

FOGLE'S WAR

Our ambassador Ben Fogle urges us to fight for the tiger

THE FRAGILE FIVE

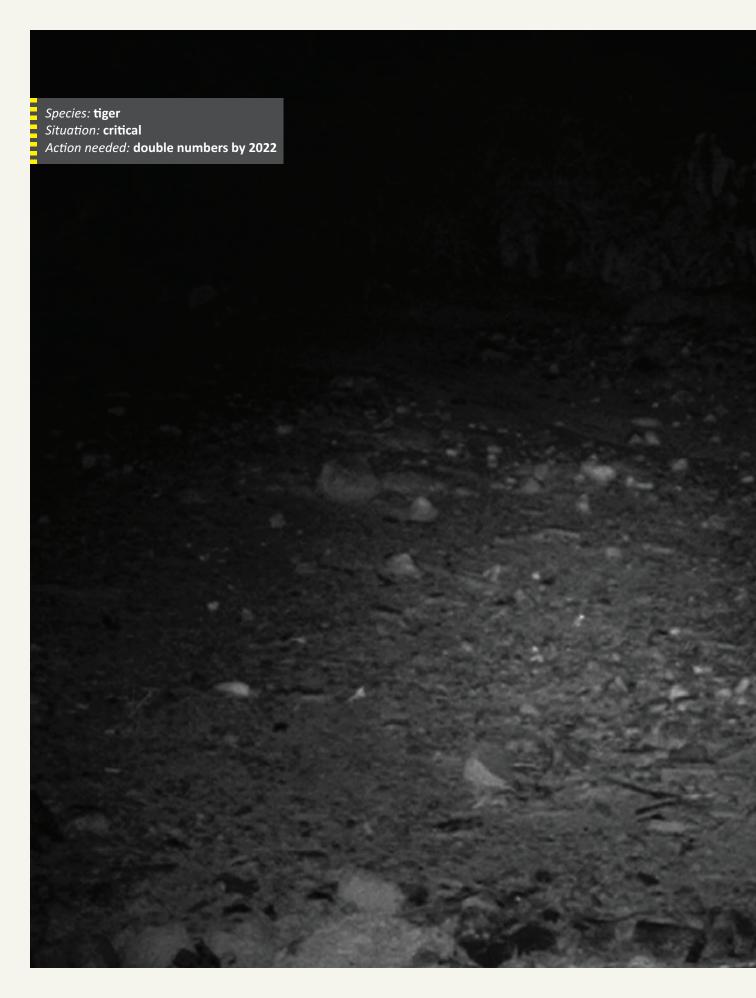
Spotlight on the remaining tiger subspecies

THE TIGER MAN

Meet the man charged with saving wild tigers

SPEAK OUT

Have your say at the worldwide tiger summit





WELCOME TO OUR TIGER SPECIAL...

I'm a self-diagnosed 'tiger nut'. Always have been.

I was lucky enough to look after three tigers at Longleat Safari Park for 10 years. And my love affair with all things tiger, and concern about their future well-being, has grown ever stronger during my time as a WWF ambassador.

Back in 2004, I travelled to Nepal to witness our tiger conservation work in Chitwan National Park, one of the country's last refuges for wild tigers. I helped WWF field staff install motion-detector cameras in the forest. These cameras are used to help count, monitor and protect tigers where they're most vulnerable.

After laying the cameras, rangers escorted me to a compound piled high with confiscated tiger skins. Here was a victory of sorts. The parts would never reach the traditional Asian medicine and fashion markets in the Far East. But it was a humbling experience to see how real and present the threat is. And how much we need the tremendously brave rangers to challenge the poachers.

Since my trip, things have got worse for the tiger. Numbers have dwindled to as few as 3,200 and their habitat has shrunk even further. But 2010, the Chinese Year of the Tiger, will be a turning point. This *Action* issue reaches you in advance of an unprecedented tiger summit that will be attended by political leaders of every tiger nation. WWF will be there to ensure that each of them commits to urgent action. Our aim is to double tiger numbers by 2022, the next Year of the Tiger. And the signs are looking good. So far, all nations are cooperating and the scale of the ambition matches ours.

In my six years as an ambassador, I've witnessed the dedication, passion and expertise of the people who work for WWF. And so I can give you my assurance that they'll do everything in their power to save the species from extinction and turn the situation around. And so will I.

Read on to explore every facet of our work with tigers. The projects we work on. The people who make all the difference. And the stunning creatures we're fighting to protect.

Yours

Ben

Ben Fogle, WWF ambassador

PS. Please join me in asking world leaders at the forthcoming tiger summit to support our goal to double wild tiger numbers. You can add your name to our petition at wwf.org.uk/tigers



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Mapping success



Exploratory oil drilling in Alaska has been banned until at least 2011.



90%

of EU residents backed a ban on illegal timber markets.



number of marine protected areas created off the Portuguese coast.



ALASKA

Drilling halted: Exploratory oil drilling in the seas off Alaska has been halted until at least 2011 after we joined calls for a ban on further activity. The US government's decision means that Shell's plans to start drilling in the Arctic this year have been put on hold. We believe that the huge oil spill in the Gulf of Mexico earlier this year proves that the oil industry is ill-equipped to deal with such events. And the seas off Alaska are a vital habitat for many species, including leatherback turtles and the short-tailed albatross. "This gives us a year to make further appeals to try to get these risky and ill-advised explorations cancelled altogether," says Carter Roberts, chief executive of WWF-US.

wwf.org.uk/alaska



EUROPE

Illegal timber banned: The EU has finally reached a political agreement on a new law to halt the trade in illegal timber following years of lobbying by WWF. Illegal logging harms many precious tropical forests around the world, including those in Indonesia and the Congo Basin. Our joint poll with Friends of the Earth revealed a huge level of concern among EU residents, 90% of whom backed a ban on illegal timber markets. The law is due to come into force very shortly. But the battle goes on. We're now pushing for even stronger legislation, including a ban on illegally-sourced pulp for paper products, and stricter penalties for lawbreakers.

