



*Who cares
about a
Tiger?*

*The Save the Tiger Fund is a special project of
The National Fish and Wildlife Foundation in partnership with the Exxon Corporation.*

Who

*Who cares about a Tiger? Or is this savage animal
Who really stops to think? The one who has no shame?
There are things out in this world, We cannot see the dozer;
We destroy without a blink. We cannot hear her cries;
Who cares about a Tiger? We cannot feel the terror,
The most beautiful of all When the heart within her dies.
God's creatures standing next So who cares about a tiger?
to us; How quietly they fall. And when is it too late,
And we within our houses, To listen to our conscience
Behind walls to deafen cries. That tells of our own fate?
These animals we're losing, For if there are no more Tigers,
Strike fear within our minds. When will it ever end?
So who is the vicious animal Or will we keep destroying
That kills without a thought? What we cannot understand.
Destroying without knowing Who cares about a Tiger?
Of the desolation wrought. Is it you or is it me?
Is this savage animal Or will the greatest animal
The one we cannot tame? Become a memory?*

by Chris Patti

The Tiger's Disappearing Habitat



The tiger, one of the world's most recognizable and beloved creatures, is in trouble. Within the 20th century, the tiger population has gone from about 100,000 to no more than 7,400 that roam in the wilds of Asia today. The Caspian, Java, and Bali tigers have all gone extinct within the last 70 years. The remaining subspecies are all seriously depleted across their range. Tigers used to roam across the entire Indian Subcontinent, for example, but are now restricted to increasingly isolated tracts of forest and wild lands surrounded by farms, villages, and cities.

Today, tigers face a number of serious threats, principally habitat loss, prey depletion, and poaching. The poachers and those that consume tiger parts often fail to realize they are helping to drive the tiger to extinction.

In the book *Tigers*, Dr. John Seidensticker, Curator of Mammals at the National Zoological Park in Washington, D.C., and the Chairman of the Save the Tiger Fund, writes, "The challenge of saving the tiger is at the heart of conservation. The tigers are in trouble. People are responsible for the tiger's plight and people can ensure the tiger's survival needs are met in the wild so it can survive. Saving the tiger depends on coordinated and thoughtful support from all people throughout the world."

Tigers: Truly



• The tiger is the largest living member of the cat family on the planet. It is both revered and feared for its amazing beauty and awesome strength.



• Five of the eight original subspecies of tigers still survive: the Amur (Siberian) tiger, the Indochinese tiger, the Bengal tiger, the Sumatran tiger, and the South China tiger. Three subspecies of tigers, the Java, the Bali, and the Caspian, have become extinct during the last 70 years.



• Although Africa is home to many impressive cats, the tiger is not one of them. Wild tigers can be found only in Asia. Today they exist in the following countries: Russia, China, Vietnam, Cambodia, Laos, N. Korea, Thailand, Malaysia, Indonesia (Sumatra), Myanmar, Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, and Nepal. In the United States, tigers can be found only in zoos, circuses, and wildlife parks.



• Wild tigers are extremely adaptable and live in a variety of different habitats from tropical forests to mangrove swamps to deciduous woodlands. Tigers can also be found in a wide range of climates, from the sweltering jungles of India to the frigid snows of the Russian Far East.



• The heaviest tiger recorded in the Guinness Book of World Records is a 1,025-pound male Amur tiger. Siberian tigers are generally the heaviest, with males weighing over 700 pounds, while male Sumatran tigers weigh only about 250 pounds.



Magnificent Beasts



- *Tigers can eat up to 77 pounds of meat in one night – the equivalent of 300 hamburgers. Large tigers need to eat an average of 15 pounds of meat a day.*

- *Free from persecution and with adequate prey available, tigers reproduce relatively quickly for a large animal. Gestation usually lasts 102 days, and most tigers produce two to three cubs per litter, which remain with their mother for up to two years to learn all the skills necessary for survival on their own.*



- *Sadly, each year there are fewer and fewer tigers in the world. Today, it is estimated that as few as 5,000 tigers survive in the wild. Habitat loss, loss of prey, and poaching (killing tigers for their bones and other body parts) are responsible for the tiger's decline.*



- *Tigers are one of the world's most impressive predators, their bodies finely tuned for hunting and killing prey. Using a combination of stealth and strength, tigers can bring down animals twice their size. Ungulates — hoofed animals such as deer or wild pig — represent a large part of a tiger's diet. Prey density (how much food is available) helps determine how many tigers can survive in a given area.*



- *After learning the necessary survival skills from their mothers, young tigers find their own territories. Unless extraordinary conservation measures are taken, the tiger's continued existence in the wild is in serious jeopardy.*



