

US Fish and Wildlife Service
Division of International Conservation
Asian Elephant Conservation Fund Summary FY 2009

39 Grants Total FWS Funding: \$1,970,540* Total Leveraged Funds: \$2,527,775

Burma/Myanmar:

ASE-0390 *Conservation of wild elephants and elephant habitat in the Hukaung Valley, Burma: Year 3.* In partnership with Wildlife Conservation Society. The purpose of this project, which is in its third year, is to reduce the threats to the elephants and their habitats in the Hukaung Valley Tiger Reserve (HVTR) through continued deployment of Elephant Protection Units, train HVTR staff and others in modern elephant conservation methods, monitor the captive elephant population in order to reduce the threat of illegal captures of wild elephants in the area and facilitate better management of the captive elephant population.

FWS: \$57,106. Leveraged Funds: \$54,473.

Cambodia:

ASE-0365 *Elephant conservation and capacity-building in Seima Biodiversity Conservation Area, Cambodia: Year 3.* In partnership with Wildlife Conservation Society. The purpose of this project, which is in its third year, is to increase the law enforcement effort in areas closest to dry season hotspots, and, increase training in patrol strategy and techniques, law enforcement implementation and monitoring, research techniques and methodologies, and wildlife monitoring.

FWS: \$52,454. Leveraged Funds: \$55,274.

ASE-0374 *Creating elephant communities in southwest Cambodia.* In partnership with Fauna and Flora International. The purpose of this project is to improve community attitudes toward the conservation of elephants and their habitats, and improve livelihoods of those severely affected by elephants and their habitats.

FWS: \$30,901. Leveraged Funds: \$65,585.

ASE-0422 *Northern Plains of Cambodia Elephant Conservation Project.* In partnership with Wildlife Conservation Society. The purpose of this project is to estimate elephant population and distribution, and improve local capacity to enhance law enforcement.

FWS: \$56,433. Leveraged Funds: 54,823.

ASE-0433 *Preserving elephant habitat connectivity in eastern Mondulkiri, Cambodia.* In partnership with Fauna and Flora International. The purpose of this project is to survey elephant hotspots and develop elephant corridor monitoring plan, raise awareness among ethnic minority stakeholders through workshops and meetings, conduct human-elephant conflict mitigation including livelihood improvement for people affected by elephants, and build ranger capacity.

FWS: \$37,962. Leveraged Funds: \$83,806.

India:

ASE-0370 *Community based conservation of important elephant habitats in north-east Indian state of Meghalaya, involving the local community in elephant conservation through participatory research, landuse planning and conservation education.* In partnership with Samrakshan Charitable Trust. The purpose of this project is to train and motivate local communities to collect ecological and demographic information on elephants and human-elephant conflict (HEC), undertake HEC mitigation, develop detailed maps on landuse where human and elephants share landscape, develop landuse plans and management through participation of stakeholders, and promote conservation education.
FWS: \$63,000. Leveraged Funds: \$65,450.

ASE-0385 *Capacity building of frontline forest staff in selected elephant bearing areas of India.* In partnership with Wildlife Trust of India. The purpose of the project is to improve the operational efficiency of the forest staff by providing the staff anti-poaching training, and further boost their morale by also providing the staff with basic field gear such as shoes, raincoats, backpacks, flashlights, water canisters, and sleeping pads.
FWS: \$44,861. Leveraged Funds: \$14,062.

ASE-0397 *Mitigation of elephant mortality due to train hits in India: Dudhwa Tiger Reserve, Utter Pradesh through conservation actions.* In partnership with Wildlife Trust of India. The purpose of this project is to reduce the instances of elephant and tiger mortality resulting from train hits, by identifying critical areas and elephant movement zones, have meetings with the Ministry of Forest and Railway Ministry officials to discuss and implement mitigation measures, provide billboards and appropriate signage for train drivers to alert them about elephant movements, and conduct awareness programs for railway staff and train passengers.
FWS: \$41,647. Leveraged Funds: \$6,400.

ASE-0405 *Training and exposure trip to protected area staff of Bodoland Territorial Council for strengthening protection and wildlife management.* In partnership with Aaranyak. The purpose of this project is to enable experience sharing and exchange of knowledge of local frontline staff with field staff from other protected areas in north and northeastern India. The major activities will include training of staff on wildlife monitoring and legal advocacy.
FWS: \$49,400. Leveraged Funds: \$9,090.

