

TAB 7: U.S. FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

Cooperation in Wildlife Conservation between the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the People's Republic of China

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Partner Agencies in P.R.C.

- P.R.C. State Forestry Administration (nature reserves; wildlife conservation)
- P.R.C. Ministry of Agriculture (fish conservation)

Types of Activities

- Exchanges of Chinese and U.S. personnel; activity is under the auspices of the Nature Conservation Protocol between the U.S. Department of the Interior and the P.R.C. State Forestry Administration (1986)
- Grants for Asian elephant conservation; activity is under the auspices of the Asian Elephant Conservation Act passed by the U.S. Congress in 1997 (16 U.S.C. 4261)

- Grants for tiger conservation; activity is under the auspices of the Rhinoceros and Tiger Conservation Act passed by the U.S. Congress in 1994 and amended in 1998.
- Grants for great ape conservation: activity is under the auspices of the Great Ape Conservation Act of 2000 (16 U.S.C. 6301)

1 Objectives of Cooperation

Exchanges:

- To benefit the conservation of wildlife populations and species, with an emphasis on threatened and endangered species and species at risk
- To develop personnel resources through capacity strengthening
- To assist in habitat conservation, with a focus on protected areas
- To support conservation partnerships
- To promote communication and information exchange concerning conservation

Asian Elephant Conservation Grants:

- To increase local capacity to manage Asian elephant habitats
- To support surveys and monitoring
- To educate local communities
- To increase anti-poaching efforts

Tiger Conservation Grants:

- To strengthen habitat and ecosystem management
- To establish and enhance protected areas
- To support surveys and monitoring
- To increase resources for anti-poaching efforts, wildlife inspection and forensic work
- To support education to increase public awareness of tigers and decrease conflicts with humans
- To encourage use of substitute products for tiger parts used in traditional medicines

Great Ape Conservation Grants:

- To sustain viable populations of apes in the wild
- To assist in the conservation and protection of apes by supporting the conservation programs of countries in which ape populations are located
- To develop local capacity to manage, conserve, research, or protect apes through the provision of funding, training, equipment, and technical support

Results obtained

Exchanges:

U.S. provided guidance to Chinese personnel on wetlands, river and floodplain management which enhanced China's ability to manage these resources that benefit both wildlife and people. The Nature Conservation Protocol has been an effective vehicle for dialogue between the U.S. and China for the conservation of wildlife species and their habitats.

Asian Elephant Conservation Grants:

Grant funding was used in Yunnan Province to cover the transportation and per diem costs for a delegation from the Lao PDR for travel to Jing Hong (Yunnan Province, China) for a transboundary elephant management meeting organized by the Chinese.

Tiger Conservation Grants:

Grant funding helped foster closer cooperation between Russia and China to protect the Amur tiger through the establishment of corridors and new protected areas and harmonized wildlife and forestry practices. The status of tiger prey in China's Jilin province was assessed. An enforcement guide on wildlife crime was produced and disseminated to China's enforcement, prosecution and judicial authorities.

Great Ape Conservation Grants:

Grant funding helped assess the conservation status of Black Crested Gibbons in Yunnan Province, China, and encouraged communication and cooperation between Chinese and Vietnamese conservationists working to protect this species. Grant funding strengthened the conservation of the last wild population of Hainan gibbon, *Nomascus nasutus hainanus*. This was done by assessing the status of the gibbons, their habitats and the threats to both in the vicinity of Bawangling Nature Reserve, increasing awareness of local people to the plight and conservation needs of the gibbon, guiding the preparation of an action plan for conservation of the gibbon, and providing training to government and non-government leaders to develop capacity to conserve the gibbons.

Planned Follow-up Activities in the Period 2004-2005

Exchanges:

In 2001, the U.S. Department of the Interior agreed with the P.R.C. State Forestry Administration to extend the Nature Conservation Protocol for an additional 5-year period. The two sides will meet again in 2005 to plan cooperation for 2005-2006.

Asian Elephant Conservation Grants:

Conservation grants will continue to benefit the conservation of Asian elephants in China. Preference will be given to proposals requesting \$50,000 or less, but higher amounts may be requested.

Tiger Conservation Grants:

Conservation grants will continue to benefit the conservation of tigers in China. Preference will be given to proposals requesting \$30,000 or less but higher amounts may be requested with appropriate justification.

Great Ape Conservation Grants:

Conservation grants will continue to benefit the conservation of gibbons in China. Preference will be given to proposals requesting \$30,000 or less but higher amounts may be requested with appropriate justification.

Information Exchange

Exchanges:

U.S. and Chinese wildlife biologists and managers exchange information on techniques used in the management and conservation of fish and wildlife.

Asian Elephant Conservation Grants:

It is the goal of the Asian Elephant Conservation Fund to increase the capacity of local residents to protect and conserve Asian elephants in the wild. Such capacity building involves education in wildlife management techniques and outreach to local communities.

Tiger Conservation Grants:

It is the goal of the Rhinoceros and Tiger Conservation Fund to increase the capacity of local residents to protect and conserve tigers in the wild. Such capacity building involves education in wildlife management techniques and outreach to local communities.

Great Ape Conservation Grants:

This program supports projects that develop and strengthen local capacity to manage, conserve, research, or protect apes through the provision of funding, training, equipment, and technical support.

