



# Siberian Tiger Protection Efforts in 2005

Programmatic report  
January 01 – September 30, 2005



Vladivostok  
2005



**PROGRAMMATIC REPORT  
January 01 – September 30, 2005**

**Grantor:** Save the Tiger Fund  
**Project Name:** Siberian Tiger Protection Efforts in 2005  
**Project #:** 2005-0013-003  
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**I. Project overview**

The project objective is to conserve endangered wildlife in the Russian Far East and ensure long-term survival of the Siberian (Amur) tiger and its prey species through anti-poaching activities, coordination of anti-poaching activities in the region, environmental education and outreach.

**II. Anti-poaching activity**

*Khabarovsk team of Inspection Tiger*



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During a patrol on the Khor river

In January – September 2005 the Khabarovsk team of Inspection Tiger continued anti-poaching activity in the south of Khabarovsk krai. As a result, for the reported period the team conducted 27 patrols, 10 reports on violations of hunting regulations and 8 reports on violations of fishing regulations, and rescued 1 tiger cub. In 2005 there were two articles on the team activities in "Meridian" and "Molodoi Dalnevostochnik" newspapers, and two TV coverage on Khabarovsk TV channel. See the description and results of the project activities' for the period from January 01 to June 30 in the Interim Report.

On July 01-03 the Khabarovsk team patrolled on the Khor river and arrested Mr. Stelnokh for illegal fishing with a fishing net. The rangers drew up a report, confiscated the net and handed the documents over to Khorsky Fishing Inspection.

On July 29-31 the Khabarovsk team conducted a joint patrol with Khorsky Fishing Inspection. As a result, the rangers drew up three reports on violation of fishing regulations, confiscated five 30-meter fishing nets and two outboard motors.

On August 26-29 the Khabarovsk team,



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The ranger drew up a report on violation of hunting regulations



together with wildlife managers, arrested two men for poaching. The rangers drew up two reports on violation of hunting regulations and imposed a fine.



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Public ranger found legs of poached wild boar

From August 30 to September 03 the team investigated a conflict tiger case. A local from Poletnoye village informed that 1.5 km far from the village he had seen a tiger cub eating remains of a dog on the roadside. As a result of a thorough investigation, the rangers determined that on August 28 Mr. Smirnov, driver, had seen two tiger cubs crossing the road at the same place. Besides, local children heard tiger roar, but did not take it seriously. The rangers checked the place and concluded that a tigress with the cubs had been living and hunting wild boars there. During three days the team were taking deterrent measures and, as a result, the tigers left the village. Local people were instructed on rules of human behavior in tiger habitat.

On September 16-17 the Khabarovskiy team and police officer of Vyazemskiy police department patrolled Vyazemskiy district. The rangers arrested a man for illegal hunting, confiscated a rifle and drew up a report.

Public environmental investigation teams

In 2005 two public environmental investigation teams continued anti-poaching activities in the north of Primorye. From January 01 through September 30, 2005 public rangers in cooperation with wildlife managers, police officers, forest service staff and Inspection Tiger rangers conducted over 84 patrols in Pozharsky, Krasnoarmeisky and Dalnerechensky districts of Primorye. The raids were focused on conservation of the ungulates habitat as hunting was allowed only during the first month of the year. March and April are the months of a thawing season that leads to occurrence of thin crust of ice on the ground, and as a result, animals often hurt their legs and cannot elude pursuit by dogs and poachers. All patrols were documented and recorded on video camera. For the reported period the team drew up 59 reports on violations of hunting regulations, confiscated 48 illegal rifles, 10 traps and other poaching devices (see Table 2 in Attachment). See the description and results of the project activities' for the period from January 01 to June 30 in the Interim Report.



© Phoenix Fund  
Checking a motorcyclist



From July 01 to September 30 the teams of public rangers carried out 27 patrols including patrols with police officers, forest and wildlife managers. The joint team patrolled hunting grounds in Krasnoarmeisky and Dalnerechensky districts, Taezhny wildlife refuge and hunting leases such as “Sidatun”, “Sobol”, “Okhotnichye”, and “Krasnoarmeisky RZOP”, checked 47 vehicles, ten logging settlements and seven hunting huts.

In July two teams of public rangers participated in a joint patrol with “Bars” team of Rosprirodnadzor and the officers of Special Police Force (OMON). As a result, a lot of ecological violations were revealed:

The joint team revealed 2 cases of illegal logging, 1 case of destruction of young trees, 5 violations of hunting regulations, 2 violations of laws on ecological expertise, 2 violations of fire prevention regulations and confiscated 2 tractors, 2 trucks, 1 crane, 4 chain-saws, 4 rifles and 16 bullets.

On July 7, in the drainage of the Iyunsky stream in Pikhtovoye forestry the Forest team revealed an illegal logging site. The logging

was carried out by 7 men. During examination of the site the team found tractor, car, crane, chain-saw, rifles and bullets. A closer examination of the car revealed that last figure in the identification number of the carriage was changed from 2 to 6. The team also found cedar logs in the camp. The rangers drew up reports on violations, confiscated the vehicles, equipment and rifles and detained 7 men who were later conveyed to police department in Roschino village.



© Phoenix Fund  
Arrested illegal logger (background) and confiscated chain saw (foreground)



© Phoenix Fund  
The team found abandoned tractor

On July 08, the Forest team received information that a person was transporting illegal logs (101 logs in total) from the logging camp. During examination of the logging camp the rangers revealed violations of the forest fire prevention regulations and hunting regulations. Having drawn up reports on violations the rangers confiscated the rifle and are going to continue checking the logging camp from time to time in the future.

On July 10, during a patrol in Vedensky forestry the team revealed illegal logging there. They found three loggers, a tractor, a carriage for loggers, two chain saws, and a rifle there. The team confiscated the chain saws and the rifle and conveyed three men to the local police.

