



**U.S. FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE  
PROJECT SUMMARIES LISTED BY  
COUNTRY FOR FISCAL YEAR 2019 AND  
2020**

# U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service International Affairs

## Fiscal Year 2019 and 2020 Financial Assistance: Project Summaries by Country

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) International Affairs Program provides financial support for the conservation of wildlife and high value landscapes around the world that provide economic and geopolitical benefits and are important to the American people.

In Fiscal Year 2019 (FY19) and 2020 (FY20), \$36,862,671 was obligated to new and existing multiyear projects through: Species, Regional, and Combating Wildlife Trafficking (CWT) Programs, that leveraged \$31,542,587 in additional critical support for wildlife conservation. In total, these funds supported 262 projects in 72 countries, including numerous projects spanning multiple countries or entire regions. Funding sources include Multinational Species Conservation Funds, Resource Management funds, U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) funds, Department of State, International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Affairs Bureau funds, National Marine Fisheries Service funds and contributed funds.

In FY19 and FY20, USFWS International Affairs implemented and oversaw 11 strategic financial assistance programs, ensuring a low-overhead, results-based approach to maximize effectiveness, efficiency, and conservation success. They include the:

- Africa Regional Program (AFR)
- African Elephant Conservation Fund (AFE)
- Asian Elephant Conservation Fund (ASE)
- Caribbean Regional Program (CAR)
- Central America Regional Program (CA, LAC, LATAM)
- Combating Wildlife Trafficking Program (CWT)
- Great Ape Conservation Fund (GA)
- Marine Turtle Conservation Fund (MT)
- Mexico Regional Grant Program (MX, LATAM)
- Rhinoceros and Tiger Conservation Fund (RT)
- South America Regional Program (SA, LAC, LATAM)

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) International Affairs Program engages in domestic and international efforts to protect, restore, and enhance the world's diverse wildlife and their habitats with a focus on species of international concern.

<b>Antigua and Barbuda</b>	<b>Honduras</b>	<b>Sierra Leone</b>
<b>Argentina</b>	<b>India</b>	<b>Solomon Islands</b>
<b>Bangladesh</b>	<b>Indonesia</b>	<b>South Africa</b>
<b>Barbados</b>	<b>Jamaica</b>	<b>Spain</b>
<b>Belize</b>	<b>Kazakhstan</b>	<b>Sri Lanka</b>
<b>Bhutan</b>	<b>Kenya</b>	<b>St. Lucia</b>
<b>Brazil</b>	<b>Laos</b>	<b>St. Vincent</b>
<b>Cambodia</b>	<b>Liberia</b>	<b>Somalia</b>
<b>Cameroon</b>	<b>Madagascar</b>	<b>Regional, Africa</b>
<b>Cape Verde</b>	<b>Malawi</b>	<b>Regional, Caribbean</b>
<b>Chad</b>	<b>Malaysia</b>	<b>Regional, Western Hemisphere</b>
<b>China</b>	<b>Mexico</b>	<b>Tanzania</b>
<b>Colombia</b>	<b>Morocco</b>	<b>Thailand</b>
<b>Costa Rica</b>	<b>Myanmar</b>	<b>Trinidad and Tobago</b>
<b>Côte d'Ivoire</b>	<b>Namibia</b>	<b>Turkey</b>
<b>Democratic Republic of the Congo</b>	<b>Nepal</b>	<b>Uganda</b>
<b>Ecuador</b>	<b>Nicaragua</b>	<b>USA</b>
<b>El Salvador</b>	<b>Nigeria</b>	<b>Vietnam</b>
<b>Equatorial Guinea</b>	<b>Oman</b>	<b>Zambia</b>
<b>Gabon</b>	<b>Panama</b>	<b>Zimbabwe</b>
<b>Georgia</b>	<b>Paraguay</b>	
<b>Ghana</b>	<b>Patagonia</b>	
<b>Grenada</b>	<b>Peru</b>	
<b>The Grenadines</b>	<b>Philippines</b>	
<b>Guatemala</b>	<b>Republic of the Congo</b>	
<b>Guinea</b>	<b>Russia</b>	
<b>Guyana</b>	<b>Rwanda</b>	
	<b>São Tomé and Príncipe</b>	

## ANTIGUA AND BARBUDA

### CAR

#### F20AP00254

***Redonda Restoration Programme: Ensuring the Recovery and Long-Term Protection of a Unique Assemblage of Endangered Species.*** In partnership with Flora & Fauna International. The purpose of this two-year project is to reverse the decline of the dozens of endemic and globally threatened species that inhabit the Redonda Island Key Biodiversity Area in Antigua and Barbuda, such as the Critically Endangered Redonda ground lizard, the Redonda anole, and the newly discovered Redonda pygmy gecko. This project builds on the recent successful eradication of invasive alien black rats and feral goats from Redonda in 2017 with USFWS support, which catalyzed enormous improvements in the state of this globally important ecosystem and its wildlife. Specific activities include: (1) establish an effective governance system for the new Redonda Island Ecosystem Reserve and train personnel responsible for its management; (2) establish a biosecurity program and remove at least two additional invasive alien species from the islands; (3) prepare and launch plans to reintroduce the extirpated species to the island to restore vital ecosystem functions; (4) trial nature-based tours as part of the protected area's sustainable financing strategy; (5) survey and monitor the status of threatened native species and their habitats to evaluate and inform conservation actions; and (6) publish methods and lessons learned to inform and inspire other countries to restore and conserve Caribbean biodiversity.

FWS: \$101,986

Leveraged Funds: \$172,942

## ARGENTINA

### LATAM

#### F20AP00100

***Wildlife Friendly Patagonian Fiber: Building Capacity for Sustainability of Guanaco Use.*** In partnership with National Science and Technology Council of Argentina (CONICET). This continuation is for year two of a two-year award. Argentina's Patagonia once harbored large migratory populations of Guanacos (*Lama guanicoe*), a camelid endemic to South America. Similar to the Bison in the US, it plays an essential role in supporting regional ecological resilience. Guanacos have been reduced by 96% of their range due to the introduction of sheep by foreign settlers who heavily hunted all Guanacos to reduce the perceived competition with their livestock. As a result, carnivores and scavengers began to consume the introduced livestock. The purpose of this project is to promote certified wildlife friendly practices as a conservation tool to reverse the negative effects of traditional livestock husbandry and generate local socioeconomic development from the high market value of Guanaco fibers. Project activities include fostering wildlife friendly certification for producers, promoting the sustainable use of wild Guanaco populations through live-shearing events that follow proven safety protocols, and connecting wildlife friendly producers with national and international textile sectors.

USFWS: \$50,625

Leveraged Funds: \$0

## BANGLADESH

**MT**

**F19AP00490**

***Community Based Sea Turtle Restoration Program in Bangladesh.*** In partnership with Marinelife Alliance. This project will implement a sea turtle conservation program in Bangladesh. The intent is to address threats from poaching of eggs and accidental capture and mortality in coastal gill net and trawl fisheries. Activities include: (1) training community members to conduct nesting beach surveys and nest protection along the 250 km coast of Cox's Bazar and Parki beach and expanding to cover an additional 150 km of suitable nesting beaches; (2) working with fisherman to implement best practices to reduce sea turtle capture, injury and mortality; (3) preparing educational and outreach materials and conducting education and awareness programs with local communities, fisherman and schools; and (4) complete construction of a sea turtle rehabilitation center for turtles injured by boats or accidental capture in nets or trawls and will also serve as an education center for local people and attraction for tourists.

USFWS: \$30,000

Leveraged Funds: \$52,145

**GA**

**F19AP00130**

***Ecology and Conservation of the Hoolock Gibbon (Hoolock hoolock) in Bangladesh.***

In partnership with Jagannath University, Dhaka. Hoolock Gibbons (Hoolock hoolock) are among the most threatened small apes in the world. Less than 300 hoolock gibbons were estimated to live in scattered forest fragments in Bangladesh in the early 2000s. This project proposes to estimate the population size of Hoolock Gibbons in all known areas in Bangladesh, and provide detailed habitat quality data. Hoolock Gibbon home ranges and movement patterns will be quantified to determine how they allocate time during their activities. Forest Department staff and University students will be trained to collect and manage data. Field guides will be trained to provide small group tours. Research papers will be published, several reports will be produced to aid the Bangladesh Government to allocate funds to establish protection measures. Current population estimates proposed in this project will help to see how Hoolock Gibbons have fared in Bangladesh given ongoing increase in human population size and ongoing degradation of forests. The main objective of this project is, to determine population density and estimate population size in 24 or more sites known to have Hoolock Gibbons.

FWS: \$49,025

Leveraged Funds: \$0

## BARBADOS

**MT**

**Continuation**

**F17AP00184**

***Conserving Hawksbill Sea Turtles and Their Beach Habitats in Barbados.*** In partnership with University of West Indies. This project will conduct all night patrols on the national index nesting beach and other high density nesting beaches for hawksbills

and once nightly patrols on all other high density hawksbill to collect nesting data and protect nesting females.

USFWS: \$33,000<sup>1</sup>

Leveraged Funds: \$114,420

## **BELIZE**

### **LATAM**

#### **F20AP00064**

***Mitigating Wildlife Trafficking in the Chiquibul Forest, Belize.*** In partnership with Friends for Conservation and Development. Belize's Chiquibul National Park is one of Central America's largest intact tropical forests that harbors emblematic species such as jaguars, tapirs, scarlet macaws, and hundreds of plants and animal species that are threatened by poaching, wildlife trafficking, and habitat destruction. About 250 scarlet macaws (*ara macao cyanoptera*), recently listed as Endangered on the U.S. Endangered Species Act with an estimated 1,500 individuals, depend upon the Chiquibul Forest. This project is intends to conserve endangered scarlet macaws as well as other species including: white-fronted parrots, red-lored parrots, jaguars, mahogany, xate, and orchids known to be targeted for poaching and illegal transboundary trade by strengthening law enforcement efforts and conservation incentives for local communities. Specific activities include: (1) anti-poaching patrols and biomonitoring of scarlet macaw nests during the breeding season; (2) field gear and training for rangers to better support effective prosecutions for wildlife crime; (3) field visits to sensitize members of the judicial system; (4) updating a wildlife trafficking strategy for the Chiquibul and convening a task force; and (5) engaging famers from four communities buffering the park through improved conservation incentives as an alternative to deforestation and poaching.

FWS: \$99,558

Leveraged Funds: \$95,067

## **MULTIPLE - BHUTAN AND INDIA**

### **RT**

#### **F19AP00758**

***Strengthening Conservation of Tigers, Prey Animals and Habitats in the Ripu-Chirang-Phibsoo Forest Complex within Transboundary Manas Conservation Areas (TraMCA) in India and Bhutan.*** In partnership with Aaranyak. The forest complexes that include Manas National Park/Manas Tiger Reserve (MTR) in India and Royal Manas National Park in Bhutan, are home to several threatened species including eight different species of cats, and other species of mammals and birds. The MTR which is 2,837 sq km, spreading 233 km east to west, is at the junction of Indo-Gangetic and Indo-Malayan realms. It is contiguous with Royal Manas National Park, Jimotsangha Wildlife Sanctuary and Phipsoo Wildlife Sanctuary on the Bhutan side. This project aims to: (1) estimate the population size of tigers, co-predators and their prey animals in the western buffers of Manas Tiger Reserve and new addition of Manas National Park along with neighboring protected areas of Bhutan; (2) evaluate habitat connectivity across the

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<sup>1</sup> Funded by United States Agency for International Development – Combating Wildlife Trafficking (USAID-CWT) funds

protected areas of this transboundary forest complex; (3) conduct a threat assessment towards generating a conservation plan for tigers in this section of the forest complex. The goal of this integrated project is to understand tiger conservation potential of tigers in the forest complexes in the western part of Manas Tiger Reserve and adjoining Bhutan, and support conservation planning to ensure long term conservation of tigers and as well as habitats.

USFWS: \$54,400<sup>2</sup>

Leveraged Funds: \$41,130

## **BRAZIL**

### **MT**

#### **F19AP00351**

##### ***Conservation of the Leatherback Turtle Nesting Populations in Espirito Santo, Brazil.***

In partnership with Fundacao Centro Brasileiro de Prot e Pesq das T Marinha. This project will conduct a conservation program for the SW Atlantic Ocean leatherback nesting population that nests only in Brazil. This is the smallest genetically and demographically distinct leatherback population in the world with fewer than 20 females nesting each year. The intent of this project is to build capacity and knowledge in support of the establishment of a Marine Protected Area to protect this population from fisheries bycatch mortality and to build capacity for nesting beach monitoring and protection. Activities include: (1) characterize fisheries and fishing activities; (2) analyze fisheries and leatherback satellite tracking data to determine interaction zones in support of the MPA; (3) conduct training of field monitors to improve capacity for data collection and nest protection; and (4) conduct outreach and education activities including night patrols on nesting beaches with local community members.

USFWS: \$27,645<sup>3</sup>

Leveraged Funds: \$16,290

## **CAMBODIA**

### **ASE**

#### **F19AP00361**

***Direct Protection to Asia's Last Intact Elephant Corridor, Cambodia.*** In partnership with Wildlife Alliance. The Southern Cardamom Forest Protection Program (SCFPP) implements a direct, holistic approach to forest protection in Cambodia, providing ranger patrols which protect wild Asian elephants and their habitats from poaching and land encroachment in this landscape. The goal of this ongoing project is to achieve zero elephant poaching events, prevent forest fragmentation, and preserve continuous forest cover for elephant movement. This project will protect Asian elephants by improving ranger effectiveness through training, strengthen good governance by building strong cases and following-up with the courts on active cases; provide investigative skills development training; and create better linkages between remote villages and ranger stations to address land encroachment. SCFPP rangers will conduct daily forest

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<sup>2</sup> Of this, \$40,000 was funded by proceeds from sales of the Save Vanishing Species stamp

<sup>3</sup> Funded by proceeds from sales of the Save Vanishing Species stamp

surveillance (over 21,000 snares were removed by surveillance last year), operate ranger stations, and preserve the forests of the Southern Cardamom Mountains of Cambodia.  
USFWS: \$100,000                      Leveraged Funds: \$358,253

**ASE**

**Continuation**

**F18AP00382**

***Elephant Conservation in Keo Seima Wildlife Sanctuary, Cambodia: Phase 10, Years 1-3.*** In partnership with Wildlife Conservation Society. The goal of this three-year project is the ongoing protection and enhancement of the conservation status of wild Asian elephants in Keo Seima Wildlife Sanctuary (KSWS), Cambodia. KSWS is a globally important site for biodiversity conservation located in the Eastern Plains Landscape of Cambodia, the area boasts a complex mix of forest types as well as elevation gradients, which leads to a high species richness across a range of taxa. The main objectives of this project are to improve anti-snare capacity through applied research and a collection incentive scheme; protect elephants and habitat through anti-snare surveillance; and protect elephants and their habitat from illegal forest encroachment. Project activities include: (1) conduct anti-snare surveillance to reduce snare abundance in key elephant areas; (2) collect snare abundance data to improve the efficiency of anti-snare surveillance; (3) evaluate the effectiveness of pilot snare collection incentives; (4) use remote sensing to target surveillance within key areas for elephants; and (5) conduct surveillance in high-priority elephant areas at the deforestation frontier.

USFWS: \$72,221<sup>4</sup>

Leveraged Funds: \$73,640

**ASE**

**Continuation**

**F18AP00368**

***Reducing Threats to Asian Elephants and Mitigating Human-Elephant Conflict in the Core Habitat of the Cardamom Mountain Landscape, Cambodia.*** In partnership with Fauna and Flora International. The goal of this project is to reduce threats to wild Asian elephants and population recovery in the Cardamom Mountain Landscape of Cambodia and support communities in mitigating human-elephant conflict (HEC). Specific project objectives are: (1) prevent potentially fatal snare injuries to elephants by reducing the commercial demand for bushmeat in urban areas through a research-led behavior change campaign, and contribute to a reduction in incentives to set snares in elephant habitat; (2) support community members to monitor elephants, threats, and HEC; and (3) reduce HEC through sustainable mitigation techniques and local management of HEC at key sites. Activities include: (1) support an effective nationwide demand-reduction campaign targeting bushmeat consumption; (2) support community members to use camera traps and Spatial Monitoring and Reporting Tool (SMART) to monitor elephant presence, threats, and HEC; (3) educate and train local stakeholders in HEC mitigation; (4) establish HEC response teams; (5) reduce HEC in impacted communities by developing and testing mitigation techniques; and (6) build community support for conservation

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<sup>4</sup> Of this, \$5,583 was funded by proceeds from sales of the Save Vanishing Species stamp



activities through support to targeted primary schools. This project will contribute to the stabilization and long-term increase of the Asian elephant population in Cambodia.  
USFWS: \$69,327                      Leveraged Funds: \$54,614

**GA**

**F19AP00810**

***Community Conservation Education and Community-Based Protection of At-Risk Ape Populations in Cambodia.*** In partnership with Wildlife Alliance. This project will conserve gibbons in Cambodia. Wildlife Alliance will: (1) engage local communities in environmental law enforcement and in-situ habitat protection of critically pileated gibbon habitat in the Cardamom Mountains National Park; (2) deliver environmental education in rural communities in areas where gibbons live to build support for their conservation; and, (3) reintroduce gibbons into forests surrounding iconic temples of Angkor Wat, using animals confiscated from illegal wildlife trade or captive bred animals, born to rescued gibbons.

USFWS: \$116,768                      Leveraged Funds: \$266,490

**GA**

**Continuation**

**F16AP00805**

***Long-Term Conservation of Yellow-Cheeked Crested Gibbon Through Direct Law Enforcement and Community Engagement in Southern Mondulhiri, Cambodia.*** In partnership with Wildlife Conservation Society. This project seeks to promote a well-managed forest landscape that supports increasing wildlife populations, especially gibbons, and improve livelihoods for the people who live there. Project activities are: (1) support enforcement activities to protect sensitive gibbon habitat, (2) refine the use of remote sensing and the Spatial Monitoring and Reporting Tool (SMART) software to inform adaptive management; (3) expand and strengthen community engagement in, and support of, gibbon conservation, by (a) capacity building for tourism development and increased community engagement, and (b) refinement and implementation of robust monitoring of gibbon populations in the ecotourism area.

USFWS: \$59,770<sup>5</sup>                      Leveraged Funds: \$0

**GA**

**Continuation**

**F16AP00782**

***Northern Plains of Cambodia Pileated Gibbon Conservation Project: Phase 6.*** In partnership with Wildlife Conservation Society. This project will conserve the pileated gibbon population in the Northern Plains of Cambodia by strengthening existing monitoring strategies, establishing new integrated community-led surveillance approaches and developing improved reporting systems. Project activities include: (1) ensure effective protection of pileated gibbons and their habitats by improving surveillance planning and automated reporting systems, by (a) training surveillance staff to assist communities to use and implement an automated Spatial Monitoring and

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<sup>5</sup> Funded by proceeds from sales of the Save Vanishing Species stamp

Reporting Tool (SMART) surveillance system, and (b) conducting targeted SMART monitoring to reduce threats to pileated gibbon's and priority habitat areas; (2) implement workshops to improve community liaisons between surveillance team staff and village-level institutions, and improve community awareness and support for conservation of priority habitats and (b) select and train community members from key villages to conduct SMART surveillance.

USFWS: \$59,976<sup>6</sup>

Leveraged Funds: \$56,439

## **CWT**

### **F19AP00475**

***Proactive Enforcement Against the Emerging Marine Turtle Trade in Cambodia.*** In partnership with Wildlife Alliance. The trade in sea turtles within Cambodia is increasing, further threatening the country's already severely depleted turtle populations. The purpose of this project is to counter trafficking of marine turtles in Cambodia by generating actionable intelligence on trafficking routes, networks, and wildlife markets across Cambodia while building the capacity and skills of the nation's wildlife surveillance unit (Wildlife Rapid Rescue Team) and the Cambodian Fisheries Administration to proactively act on the marine turtle trade. This project is intended to conserve marine turtle populations, both nationally and regionally, by suppressing the emerging trade in marine turtles and their parts in Cambodia, where trade is tied to increasing investment and tourism from China. Specific activities will include: (1) providing training for the Wildlife Rapid Rescue Team and Cambodian Fisheries Administration on identification of marine turtle parts and filing legal cases for turtle trafficking; (2) establishing informants in key trafficking locations such as the coastal communities of Sihanoukville, Kampot, and Dara Sakor; and (3) targeting enforcement operations by the Wildlife Rapid Rescue Team in response to actionable intelligence including raids against shops and restaurants identified as involved in the marine turtle trade.

USFWS: \$69,327<sup>7</sup>

Leveraged Funds: \$22,935

## **MT**

### **Continuation**

### **F18AP00209**

***Strengthening Marine Turtle Conservation and Critical Habitat Protection in Cambodia.*** In partnership with Fauna and Flora International. This project will continue support for development of a marine turtle conservation program for Cambodia. This project addresses threats to nesting beach development, nest poaching and fisheries bycatch of marine turtles. Activities include: (1) in collaboration with Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries Administration, continue implementation of the National Conservation Action Plan developed in 2015; (2) conduct nesting surveys to assess status of nesting at historically known nesting sites; (3) continue a gear replacement/sea turtle bycatch reduction project with small scale fisheries organizations; (4) conduct safe handling and release training workshops with fisheries in high threat

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<sup>6</sup> Funded by proceeds from sales of the Save Vanishing Species stamp

<sup>77</sup> Funded by United States Agency for International Development – Combating Wildlife Trafficking (USAID-CWT) funds

interaction zones; (5) organize community fishery patrols to reduce and deter illegal fishing in areas of known high sea turtle bycatch; (6) conduct education and outreach activities in select coastal communities where sea turtle/human interactions are greatest; and (7) organize and conduct a regional capacity building and data sharing workshop in Cambodia with Myanmar, Thailand, and Vietnam.

USFWS: \$49,693

Leveraged Funds: \$13,247

## **CWT**

### **F17AP00784**

#### **Continuation**

***Combating Wildlife Trafficking through Transcontinental Collaboration Across the African-Asian Nexus.*** In partnership with Wildlife Alliance. This project will support the continuation of activities to address the Africa-Asia wildlife trafficking nexus, a direct threat causing loss of species in Africa. Specific activities include: (1) training of frontline Cambodian Customs staff on rapidly investigating seizures of high-value wildlife products in Cambodia; (2) stakeholder meetings between Cambodian Customs and civil society and government partners in Vietnam to better share information following seizures involving companies or networks in Cambodia; (3) detailed analyses of seizure information from key high-risk countries, companies, and shipping destinations; (4) operations of the Wildlife Rapid Rescue Team to seize illegal ivory and transport it to the Royal University of Pnom Penh forensics lab for genetic analysis; and (5) communication of genetic results with trusted government and civil society counterparts in key source and transit countries.

USFWS: \$60,825

Leveraged Funds: \$0

## **MULTIPLE - CAMBODIA AND THAILAND**

### **ASE**

#### **F19AP00360**

***Cross-Border Environmental Education in Cambodia and Thailand to Protect Asian Elephants and Combat Trafficking of Ivory.*** In partnership with Wildlife Alliance. This environmental education project will conduct activities in Cambodia and Thailand to curb cross-border trade of illegal wildlife products and habitat destruction. The primary goals of the Kouprey Express Environmental Education Program are to empower youth and communities to make responsible decisions regarding the sustainable management of natural resources, effect positive change, shifts in attitudes, behaviors, and actions towards wildlife and their habitat, and promote pride and grassroots action to protect Asian elephants and other wildlife in Cambodia and Thailand, and reduce consumption of ivory. Project objectives are: (1) 7,500+ Cambodian youth gain understanding of resource use and an increased desire to protect habitat and conserve Asian elephants; (2) 600+ teachers and key stakeholders including staff from the Ministry of Environment, have improved their capacity to deliver environmental education curriculum; and (3) 10,000 community members have increased awareness, through Community Night Shows and other public events about Asian elephants, illegal wildlife trafficking, snaring, and environmental crimes.

USFWS: \$90,074

Leveraged Funds: \$197,285

**MULTIPLE - CAMBODIA, LIBERIA, MOROCCO, OMAN, SAO TOME, AND SIERRA LEONE**

**MT**

**Continuation**

**F17AC00157**

***Scientific and Technical Support to Sea Turtle Projects with a Focus on Africa, Asia, the Middle East and the Western Pacific (2017-2019).*** In partnership with Ocean Ecology Network. This project will strengthen the capacity of MCTF funded projects to improve management practices for nesting beach conservation programs and sea turtle bycatch reduction efforts. The grantee will provide technical and scientific assistance for Marine Turtle Conservation Fund (MTCF)- supported sea turtle conservation projects in Africa, Asia, West Pacific, and Oman. Activities include: (1) site visits to MTCF-funded projects in Cape Verde, Sierra Leone, Liberia, Indonesia, Solomon Islands, Myanmar, Cambodia, and Thailand to provide training and technical support; and (2) provide training and assistance with a loggerhead satellite telemetry research project in Oman and technical support and participation in a sea turtle fisheries bycatch project with fishing communities at Masirah Island, Oman.

USFWS: \$53,372

Leveraged Funds: \$32,000

**CAMEROON**

**AFR**

**Continuation**

**F18AP00818**

***Ensuring the Long-Term Protection of the Elephants of Mbam Djerem National Park, Cameroon.*** In partnership with Wildlife Conservation Society. The purpose of this project is to support the conservation of elephants and other key wildlife species in and around Mbam Djerem National Park (MDNP) in the forest-savanna transition zone in central Cameroon. MDNP contains the northernmost population of forest elephants in Africa, in addition to housing two endangered sub-species of chimpanzee, and three species of pangolin. Specific activities include: (1) regular monitoring of large mammals and other key conservation targets through a mixture of aerial, ground-based, and camera trap monitoring; (2) building a constituency for conservation and strengthening community participation in park management through development of income-generating alternative livelihood strategies and strengthening of traditional institutions and community-based conservation associations; (3) supporting ecotourism development, including construction of a biodiversity interpretation center at MDNP headquarters.

FWS: \$300,000

Leveraged Funds: \$100,041

**AFR**

**F19AC00599**

***MENTOR-Bushmeat: Developing a Trans-Disciplinary Team of Conservation Professionals to Address the Bushmeat Trade and Apply Conservation Actions in***

**Central Africa.** In partnership with the Zoological Society of London. The purpose of this two-year project is to support a conservation effort in Cameroon and Central Africa by developing the capacity of a team of early career Central African professionals who will work together to design and deliver results-orientated actions to reduce the trafficking of protected species in the illegal commercial bushmeat trade in urban centers. Specific activities include supporting a team of regional conservationists who will have the knowledge and skills to design and implement field actions to address the illegal national and transborder trafficking of wildlife for luxury meat and to implement novel actions on legal systems, policy, and demand reduction.

FWS: \$652,090

Leveraged Funds: \$93,967

## **AFR**

### **F19AC00598**

***Strengthening the Institutional Capacity of the Garoua Wildlife College, Cameroon.*** In partnership with *Ecole de Faune de Garoua*. The purpose of this five-year project is to strengthen the capacity of the major wildlife training college in Francophone Africa to design and deliver effective education and training programs on protected area management and wildlife conservation. The project aims to conserve biodiversity in Central Africa by addressing the lack of national and regional conservation capacity. Specific activities include: (1) providing scholarships to selected national park and non-governmental organization staff from Central Africa to earn diplomas in wildlife management at Garoua Wildlife College; (2) strengthening the faculty's capabilities to conduct research and develop new curriculum on threats facing wildlife and the implementation of results based conservation actions; and (3) supporting the Garoua Wildlife College's faculty to enhance their leadership and training on the implementation of CITES (Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora).

FWS: \$479,000

Leveraged Funds: \$125,000

## **AFR**

### **F19AP00514**

***CARN ASPIRE Grant Program - Providing Small Research Grants to African Graduate Students and Early Career Professionals Working in Biodiversity, Conservation and Environmental Sustainability.*** In partnership with the Conservation Action Research Network. The purpose of this project is to support conservation efforts in Central Africa by developing a new generation of researchers to address critical conservation challenges facing wildlife, biodiversity and ecosystem health. The project is intended to conserve wildlife and habitats by addressing capacity development needs, specifically research support for graduate students and early career professionals in the Congo Basin. Specific activities include: (1) providing support for applied wildlife research via a competitive process; and (2) providing assistance for early career Central African researchers to position them for future success in wildlife conservation.

FWS: \$157,500

Leveraged Funds: \$215,000

## **AFE**

### **F19AP00896**

***Increasing Protection of Forest Elephant Populations in Key Protected Areas and Interzones in the Northern TRIDOM Landscape, Cameroon.*** In partnership with the Zoological Society of London. The purpose of this project is to document elephant abundance and movement in southeast Cameroon and to improve the management of a transfrontier population that extends into Gabon and the Republic of Congo. Forest elephants have declined by over 60% since 2002 and by over 80% at sites like Gabon's Minkebe National Park, a former stronghold that lost an estimated 25,000 elephants to poaching from 2004 to 2014. Cross-border poaching networks primarily originating out of Cameroon are driving the decline, and few sites have enough data to determine the status of remaining elephants and priorities for future conservation action. This effort helps fill that critical knowledge gap by surveying five protected areas on or near the Cameroon-Gabon border and assessing population connectivity. Specific activities include: (1) estimation of elephant populations in southern Cameroon; and (2) deployment of camera traps and other technologies to document elephant movement between protected areas.

USFWS: \$328,514<sup>8</sup>

Leveraged Funds: \$17,327

**GA**

**F19AP00620**

***Protecting and Studying the Nigeria-Cameroon Chimpanzee (*Pan troglodytes ellioti*) at Mbam & Djerem National Park, Cameroon.*** In partnership with Drexel University. The purpose of this project is to improve the conservation of Nigeria-Cameroon chimpanzees in Mbam & Djerem National Park (MDNP), Cameroon. Activities include: (1) assessing distribution, abundance and status of chimpanzees in the park; (2) providing active and passive protection through permanent presence of research teams at the Ganga Research Station; (3) improving conservation management of MDNP by professional development training in field research protocols and anti-poaching strategies; (4) continuing community engagement at the newly-established Mbakaou Wildlife Center; and (5) using MDNP as a hub to host and provide educational opportunities for Cameroonian and Equatorial Guinean college students.

USFWS: \$91,550<sup>9</sup>

Leveraged Funds: \$79,152

**GA**

**F19AP00618**

***Population Status and Distribution of Central Chimpanzees (*Pan troglodytes troglodytes*) in Douala-Edea National Park, Cameroon.*** In partnership with the Cameroon Wildlife Conservation Society. The purpose of this project is to improve the conservation status of chimpanzee populations within the newly-created Douala-Edea National Park by determining their current abundance and distribution, and the threats they face. Activities include: (1) conducting a chimpanzee census and data analysis; and (2) conducting a threats analysis using direct field observation, bushmeat market surveys, stakeholder interviews, and a field assessment of extractive activities.

USFWS: \$50,000<sup>10</sup>

Leveraged Funds: \$7,851

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<sup>8</sup> Funded through the Central Africa Regional Program for the Environment (CARPE)

<sup>9</sup> Funded through the United States Agency for International Development (USAID)

<sup>10</sup> Funded through the United States Agency for International Development (USAID)

**MT**

**F19AP00483**

***Monitoring of Sea Turtle Nesting Beaches for the Development of a Management Plan in Two Coastal National Parks (Cameroon).*** In partnership with Chélonée. The purpose of this project is to support sea turtle conservation programs within Douala-Edea Wildlife Reserve and the proposed Manyange na Elombo-Campo National Marine Park, Cameroon. The intent is to work with the Ministry of Wildlife and Forests (MWF) and local communities to develop community based nesting beach conservation programs olive ridleys and leatherbacks and to assist local communities to adapt to and support the proposed Marine Park. Activities include: (1) training field community survey teams to conduct nesting surveys and protection on the beaches of Douala-Edea Wildlife Reserve and proposed Manyange Marine Park; (2) conducting two workshops with Manyange local communities, traditional chiefs, NGOs and civil society to discuss objectives of proposed National Park and engaging all stakeholders in its future management; (3) assisting MWF with development of management plan for the Manyange NP; (4) conducting outreach and education activities with villages within or adjacent to Douala-Edea Wildlife Reserve and Mayange NP.

USFWS: \$72,970<sup>11</sup>

Leveraged Funds: \$22,202

## **CAPE VERDE**

**MT**

**Continuation**

**F18AP00208**

***Protection of Loggerhead Turtles in Cabo Verde.*** In partnership with Associacao Projectos Biodiversidade. This project will implement nesting beach conservation programs on the most important loggerhead nesting beaches on the island of Sal, Cape Verde. Cape Verde loggerhead population is the third largest in the world. The intention is to prevent killing of nesting females for meat and poaching of nests throughout the nesting season on all of the important nesting beaches and to diminish light pollution impacts on hatchings on Sal beaches, which are the most developed beaches in Cape Verde. Activities include: (1) night patrols on key nesting beaches and relocation of vulnerable nests to hatcheries; (2) education and outreach activities with local schools, youth groups, businesses and other groups; and (3) organize and host the annual meeting of the Cape Verde National Network for Marine Turtle Conservation (TAOLA).

USFWS: \$45,435

Leveraged Funds: \$69,181

**MT**

**Continuation**

**F17AP00191**

***Strengthening Marine Turtle Conservation Strategies in the Tartaruga Natural Reserve (Boa Vista, Cape Verde).*** In partnership with BIOS.CV. This project will: (1) set up a field camp at Joao Barrosa Beach on the Island of Boa Vista and conduct daily

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<sup>11</sup> Funded through the United States Agency for International Development (USAID)

surveillance to protect nests and nesting females throughout the loggerhead nesting season; (2) provide education outreach activities for local communities regarding marine turtle conservation; and (3) conduct community development activities developed in consultation and coordination with Natura 2000 and Turtle Foundation. USFWS will work closely with grantee in setting goals, priorities, and developing budgets, and will provide assistance as needed and requested in engaging with government and other institutions to improve collaboration and conservation outcomes. USFWS will also provide assistance as necessary to ensure effective collaboration and cooperation between all MTCA grant recipients working within Cape Verde.

USFWS: \$29,000

Leveraged Funds: \$90,278

## **MT**

### **Continuation**

#### **F17AP00190**

#### ***Community-Based Sea Turtle Conservation in Maio Island, Cape Verde: Increasing the Sense of Ownership in Local Communities to Further Reduce the Poaching of Females and Nests on Land and at Sea.***

In partnership with Maio Biodiversity Foundation. This project will: (1) conduct night surveillance and count nests using standardized protocols on all major loggerhead nesting beaches on Maio; protect nests as necessary within a hatchery; (2) conduct educational and awareness program with local communities on Maio; and (3) support a Guardians of the Sea program that checks fishing boats for illegal fishing activities. USFWS will work closely with the grantee in setting goals, priorities, and developing budgets, and will provide assistance as needed and requested in engaging with government and other institutions to improve collaboration and conservation outcomes. USFWS will also provide assistance as necessary to ensure effective collaboration and cooperation between all MTCA grant recipients working within Cape Verde.

