

Malaysian Conservation Alliance for Tigers Annual Report 2012



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1. Introduction

Established in 2003 by the Malaysian Government, the Malaysian Conservation Alliance for Tigers (MYCAT) is an alliance of the Malaysian Nature Society (MNS), TRAFFIC Southeast Asia (TRAFFIC), Wildlife Conservation Society-Malaysia Programme (WCS) and WWF-Malaysia (WWF), supported by the Department of Wildlife and National Parks Peninsular Malaysia (DWNP) for joint implementation of the National Tiger Conservation Action Plan for Malaysia (NTCAP). After nine years of existence, the commitment shown by MYCAT partner organisations to this framework and the support from the Malaysian government remains steadfast as ever.

MYCAT's objective is to provide a formal yet flexible platform for information exchange, collaboration and resource consolidation among conservation organisations united by the shared vision of achieving thriving wild tiger populations in Malaysia. Towards this objective, the MYCAT Secretariat's Office (SO): 1) facilitates communication between partners; 2) consolidates information from the partners to disseminate to the public; 3) coordinates collaborative efforts and manages MYCAT joint projects; and 4) implements decisions jointly made by the partners. 2012 has been a busy year for MYCAT on all fronts. This report outlines MYCAT's involvement in the implementation of NTCAP, the national blueprint for saving wild Malayan tigers, as well as the activities undertaken and accomplishments of MYCAT joint projects in 2012.

The only function of MYCAT SO that is independent from the partner NGOs is the monitoring of NTCAP implementation together with the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment (NRE). In keeping with the concept of adaptive management, strategies to overcome shortcomings in the implementation of NTCAP were discussed between MYCAT and government partners at various meetings. These were taken up and further developed by NRE and DWNP, on which the bulk of the responsibility lies as they are the authority on wildlife (Section 3).

The MYCAT joint projects showcase the benefits of the partnership in harnessing the strengths of partner organisations. For example, TRAFFIC played a major role in the Cancelling Licences to Aid Wildlife (CLAW) initiative (Section 5), and WCS was the main partner in the capacity building project for enforcement patrols in Taman Negara (Section 10). Experts on monoculture plantation and forestry policies from all partners provided technical input on a joint MYCAT initiative (Section 2). Meanwhile, MNS and WWF provided invaluable administrative support to MYCAT SO, which has been hosted by TRAFFIC Southeast Asia for the past four years. While each joint project has specific objectives, all means point to the same end – the recovery of the Malayan tiger by 2020.

The Citizen Action for Tigers (CAT) project, initiated at the end of 2010, officially took off in 2012 as financial resources were secured for the year and a dedicated Senior Programme Officer was recruited to implement CAT. He was directly involved in the earliest development of the programme in 2010 as a MYCAT Working Group (WG) member, representing MNS Selangor Branch. Therefore, there could not have been a more suitable person to take CAT to new heights (Section 8).

Although not all important things can be measured, we are proud of the following numbers in Table 1, which indicates the depth and breadth of MYCAT collective achievements over the years. Unless otherwise stated, the number is a cumulative total since the beginning of the respective project, with the starting year indicated in parenthesis.

Table 1. MYCAT in numbers.

Raising Awareness and Reaching Out to the Public	
Rural Outreach (since 2005)	9,606 people reached face-to-face in 44 programmes 2012 – 889 in 8 programmes 2011 – 119 in 1 programme 2010 – 3,189 in 15 programmes 2009 – 1,760 in 10 programmes 2008 – 2,800 in 6 programmes 2007 – 549 in 3 programmes 2005 – 300 in 1 programme
Urban Outreach (2007)	26,927 people in 57 programmes 2012 – 2,814 in 10 programmes 2011 – 2,798 in 6 programmes 2010 – 7,398 in 23 programmes 2009 – 4,140 in 10 programmes 2008 – 1,520 in 7 programmes 2007 – 8,257 in 1 programme
Yahoo e-news (2003)	5,083 emails sent to 311 subscribers
Facebook (2010)	1,854 likes
MYCAT WATCH column in the <i>Malaysian Naturalist</i> (2006)	26 articles
Empowering Malaysians	
Volunteers (2005)	672 2012 – 168 2011 – 69 2010 – 175 2009 – 46 2008 – 30 2007 – 174 2005 – 10
Repeaters each year	2012 – 62 2011 – 34 2010 – 42 2009 – 9 2008 – 8
Citizen Action for Tigers (CAT) in 2012	177.3km covered by 120 CAT Walkers 32.8km covered by 6 CAT Trailblazers
Supporting Law Enforcement: Wildlife Crime Hotline (2007)	
Calls with reliable information	2012 – 75 2011 – 106 2010 – 100 2009 – 24 2008 – 22
Actions taken by the authorities	2012 – 55

	2011 – 97
	2010 – 61
	2009 – 17
	2008 – 9
National Tiger Conservation Action Plan (2008)	
Assisting the govt. in developing the Plan	1 plan
Assisting the govt. in monitoring the progress	3 reports and 3 stakeholder meetings
Actions with known implementation status in 2011	73 (100%)
Total actions completed in 2011 by all agencies	25 (34%)
Facilitated Communication Among Partner NGOs (2005)	
Working Group Meetings	23
E-group	4,182 messages
Advocacy and Technical Support (2007)	
Supporters for a better wildlife law	56,062 worldwide
Wildlife Conservation Act 2010	1 Act passed
Moratorium on deer hunting	6 years from 2009
And where we are going together...	
Wild Malaysian tigers in 2020	1,000!!!

2. Communication Platform for Tiger Conservation

With ever-limited resources at hand, the need for a strong partnership is vital as it can facilitate the flow of concerted attention, information, funds and other relevant support, even occasional emotional support, to the areas that need it most.

MYCAT SO is the engine that maintains the various communication channels related to the implementation of the NTCAP, between those directly involved and also to disseminate information on tiger conservation efforts in Malaysia. The target audiences include donors, volunteers, supporters, the media and general members of the public.

a. Communication channels

The main communication between MYCAT partners takes place in the MYCAT WG, which comprises representatives from partner organisations and the MYCAT SO (Appendix 1). There have been a few changes made to the WG in 2012 due to personnel changes within partner organisations, but the commitment from each NGO to the partnership remains strong even as existing WG members welcome the new ones.

The MYCAT Annual Meeting for 2011 was held on 14 March 2012 to highlight the accomplishments of the past year and to chart out a course for the coming one. MYCAT WG members and the Heads of MYCAT partner organisations were present, as were key representatives from DWNP and NRE. For the first time, the Forestry Department Peninsular Malaysia (FDPM) was also invited, and two senior representatives attended the meeting. An invitation to become an official supporter of MYCAT had been extended to FDPM at the end of 2011. Although there has not been an official response, the attendance and active participation by our colleagues in government illustrated the support of the Malaysian government for the MYCAT platform and their receptivity towards working together.

In addition to the annual meeting, two formal WG meetings were convened on 5 June and 10 December 2012. These meetings provide MYCAT partners with the opportunity to focus on tiger conservation and exchange updates and information with colleagues working in other landscapes. It is also a platform to discuss pertinent issues and challenges and to brainstorm solutions. Aside from face-to-face communication, MYCAT partners and the SO are also in constant communication over phone and email, which enhances the working relationship and mutual understanding among partners. In 2012, 818 emails were exchanged on the MYCAT WG e-group, a small increase from the 758 emails exchanged in 2011. Correspondence within the WG tends to fluctuate based on membership, issues at hand or upcoming events.

Aside from implementing MYCAT joint projects which are coordinated by MYCAT SO, an additional MYCAT initiative undertaken in 2012 was to jointly speak out against the establishment of monoculture plantations, such as Latex Timber Clone (LTC) rubber plantations, in the forest reserves of Peninsular Malaysia. This issue has been simmering for a few years now and vast tracts of forest, including tiger habitat, have been converted into monoculture plantations. Our official position is that *MYCAT objects to monoculture plantations replacing natural forest in the Central Forest Spine (CFS). Those plantations in tigers' priority areas and corridors are absolutely unacceptable.*

An open letter was sent to the Prime Minister of Malaysia, as well as key Ministers, Chief Ministers of states, relevant government officials and major mainstream and alternative media, highlighting our concerns that LTC plantations are threatening natural forests that include tiger habitat. A copy of the open letter may be accessed here: <http://malayantiger.net/v4/media-center/pr-archives/207-ltc-plantations-threaten-natural-forest>. Following the letter, MYCAT was contacted by the Ministry of Plantation Industries and Commodities (MPIC) who acknowledged our concerns, and a special WG meeting was called on 6 September to discuss a joint strategy for engagement.

It was decided that a memorandum on monoculture plantations be developed, outlining MYCAT's concerns and recommendations. Subsequently, MYCAT partners submitted the memorandum to the Minister of MPIC in a meeting on 17 October 2012, where other key officials of MPIC were also present. Regretfully, while MPIC was sympathetic to the issue, they could and would not do more as the protection of natural resources lies within the jurisdiction of other government agencies and the state governments. Currently, without dismissing the possibility of pursuing this matter further, MYCAT partners who work on habitat issues will continue to follow up on LTC-related concerns in their respective project areas.

MYCAT SO also communicates with the public on tiger conservation issues and MYCAT joint projects. General communication is maintained through the MYCAT e-group, website and Facebook page. News from around the world that is relevant to tiger conservation is sent out to the e-group (<http://pets.groups.yahoo.com/group/malayan-tiger/>) to keep members updated, and 365 emails were sent out in 2012. Compared to the 423 emails sent out in 2011, this showed a 14% decrease, primarily because funds to support MYCAT SO's role in general communication with the public ceased. Members also contribute news to the group, which is moderated by MYCAT SO. Throughout 2012, new members joined while others decided to unsubscribe from the e-group, and therefore the number of members remained at 311. The MYCAT e-group remains small as it caters to a niche group of individuals who have a special interest in tigers, be it for personal or professional reasons.

Meanwhile, the number of members on the MYCAT Facebook page (www.facebook.com/themalayantiger) increased by 46% from 1,274 in 2011 to 1,854 in 2012. Facebook is the more informal and general platform to engage members of the public and to disseminate information. The bulk of the communication, via email and social media, consisted of information shared, as well as liaisons with volunteers regarding events and volunteering opportunities.

Information and education are key instruments to empower Malaysians to proactively support tiger conservation. A regular flow of information to the public is crucial to keep the plight of the Malayan tiger visible in the public eye, while gradually instilling in people a deeper knowledge and understanding of tigers, as well as the factors that threaten their survival. Once the public are aware of

how they can do their part, even for those outside the conservation field, it will encourage them to leave their comfort zones to offer a hand. Constant communication with the public through informal channels like Facebook keeps them informed and involved while building a sense of ownership among the general public towards our wildlife.

b. Media collaboration and publications

There was increased collaboration with the media in 2012, with additional interest in the newer joint projects, such as CLAW (Section 5) and CAT (Section 8). Including the open letter to the Prime Minister on the LTC issue, MYCAT issued one press release and three letters (Appendix 2). Compared with 14 media pick-ups in 2011, 48 media pick-ups were recorded in 2012 from press conferences, press releases and letters issued, interviews and collaborations as well as from efforts of MYCAT partners and donors (Appendix 3).

As in previous years, MYCAT partners took turns to contribute articles on current tiger issues to the MYCAT WATCH column in MNS' quarterly magazine, the *Malaysian Naturalist* (Appendix 4).

BFM, a local English radio station, hosted MYCAT twice – on The Bigger Picture (29 February 2012), discussing tiger conservation efforts in Malaysia and the NTCAP, and on Evening Edition (17 December 2012), where the topic was on wildlife trade and the CLAW initiative. The second interview was conducted jointly with a representative from TRAFFIC.

3. Monitoring the Progress of the National Tiger Conservation Action Plan

In May, MYCAT released volume four of *MYCAT Tracks: Malaysia's progress towards 1000 wild tigers*, a comprehensive look back at efforts, progress and problems in the implementation of the NTCAP in 2010 and 2011. The publication was a joint effort between MYCAT partners and DWNP, as the official supporter of MYCAT. A press release was issued to commemorate the publication of MYCAT Tracks, which was well-received by local and international press, garnering 16 media pick-ups. Hardcopies of the MYCAT Tracks were distributed to relevant government agencies and the public. The previous volume, released in 2010 to welcome the Lunar Year of the Tiger, spelt out hope and optimism for the recovery of tiger populations with impending full scale implementation of the NTCAP. Two years on, MYCAT Tracks IV paints a more sombre picture, with poaching still being the main threat towards tigers despite the various efforts undertaken. It also called for urgent action to save the Malayan tiger.