During a check-up at the apiary situated 500 meters far from an illegal logging site, the team found a rifle without a cover (which is strictly forbidden during the closed hunting season). The rifle was confiscated and a report on violation of hunting regulations was drawn up.



On July 13 the team conducted an examination of the saw mill and storehouse that belonged to Terneylesstroy Ltd. and revealed the following violations: lack of the state ecological assessment for construction of the saw-mill and the houses, violation of forest fire prevention regulations etc. The rangers drew up reports on violations and will conduct an additional check-up there.



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The rangers draw up a report

On August 08, 2005 the joint team arrested 8 men for unauthorized forest cutting, initiated criminal proceedings and confiscated about 100 m<sup>3</sup> of felled wood. Besides, the rangers found the “Saiga” 12-gauge shotgun and Izh-18, 2-gauge shotgun without proper documents. The law enforcement officers drew up a report on violation of hunting regulations and confiscated the guns.

On August 11 a staff of Izmailikhinsky forestry (4 people) joined the team. As a result of joint patrols a group of illegal loggers was arrested. Two violators managed to escape. The rangers confiscated a tractor DT-75 and took arrested people to the local police office.

In August the team carried out over 8 patrols to reveal illegal hunting, but did not find any violations. Pouring rain made roads impassable and reduced poaching for a short period of time.



© Phoenix Fund  
The rangers found a wild boar's skin

On September 09 while patrolling on the territory of “Svela” logging company, the rangers met local people who informed that Mr. Stasenko had fired at them. Half an hour later Mr. Stasenko was arrested. The rangers confiscated a rifle and drew up a report.

On September 10, in Vedenskoye unit of Dalnerechensky forestry a group of three people was arrested for illegal logging of oak trees. The public rangers drew up a report, confiscated two chain saws and took arrested men to Dalnerechensky police office. In the same region the team checked an apiary and found an ownerless Izh-17 shotgun. The gun was handed over to the local police department.

On September 8 while patrolling near the Mikhailovsky Spring the joint team arrested Mr. Shirenkov for illegal hunting outside the hunting period. The rangers confiscated Izh-18 shotgun and drew up a report on violation of hunting regulations.

On September 13 the public ranger apprehended Mr. Feoktistov near the Korolev Spring for illegal hunting. As a result, Izh- 27, 12-gauge was confiscated.



On September 21 three people were arrested for illegal hunting on wild boars. The rangers found meat of a poached wild boar, confiscated three rifles, and imposed a fine of 1,000 rubles (about \$35) on each violator.

On September 27 while patrolling on the road Roschino-Melnichnoye, the rangers stopped a car and found two illegal rifles inside. As a result, the rifles were confiscated and two violators paid a fine of 500 rubles (about \$17) each.

On September 28 near Taborovo village the team arrested Mr. Tabachny for illegal hunting with the use of car lights. The Saiga, 7.62-gauge shotgun was confiscated and the violator paid a fine of 1,000 rubles (about \$35).

On September 30 during a joint patrol on the territory of Meteoritnoye logging company the rangers found a wild boar’s skin, four legs and a head, and drew up a report. On the same day the team checked Limonniki logging company and found an ownerless rifle.

For the reported period the public rangers, together with forest managers and law enforcement officers of Rosprirodnadzor, revealed 13 illegal logging sites. The forfeit estimated 24,654 rubles (\$880).

**III. Conflict tiger**

For the reported period 42 conflict tiger cases were registered in Primorsky and Khabarovsk krais. Seven conflict tiger cases started at the end of 2004. See the description and results of the project activities' for the period from January 01 to June 30 in the Interim Report. In connection with the necessity to classify and use the obtained information about conflict situations between people and Amur tigers/leopards, Inspection Tiger introduced the following terms:

«**CTE**» - «**Conflict tiger episode**» - presence of one or more (Ex. female with litter) Amur tigers or leopards on determined territory (settlements or outskirts, places of temporary living, human presence and running any activities in tiger habitat, sites of 10 x 10 km), with connection of which a number of contacts with large predator was registered that can result in human victims, health damage or livestock kills. This situation needs to be investigated urgently to determine the conflict’s reasons, take measures to deter a predator, and capture or shooting “conflict species”.

«**CTC**» - «**Conflict tiger case**» - a single “conflict episode” on determined territory or a number of “conflict episodes” in different places, but related to one certain Amur tiger/leopard (or a group) entailing the necessity of urgent intervention of authorized agencies.

«**ITA**» - «**Information taken into account**» - registered direct or indirect information about human contacts with Amur tiger or leopard posing real threat of conflict case emergence, but not confirmed during investigation.

Since the beginning of 2005 Inspection Tiger received 89 calls from people and organizations about contacts with Amur tiger.

<u>Conflict cases</u>		<u>Information taken into account (ITA)</u>	
<i>Artyom city (Primorsky krai)</i>	2	<i>Amurskaya oblast</i>	2
<i>Chernigovskiy district (Primorsky krai)</i>	2	<i>Nadezhdinsky district</i>	2
<i>Dalnerechenskiy district (Primorsky krai)</i>	1	<i>Olginsky district</i>	1
<i>Kirovskiy district (Primorsky krai)</i>	1	<i>Partizanskiy district</i>	1
<i>Krasnoarmeyskiy district (Primorsky krai)</i>	2	<i>Shkotovskiy district</i>	2



<i>Khasan district (Primorsky krai)</i>	3
<i>Kavalerovsky district (Primorsky krai)</i>	3
<i>Lazo (Khabarovskiy krai)</i>	1
<i>Mikhailovsky district (Primorsky krai)</i>	1
<i>Nanai district (Khabarovskiy krai)</i>	1
<i>Nadezhdinsky district (Primorsky krai)</i>	8
<i>Olginsky district (Primorsky krai)</i>	2
<i>Partizansky district (Primorsky krai)</i>	2
<i>Pozharsky district (Primorsky krai)</i>	1
<i>Shkotovsky district (Primorsky krai)</i>	6
<i>Ussuriysky district (Primorsky krai)</i>	2
<i>Vyazemsky district (Khabarovskiy krai)</i>	3
<i>Yakovlevsky district (Primorsky krai)</i>	1

*In total 42 conflict tiger cases and 8 ITA.*

In July 5 conflict tiger cases were investigated.