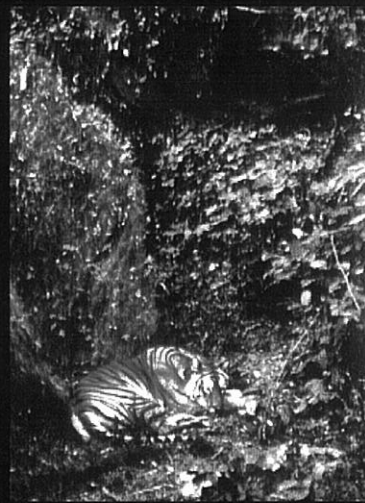
The Save the Tiger Fund: Its Role and Impact in Tiger Conservation

On September 28, 1995, The National Fish and Wildlife Foundation and Exxon launched the Save the Tiger Fund (STF), an international effort to assist in the long-term survival of Asia's remaining populations of wild tigers. The establishment of the Save the Tiger Fund represents a real commitment by Exxon and the Foundation to save the tiger from extinction in the wild, through the generous funding of a diverse and effective group of conservation projects.

Since its launch in the fall of 1995, the Save the Tiger Fund has supported 67 projects with a total of \$5,147,697. All of the Fund's projects are connected by a common goal: the continued survival of the tiger in the wilds of Asia. Some critics would say that such a goal is unattainable, that the pressures and threats posed by encroaching human populations are too great to overcome.

The Foundation acknowledges that the threats to the tiger are daunting, but we also firmly believe that the projects we are funding are producing real and powerful results. By investing wisely in high-priority efforts in tiger-range countries, the Save the Tiger Fund has the potential to make a real difference to the tiger's future.

Sampl



Save the Tiger Fund Projects

Project: Chitwan Habitat Restoration-I, II

Grantee: World Wildlife Fund and the King Mahendra Trust for Nature Conservation

Funding: \$59,200 in 1996 and \$120,000 in 1998

Description: This project continues the highly successful habitat regeneration programs in buffer zones around Royal Chitwan National Park in Nepal. The King Mahendra Trust, the World Wildlife Fund, and other conservation partners have achieved great results with groundbreaking efforts to restore tiger habitat and populations of tiger and their prey by using economic incentives to promote local guardianship. The project has already restored nearly 17 square kilometers of previously degraded riverine forests and grasslands on the eastern periphery of the park, thereby providing a major wildlife corridor linking Chitwan to one of the premier tall-grass habitats in the northern subcontinent. This year's efforts will focus on extending the regeneration effort to a larger landscape that contains two important dispersal corridors for tigers.

Project: Siberian Tiger Protection Project-I, II

Grantee: Global Survival Network

Funding: \$52,090 in 1996 and \$44,160 in 1997

Description: This project supports the Global Survival Network's continued efforts to protect the Siberian Tiger in Russia's Far East. As the Siberian Tiger Support Coalition Coordinator, the Global Survival Network provides technical and financial assistance to three wildlife protection groups working to eliminate poaching and ensure the survival of tigers in the region. Just a few years ago, the Siberian tiger was considered by many to be doomed to extinction because of rampant poaching in the Russian Far East. But the work of the Global Survival Network and local Russian-led anti-poaching teams has produced a dramatic reduction in poaching and a thrilling, albeit tenuous, recovery of the tiger population.



Don't let the tigers go.
Call 1-800-5-TIGERS.

*Please support tiger conservation. For the latest updates and information
on the Save The Tigers, visit our web site at www.5tigers.com.*

EXXON



*Photography provided by
Jamie Veronica/Wild Life on Easy Street,
Michael K. Nichols, Martin Walz/National Geographic
and Maggie Seider*

A long time ago,
someone went to great lengths
to save the tigers.



Now it's our turn.

Once widespread throughout much of Asia, the tiger is now endangered across all of its range. Without a concerted effort by mankind, wild



tigers could disappear completely. Please join the *Save the Tiger Fund* in the fight to conserve these magnificent creatures.

To donate or to request information, please contact the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation at 1120 Connecticut Avenue, NW, Suite 900, Washington, DC. 20036, (202) 857-0166 or see our website at www.5tigers.org.



Bengal Tiger

Found in remaining pockets of wilderness in India, Nepal, Bhutan, Myanmar, and Bangladesh, the Bengal tiger is the most numerous of all tiger subspecies, with as many as 4,500 still found in the wild. Like all tigers, however, the Bengal is highly endangered. Hiding in the subcontinent's tall grasslands, the Bengal is a master at camouflage, but it cannot hide from danger without our help.

For more tiger facts, visit www.5tigers.org on the Internet.

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THE NATIONAL FOUNDATION
SAVE THE TIGER FUND



Who cares about a tiger?
Who takes the time to think?
There is beauty in this world,
we destroy without a blink.
Who cares about a tiger?
And when is it too late,
to listen to our conscience
that tells us of our fate?
If we ignore the trouble,
and refuse to hear her cries,
do we feel the terror,
when the heart within her dies?
Who cares about a tiger?
Is it you or is it me?
Or will this great creature
become a memory?

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