USFWS: \$54,778

Leveraged Funds: \$50,648

## **MT1715**

### **Continuation**

#### **F17AP00180**

#### ***Conservation, Protection, and Management of Most Important Nesting Beaches of Cape Verde Loggerhead Rockery Involving Local Community.***

In partnership with Cabo Verde Natura 2000. This project will: (1) set up field camps at Praia do Roque-Carreto beaches in Porto Ferreira and Calheta de Pau beach in Ervatao; and (2) Conduct daily nest counts and rescue disoriented female turtles. USFWS will work closely with the grantee in setting goals, priorities, and developing budgets. In addition, USFWS will provide assistance as requested in engaging with government and other institutions to improve collaboration and conservation outcomes. USFWS will also provide assistance as necessary to ensure effective collaboration and cooperation between all MTCA grant recipients working within Cape Verde.

USFWS: \$58,089

Leveraged Funds: \$36,612

## **MT**

### **Continuation**



**F17AP00178**

***Joining Forces to Protect the Endangered Loggerhead Sea Turtles of Boavista.*** In partnership with Turtle Foundation. This project will set up two field camps and one field station for patrols and monitoring of Norte, Canto, Boa Esperanca, Aqua Doce, Cural Velho, and Santa Monica beaches to protect nesting loggerheads and nests throughout the nesting season; conduct education outreach in local schools, summer camps for youth, beach cleanups, and community development activities developed in consultation and coordination with Natura 2000 and BiosCV. The USFWS will work closely with the grantee in setting goals, priorities, and developing budgets, and will provide assistance as needed and requested in engaging with government and other institutions to improve collaboration and conservation outcomes. USFWS will also provide assistance as necessary to ensure effective collaboration and cooperation between all MTCA grant recipients working within Cape Verde.

USFWS: \$58,000

Leveraged Funds: \$204,968

**CHAD****AFR****F21AC00555**

***Protecting the Greater Zakouma Ecosystem, Chad.*** In partnership with the African Parks Network. The purpose of this project is to expand the conservation successes in Zakouma National Park (ZNP), Chad, to the Greater Zakouma Ecosystem (GZE), representing a ten-fold increase in wildlife habitat under improved management and protection. This project will extend efforts beyond the ZNP boundary, including Siniaka Minia Faunal Reserve and other critical wildlife corridors, to ensure the continued increase of the elephant population, which has seen steady growth to over 550 individuals under African Parks management, as well as the protection of Kordofan giraffe, of which half of the global population is found in ZNP, and other key wildlife species, by working with the local communities, addressing conservation and land-use issues related to transhumance, and expanding wildlife monitoring efforts. Activities include: (1) expanding wildlife monitoring efforts to the broader landscape, including daily monitoring of the founder black rhino population, which was reintroduced to ZNP in 2018; (2) sustainably managing habitat through invasive plant removal, fire management, and tree planting; (3) building a constituency for conservation and enhancing the relationship with local stakeholders through support for educational opportunities for school-age children and development of alternative livelihood strategies.

FWS: \$1,176,208

Leveraged Funds: \$0

**CHINA****CWT****F19AP00476**

***Protecting Sea Turtles in China.*** In partnership with WildAid, Inc. Marine turtle populations have severely declined in the Asian region, due in large part to overexploitation for meat, eggs and ornamental products. China is the single largest the largest demand country for sea turtle meat, ornamental products, and for traditional

Chinese medicine. The purpose of this project is to reduce demand for sea turtle products in China by implementing mass media campaigns designed to influence consumer behavior. The project will also enhance China's enforcement of existing laws protecting sea turtles. Specific activities include: (1) producing and distributing compelling TV public service announcements that discourage the purchase or use of sea turtle products; (2) developing billboards, a documentary film for TV broadcast, and efforts for direct outreach and education of tourist guides to enhance awareness about turtle trafficking; (3) conducting market and consumer surveys to understand sea turtle product availability and demand in Hainan; (4) meeting with government officials to encourage strengthened protection classification (listing as National Level I species) for the five species found in Chinese waters; and (5) improving enforcement capacity and facilitation of intelligence exchange among the major government agencies, through training opportunities.

USFWS: \$75,000<sup>12</sup>

Leveraged Funds: \$103,800

## **CWT**

### **F19AP00472**

***Development of a Portable and User-Friendly DNA Tool for Monitoring Big Cat Species in the Wildlife Trade in Asia.*** In partnership with Wildlife Conservation Society. With tigers becoming rarer in the wild, other big cats such as lions, leopards, snow leopards, and jaguars are commonly used as tiger “substitutes” in traditional medicine and other wildlife products. However, regulating this trade in big cats – all of which are sharply declining – is extremely challenging without being able to distinguish species or their origin (captive or wild). The purpose of this project is to develop a new portable DNA-based genetic test tool that will enhance enforcement of international regulations and lead to a reduction in big cat trafficking. Specific activities of this two-year grant include: (1) developing a user- and field-friendly species-specific DNA test kit to identify big cat species appearing in the trade from Africa, Asia and Latin America (lion, cheetah, leopard, tiger, jaguar, ocelot); (2) pilot testing, validation, and optimization of DNA test kits on bone treated to simulate material confiscated in the big cat trade and/or on actual bones and tissues confiscated from the trade; (3) developing and finalizing a strategic plan with local partners to integrate these test kits into wildlife trade monitoring activities in China; and (4) holding dissemination workshops to introduce the new technology and train partners in use of the kits.

USFWS: \$126,182

Leveraged Funds: \$61,492

## **RT**

### **F19AP00784**

***Habitat Restoration and Coordinated Law Enforcement in Tiger and Leopard National Park, China.*** In partnership with Wildlife Conservation Society. This project will facilitate the return of Amur tigers to northeast China by helping management of the northeast China Tiger and Leopard National Park (TLNP) to maximize the effectiveness of this new protected area. Project objectives include: (1) reestablish ecological linkages between core zones within TLNP via habitat restoration, and, (2) help coordinate anti-

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<sup>12</sup> Funded through the United States Agency for International Development (USAID)

poaching efforts across the various legal jurisdictions and different implementing agencies within the multi-use park.

USFWS: \$60,000

Leveraged Funds: \$61,491

## **MULTIPLE – CHINA AND MYANMAR**

**CWT**

**F17AP00252**

**Continuation**

***Securing the Gateway: Reducing Wildlife Trafficking Between Myanmar and China.***

In partnership with Wildlife Conservation Society. This project will combat wildlife trafficking between two high priority Asian countries, Myanmar and China. This project will conserve a wide range of species that are recorded as being trafficked into China, including freshwater turtles and tortoises (with 19 globally threatened species recorded in the trade, of which 8 are endemic to Myanmar), Sunda and Chinese pangolins, Asian and African elephants, tigers and other cat species, bears, and also marine species such as sharks and rays and the giant clam. Specific activities include: (1) supporting relevant law enforcement agencies to identify criminal networks and trafficking dynamics along the Mandalay trade route to the Muse-Ruili border and into China; (2) strengthening law enforcement processes along this trafficking route by building the capacity of law enforcement agencies to identify and prosecute wildlife crimes, as well as handle evidence and confiscated animals; and (3) enhancing international cooperation at national and regional levels through facilitation and support for inter-agency coordination and bilateral dialogues between Myanmar and China. This project will build upon the outputs and successes of a previous USFWS-supported project from 2017-2019 that led to a stronger response to wildlife trafficking between China and Myanmar, including arrests of two major turtle traffickers.

USFWS: \$99,988

Leveraged Funds: \$107,950

## **COLOMBIA**

**CWT**

**F19AP00471**

***Strengthening Capacities and Law Enforcement to Address the International Trafficking of Endangered Amphibians in Western Colombia.***

In partnership with Wildlife Conservation Society. Dart frogs are highly targeted in the illegal wildlife trade for their toxins and striking colors, which make them valuable pharmaceutical components and also attractive as pets. Enforcement capacity, community support, and data are lacking to control this illegal trade. The purpose of this project is to counter international trafficking of threatened amphibians from Colombia by building capacity among law enforcement authorities and increasing community action and support. Specific activities of this two-year grant include: (1) Improving capacity among authorities to manage the international trafficking of amphibians, through developing coordination protocols, analyzing regulations (to inform training), training enforcement officials, and other coordination activities; (2) improving detection of international trafficking of amphibians originated in the Pacific region of Valle del Cauca department,

through a trade analysis and training; and (3) increasing stakeholder action and support to combat trafficking through awareness raising on the ecological and legal implications of amphibian trafficking.

USFWS: \$100,025

Leveraged Funds: \$20,021

## **MULTIPLE - COLOMBIA AND PANAMA**

**MT**

**F19AP00501**

***Building Capacity for Community-Based Conservation of the Eastern Pacific Leatherback in the Darien Gap of Colombia and Panama: Phase 2.*** In partnership with World Wildlife Fund, Inc. This project will support and expand East Pacific leatherback conservation efforts in Colombia and Panama. The intent is to build capacity for a community based leatherback nesting beach conservation project with remote communities in the Darien Gap of Colombia and Panama. Activities include: (1) conduct training workshops for local community monitoring teams; (2) lead patrols to quantify and protect leatherback nesting activities on key nesting beaches of Gato beach (Panama) and Jurado beach (Colombia); and (3) facilitate bi-national collaboration through meetings with NGOs and governmental institutions in both countries.

USFWS: \$10,288

Leveraged Funds: \$8,550

## **COSTA RICA**

**MT**

**F19AP00492**

***Conservation and Monitoring Program of Leatherback (*Dermochelys coriacea*) and Black (*Chelonia mydas a.*) Sea Turtles that Nest in the North Pacific of Costa Rica.*** In partnership with FUNDECODES. The purpose of this project is to implement a conservation program for East Pacific leatherback nesting population in Costa Rica. The EP population was the world's largest in the 1980's with an estimated 150,000 nests annually in Mexico and 10,000 nests annually in Costa Rica. The population has declined precipitously due to poaching of nests (and also in Mexico nesting females) and fisheries bycatch. Now fewer than 1,000 nests are recorded each year in Mexico and fewer than 200 in Costa Rica and this project is critical to preventing the extirpation of this population. The intention of this project is to protect leatherback nests from poaching, predators and tidal inundation. Activities include: (1) training field teams to conduct nighttime nesting survey and protection patrols at several of the key remaining nesting sites; Playa Langosta, Playa Nombre de Jesus, Zapotilla, Onda and Real; (2) relocation of nests to safe beach hatcheries; and (3) environmental education and outreach to local schools with field trips and a turtle festival.

FWS: \$39,000

Leveraged Funds: \$4,226

## **CÔTE D'IVOIRE**

**AFE**

**F19AP00823**

***Supporting the Government of Cote d'Ivoire to Improve the Management of their Ivory Stockpiles.*** In partnership with the Elephant Protection Initiative. The purpose of this project to help the Government of Ivory Coast implement a stockpile management system for its elephant ivory. Ivory Coast is considered both a country of origin and transit for ivory, and recent seizures suggest the capital city, Abidjan, is an international trafficking hub for wildlife products originating in West, East and Central Africa. The applicant currently partners with nine countries to better secure ivory storerooms, to improve accountability and transparency, and to reduce the opportunities for corruption related to theft of ivory from government holdings. According to the applicant, no country that is using the proposed stockpile management system has reported a loss of ivory from storerooms. Specific activities include: (1) digitizing the current ivory stockpile and establishing a clear and accountable chain of custody and management process; (2) installing a database and server to archive inventory data and allow for real-time and remote access to that data; and (3) training administrators to effectively operate the stockpile management system.

USFWS: \$47,185<sup>13</sup>                      Leveraged Funds: \$0

## **CWT**

### **F19AP00467**

***Reinforcing the Capacity to Implement CITES Legislation in Practice in Cote d'Ivoire.***

In partnership with Florida International University. Cote d'Ivoire is a significant transit country for illegally obtained wildlife, including turtles, birds, chimpanzees, ivory, leopard skins, and reptile skins. The purpose of this project is to combat wildlife trafficking in Cote d'Ivoire by strengthening the capacity of Ivorian Authorities to implement the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES), with a specific focus on regional wildlife trafficking issues in West Africa. This project is intended to conserve numerous species including pangolins, tortoises and freshwater turtles, crocodiles, African grey parrots, and big cats. Specific activities of this one-year grant, in collaboration with Cote d'Ivoire's CITES Management Authority, include: (1) increasing the capacity to implement CITES among targeted law enforcement personnel in Cote d'Ivoire through training workshops for 150 wildlife and border control agents and development of identification guides; and (2) raising awareness of CITES and national wildlife laws among targeted public sectors in Cote d'Ivoire through development and diffusion of wildlife and wildlife parts identification tools for enforcement agents.

USFWS: \$99,697                      Leveraged Funds: \$0

## **MT**

### **Continuation**

### **F18AP00319**

***Conservation of Sea Turtles of Ivory Coast.*** In partnership with Conservation des Espèces Marines. This project will implement a sea turtle conservation project in Ivory Coast. Ivory Coast hosts important olive ridley, green and leatherback nesting and

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<sup>13</sup> Funded by United States Agency for International Development – Combating Wildlife Trafficking (USAID-CWT) funds

important foraging grounds for several sea turtle species. The intent of this project is to address threats to sea turtles from poaching and fisheries bycatch mortality. Activities include: (1) conducting community based night patrols along the 30 km Roc-Mani-Kablake Beach and 8 km Asseoufoue Beach throughout the marine turtle nesting season to prevent poaching of nests and nesting females; (2) nests threatened by tides will be relocated to safe beach hatcheries; and (3) working with fisherman to safely release turtles caught in gill nets in Grand Bereby area.

USFWS: \$20,000                      Leveraged Funds: \$102,960

## **DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO**

### **AFR**

#### **F19AC00604**

*Protecting the Lomami National Park and Its Peripheral Forests in DR Congo.* In partnership with the Frankfurt Zoological Society. The purpose of this project is to increase the operational efficiency of the recently created Lomami National Park (LNP), Democratic Republic of Congo. The LNP harbors several iconic endemic species including bonobo, okapi, and Congo peacock as well as a stable population of forest elephant. The purpose of this project is to extend wildlife management into the current buffer zone through establishment of community reserves while increasing collaboration with surrounding communities to ensure better protection for the park as well. Activities include: (1) improving management and surveillance systems within LNP; (2) supporting communities in participatory mapping of and development of management plans for community concessions in the buffer zone; and (3) conducting regular monitoring and surveys of key wildlife populations and status of threats.

FWS: \$1,237,500<sup>14</sup>                      Leveraged Funds: \$0

### **AFR**

#### **F19AC00601**

*Securing the Okapi Wildlife Reserve in the Democratic Republic of Congo through Improved Protected Area Management and Strengthened Enforcement Capacity.* In partnership with the Wildlife Conservation Society. The purpose of this project is to secure the Okapi Wildlife Reserve (OWR) in the Democratic Republic of Congo. The OWR harbors the largest population of the endemic Okapi as well as important populations of eastern chimpanzee and forest elephants. Activities include (1) the design, development and implementation of effective management structures and systems under a new agreement which delegates management of the OWR to the Wildlife Conservation Society; (2) developing conservation partnerships with local communities and reforming existing livelihood initiatives to mitigate local drivers of hunting pressure; and (3) implementing a comprehensive field monitoring program to measure interventions and impact.

FWS: \$1,170,549<sup>15</sup>                      Leveraged Funds: \$48,501

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<sup>14</sup> Funded through the Central Africa Regional Program for the Environment (CARPE)

<sup>15</sup> Funded through the Central Africa Regional Program for the Environment (CARPE)

## **AFR**

### **F19AP00512**

***Securing the Biodiversity and Ecosystems of the Kabobo-Luama Massif through Strengthened Protection and Management Effectiveness (DRC).*** In partnership with the Wildlife Conservation Society. The purpose of this project is to secure the biodiversity and ecosystems of the Kabobo-Luama landscape in eastern DRC by increasing protection and management effectiveness. The newly created Kabobo Wildlife Reserve, along with the contiguous Luama Katanga Hunting Reserve harbors a number of Albertine Rift endemic species as well as a priority population of eastern chimpanzee. The two year project will focus on developing the capacity of the local communities to manage the new Kabobo Wildlife Reserve under a new co-management agreement. Activities include (1) supporting the effective implementation of the co-management approach through the development of conservation management tools that engage local governance structures and civil society; (2) operationalizing the community-based ecological monitoring of key species to effectively identify the threats to the ecosystem and wildlife; and (3) developing a comprehensive field monitoring and research program to measure impact and guide conservation interventions.

FWS: \$557,510<sup>16</sup>

Leveraged Funds: \$165,478

## **GA**

### **F19AP00621**

***Building on a Coordinated Approach to Grauer's Gorilla Conservation in Eastern DRC.*** In partnership with Fauna and Flora International. The purpose of this project is to enable the effective and sustainable protection of Grauer's gorillas by local communities by improving coverage and effectiveness of biomonitoring in community reserves adjacent to Maiko National Park, and by implementing biomonitoring in the Itebero sector of Kahuzi Biega National Park (KBNP), eastern DRC. Activities include: (1) optimizing community biomonitoring methodology; (2) equipping and training 40 new biomonitoring patrol team members; (3) deploying five new monthly community biomonitoring patrols in the community reserves; and (4) developing and implementing a context-specific community outreach program.

USFWS: \$225,239<sup>17</sup>

Leveraged Funds: \$245,148

## **GA**

### **F19AP00056**

***Securing Grauer's Gorilla Population Strongholds in the Kahuzi-Biega National Park and Surrounding Oku Community Forests, DRC.*** In partnership with the Wildlife Conservation Society. The purpose of this three year cooperative agreement is to secure the largest population stronghold of Grauer's gorilla by improving law enforcement in Kahuzi-Biega National Park (KBNP), extending protection to >60% of Grauer's gorillas and 60% of their habitat, creating community-managed forest concessions and the Oku Community Reserve, and implementing a field monitoring and research program. Year two activities include: (1) supporting judicial process to more effectively address

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<sup>16</sup> Funded through the Central Africa Regional Program for the Environment (CARPE)

<sup>17</sup> Funded through the United States Agency for International Development (USAID)

poaching and trafficking; (2) facilitating improved staff safety, efficiency, and effectiveness during field missions; (3) reinforcing park limits through participatory demarcation of 36 km of KBNP's Itebero sector; (4) supporting the legal creation of the Oku Reserve through engagement of communities in participatory mapping; (5) establishing and implementing institutional structures for, and technical support to, management of the Community Reserve; (6) evaluating the impact of husbandry projects, based on a socioeconomic assessment; (7) scaling up successful elements of the micro-credit and husbandry project to other targeted communities; (8) establishing and convening a stakeholder platform to coordinate activities, identify thematic interests, and disseminate best practices and lessons learned; and (9) initiating development, implementation, and evaluation of the effectiveness of a communications strategy.

USFWS: \$998,220<sup>18</sup>

Leveraged Funds: \$12,461

## **GA**

### **F19AP00039**

#### ***Saving Grauer's Gorillas in Community Forests through Direct Protection, Community Engagement and Establishing Formally Recognized Forest Concessions.***

In partnership with the Dian Fossey Gorilla Fund. The purpose of this project is to empower local communities to protect the critically endangered Grauer's gorilla in the Nkuba and Maiko National Park regions of DRC. Activities include: (1) monitoring of gorillas through community-led field surveys and camera trapping; (2) assisting communities in obtaining official recognition and management of their forests as "Community Forest Concessions"; (3) increasing the Nkuba Conservation Area by 300 km<sup>2</sup>; and (4) fostering conservation stewardship through community education, small animal husbandry/pisciculture, and community farming programs.

USFWS: \$449,219<sup>19</sup> Leveraged Funds: \$958,615

## **ECUADOR**

### **LATAM**

#### **F20AP00202**

***Linking Community Engaged Research with Sustainable Forestry to Achieve Lasting Conservation in the Ecuadorian Choco.*** In partnership with Tulane University. This continuation is for year two of a two-year Award. The Chocó Biogeographical Region of western Colombia and northwestern Ecuador stands out for its exceptional levels of biodiversity and for extreme levels of threat driven by extensive deforestation, habitat conversion, and unsustainable removal of plants and animals from the ecosystem. From 1990 to 2008, Ecuador had the highest deforestation rate and among the lowest rates of forest regeneration in the Chocó. Illegal poaching of wildlife and timber, and removal of animals such as parrots and primates for the pet trade is also common, exacerbating the crisis in this biodiversity hotspot. Supporting community wildlife conservation is a priority in the Chocó because outside colonists are responsible for much of the contemporary habitat and species declines. The purpose of this project is to support the

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<sup>18</sup> Of this, \$518,910 was funded by United States Agency for International Development (USAID)

<sup>19</sup> Of this, \$41,559 was funded by proceeds from sales of the Save Vanishing Species Stamp



expansion of an innovative model for sustainable forestry that provides alternative livelihoods for local communities while reducing removal of wildlife (particularly parrots and primates) and plants from the highly threatened Chocó ecosystem. Specific activities include engaging community members to quantify the ecological impacts of the sustainable forestry model relative to traditional methods, and implementing a complementary behavior change and education campaign designed to promote involvement by communities in an established sustainable forestry program.

USFWS: \$60,575

Leveraged Funds: \$0

## **MULTIPLE - ECUADOR AND EL SALVADOR**

**MT**

**F19AP00495**

***Vital Support for Hawksbills in the Eastern Pacific Ocean: Year VI of Conservation at Top-Tier Nesting Beaches.*** In partnership with The Ocean Foundation. The purpose of this project is to implement a conservation program that will contribute to the recovery of the East Pacific hawksbill population, the smallest and most endangered hawksbill nesting population in the world with fewer than 700 nesting females. The intent of this project is to conduct community based nesting beach conservation projects on four of the most important nesting beaches in El Salvador and Ecuador. Activities include; (1) community based patrols to deter illegal poaching of nesting females and eggs and counting of nests to monitor population trends at Los Cobanos and Punta Amapala, El Salvador and Machalilla and El Pelado in Ecuador; and (2) relocation of nests threatened by poaching or tidal inundation to safe beach hatcheries.

FWS: \$42,600<sup>20</sup>

Leveraged Funds: \$70,300

## **EL SALVADOR**

**MT**

**F19AP00215**

***Increasing Hawksbill Nesting Beach Productivity and Reducing Bycatch from Lobster Gillnets in El Salvador.*** In partnership with Asociacion ProCosta. This project will continue hawksbill conservation programs at nesting beaches in Bahia de Jiquilisco Biosphere Reserve (Bahia), El Salvador and on foraging grounds in El Salvador and Nicaragua. The intent of this project is to protect nests and nesting females from poaching and also to work with local fisherman to reduce hawksbill bycatch from lobster fisheries. The small Eastern Pacific hawksbill nesting population was thought to have been extirpated until remnant populations were discovered in remote sites until 2008. Bahia de Jiquilisco accounts for about 40 percent of all hawksbill nesting in the East Pacific. Specific activities include: (1) conduct community-based surveillance and relocation of nests to hatcheries; (2) conduct outreach activities such as a Hawksbill Festival, Hawksbill Cup competition and “Day of the Hawksbill” events in schools to raise awareness about threats to hawksbills; (3) conduct year round fisheries bycatch monitoring of lobster fisheries with on board observers; (4) conduct LED light trials on

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<sup>20</sup> Funded by proceeds from sales of the Save Vanishing Species stamp

lobster nets to determine deterrence effectiveness; and (5) develop local capacity to strengthen a hawksbill ecotourism program for the benefit of local residents.  
USFWS: \$93,500                      Leveraged Funds: \$26,333

## **MULTIPLE - EL SALVADOR AND ECUADOR**

### **MT**

#### **F19AP00495**

***Vital Support for Hawksbills in the Eastern Pacific Ocean: Year VI of Conservation at Top-Tier Nesting Beaches.*** In partnership with The Ocean Foundation. The purpose of this project is to implement a conservation program that will contribute to the recovery of the East Pacific hawksbill population, the smallest and most endangered hawksbill nesting population in the world with fewer than 700 nesting females. The intent of this project is to conduct community based nesting beach conservation projects on four of the most important nesting beaches in El Salvador and Ecuador. Activities include; (1) community based patrols to deter illegal poaching of nesting females and eggs and counting of nests to monitor population trends at Los Cobanos and Punta Amapala, El Salvador and Machalilla and El Pelado in Ecuador, and (2) relocation of nests threatened by poaching or tidal inundation to safe beach hatcheries.

FWS: \$42,600<sup>21</sup>                      Leveraged Funds: \$70,300

## **EQUATORIAL GUINEA**

### **AFR1945**

#### **F19AP00513**

***Reducing Bushmeat Supply and Demand by Increasing Wildlife Security on Bioko Island, Equatorial Guinea.*** In partnership with Drexel University. The purpose of this project is to support a conservation effort on Bioko Island, Equatorial Guinea, by addressing the illegal wildlife trade in the island's most important wildlife reserve, Gran Caldera, and protecting seven species of monkeys and one of the world's largest nesting populations of leatherback turtles from illegal and unsustainable harvest. Specific activities include: (1) conducting market and restaurant surveys, including Central Africa's longest running market survey (ongoing in Malabo since 1997) and secondary markets in suburbs and roadside sales; (2) ensuring the effective operation of field camps, that serve as a base for monitoring and patrols and provide a protective presence for nesting sea turtles and forest primates; (3) supporting marine monitoring activities that disrupt the illegal commerce of turtles and other wildlife, and related safety training in marine operations; (4) promoting ecotourism, micro-enterprise activities, public engagement and environmental education, including teacher workshops; and (5) conducting an impact assessment of road and ecotourism development, including monitoring surveys and ecotourism plan development.

FWS: \$570,560<sup>22</sup>                      Leveraged Funds: \$127,440

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<sup>21</sup> Funded by proceeds from sales of the Save Vanishing Species stamp

<sup>22</sup> Funded through the Central Africa Regional Program for the Environment (CARPE)

## MT

### F19AP00489

***Sea turtle conservation in Equatorial Guinea.*** In partnership with Carolina Martinez Prieto. This project will implement a sea turtle conservation program in Equatorial Guinea. Equatorial Guinea hosts depleted sea turtle populations on the mainland due to overexploitation and important coastal foraging habitats for several species of sea turtles that originate from larger nesting populations in neighboring countries, and its own island of Bioko which hosts regionally significant green turtle and leatherback nesting populations. The intention is to address threats from illegal poaching of nesting turtles and nests on protected areas and to assess sea turtle bycatch capture and mortality from fishing activities. Activities include: (1) conducting surveillance to protect nests and nesting females at Punta Illende Natural Reserve (five km), Rio Campo Natural Reserve (seven km) and Nendyi Scientific Reserve (four km); (2) conduct training seminar for 15 participants on sea turtle biology and identification, data collection, field technology/equipment use, wildlife laws, enforcement procedures, and sea turtle conservation; (3) conduct outreach and education campaigns with local schools, fisherman, urban locations, national authorities; and (4) collect data on mainland coastline to assess levels of harvesting and bycatch of marine turtles.

USFWS: \$89,000<sup>23</sup>

Leveraged Funds: \$12,000

## GABON

### AFR

#### F19AC00600

***Enhancing the Professionalization of Gabon's Parks Service through Systematic Training and Career Development of Ecoguards and Park Managers.*** In partnership with the Wildlife Conservation Society. The purpose of this project is to establish a program to professionalize the conservation workforce in Gabon. Gabon continues to be a wildlife stronghold and leading champion for wildlife conservation in Central Africa. One of the core pillars of its economic development strategy is sustainable management and capitalization of its natural heritage. Gabon's forests harbor over half of the remaining forest elephants in Africa. The country is a stronghold for gorillas, chimpanzees, leatherback marine turtles, humpback whales, dolphins, and sharks. The project will take a phased approach to address the capacity gaps in conservation management in Gabon by first conducting a comprehensive needs assessment and developing a training plan tailored to the network of terrestrial and marine protected areas.

FWS: \$230,365<sup>24</sup>

Leveraged Funds: \$158,291

### AFR

#### F19AP00511

***Further Changing Consumer Preferences and Reducing Availability of Illegal Bushmeat in the Bas Ogooué Ramsar Site of Gabon.*** In partnership with *Organisation*

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<sup>23</sup> Funded through the United States Agency for International Development (USAID)

<sup>24</sup> Funded through the Central Africa Regional Program for the Environment (CARPE)

*Ecotouristique du Lac Oguemoué* (OELO). The purpose of this two-year project is to conserve protected wildlife in the Bas Ogooué Lake District of Gabon. This project seeks to reduce the illegal wildlife trade in Lambaréné, Gabon, by addressing the illegal sale of protected species in the bushmeat trade (including slender-snouted crocodile, manatee, forest buffalo, and giant pangolin). Specific activities include: (1) conducting public engagement in the city center and rural schools, including environmental education and teacher training; (2) developing the education and tourism center on Tsam Tsam lake; (3) conducting community outreach, including events and awareness raising among vendors and restaurant cooperatives; (4) facilitating partnership meetings between stakeholders in Lambaréné; and (5) conducting market surveys of protected wildlife species sales.  
FWS: \$226,030<sup>25</sup>                      Leveraged Funds: \$15,990

## **GA**

### **F19AP00626**

***Tourism, Long-Term Research, and Conservation of Western Gorillas in Loango National Park, Gabon.*** In partnership with the Max Planck Institute for Evolutionary Anthropology. The purpose of this project is to use research and capacity building to support tourism as a conservation strategy for critically endangered western gorillas in Loango National Park, Gabon. Activities include: (1) monitoring the impact of tourism on a habituated gorilla group and on non-habituated gorillas; (2) continuing habituation of a second gorilla group; (3) conducting long-term gorilla behavioral ecology research; (4) coordinating on management, surveillance for illegal activities, and development of educational materials for tourism; and (5) strengthening national capacity for science-based conservation and adaptive management by training Gabonese staff.

USFWS: \$99,500<sup>26</sup>                      Leveraged Funds: \$71,750

## **MT**

### **Continuation**

### **F17AP01019**

***Conserving Gabon's Endangered Sea Turtles.*** In partnership with Wildlife Conservation Society. This project will: (1) work with Benga community fishers to better address artisanal fisheries bycatch issues; (2) continue efforts to find financing or other solutions for log removal on all major nesting beaches; (3) conduct ground monitoring including night patrols to protect nests from poaching and relocate nests threatened by high tides on national parks and reserves which accounts for 80 percent of nesting activity within Gabon; (4) conduct annual aerial surveys of nesting beaches to monitor long-term nesting trends; and conduct public outreach and awareness activities in schools, villages and urban environments including a National Turtle Day celebration in the capitol and four other major cities or towns.

USFWS: \$171,425<sup>27</sup>                      Leveraged Funds: \$20,211

## **MT**

### **Continuation**

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<sup>25</sup> Funded through the Central Africa Regional Program for the Environment (CARPE)

<sup>26</sup> Funded through the United States Agency for International Development (USAID)

<sup>27</sup> Funded through the United States Agency for International Development (USAID)

**F17AP00176**

***Sea Turtle Technical Assistance in the Gulf of Guinea, West Africa (2017-2020).*** In partnership with Wildlife Conservation Society. This project will provide technical support to MTCA funded projects in Equatorial Guinea, Gabon, Republic of Congo, Ivory Coast, Sao Tome and Principe, as well as conduct conservation programs and research in Corisco Bay, and conduct hawksbill, green and olive ridley genetics research focused on the Gulf of Guinea.

USFWS: \$64,000<sup>28</sup>

Leveraged Funds: \$33,604

**GEORGIA****CWT****F19AP00450**

***Combating Poaching and Trafficking of Critically Endangered Sturgeon – 2.*** In partnership with Fauna and Flora International. Sturgeons are one of the most endangered species groups globally. Today, natural spawning of sturgeon is confirmed in only two European rivers, the Danube and the Rioni. This project will protect some of the last populations of critically endangered sturgeon species in Georgia by addressing the impacts of freshwater poaching during the spawning migration in the Rioni River, illegal bycatch at the Black Sea, and illegal sales of sturgeon meat and caviar. Specific activities of this one-year grant include: (1) river patrols and support to frontline law enforcement officers to effectively counter wildlife trafficking; (2) engaging local fishers and civil society groups to support sturgeon conservation; (3) monitoring the trade and identifying the species and origin of trafficked sturgeon; (4) training coastal fishers on safe release techniques, legal fishing methods, and collection of scientific data; (5) data gathering on bycatch rates and international shipping routes for smuggled sturgeon, including identifying the feasibility of a transboundary framework for the Black Sea; (6) forming a team of Georgian experts to address sturgeon trafficking; and (7) raising international awareness of sturgeon. This project will build upon the outputs and successes of a previous USFWS-supported one-year project (2017-2018) that enabled FFI to launch sturgeon-focused activities in the region.

USFWS: \$100,079

Leveraged Funds: \$0

**GHANA****GA****F19AP00628**

***Status and Conservation of the Critically Endangered Western Chimpanzee in Southwestern Ghana.*** In partnership with Mr. Paul Tehoda. The purpose of this project is to protect the remaining western chimpanzee populations in Ghana by providing data on the conservation status of the species to guide the development and implementation of pragmatic conservation actions, and foster community support. Activities include: (1) conducting surveys to determine chimpanzee abundance and distribution in nine

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<sup>28</sup> Funded through the United States Agency for International Development (USAID)

protected areas; (2) documenting and mapping threats to chimpanzees in those areas; and (3) conducting genetic sampling to provide genetic data to aid population management.  
USFWS: \$64,982                      Leveraged Funds: \$40,000

**MT**

**F19AP00497**

***Protecting Ghana's Endangered Sea Turtles at Major Nesting Beaches throughout the Country.*** In partnership with Florida Gulf Coast University. The purpose of this project is to implement a sea turtle conservation program in Ghana focused on leatherback and olive ridley sea turtles. The intent is to address threats from poaching of meat and eggs of nesting turtles and nests and to work with artisanal fisherman to reduce accidental bycatch. Activities include: (1) conduct daily night patrols on 10 km of sea turtle nesting beach within the Muni-Pomadze Ramsar site to protect nests and nesting females, and expand to a 20 km beach in Keta that has high leatherback nesting; (2) conduct sea turtle conservation education programs in local communities and weekly radio programs about wildlife conservation; and (3) train community members to conduct sea turtle surveys and ecotourism turtle walks.

FWS: \$25,000                      Leveraged Funds: \$13,660

**MULTIPLE - GRENADA AND ST. VINCENT AND THE GRENADINES**

**CAR**

**F20AP00253**

***Capacity Building for Grenadines Wildlife Reserves.*** In partnership with Environmental Protection in the Caribbean, Inc. The purpose of this project is to support biodiversity conservation of the transboundary Grenadines archipelago of St. Vincent and the Grenadines and Grenada by building local capacity for advocacy, outreach, and management in order to reduce poaching and habitat degradation. The recipient will conserve the wildlife and habitats of Grenadines offshore island reserves by implementing the Community-based Conservation Management Plan (the Plan) produced with USFWS funding in 2018. The Plan addresses threats including burning and overgrazing of habitats and poaching of seabirds. Project activities include: (1) increasing monitoring capability through technical and material support for use of drones and remote cameras by authorities; (2) begin implementing the Plan and convene quarterly meetings of the Plan Committee; (3) changing local behaviors through ongoing community outreach activities and by developing a school curriculum focused on local wildlife conservation; and (4) assessing the presence of invasive mammals on islands and their impacts on seabird populations.

