



WWF

20 years
in RUSSIA

SAVING TIGERS TOGETHER

The Government of Russia
Primorsky Province Government
Khabarovsk Province Government

The Russian Academy of Science
WWF, the global conservation organization
The Amur Tiger Center

24% of tiger key habitats are safeguarded by protected areas. Out of them 2,5 million hectares are protected with the assistance from WWF.

20 000 of hunters in Primorye received inserts into the hunting permits instructing them how to behave when encountering tigers and leopards in the wilderness.

249 forensic biologic examinations of wildlife objects were conducted by WWF specialists in 2004—2014.

15% 15% of the whole tiger range is within well managed tiger-friendly or model hunting clubs.

1994 — WWF provided financial support to anti-poaching ranger squads in *Lazovsky* and *Sikhote-Alin* Nature Reserves, key Amur tiger habitat, as well as to *Tiger* inspection and response teams of the Primorsky Province Hunting Department working in the Bikin River Basin.

1995 — WWF initiated and supported the adoption of the National Conservation Program for the Amur tiger.

1996 — WWF initiated and supported the development and adoption of the first Amur Tiger Conservation Strategy in Russia. The document summarized the 50 years of experience of the Amur tiger protection and research in Russia, while defining the main principles and measures on its long-term conservation.

1997 — WWF and the Vladivostok Branch of the Russian Customs Academy elaborated a training course «Role of the Customs Service in revealing and seizing illegal trafficking of wildlife objects across the border».

1998 — WWF became a co-organizer of the annual tiger monitoring on 16 model plots in Khabarovsk and Primorsky Provinces.

1999 — *Kedr* group was created to fight illegal logging in tigers' habitat.

1999 — The Far Eastern Operative Customs and WWF signed the Agreement on cooperation on wildlife species conservation and control over wildlife resources transportation across the border.

2000 — WWF helped to establish the Training Center at the Vladivostok Branch of the Russian Customs Academy to assist the customs officials to control illegal trafficking of wildlife resources across the border.

2000 — In partnership with other organizations, WWF organized first Tiger Day in Vladivostok. WWF has continued to support celebration of the Tiger Day annually in many cities and villages across Primorsky and Khabarovsk Provinces.

2001 — WWF and *Medved* hunting club launched an experimental project to restore wild ungulate numbers, the main prey for the Amur tiger. This experience has been applied all across the Russian Far East.

2002 — For the first time WWF carried out a full range social research to analyze the effectiveness of anti-poaching brigades activities aimed at protection of the Amur tiger and its habitat in the Russian Far East.

2003 — *Sobol*, an anti-poaching brigade, was created in Evreiskaya Province with WWF's financial support, the analogue of the successfully functioning in Primorye *Kedr* group.

2004 — WWF Russia and TRAFFIC initiated a project to detect wildlife objects using sniffer dogs at the Vladivostok International Airport check post.

2005 — WWF became a co-sponsor and organizer of the tiger census. Tiger Census National methodology was developed, tested and approved.

2006 — The hunting clubs put into practice, in close cooperation with the Administration of Primorsky Province, mobilization plans consisting of a set of measures to support wild ungulates in severe winter conditions and trainings designed for the users of hunting resources.

2007 — WWF assisted in the creation of three national parks: *Zov Tigra* and *Udegeiskaya Legend* in Primorsky Province, and *Anyuisky* in Khabarovsk Province, covering 600 122 hectares in total.

2008 — A fully functional Sniffer Dog Service was formed in the Russian Far East. WWF included in its priorities the support of customs agencies by instructing dog handlers and training their dogs focusing on wildlife smuggling prevention.

2009 — The indigenous peoples' enterprise *Tiger leased*, with the support of WWF and the Government of Germany, a 49-year conservation concession for 461 154 hectares of Korean pine forests of the Bikin River basin for harvesting non-timber forest resources.

2010 — WWF co-organized and participated in the International Tiger Summit in St. Petersburg bringing together heads of state of 13 tiger-range countries. WWF also co-organized the Youth Tiger Forum held in Vladivostok.

2010 — The Russian Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment adopted the Strategy to Protect the Amur Tiger in Russia. WWF's experts actively participated in developing the document.

2011 — WWF and the Swedish *Nordens Ark* Zoo launched a unique joint project on preservation the world's northernmost tiger group in Khabarovsk Province.

2012 — WWF helped to create special groups on the mitigation of conflicts between people and large predators in the Hunting Departments of Primorsky and Khabarovsk Provinces.

2013 — President of Russia approved legal amendments to introduce tougher punishment for poaching and trafficking of rare species and criminal punishment for storage, purchasing, transportation, and sale of valuable species. WWF campaigned for these changes to take place since early 2000s.

2014 — President of Russia signed a List of Orders to ensure protection of the Amur tiger and its habitats.

2015 — With the support of WWF-Russia the Bikin National Park was established in Primorsky Province. 1 160 469 hectares of the forests of the Bikin River basin, which is key for the Udege tribes and Amur tigers, were taken under protection. The Bikin River basin contains 10% of the Amur tiger's habitat living in the Russian Far East .

2015 — WWF co-sponsored and participated in the winter full range survey of Amur tigers. The survey estimated around 550 tigers in the taiga of the Russian Far East. In the last 20 years, the population of the Amur tigers increased by 15%.

3 groups on the mitigation of conflicts between people and large predators are created in Primorye and Khabarovsk regions with WWF support.

about **550** Amur tigers live in the Far Eastern taiga.

on **16** plots in Primorye and Khabarovsk Province the annual monitoring of the Amur tiger is conducted.

Korean pine is banned for logging. The export of oak and ash is carefully monitored and inspected. A satellite monitoring system for illegal logging is implemented.

The world's biggest, stable, and non-fragmented tiger population totaling around 550 tigers has been saved in Russia!



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