (AAED).* In partnership with IUCN/SSC African Elephant Specialist Group. USFWS: \$49,401. Leveraged Funds: \$62,150. Support to develop and build an integrated African and Asian Elephant Database (AAED) as a repository of elephant population data generated by national authorities and other agencies, disseminate this information in a timely manner so that it informs conservation decisions, improve our knowledge of the distribution and abundance of elephants across their range, and promote the use of the AAED as a model for other species.