FWS: \$101,003                      Leveraged Funds: \$14,630

**MULTIPLE - GUATEMALA, HONDURAS, AND NICARAGUA**

**LAC**

**F15AC00990**

***Partnership for the Conservation of Central America's Wildlife Corridor.*** In partnership with Wildlife Conservation Society. This is funding year five of a five year cooperative

agreement. The Maya Forest, Moskitia, Indio-Maiz-Tortugero, La Amistad, and Darien Gap are the largest remaining intact forest ecosystems of Central America and serve as the region's core wildlife strongholds for species such as the jaguar, Baird's tapir, white-lipped peccary, and macaws. These transboundary forests are essential to maintaining connectivity from South America to North America. The purpose of this project is to enhance local capacity to reduce threats to all five forests and to increase site security at the two most threatened sites, the Maya Forest in Guatemala and the Moskitia in Honduras and Nicaragua. This year, funds will support: (1) partner meetings in Guatemala to plan field strategies; (2) inter-institutional patrols to cover 15,000 hectares of the Northern Shield area of Laguna del Tigre National Park, a key scarlet macaw nesting site; (3) repairs to outpost infrastructure; (4) in-situ trainings to managers, rangers, and indigenous authorities on SMART (Spatial Monitoring and Reporting Tool) to carry out intelligence based patrolling strategies in the Bosawas Biosphere Reserve; (5) design and strategic plan for a model conservation control post for the Rio Platano Biosphere Reserve; (6) field verifications and selection of locations for additional control posts for the Moskitia, and (7) securing inter-institutional agreements to support the continued functionality and budgets necessary to sustain control post operations.

FWS: \$100,000

Leveraged Funds: \$74,453

## **GUINEA**

**MT**

**F19AP00484**

*Improved management of the Tristao Islands marine protected area (Guinea), a breeding and slaughter site for three marine turtle species.* In partnership with Chélonée. This project will support sea turtle conservation programs within the Tristao and Alcatraz Marine Park, Guinea. The intent is to work with local communities and park rangers to reduce illegal killing of nesting and foraging green, olive ridley and hawksbill sea turtles and poaching of nests within the park. Activities include: (1) train community based survey team to conduct year round beach monitoring of 20 km of the main nesting beach on Katrack Island; and (2) conduct two capacity building training workshops for Ministry of Environment and park rangers and followed by in situ practical field work with rangers.

USFWS: \$15,220

Leveraged Funds: \$33,060

## **GUYANA**

**CAR**

**F20AP00121**

*Saving Endangered Sun Parakeets in Guyana.* In partnership with One Earth Conservation Inc. The purpose of this project is to work with locals to stabilize and then grow the population of sun parakeets (*Aratinga solstitialis*) in the Karasabai region, Guyana. Sun parakeets are listed as Endangered by the IUCN. This project is intends to conserve sun parakeets by addressing the impacts of the illegal wildlife trade on the species and by educating local people about its conservation status and engaging them in their conservation. Project activities include: (1) training and supporting villagers to

improve their capacity as parakeet conservationists; (2) studying and monitoring species population dynamics and reproductive biology as little is known about this species in the wild and this knowledge is needed to protect them; (3) developing sustainable parrot conservation efforts through ecotourism strategies for local communities; (4) supporting education and awareness activities on local and national levels; and (5) growing the capacity and networking of the various stakeholders involved in parrot conservation in Guyana by conducting a sun parakeet conservation workshop in Georgetown, developing online networking platforms, and drafting and disseminating a long-term conservation plan.

FWS: \$101,974

Leveraged Funds: \$27,080

## HONDURAS

### LATAM

#### F20AP00148

***Addressing Poaching and Wildlife Trafficking in Jeannette Kawas National Park: Community Surveillance and Urban Communications Campaign.*** In partnership with Panthera Corporation. This continuation is for year two of a two-year award. The purpose of this project is to improve wildlife security in Jeannette Kawas National Park in Honduras by building the capacity of governmental entities, local communities, and other key stakeholders to reduce poaching and wildlife trafficking. The project is intended to conserve iguanas, freshwater turtles, and peccaries which indirectly increases the natural prey base of jaguars and reduces human-jaguar conflict. Activities include: (1) training of local Garifuna and other community members to collect data on patrols using the Spatial Monitoring and Reporting Tool (SMART); (2) field surveillance with authorities to deter poaching and trafficking of protected species both within the park as well as operations in urban markets; (3) radio campaigns to educate local communities about the costs and consequences of wildlife trafficking; and (4) improving a locally owned breeding facility for iguanas and freshwater turtles to scale-up a reintroduction program of these species to the park while simultaneously creating economic benefits for local families.

USFWS: \$95,950

Leveraged Funds: \$0

### LATAM

#### F20AP00139

***Protecting the Honduran Moskitia's Forests, Wildlife and People through Improving Capacity for Indigenous Territorial Management.*** In partnership with Global Wildlife Conservation. This continuation is for year two of a two-year award. The Moskitia is the second largest forest of Central America and protects some of the last viable populations of Baird's tapirs, jaguars, white-lipped peccaries, and great green macaws. It is the region's most threatened large forest with the highest deforestation rates driven by invasions into indigenous lands by illegal cattle ranchers. This project supports conservation of 130,700 hectares of titled indigenous territory that are critical for wildlife, including part of the Rio Platano Biosphere Reserve, by supporting indigenous control and protection activities requested by the Miskitu. Activities include: (1) training of indigenous rangers to collect data using the Spatial Monitoring and Reporting Tool



(SMART); (2) field surveillance to detect illegal activities and establish a baseline of encroachment; (3) convening assemblies with communal and territorial councils to effectively integrate ranger data into management decisions; (4) workshops with rangers, communal councils and the Honduran Forest Agency (ICF) to support inter-institutional cooperation and governmental response to threats; and (5) building emblematic legal cases against environmental criminals identified by indigenous field surveillance.

USFWS: \$70,631

Leveraged Funds: \$0

## **LATAM**

### **F20AP00071**

***Empowered Miskito Women Conserving the Central American Scarlet Macaw.*** In partnership with INCEBIO Fundación en Ciencias para el Estudio y Conservación. This continuation is for year two of a two-year award. The purpose of this project is to improve wildlife security in the Moskitia, Honduras by strengthening the conservation capacity of indigenous Miskito women to reduce poaching and trafficking of parrots. The project is intended to conserve the two most endangered parrots in Honduras, the Central American scarlet macaw and the great green macaw. Scarlet macaws (*ara macao cyanoptera*) were recently listed as Endangered on the U.S. Endangered Species Act with an estimated 1,500 individuals, 500 of which depend upon the Moskitia's forests. Specific activities include: (1) training 20 Miskito women from six local villages in forest surveillance, handicrafts and as environmental educators for parrot conservation; (2) supporting an indigenous women's surveillance team to monitor and protect wild nest sites of macaws; (3) support the women's surveillance team to develop wildlife and parrot clubs with local school children as well as a community parrot festival; and (4) selection of four women with leadership potential to participate as ambassadors for the community and parrot conservation at a national and international biodiversity conference.

USFWS: \$48,391

Leveraged Funds: \$0

## **MULTIPLE - HONDURAS, NICARAGUA, AND GUATEMALA**

### **LAC**

#### **F15AC00990**

***Partnership for the Conservation of Central America's Wildlife Corridor.*** In partnership with Wildlife Conservation Society. This is funding year five of a five year cooperative agreement. The Maya Forest, Moskitia, Indio-Maiz-Tortugero, La Amistad, and Darien Gap are the largest remaining intact forest ecosystems of Central America and serve as the region's core wildlife strongholds for species such as the jaguar, Baird's tapir, white-lipped peccary, and macaws. These transboundary forests are essential to maintaining connectivity from South America to North America. The purpose of this project is to enhance local capacity to reduce threats to all five forests and to increase site security at the two most threatened sites, the Maya Forest in Guatemala and the Moskitia in Honduras and Nicaragua. This year, funds will support: (1) partner meetings in Guatemala to plan field strategies; (2) inter-institutional patrols to cover 15,000 hectares of the Northern Shield area of Laguna del Tigre National Park, a key scarlet macaw nesting site; (3) repairs to outpost infrastructure; (4) in-situ trainings to managers,

rangers, and indigenous authorities on SMART (Spatial Monitoring and Reporting Tool) to carry out intelligence based patrolling strategies in the Bosawas Biosphere Reserve; (5) design and strategic plan for a model conservation control post for the Rio Platano Biosphere Reserve; (6) field verifications and selection of locations for additional control posts for the Moskitia, and (7) securing inter-institutional agreements to support the continued functionality and budgets necessary to sustain control post operations.

FWS: \$100,000

Leveraged Funds: \$74,453

## INDIA

### ASE

#### F20AP00044

***Institutionalizing a Community-Based Model of Managing Human-Elephant Conflict in the North Kanara Landscape of Karnataka, India through Participation of the Forest Department and Local Self-Governance Bodies.*** In partnership with Wildlife Research and Conservation Society. The North Kanara landscape in Karnataka, India has a population of 70 elephants living in a human-dominated landscape which results in high human-elephant conflict (HEC). FWS funding over the last eight years has been used to train farmers to protect their crops from wild elephants using the simple, cost-effective technique of Community-based Conflict Management (CBCM), a set of practical and self-sustaining solutions which empower farmers to protect crops using low-cost techniques with reduced dependence on outside support. The goal of the project is to institutionalize, strengthen, incentivize, and assess the efficacy of the CBCM model of HEC mitigation using technological innovations and livelihood interventions. Project activities are: (1) implement HEC mitigation measures in collaboration with Village Forest Committees using a participatory rural appraisal process; (2) develop a laser-based early warning system to detect elephant presence; (3) develop a mobile app and real-time alert system to enable community members to share elephant location data; (4) strengthen and improve marketing for alternative livelihood-focused women's groups including elephant-themed crafts and piloting elephant-dung paper production in collaboration with the Forest Department.

FWS: \$54,00<sup>29</sup>

Leveraged Funds: \$237,720

### ASE

#### F19AP00354

***Transforming Human-Elephant Interactions through Compensation, Education, and Mitigation around India's Western Ghats.*** In partnership with Centre for Wildlife Studies. The goal of this three-year project is to strengthen coexistence between local people and elephants and build long term support for Asian elephants in shared landscapes through compensation, mitigation, and education in high-conflict zones surrounding important elephant reserves in the Western Ghats of India. Human-elephant conflict (HEC) is severe in India resulting in crop loss and property damage, human injury, and death. The Wild Seve initiative assists victims with the government compensation process by using mobile technology to file and track claims. The Wild

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<sup>29</sup> Funded by proceeds from sales of the Save Vanishing Species stamp

Shaale conservation education program fosters local interest and affinity for wildlife, particularly conflict prone elephants and tigers, builds tolerance, and provides basic coping mechanisms to vulnerable families. This project expands these two initiatives and will: (1) expand Wild Seve to 300 villages and 50,000 people; (2) file 15,000+ HEC claims across five wildlife reserves; (3) implement Wild Shaale in 150 high-conflict village schools reaching 11,000 children; (4) assess attitudes and build community awareness in 30 villages; (5) recruit and train eight staff in conflict response and nine educator and evaluator teams.

USFWS: \$60,300

Leveraged Funds: \$158,573

## ASE

### F19AP00778

***Digitizing the Inventory Process for Ivory Stockpiles in India - a Pilot Phase.*** In partnership with Stop Ivory. Ivory accrued by governments from natural or unnatural elephant mortality or seizures of illegal stock is held in government storerooms. Demand for ivory is such that without proper security and management procedures these stockpiles are vulnerable to corruption and theft whereby they return to the illegal supply chain. Putting this accrued ivory beyond economic use is recognized as a key strategy to stem illegal trade through via effective management. The Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change is committed to improve their management of stockpiles and has partnered via an MOU with Stop Ivory and the Wildlife Trust of India to pilot an ivory Stockpile Management System (SMS) as a tool for stockpile management in three Indian states. The SMS includes piloting a digital inventory system to facilitate recording of standardized data and reporting, a clear, accountable chain of custody, and management processes. This project's activities include: (1) a planning trip to India; (2) preparation of the SMS for India; (3) SMS training; (4) pilot implementation in the core ivory storerooms in three states; (5) review the SMS as a transferable tool; (6) technical assistance and mentoring to local partners.

USFWS: \$92,221<sup>30</sup>

Leveraged Funds: \$14,823

## ASE

### F19AP00356

***A Pilot Project on Habitat Quality Improvement in Nagaon and Baksa Forest Divisions of Assam for Long Term Conservation of Asian Elephants, India.*** In partnership with Aaranyak. Human-elephant conflict (HEC) is a serious issue in the northeast Indian state of Assam, caused primarily by habitat degradation and fragmentation and the resultant increase in the space shared by humans and wild Asian elephants. In Reserve Forests of Nagaon and Baksa districts habitat available for elephants has decreased thereby reducing the carrying capacity of the landscape and increasing HEC. Therefore, proper management of remaining forests, reforestation, and the creation of habitat corridors are the focus of this project with the ultimate goal to decrease HEC. This project will work to ensure long-term protection and survival of Asian elephants and their habitats through analysis of land-use patterns and habitat restoration. Project activities are: (1) review land-use patterns in Nagaon and Baksa

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<sup>30</sup> Funded through USFWS Combating Wildlife Trafficking Program

Forest Divisions using satellite imagery, ground-truthed data, and comparing land use with conflict patterns to inform policy decisions; and (2) undertake habitat restoration, including removing invasive flora and replacing with native grass species, desilting water bodies, and creating water holes for wildlife. The improvement and creation of elephant habitat in Baksa and Nagaon Forest Divisions will reduce HEC and be replicable and transferable for wild Asian elephant population management in India.

USFWS: \$58,388

Leveraged Funds: \$13,240

## **ASE**

### **F19AP00355**

***Helping Communities Coexist with Asian Elephants in Assam, India.*** In partnership with Aaranyak. In 2018, 75 people and 67 wild Asian elephants were killed from human-elephant conflict (HEC), train strikes, and electrocution - threats driven by habitat loss and the expanding human population of the northeast state of Assam, India. This project, developed in collaboration with the Assam Forest Department works to mitigate HEC and save both human and elephant lives through local-level conflict mitigation. The objectives of this project are: (1) train and equip Village Defence Parties (VDP) to manage HEC incidents in eight high-HEC districts; (2) provide support to the Forest Department, VDP, and anti-depredation squads in the form of 500 high-powered lights and equipment; (3) convert 10km of illegal and deadly high-voltage electric fences to safe solar-powered electric exclosure fences; (4) develop and train an electric fence maintenance committee to monitor and maintain solar fencing.

USFWS: \$49,640

Leveraged Funds: \$13,640

## **ASE**

### **Continuation**

### **F18AP00376**

***My Elephant in My Village: Empowering Local Communities with Site-Specific Strategies to Mitigate Human-Elephant Conflict in the Eastern Ghats of India.*** In partnership with Foundation for Ecological Research, Advocacy and Learning. The primary goal of this two-year project is to conserve Asian elephants in a human-dominated landscape by adopting village-level land use, agricultural and lifestyle practices that are also compatible with elephant use of the landscape. Project objectives include: (1) form and train village teams to manage human-elephant conflict (HEC); (2) train and implement site-specific farm-based practices to reduce HEC; (3) establish and maintain physical structures to reduce HEC; (4) deploy technology to equip villagers with an early warning system; and (5) develop a framework for site-specific implementation of mitigation action plans at the village level. Project activities include: (1) identify and train villagers to form village protection squads; (2) identify and implement agricultural and livestock management practices to reduce HEC while taking into consideration the behavior of elephants and in consultation with village agriculture extension officers; (3) construction and maintenance of watch towers and procurement of equipment for anti-crop depredation activities and crop-guarding; (4) deployment of an elephant early-warning system; (5) preparation and distribution of an illustrated handbook for each village covering the crop life cycle and livestock management practices unique to each village.

USFWS: \$49,997

Leveraged Funds: \$21,390

**GA**

**F19AP00816**

***Hoolock Gibbon Conservation in the Protected Areas of Tripura, Northeast India through Training and Education.*** In partnership with Zoo Outreach Organisation Trust. This project will ensure long-term conservation of hoolock gibbon and its habitat by supporting well-trained, skilled and motivated protected areas staff and conservation educators. The project objectives are: (1) train protected areas staff on hoolock gibbon protection; (2) train educators on hoolock gibbon conservation; and, (3) evaluate the impact of the training programs. A network will be created with the participants, which will be monitored by Zoo Outreach Organization and Forest Department.

USFWS: \$49,750

Leveraged Funds: \$10,600

**GA**

**F19AP00815**

***Forest Guards Training for Conservation of Western Hoolock Gibbon in the State of Nagaland, India.*** In partnership with Aaranyak. This project will ensure a long-term conservation of hoolock gibbon and its habitats in Nagaland by supporting a group of trained forest monitors who will work with local community members to improve hoolock gibbon protection and conservation in Nagaland. Project objectives are: (1) train forest monitors to protect hoolock gibbon habitat in Nagaland and to educate them about the species' importance; (2) train forest monitors to identify primate species and also to classify individuals based on age and sex to facilitate identification to maintain individual histories; (3) teach and train forest monitors in primate surveys, hoolock gibbon population estimates and their present status; and, (4) provide legal assistance regarding the wildlife act and other laws to stem wildlife crimes.

USFWS: \$49,999

Leveraged Funds: \$49,799

**GA**

**F19AP00802**

***Forest Department-Community Partnership to Improve Protection of Western Hoolock Gibbons Hoolock in Jeypore RF, India - Phase-VII.*** In partnership with Wildlife Areas Development and Welfare Trust. The Roving Gibbon Patrol Units (RGPUs) involve community members in forest and anti-poaching surveillance in an area that is primarily a reserve and not yet fully a protected area, with the flexibility of the units to move between camps as necessary and in response to changing threats. Project objectives are: (1) support operations of the three roving gibbon and wildlife surveillance units; and, (2) implement Spatial Monitoring and Reporting Tool (SMART) protocols to improve surveillance operations and planning.

USFWS: \$28,741

Leveraged Funds: \$19,666

**CWT**

**F19AP00448**

***Strengthening Law Enforcement and Improving Awareness for Conservation of Pangolins, Star Tortoises, and Other Lesser Known Species in Illegal Wildlife Trade in***

***Peninsular India.*** In partnership with Wildlife Conservation Society – India. India is a significant source and transit country for illegal wildlife products. Traditionally, wildlife law enforcement efforts have focused on the trade in large mammals such as tigers and elephants. The purpose of this project is to combat poaching and illegal wildlife trade of lesser known species in the Western and Eastern Ghats of India, including the Indian pangolin (*Manis crassicaudata*) and Indian star tortoise (*Geochelone elegans*). To address the illegal killing and trafficking of these species, this two-year grant will support: (1) data gathering on the prevalence of poaching of lesser known species, including using seizure records to map poaching hotspots, trafficking networks, routes, and major hubs; (2) strengthening law enforcement through interagency training and exchange among key governmental partners in India including the Wildlife Crime Control Bureau, Enforcement Directorate, Directorate of Revenue Intelligence, and state Forest Departments; (3) training workshops for the judiciary to increase conviction rates in wildlife trafficking cases; and (4) developing a constituency for conservation through awareness raising activities among policymakers and local communities.

USFWS: \$87,774

Leveraged Funds: \$175,850

## **CWT**

### **F19AP00461**

***People for Snow Leopards: Local Community Action Integrated with National and Global Strategies to Combat Illegal Wildlife Trade.*** In partnership with International Snow Leopard Trust. Poaching and retaliatory killing are recognized as primary and immediate threats to snow leopards (*Panthera uncia*), and a recent report estimates that 221-450 snow leopards may have been killed annually since 2008. While local communities have a genuine interest in stopping snow leopard killing, most community members do not know how to respond during wildlife crime incidents. The purpose of this project is to counter snow leopard trafficking in the mountains of Asia by piloting a community-based anti-poaching model with and for communities. This project is intended to conserve snow leopards in northern India by addressing the impacts of poaching and retribution killing. Specific activities include: (1) training local rangers and ‘community champions’ for improved response and support during situations related to illegal killing or trafficking; (2) creating a wildlife trafficking community hotline and response team; (3) providing awareness and outreach materials to communities about wildlife laws and anti-crime resources; and (4) helping communities pledge to support and take ownership over anti-hunting measures.

USFWS: \$93,265

Leveraged Funds: \$13,850

## **MT**

### **F19AP00209**

***Expanding Sea Turtle Conservation Program, Empowering Communities and Integrating Enforcement Departments for Better Advocacy in Andhra Pradesh and Odisha, India.*** In partnership with Tree Foundation. This project will conduct community-based sea turtle conservation projects along nesting beaches on the Bay of Bengal, India. The intent of this project is to protect nests and nesting turtles from poaching and reduce the accidental capture and mortality of sea turtles in fishing trawls. Activities include: (1) members of Sea Turtle Community Force teams will conduct

daily surveys to protect nests and nesting turtles along over 500 km encompassing 173 villages during the December to May nesting season and protect an estimated 6,000 nests; (2) outreach and education will be conducted in 111 fishing communities to address sea turtle bycatch impacting the major olive ridley arribada nesting populations in the State of Orissa, India; (3) capacity building workshops to train 1,000 officers from wildlife and fisheries institutions, Coast Guard and Marine Police in the laws and regulations protecting marine life and systems and to strengthen collaboration among the institutions; and (4) conduct joint TED demonstration workshops for trawl fisheries with the Fisheries and Forestry Department.

USFWS: \$23,240

Leveraged Funds: \$181,910

## **MT**

### **Continuation**

#### **F18AP00323**

*Advancing the Conservation of Sea Turtles in India at a National Scale through the Monitoring of Index Sites, and Coordination of Coastal Management Efforts with a Network of Partners.* In partnership with Dakshin Foundation. This project will implement a conservation program for sea turtles in India. The intent is to strengthen and better coordinate the activities of a network of organizations (Turtle Action Group – TAG) and groups carrying out sea turtle conservation on the mainland and remote islands of India as well as implementing direct on the ground conservation programs for the globally significant olive ridley mass nesting population at Rushikulya and the leatherback population in the Andaman and Nicobar Islands. Activities include: (1) conducting annual census of the large olive ridley mass nesting population at Rushikulya with partners; (2) strengthening program to monitor and protect the leatherback nesting colony in the Andaman and Nicobar Islands; (3) conducting training programs for capacity building within TAG to improve organizational strengths and conservation impacts; and (4) design and development of educational materials and displays in collaboration with the Forest Department.

USFWS: \$76,780

Leveraged Funds: \$57,000

## **RT**

#### **F19AP00847**

*Genetic Monitoring of Reintroduced Population of Rhinoceros Unicornis in Manas National Park, India Using Noninvasive Genetic Tools.* In partnership with Aaranyak. This project will assess the genetic status of the reintroduced rhinoceros population of Manas National Park. The project further aims to develop a forensic database of the existing population of rhinoceros of Manas National Park and support to authorities in curbing crimes related to rhinoceros through forensic DNA investigations. Project objectives are: (1) evaluate the genetic status of reintroduced population of Rhinoceros unicornis using dung DNA; (2) assess the fraction of founding population contributing to population growth; and, (3) develop a forensic DNA database of existing population of R. unicornis of Manas National Park and assist forensic investigations by linking confiscated biological material with the scene of crime and assigning to a source population.

USFWS: \$49,951

Leveraged Funds: \$17,259

**RT**

**F19AP00843**

***Ensuring Protection of Tiger Occupied Landscapes and Prioritizing Conservation Landscapes for Recovery of a Low-Density Metapopulation of Tigers in Telangana, India.*** In partnership with Wildlife Conservation Society - India. This project will ensure protection of tigers and their habitat in Amrabad and Kawal, and document the current status and distribution of tigers in the entire landscape of Telangana in order to identify areas for intensifying management. Project objectives are: (1) assess and mitigate threats to tigers and their prey in Tiger Reserves; (2) document the distribution, dispersal landscapes and potential corridors of tigers in the state for their identification and protection as well as identify factors that drive occupancy; and, (3) build the capacity of Forest Department personnel in monitoring and enforcement in the entire landscape.  
USFWS: \$58,735                      Leveraged Funds: \$59,174

**RT**

**F19AP00832**

***Sustaining Tiger and Prey Recovery to Establish a Trans-Frontier Tiger Stronghold Across the Nandhaur Landscape.*** In partnership with Zoological Society of London. The Nandhaur Landscape in Uttarkhand state is globally critical as a tiger recovery site and plays a pivotal role in restoring transboundary connectivity between India and Nepal for the remaining tiger population in the Terai Arc. India's National Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA) has recognized the importance of this landscape. With USFWS support, the project partnership has made major strides towards addressing threats in Nandhaur Wildlife Sanctuary (NWLS) through establishing an ecological baseline for NWLS and initiating MSTRiPES (a GPS) surveillance method. The goal of the project is by 2022, a stable population of 70 tigers reside in the Nandhaur Landscape with continuous tiger occupancy up to the Nepal border. Project objectives are: (1) increased regularity and coverage of MSTRiPES surveillance across the entire Nandhaur landscape; and, (2) Uttarkhand Forest Department is well equipped and trained to respond to real-time threats within the Nandhaur Landscape, reducing incidences of incursions inside protected area landscape by 50 percent by project end.  
USFWS: \$79,745                      Leveraged Funds: \$136,851

**RT**

**F19AP00744**

***Occupancy Study of Tiger and Prey Species in Melghat-Satpuda Corridor, and Estimation of Minimum Tiger Population in Buffer Zone of Melghat Tiger Reserve, India.*** In partnership with Wildlife Research and Conservation Society. Melghat Tiger Reserve houses an important tiger source population. It is connected by a forest corridor to Satpuda Tiger Reserve. The presence of tiger and prey species and the status of this corridor is not well studied. The buffer zone of Melghat tiger reserve has presence of tiger and prey species but is not being monitored for tigers by the Forest Department. Project objectives are: (1) carry out an occupancy survey for tigers and prey in the corridor connecting Melghat Tiger Reserve with Satpuda Tiger Reserve and; (2) deploy



camera traps for estimating minimum tiger population and tiger distribution in the buffer zone of Melghat Tiger Reserve.

USFWS: \$35,936

Leveraged Funds: \$1,230

**RT**

**F19AP00743**

***Strengthen the Security for Rhinos in Pobitora Wildlife Sanctuary, Assam, India***

***Through Improved Law Enforcement and Monitoring.*** In partnership with World Wide Fund for Nature- India. This project will establish an enforcement monitoring system in the Sanctuary, through Spatial Monitoring and Reporting Tool (SMART), and build the capacity of staff in anti-poaching and monitoring activities..

USFWS: \$49,830

Leveraged Funds: \$29,525

**RT**

**F19AP00726**

***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-XIII.***

In partnership with Wildlife Areas Development and Welfare Trust. This project will provide additional park surveillance support in order to protect rhinoceros and their habitats.

USFWS: \$32,142

Leveraged Funds: \$96,880

**RT**

**Continuation**

**F18AP00813**

***Conservation of Tiger, Rhino, Elephants and Hoolock Gibbons in Kaziranga-Karbi Anglong Landscape using PNRM Approach by Forest Dependent Indigenous Karbi Tribe in Kohora River Basin in India.***

In partnership with Aaranyak. This project will engage communities using traditional knowledge and appropriate technology to design sustainable and adaptive Participatory Natural Resources Management (PNRM) models for habitat conservation and to reduce human disturbances in the Karbi Anglong Hills and corridors of Kaziranga National Park. Participants will learn skills in improved homestead agroforestry, sustainable harvest methods for non-timber forest products (NTFPs), and marketing and value-added techniques for their products. Project objectives are: (1) conduct an inventory and mapping of NTFPs in the River Basin with potential for sustainable management and create a baseline; (2) facilitate the development of a PNRM for the area; (3) create natural resource-based sustainable livelihood and entrepreneurship models involving 100 households to improve habitat protection and quality of life; (4) document the process and best practices for communication with wider communities and stakeholders; and, (5) create awareness among communities and stakeholders around ecosystems health, PNRM, livelihoods and entrepreneurship.

USFWS: \$60,220

Leveraged Funds: \$30,750

**RT**

**Continuation**

**F18AP00795**

***Monitoring of Key Tiger (*Panthera tigris tigris*) Populations in Corridors in Central Indian Tiger Landscape, India.*** In partnership with Wildlife Conservation Trust. Recent scientific work on tigers shows that to ensure long-term viable tiger populations it is essential to focus on corridors connecting tiger source sites. A landscape-level approach towards maintaining meta-populations is key, but in a developing economy like India which supports about 60 percent of the global tiger population, conserving multiple-use areas (corridors) is challenging. The goal of the project is to upgrade the status of key tiger-bearing areas outside protected areas (PAs), ensuring better wildlife management strategies and mainstreaming of such areas into tiger conservation strategies. Project objectives include: (1) generate long-term spatial data on tiger densities and population dynamics of tigers outside PAs to influence the larger tiger conservation policy framework at the landscape and national level; and, (2) build the capacity of forest staff and other stakeholders in monitoring tiger populations outside PAs and use of individual-level data in human-tiger conflict mitigation and planning.  
USFWS: \$60,740                      Leveraged Funds: \$12,273

**RT**

**Continuation**

**F17AP00991**

***Mitigating Human-Tiger Conflicts through Stakeholder Participation in Dudhwa-Pilibhit Tiger Reserve, of Uttar Pradesh, India – Establishing a Unique Integrative Conflict Mitigation Model.*** In partnership with Wildlife Trust of India. This project will: (1) enhance the integration of local community participation in conflict mitigation through formation and mobilization of voluntary Primary Response Teams (PRTs) in identified conflict hotspots in Dudhwa and Pilibhit TR landscape; (2) increase the reach of the Rapid Response Teams (RRT) through the operation of two RRTs in Pilibhit TR and Dudhwa TR respectively; and, (3) increase awareness about wildlife, wildlife conservation and human-wildlife conflict by at least 40 percent in school teachers and children of 125 rural schools in the project landscape.  
USFWS: \$97,152                      Leveraged Funds: \$53,606

**MULTIPLE – INDIA AND BHUTAN**

**RT**

**F19AP00758**

***Strengthening Conservation of Tigers, Prey Animals and Habitats in the Ripu-Chirang-Phibsoo Forest Complex within Transboundary Manas Conservation Areas (TraMCA) in India and Bhutan.*** In partnership with Aaranyak. The forest complexes that include Manas National Park/Manas Tiger Reserve (MTR) in India and Royal Manas National Park in Bhutan, are home to several threatened species including eight different species of cats, and other species of mammals and birds. The MTR which is 2,837 sq km, spreading 233 km east to west, is at the junction of Indo-Gangetic and Indo-Malayan realms. It is contiguous with Royal Manas National Park, Jimotsangha Wildlife Sanctuary and Phipsoo Wildlife Sanctuary on the Bhutan side. This project aims to: (1) estimate the population size of tigers, co-predators and their prey animals in the western buffers of Manas Tiger Reserve and new addition of Manas National Park along with

neighboring protected areas of Bhutan; (2) evaluate habitat connectivity across the protected areas of this transboundary forest complex; (3) conduct a threat assessment towards generating a conservation plan for tigers in this section of the forest complex. The goal of this integrated project is to understand tiger conservation potential of tigers in the forest complexes in the western part of Manas Tiger Reserve and adjoining Bhutan, and support conservation planning to ensure long term conservation of tigers and as well as habitats.

USFWS: \$54,400<sup>31</sup>

Leveraged Funds: \$41,130

## INDONESIA

ASE

**F19AP00363**

***Saving the Sumatran Elephant through Supporting Resort-Based Management in Bukit Barisan Selatan National Park, Indonesia to Reduce Encroachment and Prevent Poaching.*** In partnership with Wildlife Conservation Society. Encroachment in Bukit Barisan Selatan National Park (BBSNP), Sumatra, Indonesia is a complex issue driven by a number of socio-economic factors, including lack of available land for agriculture, increasing demand for tree crops, high density of plantation concessions adjacent to the parks, land tenure conflicts, high in-migration, rural poverty, lack of enforcement, personnel and robust surveillance techniques, and poor park management. Encroachment destroys natural habitat and leads to increasing hunting pressure and human-wildlife conflict. This project will assist Indonesian authorities to manage and reduce encroachment of BBSNP in order to maintain habitat for the Critically Endangered Sumatran elephant and other wildlife. Project objectives will focus on the prevention of threats and protection of habitat and elephants through patrols and population monitoring in the field in direct support of national park priorities. Specific project activities include: (1) use of SMART data to identify key elephant areas susceptible to encroachment and human-elephant conflicts; (2) increased surveillance in national park areas threatened with encroachment; (3) support to authorities for encroachment prosecutions; and (4) operation of Wildlife Crimes Units to investigate and support government agencies to pursue wildlife traders.

USFWS: \$56,936

Leveraged Funds: \$59,166

ASE

**F19AP00364**

***Saving the Sumatran Elephant Through Supporting Resort-Based Management in Gunung Leuser National Park, Indonesia to Reduce Encroachment and Prevent Poaching.*** In partnership with Wildlife Conservation Society. Gunung Leuser National Park (GLNP) protects nearly 8,000 km<sup>2</sup> of forest in northern Sumatra, Indonesia and is included in UNESCO's Tropical Rainforest Heritage of Sumatra and its list of World Heritage in Danger. Despite severe habitat loss, including logging for reconstruction following the 2004 tsunami, the Leuser landscape remains the largest single block of forest in Sumatra. The goal of this project is to assist Indonesian authorities in improving

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<sup>31</sup> Of this, \$40,000 was funded by proceeds from sales of the Save Vanishing Species stamp

the management of GNLP and to protect Critically Endangered Sumatran elephants and other wildlife. Objectives target the prevention of threats and protection of habitat and elephants through field surveillance and monitoring in alignment with national park priorities. Project objectives are: (1) strengthen GNLP through the integration of SMART into resort-based management to reduce forest encroachment and other threats in areas with key elephant populations; (2) support government authorities to prosecute forest crimes (encroachment and illegal logging) detected by SMART surveillance; and (3) combat illegal trade in elephant parts through investigating and prosecuting wildlife traders. This project will address the main threats to elephants in GNLP - poaching and illegal wildlife trade, human-elephant conflict, and deforestation - and contribute to the conservation of wild elephants in Sumatra.

USFWS: \$55,217

Leveraged Funds: \$57,193

## **ASE**

### **F19AP00365**

***Saving the Sumatran Elephant in Way Kambas National Park, Indonesia through Preventing Human-Elephant Conflict and Poaching.*** In partnership with Wildlife Conservation Society. The goal of this project is to assist Indonesian authorities in maintaining Way Kambas National Park (WKNP) as a secure habitat for Critically Endangered Sumatran elephants and promote peaceful coexistence between communities outside of WKNP and wild elephants. Objectives will focus on supporting national park management through a SMART-Resort-Based Management system to reduce forest encroachment and other threats in areas with key elephant populations, combating illegal trade in elephant parts through investigating and prosecuting wildlife traders, and reducing human-elephant conflict (HEC) around the national park forest edge. Activities include: (1) advanced training for SMART and forest surveillance teams; (2) quarterly SMART strategy evaluation to continually assess the system's implementation and effectiveness; (3) managing a local informant network; (4) legal assistance to Indonesian authorities to prepare appropriate evidence for prosecution, as well as oversight and monitoring of cases; and (5) conducting community-based surveillance and rapid responses to HEC events.