The implementation of the NTCAP is monitored by the Monitoring Committee, which consists of NRE and MYCAT SO at the national level, with MYCAT SO being appointed to the committee in 2010 by NRE. The importance of transparency and accountability in conservation actions are implicitly stated in the Plan and are vital to its effective execution, therefore MYCAT SO's role in the Monitoring Committee is that of a neutral independent body, even towards MYCAT partner organisations.

Out of the 80 actions in the NTCAP, 73 actions were scheduled to be implemented in 2011. In early 2012, progress reports on the activities undertaken in 2011 were compiled from the leading agencies of each action, as identified in the plan. A draft overall progress report was prepared by MYCAT SO, but it remained a draft as there was no designated person available at NRE to verify and finalise the report due to a series of personnel changes.

Table 15 in the NTCAP outlines all 80 actions listed in the plan, the implementing agencies, indicators and timelines. It is a living document that is updated annually based on the achievements of and challenges faced by the implementing agencies. Each action to be implemented is led by various leading agencies who are assisted by relevant collaborating agencies. The leading and collaborating agencies may include government departments, conservation organisations, and even individuals like independent researchers.

For the first time since monitoring began in 2010, the progress status of all 73 actions slated for 2011 were reported. However, it is small consolation because in terms of the overall performance, only 25 actions (34%) were completed in 2011 while 37 actions (51%) were still incomplete, and 11 actions (15%) were not yet started (Fig. 1). There was a small improvement whereby the proportion of completed actions increased from 24% in 2010 to 34% in 2011, but this still earned all the implementing agencies of the NTCAP an “F” grade, the same as the previous year.

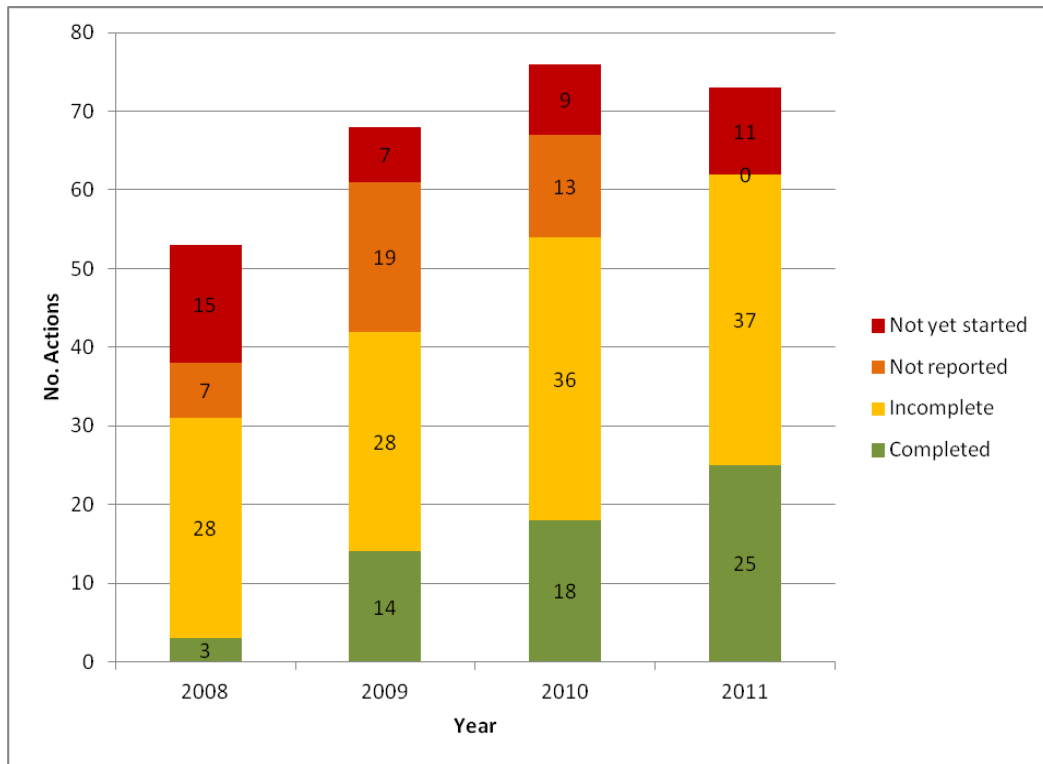


Fig. 1. The overall performance of the implementation of the National Tiger Conservation Action Plan for Malaysia in 2011. The total number of actions for the year was 73.

The current rate of improvement is too slow and if the current results were to be extrapolated until 2015, the number of completed actions will also not be at an acceptable level. At the MYCAT Annual Meeting for 2011 where a key representative from NRE was present, the need for a game-change plan was discussed. One major problem identified is a lack of professional capacity at NRE and DWNP to lead, coordinate and monitor the implementation of the NTCAP. In response, NRE organised a “Tiger Lab” on 28 May 2012, chaired by the Deputy Secretary General II of NRE to discuss in detail measures to address the main challenge. This was attended by MYCAT partners and the main government agencies involved (e.g. DWNP, FDPM). The MYCAT General Manager also met with the NRE Secretary General on this issue on 3 July 2012. He had read the MYCAT Tracks and was duly concerned over the plight of the Malayan tiger.

All those meetings were not held in vain as since then, additional manpower has been allocated to the Tiger Unit at DWNP, two staff members at NRE have been assigned to work on the NTCAP though not exclusively, and joint patrols between DWNP and the Royal Malaysian Army have been revived in Taman Negara. A much-delayed Stakeholder Meeting on NTCAP implementation was held on 11 December 2012, involving all the NTCAP implementing agencies. It was chaired by the Under Secretary of the Biodiversity Management and Forestry Department in NRE. The draft overall progress report for 2011 and the recent implementation progress of DWNP were presented. The meeting also discussed and approved updates and changes made to Table 15 in the previous meeting.

The request for progress reports on the 2012 implementation of NTCAP was sent out to the stakeholders in late 2012, and the overall report for 2012 will be presented at the next Stakeholder Meeting in 2013. It remains to be seen whether or not the efforts of the past year have translated into more comprehensive implementation of the NTCAP.

4. Wildlife Crime Hotline

MYCAT established the Tiger Crime Hotline (019 356 4194) in 2007. The aim of the hotline was to support enforcement efforts of the authorities by soliciting information regarding crimes involving tigers and their prey from the public. Then in July 2009, MYCAT expanded the application to include possible crimes against other threatened wildlife and their habitats, and renamed it the Wildlife Crime Hotline (WCH). The operation of the WCH has thus far been financially supported by MNS, TRAFFIC, WCS and WWF.

DWNP introduced two new hotlines in 2012 to supplement the existing e-Complaints System on the DWNP website – PERHILITAN Careline and PERHILITAN Hotline. These hotlines cater to all wildlife-related queries and complaints from the public. As such, the WCH still plays a niche role to complement these avenues as a 24-hour hotline specifically meant for reports on wildlife crime, which is managed by a third party and where the identity of an informant is kept confidential.

a. Reporting system

In the early years of the hotline, by working closely with DWNP, MYCAT SO has identified the types of important and relevant information that need to be solicited from an informant. Only reports which are deemed actionable (i.e. can lead to enforcement action or an investigation) are forwarded to the relevant authorities. These are usually the state offices or headquarters of DWNP but occasionally involve other agencies like FDPM, Department of Fisheries (DoF) or Department of Veterinary Services (DVS). As a working partnership has been established with DWNP, MYCAT SO also follows up with them on the outcomes from a report, and updates the WCH database with information on the actions taken (Fig. 2).

In order to overcome a previously identified challenge of obtaining report outcomes, DWNP suggested at the MYCAT Annual Meeting in 2011 that a standard operating procedure (SOP) for WCH be adopted. The SOP was jointly developed and finalised by DWNP and MYCAT in April 2011. It details the roles of both parties, as well as the procedures for action following a report made to the hotline. WCH report outcomes were included as a verifier for one of the Actions under NTCAP in 2011, and the SOP was subsequently adopted during the Stakeholder Meeting in 2012, thus formalising the WCH within the government system. The SOP has been distributed to all DWNP state offices and the response has been better although there is still room for improvement.

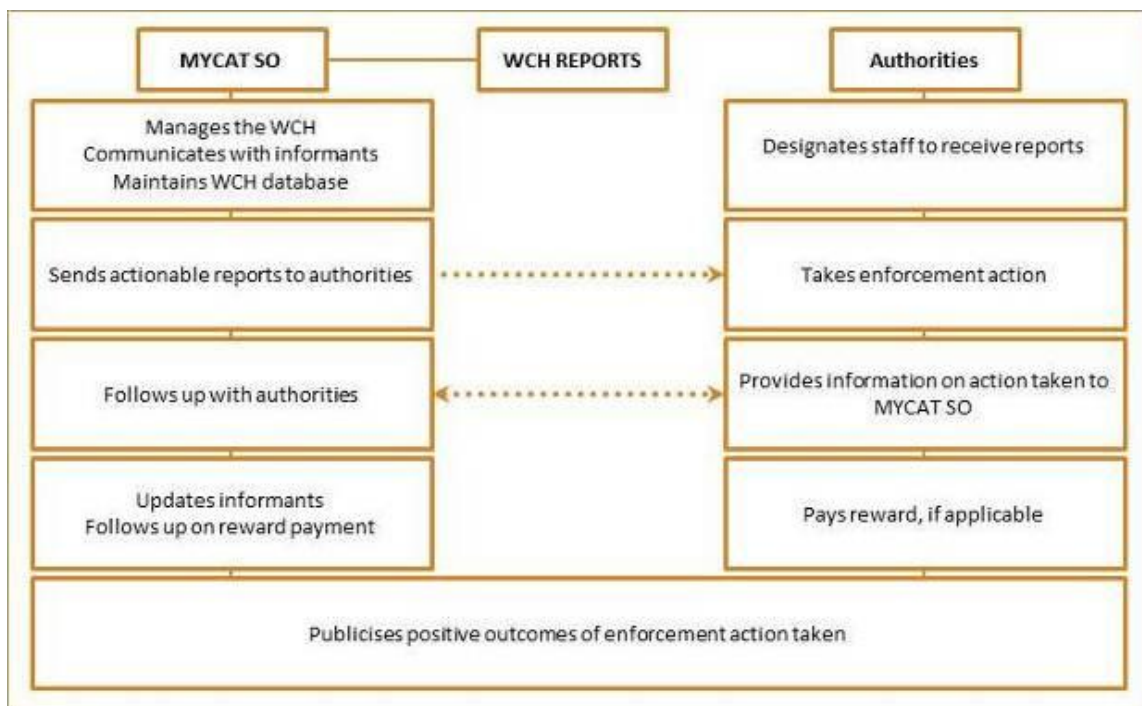


Fig. 2. The Wildlife Crime Hotline reporting system.

b. Publicity mechanisms

The WCH is publicised through the media whenever the opportunity arises and during MYCAT outreach programmes, to encourage the public to report timely and accurate information. It is also publicised by MYCAT partners through various initiatives.

In 2012, the WCH was promoted through:

- i) Promotional items: Promotional items such as car stickers, fridge magnets, posters and reusable shopping bags bearing the WCH number (in English, Bahasa Malaysia and Mandarin) were distributed during MYCAT Tiger Roadshows at various events. Life-sized standees, banners and posters were also displayed during programmes. Attention-grabbing flyers which list the type of information required in a hotline report were distributed, accompanied by further elaboration by volunteers in order to give the recipient a deeper understanding of the WCH. MYCAT volunteers also wore bright yellow T-shirts with the WCH emblazoned across the back as an additional promotional tool.

A cartoon poster publicising the WCH and Wildlife Conservation Act 2010 caught the attention of the Selangor state-level Standing Committee for Environment, which led to the provision of funds for the production of more materials to promote the hotline. This was the first time that a government entity provided financial support for a MYCAT initiative, which was greatly welcomed. The cartoon poster was designed by a MYCAT volunteer, who has since designed another poster under this project. Cartoons were selected as the medium to convey the desired messages as previous similar posters were well-received. Also, attractive cartoons will attract lingering attention that enables the sombre messages within to be contemplated.