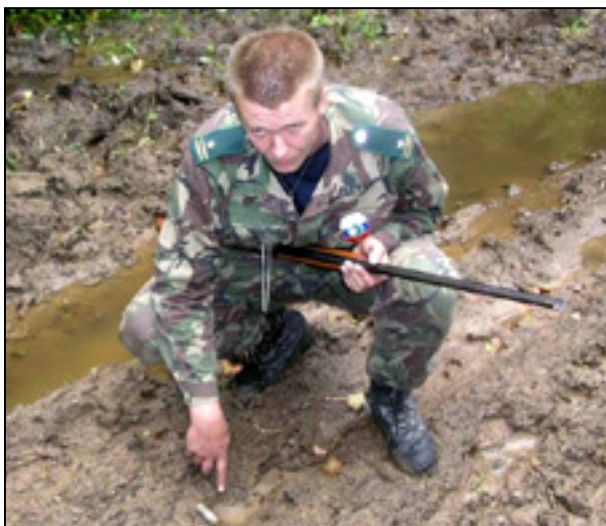


© Inspection Tiger  
Investigation of conflict tiger case in Khasan

**Conflict tiger case № 05\35**  
(Khasan district)

Agro-Khasan deer farm had been informing about the conflict cases since June 02, 2005 (see Conflict tiger cases № 05\32 and № 05\33). Next time the information about the tiger presence at the deer farm was received on June 27. A tiger attacked a deer and bit its side. Inspection Tiger team and a farm manager carried out investigation. Till July 11 they were checking the perimeter of the farm and taking deterrent measures. No fresh tiger tracks were found on the territory. However, the rangers revealed violations of rules for livestock management in tiger habitat. As a result, the team asked the head of the farm to eliminate reasons of the conflict tiger cases. Besides, Inspection Tiger team instructed the farm workers and people from Bezverkhovo village on how to behave in tiger habitat.

**Conflict tiger case № 05\36**  
(Rybachy village, Nadezhdinsky district)



© Inspection Tiger  
The ranger found tiger tracks

On July 11 - 12 two men informed that they had seen a tiger on the riverbank near Rybachy village, Nadezhdinsky district. They also told that people had seen the tiger there a week before. On July 14 Inspection Tiger went to the place. Upon arrival the rangers questioned Mr. Klochkov who told about his encounter with the tiger. Mr. Klochkov was gathering mushrooms in the forest near Rybachy village when he saw the tiger 30-40 meter far from him. According to his words, it was an adult tiger. The man was scared and climbed up a tree where he spent 2 or 3 hours. The tiger did not show aggression and went into the forest. Inspection Tiger rangers examined the scene, but did not find tiger



tracks. The team instructed villagers on the rules of human behavior in tiger habitat and left the district.

**Conflict tiger case № 05\37**  
(Gorny village, Kirovsky district)

On July 15 Inspection Tiger headquarters received information from Federal Nature Use Service (Rosprirodnadzor) about a conflict tiger case in Kirovsky district. Rosprirodnadzor received a letter from the head of Kirovsky village who asked to take urgent measures in Gorny village where at night on July 11-12 a tiger had killed 3 calves. The head also informed that on July 16 there had to be a 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the village and many local people, guests and official delegations from other villages should come. He was afraid that the celebration could be defeated because of the nervous situation. Immediately after receiving the information, Inspection Tiger team and two state law enforcement officers went to investigate the case. As a result, they found out that at night on July 11-12 the tiger had killed a 5-month calf and injured two 5-month calves. As it was raining in the district and the joint team did not manage to find tiger tracks. The only one week old tiger track (9 cm paw width) was found 4 km far from human settlement on the old logging road. The team divided into two units. The first unit stayed in the village to take deterrent measures as needed, and the second one patrolled around the village till July 19 and then returned to Vladivostok. During the conflict tiger case investigation the rangers instructed villagers on safety rules.

**Conflict tiger case № 05\38**  
(Rybachy village, Nadezhdinsky district)

On July 19 Mr. Khokhlachev informed that a tiger had attacked people near Rybachy village. Immediately afterwards Inspection Tiger team went to the scene and interviewed the villagers about their encounter with the tiger. According to their words, the tiger was not aggressive. The rangers did not find clear tiger tracks. As it was a second conflict tiger case there, the team deterred the tiger using flares and gave a lecture to the villagers on rules of behavior and livestock management in tiger habitat.



**Conflict tiger case № 05\39**  
(Melnichnoye village, Partizansky district)

On July 19, Mr. Korneichuk, a local of Melnichnoye village, informed that a tiger had killed his dog. Next day Inspection Tiger team went to investigate the case. According to the words of Mr. Korneichuk, he saw the tiger near the village several times. On July 18 after gathering mushrooms in the forest he went home when the tiger dragged his dog away. The team examined the territory and did not find tiger tracks as it had been raining for several days. No other dog or livestock disappeared in the village. On July 20 - 23 the team patrolled around the village and did not find any evidence of tiger presence. Taking into account that in January village administration addressed to Inspection Tiger with information about tiger presence, and that Special Emergency Response team had visited the village and taken deterrent measures, the rangers decided to scare the tiger away using flares and gunshots. Local people were instructed on rules of human behavior in tiger habitat. On July 24 the team carried out a control

© Inspection Tiger  
Investigation of tiger conflict situation



visit and the head of administration informed that the tiger did not appear any more. But he told that for the period from July 20 to July 24 a tigress with two cubs had killed 12 cows in Dalnerechensky district. The team went to check the obtained information.