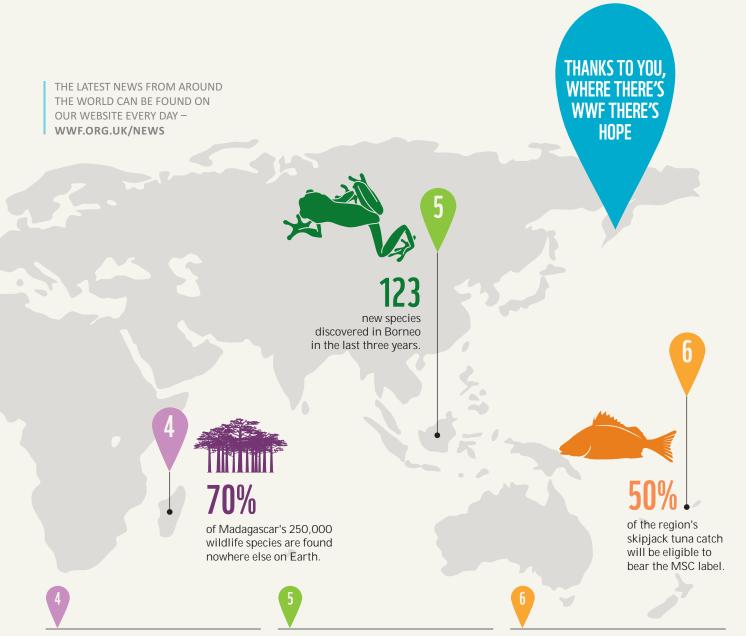
wwf.org.uk/eutimber



PORTUGAL

Deep-water wonders protected:
Cold-water coral reefs, sharks and rays are among the wealth of natural wonders to be protected by four new marine protected areas. We helped Portuguese authorities during the planning stages. And we'll support the setting up of the reserves. The four sites collectively cover an area of 120,000 sq km, rich in vulnerable deepwater communities, including deep sea bony fish and coral gardens. Thanks in part to our efforts, destructive bottom fishing gear has already been banned from three of the four sites for the past year.

wwf.org.uk/portugal



MADAGASCAR

Exports controlled: A lifeline has been thrown to Madagascar's amazing diversity of tree and wildlife species, thanks to two years of lobbying by us and Malagasy scientists. Rosewood, ebony and other precious woods will now be listed for international trade restrictions under the Convention on Trade in Endangered Species (CITES), meaning that trees must be certified as legally logged. The trade in illegal logging is currently a huge threat to Malagasy forests. "This is a first step in the right direction and shows the real will to deal with the uncontrolled export of those much sought-after wood species," says Tiana Ramahaleo of WWF-Madagascar.

wwf.org.uk/madagascar

BORNEO

New species galore: A frog with no lungs, a 'ninja' slug which fires love darts at its mate, and the world's longest insect are among more than 100 new species discovered on the island of Borneo. More than three years since we helped the three Bornean governments draw up a massive conservation plan to protect the world's third largest island, the discoveries prove once again the region's amazing natural diversity. Our report, Borneo's Lost World, details 123 new species discovered on the island since the conservation plan was agreed. Borneo is already home to 13 species of primate, and a staggering 10,000 plant species found nowhere else on Earth.

wwf.org.uk/lostworld

WESTERN PACIFIC

Better catch agreed: A group of western Pacific nations is leading the way, with our help, in making major fisheries both environmentally and economically sustainable. Fishing communities in the Federated States of Micronesia, Kiribati, the Marshall Islands, Nauru, Palau, Papua New Guinea, the Solomon Islands and Tuvalu have introduced a series of conservation measures aimed at achieving Marine Stewardship Council (MSC) certification, which rewards sustainable and well-managed fisheries. If successful, about half of the skipjack tuna caught from the western and central Pacific will be eligible to bear the MSC label.

wwf.org.uk/pacificfish

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Update: beyond Copenhagen



KEITH ALLOTT, WHO
LEADS OUR CLIMATE
CHANGE WORK, ON NEW
HOPES FOR SECURING
CLIMATE ACTION



There's no point beating round the bush: last year's Copenhagen climate change summit failed to deliver. Despite huge efforts by ourselves, other environmental and development groups, and many millions of concerned citizens like you, world leaders failed to strike a strong, legally binding agreement.

Just as worrying, the pledges to cut emissions made at Copenhagen would cause the world to heat up by 3 or 4°C. That may not sound much. But it would have a devastating effect on people and wildlife all over the planet. Coral reefs would suffer massive damage. The Amazon would be at severe risk of drying out. The already rapid melting of the Arctic would spiral out of control.

So we're working to ensure that Copenhagen is a stepping stone to stronger action. This won't happen overnight. But we think that good progress can be made. This November's climate summit in Cancun. Mexico, offers a new opportunity to tackle deforestation (one of the key causes of climate change), deliver funds to help developing countries cope with climate change, and recognise that the emissions targets currently on the table are well behind the climate science. This would provide a great foundation to deliver a full agreement in 2011.

But we also need to see urgent action elsewhere. In the UK, the coalition government has made a promising start — with pledges to regulate coal-fired power stations, limit airport

expansion, and set up a new Green Investment Bank to support renewable energy and energy efficiency in homes. Good news, especially since we've been campaigning for progress on all these issues. But the devil is always in the detail. So we'll be working hard to ensure that the government gets the finer points right.

The environmental disaster in the Gulf of Mexico shows all too clearly that our addiction to fossil fuels — the main cause of climate change — poses terrible risks to the planet (more on page 11). Over the next year, we'll be working in the UK and around the world to deliver a safer world based on clean, efficient renewable energy sources.

» FIND OUT MORE... wwf.org.uk/climatechange

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Hot press: our world



LILY OF THE AMAZON

Pop star Lily Allen has visited the Amazon to help raise awareness for the Sky Rainforest Rescue project, a joint partnership between Sky and WWF to save one billion trees in the Brazilian state of Acre. During her visit, Lily saw how we're working with local communities to make sure trees are worth more standing than chopped down. And how we're protecting the forest and its amazing diversity of wildlife.

Find out more at www.sky.com/rainforestrescue

GOVERNMENT CUTS TO MAKE YOU SMILE

Our new report has revealed that the UK government could reduce carbon emissions by more than 58,000 tonnes over the next three years if it cuts back on unnecessary flights. By following their own best practice, government departments could cut 600,000 flights and save well over £100 million of taxpayers' money.

"There's a huge opportunity here to cut costs and carbon emissions," says David Norman, our director of campaigns. Read the report, called *Excess Baggage: the case for reducing* government flying, at wwf.org.uk/excessbaggage

SPEAK OUT FOR CLIMATE CHANGE

Help keep climate change high on the political agenda by taking part in the Stop Climate Chaos lobby on 5-6 November. In the run-up to major global climate talks in Cancun, Mexico, and with a major Energy Bill going through Parliament, join up with other local people to lobby your MP. If you want to get involved, please see the enclosed flyer or email Yael at yrosenfeld@wwf.org.uk for details.



SUSTAINABILITY NEVER TASTED SO... SWEET!

We've teamed up with the Cadbury Foundation to create a free schools' information pack, offering a range of assembly and activity ideas to take children on a journey through our work. Together with an inspirational film, made by children, the pack adds up to a virtual school visit by WWF! If you think your local school might be interested in this pack, visit wwf.org.uk/opfpack, or call Liz Rossall on 01483 412 494.

BRAINWAVES WANTED

We've launched a nationwide search in conjunction with Tetra Pak to hunt out the best lifestyle-changing brainwaves — new ideas and products that will get people thinking 'renewable' and put less strain on the planet's resources. If you've ever thought "Wouldn't it be good if...", then just tell us your idea, and it could become a reality. To enter, log on to www.renewableidea.co.uk



MARINE ACT COMES TO LIFE

A new body has been introduced to help put into practice the new Marine and Coastal Access Act — the law that we campaigned for over a period of 10 years. The Marine Management Organisation (MMO) will oversee measures to protect the wildlife and habitats of our coastline, such

as helping to create and manage a network of marine protected areas.