- ii) Internet and media: The WCH is a permanent feature on the MYCAT website, where both the hotline number and email (report@malayantiger.net) are listed. Meanwhile, postings on the MYCAT Facebook page frequently mentioned the hotline, whenever relevant. Where possible, the hotline is also promoted through collaborations with the media, and was publicised by BFM, The Star, New Straits Times, Sinchew Daily and Nanyang Siang Pau in 2012.
- iii) Workshops: The WCH was heavily promoted at two workshops held under the CLAW initiative (more details in Section 5).
- iv) Partner initiatives: MYCAT partners also produced and distributed material promoting the WCH. WWF booklets on Totally Protected and Protected species under Malaysian law were distributed at WWF events and MYCAT Tiger Roadshows. TRAFFIC also produced 1,000 booklets on commonly traded wildlife products which were distributed during their outreach and awareness programmes. In continuation of a campaign from 2011, TRAFFIC launch the “Where’s My Mama? 2.0” campaign together with The Body Shop in Peninsular Malaysia to educate shoppers on the wildlife species in trade and to call for the reporting of wildlife crimes. The WCH is also permanently listed in MNS’ quarterly publication, the *Malaysian Naturalist* as well as in other web portals maintained by MNS members.

c. Results

In 2012, the hotline received 76 quality reports, which are defined as reports containing relevant, actionable information. Besides DWNP, reports of cases which come under the authority of other government agencies were also sent to the respective agencies. Out of the total number of reports, 70 were sent to DWNP (92%), five to DoF and one to DVS. Table 2 shows the type and number of WCH reports received and the relevant agencies which the reports were sent to. As the WCH was set up mainly to support the enforcement efforts of DWNP and the bulk of reports received lay within their jurisdiction, the following discussion only highlights reports forwarded to DWNP via the WCH.

Despite continuous promotion of the WCH, there was a decrease (32%) in the number of quality reports received, compared to 2011. The difference was primarily due to a great reduction in the

number of reports from a key informant to the hotline in 2011. Once the figures were adjusted to take into account reports from that informant, the number of reports actually had remained stable from 2011 to 2012. The overall number of wildlife-related offences recorded by DWNP also declined in 2011 and 2012 compared with 2010, which could be due to the Wildlife Conservation Act that came into effect at the end of 2010. The act provides for much stronger penalties against wildlife crime, which might have served as a deterrent to potential criminals.

As listed in the SOP, MYCAT SO requests for report outcomes from the relevant DWNP offices every three months. The status of the reports is shown in Figure 3, where actions have been taken on 80% of the reports, and 20% are unreported by DWNP. DWNP Selangor is the only state which failed to respond to the last outcome request after several reminders sent by MYCAT SO. The unreported outcomes include reports which were sent in late 2012, whereby the action taken has yet to be reported. Furthermore, “action taken” only represents the reports which DWNP has looked into and does not necessarily translate to successful enforcement action. It includes cases where a particular wildlife or product has already been sold, or where investigations lead to a dead end. Table 3 shows selected notable results where successful enforcement actions were taken (reports from informants have been edited for clarity and brevity).

Table 2. Type and number of WCH reports sent to relevant enforcement agencies.

Description	Cases	Agency
Illegal trade	34	DWNP
Poaching and trade of other terrestrial wildlife	10	DWNP
Poaching and trade of tigers or their prey	18	DWNP
Animal welfare, illegal trade	4	DWNP
Conflict - link to poaching	4	DWNP
Fisheries related offences	5	DoF
Animal welfare	1	DVS
Total	76	

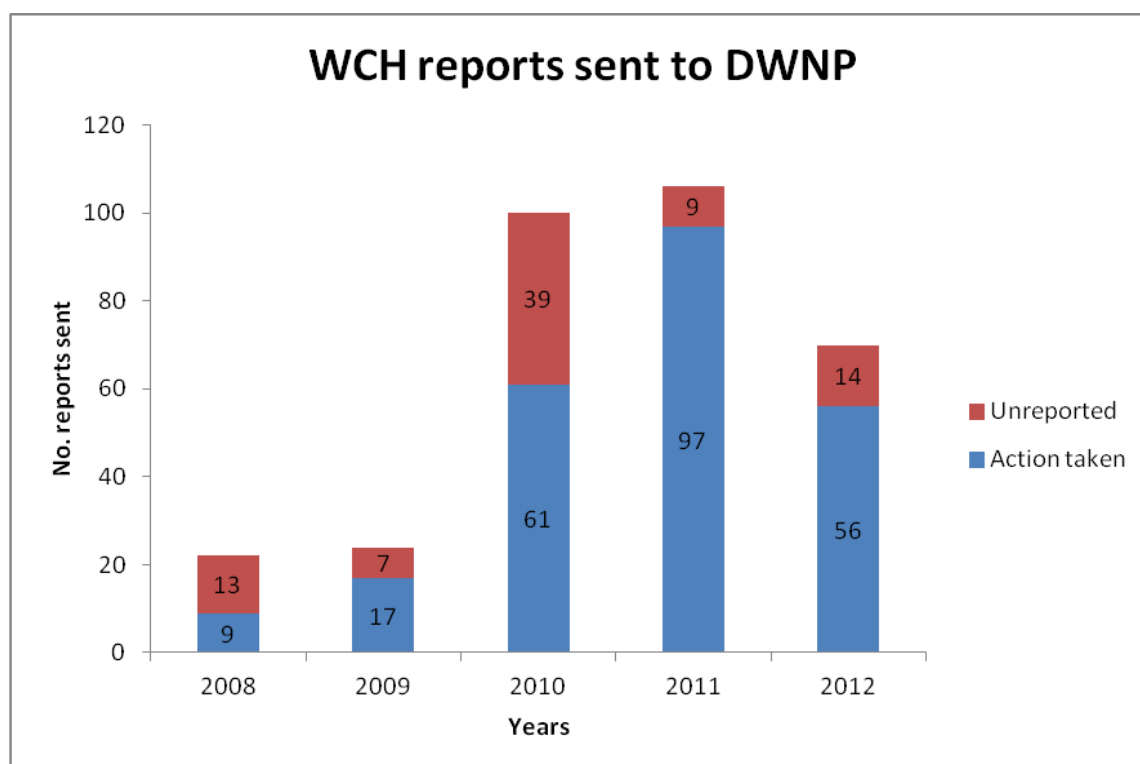


Fig. 3. Number of relevant and actionable reports sent to the Department of Wildlife and National Parks Peninsular Malaysia and the status of follow-up actions between 2008 and 2012.

Unreported = Unknown if any action was taken.

Action taken = Action taken by DWNP and outcome reported.

Table 3. Notable WCH reports and follow-up actions.

Report	Action	By
A pet shop in an urban area was displaying two Indian Star Tortoises for sale.	DWNP deployed a team of rangers and confiscated one Indian Star Tortoise which was being kept without a licence. Investigation is still ongoing.	DWNP Penang
A local man was seen selling medicinal capsules labelled as bear bile, at a night market stall in an urban area.	DWNP deployed a team of rangers on the same day and confiscated eight bottles containing capsules suspected to be made from bear parts. Investigation is still ongoing.	DWNP Selangor
Remnants of an inactive trap were found in a forest.	DWNP conducted a Snare Operation in the area within the same month. They discovered and destroyed one additional wire snare.	DWNP Pahang, DWNP Taman Negara
A shop in an urban area was seen displaying canines and claws of tiger for sale.	DWNP deployed a team of rangers and confiscated pieces of snake skin, wild boar tooth, tiger claws, and a tooth from an unidentified species. Investigation is still ongoing.	DWNP Penang
Several snares and the skull and bones of a leopard were found in a forest.	DWNP deployed a team of rangers on the same day for further investigation and to remove the snares.	DWNP Taman Negara

The majority of the reports sent to DWNP consisted of incidences in Selangor (34%) and Kuala Lumpur (21%). This is followed by the two states where MYCAT ran programmes – Kelantan and Pahang (Fig. 4). The concentration of reports within the Klang Valley could be both due to greater awareness amongst the population, as well as the fact that the largest consumer markets lie within the Klang Valley.

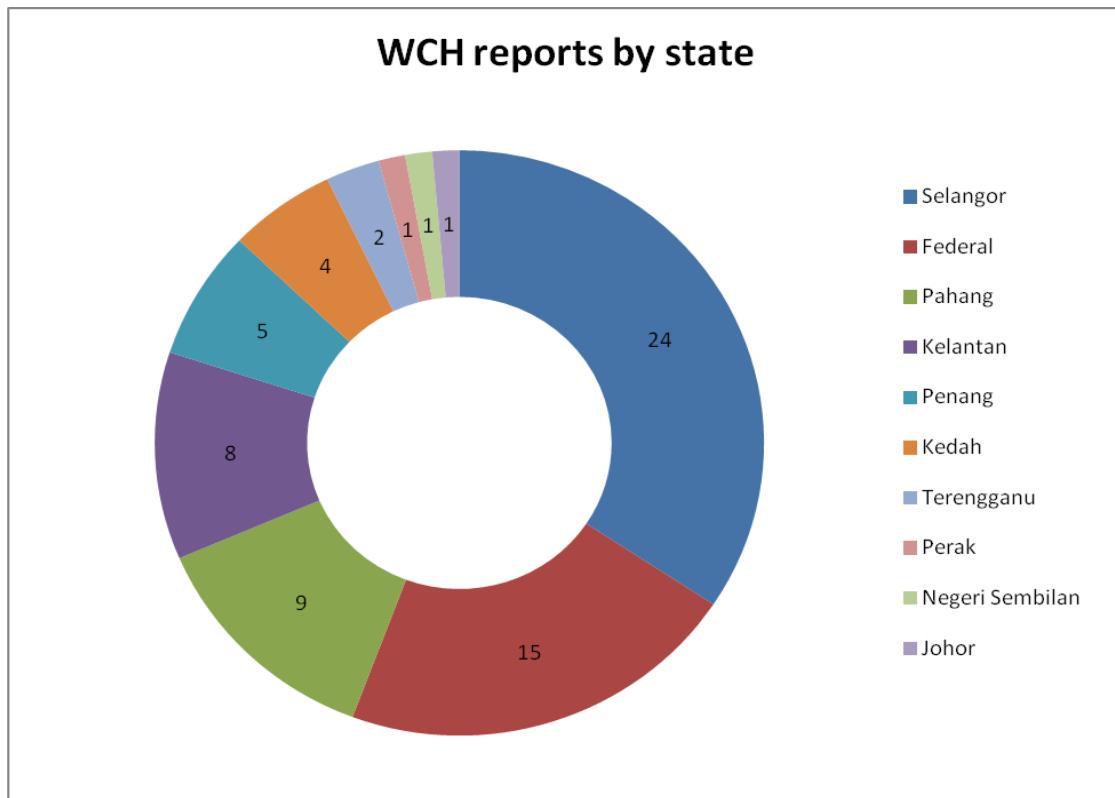


Fig. 4. The number and location of incidences reported to the WCH in 2012 according to states. Federal refers to the DWNP Headquarters in Kuala Lumpur.

d. Challenges

In previous years, the main challenge has been following up with DWNP on the final outcome of each case. In 2012, except for DWNP Selangor, there has been an improvement on this front. However, a closer look at the reports made to the WCH in 2011 showed that many of the successful cases were based on reports from those within the conservation circle, despite widespread promotion of the hotline. This could be because people within the field of conservation are more alert towards wildlife crimes or because they know exactly what to report. The major challenge identified in 2012 was to solicit more quality reports from general members of the public, where action can be taken by DWNP.

Perhaps the public needs to be more sensitised to wildlife crime and simply do not know what to report. Efforts were taken to address this possibility by holding awareness workshops on commonly traded wildlife for members of the public. This was done under the CLAW initiative (Section 5) and as of 31 December 2012, eight out of 66 participants have reported to WCH after attending the workshop.

Efforts were taken in 2012 to look into all the reports received in 2011 and to revert on the outcomes to respective informants. However, due to time constraints, not all informants could be informed and reports with positive outcomes were prioritised as well as regular informants. For the reports received in 2012, a more conscious effort was made to immediately revert to informants, especially when feedback from DWNP was promptly available. We will continue to strive to complete the reporting cycle in the coming year.

5. Cancelling Licences to Aid Wildlife

In Malaysia, wildlife businesses require licences from DWNP to legally trade, keep or display wildlife protected under the Wildlife Conservation Act 2010. They also require a business licence from the respective local authority. When it comes to errant traders, while DWNP has the authority to revoke wildlife-related licences, they cannot shut down businesses and their premises. Local authorities have the power to do so but they may not have the necessary information on wildlife crime.

As a solution to combat illegal wildlife trade, the CLAW initiative brings DWNP and the local authorities together in a pioneering effort in Selangor, the state with the largest consumer economy in Malaysia. It was jointly developed in 2009 by DWNP and MYCAT as part of an action of the NTCAP. Subsequently it was supported by the Selangor State Government and was approved by the Selangor State Executive Council (EXCO) on 28 April 2010. In 2011, from discussions MYCAT held with DWNP and the Selangor State Government respectively, the roles of the agencies involved were further developed and outlined.