ASE-0420 *Human-elephant conflict (HEC) mitigation through capacity building, community outreach and Asian elephant conservation awareness campaign in the HEC affected areas in Uttarakhand, India.* In partnership with Conservation Himalayas. The purpose of this project is to conduct human-elephant conflict (HEC) mitigation training camps and workshops in HEC affected areas, build the capacity of rangers and Forest Department staff and local villagers in HEC areas, publish an HEC manual for local people and Forest Department staff affected by HEC, and provide resource and awareness materials in local language for HEC affected communities.
FWS: \$49,960. Leveraged Funds: \$11,175.

ASE-0421 *An assessment of the population, distribution and conservation issues of the Asian elephant *Elephas maximus* in the Eastern Ghats areas of Karnataka, India.* In partnership with

Bombay Natural History Society. The purpose of this project is to document the population and distribution of elephants, assess past and present vegetation cover of the elephant habitats, and document past and present incidences of human-elephant conflict and see if there is decline or increase as well as reasons for them. The outputs of the project will assist and inform managers regarding the conservation initiatives that need to be undertaken at these sites.
FWS: \$27,882. Leveraged Funds: \$36,735.

ASE-0425 *Breaking the back of illegal logging and beginning to bring the Manas Biosphere to its former potential.* In partnership with Community Conservation, Inc. The purpose of this project is to continue to maintain effective community protection groups. These community protection groups have been effective in protecting Manas Biosphere Reserve in Assam, India, which is home to Asian elephants, Bengal tigers, rhinoceros, and several other endangered species and their critical habitats.
FWS: \$49,720. Leveraged Funds: \$140,900.

ASE-0431 *Training Indian wildlife biologists and conservationists for endangered species conservation.* In partnership with Wildlife Conservation Society. The purpose of this project is to provide training for 15 Masters degree students in the second and final year of their academic life in eight topics that are critical to conservation of endangered species, including Asian elephants, tigers, and other species, and their habitats. The training will include classroom lectures, laboratory practicals, visits to protected areas and internships.
FWS: \$39,324. Leveraged Funds: \$40,079.

ASE-0435 *Diet and habitat use by elephant in response to the weed Lantana camara in Bandipur Tiger Reserve, South India.* In partnership with The Research Trust of Victoria University of Wellington. The purpose of the project is to conduct a comparative study on foraging behavior and habitat utilization in response to low, medium and high lantana infested areas and non-lantana infested areas, in wet and dry seasons. By understanding and measuring these changes in foraging behavior, management recommendations will be made that will suggest the degree to which the invasive lantana needs to be controlled.
FWS: \$11,244. Leveraged Funds: \$13,053.

ASE-0446 *Strengthen the protection measures by involving fringe villagers in Manas National Park for the conservation of Asian elephants, Phase III.* In partnership with Wildlife Areas Development and Welfare Trust. The purpose of this project is to financially support fifty volunteers who will help in park protection for another twelve months, thus improving the security of the park which is home to the endangered Asian elephant, rhinoceros and tigers.
FWS: \$56,980. Leveraged Funds: \$78,695.

Indonesia:

ASE-0368 *A micro-finance model to sustain community guarding in human-elephant conflict hotspots around Way Kambas National Park, Sumatra.* In partnership with Wildlife Conservation Society. The purpose of this project is to develop Way Kambas National Park as a demonstration site for implementation of low-cost and self sustainable financing for conflict mitigation by community, deploy a collaborative community-led guarding team for mitigating human-elephant conflict (HEC), and introduce inland fisheries by promoting effective

microfinance programs and institutions to encourage investment that will support HEC mitigation as an alternative livelihood.

FWS: \$39,738. Leveraged Funds: \$31,908.

ASE-0375 *Human-elephant conflict mitigation in Aceh province-Indonesia, through establishment of Conservation Response Units.* In partnership with Fauna and Flora International. The purpose of this project is to establish Conservation Response Units (CRU) in Geumpang (Aceh Pidie), assess a comprehensive human-elephant conflict (HEC) mitigation approach based on site specific characteristics, gain commitment from local government and community for sustainable HEC mitigation, build capacity of the local community and rangers in addressing the wider issues of HEC, and establish community based forest protection to address the underlying cause of HEC.