"The success of the MMO will be crucial for stopping the continued decline of key marine habitats and wildlife," says Sarah Goddard, our marine policy officer.



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Action: palm oil push



OVERWHELMING RESPONSE TO PALM OIL SURVEY PUTS PRESSURE ON RETAILERS AND SUPPLIERS



We reported in the last issue on your valued contribution to our efforts to take action on unsustainable palm oil. And thanks to your support we've got even more to tell you.

As you know, palm oil is a common ingredient in many everyday products you buy from the supermarket. And one of the biggest reasons for the destruction of rainforests.

In the past 20 years, around 80% of suitable orang-utan habitat has disappeared. Only a tiny 2% of what remains is legally protected. And there are countless other species whose days could be numbered if nothing is done.

THE SITUATION IS FAR FROM HOPELESS, HOWEVER, THANKS TO YOU.

Many of you gave generously to our recent appeal, which has raised £225,000 to date and



Some supermarkets, such as Marks & Spencer and Sainsbury's, are already using sustainable palm oil. And 40% of the industry around the world is now involved in roundtable discussions on sustainable palm oil thanks to our leadership.

oil that doesn't devastate

pristine rainforest.

We're keeping a close eye on those who have already made commitments to sourcing sustainable palm oil to ensure they do what they say.

We're also on the island of Borneo, fighting to prevent the remaining orang-utan homelands from becoming oil palm plantations. We've already gained the commitment of the island's governments to protect, manage and restore 220,000 sq km of forests. That's an area only slightly smaller than the UK.

» TAKE ACTION

Check out how your supermarket is doing by using our palm oil scorecard at wwf.org.uk/palmoilpush. Talk to your supermarket direct and let them know how you feel about the issue. And, of course, put your money where your mouth is — and look out for products that use sustainable palm oil.

80%

OF SUITABLE ORANG-UTAN Habitat has disappeared In the last 20 years.

ONLY 2%

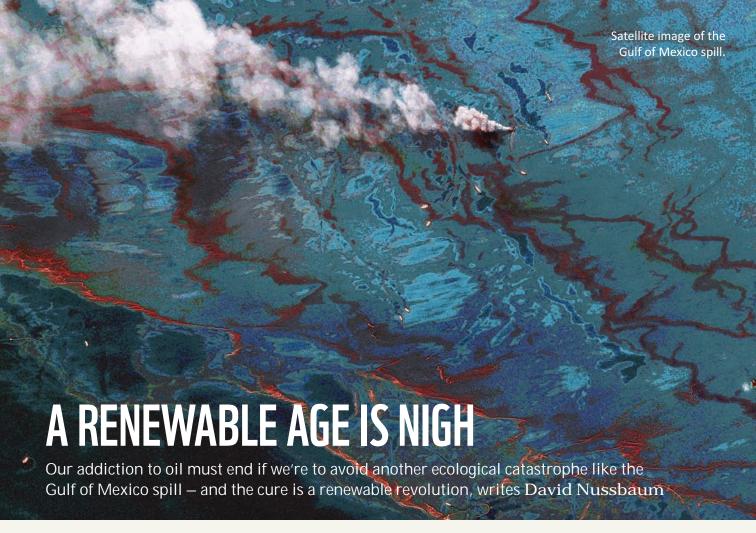
OF WHAT REMAINS
IS LEGALLY PROTECTED.

220,000 sq km

OF FORESTS TO BE PROTECTED, MANAGED AND RESTORED BY THE THREE BORNEO GOVERNMENTS.

£225,000
THE AMOUNT RAISED
IN OUR RECENT APPEAL.





While the media spotlight gradually turns its attention away from the BP oil spill earlier this summer, it's time for us all to take stock. To seriously rethink our risky reliance on fossil fuels.

Yet again, we've witnessed how an oil spill can wreak havoc on our seas and their wildlife. And while the Gulf of Mexico catastrophe may have received the most column inches, it wasn't the only spill in recent times to cause ecological harm. Months before, we highlighted a much less reported spill in the Timor Sea off the coast of Australia. Its effect on the ecosystem was massive. It created an oil slick that spread across more than 25,000 sq km of ocean, including what has been described as a "motorway" for migrating wildlife such as whales and turtles.

And hundreds of whales and turtles were also caught up in the Gulf of Mexico spill. The timing couldn't be worse. It happened at the start of the breeding season when turtles and dolphins head close to shore to give birth.

But green shoots often grow in the wreckage of disaster. We were heartened to hear that the Gulf of Mexico leak prompted the US government to halt all new deepwater offshore drilling in Alaska while it took a fresh look at the risks.

Here at WWF, we've been highlighting the severe dangers of Arctic oil drilling for several years. There's currently no known way of successfully clearing up an ice floe contaminated by an oil spill. Clean-up materials are simply too far away to deal with it quickly enough. And experience tells us that

blowouts will continue to happen from time to time.

But as access to cheap and available oil becomes scarcer, oil companies plough on regardless — turning to ever riskier sources of oil. Left unchecked, their activities will only increase the threat to local wildlife and of runaway climate change.

It all points to one, inescapable truth: it's time to move away from our addiction to oil.

Former Saudi oil minister Sheik Ahmed Zaki Yamani said: "The Stone Age didn't end for lack of stone, and the oil age will end long before the world runs out of oil."

Sheik Yamani is right, at least in part. Like those bronze metal workers of 5,000 years ago who ended the reliance on stone, we now have technology to end the age of oil. To harness energy from the sun and moon: non-polluting renewable energy.

The key challenge is to find ways to wean us off our reliance on fossil fuels. And get the commitments we need from government and industry. For the sake of millions of people and species, it's time for a renewable revolution.



David Nussbaum is chief executive of WWF-UK





Last time I saw a tiger, it was a real high. Literally. I was on a tiger spotting mission, 2,000ft up in a helicopter flying above the snow-covered landscape of Primorskii Krai in the Russian Far East. I saw a flash of movement in the wilderness below. The tracking device in the control deck began bleeping fast: we'd located a tiger.

A few Amur tigers, whose home this is, are fitted with special collars. The collars transmit a unique signal – the closer you get to a tiger, the more frequent the bleeping.

At first I could see nothing but snow and trees. But the beeps grew even more rapid. My heart raced. The tiger had to be right below us. And sure enough, out of nowhere, we saw her bounding through the snow. Her staggeringly beautiful amber fur contrasting with the dazzling whiteness of the snow. It was all over in a matter of seconds. But the memory has stayed with me to this day.

I can still remember how I replayed the image in my head time and time again in the following days. The tiger. Alone and all-powerful in its homeland.

And I can still recall the promise I made to myself. I'd do everything possible to help save the tiger.

Days later and I was back in the UK office having lengthy discussions about our plans for conserving the tiger. Every time I got caught up in the detail — or overwhelmed by the sheer scale of the work to be done — I'd summon the image of the tiger sprinting through the white forest. And it was impossible not to smile. While I'm a scientist by training and have to be analytical about the many wildlife problems we tackle, something about this experience really touched me. Maybe it was that I'd glimpsed first hand what I, and many of us here at WWF, are fighting to save. Most of my time is spent in conference centres and boardrooms working on strategy and policy. It's easy to lose sight of how incredible these animals are. Moments like this change all that.