USFWS: \$58,504

Leveraged Funds: \$60,734

## **ASE**

### **Continuation**

### **F18AP00375**

***Community-Based Protection of Sumatran Elephant Populations and Habitat in Tangkahan, North Sumatra, Indonesia, through Conservation Response Units.*** In partnership with Leuser International Foundation. The goal of this three-year project is to conserve the Critically Endangered Sumatran elephant and its habitat within Gunung Leuser National Park in Tangkahan, Indonesia, through the operation of Conservation Response Units (CRU). CRUs utilize captive elephants, their mahouts, and local community representatives for direct, field-based conservation interventions. Project objectives include: (1) sustain CRU operation in Tangkahan; (2) develop community-based forest monitoring; (3) manage HEC mitigation in Tangkahan; and (4) strengthen the educational offerings of CRU Tangkahan by developing an education center and

associated programs. Project activities include: (1) upgrade CRU standard operating procedures, and support operations; (2) coordinate with district and national governments to support future appropriated funding; (3) train community members and park staff to conduct routine CRU forest monitoring, including camera trap and drone methods; (4) produce landscape and elephant movement maps; (5) respond to HEC incidents; (6) provide training in elephant-compatible alternative livelihoods; (6) train community members in HEC mitigation; (7) upgrade CRU base camp facilities to function as an Education Center, produce educational materials, and conduct regular education events; and (8) host journalist field trips to CRU Tangkahan for media campaign and provide media advocacy materials.

USFWS: \$103,945

Leveraged Funds: \$91,762

## **ASE**

### **Continuation**

#### **F18AP00362**

##### ***Continuing the Development of Elephant and Wildlife Veterinary Teaching, Training and Research Capacities, and Operating a Wildlife Ambulance at Syiah Kuala University, Banda Aceh, Sumatra, Indonesia.***

In partnership with Australian Orangutan Project. The goal of this project is to continue to develop regular, high-quality elephant and wildlife veterinary training at Syiah Kuala University to provide qualified veterinary services for all wildlife conservation programs in Banda Aceh, Sumatra, Indonesia. The objectives of this project are to support teaching elephant medicine via regular lectures, seminars, and field work, and operating the elephant ambulance for veterinary needs for both wild elephants and captive elephants used in conservation programs. Specific project activities include: (1) lectures, courses, and seminars for wildlife veterinarians and students; (2) operation of a wildlife ambulance for emergency response for treatment and rescue of wild elephants; (3) on-call service for conducting post mortems upon request; (4) provision of backup veterinary services for elephant translocation, fitting GPS collars and research; (5) regular visits and on call emergency services to elephant surveillance units and elephant camps; and (6) development of elephant research programs at the veterinary faculty. Qualified veterinary expertise is crucial to the success of elephant conservation activities throughout Sumatra and is required for emergency response for injured wild elephants, human-elephant conflict situations, and for regular routine care of captive elephants employed in conservation surveillance units in Sumatra, Indonesia.

USFWS: \$61,590

Leveraged Funds: \$172,015

## **ASE**

### **Continuation**

#### **F18AP00359**

##### ***Protecting Sumatran Elephant Populations and Habitat through Elephant Response Units in Collaboration with Local Communities in Way Kambas National Park, Sumatra, Indonesia.***

In partnership with Community for Sumatra Nature Conservation (CSNC). The goal of this three-year project is to effectively monitor, mitigate and reduce human-elephant conflict (HEC) and its damaging impact on local communities surrounding Way Kambas National Park, Sumatra, Indonesia through the use of Elephant Response Units (ERU). ERUs employ elephants and their skilled handlers along with

trained local community members to conduct regular forest surveillance to monitor illegal activities and wild Asian elephant herds, and mitigate conflict between elephants and local communities. Project activities include: (1) ERU habitat and elephant monitoring; (2) immediate response by ERUs to HEC events; (3) provide support to a new ERU base camp and train new team members; (4) deploy GPS collars on wild elephants; (5) develop HEC mitigation skills in 20 communities; (6) assist communities with crop night monitoring through construction of observation towers and organization of community crop surveillance teams; and (7) provide regular health checks and medical care to ensure the welfare of elephants employed by the ERUs. This project will contribute to the sustainable conservation of critically endangered Sumatran elephants and their habitat in Sumatra, Indonesia.

USFWS: \$58,070

Leveraged Funds: \$243,452

## ASE

### Continuation

#### F17AP00334

***Saving the Sumatran Elephant through Supporting Resort-Based Management in Gunung Leuser National Park, Indonesia to Reduce Encroachment and Prevent Poaching.*** In partnership with Wildlife Conservation Society. The goal of this three-year project is to assist Indonesian authorities in improving the management of Gunung Leuser National Park (GLNP), Sumatra, Indonesia to protect Critically Endangered Sumatran elephants and other wildlife. Objectives focus on threat prevention and habitat and elephant protection through field monitoring in alignment with park priorities. Project activities include: (1) strengthening GLNP through the integration of SMART into forest surveillance to reduce forest encroachment and other threats in areas with key elephant populations; (2) support government agencies to prosecute forest crimes detected by SMART surveillance; and (3) combat illegal trade in elephant parts through investigating and prosecuting wildlife traders. This project will address the three main threats to wild elephants in GLNP - poaching and illegal wildlife trade, HEC, and deforestation - and contribute to the conservation of wild elephants in Sumatra, Indonesia.

USFWS: \$59,955

Leveraged Funds: \$63,462

## ASE

### Continuation

#### F16AP00320

***Conservation and Monitoring of Sumatran Elephants in Bukit Tigapuluh, Indonesia.*** In partnership with Frankfurt Zoological Society. The purpose of this project is to support and supervise Community-Based Conflict Mitigation (CBCM) in order to decrease both loss and damages to farmers and retaliatory actions towards Critically Endangered Sumatran elephants and to monitor movements of and threats to the resident elephant population of Bukit Tigapuluh, Sumatra, Indonesia. Project activities include: (1) in-house training of Elephant Conservation and Conflict Mitigation Unit teams; (2) monitoring and tracking GPS-collared elephants and their family groups to safeguard them from poaching and poisoning; (3) re-capture of collared elephants to replace non-active collars; (4) monitoring and assessment of damages from human-elephant conflict

(HEC) incidents; and (5) further strengthening the existing early-warning HEC system by working closely with village leaders and authorities to provide emergency hotline accessibility and quick response of surveillance teams. This project will contribute to the peaceful coexistence of people and Sumatran elephants in one of the largest remaining lowland forests in Sumatra.

USFWS: \$48,000

Leveraged Funds: \$98,000

## **CWT**

### **F19AP00477**

#### ***Reducing Demand for Hawksbill Turtle Shell Products and Supporting Law Enforcement at Trading Points of Turtle Shell Raw Material in Indonesia.***

In partnership with Turtle Foundation, USA. Global hawksbill populations have declined by 90 percent in the last century. Indonesia was once home to the world's largest hawksbill population which are now depleted but still exploited for shell ornamental products. The purpose of this project is to counter wildlife trafficking in Indonesia by reducing the demand for sea turtle products and by supporting law enforcement efforts at previously identified manufacturing centers and trading points. Specific activities include: (1) creating a supporter's network in the Indonesian travel industry; (2) implementing an outreach campaign for international tourists to increase awareness about the impacts of turtle shell trade; (3) developing an outreach campaign to change consumer behavior and to designate turtle products as "out of fashion;" (4) conducting market surveys to measure the success of project activities; (5) establishing a certification approach to reward shop owners who discontinue selling turtle shell products; (6) undertaking an investigation at identified manufacturing centers and trading points; and (7) supporting law enforcement by establishing relationships and reporting results of investigations.

USFWS: \$31,829<sup>32</sup>

Leveraged Funds: \$12,802

## **CWT**

### **F19AP00460**

#### ***Combating Illegal Wildlife Trade in Indonesia Through a Multi-Stakeholder Approach.***

In partnership with Planet Indonesia. Indonesia plays a significant role in wildlife trafficking in Southeast Asia, acting historically as a source country but recently becoming an important demand and transit country as well for wildlife trafficking. The purpose of this project is to increase the effectiveness of Indonesian government agencies in combating wildlife trafficking, particularly of pangolins, from source locations to domestic markets and points of export. This project is intended to conserve not only pangolins but also a diversity of vertebrates, such as Sumatran tigers (*Panthera tigris sumatrae*) and Helmeted Hornbills (*Rhinoplax vigil*), by undertaking law enforcement actions complemented by research and analysis of market availability. Specific activities of this one-year grant include: (1) building the capacity of at least two Indonesian enforcement agencies to carry out successful arrests of key illegal wildlife traders, through providing technical assistance and on-the-job learning; (2) investigating wildlife crime to identify trans-national wildlife crime networks involving Indonesia; and (3) enhancing the effective application of Indonesian national laws to target wildlife

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<sup>32</sup> Funded through the United States Agency for International Development (USAID)

criminals and build capacity of law enforcement officials to improve case preparation linked to successful prosecutions.

USFWS: \$65,450

Leveraged Funds: \$82,500

**GA**

**F19AP00814**

***Scaling-up Indigenous-led Forest and Orangutan Conservation in West Kalimantan, Indonesia.*** In partnership with Planet Indonesia. This project will help conserve the Gunung Naning Protected Forest for biodiversity and people. Project objectives include: (1) support to a community-based forest surveillance team that uses Spatial Monitoring and Report Tool (SMART) to measure and monitor activities in Gunung Naning Protected Forest; (2) kick-start “conservation cooperatives” to help reduce inequalities and promote sustainable development in rural buffer zone communities; (3) conduct a conservation audit and buy-back program to provide incentives for villages honoring their conservation pledge; (4) improved land management through organic farming and agroforestry training; and, (5) reduce inequalities for women and youth through literacy and health awareness programs.

USFWS: \$86,600<sup>33</sup>

Leveraged Funds: \$103,200

**GA**

**F19AP00813**

***Developing a Machine Learning Method to Count Orangutan Nests in Malaysia and Indonesia on Drone Images to Increase Survey Efficiency.*** In partnership with Liverpool John Moores University. This project will provide a time and cost efficient method to count orangutan nests on images obtained with drones. This method will then be implemented on a website which will be maintained by Liverpool John Moores University and practitioners will be able to upload their drone data and have it analyzed for free. Activities include: (1) data collection and labelling; previously collected data will be utilized for training purposes; (2) model training; (3) testing and validation; ie. 20,000 images used during training will be split into training/validation/test sets; (4) web deployment; (5) ongoing network and classification model optimization; the website will be used by the orangutan conservation community check the overall performance of the beta model while providing a feedback mechanism for any misclassifications, which will be used to interactively retrain the model once enough samples have been obtained; and, (6) dissemination workshops to disseminate the data analyses methods, the free website where people can upload orangutan nest images, and workshops to provide recommendations about the best way to collect orangutan nest data with drones.

USFWS: \$66,141<sup>34</sup>

Leveraged Funds: \$54,150

**GA**

**F19AP00812**

***Development of Facility in Bengkulu, Sumatra, Indonesia for Final Rehabilitation and Release of Rescued Trafficked Siamangs and Agile Gibbons (Hylobatidae).*** In

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<sup>33</sup> Funded through the United States Agency for International Development (USAID)

<sup>34</sup> Funded through the United States Agency for International Development (USAID)



partnership with Yayasan Alam Satwa Tatar. This project will contribute to the conservation of siamangs and agile gibbons (Hylobatidae) in Indonesia by establishing a small facility in Bengkulu, Sumatra for final rehabilitation of trafficked animals leading to release. Project objectives include: (1) development of receiving center in Bengkulu, Sumatra for final rehabilitation and release of trafficked siamangs and agile gibbons relocated from Java; and, (2) raise awareness amongst local communities in Bengkulu, Sumatra of the need for conservation of siamangs/agile gibbons, and the need for eradicating poaching and animal trafficking.

USFWS: \$73,660

Leveraged Funds: \$8,800

**GA**

**F19AP00803**

***Strengthening Law Enforcement for the Protection of the Critically Endangered Sumatra Orangutan in Singkil Peat Swamp Forest, Aceh.*** In partnership with Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS). To protect the Sumatran orangutan population stronghold in the Singkil Wildlife Sanctuary and to avoid the degradation of important peat swamps to avoid carbon emissions, WCS will improve and strengthen protection and increase awareness of the importance of the Singkil Wildlife Sanctuary through human-wildlife conflict mitigation activities. Project objectives include: (1) reduce forest encroachment, illegal logging, and other threats in key orangutan habitat in Singkil Wildlife Sanctuary; and, (2) mitigate human-wildlife conflicts (particularly with orangutan) around Singkil Wildlife Sanctuary and increase awareness of the community of the importance of Singkil for orangutan habitat.

USFWS: \$59,685<sup>35</sup>

Leveraged Funds: \$62,157

**GA**

**F19AP00800**

***Investigation of Febrile Illnesses in Rescued Wild Orangutans in West Borneo, Indonesia.*** In partnership with Smithsonian Institution. This project will determine if Plasmodium spp. is involved as a causative agent of some of the febrile illnesses in orangutans, and if occurrence of disease, as well as transmission and incidence rates of these pathogens, are associated with specific risk factors present at rescue and rehabilitation centers (RRC) as well as in altered wild environments. The objectives are: (1) identify and characterize different Plasmodium spp. and other potential causative agents of febrile illnesses in orangutans; (2) collect baseline epidemiological data of Plasmodium spp.; (3) assess the risk and subsequently design health interventions at IARI RRC; and, (4) develop epidemiological models of Plasmodium spp. that can be used for adopting conservation policies and strategies to reduce the potential of disease risk in wild populations.

USFWS: \$148,359<sup>36</sup>

Leveraged Funds: \$0

**GA**

**F19AP00799**

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<sup>35</sup> Funded through the United States Agency for International Development (USAID)

<sup>36</sup> Funded through the United States Agency for International Development (USAID)

***Health In Harmony – Using Healthcare and Conservation Incentives to Protect Orangutan Habitat in Indonesian Borneo. Year Eleven: Expanding Orangutan Habitat and Improving our Monitoring and Evaluation Methods.*** In partnership with Health in Harmony. This project will conserve and maintain the natural orangutan habitat in Borneo through healthcare and conservation incentives and increase monitoring and evaluation of these programs. This includes: reforestation activities in wildlife corridors in Gunung Palung National Park, establish a medical healthcare non-cash payment system with tree seedlings for communities in and around Bukit Baka Bukit Raya National Park, and, enhance and expand our biomonitoring and research efforts in both parks. Project objectives include: (1) expand the duties of forest monitors to include reforestation efforts; (2) manage seedling nurseries and further reforestation site maintenance at Laman Satong and Sedahan wildlife corridor; (3) begin a non-cash payment program for healthcare in and around Bukit Baka Bukit Raya National Park (BBBR) by allowing midwives’ clinic patients and mobile clinic patients to pay for medical healthcare with tree seedlings; and, (4) designing and conducting biomonitoring and research.

USFWS: \$177,503<sup>37</sup>

Leveraged Funds: \$214,550

**GA  
F19AP00798**

***Population Viability and Assessment of Orangutans in Anthropogenic Landscapes in Gunung Palung National Park, Indonesia.*** In partnership with Gunung Palung Orangutan Conservation Program. This proposal seeks to understand the orangutan’s use of degraded habitat by establishing a secondary research focus in the anthropogenically disturbed part of the forest between the transmigrant village of Tanjung Gunung and the boundaries of the Cabang Research Station in the Gunung Palung landscape and through the following objectives: (1) determine levels of habitat disruption, plant species distribution and density and levels of biodiversity in degraded vs. primary habitat, and establish bio-acoustic monitoring in the Rangkong and Cabang Panti Sites; (2) monitor orangutan habitat use and diet in an anthropogenically disturbed habitat; (3) assess population viability and health status of orangutans across the GPNP landscape, and compare the results from this study with past results to understand how anthropogenic factors may affect orangutan health. Genetic studies will be carried out to determine if orangutans from the primary forest are using the degraded habitats; and, (4) levels of orangutan-human conflict through surveys will be determined in villages surrounding the park and success at achieving awareness of orangutan-human conflict by local communities will be assessed. There will awareness raising programs through environmental education to remote villages, radio programs and print and social media.

USFWS: \$178,728<sup>38</sup>

Leveraged Funds: \$79,412

**GA  
F19AP00795**

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<sup>37</sup> Funded through the United States Agency for International Development (USAID)

<sup>38</sup> Funded through the United States Agency for International Development (USAID)

***Reintroduction of Ex-Captive Orangutans in Central Kalimantan, Indonesia: Improving Long-Term Post-Release Monitoring and Evaluation Success.*** In partnership with Yayasan Penyelamatan Orangutan Borneo (BOS Foundation). This project will release rehabilitated orphaned and confiscated orangutans to the wild, into safe protected areas. The project will continue to support the successful creation of new, fully wild, viable populations of Bornean orangutans, by increasing the understanding of the processes of adaptation of ex-captive orangutans in the wild; developing long-term monitoring protocols and identifying the dynamics of newly-established orangutan populations, whilst fostering the participation and partnership of local stakeholders. The project will: (1) evaluate orangutan reintroduction success and identify factors that impact individual adaptation and survival; and, (2) implement new techniques to enable long-term monitoring of the new orangutan populations.

USFWS: \$179,835<sup>39</sup>

Leveraged Funds: \$63,324

**GA**

**F19AP00794**

***Initiating Orangutan Conservation in the Rungan Landscape, Central Kalimantan, Indonesia – 2.*** In partnership with Borneo Nature Foundation. This grant covers an additional two years of this project, during which time Borneo Nature Foundation (BNF) will develop a proposed protected area (PA) plan, based upon the results of the ecological and socio-economic surveys, to be socialized with community and government stakeholders, and adapted accordingly and presented for the designation of protected area status. Management will include the preparation of short, medium, and long-term management plans, boundary-marking, establishing management units, development of sustainable livelihood initiatives with local communities and the implementation of revenue-generating activities. Through this program BNF will encourage expanding the national ‘social forestry program,’ to create more community-managed forests where possible, and work to achieve provincial PA status in key areas of forest habitat. The ultimate goal of the project is to protect up to 100,000 hectares of lowland rainforest habitat in Southern Borneo with over 2,000 wild orangutans. Through this project BNF will develop an orangutan conservation plan for the Rungan Forest, by adopting a landscape approach to conservation planning and working closely with community, government and industry stakeholders. Project objectives are: (1) develop a Protected-Area Proposal for the Rungan Landscape; and, (2) implement conservation management within Rungan Landscape.

USFWS: \$105,719<sup>40</sup>

Leveraged Funds: \$186,662

**GA**

**Continuation**

**F17AP01059**

***Understanding and Mitigating the Impacts of Peat Forest Fires on Orangutans and Gibbons in Sabangau, Indonesian Borneo.*** In partnership with The Borneo Nature Foundation. This project will accomplish the following objectives to help conserve

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<sup>39</sup> Funded through the United States Agency for International Development (USAID)

<sup>40</sup> Funded through the United States Agency for International Development (USAID)

endangered orangutans and gibbons in western Kalimantan: (1) understand the impacts of 2015 fire damage on orangutans and gibbons in Sabangau, by comparing pre- and post-fire data; (2) support local fire teams to reduce short- to medium-term fire incidence; and, (3) reduce longer-term fire risk through outreach and capacity development activities by increasing local understanding of fire impacts and causes, increasing conservation support, and training local staff and students to conduct research and conservation activities into the future.

USFWS: \$29,832<sup>41</sup>

Leveraged Funds: \$0

## **GA**

### **Continuation**

#### **F16AP00788**

***Protecting Sumatran Orangutans by Preventing Forest Encroachment and Improving and Strengthening Law Enforcement in Gunung Leuser National Park.*** In partnership with Wildlife Conservation Society. This project will protect orangutans by reducing forest encroachment and strengthening enforcement in Gunung Leuser National Park. Project objectives are: (1) reduce hunting, illegal logging, encroachment and other threats in key habitats in Gunung Leuser National Park, (2) halt Sumatran orangutan trade, trafficking and possession.

USFWS: \$59,306<sup>42</sup>

Leveraged Funds: \$67,627

## **MT**

#### **F19AP00217**

***Development Of A Strategy To Address the Direct Take of Leatherbacks (Dermochelys coriacea) in the Kei Islands, Indonesia.*** In partnership with World Wildlife Fund, Inc. This project will support conservation and recovery efforts for the West Pacific leatherback population which has experienced a population decline of over 80 percent in the last three decades due to threats from predators, poachers, beach erosion, fisheries accidental capture, and directed killing for meat. The intent of this project is to address the directed take of leatherbacks for meat on the Kei Islands which is undermining nesting beach conservation efforts and contributing significantly to the continued decline since it involves the harvest of adult nesting females. Activities include: (1) monitor and accurately record the level of annual mortality in nine villages involved in the hunting of leatherbacks for meat; (2) develop an outreach strategy with input from communities and social scientists that address the cultural and community attitudes and behaviors that perpetuate the hunting of adult leatherbacks from this depleted leatherback nesting population.

USFWS: \$75,000<sup>43</sup>

Leveraged Funds: \$0

## **MT**

### **Continuation**

#### **F18AP00213**

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<sup>41</sup> Funded by proceeds from sales of the Save Vanishing Species stamp

<sup>42</sup> Funded by proceeds from sales of the Save Vanishing Species stamp

<sup>43</sup> Funded through an agreement with the National Marine Fisheries Service, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), United States Department of Commerce

***Conservation of Pacific Leatherback Turtle in the Bird's Head Region of West Papua, Indonesia.*** In partnership with Lembaga Penelitian dan Pengabdian Masyarakat UNIPA. This project will carry out a nesting beach conservation program for the West Pacific leatherback population. The intent is to conduct community based nest protection programs to prevent hog and dog nest depredation and loss of nests to erosion and tidal inundation. This region hosts 75 percent of remaining W. Pacific leatherback nesting which has experienced a dramatic population decline in last three decades. Activities include: (1) daily night patrols on the 18 km Jamursba Beach and 6 Km Wemon Beach to count nests and nesting females; (2) community-based activities to reduce hog population; (3) relocation of nests threatened by tides or erosion to safe beach locations and enclosing nests to prevent hog depredation; (4) conducting outreach and awareness programs in local communities and schools and a Turtle Camp for children; and (5) activities with the community like working with school children to increase reading, writing and math skills through after school programs and with marketing of agricultural and hunting products.

USFWS: \$79,999<sup>44</sup>

Leveraged Funds: \$0

**RT**

**F19AP00787**

***Protecting Javan Rhinos by the Sea.*** In partnership with International Rhino Foundation (IRF). The Ujung Kulon Rhino Protection Units (RPU) are the backbone of IRF's Javan rhino program and have prevented rhino poaching in the park for nearly 20 years. However, as terrestrial access to the park has increased, poachers and perpetrators of other wildlife crimes are increasingly entering via the park's unprotected coast. The southern coastline of the park is one of the two population centers for Javan rhino. This coast is also continuously plied by fishing boats, some of whom haul up on the same beaches on which Javan rhinos roam. The current population of Javan rhinos cannot tolerate poaching at any level before disastrous population decline could begin. To prevent the extinction of the Javan rhino, and to protect key populations of other Indonesian species, IRF, and local NGO partner Yayasan Badak Indonesia, plan to expand the RPU program by setting up marine surveillance along the coastline of Ujung Kulon National Park to protect it from poachers and encroachers.

USFWS: \$72,468

Leveraged Funds: \$70,610

**RT**

**Continuation**

**F18AP00814**

***Mobilizing Communities for Javan Rhino Conservation in Indonesia.*** In partnership with Alliance of Religions and Conservation ARC. The Javan rhino (*Rhinoceros sondaicus sondaicus*) is critically endangered, with a single population of about 64 rhinos in Ujung Kulon National Park (UKNP), West Java, Indonesia. Threats to these rhinos include: poor local knowledge and awareness of UKNP and the importance of conserving rhinos. The project will empower community leaders in 13 priority buffer zone villages to

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<sup>44</sup> Funded by proceeds from sales of the Save Vanishing Species stamp

disseminate the teachings of a national edict to protect threatened species like the rhino.  
USFWS: \$50,000                      Leveraged Funds: \$9,630

**RT**

**Continuation**

**F17AP00820**

*Javan Rhino Protection Units in Ujung Kulon National Park, Java, Indonesia.* In partnership with International Rhino Foundation. This project will: (1) survey the full extent of Ujung Kulon National Park (UKNP); (2) monitor rhino and threatened wildlife populations; (3) curtail illegal hunting and trapping of wildlife; and, (4) minimize effects of human encroachment.

USFWS: \$101,243                      Leveraged Funds: \$114,025

**RT**

**Continuation**

**F17AP00471**

*Protection of Sumatran Rhinos in Bukit Barisan Selatan and Way Kambas National Parks, Sumatra, Indonesia.* In partnership with International Rhino Foundation. This project will protect Sumatran rhinoceros, tigers, elephants, tapirs, and other wildlife, with the long-term strategy being the recovery of these species and biodiversity in the Bukit Barisan Selatan National Park (BBSNP) and Way Kambas National Park (WKNP) ecosystems. The Rhino Protection Units (RPU), administered by Yayasan Badak Indonesia (YABI), are the surveillance teams working with the national park patrols. The project has the following objectives: (1) survey the full extent of WKNP and BBSNP, and conduct foot patrols throughout the national parks; (2) monitor rhino and other threatened wildlife populations, including recording signs of rhinos and other wildlife and input these into a GIS database; (3) curtail illegal hunting and trapping of wildlife, detect and destroy illegally deployed snares for rhinos, tigers, and other threatened wildlife, identify wildlife criminals, and report and deliver suspects to authorities; (4) work with authorities to strengthen security of park boundaries to minimize human encroachment and poaching.

USFWS: \$534,488                      Leveraged Funds: \$302,324

## **JAMAICA**

**CAR**

**F20AP00298**

*Management and Preservation of the Jamaican Iguana - 2.* In partnership with International Iguana Foundation. The purpose of this project is to support conservation efforts for the Critically Endangered Jamaican Rock Iguana (*Cyclura collei*) in Jamaica by enhancing and expanding the current species management plan in the Hellshire Hills and Goat Islands. The project will draw upon previously collected data to inform better management practices in the Hellshire Hills Protected Area while working towards reintroducing the species to the Goat Islands. Specific activities include: (1) establishment of an active invasive alien mammal control buffer zone surrounding the iguana's core protected area in the Hellshire Hills; (2) continued improvement of the

iguana's field monitoring and headstart programs, resulting in increased turnover and population growth rate; (3) the establishment of an invasive mammal eradication plan for the Goat Islands so that iguanas can be reintroduced to this historic part of their range; and (4) education and outreach activities aimed at students and teachers, in collaboration with local partners.

FWS: \$102,233

Leveraged Funds: \$87,350

## **KAZAKHSTAN**

### **CWT**

#### **F19AP00452**

***Combating Trafficking of Critically Endangered Saiga Antelope in Kazakhstan.*** In partnership with Fauna and Flora International. The purpose of this project is to counter the trafficking of wildlife products in Kazakhstan and to conserve the critically endangered saiga antelope (*Saiga tatarica*) with a focus on the Ustyurt saiga population. The project will address the poaching of saiga and trafficking in saiga horn and derivatives, which is becoming more sophisticated and adaptive to law enforcement responses. Specific activities of this two-year grant include: (1) strategic redeployment of active sniffer dogs and police, and the introduction of an additional ten sniffer dogs along identified trade routes and hotspots; (2) support for innovative technologies, including drones and camera traps, to improve monitoring effectiveness across the vast Ustyurt plateau; (3) strengthening ranger capacity using SMART and applying measures to ensure appropriate ranger health and safety; (4) data gathering of local socio-economic and cultural factors to advance understanding of the drivers for poaching; (5) a comprehensive training program for law enforcement agencies; (6) implementation of inter-agency data management and seizure protocols for wildlife trafficking; (7) analysis of trafficked wildlife products and development of consistent identification methods; and (8) support to convene neighboring countries towards a more coordinated transboundary response to wildlife crime. This proposal has been informed by learning gained from previous USFWS-funded activities (2016-2019).

USFWS: \$157,206

Leveraged Funds: \$68,940

## **KENYA**

### **RT**

#### **F19AP00869**

***Protecting a Key Two Black Rhino Population and Improving Water Provision for Rangers and Rhinos in Ol Jogi, Kenya.*** In partnership with Save the Rhino International. The purpose of this project is to support Ol Jogi Conservancy in Laikipia County, northern Kenya. The conservancy is home to an important population of Eastern black rhino that was reintroduced to the area in 1980. Although the population has steadily increased over time, poaching remains a threat. Activities include: (1) training rangers to protect Ol Jogi's rhinos and other wildlife; (2) supporting operating expenses related to surveillance and daily monitoring of rhinos for security and law enforcement; and (3) conducting outreach to school children and communities to increase engagement with rhino conservation.

FWS: \$71,925

Leveraged Funds: \$1,165,683

**RT**

**F19AP00862**

***Maintaining Black Rhino Security and Monitoring in the Chyulu Hills, Kenya.*** In partnership with Big Life Foundation. The purpose of this project is to improve patrol coverage of the black rhino population in the Chyulu Hills, Kenya. Kenya remains the stronghold for the Eastern black rhino subspecies, and activities will improve security for rhinos and other wildlife in the Chyulu Hills National Park where poaching is a continued threat. Activities include: (1) supporting monitoring and patrols within the park with the goal of achieving a zero-poached status.

FWS: \$100,100<sup>45</sup>

Leveraged Funds: \$357,148

**LAOS**

**GA**

**Continuation**

**F17AP01012**

***Reinforcing Law Enforcement and Community Engagement Systems for the Enhanced Protection of the Northern White-Cheeked Crested Gibbon in the Nam Et-Phou Louey NPA Core Zone, Laos, PDR.*** In partnership with Wildlife Conservation Society. The project will accomplish the following objectives: (1) strengthen forest-based surveillance in and around gibbon areas, and expand coverage into important gibbon habitat not previously monitored; (2) improve cooperation between agencies and stakeholders responsible for protecting gibbons and their habitat; and, (3) ensure surveillance efforts bolster community engagement and conservation outcomes, like reduced agricultural encroachment and illegal use of the total protection zone.

USFWS: \$59,822<sup>46</sup>

Leveraged Funds: \$0

**LIBERIA**

**GA**

**F19AP00845**

***Safeguarding the last remaining population of the western chimpanzee (*Pan troglodytes verus*) In the West Nimba Mountains, Liberia.*** In partnership with the Forestry Research Institute of Ghana. The purpose of this project is to protect the chimpanzees of the West Nimba Mountains through biomonitoring and reducing chimpanzee poaching. Activities include: (1) establishing baseline chimpanzee poaching data; (2) identifying, educating and recruiting at least 50% of full-time hunters into a community-based ranger monitoring program; (3) implementing an innovative conservation education and awareness program and motivating conservation sensitive local behaviors; (4) training community members to conduct bio-monitoring, including camera-trapping; (5) establishing permanent transects based on initial surveys; and (6)

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<sup>45</sup> Of this, \$48,400 was funded by proceeds from sales of the Save Vanishing Species stamp

<sup>46</sup> Funded by proceeds from sales of the Save Vanishing Species stamp



mapping chimpanzee presence and associated threats using the Spatial Monitoring and Reporting Tool (SMART) program.

USFWS: \$50,000

Leveraged Funds: \$5,000

**MT**

**F19AP00493**

***Support for Community-Based Marine Turtle Conservation Project in Borgor Point, Liberia.*** In partnership with Save My Future Foundation. This project will develop a sea turtle conservation program in Liberia with community based conservation projects.

Liberia's nesting sea turtle populations are depleted from overexploitation but has important foraging grounds along its entire coastline and nesting beach habitat intact and suitable for recovering sea turtle populations. The intent is to work with local communities to protect turtles on nesting beaches from poaching and work with fisherman from to safely release accidentally captured sea turtles in fishing gear. Activities include: (1) training community members to conduct daily patrols along 18 km of nesting beach in River Cess County to count and protect nests and nesting females; (2) training monitors to collect sea turtle bycatch data and strategic fisherman landing sites and to work teach fisherman safe handling and release techniques for accidental captured turtles; and (3) provide environmental education programs at local schools, and assist communities to develop alternative livelihood sources as a replacement from traditional consumption of turtles and eggs.

USFWS: \$16,000

Leveraged Funds: \$1,910

**MT**

**F19AP00485**

***Strengthening the Community-Based Marine Turtle Conservation Program in Little Bassa and the Marine Turtle Bycatch Monitoring Program Around Bafu Bay, Sinoe.***

In partnership with Sea Turtle Watch. The purpose of this project is to develop a sea turtle conservation program in Liberia with community -based conservation projects. Liberia's nesting sea turtle populations are depleted from overexploitation but has important foraging grounds along its entire coastline and nesting beach habitat intact and suitable for recovering sea turtle populations. The intent is to work with local communities to protect turtles on nesting beaches from poaching and work with fisherman from to safely release accidentally captured sea turtles in fishing gear. Activities include: (1) train community members in the communities of Bassa Point, Little Bassa and Edina to conduct daily patrols to count and protect nesting sea turtles and nests during the nesting season; (2) training monitors to collect sea turtle bycatch data and strategic fisherman landing sites and to work teach fisherman safe handling and release techniques for accidental captured turtles; and (3) provide environmental education programs at local schools, and assist communities to develop alternative livelihood sources as a replacement from traditional consumption of turtles and eggs.

FWS: \$21,000

Leveraged Funds: \$31,848

**MULTIPLE - LIBERIA, CAMBODIA, MOROCCO, OMAN, SAO TOME, AND SIERRA LEONE**

## **MT**

### **Continuation**

**F17AC00157**

***Scientific and Technical Support to Sea Turtle Projects with a Focus on Africa, Asia, the Middle East and the Western Pacific (2017-2019).*** In partnership with Ocean Ecology Network. This project will strengthen the capacity of MCTF funded projects to improve management practices for nesting beach conservation programs and sea turtle bycatch reduction efforts. The grantee will provide technical and scientific assistance for Marine Turtle Conservation Fund (MTCF)- supported sea turtle conservation projects in Africa, Asia, West Pacific, and Oman to accomplish this. Activities include: (1) site visits to MTCF-funded projects in Cape Verde, Sierra Leone, Liberia, Indonesia, Solomon Islands, Myanmar, Cambodia, and Thailand to provide training and technical support; and (2) provide training and assistance with a loggerhead satellite telemetry research project in Oman and technical support and participation in a sea turtle fisheries bycatch project with fishing communities at Masirah Island, Oman.