Through CLAW, both agencies collaborate to revoke the business licences of repeated offenders of the wildlife laws, where only offences committed from 28 April 2010 onwards are considered. CLAW hits illegal wildlife traders where it hurts most, in their wallets. This initiative aims to keep commercial wildlife dealers in check, such as those trading in live animals as well as wildlife parts and products (e.g., wild meat dealers and restaurants, traditional medicine shops, and pet shops). It excludes individual pet owners.

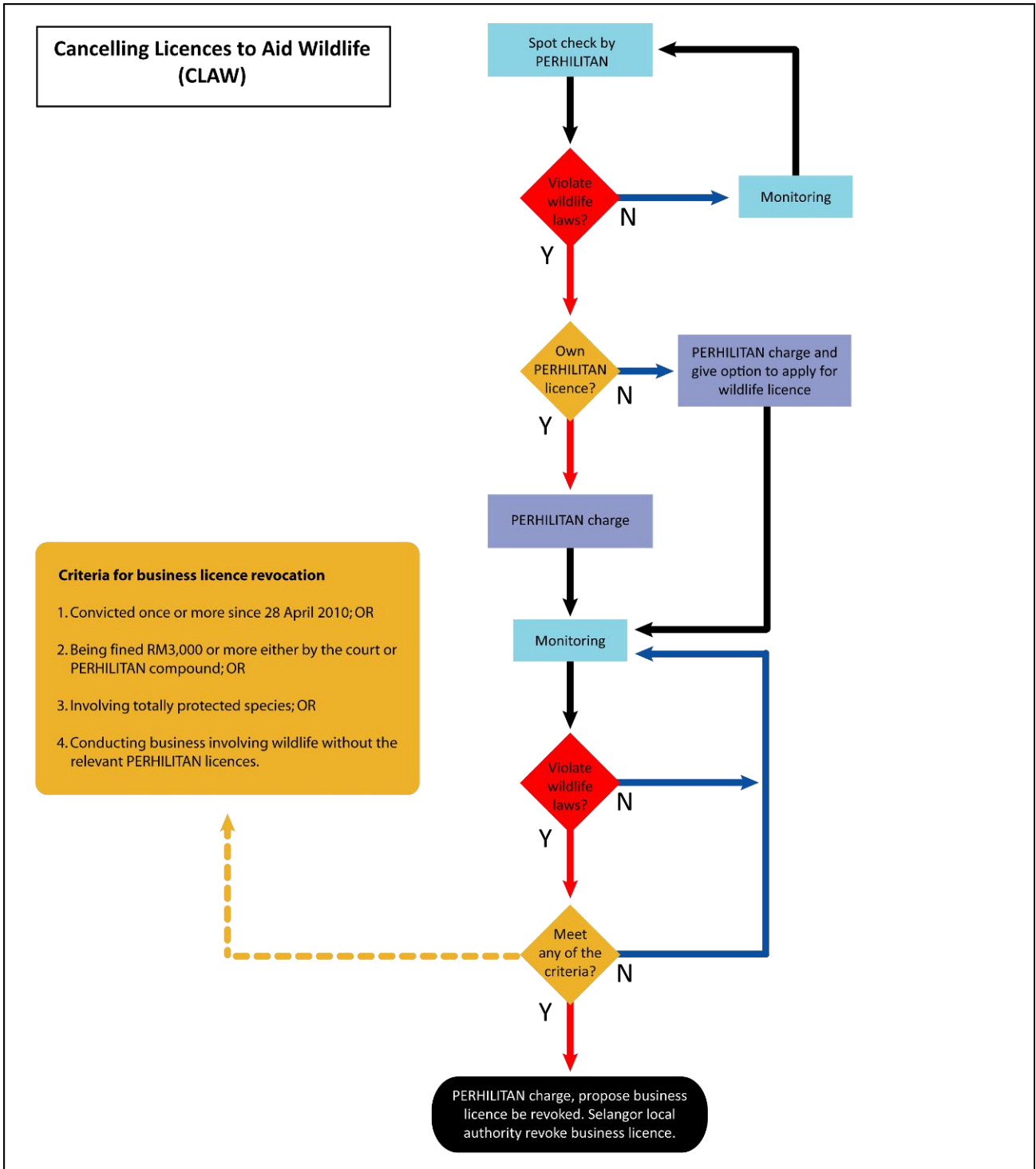


Fig. 5. The flow of action under CLAW.

In order to create more awareness among the public on the wildlife species in trade, as well as to encourage more reports to WCH especially on errant businesses dealing in illegal wildlife, two workshops on identification of commonly traded wildlife parts and products were conducted in Selangor. The workshops were conducted by the experts in wildlife trade – TRAFFIC, who played a main role in this MYCAT joint project. The first workshop was held on 29 September 2012 at the WWF-Malaysia Boardroom, while the second was held on 3 November 2012 at Rimba Ilmu, University of Malaya. Both venues for the workshops were generously provided at no cost. A total of 66 participants were trained in these workshops.

A training handbook developed by TRAFFIC was distributed to all participants. Contents of the manual included an introduction to wildlife trade, the impacts of wildlife trade, species identification sheets of wildlife likely to be traded in Selangor, etc. A CD with the relevant legislations and the full ASEAN-Wildlife Enforcement Network Species Identification Sheets of Commonly Traded Species (Malaysia version) were

also provided. During the workshop, emphasis was also placed on the types of information required for a complete report to the WCH.

Feedback from the participants was positive overall, where most participants found the workshop useful, with relevant and interesting content. All the respondents to a feedback survey indicated that they will report incidences of wildlife crime to the hotline after attending the workshop. Many also felt that such workshops should be repeated. So far, eight participants have sent in a total of 10 reports to WCH. The workshop is by no means an end to itself, but it is envisioned that the knowledge imparted will set participants on the alert the next time they come across potential wildlife crime, as well as encourage them to continue learning more about wildlife trade and its detrimental effects.

So far no businesses have yet been shut down under CLAW, as the reports received to the WCH were committed by first-time offenders. Efforts will be taken to engage DWNP Selangor in 2013 to scrutinise the list of offenders of the wildlife laws in Selangor over the past year, to identify repeated offenders if any. MYCAT partners have also expressed an interest to expand the CLAW initiative to other states in Peninsular Malaysia.

6. Volunteer Programmes

Government enforcement agencies and conservation organisations have their respective roles to play, but the tipping point to reverse the tiger population decline in Malaysia will be when the large majority of the public claims their stake in tiger conservation.

MYCAT volunteer programmes aim to instill a sense of wildlife stewardship among Malaysians and to nurture future conservationists. The public cannot become conservationists overnight as there are many facets to the problems plaguing our wildlife. However, as more people become aware of the plight of wildlife, there are an increasing number who want to learn more and do something to help. To this end, MYCAT urgently prompts members of the public to play their part, and reminds them that the protection of wildlife and wild spaces are the responsibility of all. MYCAT's volunteering opportunities allow people from all walks of life and of different interests to contribute to wildlife conservation and take pride and ownership in Malaysia's natural treasures.

Aside from volunteering at outreach programmes (Section 7), the CAT programme (Section 8) was developed in 2010 as a more direct avenue for the public to protect threatened wildlife. While outreach programmes, or otherwise known as Tiger Roadshows, involve raising awareness and close interaction with members of the local community at trade or poaching hotspots, CAT brings volunteers back to nature, thus providing those who may not be comfortable talking to strangers at Tiger Roadshows with another possibility to participate in tiger conservation. We have also seen a crossover effect where volunteers acquainted with MYCAT through the CAT programme also help out in outreach programmes and vice versa.

A detailed briefing or training is provided to all who enlist, be it for outreach or CAT. Far from merely contributing time and energy to conservation, a volunteer will also grow as a person from the knowledge and experience obtained through volunteering in the various programmes.

In 2012, 187 people volunteered with MYCAT, either by participating in programmes or contributing their expertise in a particular field, which brings the cumulative number of MYCAT volunteers to 672 (Fig. 6). Out of the 187 volunteers, 168 were new and 19 were repeat volunteers from previous years. The number of new volunteers increased 143% from 2011, due to a greater number of roadshows and CAT Walks conducted. Out of all the first-timers, 44 volunteers joined us again later in the year, some even multiple times. This was most encouraging as it showed that volunteers are finding fulfillment or simply having fun while contributing to a good cause, and are returning to share their time and energy with us.

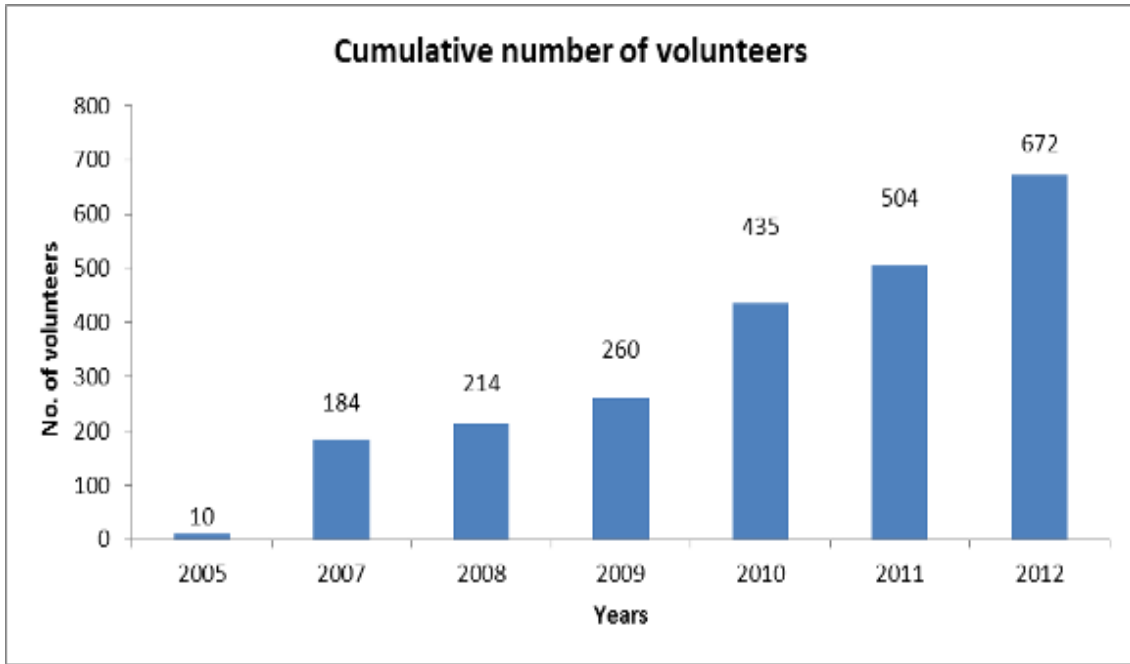


Fig. 6. The cumulative number of MYCAT volunteers.

Although volunteers are mainly recruited from members of the public, MYCAT has also worked with specific groups of students and corporations. While continuing ties with former collaborators, such as students from Taylor’s College and Universiti Putra Malaysia, MYCAT was also approached by students from other institutions of higher learning. Universiti Tenaga National students raised funds for tiger conservation by selling MYCAT merchandise on campus, while Universiti Malaysia Kelantan sent a group of students on a CAT Walk. In addition to financially supporting programmes via the Maybank Foundation, volunteers from the local Maybank branch volunteered in the Gua Musang outreach programme to participate in hands-on tiger conservation efforts. Meanwhile, Royal Selangor was the first corporate group to send staff to participate in CAT Walks and they have pledged to join more trips in the coming year.

Other than through the volunteer programmes, some members of the public rendered their expertise to tiger conservation on their own time. The Honorary Treasurer of the MNS Selangor Branch continues to administer MYCAT finances and others volunteered their special skills and talent to help with editing or proof-reading documents, reviewing technical papers, photography, videography, as well as designing (see section 10 for a full list).

7. Tiger Roadshow: Community Outreach

Initiated in 2005, the MYCAT community outreach programme aims to reduce the poaching, consumption and trade of threatened wildlife, through talks, school education programmes, and reaching out to the masses at places where people are gathered. The MYCAT outreach programme was rebranded the Tiger Roadshow in 2009. In 2012, MYCAT conducted 18 community outreach events and reached out face-to-face to 3,703 adults and children (Appendix 5), a 27% increase from 2011. Since 2005, MYCAT programmes have reached out to a total of 36,533 people.