Unfortunately, such a magic moment is sometimes needed to keep you positive when you look at the critical outlook for these big cats. In the past 100 years wild tiger numbers have declined by around 95%. There may now be as few as 3,200 wild tigers left in existence, the lowest number ever recorded. It's a desperate situation. But one that we're ready to reverse. Our goal, which has been adopted by the governments of all 13 tiger-range countries, is to double the number of tigers

in the wild by 2022 – the next Chinese Year of the Tiger.

When you look at the problem in simple terms, there are two key threats to tigers: poaching and the loss of their habitat. Of course, these threats have been there for many years. But the scale of the danger has changed and left me more concerned than ever about the future of the tiger. I'll explain how.

Poachers today are often part of increasingly sophisticated, organised gangs, driven by a multi-million dollar industry in tiger parts. One successful kill can yield up to US\$25,000 for the pelt alone. And a single tiger's body parts can be sold for over US\$10,000 with the bones netting hundreds of dollars per kilogram for use in traditional Asian medicine.

A concerted international response is needed if we're to stop the gangs. That's why we're working with the tiger governments to crack down on poaching and improve enforcement. That means tougher penalties in some countries, and a stronger implementation of those

THERE ARE MORE TIGERS IN CAPTIVITY IN TEXAS THAN THERE ARE IN THE WII D

RUSSIAN FAR EAST

PRIMORSKII KRAI



PROFILE: DIANE WALKINGTON

Diane joined WWF about 10 years ago after a long spell working for a global banking chain. Her lifelong passion for wildlife was ignited during trips to wildlife hotspots in central and eastern Africa during the 1990s. Such were the lasting effects on Diane that she decided to swap banks for conservation. And hasn't looked back since. Now a qualified biologist and head of WWF-UK's wildlife programmes, she spends her time helping to design and put into action our key conservation programmes.



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penalties. We're also helping to train anti-poaching staff to make sure key tiger habitats stay safer from the clutches of poachers.

And then there's the destruction of the tiger's habitat. The wild tiger once roamed throughout much of Asia. Today, this magnificent cat remains in just 7% of its original range. Human actions, such as agriculture, logging and road building, are forcing tigers into smaller and smaller patches of land. An in-depth analysis carried out in 2006 concluded that there was 40% less tiger habitat than just a decade earlier. As a result, the numbers of wild tigers and the availability of their prey have steeply declined. This also means that tigers are increasingly coming into conflict with humans as they stray into areas close to villages, resulting in tigers and people being killed. If tigers and their habitats continue to decline at the current rate, a world without the big cats could be a tragic reality in just a few short decades.

Our wonderful tiger is caught in the crosshairs of extensive habitat loss and

aggressive poaching for its skin and body parts. That's why we're driving forward the first ever international summit for tigers to be attended by heads of government. Taking place later this Autumn, the global tiger summit in St Petersburg, Russia, will gather together the leaders of the 13 tigerrange countries to agree a solid recovery plan for tigers.

I'm really confident that the summit will result in a huge step forward for tiger conservation and get commitments for the radical measures needed. The signs are good. Each of the tiger governments has been proactive in coming up with plans on what they can do to help, as well as responding brilliantly to our input.

And after the summit's finished and the press have gone home? We'll be working tirelessly to keep the sustained commitment needed to double tiger numbers. We can't take our eye off the ball. And we won't. It's a lifetime's commitment for me. But it will also involve generations to come. And I've got my secret weapon. The tiger running through the snow is forever enshrined in my memory.

\$10BN

ESTIMATED ANNUAL VALUE OF THE ASIAN WILDLIFE TRADE.

<40%

THE TIGER'S HABITAT HAS SHRUNK BY 40% IN THE LAST DECADE ALONE.

3RD

TIGER POACHING IS THE THIRD LARGEST FORM OF ORGANISED CRIME WORLDWIDE.

1993

TRADE IN TIGER PARTS WAS BANNED IN 1993, BUT THIS HASN'T STOPPED THE BLACK MARKET FROM BOOMING.

2022

WE WANT TO DOUBLE THE NUMBER OF TIGERS IN THE WILD BY 2022, THE NEXT YEAR OF THE TIGER.

3,100 MILES

THE TIGER'S RANGE IS THOUGHT TO HAVE ONCE STRETCHED ACROSS 3,100 MILES.

40+

WWF IS ONE OF MORE THAN 40 ORGANISATIONS THAT HAVE TEAMED UP TO SAVE THE TIGER.

13

NUMBER OF GOVERNMENTS IN THE TIGER'S RANGE THAT ARE SUPPORTING WWF'S TIGER INITIATIVE.

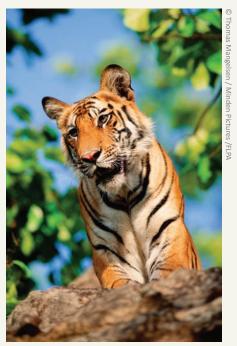
100,000

NUMBER OF PEOPLE WE'D LIKE TO ADD TO OUR TIGER SUMMIT PETITION AT WWF.ORG.UK/TIGERS



THE FRAGILE FIVE

Just how many tigers are left in the wild – and where? With numbers at an all time low, we look at the five subspecies we're fighting to save







BENGAL TIGER

Latin name: *Panthera tigris tigris*. Where: Indian sub-continent (Bangladesh, India, Nepal, Bhutan, western Burma).

Status: Endangered.

Interesting facts: The most numerous of all the subspecies. Its fearsome appearance is matched by its roar, which can be heard as far as 3km away. It's thought that tigers first arrived in India some 12,000 years ago.

Estimated number left in the wild:

INDOCHINESE TIGER

Latin name: *Panthera tigris corbetti*. Where: Indochina region – north of the Malayan peninsula (Burma, Cambodia, China, Lao PDR, Thailand and Vietnam).

Status: Endangered.

Interesting facts: Of all the tiger subspecies, the Indochinese tiger shows the highest genetic diversity.

Estimated number left in the wild:

350

MALAYAN TIGER

Latin name: *Panthera tigris jacksoni*. Where: Peninsular Malaysia, and the southern tip of Thailand.

Status: Endangered.

Interesting facts: In 2004, the tigers of Peninsular Malaysia were officially recognised as a new subspecies. Genetic analysis confirmed that they are distinct from the Indochinese subspecies.

Estimated number left in the wild:

<500





DON'T LET THE WORLD'S REMAINING TIGERS FOLLOW THE DESTINY OF THE BALI, CASPIAN AND JAVAN SUBSPECIES. SIGN UP TO OUR TIGER PETITION AT WWF.ORG.UK/TIGERS"





AMUR (OR SIBERIAN) TIGER

Latin name: Panthera tigris altaica. Where: The Amur tiger was once found across the taiga and boreal forests of the Russian Far East, China and the Korean peninsula. It's now restricted to two provinces in the Russian Far East, and pockets of land in north-eastern China and possibly North Korea.