In August the Emergency Response team went to check information about tiger presence 5 times and as a result 3 situations were attributed to conflict tiger cases.

**Conflict tiger case № 05/40**  
(Nagornoye village, Pozharsky district)



© Inspection Tiger  
Investigation of tiger attack case

On August 01 – 05, near Nagornoye village, Pozharsky district, a tigress (10 cm paw width) and a cub (8 cm paw width) killed 3 cows that belonged “Luchegorskoye” farm. A cattle-pen was not paled and cows rambled through the forest at night. As a result, tigers attacked cows 4 km far from the buildings at night. After getting this information Inspection Tiger team went to deter the tigers using flares and gunshots. While taking the deterrent measures, the rangers did not find fresh tiger tracks. Local people were instructed on rules for livestock management in tiger habitat. To reduce possibility of tiger attack the workers of agricultural enterprise had to fence their fields to keep the cattle from getting killed by

predators.

**Conflict tiger case № 05/41**  
(Roschino village, Krasnoarmeisky district)

On August 04 – 12 a tiger (11 cm paw width) killed three dogs on the territory of “YPPI” Ltd. (on the logging storehouse in Roschino village, Krasnoarmeisky district. Upon arrival on the scene the Conflict tiger team checked the territory and found tiger tracks (11 cm paw width) 200 meters far from the logging storehouse. Information on the tiger attack was confirmed. The rangers took deterrent measures, patrolled around the village round the clock and instructed the villagers on rules for livestock management in tiger habitat.



© Inspection Tiger  
A tiger track

**Conflict tiger case № 05/42**  
(Zimniki village, Dalnerechensky district)

During August 25 – September 01, 2005 Inspection Tiger team investigated a conflict tiger case in Zimniki village, Dalnerechensky district. Information about the case was received from the officers of Government Inspection for Traffic Safety. They were conducting a patrol to



reveal illegal logging 300 meters far from Zimniki village on August 23, when a tiger appeared 20 meters far from their car and went towards the village. Next day the officers patrolled in the same place and saw two tigers, presumably a tigress with a cub, eating something 50 meters far from their car. The officers started the car, approached the tigers and turned on a siren and rotating beacon. As a result, the tigers went slowly towards forest. On August 25 the officers of Government Inspection for Traffic Safety informed Inspection Tiger about the tiger presence. The Conflict Tiger team went to investigate the case, questioned local people about their encounters with the tigers. No tiger attacks on livestock were registered. Inspection Tiger rangers found tiger tracks (9-10 cm paw width) around the village. No cub's tracks were found. From August 26 to September 01 the team was taking deterrent measures using gunshots. During that period no fresh tiger track were found. The villagers were instructed in the rules of human behavior and livestock management in tiger habitat.

**ITA** On August 01, Inspection Tiger team checked information about tiger presence in Solovei Klyuch village, Nadezhdinsky district. Tiger tracks (10 cm paw width) were said to have been seen on the garden-plot #20 of "Lotus" gardening society. The rangers talked to the local people and instructed them on the rules of human behavior in tiger habitat. Result: situation was taken under control and the Conflict tiger team is ready to go and take deterrent measures in case of repeated tiger appearance.

**ITA** On August 02, Mr. Makarov, a local of Alekseevka village, Nadezhdinsky district, saw a tigress with two tiger cubs near the Bolshaya Popovka River. Result: the situation was taken under control.

**ITA** Inspection Tiger headquarters received information from Novorossia village on August 09 that at night a dog had disappeared from the yard of Mr. Talkov. Next morning the dog's owner found tiger tracks. The information was not checked and Inspection Tiger takes it under control in case of repeated tiger appearance.

**ITA** On August 25, Rosprirodnadzor of Amurskaya region informed about tiger presence near Norsky nature reserve. A police officer saw a tiger in the outskirts of Busse village. Last year Inspection Tiger received information that villagers had seen 2 tigers, but no tiger attacks on livestock were registered. It was decided to send the rules on human behavior and livestock management in tiger habitat by e-mail.

**ITA** On August 26, Inspection Tiger headquarters received information from Primorsky Rosprirodnadzor that since March a tigress had been visiting Kazakevichi village once per month. The information was taken under control.

*Information that was not related to any category:*

On August 30, Inspection Tiger received information from Primorsky Rosprirodnadzor that shepherds of Dostoevka village, Yakovlevsky district, had seen a dangerous tiger. Inspection Tiger rangers found out that police officers had gone to check the information and ascertained that the villagers had seen tiger tracks in the forest. According to the police officers' report, the situation did not pose any danger.

On August 18, Inspection Tiger designed and printed leaflets with extracts from the rules on human behavior in tiger habitat, and distributed them in the villages where Amur tiger presence had been registered for last two months.

In September Inspection Tiger headquarters registered three messages about tiger presence near human settlements in Primorsky krai. These messages were registered as ITA («Information taken into account»)



**ITA** The first message was received from the head of Tigrovyy village administration. He informed that a local had seen a tiger near the village. The predator was lying in the grass and did not show aggression.

**ITA** The second message was from the director of Shkotovsky forestry who informed that a tiger had dragged a dog away at night on September 09 in Novorossia village. The rangers of Emergency Response team instructed the villagers on rules of human behavior in tiger habitat.

**ITA** The third message was received from the deputy head of Olginsky district administration who informed that an injured tiger had been walking around Brovka village. The team went to investigate the case, but did not find tiger tracks or signs of tiger presence.

#### **IV. Trainings on law enforcement legislation**

The Russian laws and regulations concerning poaching, search of vehicles, possession of rifles etc undergo constant changes that hamper work for environmental law enforcement officers. Vladimir Schetinin, the former Inspection Tiger commander and current Phoenix law enforcement adviser, follows all the changes in legislation and conducts monthly interactive lectures-trainings and consultations through Internet for all state and public law enforcement officers. The knowledge of the new legislation is of great importance for the law enforcement offices as even a smallest departure from the laws can lead to failure of prosecution of the poachers. In connection with current administrative reform in Russia, Vladimir Schetinin consulted rangers how they could operate in such circumstances.