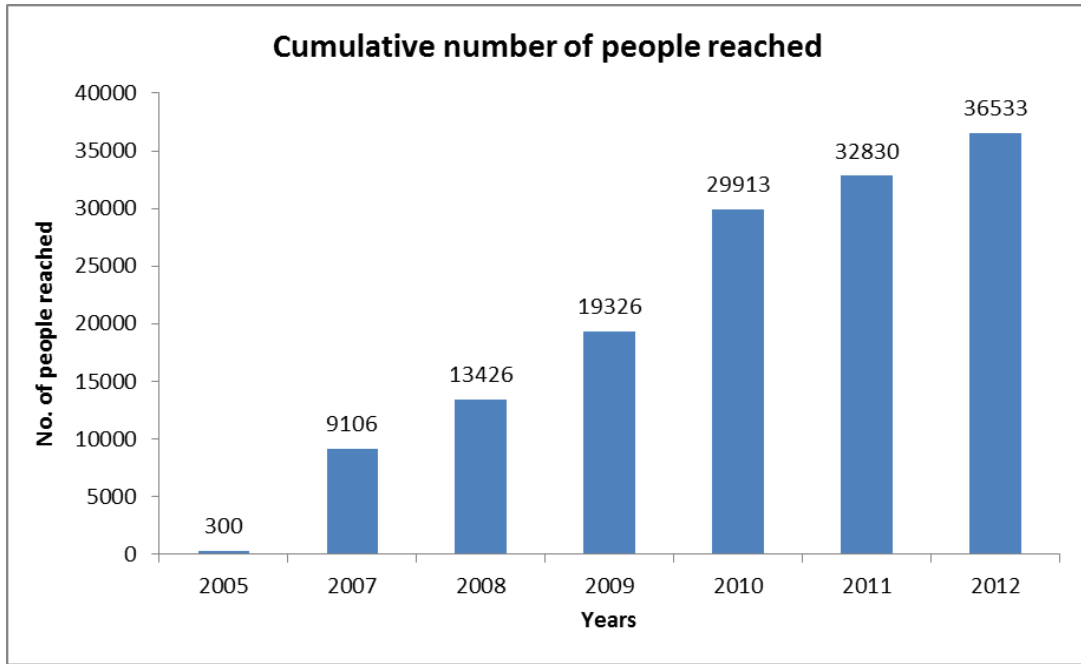


Fig. 7. Cumulative number of people reached through MYCAT outreach programmes.

The Tiger Roadshow encompasses rural and urban outreach programmes. These are conducted at small towns and villages adjacent to forests areas, and at public places around the city respectively. Programmes are targeted at wildlife poaching and trading hotspots and locations of the Tiger Roadshow is selected based on information from DWNP or MYCAT partners, as well as the specific target audiences.

After a relatively quiet 2011 in terms of rural outreach programmes, eight events were held in two rural locations - Gua Musang, Kelantan and Hulu Langat, Selangor, at schools, markets and in town. It was the second Tiger Roadshow in Gua Musang, and seeing that the locals remembered us from the previous programme in 2010 was encouraging. Some were still holding on to MYCAT pocket calendars that were given out then. Meanwhile, the roadshow in Hulu Langat was the first rural programme conducted by MYCAT in Selangor, and some unique qualities were observed in a rural setting so close to the capital of Malaysia. Pictorial reports of both programmes can be accessed at the MYCAT website here:

http://malayantiger.net/v4/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=183%3Aoutreach-programmes&catid=60%3Aoutreach&Itemid=1.

The cultivation of wildlife stewardship is a long-term effort. To attain the ultimate goal of reducing the poaching, trade and consumption of endangered wildlife, the Tiger Roadshow must be continued and expanded. MYCAT will continue to provide information and avenues to the Malaysian public to harness the power of the great majority to benefit tigers and other wildlife. The method and approach previously used are work in progress, and are constantly evaluated and adapted following the principles of adaptive management.

8. Citizen Action for Tigers (CAT)

The CAT programme involves citizen conservationists in protecting an important tiger habitat. It began in 2010 in partnership with MNS Selangor Branch, whose members were the very first CAT volunteers. CAT provides an avenue for people to do their bit for wildlife in more direct ways. The greatest benefit of CAT may come when the silent majority realises that they are not mere bystanders, but a real part of the effort to save wildlife from poachers and to secure important wildlife habitats. Studies have shown that wildlife is relatively safer from poaching near recreational areas that have minimum-impact activities, and this was the inspiration for CAT.

The programme is conducted in the Sungai Yu Tiger Corridor, a priority wildlife corridor for Taman Negara as it is the last linkage connecting the two largest tiger landscapes in Peninsular Malaysia, as identified in the NTCAP (Fig 8). This corridor is an 11km stretch of forests surrounding Sungai Yu, immediately west of Taman Negara. It is bisected by a highway (Federal Route 8) that further increases poachers' accessibility to the park. Through CAT, volunteers deter poaching by adding more "boots on the ground", save wildlife by deactivating snares, and support law enforcement by becoming the "eyes and ears" of the authorities – all while enjoying recreational activities in a wilderness setting. Any relevant information is sent to the WCH and MYCAT relays the information to Taman Negara park authorities or DWNP Pahang.

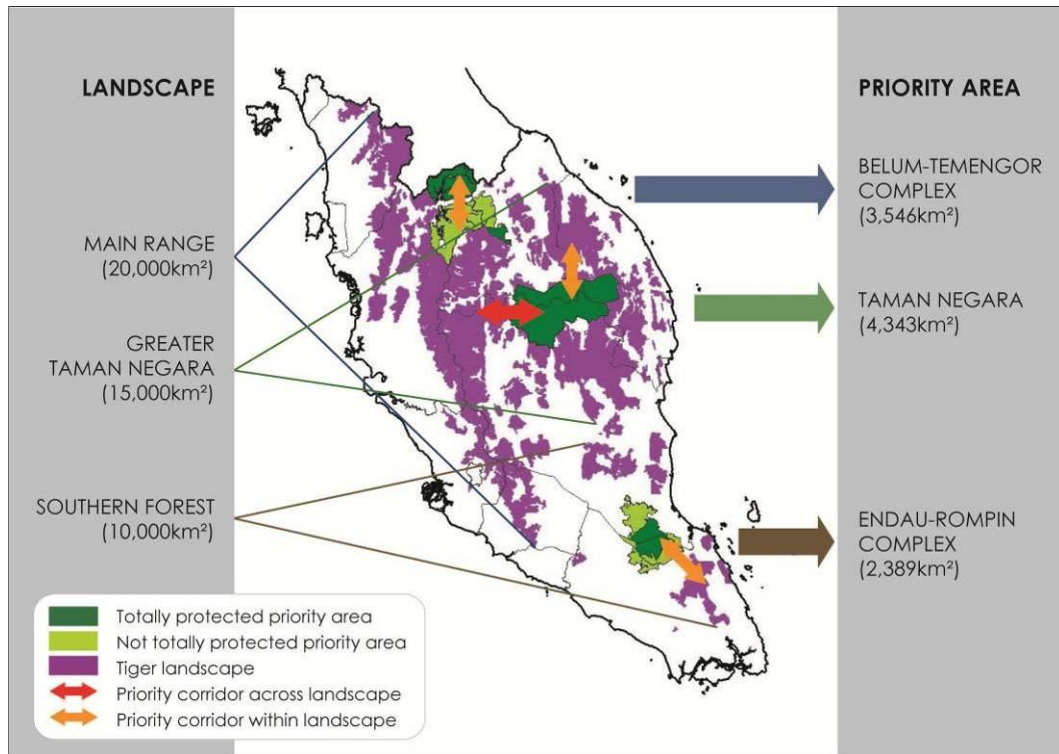


Fig. 8. The priority areas in the three respective tiger landscapes as identified in the National Tiger Conservation Action Plan (DWNP, 2008). The Sungai Yu Tiger Corridor is marked by the red arrow.

CAT activities range from weekend walks in the corridor when poachers are most active and park rangers are stretched thin, to week-long trips by volunteers assisting park rangers in border maintenance and surveillance. The routes are determined based on findings from researchers, information from Taman Negara staff or local informants. Recognising the importance of safety on CAT trips, volunteers are provided with basic medical insurance. In 2012, a Safety and Emergency Procedures Manual was developed for the CAT programme, which includes information on emergency action plans, safety while moving and living in forests, evacuation procedures, minimal impact camping, hygiene and medical care. Three MYCAT SO staff also participated in an outdoor first aid course in August.

In 2011, CAT Walks were kept going by the dedication of a few volunteers who led and participated in the trips, and CAT Trailblazer was introduced after discussions with MYCAT partners and DWNP. In 2012, a full-time staff was recruited to manage and expand the CAT programme, and another new category – CAT Border Walk, was introduced. Each category of volunteer engagement caters to the various fitness levels and preferences of volunteers, enabling outdoor lovers with a wide range of abilities to participate.

Volunteers are recruited through the MYCAT e-news, website, Facebook page, and through word-of-mouth from previous volunteers. This year, the CAT programme was also highlighted by The Star and New Straits Times, the two major mainstream English language newspapers in Malaysia. Volunteers' accounts of CAT are also very helpful in generating interest in the programme and also serve as valuable third-party documentation. CAT Trailblazer photo journals and a video produced in 2011 can be seen here:

http://malayantiger.net/v4/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=192%3Acat-trailblazer&catid=69%3Acat&Itemid=1; while a more recent write up and video on CAT Walks is available here: <http://www.junglecraft.com.my/index.php/jungle-trips/catwalk-with-mycat/>.

Positive response from volunteers as well as the increasing interest and enthusiasm from the public about CAT has affirmed the need and viability of such a programme, the first of its kind in Peninsular Malaysia. With the establishment of CAT, a challenge was thrown to the public, urging them to claim their stake in wildlife conservation and increase much-needed protection for wildlife in the forests around Taman Negara. Many have answered the call and have willingly contributed time and energy as a CAT volunteer.

Volunteers have expressed satisfaction in participating in CAT as it provides them with the opportunity to protect wildlife on the ground. Very often when concerned members of the public read about threats to wildlife, they feel helpless and detached from the issues, but this programme empowers them to become part of the solution. In 2011, the first year of operation, 30 volunteers signed up for CAT even without any active promotion through the media. In 2012, 125 volunteers joined CAT trips, marking a 317% increase.

Among the new volunteers include two teams of CAT Walkers who are staff of Royal Selangor, a Malaysian pewter company. In the first corporate partnership under CAT, Royal Selangor has pledged to continue sending their staff on CAT Walks, and will provide support in the form of volunteer transportation and lodging. Staff members of Ecoteer Responsible Travel, a company that specialises in volunteer tourism (also known as voluntourism), have also volunteered on a CAT Walk. MYCAT is in talks with Ecoteer to bring 'voluntourists' on CAT Walks, and will continue to seek more active involvement not just among members of the public, but also from the private sector and civil society, for example private companies, nature oriented groups, associations etc.

It is too soon to announce a trend but the CAT teams are finding less active snares and more signs of abandoned or disused snares in the forest adjoining the Taman Negara border. It is not clear if this is due to increased volunteer presence, a temporary shift in poachers' target area or a mixture of both, but the frequency of CAT trips will be increased to maintain a more pervasive presence in the Sungai Yu Tiger Corridor. Table 5 outlines the achievements of CAT in 2012, through CAT Walks and CAT Trailblazer.

Table 4. CAT achievements in 2012.

Indicators	Figures
No. of trips	20
No. of Walks	35
No. of Trailblazers	3
No. of volunteers	125
No. of new CAT volunteers	119
No. of volunteers who joined >1 trip	16
Man-days in the forest	403
Total distance covered (km)	210
No. of snares/traps detected/deactivated	24
No. of wire snares found	3
No. of nylon snares found	16
No. of incidences reported to WCH	12
No. of actions taken by authorities	12

*Note: One man-day is defined as one person participating in a one-day Walk.

a. CAT Walk

CAT Walks are moderate walks lasting for several hours while volunteers enjoy trekking, bird watching and other outdoor recreational activities in the forests within and around the wildlife corridor. The specific routes have been determined by MYCAT researchers or the Park authorities as poaching hotspots or common poacher access routes into core protected forests. This is suitable for weekend volunteers, and some walks are led by trained volunteers. Occasionally, Orang Asli guides are engaged to conduct recces of new trails, or to guide volunteers in exploring less familiar ones.

CAT Walkers reported all suspicious activities or signs to the WCH, which resulted in enforcement actions being taken by DWNP. 9.2% of the reports made to the WCH in 2012 were from CAT Walks. Table 4 details some of these actions, which are notable examples of the public working hand-in-hand with the authorities. One particularly disturbing incident was when volunteers encountered the skeleton of an animal. The skeleton has since been identified to be that of a sun bear, which was probably left to die in the snare as it was not the targeted species. This illustrates the cruelty of those who set such wire snares as well as their cold-hearted disregard for living animals. Though unfortunate, it was a powerful example of the importance of CAT activities in the area to increase protection for the threatened wildlife.

Table 5. Notable CAT Walk reports and follow-up actions.