Status: Endangered.

Interesting facts: This subspecies may have resulted from a few Caspian tigers migrating east from central Asia.

Estimated number left in the wild:

450

SUMATRAN TIGER

Latin name: Panthera tigris sumatrae. Where: Sumatran montane forests, peat swamps and lowland rainforest.
Status: Critically endangered.
Interesting facts: Some scientists consider the Sumatran tiger to be sufficiently different from the other subspecies to be classed as an entirely separate species. It's the smallest surviving subspecies, weighing just 110kg, and has the darkest orange pelt of all tigers.

Estimated number left in the wild:

<400

THE TIGERS THAT COULDN'T BE SAVED

Sadly, we've already lost at least three of the world's tiger subspecies – and possibly four. Here we reveal the tigers that now exist only in artists' impressions. A warning, but also a powerful reason to save our remaining tigers.

SOUTH CHINA TIGER

Status: PROBABLY EXTINCT IN THE WILD

Formerly abundant in south China's dense temperate upland forests, it's very likely that there are no South China tigers left in the wild. Certainly this subspecies hasn't been observed in its forest habitat since the 1970s.

CASPIAN TIGER

Status: EXTINCT IN THE WILD
The Caspian tiger, thought to be closely related to the Amur tiger, once made its home in Afghanistan, Iran, Iraq, Turkey and regions of Russia. It was driven to extinction around the 1950s.

BALI TIGER

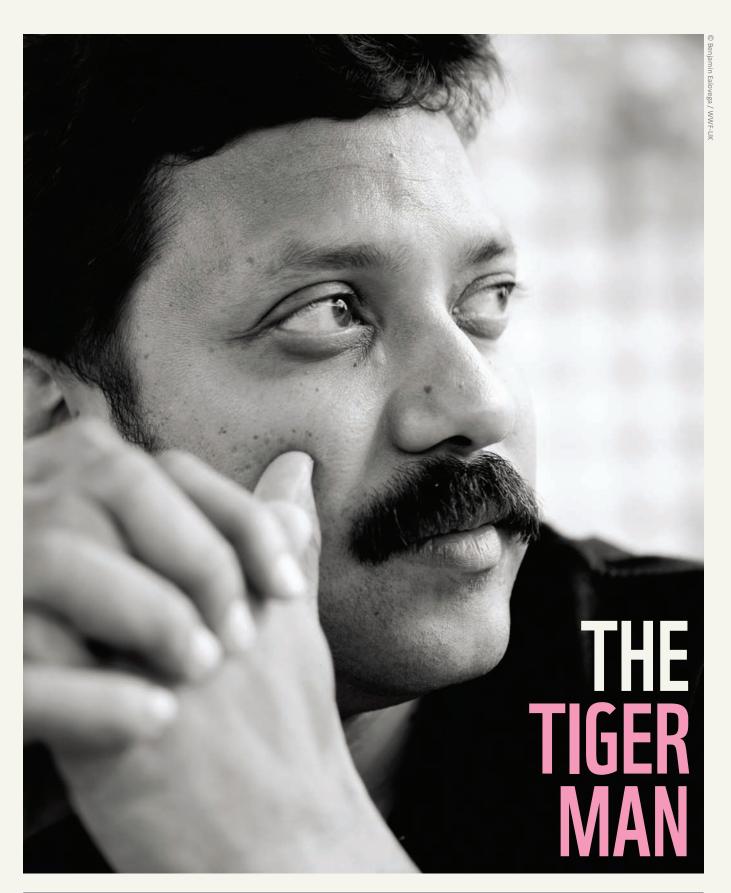
Status: EXTINCT IN THE WILD Declared extinct in 1937 because of the dual pressures of hunting and habitat loss. The Bali tiger was the smallest of the tiger subspecies, distinguishable by its deep orange coat with fewer stripes than its counterparts. Another prominent feature was the unusual bar-shaped patterns on its head.

JAVAN TIGER

Status: EXTINCT IN THE WILD After surveys in 1987 and 1989 found possible evidence of tigers in Java, a year-long survey supported by WWF-Indonesia in 1993-94 found no tiger tracks. Nor were any tigers photographed by the 19 camera traps used in the survey. Hunting and loss of habitat are the main culprits.

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^{*}Status classifications taken from the International Union for Conservation of Nature



As a leading figure in of WWF's global tiger programme, wildlife biologist Bhivash Pandav has one of the most important — and exciting — jobs in the world. He talks to Trina Wallace about the appeal of the majestic creature, life in the jungle and the best way to protect the 3,200 tigers left in the wild

What inspired you to work with tigers?

There is no other predator that matches the power of the tiger... that matches the beauty of the tiger... that matches the charisma of the tiger. You go to a zoo and you see the number of kids at any enclosure; the largest number will either be at the pandas or tigers. There is some kind of magic that attracts every age of people.

What was your first tiger experience?

I saw my first tiger in 1991 when I was a graduate student. We were taken to a tiger reserve and within half an hour of entering, a tiger walked past. I was young and I didn't know then that seeing a tiger is such a rare event. Tigers aren't like other animals — those that will come and look at you, and examine you or pose for photographs. You see it for a fraction of a second.

What does your job involve?

I help to coordinate WWF's tiger work across 11 countries. I'm based in Nepal and coordinate work both here and in Russia, China, India, Bhutan, Thailand, Malaysia, Indonesia, Vietnam, Cambodia and Laos.

I give my expertise to WWF teams on the ground, helping them with such things as how to count and estimate the number of tigers, estimating levels of tiger prey and raising funds for tiger conservation.

Protecting tigers on the ground is the most challenging thing. Providing our frontline team with support, as well as having a strong and powerful plan to follow, is key to tiger conservation. That's what I'm there to do.

And the best bit about your job?

Getting to know tigers in a wide variety of places, starting from the tigers of the Russian forest — where they live in hostile conditions of up to -40°C and 5ft of snow — to the hot and humid conditions of northern India.

How do we best protect our remaining tigers?

You need to have enough staff on the ground so that you can intercept and apprehend poachers. That means having a

very strong intelligence network around you, including good relations with local people, who provide you with information about the movement of poachers. The other weapon is knowing your enemy. That's having knowledge of how the trade in tigers works. And we're working hard with government and enforcement agencies to make sure poachers are punished.

One of our teams works with local people, convincing them to take good care of the forest, and educating them about the wildlife that rely on it. Another group helps the enforcement agencies with better training, tools and software. And we've got a team that keeps track of intelligence: patrolling poaching and trade routes. Then there's our dedicated teams who work in the jungle to monitor tigers.

How do we monitor and protect tigers?

Cameras hidden in the jungle, often called camera traps, are vital. A few years ago I started a camera trapping mission in Rajaji National Park along the foothills of the Himalayas in northern India. A settlement of local people had been relocated outside the park's boundaries and we wanted to see if tigers would regroup and thrive again.

