



21<sup>ST</sup> CENTURY TIGER  
giving wild tigers a future  
[www.21stCenturyTiger.org](http://www.21stCenturyTiger.org)

# 21<sup>st</sup> Century Tiger enews 6

April 2009

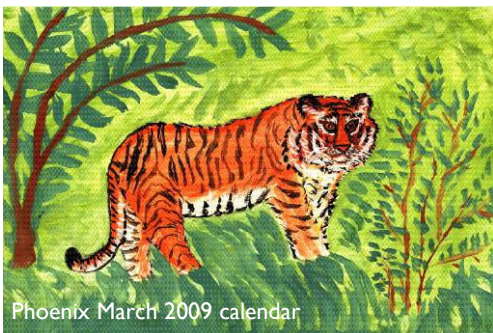
## Heavy snowfall = starving tigers



In January 2009 we received reports from Phoenix that Amur tiger prey species were starving due to heavy snowfall in the Russian Far East. Snow cover reached a depth of more than a metre in many areas making it very hard for local ungulate species (goral, wild boar, roe, red, sika and musk deer) to migrate, find food, and escape poachers. 21<sup>st</sup> Century Tiger immediately launched an emergency appeal which raised £1000 in no time at all. This was sent to assist the emergency relief effort clearing snow, counting ungulates and distributing food in Udege Legend National Park. Thank you all who answered our urgent plea so promptly. See the full report on [www.21stCenturyTiger](http://www.21stCenturyTiger)

## Phoenix Fund

*In The Russian Far East, the Amur tiger faces many threats to its existence - illegal poaching, human encroachment, deforestation, and a lack of natural prey species. Approximately 360 Amur tigers are left in the wild, and of the surviving tigers only an estimated 10% are found within protected areas. The protected areas, therefore, are not enough*



Phoenix March 2009 calendar

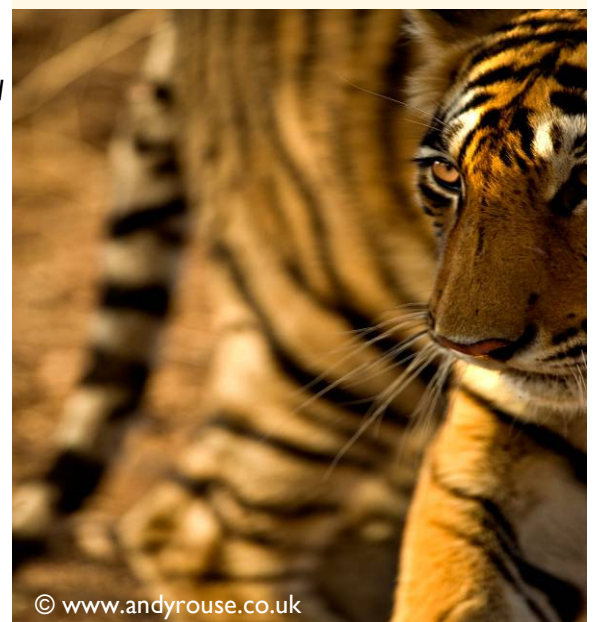
*to sustain the population in the long term; the future of the tiger is very much dependent on management of the lands between parks for the benefit of both humans and wildlife; hence a lot*

*depends on the attitudes of local people. As part of our fully funded scheme, Phoenix, with funding from The Dreamworld Conservation Fund, runs the project "Joint Anti-Poaching Activities in the South of Khabarovsk Krai". Over the course of 2008 the team carried out 30 patrols, drew 31 citations, initiated five criminal procedures, confiscated 13 illegal and 11 legal guns, 100 kg of wild boar meat and 50 kg of red deer meat. The rangers transferred two tiger cubs to Utios for rehabilitation, investigated a case of a Far Eastern wild cat killed by a trap, and resolved five tiger-human conflicts, one of which sadly involved shooting the offending cat. In addition to anti-poaching activities in 2008 the team implemented an educational project in southern Khabarovsk krai giving lectures on anti-poaching activities and endangered species conservation, and organised children's art contests devoted to raising awareness for the Amur tiger and other rare animals. The best tiger paintings were selected for a calendar for 2009. See more of the projects we support in The Russian Far East on our website's project page.*

## Andy Rouse illustrated talk

We'd like to say a massive thank you to the fantastic wildlife photographer Andy Rouse who enthralled a full house in aid of 21<sup>st</sup> Century Tiger on a freezing night at the end of January 2009. With amazing images, stories of animal encounters and photographic insight, Andy certainly managed to banish the winter blues.

He also surprised us with news of an incredibly generous £4,000 donation from Clinton Cards bringing the total raised to over £6,300 for wild tiger conservation. Thank you to Andy, Clinton Cards and all those who braved the weather to attend!



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## Other 21<sup>st</sup> Century Tiger projects:

### Fauna and Flora International. Kerinci Seblat tiger protection project 2005 - 09

During 2008 five Tiger Protection and Conservation Units (TPCU), which form the backbone of field activities, continued to patrol the forests of Kerinci Seblat, Sumatra. In this area encroachment is now a more serious threat to tigers than illegal logging and urgently needs to be addressed by the Indonesian government. Data suggest that the use of traditional snares used by poachers for prey species is being replaced by the use of unlicensed guns and lobbying of the police is being carried out to ensure they take a more active role in combating unlawful use of firearms and black market trade. During this period several prosecutions were carried out after intelligence gathering by the TCPU patrols including an army officer jailed (see right) for trying to sell the skin and skeleton of a tiger. Other charges related to gun and forest crimes such as poaching.



### Zoological Society of London. Mapping tiger conservation values in Eastern Sumatra 2007 - 09.

Unlike Kerinci, in the swampy forests found in Jambi Province logging is a greater threat to the Sumatran tigers survival than poaching. Legal logging for oil palm plantations and illegal logging for timber export destroys millions of hectares of forest each year. Recently this area has received a great deal of attention due to human tiger conflict as illegal loggers have moved into an area recently vacated by a licensed logging company. Eight people have so far been killed in this “production forest” – five of them were illegal loggers, most from outside the province, and all eight were in the forest unlawfully. After the initial three attacks, a tiger was seen outside the forest on an oil palm plantation where thousands of people work. The government decided to catch this tiger and requested technical support from ZSL in doing so. The tigress - named Salma - was caught safely and moved to a nearby zoo prior to re-releasing her with a radio-collar in nearby Berbak national park. As the attacks continued after this tiger was caught, it is virtually certain that she was not the culprit; it is rare that two tigers develop such behaviour at the same time. ZSL is ready to provide further support for the government in catching the large male also detected in the area, as and when he can be located, so that he too can be taken to a safer location.



**Thanks to:** ExxonMobil for once again providing the facilities, seed funds and purchasers (their staff) for our annual tiger toy sale. H. A. Bennett who continue to support 21<sup>st</sup> Century Tiger through their business initiative raising nearly £3000 to date. **Send us:** photos of you fundraising for 21<sup>st</sup> Century Tiger and we'll feature them on our website-Make a contribution over £250 and we'll send you a 21<sup>st</sup> Century Tiger certificate. Are you doing a sponsored event? Why not raise funds for wild tigers at the same time? Does your company do match funding, in which case, please consider 21<sup>st</sup> Century Tiger.



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