Report	Action
A few animal traps were discovered.	DWNP scoured the area and destroyed net traps that were set to trap birds.
An iron cage trap was discovered near an illegal logging site. There was also an old hunting platform in the area.	DWNP removed the cage trap. The area remains under surveillance.
The carcass of a leopard was found, with its leg still caught in a wire snare. More snares were found nearby.	DWNP removed the snares from the area.

CAT Walks were conducted regularly since May, and by the end of 2012, 35 CAT Walks have been conducted over 17 trips, far outstripping the initial target of 12 Walks. Altogether there were 32 days with at least a team present in or around the Corridor, and they managed to cover a total of 177.3km with 481 man-days in the forest. The positive response to CAT has enabled more CAT Walks to be conducted, and our star CAT Walker joined five trips! GPS units were used to record the locations and distances travelled (Figure 9). The CAT Walkers explored the Sungai Yu Tiger Corridor and the forests around western Taman Negara, and hiked through different terrains including old logging trails, small side trails and even oil palm plantations.

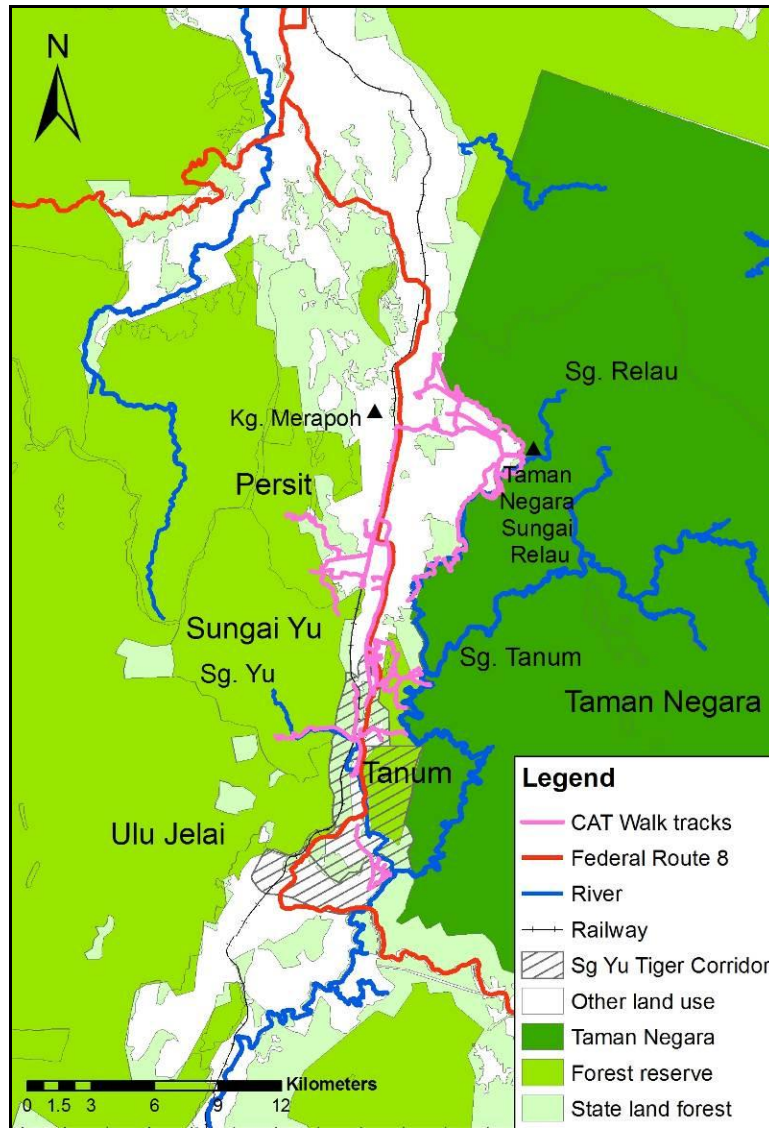


Fig. 9. The trails explored by the teams of Citizen Action for Tigers Walkers in and around the Sungai Yu Tiger Corridor in 2012.

CAT Walks were previously focused in the state land forests within the Corridor, but there was a need to increase wildlife-friendly human presence at Taman Negara borders and Permanent Reserved Forests (PRFs) as poachers are not hindered by administrative boundaries. In late 2011, MYCAT met with the then newly-installed Director General (DG) of FDPM and various division Heads to give a presentation on the NTCAP, MYCAT and our projects. CAT was mentioned as one of the MYCAT joint projects, which was warmly received by the DG who found the concept very interesting and something to learn from. In 2012, trips were made into the PRFs around the Corridor area after obtaining the required permits from the Lipis District Forest Office. The Lipis office has been most helpful and has expedited the permit application process for CAT Walkers, which is very much appreciated.

Camera trapping in Taman Negara Sungai Relau (western entrance to the park) was introduced as a new activity that is a part of CAT Walks. Before leaving Taman Negara at the end of a trip, volunteers are given the opportunity to check and retrieve images from camera traps which have already been set up along the single jeep track that runs into Taman Negara from Sungai Relau to Kuala Juram. This proved highly popular among volunteers as they get to see in pictures the animals that they are walking for, and get a taste of how biologists study wildlife. It is always exciting for volunteers whenever they discover that the picture of a tiger has been captured. Aside from providing volunteers with a unique experience, this activity also aims to monitor the presence of the resident male tiger in the area, nicknamed Bujang (bachelor), as well as the other wildlife.

A hands-on CAT Walk Leaders' Training Workshop was conducted in September for regular volunteers with potential and those who might be interested in leading CAT Walks. The main limiting resource to increasing the number of trips is the lack of suitable leaders with appropriate knowledge and skills, and the workshop aimed to resolve that. A total of 21 volunteers participated in the workshop, which was held at Taman Negara Sungai Relau. DWNP provided the venue for indoor training, where volunteers were taught how to read maps, use a GPS, identify animal signs, and trek with minimal impact, as well as basic first aid, what to do when they encounter snares or trapped animals etc. Practical training in the field was also conducted outdoors. So far two volunteers have emerged as strong leaders and are able to lead trips independently. A few others with potential have also been identified and will be groomed as future CAT Walk leaders.

b. CAT Trailblazer

CAT Trailblazer involves hardcore bushwhacking along the Taman Negara border with DWNP park rangers to maintain the border trail and signs. The participants are dropped off at a starting point, hike for four to five days and are picked up at the end point. Volunteers are not conducting patrols, but this provides experienced backpackers and adventure enthusiasts with a more challenging option to help protect Taman Negara. Their presence at these secluded corners of the park deters poaching and encroachment, and they also keep an eye out for illegal activities and document tiger signs, if any.

Trailblazers are jointly led by DWNP rangers and MYCAT staff and are conducted when a border maintenance exercise is scheduled. Hence, they could not be held as frequently as CAT Walks as the rangers have other duties which can affect the scheduling of trips. It has been a challenge to secure dates from DWNP. While the dates are set a month in advance, they are subject to changes which affect the recruitment of volunteers who have to take leave from work and make other domestic adjustments. A recent development is that in recognition of the poaching menace, DWNP now conducts armed patrols together with the Royal Malaysian Army in deep and remote parts of the park. Though a commendable initiative, this further depletes their manpower resources to conduct border maintenance.

It also has been a challenge to identify suitable candidates for CAT Trailblazer as it is suitable only for very experienced jungle trekkers due to the terrain and duration of the trip. The initial aim for 2012 was eight trips, but only three Trailblazer trips were conducted, in March, May and September 2012 (Fig. 10). The trips saw the participation of seven volunteers, all new to MYCAT. A stringent process is followed when it comes to the selection of volunteers, and those interested are required to fill in a detailed questionnaire and attend a comprehensive briefing prior to the programme. Unfortunately, despite the efforts to filter volunteers, we had our first withdrawal as one volunteer withdrew from the programme after the first day, citing his personal well-being as a concern. This will serve as a lesson in the selection of future Trailblazer volunteers.

The safety of Trailblazer volunteers has also become a concern. As trip routes are not announced by DWNP until the day of the trip for security reasons, MYCAT staff cannot predetermine and study the evacuation routes for possible emergency scenarios. To overcome these challenges, a new programme, CAT Border Walk was introduced in 2012 (see below).

The total distance covered by Trailblazers in 2012 was 32.8km, with a total of 78 man-days in the forest. In 2011, 20.7km was travelled by Trailblazers, making that 53.5km in all. CAT Trailblazer will be continued in 2013, but only along the western park border where potential evacuations routes are identified and the main highway is nearby.

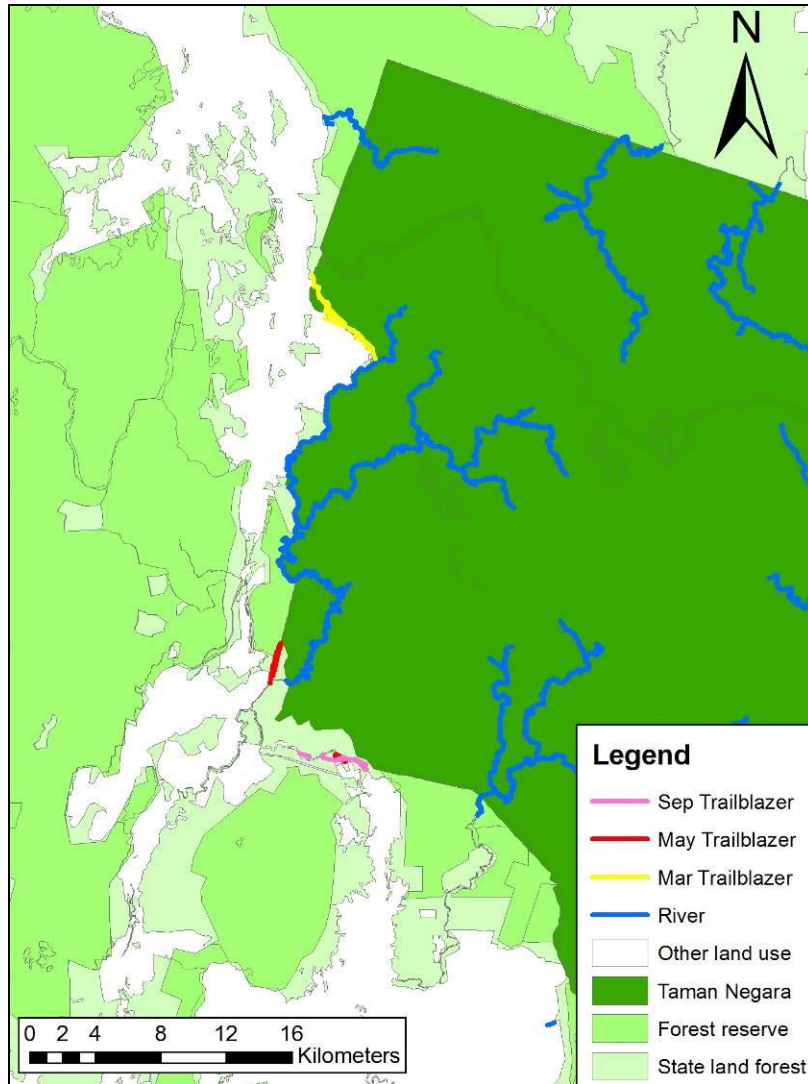


Fig. 10. The April, May and September Citizen Action for Tigers Trailblazer route map.

c. CAT Border Walk

At the end of 2012 a new category of the CAT programme, the Border Walk, was introduced to fill in the gap created by the challenges faced in the Trailblazer. From the map of trails explored by CAT Walkers in 2012 (Fig. 9), it can be seen that some walks were conducted along the Taman Negara border north of the corridor. These were conducted based on a request made by the former Superintendent of Taman Negara and were formalised as CAT Border Walks. Border Walks involve moderate trekking involving two or more days along the border of Taman Negara, specifically focusing on identifying poaching hotspots and routes into the park, where volunteers deactivate snares and traps if found.

Border Walk is essentially a hybrid of the CAT Trailblazer and CAT Walk, while the level of difficulty lies between the two. Border Walks are trail clearing and “eyes and ears” surveillance walks along the Western border of the park which was previously covered by Trailblazer trips. Thus the trails are known to MYCAT staff. Border Walks does not involve DWNP rangers and do not last the usual working week. There is flexibility to conduct walks of varying length according to need or conditions, and thus it is easier for working volunteers to participate.

Criteria for participation will not be as stringent as we will be going into a “known” area where a trail has already been cut and potential evacuation routes identified. Beginning in 2013, Border Walks will be conducted regularly.