We walk all over the jungle to find out all of the trails that the tigers are using, then we select several spots where we put cameras. When the tiger walks in front of one it takes a photograph. Like our fingerprint, each tiger has a unique stripe pattern so we can identify individuals.

We photographed one tiger in June 2004 on the top of a hill at Rajaji. We called her Hill Top Tigress. She was very young with an athletic figure. In November we snapped her again and we noticed she had a bulging belly. By December we realised she was pregnant. Almost a year later we photographed her with three cubs. It was a joy to follow her through photos.

The moral of the story is that tigers respond very quickly to the removal of threats. There was no evidence of tiger

breeding for 15 years in this area but after just six to eight months, we saw this amazing evidence of breeding.

What needs to improve?

In my view, two things need to change. Firstly we need accountability in the system. When tigers disappear from a protected area no official is held accountable. It's a very dangerous thing because they become careless and complacent. We have to insist that if anything happens, the managers responsible for that area should be brought to task.

Secondly, we have got to change the attitude of the world's most populous country — China. They are the biggest consumer of tiger products. They use tiger bones for traditional medicine and to make wine. We have to change their attitude to reduce demand. It's a very difficult task but we will handle it.

Can we really double wild tiger numbers by 2022, the next Year of the Tiger?

Yes. Since I started at WWF, in 2007, in many places tigers have disappeared... one Indian reserve lost all of its tigers during that time. But we have learned big lessons from these events which gives us hope that we can turn the situation around.

The current precarious state of tigers is very disturbing. However, tigers as a species have amazing resilience. They are prolific breeders. Given the right conditions, they will bounce back within a short period. In the eastern sector of Rajaji National Park the tiger density doubled within a span of five years from 2004 to 2008. Although there have been only a few of these examples so far, they are happening in parts of India.

We can certainly double the number of tigers but what we need is very strong political commitment. WWF is a major player behind the tiger summit, where heads of government will sign up to a global recovery plan. That's the key first step.



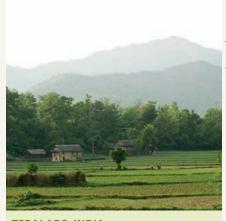
Our action plan is clear: eradicate the threats facing our remaining tigers and create environments where they can thrive. Here's how we're using our global presence to help save the species

EASTERN HIMALAYAS

Creating a tiger land: Tigers need space – lots of it – if they're to thrive. We're helping to join up six existing protected areas to prevent tigers from becoming isolated in small pockets. The result: the Greater Manas Tigerland, a 300,000-hectare area of prime tiger habitat along the border of India and Bhutan. We're supporting an action plan to help the parks work together, and training law enforcement teams to help combat poaching.

ST PETERSBURG, RUSSIA

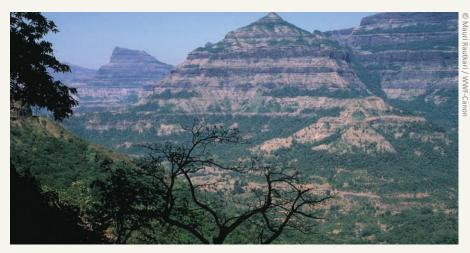
Turning the tide at the tiger summit: For the first time ever, the leaders of all tiger-inhabited countries will come together at an international summit on tiger conservation in St Petersburg, Russia in coming weeks. We have two key priorities: for governments to take robust conservation measures to protect tigers; and for a governing body to be created that will hold them to account and oversee the global tiger recovery effort. We've been instrumental in bringing politicians together and making them realise how urgent the problem is.





Building a future for tigers: Habitat degradation is threatening tigers in the subtropical lowlands of the Terai Arc in India. We're developing solutions to reduce the destruction of tiger habitat, while alleviating conflict between people and tigers. And protecting forest areas that connect key habitats so that tigers can safely migrate and mix with other populations. We're also strengthening anti-poaching efforts, and providing training for government officials so they can tackle wildlife crime.





WESTERN GHATS-NILGRIS LANDSCAPE, INDIA

Expanding our protection: This beautiful region has some of the best tiger habitat left in India, housing several protected areas. We've launched an urgent anti-poaching operation throughout the landscape. We're building new camps and patrolling stations for anti-poaching teams, refurbishing existing ones inside and outside the protected areas, and providing training on anti-poaching techniques. We're also working to make sure the government doesn't give in to ever-growing pressures to build roads, railways and factories in this critical tiger habitat.

NEPAL

Stamping out poaching: Tiger numbers are at an all-time low in Nepal's Suklaphanta Wildlife Reserve, one of the last remaining havens of the Bengal tiger. That's down to poachers. The situation reached crisis point recently, so we've stepped in to give emergency funding for anti-poaching patrols as well as train officials how to smash poaching networks. We expect to see a significant cut in poaching in the reserve as a result. We plan to extend the scheme to all the major tiger habitats in Nepal.

CHINA

Reducing demand for tiger parts: Tiger parts are a mainstay of traditional Asian medicine, and are big business in China, Vietnam and Thailand. We're stepping up our efforts with TRAFFIC, the wildlife trade monitoring network of WWF and the IUCN, to reduce demand for them in China and around the world. We're also working with the Chinese government to help implement its ban on trading tiger parts.



RUSSIAN FAR EAST

Increasing protected habitat: There were just 40 Amur tigers in Russia during the 1940s. That's now increased to 450, thanks to our work with government and other NGOs. But numbers have now started to decline again because of the growth in poaching, logging and infrastructure development. We're pushing to increase protected areas in the Amur-Heilong region on the Russian-Chinese border. Another vital step is to make sure habitat is protected across many different land types, such as farmland, forest and grasslands.



HELP WWF CARRY OUT ITS VITAL WORK TO DOUBLE THE NUMBER OF WILD TIGERS BY 2022, THE NEXT YEAR OF THE TIGER. YOU CAN DOUBLE YOUR MEMBERSHIP GIFT BY CALLING **01483 426 333**″



INDIA

CHITWAN NATIONAL PARK

FELINE FILM STAR

Meet Kamrita, the beautiful Bengal tigress. She's thriving under our watchful eye in the wilds of Nepal

Rare, elusive and heart-stoppingly beautiful. Until recently it's been difficult to get a real insight into the life of a wild tiger. But infra-red cameras in tiger territories are now allowing us to do just that.

We're on the frontline of efforts to protect the remaining 120 Bengal tigers left in Nepal. And it's important to keep a close eye on their movements. We've been tracking Kamrita and other local tigers in Chitwan National Park since 2008, using cameras which are set up all around the park. When a camera detects movement, it automatically takes a picture, capturing these fascinating felines in their natural environment.

We've been lucky enough to discover a lot about the awesome Kamrita over the past two years. It's easy to identify her in pictures because every tiger has a different pattern of stripes — like a fingerprint. Our experts believe she's about eight years old. Wild tigers live up to about the age of 15 so, with a bit of luck, she still has some good years ahead of her.

We first spotted her with her two cubs, but they've recently struck out on their own. Now when we see Kamrita, she is either alone or with a male partner — meaning we might see some new cubs in the future!