Within the framework of the project for the period January 01 - September 30, 2005 Vladimir Schetinin was giving lectures-consultations for the law enforcement officers providing them with legal documentation and materials to solve arising issues during their law enforcement activities. See the description and results of the project activities' for the period from January 01 to June 30 in the Interim Report.

For the reported period Vladimir Schetinin continued conducting consultations for state law enforcement officers (for instance, from Rosprirodnadzor<sup>1</sup>, Rosselkhoznadzor<sup>2</sup>, Inspection Tiger, nature reserves) and public rangers.

Mr. Schetinin developed "Temporary regulations on activities of people that are not on the permanent staff of Rosprirodnadzor" and handed them over to the head of Department on Nature Conservation and Forest and Land Use. Based on those regulations the state law enforcement officers can hire part-time rangers and conduct joint patrols. Besides, Vladimir Schetinin gave interpretation of changes and new laws connected with nature use control. In total, 7 files were sent to Rosprirodnadzor.

Rosselkhoznadzor requested 49 files with new departmental documents, changes in the Russian laws and commentary on legal acts.

In assistance to Inspection Tiger Mr. Schetinin provided 108 files and developed two forms of acts, namely "Act on capturing animals from the wild" and "Act on releasing animals into the wild".

In connection with the local government reform Vladimir Schetinin wrote a draft of "Regulations on municipal ecological supervision on the Territory of Terney municipal government". In July

<sup>1</sup> Rosprirodnadzor - Primorsky Department of Federal Nature Use Service

<sup>2</sup> Rosselkhoz – Primorsky Department of Federal Service for Veterinarian and Vegetation Sanitary Supervision



September the consultant provided 108 files to Terney Duma. These documents can be used in 24 municipal districts and 12 cities in the field of nature conservation.

In September Mr. Shetinin provided the museum of the nature reserve with a package of normative-legal acts (39 files).

**V. Environmental Education and Outreach**

Environmental classes at schools



© Phoenix Fund  
Ecological class in Luchegorsk school

In January 01 - September 30, 2005 over 1,725 schoolchildren attended 55 ecological classes at local schools and eco-centers in Pozharsky district. Two experienced teachers carried out classes as interactive training. See the description and results of the project activities' for the period from January 01 to June 30 in the Interim Report.

In August and September the educators carried out preparations for Tiger Day celebration in Pozharsky district. Ms. Tsvetkova coordinated all organizational issues, met Luchegorsk city administration and Education Department of Pozharsky district. Various contests (art, poem, poster, fancy dress etc.) were announced in all local schools. Ms. Tsvetkova, together with

other teachers and representatives of environmental NGOs, prepared a scenario of the holiday, developed calendars and diploma and purchased prizes for the contests' winners. Prior to the Tiger Day Festival, "One day from Amur tiger's life" drawing contest was held. On September 17, 2005 the Tiger Day Festival was celebrated in Luchegorsk city. Over 500 schoolchildren from 7 schools of Luchegorsk city and Novostroika, Fedosievka, Nagornoye and Pozharskoye towns participated in a parade on the main street of the city (see Tiger Day Festival).

On September 12 the teacher carried out a lesson on the theme "Forest is the main treasure of our region" for the pupils of the 10<sup>th</sup> form. The schoolchildren learnt that once

primeval coniferous forest had been in Pozharsky district. But after the years of merciless land use and uncontrolled logging the forest has changed. There is only underwood now. The forestries protect the forest from poachers and fires and reforest the region. The forestries used to reforest 500 ha every year, but now they cover only 100 ha per year. The teacher told about precious trees that one could find in the forest of Pozharsky district.



© Phoenix Fund  
Children watch a film on ecological theme

On September 21 the teacher gave a lesson on the theme "Animals of our forest" for the pupils of the 7<sup>th</sup> form. The educator told about the unique biodiversity of flora and fauna of Primorsky



krai, threats of the habitat reduction for Amur tiger and other endangered animals. At the end of the lesson the schoolchildren watched a film “Tiger Odyssey”.

On September 27 there was a lesson on the theme “Ecological systems and their protection” for the pupils of the 10<sup>th</sup> form. The teacher told how air, water and land pollution influence ecosystems and showed a film on the theme.

Other

For the period September 15 - 25 Ms. Tsvetkova took part in “Environment conservation” exchange program of “Open World” Institute in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, USA. The objective of the program was to gain and share experience and knowledge on environmental education between Russian and American NGOs. During the exchange program, the educator visited National Parks, refuges and protected territories, met with the refuge’s staff that told about ecological education for schoolchildren, took many photos and video materials that will be used in her eco-classes in the future. Gained knowledge, information and all materials will be used to demonstrate a rational approach of Americans to the nature use and conservation.

Tiger Eco-centre in Novopokrovka town



© Phoenix Fund  
The children set up the warning sign

In January 2004 the Phoenix Fund created Tiger eco-center in Novopokrovka town, Northern Primorye. Thanks to support from Save the Tiger Fund, 21<sup>st</sup> Century Tiger and David Shepherd Wildlife Foundation the center became popular place among local children. However, it took several months to repair a classroom (45 m<sup>2</sup>) for the center in the building of secondary school and only on October 08, 2004 the eco-center was officially opened. Krasnoarmeisky Department of Education presented 10 new school desks to the eco-center. Now, there are many special books, magazines and video films on Amur tiger and other endangered species, a lot of children’s paintings and handicrafts are exhibited in the center. Since April 2005 the educator has been giving eco-classes for the children in Tiger eco-center every day. See the description and results of the project activities’ for the period from January 01 to June 30 in the Interim Report.

In July the educator conducted 21 lessons at the eco-center and 12 children of 11 years old attended the classes regularly. During the month there were 10 film screenings and ecological talks with the children from school summer camp.