9. Capacity Building for Management Information System Patrols

The Management Information System (MIST) is a programme that increases the efficient use of resources in enforcement patrols in the forest. By using standardised protocols to collect data, conduct analysis and plan strategically, enforcement activities can be conducted and monitored in a transparent and accountable manner. It has been successfully implemented by WCS and the Johor State Government under the Johor Wildlife Conservation Project, and is being implemented by the Sarawak Forestry Corporation. The MYCAT MIST project is a capacity building project for Taman Negara park rangers to improve anti-poaching patrols in the park using MIST, and MYCAT SO is working closely with WCS on this.

For the park to continue functioning as a source of wildlife populations that disperse into the surrounding forests, Taman Negara and its wildlife must be kept inviolate through effective anti-poaching patrols and law enforcement. Since the forest is intact and protected from large-scale exploitation, the resilience of the tiger will eventually permit the tiger population in the park to recover once protection is increased.

In 2011, the first MIST training workshop had been organised by MYCAT SO and DWNP for Taman Negara staff in Pahang. The five-day workshop was conducted by trainers from WCS. It was divided into two sessions – the basic session on basic navigation technique and collecting data using MIST forms, and an advanced session for analysing the data to produce MIST reports. The Malay language was the medium of instruction at the workshop. Subsequently pilot MIST-based patrols began in Taman Negara in August 2011.

From 6-21 January 2012, the Smithsonian Institution organised a workshop entitled “Regional Smart Patrol Training Training for Tiger Conservation” in Huai Kha Khaeng Wildlife Sanctuary, Thailand for government and NGO representatives working in tiger conservation around Southeast Asia. The MYCAT Senior Programme Officer was nominated as the NGO representative from Malaysia, and he accompanied three senior DWNP staff to attend the training.

Back in Malaysia, three more similar training workshops were conducted by a certified trainer from WCS, to train Taman Negara Pahang staff as well as DWNP Kelantan and Terengganu state staff who patrol Taman Negara. The inclusion of the state staff was requested by DWNP in order to enable the implementation of MIST-based patrols in the two states and to standardise its implementation across the board in Taman Negara, which spans Pahang, Kelantan and Terengganu. The workshops were conducted in March, May and July 2012 and were coordinated by MYCAT SO. A total of 68 staff members were trained in 2012, and 90 have been trained in MIST altogether under the MYCAT project.

Following the workshops, all the trainees are undergoing in-situ assessment where either WCS or MYCAT SO staff follows the patrols and assesses their competency. Rangers who scored excellent marks in 2012 will be identified as potential MIST trainers for other enforcement teams in DWNP. MYCAT also provided additional support by loaning and donating required equipment, for example GPS units, compasses, digital cameras, camping equipment and boats.

A mid-term progress report for the duration of January to June 2012 was prepared by MYCAT SO and presented to the top management of DWNP in September 2012. The report listed out and explained in detail the achievements and short-comings of MIST implementation in Taman Negara, and also provided suggestions on the way forward. DWNP’s response was positive, and most of the report’s recommendations were taken into consideration to immediately rectify the short-comings of the project. These included efforts to increase the number of MIST-based patrols, improve data collection and data entry methods and enhance support to the Taman Negara MIST manager.

The report also identified that senior park managers would benefit from knowing how to use MIST reports for the strategic planning of subsequent enforcement patrols. A special workshop was thus conducted in October to address this issue. The workshop involved five trainers from WCS and the participation of pertinent DWNP staff, from the Director of the Protected Areas Division at DWNP headquarters and the

Taman Negara Superintendent, to the Directors of DWNP Kelantan and Terengganu as well as MIST managers from Pahang, Kelantan and Terengganu.

The final report for 2012 is currently being drafted and will be presented to DWNP in February 2013. The second half of the year showed a large improvement compared to the first half. One more workshop is planned for 2013, and the proposed participants include those who fared poorly during the in-situ assessment and those who have not yet been trained in MIST but are involved in conducting enforcement patrols in the forest. This project will end in June 2013.

10. Thank you!

We could not have done it without support from our donors (other than partner NGOs) and volunteers listed below. Congratulations to Harrison Ooi and Maimunah Mohd Noor who were jointly awarded Volunteer Year of 2012! In-kind support from other parties is also much appreciated.

i) List of donors:

1. Association of British Women in Malaysia
2. Barbara de Waard
3. Maybank Foundation
4. Panthera Foundation and Woodland Park Zoo
5. Save Our Species
6. Save the Tiger Fund, National Fish and Wildlife Foundation
7. Selangor Standing Committee for Environment
8. Selangorku grant
9. Members of the public

ii) List of volunteers in 2012*:

Bernadette Chin (Financial Administrator)	Jessica Liew Sue Ann	Nur Atiqah Mohamad Radhi
Dylan Jefri Ong (Technical advisor)	Joanne Tong	Nur Fadilah Ab Rahim
Jake Leong (Photographer)	Joel Chua	Nur Hidayah Abdun Nasir
Jonathan Goh (Prezi designer)	Joyce Lim	Nur Hidayah Abu Kasim
Lee Caulfield-Marsh (First aid trainer)	Junaidi Omar	Nur Suhaida Mohd Sujak
Linda Khoo (Copy editor)	Keong Lye Choon	Nurul Aainaa Mohtar
Michael John Hill (Fund raiser)	Khairul Annuar Adzman Omar	Nurul Atifah Md Haron
Mohd Razali Mohd Isa (Graphic Designer)	Khairul Fara Basir	Olivia Yun Kai Li
Paul Michael Colclough (Videographer)	Kieya Arshia	Ong Lisin
Reuben Clements (Technical advisor)	Koh Hock Guan	Ooi Teik Thong
Rionna Muniandy (Graphic Designer)	Kwan Poh Peng	Or Oi Ching
Surin Sukuwan (Technical advisor)	Laleindra Kumaran	Paul Rummy @ Henry
Abdul Halim Ahmad Mazlan	Lam Wai Yee	Pavithar Kaur
Abdul Rahman bin Aziz	Lau Ching Fong	Pavithran Damadram

Adam Stone	Lavaniadevi Gopalakrishnan	Petra Mester
Ahmad Azharuddin Osman	Layne Winnings	Piong Ai Li
Ahmad Siddiq Mohd Adnan***	Lee Caulfield-Marsh	R. Gobinath Rajasundram
Aleka Erica Elizabeth Fernandez	Lee Wey Nie	Ram Kumar
Ann Marie Sidhu	Leroy Yeow	Ramli Samat
Apau Mudzaffar Harun	Liaw Wei Ling	Raphaela Potter
Arhwin Kalai Chelvan	Lim Eil Wyn	Raziznurirwan Abdul Rahman
Asha Kaur	Lim Teck Wyn	Samsul Nizam Karia
Aziezan bin Jaafar	Long Seh Ling	Sarah Illiyyeen Ahmad Fuaad
Azwan Roslan	Lorraine Lim Caishan	Satria Putra K'zaman
Bashtiah Nahrul Khair	Lucas Lim Yoon Fatt	See Tho Tuck Kong
Ben Stone	Maimunah Mohd Noor**	Seow Swee Lye
Booi Carlyn	Maisarah Izzah Tajaruddin	Shahril Azhar Surat
Brian Koh Weng Chuan	Mark Ng	Sharif Abdul Rahman Sharif Hasan
Cameron Kennedy	Marlina Yusoff	Shivani Chakravarty
Carolyn Marsh	Megan Lim	Shum Pei San
Christophe Chevrieux	Michelle Chua Khit Yeng	Siti Aqilah Mardhiah Abdul Halim
Chua Wei Jie	Mohd Akmal B Abd Rahim	Siti Mariah Abd Wahid
Daniel Quilter	Mohd Aminulrashid Ahmad	Siti Munirah Juri
Darrin Wu Wen Long	Mohd Arif Zaini***	Siti Noorzeha Ramli
David Anderson Trees	Mohd Farhan Hanif bin Reduan	Siti Safiah Mohammad
David Chin Hoong Weng	Mohd Fauzi Ahmad	Siti Shakinna Chu Mohd Rizal Chu
Dewi Mulyani Mohd Ilham	Mohd Latiff Mohd Yusoff	Stacey Lim Nong Xin
Dilina Kamaruddin	Mohd Nordin Ab Rahim	Stefan Jorg Sigl
Donovan Casimir Louis	Mohd Riduan Mohd Zanin	Suchismita Das
Edward Terng Boo Cheong	Mohd Rosalin Awang	Suhana Abdullah Shukor
Eng Sin Yin	Mohd Shah Rizuan Kamaruddin	Tajinder Sohanpal
Fara Atika Mat Isa	Mohd Sharullizam Ramli	Tam Carmein
Firdausia Hj Omar	Mohd Syafiee bin Effendi	Tan Ann Gie
Gan Yuh-Lin	Mohd Zarith Zainal	Tan Chen Kang
Gerald Koh Jia Haur	Mohd Sofian Hamid	Tan Cheng Yam
Gilles Faussat	Muhaidatul Ismah Ismail	Tan Chuan Jiunn
Goh Wai Kuan	Muhamad Akmal Noor Ezat	Tan Eng Chong
Gurnam Singh Dhaliwal	Muhammad Akmal Mohd Jais	Tan Jooi Chong
Habib Fadli Lutasn Asril	Muhammad Asri Isah	Tan Poh Ling
Hafiza binti Razali	Muhammad Fawwaz Haikal Fauzi	Tan Yan Qian
Hamed Nasrollahi	Muhammad Iqbal Ishak	Terrance Navinden
Harrison Ooi Zhi Jun***	Muhammad Shazmir Roslan	Tey Jie Hwi
Helen Johnny**	Muhd Zharrieq Haizzad Zainol	Thai Kar Mun
Henry Chan	Nadia Natasha	Thaneesha Rao
Hezry Haizad	Najua Ismail	Toh Ming Xuan

Hilda Norsyikin Razali	Natalie Key	Toh Ruoh Yuan
Ho Sook Mun	Neel Chakravarty	Umi A'Zuhrah Abdul Rahman
Ibtisam Sarhanaa Shamsudin	Ng Liang Hao	Umami Junid
Ida Anura Elias	Nik Haslinda Husain	Vanine Najaryan
Ilyas Sapiyan	Nina Cheung	Vishalini Janasekker
Irene Zambon	Noor Amie Ezian Fauzi	Vivien Ng Xiao Jin
Ivan Tacey	Noor Azlia Fatin Fauzi	Vivienne Joon Yee Ling
Izzasyahirah Hazwani Awang Yassin	Nor Anisah Yusof	Wong Kel Vinn
James Stone	Nor Haslina Mohd Noor	Wong Kok Nai
Jan H Stuivenberg	Nor Iaili Abdul Rachman	Wong Pui Yi
Jason Boehle	Norhidayah Hamdan	Wong See Kee
Jason Wee Chee Siang	Norisal Nasai	Yasmin Suraiya Mohd Yusri
Jeannie Chan	Norsiah Rabanis	Yee Woon Sim
Jennifer Ubung Nawan	Nur Ain Md Ali	Yen Khang Ling
Jesmail Kaur	Nur Asma Mohamad Munshi	Yong Kang Wei

* The full MYCAT volunteer list is available at www.malayantiger.net. If you have previously volunteered with MYCAT but are not listed, please contact us at mycat.so@malayantiger.net. Any omissions or errors are completely unintentional. Please also contact us if you prefer to remain anonymous.