The habitat of Chitwan is perfect for Kamrita. The tall elephant grass and rich, dense forest provides lots of shelter. There's also plenty of prey for her, such as deer and wild boar. And she's surrounded by many other fascinating species. More than 50 mammals, including elephants, one-horned rhinos and leopards, 525 birds and 55 amphibians and reptiles live in the national park.

Unfortunately, it isn't all easy for Kamrita. Life in the wild is tough for the tigers in Chitwan with the human threats that now abound.

Poachers are one danger. "Over the years tiger poaching in Chitwan National Park has declined," says Sabita Malla from WWF-Nepal. "But we can't ever be sure this endangered species is totally safe.

Also, while there is currently a lot of prey for Kamrita, the poaching of tiger prey is a growing threat that needs to be curbed."

Stopping people encroaching on the tigers' habitat is also vital. Sabita warns: "There is a huge concentration of people adjacent to Kamrita's habitat, who we must prevent from crossing the forest boundary."

Reserves like Chitwan National Park offer the best defence against these threats. They provide protection from poachers and create space where tigers can roam well away from human settlements. We'll keep supporting efforts to protect Kamrita and her fellow tigers. And hopefully our cameras will continue snapping these captivating creatures for many years to come.

» STAY IN TOUCH WITH KAMRITA

You can get regular eyewitness reports on Kamrita's life by becoming a WWF tiger adopter. Go to wwf.org.uk/kamrita



"I'VE BEEN LUCKY ENOUGH TO HELP INSTALL THESE VITAL CAMERA TRAPS AT ANOTHER RESERVE IN NEPAL. IT WAS AN AMAZING EXPERIENCE. THE TEAMS TOLD ME HOW THE CAMERAS HELP MONITOR TIGER BEHAVIOUR AND KEEP TRACK OF THEIR MOVEMENTS. IT'S THIS KIND OF WORK THAT'LL STAND WWF IN GOOD STEAD TO PROTECT TIGERS WELL INTO THE FUTURE"

Action September 2010 – Page 23 wwf.org.uk

Lewis's swim - 5.300m --

THE HIGHEST SWIM

Photographs by Michael Walker and Terje Eggum

At 5,300m above sea level, two thirds of the way up Mount Everest, Lewis Pugh embarks on a daring feat of human endurance. His mission: swim in a glacial lake on the slopes of the world's highest mountain to highlight climate change

Lewis Pugh is no stranger to tough swims — he's swum in Antarctica and across the North Pole, highlighting the impacts of global warming on the ice caps. But swimming at altitude in the unforgiving terrain of the world's highest mountain? It proved his hardest challenge yet.

The British endurance swimmer, environmental campaigner and WWF ambassador was drawing attention to melting Himalayan glaciers.

It's a cause that's close to our heart. Thousands of species rely on these glaciers. And more than a billion people need them for drinking water, sanitation, agriculture and hydroelectric power.

After three days of test swims and battles with altitude



"I had to find a delicate balance between going too fast – in which case I might drown due to hyperventilation – and going too slowly, in which case I might die of hypothermia" sickness, Lewis successfully completed his 'Swim for Peace' across the Pumori glacial lake next to the Khumbu glacier. In icy-cold 2°C waters – wearing just a pair of Speedo swimming trunks, cap and goggles – he finished the 1km swim in 22 minutes 51 seconds.

Afterwards Lewis explained: "I had to find a delicate balance between going too fast — in which case I might drown due to hyperventilation — and going too slowly, in which case I might die of hypothermia.

"Swimming even 20 metres at full speed in the test swim, I felt I was going to drown. I was gasping for air, and if I'd swum any faster I would have gone under. I learned I had to respect this unique terrain and swim as slowly as possible. I had to swim breaststroke so I could breathe more efficiently."

The personal physical challenge was immense. But the threat of climate change drove him on. "All along the Khumbu glacier I've seen pools of melted ice," says Lewis. "Millions of people rely on this water supply, and preserving it is vital to peace in the region. I've seen glaciers in the Arctic, the Alps, central Africa, Antarctica and the Himalayas — and it's the same story everywhere. Most glaciers are melting away.

"I would urge David Cameron, Nick Clegg and the UK government, as well as leaders worldwide, to put climate change at the very top of their agendas. I hope to be able to share my experiences with the government and show them the footage of what we've seen."

» FIND OUT MORE... wwf.org.uk/lewispugh



Thanks to you

ELEPHANTS INVADE LONDON!

Scores of decorated elephant sculptures pop up around the capital

It's not every day you stumble upon an elephant while you walk through Hyde Park. But that's exactly what visitors to the park and other London landmarks encountered during the Elephant Parade 2010.

The city played host to 250 brightly painted life-size baby elephant sculptures this summer to raise awareness of the plight of endangered Asian elephants.

Funds were also raised to support elephant conservation work.

Each elephant started life as a blank sculpture. Artists and celebrities were then invited to design and decorate them — and their work was displayed in parks, on street corners, and even on top of buildings throughout London.

WWF supporter and former England footballer Graeme Le Saux designed an elephant on our behalf. He told us: "This use of public art is a brilliant way to raise awareness of conservation issues."





PAINTING THE TOWN BLUE

Hundreds of supporters make a splash for WWF to raise awareness of Britain's marine environment

Participants swam, kayaked and paddled during the UK's newest mass participation event earlier this year. And as the official charity partner, some of the funds raised from The Blue Mile went to support our global conservation work.

Hundreds of supporters took part in the 1,609-metre course in Plymouth.

Natasha Barker, our senior marine policy officer, said:

"The Blue Mile was a fantastic opportunity to raise awareness of how important healthy seas are for supporting people and wildlife. We're working to ensure our seas are managed properly – so marine species and habitats gain the protection they so urgently need, and to plan for the increasing demands placed upon them."

As you may know, our 10-year campaign recently resulted in legislation to protect UK seas. But the work continues to ensure the law leads to action. Stay in touch with our work at wwf.org.uk/marine

SPOTLIGHT ON YOU

NAME: KYOKO NAKAYOSHI

AGE: 32

LIVES: LONDON

HOW SHE SUPPORTS US: RUNS AT EVENTS SUCH AS BUPA LONDON 10K

"I have always wanted to do something to help wildlife. Supporting WWF was ideal for me because I can still do my job but also help the wildlife and the environment at the same time. Your fantastic website allows me to keep up with their global activities and events whenever I can"

Below: Kyoko (far left)



What made YOU become a WWF supporter? Email us at action@wwf.org.uk and you could feature in a future issue of *Action* magazine.



WWF's success stems from its concern with a wide variety of environmental issues, says supporter Tony Matthews

It was almost half a century ago that Tony first became aware of the plight of wildlife — "and to this day I think it's a cause that's probably as important as any other," he says. "It's my passion."

Tony, who's 57 and lives in Wimbledon, thinks that as an environmental charity we've got it right — we're not only concerned with the conservation of endangered species, but we're also involved with "the bigger picture".