USFWS: \$53,372

Leveraged Funds: \$32,000

## **MADAGASCAR**

### **CWT**

**F17AP00827**

#### **Continuation**

***Reducing the Illegal Wildlife Trade in Ploughshare Tortoises Through Effective Community-Based Conservation Strategies Partnered with Strong Law Enforcement.***

In partnership with Durrell Wildlife Conservation Trust. This project will support the continuation of activities to counter the trafficking of critically endangered ploughshare tortoises in Madagascar. Specific activities during the one-year cost extension include: (1) improving patrol effectiveness through increased management support, a real-time GPS tracking system, improved data management systems, increased patrol effort in certain areas of the park, and adequate transport for park rangers and staff; (2) establish and pilot test a canine patrol program in Madagascar; (3) expand safety training for village patrols and park staff as part of a patroler training program; (4) continue efforts to support the development and application of a dina (traditional community law) on wildlife conservation; (5) continue permanent species monitoring for ploughshare tortoises kept within a secure facility in the national park, including reinforcing the security of the enclosure by increasing the guard and patrol monitoring and reviewing security equipment; and (6) conduct surveys of the national park to search for signs of any remaining tortoises.

USFWS: \$96,659

Leveraged Funds: \$96,163

## **MALAWI**

### **CWT**

**F19AP00463**

***CITES and Combatting Wildlife Crime in Malawi.*** In partnership with Lilongwe Wildlife Trust This project will Malawi has been implicated in some of the world's

largest illegal wildlife seizures in the past decade, and the country has been consistently identified as a significant collection, distribution, and transit hub for large quantities of illegal wildlife products sourced from neighboring countries. The purpose of this project is to counter trafficking in Malawi by developing the Malawian government capacity to implement CITES (Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species). This project is intended to conserve the many CITES Appendix I and II species that are trafficked from and through Malawi, with a specific focus on Zambezi flapshell turtle, pangolins, African grey parrots, and a number of orchid species. Specific activities of this two-year grant include: (1) a participatory review of existing government capacity to identify opportunities for enhancing efficiency and effectiveness; (2) development of a species identification system for CITES Appendix I and II species; (3) investigative activities of the Wildlife Crime Investigation Unit to pursue wildlife trafficking cases; (4) continuation of on-the-job training for prosecutors and magistrates; (5) capacity-building for a unit that manages all live confiscated CITES-listed species (both plants and animals); and (6) implementation of campaigns that will lead to a reduction in wildlife crime.

USFWS: \$130,484

Leveraged Funds: \$49,530

## **MALAYSIA**

### **ASE**

#### **Continuation**

#### **F18AP00377**

***Living with Elephants - Establishing a Better Landscape for Human-Elephant Coexistence in Monoculture Habitats in Malaysian Borneo.*** In partnership with HUTAN - Kinabatangan Orang-utan Conservation Project. The goal of this project is to ensure the long-term survival of wild Asian elephants in Kinabatangan, Malaysian Borneo by reducing human-elephant conflict and establishing “elephant-friendly” landscapes in the palm oil estates of Lower Kinabatangan. Project objectives are: (1) enhance scientific knowledge of elephant ecology and movement within palm oil landscapes; (2) develop and implement standard operating procedures (SOP) for the palm oil industry on coexistence with elephants; (3) build the capacity of young scientists and conservationists in Sabah in elephant ecology and conservation; and (4) revise the State Elephant Action Plan Elephant and related policy documents. Project activities include: (1) assess elephant feeding ecology and movement within palm oil landscapes to ascertain what resources are needed to support elephants outside of protected areas; (2) model elephant movement to identify the potential functional connectivity within the landscape; (3) engage and enhance communication with palm oil companies to develop SOPs and strategies to manage elephants in palm oil landscapes; and (5) develop the new State Elephant Action Plan. To make monoculture landscapes more elephant-friendly, scientific understanding of elephant ecology and behavior in these new man-made habitats is necessary and this project will contribute to this important effort.

USFWS: \$17,800

Leveraged Funds: \$54,700

### **ASE**

#### **Continuation**

**F17AP00328**

***Assessing Elephant Habitat Connectivity and Usage in Corridor sites in Pahang and Johor State in Peninsular Malaysia and Reducing Threats to the Asian Elephant Population in the Endau Rompin Landscape.*** In partnership with Wildlife Conservation and Science (Malaysia) BHD. This three-year project will work to maintain connectivity for Asian elephants across the Endau Rompin Landscape of peninsular Malaysia, and protect elephants through collaborative law enforcement and monitoring of habitat and landscape change. Project activities include: (1) mapping of plantation boundaries and fences to detect barriers to elephant movement; (2) assessing elephant use of pulpwood concessions; (3) landscape monitoring using Landsat 8 images; (4) SMART patrolling; (5) multi-stakeholder patrols; (6) deployment of motion-sensored cameras to monitor entry points into reserve forests; and (7) provision of basic conservation education programs for Orang Asli communities within the landscape. This project will contribute to the conservation of Asian elephants in Malaysia by reducing threats to elephants, protecting elephants from poaching syndicates, gaining a better understanding on elephant movement within a fragmented agroforestry landscape, better relationships with forest concession holders, and continuing dialogue with Orang Asli communities within the Endau Rompin Landscape of peninsular Malaysia.

USFWS: \$59,960

Leveraged Funds: \$120,593

**CWT****F19AP00462**

***Strengthening Malaysia's Effectiveness in Implementing and Enforcing CITES in Order to Reduce Illegal Trade of CITES-Listed Species.*** In partnership with TRAFFIC International. Malaysia's strategic geographic location has resulted in the country becoming a major transit point for illegal wildlife trade destined for other markets in Asia. While Malaysia is the oldest Southeast Asia Party to the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES), challenges remain in obtaining timely information to combat the illegal trade and in navigating the divergent legal frameworks among the three Malaysian administrative jurisdictions (Peninsular Malaysia, and the Malaysian-Bornean states of Sabah and Sarawak). The purpose of this project is to counter the trafficking of CITES-listed wildlife in Malaysia by strengthening the country's effectiveness in the implementation and enforcement of CITES. Specific activities of this two-year grant include: (1) a nationwide market survey market focused on traditional medicine outlets and pet shops in key locations in Malaysia and online to determine the scale of illegal trade and provide this information to relevant government agencies; (2) a review of wildlife legislation in Malaysia, focusing on Sabah and Sarawak, to identify gaps and make recommendations to ensure that wildlife laws are consistent across the country; and (3) strengthened engagement with regulatory bodies, traditional medicine and private-sector community to increase capacity to improve governance systems.

USFWS: \$102,324

Leveraged Funds: \$0

**GA****F19AP00811**

***Conservation of Orangutans at the Batang Ai National Park in Sarawak, Malaysia.*** In partnership with Wildlife Conservation and Science (Malaysia) Berhad. This project will help conserve and sustain orangutan populations through the conservation of the core habitats of Batang Ai-Lanjak-Entimau (BALE) Landscape and surrounding areas in Sarawak, Malaysia. Project objectives are: (1) obtain an estimate of orangutan population size at the Batang Ai National Park; and, (2) provide surveillance support to authorities and local communities using the Spatial Monitoring And Reporting Tool (SMART).  
USFWS: \$59,545                      Leveraged Funds: \$60,875

**GA**

**F19AP00801**

***Forest to Plantations: Ensure a Future for Orangutan in Agricultural Landscapes, Kinabatangan, Sabah, Malaysian Borneo.*** In partnership with HUTAN - Kinabatangan Orang-utan Conservation Project. The purpose of the project is to understand the orangutan dynamic in a landscape dominated by oil palm plantations, and promote peaceful co-existence between people and orangutans within an oil palm landscape. Project objects are to: (1) understand orangutan distribution within oil palm estates of Lower Kinabatangan; (2) understand the dynamic of orangutan sub-populations within an oil palm dominated landscape; (3) document the impact of habitat fragmentation of the residential status of female orangutans; (4) create a resilient landscape that will sustain orangutans in the long term; (5) assess crop damages due to orangutan presence; and (6) ensure a peaceful acceptance of orangutan presence within the oil palm plantations.  
USFWS: \$96,600                      Leveraged Funds: \$225,780

**GA**

**Continuation**

**F17AP01016**

***Documenting the Conservation Status and Enhancing the Long-term Survival of the Orangutan Meta-Population Living in the Sugud Landscape, Sabah, Borneo.*** In partnership with Hutan Kinabatangan Orang-Utan. Project activities include: (1) identify suitable orangutan habitat in Sugud using satellite images and aerial surveys; (2) conduct population estimates of all sub-populations living in this landscape using aerial and ground surveys of nests; (3) conduct interviews to understand people's perception towards orangutan presence in the area, and estimate potential damage caused by orangutans to plantations; (4) reduce retaliatory killing of orangutans by establishing well-trained wildlife monitoring units in plantations; (5) promote peaceful coexistence between humans and orangutans by conducting conservation and outreach activities with villagers and estate owners; (6) create a strategic plan to improve forest connectivity by identifying where crucial corridors need to be established, and stakeholder participatory workshops to develop a master plan and the Orangutan Sabah State Action Plan; and, (7) build capacity to monitor and manage high conservation value forests and orangutans, by training teams on proper monitoring techniques and developing standard operating procedures for orangutan management.  
USFWS: \$45,120<sup>47</sup>                      Leveraged Funds: \$104,110

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<sup>47</sup> Funded by proceeds from sales of the Save Vanishing Species stamp

**RT**

**F19AP00782**

***Conservation of the Tigers of the Endau-Rompin Landscape, Malaysia, Through on the Ground Law Enforcement, 2019-2020.*** In partnership with Wildlife Conservation and Science (Malaysia) Berhad. The long-term goal of this project is to bring the tigers of the Endau-Rompin Landscape up to their natural carrying capacity. Objectives are: (1) continue robust, on-the-ground anti-poaching efforts in the critically important habitat in the Endau-Rompin Landscape; and, (2) detect poachers and gather information about their modus operandi using cameras traps and intelligence-led work.

USFWS: \$59,988

Leveraged Funds: \$60,098

**RT**

**Continuation**

**F18AP00858**

***Supporting SMART Patrols to Improve Protection of the Malayan Tiger in the Kenyir-Taman Negara Core Area, Peninsular Malaysia.*** In partnership with Panthera. Direct poaching of tigers and its principal prey, the Sambar (*Rusa unicolor*), are the key threats to the Malayan Tiger's long-term survival and current trends throughout Peninsular Malaysia show that this threat is increasing. The goal of the Harimau Selamanya project in Rimba is to increase the population density of tigers in a core area that encompasses the Terengganu portion of Taman-Negara National Park, which is identified as Malaysia's national priority area for tiger conservation and is one of the globally important tiger conservation areas. Objectives are: (1) support the Rimba surveillance team to monitor tiger and prey populations in the core area through annual camera trapping. Monitoring will help with better understanding tiger and prey population, and help evaluate the effectiveness of enforcement interventions over time; and, (2) lower poaching threats in tiger hotspots.

USFWS: \$52,437

Leveraged Funds: \$404,607

## **MEXICO**

**CWT**

**F19AP00457**

***Scarlet Macaw Protection, Recovery, and Conservation Actions in the Selva Lacandona, Mexico.*** In partnership with Natura y Ecosistemas Mexicanos A.C. Due to continual habitat loss and wildlife trafficking, the scarlet macaw is the most threatened parrot species in Mexico, with a severely reduced range now concentrated in the lowlands of the Lacantun River Basin. The purpose of this project is to recover and protect the scarlet macaw population and its habitat in the Lacantun River Basin, state of Chiapas and Los Tuxtlas Biosphere Reserve, state of Veracruz. Specific activities of this two-year grant include: (1) estimating scarlet macaw abundance and reproductive success in the region through population monitoring across land and river transects; (2) engaging local communities in scarlet macaw protection and conservation by developing an environmental education program, producing a short video and written materials, and organizing community workshops to establish a network of local monitors; (3)

identifying nests in collaboration with landowners and securing their viability through nest monitoring; (4) increasing the availability of nesting cavities in the region by installing specially designed boxes equipped with video cameras to document nesting behavior; (5) quantifying the trafficking volume of scarlet macaws through interviews with communities, training, and surveillance; (6) rehabilitation and release of scarlet macaws seized in the illegal trade; and (7) facilitating and promoting inter-institutional collaborations with key stakeholders involved in the conservation of the species.

USFWS: \$105,137

Leveraged Funds: \$123,337

## **LATAM**

### **F20AP00079**

***Sustainable Forest and Watershed Management for the Conservation of the Monarch Butterfly Hibernation Areas, Mexico.*** In partnership with Alternare, AC. The purpose of this project is to conserve the overwintering habitat of the monarch butterfly and surrounding forest ecosystem in the Monarch Butterfly Biosphere Reserve (MBBR) of Mexico which are threatened by habitat loss as a result of illegal logging and forest degradation. This project conserves the forests of the MBBR by reconciling conservation of monarchs and their habitat with sustainable forest and watershed management practices that support the integration of local rural and indigenous communities self-governance and traditional land management practices. Past support from USFWS supported the reforestation of 220 has. of forests; established 32 tree nurseries; trained 25 rural communities on natural resources conservation; graduated eight generations of community promoters; and exported 7,000 kilos of organic berries to the U.S. This new grant will: (1) produce 40,000 trees in partnership with local schools and communities; (2) reforest 40 has. of forests; (3) train land owners on best forest and watershed governance and management practices; (4) implement water quality monitoring activities in key sites; (5) produce a management plan for the Zitacuaro River Watershed; and (6) deliver 120 environmental education sessions to local students about the importance of monarch butterflies and their hibernation sites.

FWS: \$80,000

Leveraged Funds: \$155,850

## **LATAM**

### **F20AP00110**

***Community-Led Recovery of Native Species of the Tropical Rain Forest within the Framework of the Scarlet Macaw Reintroduction Program in Los Tuxtlas, Veracruz, México.*** In partnership with Bosque Antiguo AC. The goal of this project is to establish a population of 500 scarlet macaws (*Ara macao cyanoptera*) while protecting other native parrots and parakeets species threatened by habitat loss and poaching for illegal pet trade in Los Tuxtlas Biosphere Reserve of Mexico. The scarlet macaw population in Mexico has been reduced to 250 individuals distributed in two geographically isolated areas, making this effort nationally and regionally important. Previous funding enabled the applicant to release 132 macaws; establish community monitoring groups; reforest 55 has. of paddocks; implement agroforestry activities, and pilot apiculture farms to improve habitat quality and provide economic alternatives to local communities. This grant will support: (1) releasing an additional 30 macaws for a total reintroduced population of 200 individuals; (2) reintroduce three species of captive-bred native parrots (*A. guatemalae*,

A. oratrix and A. Pionus senilis); (3) release 15 rehabilitated parrots previously rescued from the illegal pet trade; (3) guide community-led reforestation and restoration efforts along 100 has. of degraded tropical rain forest to increase species habitat, foraging, nesting and roosting areas; and (4) implement an educational campaign for elementary school students on the importance of parrots and the local ecosystem.

FWS: \$94,992

Leveraged Funds: \$130,982

## **LATAM**

### **F20AP00147**

***Community Partnerships to Combat Sea cucumber Poaching and Trafficking in Yucatan, Mexico: Applying Geographic Information Science to Place-based Monitoring and Enforcement.*** In Partnership with Michigan State University. This project supports fishing communities in Yucatan, Mexico in combating poaching and trafficking of two species of sea cucumber (*Isostichopus bacionotus* and *Holothuria floridana*) through the use geographic information science that capitalizes on the potential that well-organized fishing cooperatives have to lead efforts to combat illegal and unsustainable trade. Sea cucumbers are poached to meet the increasing demand from China, with contraband to Asia sometimes smuggled via the U.S. The intent of this project is three fold: reduce illegal harvesting of sea cucumbers; increase field missions to detect, deter, and prosecute illegal activities; and disrupt illegal trade networks through innovative place-based solutions developed by community members themselves. Specific project activities include: (1) three training workshops for members of 12 fishing communities in GIS data collection techniques and their application to conduct place-based investigations of crime hotspots in participants' communities; (2) place-based solutions and community patrols to enhance fisheries law compliance; and (3) the establishment of effective partnerships between communities and Mexican authorities, to ensure that community patrols lead to fines and prosecution.

FWS: \$89,436

Leveraged Funds: \$18,212

## **LATAM**

### **F20AP00150**

***Calakmul Jaguar Coexistence Project.*** In partnership with LifeScape International, Inc. (S.P.E.C.I.E.S.). The purpose of this two-year project is to support the conservation of jaguars in the Calakmul Biosphere Reserve and adjacent areas in the Southern Yucatan Peninsula of Mexico by reducing retaliatory killings as a result of depredation on cattle. The project will address the lack of proper husbandry and livestock management practices; inconsistent local government support following depredations; poor communication among local actors; and lack of integration of locals in the management of jaguar populations, so humans and jaguars can coexist. Project activities include: (1) conducting a participatory coexistence and mediation workshops in collaboration with ranchers and local residents to establish a framework for jaguar conservation and define the associated benefits participants wish to receive from the jaguar mobile intervention unit; and (2) deploying the mobile intervention unit, consisting of one veterinarian and one zootechnician to support local ranchers and communities by providing support to livestock production (e.g., veterinary care, improved water access, better management practices, etc.); implementing depredation mitigation measures; facilitating the



completion of thorough depredation reports for submission to the Mexican livestock compensation program; organizing rancher to rancher exchanges on good practices; and developing and coordinating a network of trusted local liaisons to foster collaboration and improve cattle management and information sharing.

FWS: \$85,481

Leveraged Funds: \$45,458

## **LATAM**

### **F20AP00197**

***Conservation of Endangered Tropical Tree Species through the Restoration and Rehabilitation of Community Forest Reserves and other Degraded Areas Along the Calakmul-Sian Ka'an Biological Corridor of the Yucatan Peninsula, Mexico.*** In partnership with Etnobiología para la Conservación, AC. This continuation is funding year two of a two-year award. The degradation of vast tropical forests areas owned by rural and indigenous communities as a consequence of unregulated land-use change, the establishment of unlicensed landfills, illegal timber logging, and the colonization by invasive species, are the biggest threats to biodiversity conservation in the Yucatan Peninsula. This project promotes habitat connectivity along the corridor connecting the Calakmul - Balam Cax – Sian Ka'an Biosphere Reserves, through the restoration of existing community forest reserves. The area harbors jaguars, crocodiles, Baird's tapirs, white-lipped peccaries and more than 230 species of bird species. Past funding from USFWS supported a training program on restoration for 400 community leaders and rangers; the restoration of 75 hectares of abandoned paddocks; and the implementation of sustainable forestry and solid waste management practices by the communities. Year two funding will support: (1) 15 additional training workshops for 492 landowners from 40 additional communities on hands-on ecological restoration, invasive species removal and solid waste disposal and recycling practices; (2) establishment of an additional community-owned nursery for the production of 25,000 plants; and (3) restoration of 210 hectares of degraded forest land along the ecological corridor in collaboration with local communities. All other terms and conditions remain the same.

USFWS: \$79,996

Leveraged Funds: \$0

## **MT**

### **F19AP00496**

***Population Recovery of Leatherback Sea Turtle (*dermochelys coriacea*) in Michoacán.*** In partnership with Universidad Michoacana de San Nicolas de Hidalgo. This project will implement a conservation program for the East Pacific leatherback nesting population. This population was the world's largest in the 1980's but due to killing of nesting females, overharvest of eggs and accidental capture in gill net and longline fisheries it has been reduced to less than 1,000 nests each year in Mexico. Mexico historically accounted for 90 percent of the East Pacific nesting population. The intent of this project is to implement a nesting beach conservation program on two key nesting beaches in Mexico to protect nests. Activities include: (1) patrolling Mexiquillo and Las Placitas nesting beaches at night throughout the nesting season to deter poaching and count nests to monitor nesting trends; and (2) relocate nests threatened by poaching and tidal inundation to secure beach hatcheries.

USFWS: \$32,000

Leveraged Funds: \$3,000

**MT**

**F19AP00218**

***Strengthening East Pacific Leatherback Conservation Through Regional Coordination of Monitoring, Outreach, and Policy Efforts.*** In partnership with Ecolibrium Inc. This project will strengthen East Pacific (EP) leatherback conservation efforts throughout its range (Mexico to Chile). The EP leatherback nests in Mexico, Costa Rica and Nicaragua and migrates and forages along the East Pacific from Mexico south to Chile. EP leatherback nesting population once the largest nesting population in the world, with over 150,000 nest estimated in the early 1980's, has plummeted to fewer than 1,500 nests annually. The intent of this project is to support the EP leatherback conservation network (Laud OPO) to improve nesting beach and bycatch reduction projects and to provide scientific expertise to support the Secretariat of the Inter-American Sea Turtle Convention (IAC) in meetings with government decision-makers to address bycatch reduction measures. Activities include: (1) maintain regional database, website and online library of best management practices for Laud OOP; (2) facilitate alignment of IAC leatherback taskforce priorities with Laud OPO; (3) accompany the IAC Secretariat as a technical expert to meetings with high level government officials and international fisheries bodies to address leatherback fisheries bycatch; and (4) coordinate one Laud OPO workshop annually to review ongoing projects and activities and consult about problems, needs, and successful means to further recovery efforts.

USFWS: \$76,450

Leveraged Funds: \$28,150

**MT**

**F19AP00216**

***Evaluation of the Reproductive Biology of the Kemp's Ridley Sea Turtle at Rancho Nuevo, Mexico: Implications for Conservation and Ecology.*** In partnership with University of Alabama at Birmingham. This project will support the Mexico-US Binational Kemp's Ridley conservation project in Mexico. The intent of this project is to assess nesting beach management practices, predator threats to nests to inform and improve management practices and enhance population recovery. Activities include: (1) assess sex ratios in hatchery and in situ nests; (2) assess hatching fitness from hatchery and in situ nests; (3) assess arribada nesting events using drones; and (4) assess predator threats to in situ nests.

USFWS: \$19,567<sup>48</sup>

Leveraged Funds: \$28,150

**MT**

**Continuation**

**F18AP00320**

***Conservation of the Leatherback Turtle (*Dermochelys coriacea*) in the Mexican Pacific.*** In partnership with Kutzari, Asociacion para el Estudio y Conservacion de las Tortugas Marinas, A.C. The purpose of this project is to implement a conservation program for the East Pacific leatherback nesting population. This population was the

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<sup>48</sup> Funded through an agreement with the National Marine Fisheries Service, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), United States Department of Commerce

world's largest in the 1980's but due to killing of nesting females, overharvest of eggs and accidental capture in gill net and longline fisheries it has been reduced to less than 1000 nests each year in Mexico. Mexico historically accounted for 90 percent of the East Pacific nesting population. The intent of this project is to implement a nesting beach conservation program on three primary and two secondary nesting beaches in Mexico to protect nests. Activities include: (1) patrolling Tierra Colorada, Cahuitan, Barra de la Cruz, San Juan Chacahua and Bahia de Chacahua nesting beaches at night throughout the nesting season to deter poaching and count nests to monitor nesting trends; and (2) relocate nests threatened by poaching and tidal inundation to secure beach hatcheries. FWS: \$67,488<sup>49</sup> Leveraged Funds: \$151,073

## **MT**

### **Continuation**

#### **F18AP00212**

*Conservation of the Japanese-Nesting Loggerhead Turtle: Mortality Assessment and Conservation Outreach at the BCS Mexico Juvenile Foraging Area.* In partnership with Grupo Tortuguero de las Californias, A.C. This project will support conservation efforts in the Baja California to protect a critical foraging loggerhead population. This project supports beach surveys along 43 km of Baja Mexico which serves as an index site to monitor accidental bycatch mortality in fisheries operating in the Pacific Baja on this critical loggerhead foraging grounds for the Japanese loggerhead nesting population. The data from these surveys are critical to informing management decisions of Baja fisheries that interact with loggerheads on the foraging grounds. The U.S./Mexico/Japan are currently working together on a recovery plan for this population and this project has been identified as a high priority for overall conservation of this population.

USFWS: \$29,068

Leveraged Funds: \$29,652

## **MT**

### **Continuation**

#### **F17AP00187**

*Strengthening Long-Term Sea Turtle Conservation Programs in the Yucatan Peninsula to Improve Adaptive Management and Decision Making.* In partnership with Pronatura. This project will conduct night patrols to survey and protect nesting sea turtles from April 1 - September 30 along 81 km of nesting beaches at Celestun, El Cuyo and Holbox as well as outreach and education activities with local communities.

USFWS: \$22,000<sup>50</sup>

Leveraged Funds: \$59,484

## **MOROCCO**

## **MT**

### **Continuation**

#### **F17AP00188**

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<sup>49</sup> Funded by proceeds from sales of the Save Vanishing Species stamp

<sup>50</sup> Funded by United States Agency for International Development – Combating Wildlife Trafficking (USAID-CWT) funds

***Building Capacity for an Effective Sea Turtle Research and Conservation Program in the Kingdom of Morocco.*** In partnership with ATOMM. This project will: (1) survey the coast from Agadir to Dakhla (southern Morocco) and conduct in-depth interviews with fishermen to determine current and past nesting; (2) fisherman will be trained to collect bycatch data on fisheries operating from five major ports ; and (3) extensive market surveys will be conducted to determine commercial importance of sea turtles.

USFWS: \$20,000

Leveraged Funds: \$3,000

## **MULTIPLE - MORROCCO, SAO TOME, SIERRA LEONE, CAMBODIA, LIBERIA, AND OMAN**

**MT**

**Continuation**

**F17AC00157**

***Scientific and Technical Support to Sea Turtle Projects with a Focus on Africa, Asia, the Middle East and the Western Pacific (2017-2019).*** In partnership with Ocean Ecology Network. This project will strengthen the capacity of Marine Turtle Conservation Fund (MTCF) funded projects to improve management practices for nesting beach conservation programs and sea turtle bycatch reduction efforts. The grantee will provide technical and scientific assistance for MTCF supported sea turtle conservation projects in Africa, Asia, West Pacific, and Oman to accomplish this.

Activities include: (1) site visits to MTCF-funded projects in Cape Verde, Sierra Leone, Liberia, Indonesia, Solomon Islands, Myanmar, Cambodia, and Thailand to provide training and technical support; and (2) provide training and assistance with a loggerhead satellite telemetry research project in Oman and technical support and participation in a sea turtle fisheries bycatch project with fishing communities at Masirah Island, Oman.

USFWS: \$53,372

Leveraged Funds: \$32,000

## **MYANMAR**

**ASE**

**F19AP00779**

***Investigating Poaching and Human-Elephant Conflict in Myanmar.*** In partnership with Clemson University. The goal of this project is to provide information to the Myanmar government to help develop more effective human-elephant conflict (HEC) mitigation, anti-poaching, and elephant conservation policies. Data will be collected systematically across many sites in Myanmar and will assist in establishing if there is an interaction between pressures from HEC and poaching on conservation attitudes, contributing to more positive or negative views of elephants in certain areas. Specifically, types and severity of direct and indirect impacts of (HEC) participants are experiencing across different landscapes and socioeconomic groups will be assessed. Participant knowledge of and perceptions of elephant poaching-related activities (e.g., tusk and skin harvesting, storage and sale such products) occurring in the study area and across different socioeconomic groups will be determined. An assessment will be made of how different types of HEC and poaching influences elephant conservation attitudes. Lessons learned will help the government develop more successful conservation plans and

policies. Additionally, determining which communities hold attitudes and beliefs that are most favorable towards elephant conservation initiatives will be vital in determining priority locations for elephant conservation efforts.

USFWS: \$18,270

Leveraged Funds: \$0

## **ASE**

### **F19AP00359**

***H.EL.P. Human Elephant Peace: Training Communities in the Safe Use of Seasonal Electric Fences to Reduce Human-Elephant Conflict in Myanmar.*** In partnership with Compass Films. H.EL.P. (Human ELEphant Peace) is an educational outreach strategy focused on human-elephant conflict (HEC) mitigation that has been successfully implemented over the last four years in Myanmar, reaching over 100,000 villagers. The strategy employs national television broadcasts, village lectures, and audiovisual support kits to empower villagers to coexist safely with wild elephants. Building on a previously funded and successful FWS project on temporary electric elephant exclusion fences, this project will adapt the H.EL.P. educational strategy to train villagers and Forest Department authorities on how to safely implement and maintain seasonal electric fencing to exclude wild elephants from actively cultivated crop fields and remove the fences after the harvest season. This three year project will create and train an education and monitoring team to demonstrate and implement seasonal fencing techniques with villagers and help authorities develop management, education, and monitoring mechanisms for their long-term sustainability. Audiovisual and print content will be created for broadcast on national television and used in community workshops. This project will develop the administrative and logistical framework necessary to transfer this promising HEC mitigation technique regionally.

USFWS: \$59,885

Leveraged Funds: \$22,889

## **ASE**

### **Continuation**

### **F18AP00367**

***Implementing Conservation Priorities for Asian Elephants in the Southern Myanmar Landscape.*** In partnership with Fauna and Flora International. The goal of this three year project is to increase knowledge of elephant populations in southern Myanmar, generating evidence on which to base an elephant landscape management plan, and the tools for local stakeholders to implement the plan. Project objectives include: (1) establish routine monitoring of key elephant sub-populations and threats; (2) improve human-elephant conflict (HEC) management and reduce HEC events to under five annually; (3) mitigate the threat of poaching; and (4) with stakeholders draft and implement an elephant landscape management plan. Activities include: (1) collaring 10 elephants to support land-use planning and HEC management, and provide real-time early warnings to villages; (2) establish, train and support Community Elephant Guards to respond to and document HEC and poaching threats; (3) work with local communities to create information networks and build on anti-poaching messages of previous campaigns; and (4) analyze monitoring data, consult with stakeholders, and draft an elephant landscape management plan. This project will contribute to the survival and increase the population and habitat of wild Asian elephants in Myanmar.

USFWS: \$140,437

Leveraged Funds: \$31,122

## **ASE**

### **Continuation**

#### **F17AP00331**

***Long-Term Protection and Monitoring of the Rakhine Yoma Elephant Range, Myanmar.*** In partnership with Wildlife Conservation Society. This three-year project aims to maintain and enhance the protection of wild Asian elephants in the Rakhine Yoma Elephant Range (RYER) in Myanmar through continued engagement with Elephant Protection Units (EPU), provision of training and support to improve surveillance and morale. Project activities include: (1) increase the operational effectiveness of existing EPUs and expand coverage by hiring additional captive Myanmar Timber Enterprise (MTE) elephants; (2) upgrade ranger substations and provisions of boats; (3) increase effectiveness of monitoring through adaptive SMART methodology; (4) identify elephant distribution and hotspots; and (5) regular analysis of satellite imagery to monitor and respond to forest encroachment and shifting cultivation within RYER.

USFWS: \$59,414

Leveraged Funds: \$62,052

## **MT**

#### **F19AP00488**

***Phase III: Building Capacity for the Assessment and Conservation of Myanmar Marine Turtle Populations.*** In partnership with Fauna and Flora International. This project will support a partnership of government, university, NGO, private entities and communities to develop a sea turtle conservation program in Myanmar to recover depleted but historically important regional populations of olive ridley, green and hawksbill sea turtles. The intent is to support a newly formed sea turtle working group of these aforementioned partners to develop a national and grassroots conservation program to address the threats of poaching of eggs and turtles and threats of bycatch from artisanal and industrial fisheries. Activities include: (1) organize the annual meeting of the Marine Turtle Working Group of government, NGOs, university and private sea turtle stakeholders; (2) conduct training workshops for sea turtle surveyors in three regional locations of the coast; (3) implement monitoring and nest protection programs at six key nesting sites; (4) develop education and awareness materials about protected status of sea turtles, threats and safe release of accidentally captured sea turtles in fishing gear and distribute to fisherman, traders and at schools; (5) continue to assess hatchery management practices, and implement best management practices; and (6) facilitate development and implementation of National Action Plan with all key stakeholders.

USFWS: \$27,752

Leveraged Funds: \$6,759

## **RT**

#### **F19AP00776**

***Community-Based Tiger Conservation in Southern Myanmar.*** In partnership with Fauna and Flora International. This project will strive to maintain a wild breeding tiger population in the Southern Myanmar tiger conservation landscape. Project objectives are: (1) undertake systematic, community-based SMART surveillance and monitoring; (2)

provide livelihoods support for communities collaborating in conservation; (3) continue and improve cross-border collaborations on tiger landscape management with Thailand.  
USFWS: \$64,359                      Leveraged Funds: \$9,460

## **MULTIPLE - MYANMAR AND CHINA**

### **CWT**

#### **F17AP00252**

##### **Continuation**

##### ***Securing the Gateway: Reducing Wildlife Trafficking Between Myanmar and China.***

In partnership with Wildlife Conservation Society. This project will combat wildlife trafficking between two high priority Asian countries, Myanmar and China. This project will conserve a wide range of species that are recorded as being trafficked into China, including freshwater turtles and tortoises (with 19 globally threatened species recorded in the trade, of which 8 are endemic to Myanmar), Sunda and Chinese pangolins, Asian and African elephants, tigers and other cat species, bears, and also marine species such as sharks and rays and the giant clam. Specific activities include: (1) supporting relevant law enforcement agencies to identify criminal networks and trafficking dynamics along the Mandalay trade route to the Muse-Ruili border and into China; (2) strengthening law enforcement processes along this trafficking route by building the capacity of law enforcement agencies to identify and prosecute wildlife crimes, as well as handle evidence and confiscated animals; and (3) enhancing international cooperation at national and regional levels through facilitation and support for inter-agency coordination and bilateral dialogues between Myanmar and China. This project will build upon the outputs and successes of a previous USFWS-supported project from 2017-2019 that led to a stronger response to wildlife trafficking between China and Myanmar, including arrests of two major turtle traffickers.

USFWS: \$99,988                      Leveraged Funds: \$107,950

## **NAMIBIA**

### **RT**

#### **F19AP00870**

##### ***Monitoring and Supporting the Protection of the Key One Black Rhino Population in the Kunene Region of Namibia.***

In partnership with Save the Rhino International. The purpose of this project is to support operations to protect an important population of the critically endangered black rhino in Namibia, the stronghold for the Southwestern subspecies. The conservation outcomes are to ensure the long-term security of the desert-adapted black rhino of the Kunene and Erongo Regions as well as to prevent poaching and other illegal activities. Activities include: (1) supporting training and operational expenses necessary to conduct anti-poaching patrols and monitoring of the free ranging rhinos; (2) providing training to prevent illegal incursions by people or livestock into protected areas, and to secure crime scenes; and (3) supporting training to work with the police, prosecutors and judiciary to collect and present evidence in rhino-related court cases.

FWS: \$99,770                      Leveraged Funds: \$832,378

**RT**

**F19AP00770**

***Expanding Canine Unit Capacity in Namibia to Support Law Enforcement Efforts and Reduce Rhino Poaching.*** In partnership with Save the Rhino International. The purpose of this project is to expand enforcement efforts in Namibia to protect its populations of black rhinos, for which poaching is the most immediate threat. Since the launching of Namibia's first canine unit in 2018, the dogs have had a significant impact on tackling poaching. Activities include expanding the canine unit program by adding an additional team in the Kunene Region and in Mangetti National Park, although the dogs will be deployed nationally as required.