On July 01 the educator told about nature reserves, rules of human behavior on protected territories, and prohibited activities there. On July 04 the children watched a cartoon named “Dump” and discussed how to fight pollution.

On July 07 the teacher showed a cartoon about tigers and explained why tigers need to be protected.



© Phoenix Fund  
The children release Far Eastern soft-shell turtles into the river

On July 11 the educator told about illegal hunting and how poaching influences tiger's fate.

On July 13 the children listened to the story about tiger cubs. Next day after watching a cartoon they looked through the photos of live and dead tigers. The children shared their impressions and promised never to kill animals.



On July 18 after watching a cartoon the children played an ecological game. Every child should imagine

that a tiger lived in his/her home and told what problems it would face. As a result, the children came to conclusion that forest was the best place for wild animals.

On July 19 the children made handcrafts to exhibit them during the Tiger Day celebration in Novopokrovka village.

On July 20, 22, 26, and 27 the educator and the children set up warning signs on the bank of the Bolshaya Ussurka river.

On July 25 the lesson was devoted to Amur tigers. The children read articles about the predator, told stories and watched cartoons about wild cats.

On July 28 the educator told how indigenous people treat tiger, explained why they worship and are afraid of it.



© Phoenix Fund  
Eco-class on Amur tiger



© Phoenix Fund  
Play "Visiting Primorye"

The premiere of the conservation-oriented play "Visiting Primorye" took place on July 29. About 40 young spectators of 7-14 years old came to watch the play. After the performance the audience discussed the play and told about the unique nature of Primorye, rare and endangered animals, ways and methods of wildlife conservation etc.

In August 12 children of 10-12 years old attended the classes regularly. On August 02 the villagers brought 6 Far Eastern soft-shell turtles (listed in the Russian Red Book of Endangered Species) to the eco-centre. The children decided to release them into the river. On August 03 the educator and the children set up two signs warning people to protect forest



from fires. From August 14 to August 17 the educator and 12 children visited Sikhote-Alin nature reserve (see Outdoor educational activities). From August 29 the children started preparing for the Tiger Day Festival.



Children's paintings © Phoenix Fund

In September the teacher carried out 22 eco-classes for 20 children of 10-12 years old.

From September 01 to September 13 the teacher and the children rehearsed the opening ceremony of the Tiger Day Festival, prepared riddles and puzzles about tiger, repeated poems and songs, tried on fancy suits, and took care of the animals living in the eco-centre.

On September 13 the children rehearsed the opening ceremony on the square of Novopokrovka town where the Tiger Day was to be held. The teacher asked the young actors to tell why they needed to celebrate the Tiger Day and how the holiday helped to save that rare animal. The children answered that thanks

to the Festival people became aware of the tiger conservation problems and helped save its population from extinction. They decided to make leaflets about the status of the Amur tiger population and the Tiger Day Festival, and to distribute them among local people.

On September 18 the Tiger Day Festival was celebrated in Novopokrovka town (see Tiger Day Festival).

On September 20 – 21 the teacher read the book “Amur tiger” and played the game “Tsarsarevich”.

On September 22 the children learnt how scientist study the tiger, about snow and radio tracking, and recalled their trip to Sikhote-Alin nature reserve and meeting with the staff.

On September 23 the teacher organized an excursion to the park where the children observed the changes that happened to the trees that they had planted in spring.

On September 26 there was a test on gained knowledge on Amur tiger. The children answered questions about size, weight, habitat, and prey base of the tiger.

On September 28 the teacher and the children created a “tiger” library, which included various books, magazines, and newspapers on the theme at the eco-centre.

#### Outdoor educational activities/training

Thanks to support from the Save the Tiger Fund from July 19 to July 31, 2005 the Phoenix Fund, together with “Flowerspring” NGO, organized a many-day “Lotus” summer camp for 25 young activists and their parents in Pozharsky district, Northern Primorye.



© Phoenix Fund  
The children conduct research into fresh water quality

The main purpose of the camp was to educate the youth about the forest and its inhabitants, strengthen the knowledge on close relations between man and wildlife and involve children in conservation activities. The camp was set close to Solenaya Pad Lake. The children carried out monitoring of lotus\* and patrolling the area around the lake. During the camp the young ecologists conducted research into fresh water quality and purity of the air in the vicinity of Solenaya Pad Lake. Conservationists and schoolchildren participated in special trainings and contests. For example, the contest “Ecological fairy tale” presupposed to tell or stage a famous fairy tale, emphasizing its ecological content. The most popular game

was “Chingiskhan’s path”. The players got a map and should find sweet prize in the forest observing rules of human behavior in tiger habitat and rules of ecotourism. Besides, the young ecologists participated in the following contests: “The best fisherman”, “The best gatherer of mushrooms”, “The best eco-tourist” and many others. During the last day of the summer camp all participants, including the parents, were awarded with a certificate of “ecologist’s friend”.

In August 14-16, 2005 the children of Krasnoarmeisky district, Northern Primorye made a trip to Sikhote-Alin nature reserve. On August 14 the group arrived to the reserve, met the officers and researchers of the reserve and had a hike to the seashore. On August 15 children met the participants of the “Amur tiger” project at the reserve, listened to the stories about tigers and learned about the methods of tiger research and radio tracking. The children also had a practice class – they were looking for hidden tiger radio-collars with the help of receivers with antennae. Evgeny Smirnov, tiger biologist at the reserve, gave a lecture on rules of human behavior in tiger habitat, on diseases that one can catch in the forest in one does not follow the safety and hygiene rules and he carried out a quiz on best knowledge on tigers. The winner received the author’s book “Tiger encounters”. After lunch children had an excursion to the seashore and Severny cape where they watched seals, walked and looked for what the sea had brought to the shore. On August 16 children had a hike to Khunta-Mi Bay with the officers of the reserve. There they saw tracks of ungulates (roe deer, elk and wild boar), raccoon dog, badger and even tiger (tracks on the sand) and simply observed the natural surroundings. The children left the reserve on August 17 with the most pleasant



© Phoenix Fund  
The reserve staff tells the children about radio-tracking

\* Lotus (*Nelumbium Komarovii*) is a herbaceous plant that grows in lakes and ox-bow lakes. Its bright pink flowers are up to 20-25 cm in cross-section. Lotus is used in Asiatic traditional medicine. It is listed in the Russian Red Book of Rare and Endangered Species. Flowers of this plant are beautiful only when it grows in the lake. As soon as the plant is taken from its habitat, the flowers fade and fall.



memories. For most of the children it was the first time they spent a vacation without parents, the first tiger they went for a hike and observed the wild nature.