"Climate change, for example, has now finally been recognised as the threat it is," he says. "WWF's particular strength is working with those governments, institutions and so-on in those parts of the world where the largest problems apply."

And that, he declares, is what makes WWF different from other charities. "What's struck me over the years is the way WWF operates. It's clearly effective in the sense that it engages with every feasible body, organisation and establishment which could have some influence in changing the situation for the better. That's the difference between simply standing up with banners and protesting, and doing something practical."

Now, Tony himself has done something practical for us. He's left us a legacy in his will, so that our work with wildlife and the environment can continue into the future.

"My wife and I originally made our wills in 1993, but as the years passed, circumstances changed – our children grew up, we moved house and soon. So we decided to update our wills, and it was a very straightforward process. You just go to a solicitor, who produces the legal wording and offers a range of options, such as what you want to do, who you want to leave your property to, any bequests you want to make, etc. It was very simple."

So what motivated Tony into leaving us a legacy? "Well, not a day passes without me seeing just how important the cause of wildlife conservation really is," he says. "We're fortunate to live next to Wimbledon Common in London, and it's the sheer joy of nature, really. And I will do anything I can to help preserve nature."

HELP US CELEBRATE

50 YEARS OLD NEXT YEAR

We'll be marking our 50th anniversary next year. And as a treasured member of WWF, we're looking for your memories, recollections and tributes to publish in our next issue of *Action* or on our website.

Have you had a memorable experience involving WWF? Perhaps it's a childhood memory, or you might have taken part in one of our events. Whatever your connection, drop us a line at action@wwf.org.uk, or send your reminiscences to

The Editor Action Magazine WWF-UK Panda House Weyside Park Godalming Surrey GU7 1XR

wwf.org.uk

"WWF is the difference between standing up and protesting and doing something practical"



Tony and son Daniel campaigning for WWF in 1988

You win



RECOGNISE A GREAT OFFER

WIN A YEAR'S SUBSCRIPTION TO ETHICAL LIVING MAGAZINE RECOGNISE

Draw takes place 29 October. Winners will be selected at random.

Loving life in the green lane but need something to fuel your appetite for fresh ideas? Look no further than *Recognise* magazine, a new ethically and environmentally aware lifestyle publication containing an eclectic mix of food, gadgets, travel, fashion, and beauty tips for men and women. We're offering readers the chance to win a year's

subscription... all you have to do is write your name, address and telephone number on the back of a postcard and send it to us at Recognise Comp, WWF-UK, Action Magazine, Panda House, Weyside Park, Godalming, Surrey GU7 1XR or email us with your details at recognisecomp@wwf.org.uk with the word 'recognise' in the subject box.

fairsharemusic.com

you download we donate

TUNE IN TO TIGERS

Fairsharemusic is a music download site with a difference. For every track you download, fairsharemusic donates at least 4% of the price to WWF-UK.

We've created a great playlist of our favourite tiger songs. Download this or any other track before the end of October and you'll be entered into a prize draw to win an iPod Nano!

Visit:

www.fairsharemusic.com /charity/wwf-uk

YOU DESERVE A MEDAL

COMMEMORATIVE 50TH BIRTHDAY MEDALS CELEBRATE OUR WORK TO SAFEGUARD THE NATURAL WORLD

We've teamed up with the Royal Mint to produce a series of souvenir medals to mark our 50th birthday next year.
Designed by the Royal Mint's elite engraving team, each medal features an endangered species and a quote from Max Nicholson, one of our founders.



Medals are available individually or as a complete set. We're offering *Action* members an exclusive 10% discount on the full set of medals. Simply go to wwf.org.uk/shop and click on the Exclusive Offer link. Enter the promotional code ACT17001 and you'll be taken to the discount Royal Mint page.

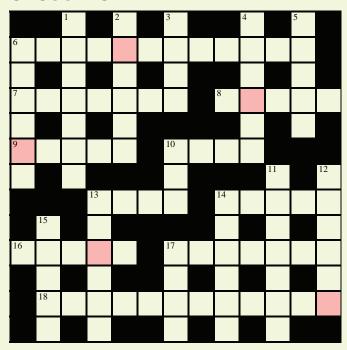
Postage and packing has not been discounted but is free with any order of £50 or more. Offer ends midnight Thursday 30 September.



For full terms and conditions of all our competitions, visit wwf.org.uk/compterms

CROSSWORD

PRIZE CROSSWORD 16: Sept 2010 issue Compiled by Aleric Linden



The winner of prize crossword 16 will receive a copy of the DVD Dirty Oil, highlighting the issue of oil sands production.

After solving the crossword, take each letter from the shaded squares (going from left to right and top to bottom) to spell out the prize word.

Clues Down

Scene of high-profile oil disaster this year (4,2,6)

Clues Across

- Radioactive waste is a by-product of such power plants (7)
- Sir Peter, WWF founder who also designed the original panda logo (5)
- WWF's Earth Hour is a big one (5)
- 10 What type of animal was the nowextinct Pyrenean ibex? (4)
- 13 Animals such as the orang-utan are captured and sold illegally as what?
- 14 Financial incentive for improving home heating and energy efficiency (5)
- _ power, renewable energy source 16 involving photovoltaic technology (5)
- 17 Home to the Everglades (7)
- 18 Environmental management one of WWF's fundamental concerns (12)

- retreat, one of the effects of increased global temperatures (7)
- Stewardship Council, organisation behind the tick tree logo (6)
- _ leopard, a critically endangered animal (4)
- 4 The tiger, for example (3,3)
- 5 & 11 down Location of the biodiverse Solomon Islands (5,7)
- St Kilda has a sizeable colony of this northern seabird (6)
- 10 Methane or carbon dioxide, for example (3)
- 11 See 5 down
- 12 H5N1 is a virulent one, in respect of bird flu (6)
- 13 Pampas, prairies, steppes, etc. (6)
- 14 _ warming, a serious threat to the planet (6)
- 15 Beaufort wind _ scale, on which gales and hurricanes register (5)
- 17 Wind _ , renewable energy development, often located offshore (4)

June 2010 issue answers Prize word: CARBON Across 3.Factor 5.Right 8.Peat 9.Tropics 10.Spots 12.The Alps 14.Evening 15.Harpy 17.Reserve 18.Cubs 19.Tyres 20.Garden Down 1.Lofts 2.Titicaca 3.Fuel poverty 4.Cat 6.Hosepipe ban 7.Lochs 11.Tungsten 13.Snare 16.BEMAs 18.Cod

SUDOKU

SUDOKU 1: Sept 2010 issue

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Here's a Sudoku with a difference. Instead of using the numbers 1 to 9, you instead need to use the nine unique letters that make up the word B-E-N-G-A-L-T-I-G-E-R. The usual Sudoku rules apply. Fill in the grid so that each row, column and 3x3 box contains these letters. And remember, each of these nine different letters must feature only once in each row, column and box.

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Or email your answer to: crossword@wwf.org.uk











Why we are here

To stop the degradation of the planet's natural environment and to build a future in which humans live in harmony with nature.

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