

Fantastic signed football competition!

We're giving you the opportunity to get out and get active this summer with one of five brilliant WWF footballs, signed by ex-England footballer **Graeme Le Saux**. Perfect for a kick around in the back garden, down at your local park or even on the beach, this high quality, full size leather football bears the iconic WWF logo and is produced from a fair trade source. Each ball also includes its own pump and adapter.



Graeme Le Saux



For your chance to win, just unscramble the four anagrams below. All the anagrams relate to our feature on China overleaf. Fill in your answers on the form provided, together with your name, address and telephone number and send to:

June Insight Quiz, WWF UK, Panda House, Weyside Park, Godalming GU7 1XR.

Alternatively you can email your answers and contact details to insight@wwf.org.uk. Please give your email the heading 'June Insight Quiz'.



The 5 winners will be randomly selected from the correct entries.

All entries must be received by **21st July**

1 A Revert Zingy
(CLUE: One of the largest and longest rivers in the world, two words)

3 Ad Bingo
(CLUE: One of the first Chinese cities to join WWF's Low Carbon City Initiative, one word)

2 Vehicle Joining A Prong
(CLUE: Contains China's northern most point, two words)

4 I Fly Mole Camp
(CLUE: A symbol of the Olympic Games, two words)



✂

1 _____

2 _____

3 _____

4 _____

Name _____

Address _____

Postcode _____

Supporter number _____

Daytime telephone _____

Email _____

WWF Insight is printed on paper that is 100% recycled and recyclable. It comes from waste paper - paper that has been used previously - e.g. newspapers, magazines and waste paper from printing companies and paper manufacturers.

The mission of WWF is to stop the degradation of the planet's natural environment and to build a future in which humans live in harmony with nature, by

- conserving the world's biological diversity
- ensuring that the use of renewable natural resources is sustainable
- reducing pollution and wasteful consumption

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TIGER

insight

SUMMER 2008



for a living planet® wwf.org.uk

Malu Pothi gets wise to cameras

Even your camera-shy adopted tigress, Malu Pothi, could not escape the 28 camera traps in place at her home in Suklaphanta, western Nepal

A multitude of special motion detector cameras were put in place to take a shot of Malu Pothi and other tigers within the Suklaphanta Nature Reserve. Researchers did not have to wait long before they got a characteristically thrilling performance from Malu.

Over the years, the savvy tigress has become accustomed to the locations of many of the camera traps. On this particular night, she did well to avoid being snapped in our fast-trigger cameras, which are positioned at various vantage points around her habitat. But eventually, she was captured by one of our cameras as she stalked through her habitat. The cameras are attached to a transmitter, which emits an infra-red beam, in turn triggering the shutter when broken.

Malu was photographed along with a variety of other wildlife, including spotted deer, wild boar and leopard.

We are pleased to report that, thanks to the efforts of field staff, the amount of prey is plentiful and the habitat is thriving. Soon, however, Malu Pothi and the other tigers in the reserve will have to endure the dry season. Leaves have already started to shed from trees, while the grass is becoming increasingly prone to forest fires as temperatures soar. Thanks to your donation, field staff in the reserve have installed new watering holes and improved existing ones. These wells provide vital sources of water during long hot spells.

Anti-poaching patrols are becoming more effective owing to better communication sets. New wireless technology is helping rangers monitor the tigers' movements and detect any unwanted hunters. Thanks to these developments, the entire core area of the reserve has been under complete surveillance.

Your gift of adoption is also giving us the tools to research tiger populations in the reserve, which is situated at the foothills of the Himalayas. A major survey of tiger numbers in the park has recently been completed, which we hope will give us vital information on how to continue to secure Malu Pothi's beautiful home. We hope to bring you the results of the count in your next issue of *Tiger Insight*.

Malu Pothi strikes a pose for the camera



Camera traps use an infra-red beam to detect movement



Tiger survey reveals bleak truth

The most reliable count of tigers yet conducted in India has revealed desperately low numbers of the species

The Indian government recently released the results of its country-wide Indian Tiger Estimation Survey, showing how poaching and other threats are endangering the survival of this national symbol.

New survey methods, including camera traps, were used in the count. The final results revealed that only around 1,400 wild tigers survive in mainland India. Poaching, driven by a worldwide illegal trade in tiger parts, continues to be a significant threat. Tigers are also at risk from habitat loss from human development, a reduction in prey, and retaliatory tiger killings by local people.

Aided by this new data, WWF and its partner organisations are uniting with the Indian government to ensure better protection for the tiger and its habitat, with the aim of boosting their numbers in



the wild. New projects will drastically reduce the threat from poaching and illegal trade, while stemming the conflict with humans. Thanks in part to your adoption, we are now striving to establish an informer network – which alerts authorities to episodes of poaching – and giving anti-poaching staff the tools they need to stamp out further hunting.

“It is clear that tiger numbers are at a threshold,” says Sujoy Banerjee, director of species conservation at WWF-India. “The time has come for the government and all other institutions and agencies to show a serious commitment to tiger conservation if we are to ensure the survival of the wild tiger in India.”

Illegal poaching is doing immense damage to endangered species



Smuggling ring busted

Members of an illegal wildlife ring – which traded in tiger skins and other animal parts – have been captured after a major six-month operation by WWF and our partner, TRAFFIC

Seized goods, worth a combined total of just under £100,000, included four tiger skins, more than 60 kilos of tiger bones and 531 saiga horns. The saiga is a critically endangered type of antelope.

The key perpetrators now face trial after a six-month operation involving WWF and TRAFFIC, the wildlife trade monitoring network, as well as customs, police and navy officials in the Russian far-east.

Authorities worked in unison with TRAFFIC to bring the smugglers to justice. Tactics included cross-border coordination, telephone interception, and a series of raids.

“This shows the immense damage being done to endangered species and nature by organised wildlife poaching and smuggling,” says Sergey Aramilev from WWF-Russia.

It is not the first time WWF and TRAFFIC have joined forces to end the activities of illegal poaching gangs. During 2007, WWF regularly informed authorities of instances where we found illegal wildlife products destined for China from the Russian far-east. WWF and TRAFFIC experts assist in the investigations of criminal cases, and help to identify the type of wildlife products and their origins.