Tiger Day Festival



© Phoenix Fund  
Amur tiger heads the carnival procession  
in Vladivostok, September 25, 2005

Celebration of the Tiger Day Festival is a wonderful tradition in Vladivostok, Russian Far East. The Festival reminds people about the uniqueness and beauty of the territory they live in. Amur tiger is a symbol of Vladivostok city and Primorsky krai, the animal most respected in the Russian Far East. One of the central Vladivostok streets is called “Tigrovaya” in Russian (“Tiger’s”) and there is a hill with the same name in the city.

The Tiger Day Festival was initiated in 2000 in Vladivostok by the Phoenix Fund and was carried out with support from the Russian and international nature conservation NGOs. In 2001 the Head of Vladivostok City Administration signed the regulation to hold it

every fourth Sunday of September yearly. The Tiger Day won the city holiday status. In 2003-2004 the Tiger and Leopard Day was celebrated in Vladivostok, Luchegorsk, Novopokrovka, Khabarovsk cities and zoos all over Russia, CIS and Europe.

This year the holiday has become really international as many events and actions were taken before, during and after International Tiger Day (September 25th) round the world (China, India, Thailand, USA). For example, on the eve of International Tiger Day, Save The Tiger Fund (STF) launched the Campaign Against Tiger Trafficking (CATT) in concert with partners and related events around the world. On the 23<sup>rd</sup> of September 2005



© Phoenix Fund  
Phoenix staff with fancy tiger toys for awards



© Phoenix Fund  
Tiger Day Festival in Luchegorsk city

International Fund for Animal Welfare-Russia (IFAW-Russia) and the Phoenix Fund organized a press conference in Vladivostok, Russian Far East, to inform about the Campaign Against Tiger Trafficking (CATT) and appealed to local authorities and communities to stop killing the world’s big cats and destroying their priceless forest habitats. This information was covered by the local press, radio, and television.

As usual, a month prior to the Festival a specially designed street advertising was set up in Vladivostok streets to draw attention of local people to the event. The advertising



board (3 m x 6 m) was placed on the main street of the city. A colorful photograph of four tigers made by Dr. Yudin was used to attract people’s attention. A light-reflecting banner (1.1 m x 10 m) with information on Tiger Day was stretched out above the main city road.

Besides, Phoenix designed, produced and purchased a lot of different awards for the winners in contests (special T-shirts, badges and medals with the Tiger Day logo, amusing tiger toys candies, books etc.). This year the Phoenix Fund ordered cakes with the Tiger Day logo at the local confectionery to award the best groups that participated in the holiday celebration.

This year a series of public environmental events devoted to conservation of Amur tigers and leopards started on the 17<sup>th</sup> of September in Luchegorsk city, Pozharsky district of Primorye, and began with a parade on the main



© Phoenix Fund

Young actors show the play in Novopokrovka town



© Phoenix Fund

The cake with the Tiger Day logo

street of the city. The Tiger Day in Luchegorsk coincided with Pozharsky District Day celebration. The organizers noticed that more schoolchildren and adults (over 500 people) came to celebrate the festival in comparison with the last year. There was a theatrical performance in the Culture Palace where professional actors in animal costumes staged a play and involved children in various games, contests, dances etc.

Next day, on the 18<sup>th</sup> of September, the Tiger Day Festival was carried out in Novopokrovka town, administrative center of Krasnoarmeisky district, in Northern Primorye, Russian Far East. This year the Education and Culture Departments of Krasnoarmeisky district

authorities took an active part in its organization. Schoolchildren of 12 schools came to celebrate this popular holiday. Children of six schools could not come to Novopokrovka town because of the transportation problems, but they celebrated the holiday locally by participating in drawing contests and attending lessons on Amur tiger.



© Phoenix Fund

Carnival procession is moving to the Central Square of Vladivostok September 25, 2005

On the main square local people and guests saw four performances and 11 dances of children’s dance groups, listened to 13 songs and 26 poems about Amur tiger and other animals living in the taiga. In total, 120 children were involved in amateur theatricals. About 80 paintings, 70 handicrafts made of wood, glass, plasticine, nature materials, and fabrics were exhibited on the square. During the holiday the volunteers handed out the leaflets with an



appeal to save Amur tiger population from extinction. Standing next to the tiger posters the children- volunteers told people about tiger biology. A lady in tiger costume treated all participants to special “tiger food”. The winners of the contests were awarded with memorable prizes.



© Phoenix Fund  
The children are drawing tigers on asphalt

On the 25<sup>th</sup> of September Vladivostok celebrated the 6<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Tiger Day. In 2005 the Festival in Vladivostok was organized by Phoenix, WWF-RFE, Wildlife Conservation Society (Russia) in conjunction with city administration and was supported by the Save the Tiger Fund, 21<sup>st</sup> Century Tiger, the David Shepherd Wildlife Foundation and International Fund for Animal Welfare. Besides, some businesses, which decided to make their social contribution, were involved in Tiger Day celebration. Local Electronics Company “Spector” provided support and prizes for contests’ winners.