USFWS: \$118,943<sup>51</sup>                      Leveraged Funds: \$324,172

**RT**

**F19AP00765**

***Using Rhino-Sighting, Satellite Bracelet and LoRaWAN-Tag Data to Predict Rhino Abundance and Poaching Risk in Namibia.*** In partnership with Save the Rhino International. The purpose of this project is to protect the Southwestern black rhino in Namibia, where poaching continues to threaten populations. The project will improve black rhino monitoring and security in the Kunene Region and Etosha, Mangetti, and Waterberg National Parks. Activities include: (1) fitting rhinos with monitoring technology in high risk and biologically important areas; (2) ear notching and DNA collection; and (3) facilitating data analysis in order to ensure security of rhino population, support law-enforcement efforts, and inform biological management decisions.

FWS: \$134,529                      Leveraged Funds: \$14,081

**RT**

**F19AP00764**

***Dehorning and Translocating Rhino Throughout Namibia for Security and Biological Management Purposes.*** In partnership with Save the Rhino International. Namibia hosts a globally important population of the Southwestern subspecies of black rhino. The purpose of this project is to minimize risk of poaching by removing horns from rhinos in vulnerable areas and by translocating rhinos out of the highest risk areas. Specific activities include: (1) darting, immobilizing, and dehorning live rhinos in situ; and (2) relocating rhinos when necessary for their security or for biological management.

FWS: \$188,833                      Leveraged Funds: \$480,493

## **NEPAL**

**ASE**

**F19AP00358**

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<sup>51</sup> Funded by United States Agency for International Development – Combating Wildlife Trafficking (USAID-CWT) funds



***Using Science-Based Technology to Estimate the Population of Wild Asian Elephants and Address Conservation Challenges of Human-Elephant Conflict in Western Nepal.***

In partnership with National Trust for Nature Conservation (NTNC). The lowland region of southern Nepal, called the Terai (“moist land”), is home to tigers, rhinos, and elephants - and over 13 million people. Human-wildlife conflict is a serious problem in this landscape and this project will help park managers and local government develop strategies and action plans to address and mitigate human-elephant conflict (HEC) at a landscape scale. Existing scientific knowledge gaps will be addressed with regard to genetics, spatio-temporal movement hotspots, population density, seasonal abundance, and related HEC risk. Project objectives and activities are: (1) estimate the wild elephant population in the western region of Nepal through non-invasive genetic capture-mark-recapture methodology; (2) assess spatio-temporal movement patterns of problem elephants using satellite collars and monitoring by park staff; and (3) create, train and equip six Rapid Response Teams to respond to and collect data on HEC incidents. Past FWS support funded these activities in Eastern and Central Nepal, this project will give Nepalese authorities a systematic and robust data set from across the Terai landscape to base management and policy decisions regarding Asian elephants.

USFWS: \$71,705

Leveraged Funds: \$44,865

**ASE**

**F19AP00357**

***Asian Elephant Range States Meeting, 2020.*** In partnership with National Trust for Nature Conservation (NTNC). Asian elephants are distributed in 13 countries of Asia where they have great ecological and cultural significance. Elephant ranges often straddle international boundaries and strong international cooperation is necessary for their conservation. This project will convene the third Asian Elephant Range States Meeting in Nepal in 2020, a follow-up to the 2017 range state meeting held in Jakarta whose most notable outcome was the Jakarta Declaration for Asian Elephant Conservation. The meeting will be hosted by the Government of Nepal’s Ministry of Forest and Environment, Department of National Parks and Wildlife Conservation (DNPWC) with technical support from Asian Elephant Support, WWF Nepal, ZSL Nepal, and IUCN Nepal. Three government representatives from each of the range states will convene in Nepal and participate in a three-day meeting focused on conservation status, challenges, and priority actions for Asian elephants. The event will encourage information flow and discussion among range states and will result in consensus of elephant conservation management strategies, including: current status and threats assessment; transboundary issues; status and updates on individual range country action plans; and future collaborations.

USFWS: \$60,000

Leveraged Funds: \$23,940

**CWT**

**F19AP00449**

***Combating Poaching and Illegal Wildlife Trade in Western Nepal.*** In partnership with National Trust for Nature Conservation (NTNC). Wildlife in Nepal is highly threatened due to poaching and the illegal wildlife trade. Nepal is both a source and a transit country for illegal wildlife products due to its positioning between the two major growing market

economies of China and India. Despite some measurable progress in reducing wildlife crime, gaps in law enforcement capacity still exist, particularly in western Nepal. To fill this gap and address the illegal killing and trafficking of highly threatened species, including pangolins and leopards, this two-year grant will support: (1) capacity development of wildlife enforcement authorities to effectively combat wildlife crime, including developing training manuals, facilitating multiple trainings for law enforcement agencies, frontline forest guards, army, and game scouts, and support for workshops with provincial and local governments; (2) monitoring of identified and potential trade hubs and routes to better target enforcement efforts, including development of a wildlife product identification handbook; and (3) operational support and training for community-based anti-poaching units and rapid response teams.

USFWS: \$107,970

Leveraged Funds: \$32,504

**RT**

**F19AP00846**

***Setting Up Community-Based Livestock and Crop Insurance Schemes to Strengthen Human Wildlife Coexistence in Bardia National Park, Nepal.*** In partnership with Tharu Women Upliftment Centre (TWUC). This project will ensure human wildlife coexistence in and around Bardiya National Park. The main objective is to set up community-based crop and livestock insurance mechanisms to minimize community resentment towards wildlife conservation. Proposed activities include: formation of insurance and evaluations committees, community education about the insurance scheme, institutional strengthening of the insurance mechanism, collections of insurance premiums for livestock and crops, and reflection workshops to share learning.

USFWS: \$47,100

Leveraged Funds: \$37,875

**RT**

**F19AP00786**

***Securing Habitat for Sustainable Future of Rhino Tiger in Chitwan Parsa Complex, Nepal.*** In partnership with National Trust for Nature Conservation (NTNC). The project goal is to ensure survival of tigers and rhinos through habitat management. Project objectives are: (1) restore habitat in Chitwan Parsa Complex; (2) improve the status of grassland and wetland dwelling wild animals; and; (3) build national capacity in habitat management. Chitwan National Park, Parsa National Park, conservation organizations, local communities, rhinos (>600 individuals), tigers (~110 individuals), and other wild animals of Chitwan-Parsa Complex will benefit from this project.

USFWS: \$72,185<sup>52</sup>

Leveraged Funds: \$68,973

**RT**

**F19AP00730**

***Tiger Conservation Initiatives Outside Protected Areas in the Terai Arc Landscape Nepal to Maintain the Linkages of Two Tiger Sub-Populations and Sustain the Tiger Population Growth.*** In partnership with National Trust for Nature Conservation (NTNC). This project aims to ensure the survival of the dispersing tigers from Chitwan and Bardia

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<sup>52</sup> Of this, \$30,000 was funded by proceeds from sales of the Save Vanishing Species stamp

National Parks and maintain the genetic linkages between them. Project objectives include: (1) understand the distribution, status and habitat use of tigers in the Churia Hill forests between Chitwan and Bardia National Parks and identify critical areas for tiger conservation; (2) assess tiger dispersal through genetic analysis; (3) enhance habitat quality and increase prey density in critical areas; (4) reduce threats to tigers by raising local awareness; and, (5) build capacity of community forest user groups and generate scientific information about tigers.

USFWS: \$75,020

Leveraged Funds: \$58,163

## **RT**

### **F19AP00728**

*Enhancing Security and Ensuring Adequate Prey-Base for the Increasing Tiger (Panthera tigris tigris) Population in Babai Valley of Bardia National Park, Nepal.* In partnership with National Trust for Nature Conservation (NTNC). This project will bolster security needs of the national park personnel and community based anti-poaching teams; with partners, develop an anti-poaching operation strategy for Bardia National Park; strengthen habitat management to ensure an adequate prey-base for the increasing tiger population; support monitoring of tiger and its prey base in the Babai Valley of Bardia National Park.

USFWS: \$81,210<sup>53</sup>

Leveraged Funds: \$47,295

## **RT**

### **Continuation**

### **F17AP00925**

*Recovering Tigers in Nepal: Expanding a Comprehensive Law Enforcement Strategy to Eradicate Poaching in the Terai Arc Landscape.* In partnership with Panthera. This project will eradicate the threat of poaching beginning with four critical protected areas by: (1) supporting the national census to establish new baselines for tiger populations; and, (2) building capacity with technological support to increase the crime detection, identification and prosecution of criminals and reduce illegal activities.

USFWS: \$22,693

Leveraged Funds: \$84,776

## **NICARAGUA**

## **MT**

### **Continuation**

### **F18AP00203**

*Conservation of Hawksbill Turtles Along the Southeast Coast of Nicaragua.* In partnership with Cynthia Jean Lageux. This project will conduct a community-based sea turtle conservation project along 36 km of hawksbill nesting beach between the mouths of the Karaslaya and Indio/San Juan rivers which hosts some of the most important hawksbill nesting in Caribbean Nicaragua. The intent of this project is to protect nests and nesting turtles from poaching. Activities include: (1) training local community members to conduct twice weekly surveys during May through October along 36 km of

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<sup>53</sup> Of this, \$15,000 was from contributed funds

nesting beach to count nests and deter poaching; (2) conduct a seven-day field-and classroom-based sea turtle course for four college students and a faculty member from Blue Fields Indian and Caribbean University; (3) conduct outreach, education and awareness activities with educational, municipal and communal authorities and local communities.

USFWS: \$24,504<sup>54</sup>

Leveraged Funds: \$28,600

## **MT**

### **Continuation**

#### **F17AP00185**

***Conserving Critically Endangered Leatherback and Hawksbill Marine Turtles on Nicaragua's Pacific Coast.*** In partnership with Fauna & Flora International. This project will monitor and protect leatherback and hawksbill nesting populations through community protection strategies at Asseradores, Veracruz, Salamina, and Estero Padre Ramos, strengthen coastal management and protection of nesting sites at Salamina, Veracruz, and Estero Padre Ramos by raising awareness of policy makers and local stakeholders and by implementing a National Sea Turtle Campaign at the nesting beaches, and develop a conservation tourism program at Estero Padre Ramos. The recipient will conduct rapid bycatch assessments at five priority sites along the Nicaraguan Pacific coast and promote the use of low-impact fishing methods.

USFWS: \$71,940

Leveraged Funds: \$0

## **MULTIPLE - NICARAGUA, GUATEMALA, AND HONDURAS**

## **LAC**

### **F15AC00990**

***Partnership for the Conservation of Central America's Wildlife Corridor.*** In partnership with Wildlife Conservation Society. This is funding year five of a five year cooperative agreement. The Maya Forest, Moskitia, Indio-Maiz-Tortugero, La Amistad, and Darien Gap are the largest remaining intact forest ecosystems of Central America and serve as the region's core wildlife strongholds for species such as the jaguar, Baird's tapir, white-lipped peccary, and macaws. These transboundary forests are essential to maintaining connectivity from South America to North America. The purpose of this project is to enhance local capacity to reduce threats to all five forests and to increase site security at the two most threatened sites, the Maya Forest in Guatemala and the Moskitia in Honduras and Nicaragua. This year, funds will support: (1) partner meetings in Guatemala to plan field strategies; (2) inter-institutional patrols to cover 15,000 hectares of the Northern Shield area of Laguna del Tigre National Park, a key scarlet macaw nesting site; (3) repairs to outpost infrastructure; (4) in-situ trainings to managers, rangers, and indigenous authorities on SMART (Spatial Monitoring and Reporting Tool) to carry out intelligence based patrolling strategies in the Bosawas Biosphere Reserve; (5) design and strategic plan for a model conservation control post for the Rio Platano Biosphere Reserve; (6) field verifications and selection of locations for additional control

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<sup>54</sup> Funded by United States Agency for International Development – Combating Wildlife Trafficking (USAID-CWT) funds

posts for the Moskitia, and (7) securing inter-institutional agreements to support the continued functionality and budgets necessary to sustain control post operations.  
FWS: \$100,000                      Leveraged Funds: \$74,453

## **NIGERIA**

### **GA**

#### **F19AP00615**

***Protecting the Vital Population of the Critically Endangered Nigeria-Cameroon Chimpanzee in Gashaka-Gumti National Park, Taraba/Adamawa States, Nigeria.*** In partnership with the Africa Nature Investors Foundation. The purpose of this project is to protect the vital population of Nigeria-Cameroon chimpanzees in Nigeria's Gashaka-Gumti National Park through strengthening law enforcement, monitoring, and surveillance capabilities. Activities include: (1) evaluating the current ranger force and selecting the 50 most qualified rangers; (2) equipping and training selected rangers; and (3) establishing ranger patrols in the critical southern 1,000 sq. km sector of the park.  
USFWS: \$74,974                      Leveraged Funds: \$142,450

## **OMAN**

### **CWT**

#### **F19AP00465**

***Understanding Trafficking of Birds in the Middle East.*** In partnership with Conservation Science Global, Inc. The Middle East has recently been identified as having an emerging role as a driver of demand for wildlife trafficking, particularly for the illegal trade of raptors for falconry or as status symbols. The purpose of this project is to gain a greater understanding of the trafficking of birds in the Middle East (Oman, Kazakhstan, Saudi Arabia, and Turkey) through gathering foundational data. This project is intended to conserve steppe eagles (*Aquila nipalensis*) and other raptors by characterizing the nature, scale, and geographic scope of the illegal trade. Specific activities of this two-year grant include: (1) estimating the number of birds trafficked in target countries the Middle East through market surveys; (2) determining the natal origins or breeding grounds of key avian taxa trafficked in the Middle East, using stable isotopes and GPS telemetry; and (3) communicating this information to support enhanced conservation, management, and enforcement actions.  
USFWS: \$148,500                      Leveraged Funds: \$160,600

### **MT**

#### **Continuation**

#### **F18AP00207**

***Marine Turtle Research and Conservation, Masirah Island, Oman.*** In partnership with Environment Society of Oman. This project will support conservation efforts for the Oman loggerhead nesting population which is one of the two largest in the world, i.e. the U.S. and Oman loggerhead nesting populations account for about 75 percent of all global loggerhead nesting. The intent of this project is to support surveys to monitor loggerhead nesting population trends, identify nesting beach threats, and protect nesting and

hatchling sea turtles from nesting beach trash and abandoned fishing nets. Activities include: (1) implementing standardized nesting beach surveys along 65 km of nesting beach (initiated in 2008 through USFWS/Oman Ministry of Environment collaboration); and (2) conducting one general community/municipal beach cleanup and two fishing net cleanups during 2018.

USFWS: \$108,159

Leveraged Funds: \$79,157

## **MULTIPLE - OMAN, CAMBODIA, LIBERIA, MOROCCO, SAO TOME, AND SIERRA LEONE**

### **MT**

#### **Continuation**

#### **F17AC00157**

*Scientific and Technical Support to Sea Turtle Projects with a Focus on Africa, Asia, the Middle East and the Western Pacific (2017-2019).* In partnership with Ocean Ecology Network. This project will strengthen the capacity of Marine Turtle Conservation Fund (MTCF)- funded projects to improve management practices for nesting beach conservation programs and sea turtle bycatch reduction efforts. The grantee will provide technical and scientific assistance for MTCF supported sea turtle conservation projects in Africa, Asia, West Pacific, and Oman to accomplish this. Activities include: (1) site visits to MTCF-funded projects in Cape Verde, Sierra Leone, Liberia, Indonesia, Solomon Islands, Myanmar, Cambodia, and Thailand to provide training and technical support; and (2) provide training and assistance with a loggerhead satellite telemetry research project in Oman and technical support and participation in a sea turtle fisheries bycatch project with fishing communities at Masirah Island, Oman.

USFWS: \$53,372

Leveraged Funds: \$32,000

## **PANAMA**

### **LATAM**

#### **F20AP00226**

*Engaging Emberá-Wounaan Indigenous Communities in Reforestation and Alternative Livelihoods: Model of Community-Based Conservation in the Darien (II).* In partnership with The Peregrine Fund, Inc. The Choco-Darien region of Panama is one of the richest lowland forest ecosystems in the Americas and supports the largest known population of harpy eagles in Central America. Unsustainable agricultural practices, uncontrolled cattle ranching, land trafficking, poaching and timber trafficking threaten the forest and unique biodiversity. This project will strengthen incentives for conservation by engaging four indigenous Emberá-Wounaan communities in alternative livelihoods in and adjacent to Darién National Park. Specific activities include: (1) conducting a public campaign to build a conservation constituency in the region; (2) reforestation with native trees, including commercially valuable trees and shade-grown coffee, as an alternative to poaching and deforestation; (3) strengthening of local organizations to increase capacity to manage incentive agreements; (4) training community members in agroforestry, wildlife monitoring, and forest patrolling; (5) developing land use co-management plans in two indigenous communities that include

no-take zones around harpy eagle nesting sites and securing their ratification from the Ministry of Environment; and (6) building a coalition of national and international partners to scale up conservation efforts across the Darien region.

FWS: \$129,999

Leveraged Funds: \$228,857

**LATAM1954**

**F20AP00190**

***Preventive Management Program for Jaguar-Cattle Conflict in Darien, Panama.*** In partnership with Fundacion Yaguara Panama. This continuation is for year two of a two year award. The jaguar (*Panthera onca*) is threatened throughout its range by habitat destruction, declining prey availability, a growing black market trade in jaguar parts, and human-jaguar conflict. The purpose of this project is to reduce human-jaguar conflict in the Darien region of Panama by implementing proven anti-predation livestock protection methods, creating a Conflict Response Unit, and conducting public education and outreach campaigns. This project is intended to conserve jaguars in a critical corridor between North and South America that connects jaguar populations and ensures genetic flow. Activities include: (1) implementation of three demonstration ranches with proven anti-predation techniques; (2) training workshops for farmers and ranchers to improve livestock management and adoption of anti-predation methods; (3) creation of a Conflict Response Unit to attend to predation events with clear protocols in place; and (4) environmental education workshops and public outreach campaigns to build support for jaguar conservation and peaceful co-existence.

USFWS: \$89,889

Leveraged Funds: \$0

**MT**

**Continuation**

**F18AP00321**

***Consolidating Sea Turtle Conservation in the Azores 4 (COSTA 4).*** In partnership with Instituto do Mar. This project will collaborate with fisherman and the Azores Regional Directorate of Marine Affairs to protect and recover the NW Atlantic loggerhead nesting population. This nesting population is the largest loggerhead population in the world and nests primarily in the SE U.S with lesser nesting in Mexico, Bahamas, and Cuba. Hatchlings from nesting beaches passively migrate to the Eastern Atlantic on the Florida current where they spend several years as juveniles before migrating by to NW Atlantic coastal waters. The Azores is a particularly important foraging grounds for juvenile loggerheads where they interact with long line fisheries operations and experience accidental capture causing injury and mortality. The intent of this project is to reduce mortality of loggerheads from LL fisheries. Activities include: (1) placing two observers on LL fishing vessels for 12 months to collect additional bycatch data; (2) analyze these data and previously collected bycatch data to identify critical interaction zones; (3) restructure the turtle tagging activities in cooperation with local partners and expand tagging program with new partners; and (4) promote best practices for safe handling and release of accidentally captured turtles by LL fisherman through training workshops and brochures.

USFWS: \$40,973<sup>55</sup>

Leveraged Funds: \$91,688

**MT**

**Continuation**

**F17AP00172**

***Hawksbill and Leatherback Turtle Research and Population Recovery in Panama.*** In partnership with Sea Turtle Conservancy. This project will conduct intensive monitoring and protection of hawksbill and leatherback nesting beaches at six sites in Bocas del Toro Province using standardized protocols and with local community monitors; the recipient will also conduct community environmental outreach activities and work with communities to resolve dog-nest depredation problems.

USFWS: \$52,000<sup>56</sup>

Leveraged Funds: \$251,535

## **MULTIPLE - PANAMA AND COLOMBIA**

**MT**

**F19AP00501**

***Building Capacity for Community-Based Conservation of the Eastern Pacific Leatherback in the Darien Gap of Colombia and Panama: Phase Two.*** In partnership with World Wildlife Fund, Inc. This project will support and expand East Pacific leatherback conservation efforts in Colombia and Panama. The intent is to build capacity for a community based leatherback nesting beach conservation project with remote communities in the Darien Gap of Colombia and Panama. Activities include: (1) conduct training workshops for local community monitoring teams; (2) lead patrols to quantify and protect leatherback nesting activities on key nesting beaches of Gato beach (Panama) and Jurado beach (Colombia); and (3) facilitate bi-National collaboration through meetings with NGOs and governmental institutions with both countries.

USFWS: \$10,288

Leveraged Funds: \$8,550

## **PARAGUAY**

**LATAM**

**F20AP00149**

***Mitigating Human-Jaguar Conflict, Facilitating Stakeholder Cooperation and Capacity, and Increasing Sustainable Use of Native Habitat in the Gran Chaco (Chaco Jaguar Conservation Project).*** In partnership with LifeScape International, Inc. (S.P.E.C.I.E.S.). This continuation is for year two of a two-year award. The jaguar (*Panthera onca*) is threatened throughout its range by illegal hunting of the species and its prey, and habitat destruction. These threats are decreasing jaguar populations and viable corridors necessary for the genetic viability and future survival of the jaguar, whose presence indicates habitat suitability for a myriad of species and ecological processes necessary to support sustainable livelihoods in rural areas. The purpose of this project is to build local capacity to reduce human-jaguar conflict in the Gran Chaco of Paraguay,

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<sup>55</sup> Of this, \$28,433 was funded through a reimbursable agreement.

<sup>56</sup> Funded by United States Agency for International Development – Combating Wildlife Trafficking (USAID-CWT) funds



considered a stronghold for jaguar populations. The Gran Chaco is South America's largest contiguous forested expanse after the Amazon Basin with approximately 30 percent of its more than 1,000,000 km<sup>2</sup> located in Paraguay. Project activities will foster sustainable cattle-ranching practices and habitat conservation through the development and implementation of land use management plans and proven strategies for mitigating human-jaguar conflict. Activities also will assess potential economic incentives available to landowners if they can prove they have made the types of land-use changes promoted by this project, and increase public awareness and engagement regarding the threats to jaguars and the Gran Chaco overall.

USFWS: \$48,487

Leveraged Funds: \$0

## PATAGONIA

### LAC

#### F15AC00956

***Partnership for the Conservation of Patagonia: Resolving Conflicts between Wildlife and People.*** In partnership with Wildlife Conservation Society. The purpose of this project is to unite complete suites of carnivores, herbivores and scavengers co-existing with livestock producers on a connected matrix of protected areas and private lands in Patagonia. This year's activities seek to create connectivity between landscapes where Guanacos historically migrated and help restore the ecological services that will improve livestock production by (i) providing information necessary to improve conservation actions in critical Patagonian landscapes that occupy the most intact natural areas, represent the region's biodiversity and key ecological processes, and possess resilience; (ii) engaging livestock producers in wildlife-friendly production that improves their livelihoods and enables them to co-exist with wildlife, including the conservation of carnivores and condors on private lands through the evaluation, promotion, and expansion of more effective, non-lethal methods to control predation of livestock; (iii) building local capacity by strengthening, mentoring and promoting collaborative conservation amongst key stakeholders (government agents and managers, civil society organizations, landowners and herders organizations); and (iv) develop strategic partnerships to help shape local, national, and regional policies related to Patagonia's wildlife and wild places to leverage resources and expand conservation impact.

FWS: \$200,000

Leveraged Funds: \$240,505

## PERU

### LATAM

#### F20AP00201

***Combating the Illegal Trade of Jaguars, Parrots, and Primates in Peru by Strengthening Capacities to Control the Sale of Parts From Illegally Sourced Wildlife and Addressing Demand Reduction.*** In partnership with Wildlife Conservation Society. This continuation is for year two of a two-year award. Peru's location makes it a hotspot for wildlife trafficking of many species listed in CITES as threatened with extinction or vulnerable to future extinction. USFWS supported the grantee in responding to the Peruvian government's requests for assistance to combat wildlife traffic domestically and

along its borders. Achievements include completing the National Strategy to Combat Wildlife Trafficking and securing important international agreements on wildlife trafficking in border areas (Bolivia, Colombia, Ecuador). However, implementing these commitments and enabling responsible agencies to improve enforcement controls to combat wildlife trafficking is a challenge given the increasing sophistication of wildlife traffickers and the demand for illegal wildlife handicraft products that are not deemed illegal by sellers and consumers. Official records show that more than 11,000 illegally harvested wildlife parts were confiscated between 2010-2017. Project activities directly address the issue of the sale of illegal wildlife handicrafts by providing technical assistance to authorities in major tourist destinations to strengthen , working with journalists and police officers to disseminate information on the relevant laws, and supporting the newly-established Peruvian forensic laboratory to analyze wildlife specimens for use in legal cases. The latter will be done with the assistance of the USFWS forensic lab.

USFWS: \$109,788

Leveraged Funds: \$0

## PHILIPPINES

### MT

#### F19AP00500

*An Analysis of The Status of Sea Turtles in the Philippines.* In partnership with World Wildlife Fund, Inc. This project will support sea turtle conservation efforts in the Philippines. The intent is to assess the threats of sea turtle populations to trafficking and fisheries bycatch. Activities include: (1) conduct rapid sea turtle fisheries bycatch assessments to understand extent of interaction and mortality rates across four priority areas, Puerto Princesa City, El Nido-Tatay, Quezon province, and Marinduque; (2) examine law enforcement records on illegal apprehensions of sea turtle trafficking to determine extent, locations, destinations; and (3) conduct regional conservation genetics workshop to improve sampling, storage and analysis of genetic material to better inform management on origins of trafficked sea turtle products.

USFWS: \$84,000<sup>57</sup>

Leveraged Funds: \$0

## REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO

### AFR

#### F19AC00602

*Strengthening Monitoring, Institutions and Management Planning to Ensure the Impact of the Lac Tele Community Reserve, Republic of Congo.* In partnership with the Wildlife Conservation Society. The purpose of this project is to ensure the integrity of the Lac Tele Community Reserve (LTCR) and its long-term protection by reducing illegal killing and trafficking of wildlife and building long-lasting stewardship of wildlife by the local communities. The LTCR is currently the only community reserve in the Republic of Congo. Its flooded forests harbor the highest recorded densities of western lowland

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<sup>57</sup> Funded through an agreement with the National Marine Fisheries Service, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), United States Department of Commerce

gorillas as well as important populations of wetland birds. This project will foster greater community participation in the management of the protected area. Activities include (1) completing the management plan and business plan for the LTCR; (2) improving the operational efficiency and strengthening the workforce capacity of the LTCR; (3) conducting terrestrial and aquatic surveys as well as an annual wetland bird census; (4) developing and implementing a long-term, community-driven fisheries and hunting governance and monitoring system and wild meat monitoring system; and (5) expanding epidemic surveillance initiative to the LTCR.

FWS: \$1,998,153<sup>58</sup>                      Leveraged Funds: \$327,937

**GA**

**F19AP00616**

***Great Ape Protection in Congo Basin Forests Through Support of Local NGOs in Central Africa.*** In partnership with Alliance pour la Conservation des Grands Singes en Afrique. The purpose of this project is to contribute to the conservation of Central African apes by supporting the development of six local non-governmental organizations (NGOs). Activities include: (1) improving technical capacities through targeted training; (2) improving the profile of ape conservation NGOs through participation in regional and international meetings and conferences; and (3) holding a GSAC Alliance coordination meeting.

USFWS: \$50,000                      Leveraged Funds: \$31,413

**GA**

**Continuation**

**F18AP00930**

***Protecting Great Apes in the Likouala Region, Republic of Congo, Through Reinforcement of Antipoaching Efforts.*** In partnership with the Wildlife Conservation Society. The purpose of this two-year grant is to protect great apes in the Lac Télé Community Reserve from poaching and trafficking through intelligence-based law enforcement by establishing a Wildlife Crime Unit. Year two activities include: (1) improving investigations approach for enhanced collection and management of data; (2) supporting field missions for investigations along key trafficking and poaching routes and to strengthen community-based engagement where possible; (3) deploying occasional missions to survey great apes and verify information received regarding poaching hotspots; (4) updating electrical systems in the Epena base; (5) purchasing and installing communications equipment for LTCR's control posts; (6) providing monitoring, evaluation and technical support to law enforcement in the LTCR; (7) carrying out regular outreach missions into villages in great ape hunting areas; and (8) supporting the implementation of the LTCR environmental education strategy, including updates focusing on great ape conservation.

USFWS: \$93,812<sup>59</sup>                      Leveraged Funds: \$112,655

**MT**

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<sup>58</sup> Funded through the Central Africa Regional Program for the Environment (CARPE)

<sup>59</sup> Funded through the United States Agency for International Development (USAID)

**F19AP00487**

***Marine Turtle Monitoring and Protection in the Republic of Congo.*** In partnership with Renatura. This project will support a sea turtle conservation program in the Republic of Congo. The intent is to conduct nesting beach monitoring and nest protection within and outside Conkuati-Douali National Park and sea turtle bycatch reduction programs with artisanal fisherman. Activities include: (1) daily early morning and nighttime nest surveys along five 10 km stretches of beach within Conkuati-Douali NP; (2) daily early morning and nighttime monitoring of three 10 km stretches of nesting beaches on Djeno, Bellelo, and Mvassa beaches outside of the NP; (3) early morning monitoring of 42 km of additional nesting beaches outside of Conkuati-Douali NP; and (4) conducting a sea turtle release program for accidentally captured turtles with artisanal gill net fisherman in return for providing net repair bobbins and net pieces.

USFWS: \$69,997<sup>60</sup>

Leveraged Funds: \$57,002

**MT****Continuation****F17AP00396**

***Marine Turtle Monitoring and Protection in the Republic of Congo.*** In Partnership with Renatura. This project will protect sea turtle nesting populations on 56 km of nesting beaches within Conkouati- Douali National Park, and 30 km of nesting beach outside the Park which are important nesting beaches for the West Africa leatherback nesting population and Atlantic Africa nesting population of olive ridleys. The West Africa leatherback nesting population is the largest in the world with its nesting epicenter in adjacent Gabon and the Park provides the most important nesting beaches on the southern edge of the West Africa nesting range with 400-800 nests annually in recent years. Community members from local villages are employed and trained to patrol and protect nests from poaching. Prior to these community based programs almost 100 percent of nests were poached. The grantee also works collaboratively with fisherman to safely release sea turtles accidentally captured in gill nets on important foraging grounds and results in the release of over 1,500 turtles annually.

USFWS: \$19,998<sup>61</sup>

Leveraged Funds: \$5,316

**AFR****F21AC00556**

***Connecting Conservation: Wildlife Corridors & Core Areas in the Sangha Tri-National Landscape and Northern Congo: Odzala-Kokou National Park.*** In partnership with the African Parks Network. The purpose of this cooperative agreement is to maintain wildlife corridors and core areas in the transboundary Sangha Trinational and Northern Congo region of the Republic of Congo.. This project will contribute to the conservation of USFWS trust resources and federally protected species, including the world's largest population of western lowland gorillas and the largest, connected population of forest elephants. Objectives include stabilization of poaching pressures; reliable information on the distribution and status of wildlife; and coordination of

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<sup>60</sup> Funded through the United States Agency for International Development (USAID)

<sup>61</sup> Funded by proceeds from sales of the Save Vanishing Species stamp

targeted activities to improve workforce capacity and safeguard local and legal use of wildlife..

FWS: \$821,794

Leveraged Funds: \$0

**AFR**

**F19AC00607**

***Connecting Conservation: Wildlife Corridors & Core Areas in the Sangha Tri-National Landscape and Northern Congo: Nouabale Ndoki National Park and Periphery.*** In partnership with the Wildlife Conservation Society. The purpose of this cooperative agreement is to maintain wildlife corridors and core areas in the transboundary Sangha Trinational and Northern Congo region of the Republic of Congo. This project will contribute to the conservation of USFWS trust resources and federally protected species, including the world's largest population of western lowland gorillas and the largest, connected population of forest elephants. Objectives include stabilization of poaching pressures; reliable information on the distribution and status of wildlife; and coordination of targeted activities to improve workforce capacity and safeguard local and legal use of wildlife.

FWS: \$3,063,457

Leveraged Funds: \$1, 387,500

**AFR**

**Continuation**

**F15AC01090**

***Ensuring the Long-Term Protection of Konkouati Douli.*** In partnership with the Wildlife Conservation Society. The purpose of this project is to support year five of this five-year cooperative agreement. Specific activities include: (1) engaging in the establishment of marine protected areas as part of the Congo Marine Initiative; (2) continuing and improving offtake surveys of artisanal shark and ray fisheries to inform a shark and ray management plan; and (3) initiating a study of shark movements to inform a national shark and ray management strategy.

FWS: \$299,565<sup>62</sup>

Leveraged Funds: \$95,335

**RUSSIA**

**RT**

**F19AP00807**

***Robust Estimates of Tiger and Wild Boar Populations Across the Russian Far East.*** In partnership with Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS). Camera trapping has been used to estimate Amur tiger populations in Russia since 2003, but only in protected areas (a small fraction of tiger habitat in Russia). WCS will continue to improve camera trap surveys inside reserves and expand surveys to unprotected areas as well. This will allow for the first robust estimates of Amur tiger densities outside reserves (~84 percent of tiger habitat). WCS will also continue their efforts to improve understanding of daily and seasonal movements of wild boar, a key tiger prey, as these data allow estimations of abundance and may influence movements of tigers. Project goals include, (1) improve

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<sup>62</sup> Funded through the Central Africa Regional Program for the Environment (CARPE)

and expand camera trap monitoring of Amur tigers range-wide; and (2) improve estimates of abundance and seasonal movements of wild boar. Project objectives are: (1) continue collaboration in Russian protected areas to improve camera trap monitoring of tigers; (2) conduct large-scale camera trapping both inside and outside protected areas; and, (3) develop methods for capture and handling wild boar, and collect data of daily travel distances and seasonal movements.

USFWS: \$59,919

Leveraged Funds: \$60,377

## **RT**

### **F19AP00793**

***Safeguarding Amur Tiger Conservation Through SMART Law Enforcement and Protected Area Anti-Poaching Infrastructure Development in Southeast Primorye, Russian Far East.*** In partnership with Zoological Society of London (ZSL). With USFWS-RTCF support ZSL has been strengthening anti-poaching and enforcement, through the Spatial Monitoring and Reporting Tool (SMART) approach and the Forest Eyes Initiative (enhanced surveillance through camera trap technology). This project will build on current USFWS-supported work to strengthen monitoring, and meet the needs identified by the new protected area. Project objectives are: (1) enhance anti-poaching surveillance efficiency and tourist management by upgrading a network of guard stations throughout United Administrations of Lazovsky Zapovednik and Zov Tigra National Park (UALZZT); (2) Keep tigers stable or increasing, through continued SMART anti-poaching surveillance implementation, engagement, promotion and capacity-building; and, (3) enhance the long-term tiger monitoring program in UALZZT by maintaining the camera trap grid that has been expanded to 3,000 sq km.

USFWS: \$98,532<sup>63</sup>

Leveraged Funds: \$136,414

## **RT**

### **F19AP00739**

***Encouraging Locals to Support Amur Tiger Recovery in Northern Range.*** In partnership with Phoenix Fund. Amur tigers rescued from the wild typically as orphans are being rehabilitated and released back to the wild in the Jewish Autonomous Province (JAP) of the Russian Far East (RFE). The goal of this project is to educate local communities in JAP on the importance of peaceful co-existence with Amur tigers. Phoenix will hold meetings with local hunters, villagers, and teachers, raise their awareness about co-existence with tigers and importance of tiger conservation, produce and distribute outreach materials, and assist Bastak Nature Reserve in organizing Tiger Day Festival in Birobidzhan. In cooperation with a local TV broadcasting company, a documentary series will be prepared featuring Amur tigers and tiger-human relations that will be broadcasted to a wide audience. Phoenix Fund's efforts in the region will ensure recovery of Amur tiger population in its northern historic range.