FWS: \$50,000. Leveraged Funds: \$220,358.

ASE-0376 *Conservation of Sumatran Elephants and their habitat through community Conservation Response Units in the buffer zone of Gunung Leuser National Park.* In partnership with Fauna and Flora International. The purpose of this project, which is ongoing, is to continue to build capacity of the local community, staff and partners involved in forest patrol and monitoring, and human-elephant conflict mitigation, conduct community education and awareness activities, and integrate forest protection with ecotourism development.

FWS: \$50,000. Leveraged Funds: \$96,804.

ASE-0392 *Creating conservation constituencies, building local capacity, and removing barriers to behavior change to support Sumatran elephant conservation.* In partnership with Rare. The purpose of this project is to engage local communities surrounding the forest complex in northern Sumatra, in Aceh, in its conservation via a strong, systematic coordinated approach. This project will seek to solve two problems (a) insufficient community and institutional organization to make livelihood alternatives readily available, and (b) existing outreach activities that have not yet been effective to properly promote and facilitate the adoption of these alternatives.

FWS: \$24,802. Leveraged Funds: \$78,500.

ASE-0403 *Providing field veterinary expertise and services for Sumatran elephant conservation programs and activities.* In partnership with Veterinary Society for Sumatran Conservation (Vesswic). The purpose of this project is to provide veterinary expertise on island wide elephant projects including translocation of wild elephants, treatment of injured elephants resulting from human elephant conflict, capture of elephants to deploy radio transmitter, rescue and treatment of elephants trapped in snares or wells, post-mortem of dead elephants to diagnose cause of death, and routine veterinary care of captive elephants that are involved in the conservation activities of wild elephants and their habitats.

FWS: \$52,000. Leveraged Funds: \$49,735.

ASE-0408 *Laying the foundation for long-term multi-stakeholder elephant conservation and management in Riau province, Sumatra.* In partnership with World Wildlife Fund Indonesia. The purpose of this project is to conduct multi-stakeholder management option studies for all elephant areas in Riau, conduct an assessment of options to mitigate human-elephant conflict for

each sub-population of elephants in Riau, develop a provincial elephant management and conservation strategy for Riau through a working group of interested stakeholders, and produce a peer reviewed Standard Operating Procedures for Riau's Flying Squads.

FWS: \$49,984. Leveraged Funds: \$45,292.

ASE-0424 *Protection of threatened megavertebrates in Bukit Barisan Selatan National Park, Sumatra, Indonesia by anti-poaching units.* In partnership with International Rhino Foundation. The purpose of this project is to continue to effectively protect wildlife and habitat in Bukit Barisan Selatan National Park (BBSNP) in Sumatra. The project is part of a long-term program that aims to ensure the survival of Asian elephant, Sumatran rhinoceros, Sumatran tigers, Malayan tapirs, and other wildlife and their habitat at BBSNP.

FWS: \$50,000. Leveraged Funds: \$194,152.

ASE-0438 *Sumatra-wide elephant survey, human-elephant conflict mitigation, and elephant poaching reduction project (Year 3).* In partnership with Wildlife Conservation Society. The purpose of this project, which is in its third year, is to protect key Asian elephant populations by promoting measures to reduce human-elephant conflict and poaching, train rangers and other staff from the Indonesian Ministry of Forestry's Directorate General of Forest Protection and Nature Conservation (PHKA), in the design and conduct of elephant surveys using modern peer-reviewed sampling-based survey methods, and implementation of human-elephant conflict reduction strategy using methods that have proven effective elsewhere.

FWS: \$55,311. Leveraged Funds: \$58,832.

Malaysia:

ASE-0404 *Local community involvement in the conservation of the Bornean elephant: the KOCP elephant conservation unit.* In partnership with HUTAN (Kinabatangan Orang-utan Conservation Project). The purpose of this project, which is ongoing, is to monitor elephant movements and behavior in Kinabatangan, control and mitigate human-elephant conflict by patrolling and working with crop owners, help resolve bottle necks in landuse to improve availability of lands for elephant movements, rescue elephant caught in snares, help with law enforcement, build the capacity of elephant conservation units and community members, increase education and outreach efforts, and share data with relevant partners.