The holiday started with a carnival procession down the main street to the Central Square. The long “black and yellow” column included dance groups, children in fancy tiger and leopard costumes, artists and circus actors, schools, kindergartens, educational organizations of Vladivostok and Primorsky krai, adults, students – those who are not indifferent to the fate of Amur tiger. Last year about 4,000 people participated in Tiger Day celebration in the cities of Primorye, and this year about 5,000 people came only to the central square of Vladivostok to participate in unique ecological festival. It indicates that Tiger Day Festival became unique and popular ecological holiday between people living in the Russian Far East.

Organizers made a welcoming speech on the Vladivostok Central Square. Then different folk and modern dances, theatrical and musical performances, prepared by the local artists and children, were carried out on a stage of the Central Square. During the festival there were different contests, quizzes and games. The winners received special awards, including T-shirts, tiger photos, toys, books, magnets etc.



© Phoenix Fund  
Happy “tiger” family

Young residents of Vladivostok were drawing tigers of various sizes and shapes on the city's central square. In 2004 over 180 children took part in the tiger face painting contest and over 150 in tiger paintings on asphalt contest during the Tiger Day Festival in Vladivostok. In 2005 there were twice as many children and their parents that participated in the contests with great pleasure.

The following contests took place during the Festival:

- the best costume (mask) of an animal of Ussuriisk taiga;
- tiger make-up;



- tiger drawings on asphalt;
- poems, songs, drawings and dances devoted to Amur tiger and the Tiger Day Festival;
- the best decoration of a festive column (car).



Five pleasure-grounds functioned on the Central Square. The Tiger Day itself drew thousands of participants and spectators to the Central Square of Vladivostok.

During the holiday the Phoenix Fund, together with the colleagues from IFAW-Russia collected more than 750 signatures under the appeal to the Russian and Chinese governments to ensure the law enforcement against tiger poaching and smuggling as well as to prevent legalizing trade in bones and developing of tiger farms.

© Phoenix Fund

The “tiger” awards the prize to the boy

We are happy that every year the Tiger Day Festivals in the cities of Primorye attract more and more people and companies as well as

local authorities and help ensure safe future for both animals and men in taiga. There is a hope that Primorsky krai administration will pay attention to this wonderful, unique and popular festival and will support it in nearest future.



## ATTACHMENT

Table 1. Summary of enforcement activities of the Khabarovsk team, January – September, 2005\*

Activity	January - September 2005
<b>I. Violations documented:</b>	
1.1. Hunting	10
1.2. Fishing	8
1.3. Forest resources	7
1.4. Protected areas	-
1.5. Other	4
<b>2. Illegal weapons confiscated and handed over to the police</b>	2
<b>3. Confiscated poaching devices:</b>	
a) Nets	11
b) Tractor	3
c) Outboard motor	2
<b>4. Wildlife confiscated :</b>	
4.1. Pike	15 species
4.2. Meat of mink	1 species
<b>5. Initiated criminal proceedings</b>	3
<b>6. Found dead tiger cub</b>	1
<b>7. Rescued tiger cub</b>	1
<b>8. Mass media coverage</b>	
8.1. TV reports	2
8.2. Articles	2

Table 2. Summary of enforcement and outreach activities of two public environmental investigation teams, January – September 2005\*

Activity	Northern team	Southern team	Total
<b>I. Violations documented:</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>84</b>
1.1. Hunting	22	37	<b>59</b>
1.2. Fishing	2	-	<b>2</b>
1.3. Forest resources	13	2	<b>15</b>
1.4. Protected areas	-	-	-
1.5. Other	6	2	<b>8</b>
<b>2. Illegal weapons confiscated and handed over to the police</b>	20 rifles (84 cartridges)	28	<b>48 rifles (84 cartridges)</b>
<b>3. Confiscated poaching devices:</b>			
a) Traps	-	10	<b>10</b>
b) Snares	4	-	<b>4</b>
c) Fishing net	8	-	<b>8</b>
d) Tractor	6	-	<b>6</b>
e) Chain-saw	5	-	<b>5</b>
<b>4. Wildlife confiscated :</b>			
4.1. Lynx	1 item	-	<b>1 item</b>
4.2. Wild boar meat	2 species	1 species	<b>3 species</b>
4.3. Bear meat	-	52 kg	<b>52 kg</b>
4.4. Siberian stag meat	-	225 kg	<b>225 kg</b>
<b>5. Initiated criminal proceedings</b>	7	2	<b>9</b>
<b>6. Meetings with schoolchildren</b>	10	2	<b>12</b>
<b>7. Mass media coverage</b>			
7.1. TV reports	16	-	<b>16</b>
7.2. Radio reports	-	-	-
7.3. Articles	7	-	<b>7</b>
<b>8. Participation in round tables, conferences, trainings</b>	4	2	<b>6</b>

\* Results of joint patrols with wildlife managers, police officers, forest service staff, Inspection Tiger rangers, "Bars" team of Rosprirodnadzor and the officers of Special Police Force (OMON)



Table 3. Special Emergency Response team's

January 01 – September 30, 2005

	Jan 2005	Feb 2005	March 2005	Apr 2005	May 2005	June 2005	July 2005	Aug 2005	Sept 2005	Total
<b>Conflict tiger cases</b>	10*	11	3	5	1	4**	5	3	-	<b>42</b>
<b>Danger</b>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<b>“Control”</b>	10	11	3	5	1	4	5	3	-	<b>42</b>
<b>False information</b>	-	-	-	-	1	3	-	-	-	<b>4</b>
<b>Dead tiger</b>	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	<b>2</b>
<b>Captured and released tiger</b>	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	<b>2</b>
<b>Human casualties</b>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Perished animals</b>	9 dogs 2calves	8 dogs 2 cows	6 dogs	3 dogs	-	3 dogs 1 colt	3 calves 1 dog	3 cows 3 dogs	-	<b>33 dogs 5 calves 5 cows 1 colt</b>

\*7 conflict tiger cases started at the end of 2004

\*\*1 conflict leopard case