USFWS: \$24,943<sup>64</sup>

Leveraged Funds: \$42,845

## **RWANDA**

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<sup>63</sup> Of this, \$70,000 was funded by proceeds from sales of the Save Vanishing Species stamp

<sup>64</sup> Of this, \$20,000 was funded by proceeds from sales of the Save Vanishing Species stamp

**AFR**

**F19AC00597**

***Scholarships and Institutional Capacity Building at IPRC Kitabi: Developing Transboundary Capacity for Biodiversity Conservation with Focus on Rwanda and DRC.*** In partnership with the Kitabi College of Conservation and Environmental Management (KCCEM). The purpose of this five-year project is to enhance the capacity of Rwanda's Kitabi College to provide regional training opportunities for rangers and other conservationists from Central Africa. The project aims to conserve biodiversity in Central Africa by addressing gaps in national and regional conservation capacity and the need to improve workforce training. Activities include: (1) providing scholarships for selected protected area staff to earn diplomas in wildlife management and return to work in their home national parks; and (2) developing and incorporating new teaching materials into Kitabi College's curriculum on emerging threats to wildlife and trans-boundary park management.

FWS: \$189,400

Leveraged Funds: \$15,109

**GA**

**F19AP00629**

***Assessing the Status of the Chimpanzee (*Pan troglodytes*) Population in Nyungwe National Park, Rwanda.*** In partnership with the Wildlife Conservation Society. The purpose of this one year project is to contribute to the long-term survival of eastern chimpanzees in Rwanda's Nyungwe National Park by determining their current numbers. Activities include: (1) planning and carrying out systematic line transect surveys of the park; (2) training WCS staff in survey protocols and data analysis; (3) updating the park's general management plan and research priorities; (4) organizing a stakeholder workshop to present the survey results; and (5) submitting a paper on the survey findings for publication in a peer-reviewed journal.

USFWS: \$100,006<sup>65</sup>

Leveraged Funds: \$75,259

**GA**

**F19AP00619**

***Documenting Dietary Variation in Rwanda's Mountain Gorillas with the Goal of Informing Park Expansion Strategy and Updating Carrying Capacity Estimates.*** In partnership with the Dian Fossey Gorilla Fund. The purpose of this project is to contribute scientific data to inform the future assessment of the gorilla carrying capacity of Volcanoes National Park, Rwanda. Activities include: (1) investigating the composition, diversity, and seasonal variation of diets of three mountain gorilla groups outside of the Karisoke sector; (2) assessing and comparing the nutritional composition of frequently consumed gorilla food plants; and (3) calculating monthly and annual home ranges of the groups and determining the importance of each habitat type to groups' home ranges.

USFWS: \$95,386<sup>66</sup>

Leveraged Funds: \$10,670

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<sup>65</sup> Funded through the United States Agency for International Development (USAID)

<sup>66</sup> Funded through the United States Agency for International Development (USAID)

## **CWT**

### **F19AP00464**

***Understanding and Building Capacity to Address Illegal Wildlife Trade in Rwanda.*** In partnership with Wildlife Conservation Society. In the last two years, Rwanda has seen an increase of wildlife products seized at its borders and airport, making it a suspected transit country for wildlife trafficking. The purpose of this project is to collaborate with the Rwandan government to develop a better understanding of the extent of wildlife trafficking in Rwanda, including products derived from species listed under the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES), and to establish counter-wildlife trafficking measures nationally and across the region. This project is intended to conserve a diversity of CITES-listed species, such as lions (*Panthera leo*), which have nearly disappeared from the Rwandan landscape; African Grey Parrots (*Psittacus erithacus*), which are nearly extinct in Rwanda; and Grey Crowned Cranes (*Balearica regulorum*), which have severely declined. Specific activities of this one-year grant, in partnership with the Rwandan government, include: (1) assessing the situation of wildlife trafficking in Rwanda; (2) supporting the National Committee for Combating Wildlife Crime to coordinate counter-wildlife trafficking activities in Rwanda; (3) strengthening regional and international collaboration to combat wildlife trafficking; and (4) developing a counter-wildlife trafficking action plan for Rwanda.

USFWS: \$92,962

Leveraged Funds: \$33,100

## **SAO TOME AND PRINCÍPE**

### **MT**

#### **F19AP00486**

***Strengthening Conservation of Sea Turtle Populations and Empowering Local Communities Into Sea Turtle Guardians and Conservation Leaders in Sao Tome Island, Democratic Republic of Sao Tome and Principe.*** In partnership with Associacao Programa Tato. This project will implement a sea turtle conservation program in Sao Tome and Principe primarily focused on protecting and recovery the hawksbill population. Sao Tome and Principe host the largest hawksbill nesting population along the African Atlantic coast. The intent is to protect hawksbill and other sea turtles from poaching for meat, eggs and shells. Activities include: (1) conducting a 6 day training workshop of all staff, rangers, and field assistants on sea turtle biology and field techniques, ecotourism and communication skills; (2) conducting daily night patrols on 22 km of the main hawksbill nesting beaches of Sao Tome during the nesting season, Sept. 15- April 15; (3) relocating nests as necessary to beach hatcheries to protect from poaching, predators and erosion; (4) conducting education and awareness activities with local communities; (5) supporting the Sea Turtle Women Traders Association in developing their skills to produce t-shirts, bags and other souvenirs as an alternative livelihood activity.

USFWS: \$131,608<sup>67</sup>

Leveraged Funds: \$146,400

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<sup>67</sup> Funded through the United States Agency for International Development (USAID)



**MULTIPLE - SAO TOME, SIERRA LEONE, CAMBODIA, LIBERIA, MOROCCO, AND OMAN**

**MT**

**Continuation**

**F17AC00157**

***Scientific and Technical Support to Sea Turtle Projects with a Focus on Africa, Asia, the Middle East and the Western Pacific (2017-2019).*** In partnership with Ocean Ecology Network. This project will strengthen the capacity of Marine Turtle Conservation Fund (MTCF)- funded projects to improve management practices for nesting beach conservation programs and sea turtle bycatch reduction efforts. The grantee will provide technical and scientific assistance for MTCF supported sea turtle conservation projects in Africa, Asia, West Pacific, and Oman to accomplish this. Activities include: (1) site visits to MTCF-funded projects in Cape Verde, Sierra Leone, Liberia, Indonesia, Solomon Islands, Myanmar, Cambodia, and Thailand to provide training and technical support; and (2) provide training and assistance with a loggerhead satellite telemetry research project in Oman and technical support and participation in a sea turtle fisheries bycatch project with fishing communities at Masirah Island, Oman.  
USFWS: \$53,372                      Leveraged Funds: \$32,000

**SIERRA LEONE**

**MT**

**Continuation**

**F18AP00315**

***Continued Development of a Community-Based Marine Turtle Conservation Program for Sierra Leone and Leatherback Conservation Initiative at Turtle, Bonthe/Sherbro Islands and the Southern Shoreline.*** In partnership with Reptile and Amphibian Program. This project will develop a marine turtle conservation program within Sierra Leone that will develop on the ground conservation projects and will raise awareness about the threats from poaching and accidental bycatch in fisheries to the depleted sea turtle populations. This project will provide leadership in organizing and implementing sea turtle conservation programs with the national government and local communities to protect and recovery sea turtle nesting populations within Sierra Leone. Activities include: (1) community-based nesting beach patrols in the Turtle Islands, Sherbro Island and Turner's Peninsula to patrol nesting beaches during November to April to protect nests and nesting females from poaching; (2) collaboration with artisanal fisherman to monitor bycatch and provide training for safe release of captured turtles; and (3) conduct community outreach and education programs in coastal communities and national awareness campaigns about the protected status of sea turtles and their conservation needs.  
USFWS: \$73,970                      Leveraged Funds: \$13,367

**MULTIPLE - SIERRA LEONE, CAMBODIA, LIBERIA, MOROCCO, OMAN, AND SAO TOME**

**MT**  
**Continuation**  
**F17AC00157**

***Scientific and Technical Support to Sea Turtle Projects with a Focus on Africa, Asia, the Middle East and the Western Pacific (2017-2019).*** In partnership with Ocean Ecology Network. This project will strengthen the capacity of Marine Turtle Conservation Fund (MCTF)- funded projects to improve management practices for nesting beach conservation programs and sea turtle bycatch reduction efforts. The grantee will provide technical and scientific assistance for MTCF supported sea turtle conservation projects in Africa, Asia, West Pacific, and Oman to accomplish this. Activities include: (1) site visits to MTCF-funded projects in Cape Verde, Sierra Leone, Liberia, Indonesia, Solomon Islands, Myanmar, Cambodia, and Thailand to provide training and technical support; and (2) provide training and assistance with a loggerhead satellite telemetry research project in Oman and technical support and participation in a sea turtle fisheries bycatch project with fishing communities at Masirah Island, Oman.  
USFWS: \$53,372                      Leveraged Funds: \$32,000

**SOLOMON ISLANDS**

**MT**  
**F19AP00499**

***Community-Based Protection and Monitoring of Leatherback and Hawksbill Turtles in the Western Solomon Islands.*** In partnership with Solomon Islands Community Conservation Partnership. This project will implement a sea turtle conservation program in the Solomon Islands. The intent is to implement community based nesting beach conservation activities for leatherback, green and hawksbill sea turtles. Activities include: (1) conduct nighttime foot patrols on about 10 km of nesting beach on Tetepare, Rendova, and Vangunu Islands to count and protect nests; (2) conduct training workshops on sea turtle biology and conservation techniques for field teams to build conservation capacity of rangers and field monitors; and (3) conduct public outreach and education activities to foster greater awareness for the stewardship and conservation of sea turtle populations.  
USFWS: \$25,000                      Leveraged Funds: \$8,000

**SOUTH AFRICA**

**AFE**  
**F19AP00854**

***The Transboundary Elephant Research Program within Great Limpopo Transfrontier Park, South Africa.*** In partnership with Elephants Alive - Formerly Save the Elephants South Africa. The purpose of this project is to maintain long-term tracking of individual elephant movements within Kruger National Park, on village land and hunting blocks surrounding the Park, and into Mozambique, to better understand elephant habitat needs and how management decisions alter elephant behavior and distribution. Kruger, neighboring private reserves, and protected areas across three countries (Mozambique, South Africa and Zimbabwe) comprise the Great Limpopo Transfrontier Conservation

Area, which is estimated to contain over 33,000 elephants. Within this region, this project is one of the most important long-term partners to document elephant biology and to engage public stakeholders in South Africa's largest elephant population. Specific activities include: (1) engaging communities in elephant range, including participatory mapping and workshops, capacity development and training, and partnerships for anti-poaching units; (2) supporting maintaining and restoring connectivity between elephants and their habitat in the region, including monitoring of elephant movement, human-elephant conflict mitigation measures, and habitat restoration; and (3) researching and disseminating knowledge on elephant movement and coexistence with people.

USFWS: \$74,997

Leveraged Funds: \$175,361

## **CWT**

### **F19AP00455**

***Saving Africa's Lions Through the Development of a Range-Wide Threat Mitigation and Monitoring Plan Based on Improved Understanding of Threats and Associated Lion Mortalities.*** In partnership with The Endangered Wildlife Trust. Lions (*Panthera leo*) historically occupied most of the African continent but are now limited to parts of east and southern Africa, where they face threats of poaching to supply the local trade in lion bones and parts for belief-based use or to satisfy international demand for lion products. The purpose of this project is to undertake a comprehensive investigation to identify key threats and mortality hotspots for lions and determine associated monitoring indicators that allow for range-wide strategic interventions. This project is intended to conserve African lions by addressing the impacts of poaching (through snaring, poisoning, or illegal hunting) and captive breeding in southern Africa. Specific activities will include: (1) filling a key data gap in the recently established African Lion Database by identifying and quantifying the causes of mortality of wild African Lion on the African continent (both natural and anthropogenic); and (2) undertaking a comprehensive study of the supply chain for captive lions in South Africa, to support CITES authorities in South Africa in making informed decisions on CITES export quotas.

USFWS: \$115,118

Leveraged Funds: \$0

## **CWT**

### **F19AP00453**

***Keeping the Cat Out of the Bag - Protecting African Lions and Other Priority Species Through Capacity Building in South Africa.*** In partnership with The Endangered Wildlife Trust. Wildlife trafficking remains a serious threat to wildlife species in South Africa, the third most biodiverse country in the world. In particular, the enforcement of policies under CITES (Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species) is complex in South Africa, in part because of captive breeding programs for lions and other animals. Enforcement challenges are further exacerbated by discrepancies and non-compliance in the issuing of permits from provincial conservation authorities. The purpose of this project is to enhance the skills and capacity of the agencies responsible for the implementation and enforcement of CITES in South Africa. This project is intended to conserve African lions (*Panthera leo*) and other priority species by addressing the impacts of the illegal wildlife trade. Specific activities of this two-year grant include: (1) increasing capacity within the permitting authorities through four training courses; (2)

enhancing the detection of smuggled wildlife by building capacity among Customs officials through hosting four courses under the Flagship Species Identification Training Programs; and (3) improving detection of smuggled wildlife through the deployment of three detection canines imprinted on lion bone and other wildlife contraband at O.R. Tambo International Airport.

USFWS: \$152,905                      Leveraged Funds: \$0

**RT**

**F19AP00768**

***Equipping Hluhluwe-iMfolozi Park's Rangers to Protect its Key 1 Black and White Rhino Populations.*** In partnership with Save the Rhino International. The purpose of this project is to protect the vital black and white rhino populations of Hluhluwe-iMfolozi Park in KwaZulu Natal, South Africa. Activities include: (1) supporting teams to monitor rhinos and provide anti-poaching presence through ground patrols, road blocks, and aerial surveillance; (2) collecting and analyzing rhino monitoring data; (3) providing capacity building and operating expenses related to the prosecution of poaching crimes; and (4) maintaining and upgrading camp infrastructure for security outposts throughout the park.

USFWS: \$166,897<sup>68</sup>                      Leveraged Funds: \$2,155,034

**RT**

**F19AP00769**

***Monitoring and protecting uMkhuze Game Reserve's Black and White Rhino Populations in KwaZulu-Natal.*** In partnership with Save the Rhino International. The purpose of this project is to protect the indigenous black and white rhino populations in uMkhuze Game Reserve in KwaZulu Natal, South Africa. Activities include: (1) fsupporting operating costs and equipment for rangers to conduct daily rhino monitoring and analysis of sightings, anti-poaching patrols and rapid response to security incidents, (2) conducting aerial surveillance to ensure protection of rhino populations, (3) providing tactical training courses for rangers , (4) upgrading ranger camps to provide reliable electricity and surveillance technology..

FWS: \$133,333                      Leveraged Funds: \$2,542,175

## **SPAIN**

**MT**

**F19AP00491**

***Conservation of the Loggerhead Turtle in the Western Mediterranean: Coordinated Solutions for the Bycatch Reduction in the Foraging Population of the Comunidad Valenciana (Spain).*** In partnership with Asociacion Chelonia. This project will work with Spanish gill net and trawl fishers to reduce mortality and injury to accidentally captured sea turtles along the Spanish Mediterranean coast. Juvenile loggerheads from the U.S. nesting popualtion account for about half of loggerheads interacting with fisheries in the Western Meditteranean. Activities include: (1) evaluate sea turtle bycatch

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<sup>68</sup> Funded by United States Agency for International Development – Combating Wildlife Trafficking (USAID-CWT) funds

in bottom trawl fisheries operating in the Gulf of Cadiz using questionnaires and on board observers; (2) continue capacity building of artisanal, trawl and longline fishermen to reduce bycatch and increase sea turtle survival rates through safe handling techniques; (3) create a trinational network (Morocco, Portugal and Spain) to reduce the bycatch impact in the Gulf of Cadiz and Strait of Gibraltar; and (4) support awareness, education and outreach efforts directed towards fishing communities including publication of “The Turtle Gazette,” published with topics for fisherman practical interest as well as sea turtle conservation messaging.

USFWS: \$20,600

Leveraged Funds: \$95,914

## **MT**

### **F19AP00001**

***Assessment of Sea Turtle By-Catch in Trawling Fisheries from the Adriatic Sea and Post-Interaction Mortality Due to Gas Embolism.*** In partnership with Fundació Oceanogràfic. This project will: (1) assess the extent of delayed loggerhead sea turtle bycatch mortality from trawl fisheries in the Adriatic Sea due to gas embolism and decompression sickness and its impact on the Mediterranean nesting loggerhead population; (2) determine mitigation protocols and handling protocols for fisherman to minimize mortality from accidentally captured turtles during trawling. Activities include: (1) conducting complete health assessments of 25 loggerhead turtles accidentally captured alive by Italian trawlers operating in the Adriatic Sea; (2) deploying pop-up satellite transmitters and releasing these same turtles to determine subsequent survival or mortality; (3) analyzing the data and publishing results to inform fisheries regulatory institutions and conservation community; and (4) development of handling protocols for trawl captured sea turtles to minimize mortality.

USFWS: \$70,094<sup>69</sup>

Leveraged Funds: \$49,505

## **MT**

### **Continuation**

### **F17AP00407**

***Involving the Spanish Long Distance Fishery in the Conservation of the NW Atlantic and the Mediterranean Loggerhead Turtle Nesting Populations.*** In partnership with KAI Marine Services. This project will: (1) conduct outreach and education with longline and other fishers; (2) conduct a 3 month survey in the Western Mediterranean to map turtle critical habitat and risk; and (3) conduct fishing trials in Atlantic and Mediterranean with LL vessels to test and validate the 3D bycatch risk zoning tool and test new bycatch mitigation measures.

USFWS: \$46,200

Leveraged Funds: \$166,500

## **SRI LANKA**

### **ASE**

### **Continuation**

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<sup>69</sup> Funded through an agreement with the National Marine Fisheries Service, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), United States Department of Commerce

**F18AP00378**

***H.EL.P. - Human Elephant Peace - Sri Lanka.*** In partnership with Compass Films. This continuation funds year two of this two-year project to research and produce a multimedia public awareness campaign in three local languages for Sri Lanka, home to over 5,000 wild Asian elephants who are threatened by increasing levels of encroachment on their habitat by farmers, agricultural companies and developers and concomitant human-elephant conflict (HEC). This project will communicate information from local and international elephant experts with these vulnerable villagers through a highly efficient educational campaign. The campaign will include awareness videos broadcasted on national TV and social media and also directly to the target population with educational teams deploying to conflict areas to conduct awareness presentations, film projections, interactive discussions, and distribution of free educational kits. Specific project activities include: (1) produce 24, 60-second educational TV spots to international broadcast standards in English, Sinhala, and Tamil languages; (2) produce 12, 3-minute educational segments for community events; (3) produce a compilation of all segments for a 30-minute educational program; (4) produce and distribute an educational kit in local languages with an educational booklet, DVD copy of the film, memory game for children and adults, and a poster. This is the first broad-scale elephant conservation public media campaign undertaken in this range state.

USFWS: \$49,920<sup>70</sup>

Leveraged Funds: \$105,000

**ASE****Continuation****F18AP00366**

***Facilitating Human Elephant Co Existence in Sri Lanka.*** In partnership with Centre for Conservation and Research. This project will inform stakeholders impacted by and tasked with managing human-elephant conflict (HEC) in Sri Lanka (e.g., communities, development, regulatory, conservation authorities) about factors impacting effective management and implementation of a human-elephant coexistence (HECx) model in Sri Lanka. Factors include: (1) the failure of past HEC mitigation and elephant conservation strategies – limiting elephants to protected areas (PA), elephant translocations, elephant drives, electric fences on PA boundaries; (2) the scale and extent of HEC, inadequacy of too few conservation officers, and the need for a range of stakeholders playing an active role in HEC mitigation; (3) future directions of effective HEC mitigation and elephant conservation, such as managing elephants in and outside PAs, community-based village and paddy field electric fences, changes in human behavior; and (4) roles and responsibilities of stakeholders in mitigating HEC. Project activities include: (1) 150+ awareness workshops tailored to target groups; (2) 24+ meetings with government authorities; (3) 6+ newspaper articles published in national outlets. The long-term goal of this project is to compel relevant stakeholders to phase out inappropriate HEC management activities, implement an appropriate HECx model, and undertake responsible development in Sri Lanka.

USFWS: \$21,318

Leveraged Funds: \$7,342

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<sup>70</sup> Funded by proceeds from sales of the Save Vanishing Species stamp

**MT**

**F19AP00350**

***Community Outreach Programme to Mitigate Marine Turtle By-Catch & Turtle Human Conflict Kalpitiya Peninsula, Sri Lanka.*** In partnership with Bio Conservation Society. This project will implement a conservation program for nesting and foraging turtles in the Kalpitiya Peninsula. The intent of the project is to address the threats from accidental capture and resulting injuries and mortality from local fisheries. Activities include: (1) conduct 12 workshops to train fisherman in safe handling and release of marine turtles; (2) consult with fisherman to develop strategies and methods to minimize captures of sea turtles; and (3) conduct awareness and outreach campaign with schools, fisherman groups and local communities to raise awareness of sea turtle status and conservation issues as well as coastal biodiversity and sustainability.

USFWS: \$11,700

Leveraged Funds: \$8,780

**ST. LUCIA**

**CAR**

**F20AP00306**

***Saving the Saint Lucia Racer.*** In partnership with Durrell Wildlife Conservation Trust. The purpose of this two-year project is to support conservation efforts in Saint Lucia for the Critically Endangered Saint Lucia racer by implementing key actions identified in the species Conservation Action Plan (2015-2024). The Saint Lucia racer is arguably the world's rarest snake. With a population of less than fifty individuals, restricted to a single 9.4 hectare islet, the species is at high risk of extinction from invasion by nonnative predators and stochastic events. This project builds upon previous USFWS support to project partners which funded the development of the Species Action Plan. Project activities include: (1) establishing a captive breeding program for the Saint Lucia racer to provide an assurance population and provide offspring to create a future second population at a future mainland island site; (2) undertaking research on the wild population to improve the knowledge of the species to inform the captive breeding and future reintroductions to the mainland island site; and (3) carrying out a public outreach and education program to reinforce biosecurity measures on the island and increase public understanding and support of the St. Lucia racer conservation program.

FWS: \$99,665

Leveraged Funds: \$139,540

**MULTIPLE - ST. VINCENT, GRENADA AND THE GRENADINES**

**CAR**

**F20AP00253**

***Capacity Building for Grenadines Wildlife Reserves.*** In partnership with Environmental Protection in the Caribbean, Inc. The purpose of this project is to support biodiversity conservation of the transboundary Grenadines archipelago of St. Vincent and the Grenadines and Grenada by building local capacity for advocacy, outreach, and management in order to reduce poaching and habitat degradation. The recipient will conserve the wildlife and habitats of Grenadines offshore island reserves by implementing the Community-based Conservation Management Plan (the Plan) produced

with USFWS funding in 2018. The Plan addresses threats including burning and overgrazing of habitats and poaching of seabirds. Project activities include: (1) increasing monitoring capability through technical and material support for use of drones and remote cameras by authorities; (2) begin implementing the Conservation Management Plan and convene quarterly meetings of the Management Plan Committee; (3) changing local behaviors through ongoing community outreach activities and by developing a school curriculum focused on local wildlife conservation; and (4) assessing the presence of invasive mammals on islands and their impacts on seabird populations.

FWS: \$101,003

Leveraged Funds: \$14,630

## SOMALIA

### CWT

#### F19AP00469

***Mapping Illicit Trafficking Networks and Strengthening Law Enforcement Capacity to Combat Cheetah Trade in East Africa and the Arabian Peninsula.*** In partnership with Colorado State University. Live cheetah trafficking has contributed to the decimation of cheetah populations in east Africa, where trafficking is most intense in Somaliland and Ethiopia. The purpose of this project is to disrupt and reduce the illicit trade of live cheetahs (*Acinonyx jubatus*) trafficked in Somaliland and the greater East Africa-Arabian Peninsula region through effective enforcement of wildlife laws and enhanced capacity of law enforcement and judicial authorities. This project is intended to conserve cheetahs by identifying undetected wild populations and strengthening law enforcement capacity. Specific activities of this two-year grant include: (1) updating range maps for wild cheetah populations in Somaliland and East Africa to increase knowledge of their distribution and potential sources for trafficking; (2) developing cheetah trafficking models to map patterns of probable transport routes from wild populations in East Africa to buyers in the Arabian Peninsula; (3) increasing the capacity of Somaliland law enforcement and judiciary authorities to investigate, interdict, prosecute and prevent trafficking of cheetahs in the field and the courts; and (4) using cheetah trafficking models and developed skill sets to guide law enforcement interventions and increase arrests and prosecutions of traffickers in Somaliland.

USFWS: \$117,076

Leveraged Funds: \$0

## TANZANIA

### AFE

#### F19AP00940

***Generating Local Support for Elephant conservation near Ruaha National Park, Tanzania.*** In partnership with Mountains and Plains Institute for Lifelong Learning and Service (MPILLS). The purpose of this project is to build local community support for elephant conservation in villages surrounding Tanzania's Ruaha National Park and the adjacent Lunda-Mkwambi Wildlife Management Area, including building their resistance to poaching networks seeking assistance from the communities to illegally hunt and kill elephants for their ivory. Where people perceive no benefits from elephant conservation, communities can be sources of labor for organized poachers and human-elephant conflict



can create severe antagonism towards the species. This project works to alter that perception by building partnerships with the local communities that live around one of East Africa's largest remaining elephant populations. Specific activities include: (1) introducing and supporting alternative livelihood strategies in villages known to support poaching; (2) developing beehive fencing to address human-elephant conflict; and (3) public engagement and delivery of an established conservation education curriculum, including teacher training and knowledge assessments as well as conservation film showings in villages that have experienced human-elephant conflict and poaching.  
USFWS: \$100,000                      Leveraged Funds: \$69,800

**GA**

**F19AP00625**

***Chimpanzees and Fires: Assessing the Impact of Annual Fires on Chimpanzees and Critical Chimpanzee Habitat in Western Tanzania.*** In partnership with Liverpool John Moores University. The purpose of this two year project is to support protection of eastern chimpanzees by establishing baseline data on the effect of annual burning on chimpanzee habitat and behavior in western Tanzania, and disseminating findings for integration into fire management strategies. Activities include: (1) identifying landscape features that are associated with burning patterns across the Greater Mahale Ecosystem; (2) identifying areas of overlap between burning and chimpanzee habitat use; (3) identifying the effect of burning on vegetation and establishing monthly monitoring; and (4) sponsoring and training a post-graduate MSc student in Geographic Information Systems at the University of Dar es Salaam.

USFWS: \$79,169                      Leveraged Funds: \$159,131

**RT**

**F19AP00871**

***Securing the Future of Tanzania's Third-Largest Eastern Black Rhino Population, the Mkomazi Rhino Sanctuary*** In partnership with Save the Rhino International. The purpose of this project is to assist in the protection of an important population of Eastern black rhino in Mkomazi National Park, Tanzania. Activities include: (1) supporting ground and aerial patrols; (2) maintaining park infrastructure; (3) training and deploying a canine tracker team; (4) reviewing the rhino sanctuary's ecological carrying capacity; and (5) establishing a new rhino tracking and security outpost.

FWS: \$33,439<sup>71</sup>                      Leveraged Funds: \$530,057

**RT**

**F19AP00763**

***Support to Tanzania National Parks in the Protection of their Black Rhinoceros Population in Serengeti National Park and Adjoining Areas, Tanzania.*** In partnership with Zoologische Gesellschaft Frankfurt von 1858 e.V. The purpose of this project is to protect a key population of Eastern black rhino in Serengeti National Park and the surrounding areas, which is under significant threat due poaching. Activities include: (1) supporting improvements in protection and monitoring abilities, including provision of

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<sup>71</sup> Funded by proceeds from sales of the Save Vanishing Species stamp

necessary equipment and vehicles for ranger deployment; (2) continuing an annual rhino tagging effort; (3) improving law enforcement capacity; and (4) conducting aerial surveillance of rhino populations.

FWS: \$114,800

Leveraged Funds: \$41,940

## THAILAND

ASE

**F19AP00362**

***Conserving the Critical Asian Elephant Population of Thailand's Kaeng Krachan National Park Through Improved Law Enforcement and Improved Human-Elephant Conflict Mitigation.*** In partnership with Wildlife Conservation Society. Kaeng Krachan National Park (KKNP) is home to one of Thailand's largest and a globally important elephant population. The principal threats to the elephants of KKNP are poaching of elephants for ivory and body parts, capturing of juveniles for elephant camps, and retaliatory killing due to human–elephant conflict (HEC). This project will help park authorities and local communities with poaching reduction and HEC mitigation. Project objectives are: (1) provide technical support, training, and other assistance to an intelligence-investigation unit in KKNP; (2) provide refresher training and support for field surveillance inside KKNP, including planning and SMART data analysis; (3) reduce HEC by promoting standard mitigation methods, monitoring effectiveness, and monitoring temporal and spatial changes in elephant crop-raiding behavior; and (4) conduct outreach activities in local communities to raise awareness of wildlife conservation issues. This project will result in intelligence-investigation units functioning to help strengthen enforcement of wildlife trade and traffickers, effective surveillance in KKNP, motivated park staff, and better provisioned and trained staff capable of dealing with elephant poaching gangs, and reduced deaths to elephants in retaliation for HEC.

USFWS: \$59,988

Leveraged Funds: \$61,230

ASE

**F19AP00052**

***Understanding Elephant Behavior: A Novel Approach to Mitigating Human-Elephant Conflict in Kanchanaburi, Thailand.*** In partnership with Research Foundation of CUNY. This two year project undertakes a novel study that will identify individual differences in wild Asian elephant behavior and construct a personality profile for crop-raiding elephants in Salakapra Wildlife Sanctuary, Kanchanaburi, Thailand. Comparative elephant behavioral will be collected from watchtowers on the border of the protected area (PA) and adjacent crop fields, and at watering holes as elephants prepare to raid crops, are raiding or human-elephant conflict (HEC), or are safely inside the PA. Food-rewarding puzzle boxes will be installed at watering holes in the PA to observe how differences in elephant behavior and personality are exhibited in a task requiring innovation and problem-solving. These behavioral data will inform the development of a behavioral/personality profile of crop-raiding elephants. If dominance, aggression, affiliation, innovation, problem-solving, emotional state, and risk aversion can be correlated with propensity to crop-raid, new non-fear-based HEC mitigation strategies can be developed. This work has important implications for understanding why certain

elephants crop raid, and how mitigation strategies can account for elephant needs and behavior and change their decision-making. Ultimately, this project will work to prevent HEC before it begins ensuring that mitigation strategies are long-term rather than temporary fixes to a growing problem.

USFWS: \$114,408<sup>72</sup>                      Leveraged Funds: \$24,756

## **ASE**

### **Continuation**

#### **F18AP00379**

***Living with Elephants: Improving Human-Elephant Coexistence in Thailand's Western Forest Complex Corridor.*** In partnership with Zoological Society of London.

The goal of this two-year project is to promote coexistence of Asian elephants and humans (HECx) by working with the government and communities in the Western Forest Complex (WEFCOM) of Thailand, a mosaic of protected areas (PA) and regionally significant elephant conservation landscape. Project objectives include: (1) set baselines for the distribution, composition and occupancy of elephants and livestock in PAs, with a monthly monitoring program in place to inform an adaptive HECx approach; (2) build upon a socioeconomic and HEC database through surveys and HEC monitoring and conduct annual meetings and awareness raising in two villages to develop a long-term HECx plan; and (3) implementation of elephant early-warning systems in two villages. Project activities include: (1) conduct camera trap (CT) surveys to understand spatio-temporal distribution of elephants as well as livestock incursions into the PAs; (2) conduct CT surveys at watering holes and mineral licks in the PAs, as well as entry/exits used by elephants in four villages; (3) build a long-term individual ID database for elephants; (4) provide an elephant ID guide and training for PA managers and staff; and (5) analyze CT data on species movement and integrate it into mitigation strategies.

USFWS: \$41,919                      Leveraged Funds: \$33,206

## **CWT**

#### **F19AP00473**

***Piloting Systems of Intelligence-Led Wildlife Crime Prevention in the Southeastern Western Forest Complex Thailand.*** In partnership with Panthera. Forests across

Southeast Asia are slowly being emptied of mammals, reptiles, and birds to fuel demand for status symbols, traditional medicine, and exotic pets. The purpose of this project is to trial systems and processes that better equip enforcement rangers and protected area staff to counter wildlife trafficking in three of five protected areas (PAs) in the southeastern section of the Western Forest Complex (sWEFCOM) in Thailand. This project is intended to conserve threatened species including the Indochinese tiger, Asian elephant, and Sunda pangolin by increasing the Department of National Parks' (DNP) and local law enforcement agencies' capacity to disrupt wildlife poaching and trafficking. Specific activities of this two-year grant include: (1) building capacity and systems to better aggregate, manage, and analyze multiple information streams on illegal wildlife trade

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<sup>72</sup> Of this, \$71,070 was funded by proceeds from sales of the Save Vanishing Species stamp and an additional \$43,338 was provided by Resource Management funds

through the use of a single intelligence platform across sWEFCOM; (2) formalizing sWEFCOM action plans for combating wildlife crime within each PA and build cross-PA relationships necessary to carry out targeted LE interventions; and (3) promoting additional information-sharing outside of the PA network and facilitate collaboration between other national law enforcement agencies to develop trusted relationships and ongoing cooperation in combating wildlife crime.

USFWS: \$70,677

Leveraged Funds: \$46,480

## **MT**

### **Continuation**

#### **F18AP00206**

***Rapid Nesting and Threats Assessments for the Recovery of Hawksbill Nesting in the Gulf of Thailand.*** In partnership with Loma Linda University. This project will identify remnant hawksbill nesting population along 500 km of Thailand coast in which to establish community based conservation programs. The intent of this project is to protect hawksbill nests and nesting females from poaching. Activities include: (1) Synthesize all reported hawksbill nesting within past five years; (2) visit communities where nesting has been reported to confirm recent or current nesting and threats through interviews and conducting night time surveys; (3) during community visits document presence and sale of hawksbill shell and other sea turtle products; and (4) support four Thai representatives to participate in regional training workshop in Cambodia on sea turtle biology and conservation methods. Year two activities include: (1) conduct capacity building and training workshop for 16 participants from four Thai Provinces and additional representatives from Thai Navy and Dept. of Marine and Coastal Resources that are or will be involved in on ground nesting beach conservation projects.