FWS: \$42,555. Leveraged Funds: \$78,855.

ASE-0413 *Satellite tracking, social behavior and management of Bornean elephant.* In partnership with Danau Girang Field Centre, Sabah wildlife Department. The purpose of this project is to collect information on elephant social organization including behavioral observation and genetic data using satellite-collaring and dung-DNA genotyping, build the capacity of young scientists and conservationists, provide support and training to a local PhD student, and monitor the Kinabatangan elephant population.

FWS: \$52,118. Leveraged Funds: \$38,283.

ASE-0455 *WCS/GoM Peninsular Malaysia Elephant Project: Year 4, assessment and reduction of human-elephant conflict (HEC) and capacity building in Endau-Rompin.* In partnership with Wildlife Conservation Society. The purpose of this project, which is in its fourth year, is to continue to conduct human-elephant conflict (HEC) monitoring around Endau Rompin State

Parks (ERSP), test crop protection methods around ERSP, and continue to conduct and facilitate training of Govt. of Malaysia, State Park staff and WCS Malaysia program staff in HEC survey, mitigation, and management methods as well as data analysis and reporting skills.

FWS: \$62,325. Leveraged Funds: \$63,289.

Nepal:

ASE-0423 *Mitigation of human-elephant conflict (HEC) in Terai: piloting a proactive approach.* In partnership with World Wildlife Fund USA. The purpose of this project is to develop a human-elephant conflict (HEC) mitigation strategy and operational plan, support the Nepal Department of National Parks and Wildlife Conservation (DNPWC) in setting up mobile HEC response squads in areas of high HEC, train and equip local communities to address HEC issues, and test mobile response squads as an HEC mitigation tool.

FWS: \$50,000. Leveraged Funds: \$27,405.

ASE-0449 *Nepal Elephant Healthcare and TB Surveillance Program.* In partnership with Elephant Care International. The purpose of this project, which is in its second year, is to continue to maintain effective community protection groups. These community protection groups will manage tuberculosis (TB) among captive elephants, mitigate transmission of TB to wild elephants and rhinoceros, develop a government-endorsed program to control TB that is sustainable and affordable, and develop Nepal's veterinary wildlife and management skills.

FWS: \$40,618. Leveraged Funds: \$34,825.

Sri Lanka:

ASE-0381 *PHVA and dung DNA – conservation assessment and survey methods for Sri Lankan elephants.* In partnership with Wildlife Information Liaison Development Society/Zoo Outreach Organization. The purpose of the project is to organize a Population and Habitat Viability Assessment Workshop (PHVA) for Sri Lankan elephants, assemble historical and current information about Asian elephants in Sri Lanka for workshop participants to determine the factors that make elephants vulnerable to extinction, incorporate these data into a computer simulation model for probability of extinction and suggest innovative management scenarios, provide a set of recommendations to wildlife managers and researchers, and conduct training workshops to review recent survey techniques training researchers in dung count methodology, and generate a policy decision to adopt and implement high quality survey techniques.

FWS: \$69,110. Leveraged Funds: \$22,620.

ASE-0393 *Saving elephants by helping people: a landscape approach to integrate conservation and development.* In partnership with Sri Lanka Wildlife Conservation Society. The purpose of the project is to estimate elephant population and distribution, develop GIS maps and optimal land-use strategies, minimize human-elephant conflict (HEC), and develop HEC programs in collaboration with affected people.

FWS: \$50,000. Leveraged Funds: \$57,100.

ASE-0417 *Radiotelemetric study of elephants in Sri Lanka for their conservation and mitigation of human-elephant conflict.* In partnership with Centre for Conservation and Research. The purpose of this project is to monitor and assess impact of development and

management activities on elephants, and provide feedback to resource managers so that better management and conservation strategies are developed for elephants.

FWS: \$49,586. Leveraged Funds: \$132,920.

ASE-0448 *To develop an elephant intrusion early warning (eleAlert) fence monitoring system.* In partnership with Sri Lanka Wildlife Conservation Society. The purpose of this project is to monitor the alignment and physical displacement of electric fence posts, physical impacts to fence posts and wires, and broken wires. The project will develop remote fence post sensors that collect information on status of posts and wires, develop solar powered remote transmitting unit to monitor post sensors and send status report via SMS, design a central station that triggers a visual and audible alarm and switch the fence on and off.