Technology Transfer

Exchanges:

Any transfer of technology will involve equipment used for the conservation of fish and wildlife in the wild. Such equipment could include personal computers and devices used to track fish and wildlife by radio or satellite transmitter.

Asian Elephant Conservation Grants:

Any transfer of technology will involve equipment used for the conservation of Asian elephants in the wild. Such equipment could include personal computers and devices used to track Asian elephants by radio or satellite transmitter.

Tiger Conservation Grants:

Any transfer of technology will involve equipment used for the conservation of tigers in the wild. Such equipment could include personal computers and devices used to track tigers by radio or satellite transmitter.

Great Ape Conservation Grants:

Any transfer of technology will involve equipment used for the conservation of gibbons in the wild. Such equipment could include personal computers and devices used to track tigers by radio or satellite transmitter.

TABLE 1

Expenditures by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service: Cooperation with China in 2003

Year	Total Expenditures: (travel; ape, tiger, elephant grants)	Travel of Staff to PRC + to US: (training; information exchange) [♦] T	UUGrants: Tiger Conservation (Rhinoceros and Tiger Conservation Fund)	Grants: Asian Elephant Conservation Fund	Grants: Great Ape Conservation Fund
2003	\$ 210,552.	\$ 24,529.	\$ 114,277.	\$ 2,672.	\$ 69,074.

Expanded Information about Grant Expenditures in 2003 from Table 1**1.1 Tiger**

Project Ref. #	Recipient of Grant	Amount	Purpose of Grant
1	Wildlife Conservation Society, New York, U.S.A.	\$ 49,976	Foster a cooperative effort between China and Russia to protect the Amur tiger through the establishment of corridors and new protected areas, and the harmonization of wildlife and forestry practices on both sides of the China-Russia border
2	Jilin Provincial Wildlife Conservation Association, Jilin, P.R.C.	\$ 30,101	Assess the status of tiger prey in China's Jilin province
3	Endangered Species Import and Export Management Office of the People's Republic of China; Beijing, P.R.C.	\$ 34,200.	Produce and publish an "Enforcement Guide on Wildlife Crime" for dissemination to China's enforcement, prosecution and judicial authorities.

Expanded Information about Grant Expenditures in 2003 from Table 1**Asian Elephant**

Project Ref. #	Recipient of Grant	Amount	Purpose of Grant
1	Simao Prefecture Forestry Bureau (Yunnan Province)	\$ 2,672	Provide funding for the transportation and per diem costs of a delegation from the Lao PDR to travel to Jing Hong (Yunnan Province, China) for a transboundary elephant management meeting organized by the Chinese

[♦] Note: There is no specific line-item in the budget to support cooperation with China. These activities are supported by various programs, though primarily by the Division of International Conservation.

**Expanded Information about Grant Expenditures in 2003 from Table 1
Great Ape**

Project Ref. #	Recipient of Grant	Amount	Purpose of Grant
1	Fauna and Flora International – Indochina Program; Hanoi Vietnam	\$35,433	Assess the conservation status of Black Crested Gibbons in Yunnan Province, China, and to encourage communication and cooperation between Chinese and Vietnamese conservationists working to protect this species.
2	Fauna and Flora International-China Program; Beijing, P.R.C.	\$ 33,641	Strengthen conservation of the last wild population of Hainan gibbon, <i>Nomascus nasutus hainanus</i> . This will be done by assessing the status of the gibbons, their habitats and the threats to both in the vicinity of Bawangling Nature Reserve, increasing awareness of local people to the plight and conservation needs of the gibbon, guiding the preparation of an action plan for conservation of the gibbon, and providing training to government and non-government leaders to develop capacity to conserve the gibbons.

TABLE 2

Visitors from China to the United States Invited by U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

1.1.1.1	# of Visitors	Exchange
2003	8	Louisiana, Mississippi, Virginia
2003	6	Delaware, Maryland, Virginia
<i>total</i>	14	total number of P.R.C. official visitors hosted by FWS in U.S. in 2003

Expanded Information about Chinese Visitors to U.S. from Table 2

Footnote #	Visitors from P.R.C.	Host in the United States
1 2003	1.1.2 Meeting to Sign Annex 9 to the Nature Conservation Protocol field trip: floodplain and river management; wetlands conservation	
	CHEN, Zhixin, male FENG Jiaping, male HUANG, Xiaoguang, male JIANG, Zhigang, male XIONG, Jingfeng, male YAN, Xun, male YANG Jiping, male ZHANG Hongyang, female	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service March 16-25, 2003 Arlington, Virginia Vicksburg, Mississippi Hollandale, Mississippi Rolling Fork, Mississippi New Orleans, Louisiana
2 2003	Wetland Legislation and Implementation: laws and policies for the conservation of wetlands and the process for their creation, implementation and enforcement; the division of wetlands management responsibilities in the U.S.; land use issues and private ownership of wetlands; wetland restoration efforts; the formulation, financing and implementation of a management plan and evaluating success	
	MEI Xiubing CHEN Genchang LI Shuxin LIU Guoqiang BAO Daming XIAO Hong	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service November 3-8, 2003 Arlington, Virginia Annapolis, Maryland Cambridge, Maryland Milton, Delaware

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