USFWS: \$11,288

Leveraged Funds: \$22,634

## **MULTIPLE – THAILAND AND CAMBODIA**

## **ASE**

#### **F19AP00360**

***Cross-Border Environmental Education in Cambodia and Thailand to Protect Asian Elephants and Combat Trafficking of Ivory.*** In partnership with Wildlife Alliance. This environmental education project will conduct activities in Cambodia and Thailand to curb cross-border trade of illegal wildlife products and habitat destruction. The primary goals of the Kouprey Express Environmental Education Program are to empower youth and communities to make responsible decisions regarding the sustainable management of natural resources, effect positive change, shifts in attitudes, behaviors, and actions towards wildlife and their habitat, and promote pride and grassroots action to protect Asian elephants and other wildlife in Cambodia and Thailand, and reduce consumption of ivory. Project objectives are: (1) 7,500+ Cambodian youth gain understanding of resource use and an increased desire to protect habitat and conserve Asian elephants; (2) 600+ teachers and key stakeholders including staff from the Ministry of Environment, have improved their capacity to deliver environmental education curriculum; and (3) 10,000 community members have increased awareness, through Community Night Shows and

other public events, about Asian elephants, illegal wildlife trafficking, snaring, and environmental crimes.

USFWS: \$90,074

Leveraged Funds: \$197,285

## TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

### CAR

#### F20AP00310

#### ***A Consumer Behavior Change Campaign and Intelligence-Led Conservation Capacity Training to Address the Illegal Wildlife Trade in Trinidad and Tobago - 2.***

In partnership with Sustainable Innovation Initiatives, Inc. The purpose of this project is to reduce the illegal wildlife trade in Trinidad and Tobago by launching a targeted, coalition-based behavior change campaign to reduce demand for illegal pet wildlife. This project is intended to change consumer behavior to reduce the demand for illegal pet wildlife from South America, and to foster conservation leadership and public interest to protect native neotropical fauna, domestic agriculture, public health, and five protected areas from poaching, invasive species introductions, and zoonotic disease transmission. Project activities consist of: (1) production of consumer-tested website, advertisements, and educational materials to inform and incentivize behavior change among pet buyers, pet keepers, and their upstream influencers; (2) development of science- and risk-based pet wildlife recommendations to reduce legal and ethical confusion among target audiences and conservation leaders; (3) sustained delivery of web-content, advertising, and educational opportunities through multiple channels; (4) conduct mixed-methods evaluation of campaign impacts among pet buyers, pet keepers, and upstream influencers; (5) implement a campaign “legacy” workshop among coalition partners for continued collaboration and/or campaign divestiture; and (6) establishment of a coalition of influential organizations to launch a second targeted, coalition-based behavior change campaign to reduce illegal bushmeat consumption.

FWS: \$115,981

Leveraged Funds: \$41,063

## TURKEY

### MT

#### Continuation

#### F18AP00214

#### ***Developing a Conservation Project to Address Sea Turtle Bycatch Mortality in Mediterranean Coast of Turkey.***

In partnership with Pamukkale Üniversitesi. This project will develop a sea turtle conservation program to address fisheries bycatch issues near the main loggerhead nesting beaches in Turkey. Activities will include: (1) placing two on-board observers on fishing boats to gather information on fishing operations, gear and sea turtle captures on the far eastern and western Turkish Mediterranean coast; (2) deploying GPS tracking devices with volunteer fisherman to determine main fishing areas and “hotspots”; (3) testing LED lights as bycatch reduction measures; (4) implementing awareness and outreach campaign for safe release and handling of turtles accidentally captured in net, trawl or long line fisheries and new techniques to reduce

captures; and (5) in water netting surveys to assess sea turtle population structure on foraging grounds.

USFWS: \$24,875

Leveraged Funds: \$11,880

## UGANDA

### GA

#### F19AP00631

##### ***Improving Chimpanzee Protection and Raising their Conservation Value in Uganda.***

In partnership with the Wildlife Conservation Society. The purpose of this project is to determine the current status, distribution and threats to chimpanzees in critical sites in western Uganda; and to develop conservation actions to strengthen chimpanzee conservation in the surveyed sites. Activities include: (1) conducting a chimpanzee census in selected sites, including analyzing, mapping and reporting results; (2) conducting refresher training for research assistants; and (3) conducting a stakeholder meeting to disseminate census results, develop conservation interventions, and identify implementing partners.

USFWS: \$251,769

Leveraged Funds: \$59,941

### GA

#### F19AP00627

##### ***Assessing Anthropogenic Threats to Endangered Mountain Gorillas in Bwindi***

***Impenetrable National Park, Uganda.*** In partnership with the Max Planck Institute for Evolutionary Anthropology. The purpose of this project is to monitor anthropogenic effects on mountain gorillas in Bwindi Impenetrable National Park, Uganda. Activities include: (1) continuing long-term monitoring of group size, structure, and birth and mortality rates of habituated groups; (2) quantifying the time habituated gorilla groups spend outside of the park, and spend crop raiding; (3) quantifying the frequency of habituated gorilla groups crossing the park road; (4) strengthening national capacity for science-based conservation and tourism management; and (5) conducting conservation education and community outreach.

USFWS: \$52,550

Leveraged Funds: \$83,030

## USA

### CWT

#### F19AP00466

##### ***A Novel Forensics Tool Using Microbes to Inform the Provenance of African Grey***

***Parrots in the Wildlife Trade in the US and Abroad.*** In partnership with Regents of the University of Colorado. A continuing and problematic trend in the exotic animal pet trade is that wild animals are being illegally extracted from their native habitats, 'laundered' through captive breeding operations, and then marketed as legal and captive-born. The purpose of this project is to counter wildlife trafficking globally by researching the utility of a novel biological marker that can be used as forensic evidence indicating whether an animal has been legally reared in captivity or illegally harvested from the wild. The project is intended to conserve African grey parrots by developing a new forensic tool

that can enable investigators to use a robust type of evidence that identifies the animal's provenance as wild or captive reared. Specific activities of this two-year grant include: (1) refining the design for a 'proof of concept' study aimed at developing a new forensics tool and identifying a larger community of stakeholders; (2) collecting fecal samples from African grey parrots in captive facilities and from the wild; (3) sequencing the microbial DNA from fecal samples to study the bacteria and parasites present; (4) analyzing data to test whether bird rearing history (wild versus captive) is a reliable and strong signal in the dataset relative to other sources of variability; (5) disseminating results to wildlife forensic specialists and criminology stakeholders; and (6) beginning to apply the approach to other species threatened by illegal wild harvest for the pet trade.

USFWS: \$60,965                      Leveraged Funds: \$0

## VIETNAM

### ASE

#### **Continuation F18AP00374**

***Saving Vietnam's Largest Remaining Wild Asian Elephant Population.*** In partnership with World Wide Fund for Nature Vietnam. Vietnam's wild Asian elephant population has been in steep decline for decades, with a total remaining population of approximately 100 individuals divided across multiple small populations and several provinces. The largest of these populations is located in Dak Lak province, where 60-65 animals remain centered in Yok Don National Park (YDNP), an area of dry deciduous dipterocarp forest. This 2-year project continues previous work in the landscape, project objectives include: (1) conduct baseline research on elephant populations to enable strategic conservation and management interventions; and (2) reduce human-elephant conflict (HEC) to minimize impacts on local communities' livelihoods and avoid retaliatory killings. Project activities include: (1) fecal-DNA assessments of to determine elephant population estimates through capture-mark-recapture approaches and population viability assessed through bottleneck analysis; (2) a feasibility study for GPS-collaring wild elephants; (3) develop an HEC management strategy in consultation with stakeholders; and (4) develop local stakeholder capacity to address HEC. This project will contribute to the conservation of YDNP, the largest protected area in Vietnam, and the remaining Asian elephants surviving in the landscape.

USFWS: \$56,454                      Leveraged Funds: \$13,188

### GA

#### **F19AP00797**

***Holistic Conservation of the World's Largest Northern White-cheeked Gibbon Population in Pu Mat National Park (PMNP), Vietnam.*** In partnership with Fauna and Flora International. This project will secure the biodiversity values of PMNP with a focus on the Critically Endangered northern white-cheeked gibbon (*Nomascus leucogenys*) via strengthening "No Kill" zones and local capacity. The project's overarching vision is to establish the first evidence-based conservation project in Vietnam that demonstrates how surveillance in combination with community-based approaches to preventing wildlife crime can lead to quantified recovery of priority species. The project's objectives are: (1)

accurately estimate the gibbon population and map its distribution inside PMNP; (2) professionalize the community-based snare removal and gibbon monitoring teams, and their use of Spatial Monitoring and Reporting Tool (SMART); (3) introduce situational crime prevention to further reduce illegal activity inside the park; and, (4) build local capacity for protected area management and planning.

USFWS: \$70,055

Leveraged Funds: \$0

## **GA**

### **F19AP00796**

***Building Local, National and International Knowledge and Cooperation to Support Ongoing Conservation of the Critically Endangered Western Black Crested Gibbon (Nomascus concolor) in Vietnam.*** In partnership with Fauna and Flora International.

This project will help stabilize and increase the last viable population of *Nomascus concolor* in Vietnam. The project goals are to improve transboundary cooperation for gibbon conservation, support the operationalizing of a conservation action plan in Vietnam, which includes filling gaps in existing knowledge of the *N. concolor* ecology, and replicate the sustainable finance mechanism – already developed with support from USFWS – to additional sites within this landscape. Project objectives are: (1) expand a Payment for Ecosystem Services (PES) finance model for community-based conservation into new villages, with a focus on Muong La Nature Reserve (MLNR); (2) improve community-based gibbon monitoring capacity, especially knowledge on gibbon feeding ecology, habitat and occupancy; (3) build an effective and active transboundary coalition of practitioners to share data, lessons and best practices, to measurably improve gibbon conservation outcomes; and, (4) begin implementation of the Species Action Plan in Vietnam.

USFWS: \$60,046

Leveraged Funds: \$0

## **CWT**

### **F20AP00117**

***Building National Capacity to Combat Wildlife Trafficking in Vietnam.*** In partnership with Vietnam Wildlife Action Center. The biodiversity, culture, economy and location of Vietnam have made it a key producer, consumer and transit country for trafficked wildlife. The purpose of this project is to counter wildlife trafficking in Vietnam by delivering the first-ever master's degree course on Combating Illegal Wildlife Trade in Vietnam and Southeast Asia and empowering a new generation of Vietnamese nationals to address their nation's substantial responsibilities regarding the illegal wildlife trade.

This project is intended to contribute towards the conservation of a broad range of species of fauna and flora that are threatened by illegal trade by addressing the impact of Vietnam's historically low capacity for countering a trade with which it is profoundly associated. Specific activities include: (1) establishing a multidisciplinary master's course in combating the illegal wildlife trade, in partnership with the University of Vinh (Vinh City, Nghe An Province), starting with two short courses for Master's students and appropriate NGO and government staff in 2020 and 2021; (2) facilitating work placements for course participants by partnering with wildlife conservation and enforcement organizations; and (3) coordinating course participants' research projects directly related to aspects of the illegal wildlife trade.



FWS: \$55,980

Leveraged Funds: \$7,500

**CWT**

**F19AP00474**

***Tackling the Illegal Trade of Marine Turtles in Vietnam.*** In partnership with Education for Nature-Vietnam (ENV). Marine turtle populations in Vietnam are severely depleted from historic levels due in large part to the illegal trade of ornamental turtle products and exploitation for meat and eggs. Vietnam is also a major trafficking route for Hawksbill and green turtle products from the wider Asian region to the largest consumer country in the region, China. Hawksbill and green sea turtles especially remain at high risk as long as there is high demand and inadequate enforcement of the laws protecting marine turtles. The purpose of this project is reduce marine turtle trafficking in and through Vietnam by deterring the resurgence of operations by known offenders, identifying and eliminating new trafficking operations, and implementing policy and coordination among partners to further protect turtles. Specific activities include: (1) conducting rapid assessment of 100-125 fishing port facilities; (2) carrying out follow-up field investigations based on rapid assessments; (3) expanding a consumer crime reduction campaign including addressing crimes reported by the public via ENV's Wildlife Crime Hotline; (4) collaborating with government officials to strengthen legislation protecting turtles; (5) implementing anti-trafficking measures within the National Marine Turtle Action Plan; and (6) developing awareness campaigns to reduce green turtle egg harvesting on Con Dao Island.

USFWS: \$122,221

Leveraged Funds: \$30,921

**CWT**

**F19AP00459**

***Combating the Illegal Wildlife Trade in Tortoises and Freshwater Turtles in Vietnam.***

In partnership with Indo-Myanmar Conservation (IMC) Asian Turtle Program.

Freshwater turtles and tortoises (TFTs) are highly traded, contributing to serious declines: of the 356 species of TFTs and marine turtles recognized globally, 61% are threatened with extinction. Despite establishing legal protections for 30 native species of turtles, TFT trafficking in Vietnam remains a serious threat to the survival of these species. The purpose of this project is to improve the protection of highly threatened TFT species in Vietnam through increasing the effectiveness in identifying origins and legal status of individual animals. Specific activities of this two-year grant include: (1) undertaking a needs assessment and review of illegal TFT confiscations in Vietnam; (2) developing clear guidelines on rescue of confiscated animals, placement and release options for native and non-native TFT species in the wildlife trade in Vietnam; (3) improving enforcement capacity of wildlife protection agencies in Vietnam through training and resource development; (4) augmenting the DNA database of endangered turtles in Vietnam with good locality data; (5) developing a protocol (using DNA barcoding) to identify turtles in the illegal trade and their geographic origins to aid in enforcement, monitoring of farms, and releases of confiscated animals.

USFWS: \$100,000

Leveraged Funds: \$0

**CWT**

**F19AP00458**

***Securing a Stronghold for Wildlife in Vietnam and Recovering Populations of Pangolins in Pu Mat National Park, Vietnam.*** In partnership with Save Vietnam's Wildlife. Vietnam is home to Sunda pangolins (*Manis javanica*) and Chinese pangolins (*Manis pentadactyla*), but illegal killing for the international demand for pangolin scales and meat is having a devastating impact on their wild populations. Previous USFWS support to Save Vietnam's Wildlife (2017-2019) helped to counter pangolin trafficking and bolster the population of pangolins in Vietnam by reintroducing rescued pangolins from the illegal trade, monitoring the populations through radio-tracking and camera trapping, and establishing a field presence within Pu Mat National Park to monitor the reintroduced pangolins. This project will address illegal killing and trafficking of pangolins in Vietnam by further securing Pu Mat National Park as a stronghold for pangolins and other wildlife. Specific activities of this two-year grant include: (1) recruitment, training, and deployment of 8 new anti-poaching staff; (2) collection and analysis of data on threats and illegal activities around Pu Mat in order to reduce illegal activities within the park and improve government action; (3) support for workshops and training of relevant stakeholders, including the Department of Agricultural and Rural Development, Forest Protection Department, enforcement officials, and rangers; and, (4) continued monitoring of released pangolins using innovative technologies such as camera traps and drones.

USFWS: \$60,000

Leveraged Funds: \$60,000

## **CWT**

### **F19AP00451**

***Building National Capacity to Combat Wildlife Trafficking in Vietnam.*** In partnership with Vietnam Wildlife Action Center. The biodiversity, culture, economy and location of Vietnam have made it a key producer, consumer and transit country for trafficked wildlife. The purpose of this project is to counter wildlife trafficking in Vietnam by delivering the first-ever master's degree course on Combating Illegal Wildlife Trade in Vietnam and Southeast Asia and empowering a new generation of Vietnamese nationals to address their nation's substantial responsibilities regarding the illegal wildlife trade. This project is intended to contribute towards the conservation of a broad range of species of fauna and flora that are threatened by illegal trade by addressing the impact of Vietnam's historically low capacity for countering a trade with which it is profoundly associated. Specific activities include: (1) establishing a multidisciplinary master's course in combating the illegal wildlife trade, in partnership with the University of Vinh (Vinh City, Nghe An Province), starting with two short courses for Master's students and appropriate NGO and government staff in 2020 and 2021; (2) facilitating work placements for course participants by partnering with wildlife conservation and enforcement organizations; and (3) coordinating course participants' research projects directly related to aspects of the illegal wildlife trade.

USFWS: \$55,980

Leveraged Funds: \$7,500

## **MT**

### **Continuation**

### **F17AP00404**

***Taking Action to Combat the Illegal Trade of Marine Turtles in Vietnam.*** In partnership with TRAFFIC International. This project will select and hire a project manager to work closely with the national government to implement priorities of the National Sea Turtle Conservation Action Plan including planning and organizing workshops with all other stakeholders and parties with capacity or responsibility to implement conservation actions.

USFWS: \$32,422<sup>73</sup>                      Leveraged Funds: \$0

## **MT**

### **Continuation**

#### **F17AP00195**

***Support for Community-Based Marine Turtle Nesting Beach Conservation and Bycatch Reduction in Vietnam.*** In partnership with International Union for Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources. This project will continue community-based sea turtle conservation programs along select coastal provinces and communities and to determine the current status of hawksbills in Vietnam. Vietnam's historically abundant and regionally significant sea turtle populations have been depleted from over exploitation and only remnant small nesting and foraging populations exist. The intention of this project is to protect nests and nesting females from poaching and gather information about the status of the hawksbill to inform a more focused and effective conservation strategy for the species in Vietnam. Activities include: (1) community-based surveys to protect nests along 70 km of nesting beach in six provinces as well as work with fisherman to safely release sea turtles accidentally captured in coastal fisheries; (2) recruiting, training and fielding about 25 volunteers to support rangers at Con Dao National Park to patrol remote beaches and to protect about 1,000 green turtle nests and 250 nesting females the largest remaining sea turtle nesting population in Vietnam; and (3) conducting field surveys at selected hawksbill foraging grounds to assess abundance, status and threats.

USFWS: \$94,824                      Leveraged Funds: \$82,552

## **ZAMBIA**

### **AFE**

#### **F19AP00853**

***Law Enforcement Operational Support for Elephant Security in the Nsumbu-Tanganyika Ecosystem.*** In partnership with Zoologische Gesellschaft Frankfurt von 1858 e.V. The purpose of this project is to conserve an isolated, genetically distinct population of elephants in northern Zambia. This small population of 100 to 200 elephants is a remnant of elephants that once occurred across a much larger area in neighboring southeastern Democratic Republic of Congo, but have since been exterminated. The surviving elephants are concentrated in a rare forest type in Nsumbu National Park, and are estimated to occupy less than 20% of the available potential habitat. This project works to provide basic security for the Nsumbu elephants with the long-term goal of

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<sup>73</sup> Funded by United States Agency for International Development – Combating Wildlife Trafficking (USAID-CWT) funds

allowing population recovery and expansion into nearby protected areas and formerly occupied range. Specific activities include providing operational support, including fuel, patrol rations, staff, and vehicle maintenance, in order to improve detection and deterrence of poaching and other illegal activities.

USFWS: \$99,792

Leveraged Funds: \$497,091

## **AFE**

### **F19AP00851**

***Combating Increasing Pressures on the Threatened Elephant Population in Zambia's South Luangwa National Park, with Improved Technology and Strengthening Local Law Enforcement Capacity.*** In partnership with Conservation South Luangwa. The purpose of this project is to maintain anti-poaching pressure in a depleted and actively poached elephant population in eastern Zambia and to build upon previous support that addressed inadequate staffing levels in ranger units. Estimated at around 100,000 elephants in the 1970s, the Luangwa Valley still contains Zambia's largest population of elephants, with around 14,000 individuals surviving across a complex of protected areas, game management areas, and village lands. This project works with the Government of Zambia to support an anti-poaching presence in South Luangwa National Park, including its response to a 2017-2018 increase in illegal killings. This project builds on sustained efforts to increase the capacity of park management and overall numbers of park rangers to provide basic security for Luangwa's elephants and to address the highest recorded elephant mortality in a decade. Specific activities include: (1) supporting operational anti-poaching activities for wildlife police officers and community scouts, including patrol equipment and rations, service for patrol vehicles, and coordination with the government parks authority; and (2) upgrading the radio communication system, including conversion to digital radios, and specialized training for control room operators.

USFWS: \$150,420

Leveraged Funds: \$205,840

## **CWT**

### **F19AP00456**

***Collaborative Development and Application of Genetic Tools, Forensic Capacity, and Local Expertise to Combat Big Cat Trafficking in Eastern and Southern Africa.*** In partnership with Zambian Carnivore Programme. Big cats in Africa (lions, cheetahs and leopards) are declining across their range due to an array of human impacts, including poaching. The purpose of this project is to counter the trafficking of big cats in Eastern and Southern Africa (using Zambia as the model) through developing and applying a genetic tool to identify source populations of trafficked big cats and building in-country capacity for forensics and prosecutions of wildlife crimes. This project is intended to conserve lions, leopards, and cheetahs by reducing the impact of illegal offtake from poaching, driven in part by a growing market for body parts of big cats other than tigers. Specific activities of this two-year grant include: (1) ongoing development of a genetic tool to identify the source populations for trafficked lions and developing the same tools for leopards and cheetahs; (2) application of these methods to identify the source populations for 391 samples in hand from killed big cats in Zambia; (3) capacity development in Zambia by training relevant individuals in the use of genetic methods to

combat wildlife trafficking; and (4) data collection on the geographic origin of big cat samples to the relevant officials to support targeted enforcement efforts.

USFWS: \$100,000

Leveraged Funds: \$34,276

## **CWT**

### **F19AP00454**

***Combatting Illegal Wildlife Trade Through Capacity Building and Strengthening of the DNPW Operational Unit in the Lower Zambezi, Zambia.*** In partnership with

Conservation Lower Zambezi. Wildlife crime networks operate transnationally throughout southern Africa, targeting endangered wildlife species to meet escalating demand. Poaching and transporting illegal wildlife products is especially prevalent in Lower Zambezi National Park (Zambia), where traffickers can poach animals along important corridors and easily travel to Lusaka and border posts in Zimbabwe and Mozambique. The purpose of this project is to counter the trade in wildlife products (with a specific focus on lion and leopard skins and pangolins) along trafficking routes around Lower Zambezi National Park by building capacity within law enforcement units to improve leadership and better target high-tier wildlife criminals. This project is intended to protect large carnivores, pangolins and other endangered wildlife species found in the Lower Zambezi by addressing potential weaknesses in the capacity of middle-level leaders in the Department of National Parks and Wildlife (DNPW) and anti-poaching units due to a lack of training. Specific activities include: (1) building capacity in DNPW's Operational Unit in the Lower Zambezi through the support and coordination of a technical advisor; (2) building capacity within the two specialized DNPW Anti-Poaching Units to target higher-level criminals and trafficked products; and (3) ongoing operational support to the Canine and Rapid Response Units.

USFWS: \$88,600

Leveraged Funds: \$202,600

## **CWT**

### **F19AP00447**

***Prevention of Wildlife Trafficking in Zambia.*** In partnership with Wildlife Crime Prevention Project Ltd. Zambia's wildlife faces unprecedented levels of wildlife crime, with frequent confiscations involving ivory, bushmeat, pangolins, and big cat skins. The purpose of this project is to conduct research on the major supply chains of illegal wildlife products in Zambia and to inform preventative measures such as increasing the risks to offenders and reducing the rewards of wildlife crime. This project is intended to conserve big cats and pangolins by directly addressing these supply chains. Specific activities of this two-year grant include: (1) facilitating analysis and training workshops to enhance the research and enforcement capacity within the Department of National Parks and Wildlife and Wildlife Crime Prevention Units for continuous data collection, analysis, and mapping of the illegal wildlife trade in Zambia; and (2) improving detection, investigation, and prosecution of wildlife trafficking by enforcement officials through stakeholder engagement, supply chain mapping, and development of a suite of situational crime prevention measures.

USFWS: \$83,502

Leveraged Funds: \$124,100

## **RT**

**F19AP00767**

***Securing the Greater North Luangwa Landscape for the Protection of Black Rhinos (*Diceros bicornis minor*) in North Luangwa National Park, Zambia.*** In partnership with Zoologische Gesellschaft Frankfurt. The North Luangwa Ecosystem is home to Zambia's only black rhino population (reintroduced in 2003) as well as the country's largest and most stable elephant population. The purpose of this project is to maintain effective monitoring and protection for this population of the South Central black rhino subspecies. Activities include: (1) providing equipment for rhino monitoring, patrols, and anti-poaching activities in order to ensure security of the rhino population with the goal of maintaining a zero-poached status.

USFWS: \$98,410<sup>74</sup>                      Leveraged Funds: \$128,098

**ZIMBABWE****RT****F19AP00771**

***Reintroduction of Black Rhino Into Gonarezhou National Park, Zimbabwe.*** In partnership with the Frankfurt Zoological Society. The purpose of this project is to facilitate the reintroduction of rhinos in Gonarezhou National Park. After years of preparation, a new rhino reintroduction of the South-central black rhino subspecies, which historically occurred in the area was determined to be feasible within the guiding framework of the Zimbabwe National Rhino Strategy and with the support from the IUCN African Rhino Specialist Group. Activities include: (1) setting up the necessary management, workplace capacity, infrastructure, and security to establish a viable black rhino population in Gonarezhou National Park.

FWS: \$97,710                      Leveraged Funds: \$240,600

**RT****F19AP00766**

***Rhinoceros Management Operations in Zimbabwe's Lowveld, 2019 – 2021.*** In partnership with International Rhino Foundation. The purpose of this project is to support the management of critical populations of black and white rhinos in the Southeast Lowveld of Zimbabwe, where targeted rhino poaching remains an ongoing threat. The project will support a fully functional rhino tracking system that is efficient and cost-effective in order to allow for detailed monitoring of rhinos and better targeted protection. Activities include: (1) undertaking emergency interventions including support for orphaned rhino calves and veterinary treatment for animals wounded by poaching attempts, (2) dehorning rhinos to disincentivize poaching, and (3) carrying out effective rhino monitoring and translocation from vulnerable areas to provide greater security or to establish new populations.

FWS: \$200,000                      Leveraged Funds: \$374,372

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<sup>74</sup> Of this, \$72,468 was funded by United States Agency for International Development – Combating Wildlife Trafficking (USAID-CWT) funds

## MULTIPLE COUNTRIES – REGIONAL, AFRICA

### AFE

#### F19AC00770

***Identifying the Level of Funding Needed to Protect Elephant Populations Across Africa and Other Key Species.*** In partnership with the University of Cambridge. The purpose of this project is to assess the return on investment and cost-effectiveness of elephant conservation spending. Understanding the impact of conservation spending can be challenging, and deciding how to best allocate scarce financial resources is a recurring concern for governments, non-profit organizations, and conservation donors. This project will attempt to inform that decision-making by highlighting and investigating key metrics and developing predictions for how to maximize the protection of elephants. Among other investigations, the effort will analyze the relationship between the level of funding for conservation areas, the severity of threats, and the annual rate of change in elephant numbers. Specific activities include: (1) developing a tool to measure return on investment for species conservation, including stakeholder engagement, analysis of how spending relates to rates of loss, and enabling public access to the resulting tool.

FWS: \$22,605<sup>75</sup>

Leveraged Funds: \$22,440

### AFR

#### Continuation

#### F21AC00554

***Reduce Poaching of Key Species Within the Chinko, CAR and Garamba, DRC Landscapes / Protection Areas, with a Specific Focus on Security, Intelligence, Law Enforcement, and Park Management.*** In partnership with the African Parks Network. The purpose of this five-year cooperative agreement is to achieve a higher standard of park management and successfully restore and conserve key wildlife species while also establishing a foothold for governance, security, and stability throughout the Garamba-Chinko landscape of northeastern Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) and eastern Central African Republic (CAR). The project is intended to conserve CAR and DRC's nationally significant elephant populations and DRC's last remaining Kordofan giraffe, in addition to chimpanzee, lion, giant eland, African wild dog, bongo, and other imperiled forest and savanna species, by addressing key wildlife threats, including poaching for ivory and bushmeat and habitat disturbance, resource competition, and disease transmission risks associated with transhumance. Project activities include: (1) maintaining a team of essential maintenance staff at Chinko headquarters; (2) regularly monitoring key wildlife species and identifying high-value wildlife habitat in and around Chinko; (3) engaging transhumant pastoralists in Chinko's periphery to effectively manage the protected area's boundaries while also providing pastoralists with guidance and safe access to key markets; (4) exploring the economic potential for alternative livelihood opportunities for sedentary and mobile communities around Chinko.

FWS: \$600,000

Leveraged Funds: \$0

### AFR

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<sup>75</sup> Of this, \$1,780 was provided by contributed funds

## **Continuation**

### **F16AP00865**

***Decreasing Threats to Protected Wildlife Populations in Central Africa by Reducing Demand for Bushmeat in Large Urban Areas.*** In partnership with the Wildlife Conservation Society. This modification is intended to support years four through five of this ongoing five-year cooperative agreement between the USFWS and WCS. Objectives over the five-year cooperative agreement include: (1) developing a campaign and coalition to address luxury bushmeat consumption in Kinshasa and Brazzaville; (2) improving application of wildlife policies in markets, restaurants, and other sites where bushmeat is illegally traded in Kinshasa and Brazzaville; and (3) ensuring bushmeat from protected species is less available in markets and restaurants, and consumption behavior is understood well enough to credibly promote what works to reduce demand for luxury bushmeat in Kinshasa and Brazzaville.

FWS: \$850,000<sup>76</sup>

Leveraged Funds: \$273,970

## **GA**

### **Continuation**

#### **F17AP00444**

***Conservation of the Cross River gorilla (*Gorilla gorilla diehli*) in Nigeria and Cameroon - A Five Year Cooperative Agreement 2017-2022.*** In partnership with the Wildlife Conservation Society. The purpose of this 5-year cooperative agreement is to provide for the long-term survival of the critically endangered Cross River gorilla in the transboundary region of Cameroon and Nigeria. This allotment will fund Years 3 and 4 of this award. Year 3 activities include: (1) strengthening protected area management; (2) strengthening connectivity between Cross River gorilla sites across the landscape (through improved conservation management of intervening unprotected habitat); (3) further improving threats-based monitoring through full implementation of SMART across the landscape; (4) obtaining more refined estimates of gorilla numbers to enable more effective monitoring of conservation impact; and (4) improving transboundary conservation between Nigeria and Cameroon, including designation of the landscape as a transboundary Man and Biosphere or World Heritage Site.

USFWS: \$800,000<sup>77</sup>

Leveraged Funds: \$1,229,882

## **RT**

### **F19AP00872**

***Guiding and Facilitating the Conservation of Viable African Rhino Populations Across their Natural Range through the Work of the IUCN SSC African Rhino Specialist Group (AfRSG).*** In partnership with Save the Rhino International. The purpose of this project is to support the ongoing work of the IUCN African Rhino Specialist Group (AfRGS) Secretariat. Activities include: (1) advising and facilitating the efficient protection and dynamic biological management of healthy persistent African rhino populations within their natural range; (2) facilitating research, collation of information, and reporting on the status of African rhinos; (3) supporting targeted

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<sup>76</sup> Funded through the Central Africa Regional Program for the Environment (CARPE)

<sup>77</sup> Funded through the United States Agency for International Development (USAID)



communication to a wide range of stakeholders; (4) ensuring effective leadership through capacity building and mentorship of the next generation of rhino conservationists; and (5) promoting sustainable finance and good governance for African rhino conservation.  
FWS: \$49,885<sup>78</sup>                      Leveraged Funds: \$115,546

## **CARIBBEAN REGION (MULTIPLE COUNTRIES)**

### **CAR**

#### **F20AP00312**

***Small-Scale Fisheries Compliance Capacity Building in the Caribbean.*** In partnership with Wildlife Conservation Society. The purpose of this project is to support conservation efforts in member nations of the Caribbean Regional Fisheries Mechanism and the Western Central Atlantic Fishery Commission, targeting nine countries (Antigua and Barbuda, Barbados, Dominica, Grenada, Guyana, St. Lucia, St. Kitts and Nevis, St. Vincent and the Grenadines, and Trinidad and Tobago). This project intends to conserve fisheries resources including the Caribbean spiny lobster, queen conch, reef fish, and pelagic species, as well as their associated critical habitats (sea-grass beds, corals reefs, and mangroves). Conservation efforts will be supported by building the capacity of marine protected area managers and fishery resource managers to gather, store, analyze, and report data using the Spatial Monitoring and Reporting Tool for expanded implementation in the marine environment (SMART-Marine). Project activities include: (1) implementing a six-day SMART-Marine train-the-trainers workshop to enhance the capacity of marine conservation practitioners in the Caribbean; (2) building advanced capacity of government, nongovernmental agencies, and community organizations to implement a SMART-Marine based adaptive management approach to the operation, monitoring, and assessment of marine protected areas; and (3) developing a regional train-the-trainers Action Plan for the implementation of SMART-Marine for the wider Caribbean region.

FWS: \$97,613<sup>79</sup>

Leveraged Funds: \$8,866

## **MULTIPLE COUNTRIES - EASTERN CARIBBEAN**

### **CAR1928**

#### **F20AP00209**

***Combating the Surging Illegal Trade of Endangered Reptiles in the Eastern Caribbean, Phase II.*** In partnership with Fauna & Flora International. The aim of this project is to reduce illegal poaching and international trade of endangered, endemic reptiles from St. Lucia, St. Vincent and the Grenadines, Barbados, and Dominica in the Lesser Antilles. The project will contribute towards the long term protection of the Critically Endangered Union Island gecko, St. Lucia whiptail, St. Lucia iguana, Grenadines iguana, Barbados leaf-toed gecko, Lesser Antillean Iguana, and other globally threatened species illegally collected from the wild for the international pet trade. Project activities include: (1) enhancing and expanding wildlife surveillance in at

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<sup>78</sup> Of this, \$24,915 was funded by proceeds from sales of the Save Vanishing Species stamp

<sup>79</sup> Funded through the United States Agency for International Development (USAID)

least four priority sites containing targeted and endangered reptile populations; (2) increasing and extending cross-border information and learning exchanges; (3) facilitating discussions between public agencies and local communities to encourage legal compliance in the communities; (4) creating and disseminating technical materials to aid identification of trafficked species; (5) supporting national agencies to bolster international protections for threatened reptiles; (6) conducting research on and designing a behavior change strategy targeting reptile collectors; and (7) engaging local communities in the protection of target species by implementing a national outreach campaign that fosters a sense of national pride in native reptiles.

FWS: \$102,188

Leveraged Funds: \$100,660

## **MULTIPLE COUNTRIES – REGIONAL, WESTERN HEMISPHERE**

**MT1984**

**F19AP00498**

*Strengthening Regional Sea Turtle Conservation Through the Support of the Inter-American Convention for the Protection and Conservation of Sea Turtles (IAC).* In partnership with the National Marine Sanctuary Foundation. This project will support the implementation of the Inter-American Sea Turtle Convention with 15 member Parties including the U.S. The intent is to promote regional collaboration and cooperation of sea turtle conservation within the Western Hemisphere. Activities include: (1) convening of Conference of the Parties, Scientific and Consultative Committees and support for associated travel and translation expenses; (2) travel support to meet with high-level governmental decision makers in range state countries of the highly endangered East Pacific leatherback sea turtle to discuss measures to minimize accidental capture of leatherbacks in artisanal and industrial fisheries; and (3) travel support for Secretariat to meet with high-level governmental decision makers in Western Hemisphere countries to foster new country membership.

USFWS: \$48,034<sup>80</sup>

Leveraged Funds: \$2,820

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<sup>80</sup> Of this, \$15,356 was funded by proceeds from sales of the Save Vanishing Species stamp