** CAT Walk leaders

*** Assistant CAT Walk leaders

11. Financial Report (January 1-December 31, 2012)

All in Ringgit Malaysia

INCOME

Funds brought forward from 2011	342,540.60
Public donations	7,306.00
Merchandise sales	22,753.20
Project management	13,496.88
Bank Interests	213.19
New grants	553,197.00
Other incomes	13,273.84

TOTAL	952,780.71
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EXPENDITURE

Operating expenditure	145,213.41
Project expenditure	302,146.74
Fund administration by MNS	25,228.91

TOTAL	472,589.06
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BALANCE	480,191.65
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BREAKDOWN

Funds brought forward from 2011	216,116.47	Public donations/merchandise sales
	63,331.66	Sales of assets
	58,092.47	Grant from Save the Tiger Fund
	5,000.00	Grant from partner NGOs
Public donations	5,000.00	Association of British Women in Malaysia
	2,000.00	Barbara de Waard
	306.00	Anonymous
New grants	177,947.00	IUCN SOS
	120,000.00	National Fish and Wildlife Foundation's Save the Tiger Fund
	90,000.00	Panthera Foundation/Woodland Park Zoo
	90,000.00	Selangor State
	70,000.00*	Maybank Foundation
	5,250.00	From MYCAT partners for Wildlife Crime Hotline
Other incomes	5,990.00	Proceed from the sale of assets
	7,284.00	Insurance payout for stolen or damaged camera traps
Operating expenditure	145,213.41	MYCAT Secretariat's Office operation and maintenance
Project expenditure	136,787.86	Taman Negara MIST capacity Building
	82,113.79	Citizens Action for Tigers
	10,093.00	Wildlife Crime Hotline
	53,715.59	Selangor CLAW & roadshows
	17,437.00	Rural roadshow
	2,000.00	NTCAP monitoring
Fund administration	1,081.56	Financial admin fee to MNS (public donation and merchandise)
	24,147.35	Financial admin fee to MNS (project grants)

* excluding RM130,000 allocated to partner NGOs

12. Appendices

Appendix 1: MYCAT Working Group Members as of 31 December 2012

Name	Designation
Balu Perumal*	Head of Conservation, MNS
Yeap Chin Aik	Senior Conservation Officer, MNS
Andrew Sebastian**	Head of Communications, MNS
Lim Teck Wyn	Vice Chairman, MNS Selangor Branch
Dr. Chris R. Shepherd	Deputy Regional Director, TRAFFIC
Kanitha Krishnasamy	Senior Conservation Officer, TRAFFIC
Dr. Melvin Gumal	Malaysia Programme Director, WCS
Dr. Pan Khang Aun***	Head of Terrestrial Conservation, WWF
Dr. Han Kwai Hin	Species Conservation Manager, WWF
Dr. Kae Kawanishi	General Manager, MYCAT SO
Suzalinur Manja Bidin	Senior Programme Officer, MYCAT SO
Ashleigh Kivilaakso Seow***	Senior Programme Officer, MYCAT SO
Wong Pui May	Communications Officer, MYCAT SO

* From December 2012, replacing Yeap Chin Aik as MNS Head of Conservation.

** From August 2012, as additional MNS representative.

*** From July 2012, replacing Surin Sukswan.

**** From June 2012, new addition to MYCAT SO.

Appendix 2: MYCAT press releases and letters issued in 2012

No	Date	Title
1	May	Assessment of Malaysia's Effort to Save the Malayan Tiger Released
2	Jul	Response: Perhilitan Reactivates Collaboration With Malaysian Armed Forces (Bernama, 17 July 2012)
3	Aug	Latex Timber Clone Plantations Threaten Natural Forest
4	Oct	Response: Four acquitted of killing tiger (The Star, 12 October 2012)

Appendix 3: List of media pick-ups in 2012

No	Date	Publication	Title	Issue
1	23-Feb	New Straits Times	National daily newspaper (English)	Probe into Langkawi monkey shootings, department urged MYCAT Wildlife Crime Hotline mentioned by TRAFFIC Southeast Asia in quote
2	20-Mar	The Star	National daily newspaper (English)	Tiger SOS MYCAT's Citizen Action for Tigers programme
3	23-Mar	Selangorhijau	Green weblog of Selangor State Government	<i>Selangor bekerjasama dengan MYCAT membanteras jenayah hidupan liar</i> Launch of partnership between Selangor State Government and MYCAT for Wildlife Crime Hotline promotion
4	23-Mar	Media Selangorku	Selangor State Government media portal	<i>Kerjasama Dengan MYCAT Hindar Jenayah Hidupan Liar</i> Launch of partnership between Selangor State Government and MYCAT for Wildlife Crime Hotline promotion
5	23-Mar	Nanyang Siang Pau	National daily newspaper (Chinese)	Strict control of restaurants and medicine shops - licences of illegal wildlife traders to be revoked Launch of partnership between Selangor State Government and MYCAT for Wildlife Crime Hotline promotion
6	24-Mar	Guang Ming	National daily	Urged to report Launch of partnership between

		Daily	newspaper (Chinese)	protected wildlife traders	Selangor State Government and MYCAT for Wildlife Crime Hotline promotion
7	24-Mar	Sinchew Daily	National daily newspaper (Chinese)	Elizabeth Wong: To curb poaching - licences of illegal wildlife traders to be revoked	Launch of partnership between Selangor State Government and MYCAT for Wildlife Crime Hotline promotion
8	24-Mar	Oriental Daily News	National daily newspaper (Chinese)	Combatting poaching of protected wildlife	Launch of partnership between Selangor State Government and MYCAT for Wildlife Crime Hotline promotion
9	15-May	Free Malaysia Today	National online daily newspaper	Malayan tiger under grave threat from poachers	MYCAT press release on the publication of MYCAT Tracks 2010-2011
10	15-May	Treehugger	Sustainability website	Poaching Threatens Malaysia's Tiger Conservation Goals	MYCAT press release on the publication of MYCAT Tracks 2010-2011
11	16-May	Google News / AFP	Online news provider	Poaching puts pressure on Malayan tiger	MYCAT press release on the publication of MYCAT Tracks 2010-2011
12	16-May	MSN Malaysia / AFP	Online news provider	Poaching puts pressure on Malayan tiger	MYCAT press release on the publication of MYCAT Tracks 2010-2011
13	16-May	MSN Phillipines / AFP	Online news provider	Poaching puts pressure on Malayan tiger	MYCAT press release on the publication of MYCAT Tracks 2010-2011
14	16-May	Mother Nature Network / AFP	Online environmental news network	Poaching puts pressure on Malayan tiger	MYCAT press release on the publication of MYCAT Tracks 2010-2011
15	16-May	Straits Times / AFP	Singaporean daily newspaper	Poaching puts pressure on Malayan tiger	MYCAT press release on the publication of MYCAT Tracks 2010-2011
16	16-May	France24 / AFP	Paris-based international news agency	Poaching puts pressure on Malayan tiger	MYCAT press release on the publication of MYCAT Tracks 2010-2011
17	16-May	Yahoo! News / AFP	Online news provider	Poaching puts pressure on Malayan tiger	MYCAT press release on the publication of MYCAT Tracks 2010-2011
18	16-May	Sinchew Daily	National daily newspaper (Chinese)	Only 500 left, need more protection to save Malayan tiger	MYCAT press release on the publication of MYCAT Tracks 2010-2011
19	16-May	China Press	National daily newspaper (Chinese)	MYCAT is saving the tiger	MYCAT press release on the publication of MYCAT Tracks 2010-2011
20	16-May	News24	South African online news resource	Poaching 'biggest threat' to tigers	MYCAT press release on the publication of MYCAT Tracks 2010-2011
21	17-May	IOL SciTech	Online technology news portal	Poaching 'biggest threat to tigers'	MYCAT press release on the publication of MYCAT Tracks 2010-2011
22	18-May	Green Packs	Online environmental news	Wild Cats Still Face Huge Risk of Poaching in	MYCAT press release on the publication of MYCAT Tracks 2010-

			portal	Malaysia	2011
23	22-May	Legalbrief Today	Online legal news portal	Malaysian tigers at risk from poaching, says report	MYCAT press release on the publication of MYCAT Tracks 2010-2011
24	23-May	The Star	National daily newspaper (English)	Racing to save wild tigers	MYCAT press release on the publication of MYCAT Tracks 2010-2011
25	31-May	IUCN Blog	Blogs by conservationists worldwide	Trailblazing conservation	A blog entry about CAT Trailblazer
26	Jun	Unreserved	Fortnightly lifestyle publication	The point of no return	Tigers and other wildlife threatened by the illegal trade.
27	5-Jun	Media Selangorku	Selangor State Government media portal	<i>Geran RM5 Juta Diperuntuk Pelihara Alam Sekitar</i> RM230,000 disbursed from the Selangorku initiative	MYCAT receives funds from the Selangorku grant
28	7-Jun	Sinchew Daily	National daily newspaper (Chinese)		MYCAT receives funds from the Selangorku grant
29	8-Jun	Selangor Times	Bi-weekly free Selangor-based newspaper (English/Chinese)	Groups get state grants for green programmes	MYCAT receives funds from the Selangorku grant
30	8-Jun	Sinar Harian	National daily newspaper (Malay)	Geran Selangorku agih peruntukan RM5j TRAFFIC raises awareness of poaching threat in wildlife trade hotspot	MYCAT receives funds from the Selangorku grant
31	15-Jun	TRAFFIC.org	TRAFFIC website	TRAFFIC raises awareness of poaching threat in wildlife trade hotspot	Mentions MYCAT's Wildlife Crime Hotline
32	16-Jun	Empowered News	Online news portal	TRAFFIC raises awareness of poaching threat in wildlife trade hotspot	Mentions MYCAT's Wildlife Crime Hotline
33	26-Jul	Sinchew Daily	National daily newspaper (Chinese)	Conservation Alliance applauds joint patrol to combat tiger poaching	MYCAT letter commending Perhilitan on reactivating joint patrols with army.
34	31-Jul	New Straits Times	National daily newspaper (English)	TIGER CONSERVATION: Patrols will deter poachers	MYCAT letter commending Perhilitan on reactivating joint patrols with army.
35	31-Jul	Free Malaysia Today	National online daily newspaper	Perhilitan's collaboration with Army welcome	MYCAT letter commending Perhilitan on reactivating joint patrols with army.
36	1-Aug	KL Lifestyle	Monthly lifestyle magazine for Kuala Lumpur	"Majestic Stripes - The Malayan Tiger" - Book Review	Review of the coffee table book.
37	2-Aug	The Malay Mail	National daily newspaper (English)	Foot patrols will dissuade poachers	MYCAT letter commending Perhilitan on reactivating joint patrols with army.
38	5-Aug	WWF.panda.org	WWF-Malaysia website	Postcards for tiger rangers from WWF Malaysia, TRAFFIC SEA and MYCAT	Launch of 'Cards4Tigers'
39	16-Aug	Free Malaysia	National online daily	Latex timber clone	MYCAT letter to the Prime Minister

		Today	newspaper	plantations threaten natural forests	on concerns over conversion of natural forest into rubber plantations.
40	8-Sep	The Star	National daily newspaper (English)	Educate yourself on wildlife protection	MYCAT at MATTA Fair
41	11-Oct	Maybank.com	Maybank website	Maybank to Continue Support for Tiger Conservation	Press release on continuation of Maybank-MYCAT partnership
42	12-Oct	New Straits Times	National daily newspaper (English)	Viaduct for tigers being built	Press release on continuation of Maybank-MYCAT partnership
43	12-Oct	Nanyang Siang Pau	National daily newspaper (Chinese)	Maybank donates RM200,000 to save tigers	Press release on continuation of Maybank-MYCAT partnership
44	15-Oct	Free Malaysia Today	National online daily newspaper	Is the Malayan tiger doomed?	MYCAT press release on the acquittal of suspected tiger poachers
45	17-Oct	The Sun Daily	Free national daily newspaper (English)	For the love of My Cat.	Press release on continuation of Maybank-MYCAT partnership
46	23-Oct	The Star	National daily newspaper (English)	Bank gives more funds for tiger outreach	Press release on continuation of Maybank-MYCAT partnership
47	28-Oct	New Straits Times	National daily newspaper (English)	Wildlife volunteers from NGOs	MYCAT's Citizen Action for Tigers programme
48	20-Nov	The Star	National daily newspaper (English)	Amassing a citizen army	MYCAT-TRAFFIC Southeast Asia training on wildlife in trade

Appendix 4: 2012 MYCAT Watch column in the MNS quarterly magazine *Malaysian Naturalist*

Date	Issue
Mar	ENTER THE DRAGON: Err... What about the striped carnivore???
Jun	CONSTANT VIGILANCE! Claws out to combat illegal wildlife trade
Sep	Crossing for the Furry and Fluffy between Belum and Temengor Forests
Dec	Rubber Forests and The Story of Three Mothers

Appendix 5: List of outreach programmes in 2012

Date	Programme	No. of events	No. of individuals reached
1 Feb 12	Urban Roadshow - Transparency International-Malaysia Forest Watch Project launch, Sunway Pyramid	1	163
22 Apr 12	Urban Roadshow - AIESEC UPM Act Green Carnival, Sunway Pyramid	1	100
11 - 16 Jul 12	Community Outreach Programme in Gua Musang, Kelantan	4	518
7-9 Sep 12	Urban Roadshow - MATTA Fair, Putra World Trade Centre, KL	1	925
29 Sep 12	Workshop in identification of commonly traded wildlife parts and products	1	33
3 Nov 12	Workshop on Identifying Commonly Traded Wildlife	1	33
6-8 Nov 12	Community Outreach Programme in Hulu Langat, Selangor	4	371
14 Dec 12	Talk at Universiti Malaya on 'Tigers and Wildlife Trade'	1	10
21-23 Dec 12	Urban Roadshow - One Utama Community Corner	1	1,513
26 Oct 12	Talk on CAT at DTZ Nawawi Tie Leung Property Consultants	1	17
18 Dec 12	Talk on CAT at Malai Adventure	1	4
28 Dec 12	Talk on CAT at Chartered Tax Institute of Malaysia	1	16
	Total	18	3,703