FWS: \$49,980. Leveraged Funds: \$80,776.

Thailand:

ASE-0429 *Getting along with elephants, HECx: Educator training in human elephant coexistence in Thailand.* In partnership with Zoo Outreach Organization Trust. The purpose of this project is train the trainers, i.e., provide training to school teachers, other educational institutions, NGOs, and government personnel in areas where there is high human-elephant conflict in western Thailand, near the Salakpra Wildlife Sanctuary. The program will attempt to bring about attitudinal and behavioral change in people living in areas where wild elephants range. This program will also attempt to bring about understanding of the cultural and ecological importance and conservation issues associated with elephants in Thailand.

FWS: \$97,945. Leveraged Funds: \$29,900.

ASE-0432 *Strengthening protection of elephant in Salakpra Wildlife Sanctuary, West Thailand, by establishing a Smart Patrol System using MIST.* In partnership with Zoological Society of London. The purpose of the project is to establish a pro-active patrolling system in collaboration with Department of Wildlife Conservation (Thailand) and the Elephant Conservation Network at Salakpra Wildlife Sanctuary. The patrolling system is called Smart Patrol System and uses the MIST method of data collection, which is an effective law enforcement monitoring system that is being used across Thailand and Southeast Asia.

FWS: \$65,757. Leveraged Funds: \$226,354.

ASE-0436 *Developing wildlife guardians in Thailand's forgotten park: lasting protection for elephants and habitat through forest ranger training and support in ThapLan.* In partnership with FREELAND Foundation (formerly PeunPa Foundation). The purpose of this project to enhance law enforcement to improve protection of elephants and other wildlife, provide law enforcement and ranger training, produce an assessment of elephant population, and improve communication between park authorities and all other stakeholders.

FWS: \$50,084. Leveraged Funds: \$80,736.

ASE-0439 *Law enforcement, law enforcement monitoring, and human-elephant conflict mitigation in Kaeng Krachan National Park, Thailand.* In partnership with Wildlife Conservation Society. The purpose of this project, which is in its fifth year, is to continue law enforcement and monitoring, monitor effectiveness of patrolling systems, train staff from other protected areas in patrolling methods and MIST, promote human-elephant conflict reduction

methods, and assess feasibility of farmers switching to other forms of agriculture less prone to elephant damage.

FWS: \$62,453. Leveraged Funds: \$52,519.

ASE-0440 *Strengthening conservation of Asian elephants in the Western Forest Complex and other key elephant sites in Thailand*. In partnership with Wildlife Conservation Society. The purpose of this project is to improve the patrol system in Thung Yai East and West up to the standard of Huai Kha Khaeng Wildlife Sanctuary in the Western Forest Complex (WEFCOM) of Thailand, and help the Wildlife Conservation Office improve protection of elephants in eleven wildlife sanctuaries in Thailand by supporting the expansion of the Smart Patrol System.

FWS: \$61,672. Leveraged Funds: \$54,112.

Range-wide:

ASE-0412 *Workshop to review the effectiveness of human-elephant conflict mitigation methods that have been applied in Asia*. In partnership with IUCN/SSC Asian Elephant Specialist Group. The purpose of this project is to bring together a group of people with practical experience of human-elephant conflict (HEC) mitigation work in Asia to review the causes of HEC, the HEC mitigation measures in place, compile a summary of what mitigation measures have worked and what have not, and develop a document listing best management practices which will be maintained on the IUCN/SSC Asian Elephant website as a living document.

FWS: \$87,620. Leveraged Funds: \$20,900.

ASE-0460 *Monitoring Asian elephant populations and assessing threats: a manual for researchers, managers, and conservationists*. In partnership with Wildlife Conservation Society. The purpose of this grant, which is the second phase of this project, is to publish and distribute the manual. The first phase of this project involved identifying the authors/biologists studying elephants to write up their survey methods, and compiling these survey techniques into a user friendly manual for field biologists and game wardens who monitor and conserve elephant populations.

FWS: \$18,400. Leveraged Funds: \$22,000.

*Includes 2 modifications: \$19,608