

Research is the basis of all our conservation efforts. It enables us to understand what's happening to species in Asia and gives us the insights we need to develop appropriate conservation strategies. In 2010/11, we dedicated HK\$3.23 million to 28 new conservation projects studying 21 threatened species in ten countries. The following pages offer more details of three of our projects.

「多點認識不同動物,令我們更了 解大家共享的這片天地,更懂得與 牠們和諧共處。」

"By knowing more about the animals, we understand more about the environment we are sharing, and how we shall be treating it."

Alessandro Ponzo博士 Dr. Alessandro Ponzo

保育團體Physalus主席

於菲律賓保和島從事研究及教育工作,並帶領救援隊拯救擱淺 海洋動物。

President of Physalus,

who is conducting research and education programme as well as leading a stranding rescue team in Bohol



2010至2011年度研究項目

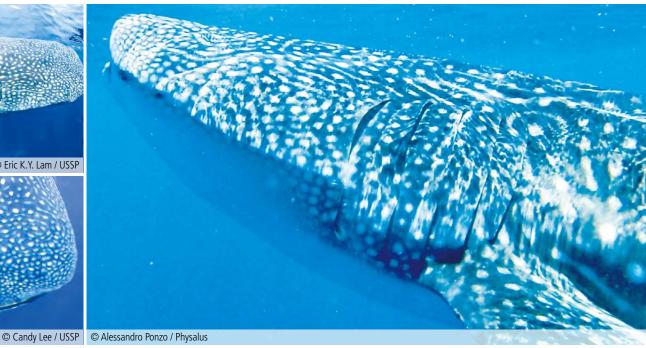
Supported projects in 2010/11











鯨鯊

Whale shark (Rhincodon typus)

保育狀況: 易危

主要威脅: 獵殺及誤捕

野外數量: 不詳

分佈情況: 熱帶及溫帶海域

(地中海除外)

Conservation status: Vulnerable

Major threats: Harpooning and

by-catch

Population in the wild: Unknown

Distribution: Tropical and

warm temperate seas, except the Mediterranean 鯨鯊是現時世界上體積最大的魚類,但我們就其生物學及生態學資料所知不多。菲律賓的保和海位於太平洋和南中國海交界,離岸五公里範圍內的海域,水深已達2,000多米,資源豐富,相信是鯨鯊的重要棲息地,亦是研究鯨鯊的理想地點。

這項研究整合了有關鯨鯊的生物學數據與現況,以及非法捕魚的情況等有用資料,為推行可持續利用自然資源的教育項目提供基礎。研究員透過了解保和海北部的鯨鯊及鯨豚的狀況,制訂符合永續原則及有效的海洋資源管理方法。

Whale shark is the world's largest living fish, yet knowledge of its biology and ecology is very limited. The Bohol Sea provides an ideal environment for studying these animals. Connecting the Pacific Ocean and the South China Sea, the Bohol Sea reaches depths of 2000m within five miles of shore, and its nutrient-rich waters are believed to be an important habitat for whale sharks.

This research has formulated valuable data regarding the sharks' biology, as well as the extent of illegal fishing and their status. Local educational programmes promote sustainable use of the natural resources based on this data. By increasing our scientific knowledge of whale sharks and cetaceans in the northern Bohol Sea, we can create the tools needed for their management and the sustainable use of marine resources.



教育工作是生態保育的重要一環。 Education is a strong conservation tool.



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救援隊伍在保和島南部拯救一條4.2米長的擱淺鯨鯊。

The rescue unit saved a 4.2-metre whale shark stranded in Jagna, Bohol.



研究人員利用鯨鯊左鰓背後的獨特斑紋來分辨不同的鯨鯊個體。

Their markings are unique allowing researchers to identify individuals by the markings behind the left gills.



↓ 伸出援手 ❤️You can lend a hand...

- 加入「公民科學家」行列,將鯨鯊相片及發 現位置、時間等相關資料提交到以下網址 www.whaleshark.org/submit.jsp,協助研究人 員掌握更多有關鯨鯊在世界各地的資訊。
- 身體力行並呼籲親友停止食用魚翅,歡迎登入 Youtube頻道觀賞BLOOM香港分會拍製的環保 短片「A Shark's Fin」。
- 歡迎登入保育基金的Youtube頻道 (www.youtube.com/OPCFhongkong), 了解有 關項目的詳情。
- Submit whale shark photos and sighting information to www.whaleshark.org/submit.jsp. Be a citizen scientist to aid researchers know more about the global situation for this threatened species.
- Say no to shark-fin soup and encourage everyone you know to do the same. For more information, check out the short film "A Shark's Fin" by BLOOM Hong Kong on YouTube.
- Learn more about this project at www.youtube.com/OPCFhongkong

未來計劃 What's next

在下年度,保育基金將繼續資助這項研究了解鯨鯊的活動及棲息地使用情況,以評估現況及訂定保育策略。

To further understand the species' presence and habitat utilisation, we will continue to provide much-needed funding in 2011/12 for status assessment and conservation.





長江江豚

Yangtze finless porpoise (Neophocaena phocaenoides)

保育狀況: 瀕危

主要威脅: 被漁網纏結、生境流

失及受污染

野外數量: 不足1,400條

分佈情況: 中國長江中下游

Conservation status: Endangered

Major threats: Entanglement

in fishing gear, habitat loss and degradation

Population in the wild: Fewer than 1,400

Distribution: Lower and middle

reaches of the Yangtze River,

China

長江是全球最繁忙的內河河道之一,亦是稀有的長江江豚的唯一棲息地。頻繁的水上交通加上水質污染、挖沙工程、非法電魚及過度撈捕等人為因素,嚴重

影響長江的生態,使長江江豚處於瀕臨滅絕的境地。

保育基金資助中國科學院水生生物研究所建立擱淺通報及跟進網絡,以保護這些僅存的個體,並繼續監察江豚在鄱陽湖的數目及活動情況,有關資料有助制

定江豚管理及保育的長遠政策。

The Yangtze River is one of the busiest freshwater shipping channels in the world. It is also the home of the Yangtze finless porpoise, an endangered freshwater cetacean species that lives exclusively in the Yangtze river which is now on the brink of extinction. In particular, it is threatened by habitat degradation, including pollution and sand dredging, as well as illegal electric fishing and overfishing.

This project led by the Institute of Hydrobiology, Chinese Academy of Sciences, focused on establishing a stranding network to protect the remaining population, and to build on previous studies by monitoring the abundance and movement of porpoises in the waters of Poyang Lake. These insights will provide the necessary information for the long-term management and conservation of this endangered cetacean.



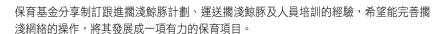
江豚的唯一棲息地長江,正受到挖沙、建築工 程及頻繁的航運影響,江豚將何去何從?

Human disturbances including sand-dredging, construction and heavy boat traffic are threatening the survival of the finless porpoise in its only habitat – the Yangtze River.



自然災害同樣威脅江豚,2011年上半年共有12 宗江豚擱淺個案,長江主流佔三宗,鄱陽湖佔 九宗;單單在2011年五月長江中下游出現旱情 時就發生了八宗個案,究竟是巧合,還是人豚 爭奪水資源的結果?

Natural disasters also threaten the finless porpoise. A total of 12 stranding cases were reported in the first half of 2011, three of which were on the Yangtze main channel and nine in Poyang Lake. Eight of these strandings occurred in May 2011 alone, coinciding with the severe drought which brought animals and humans into even closer conflict.



By sharing experience of developing stranding plans as well as the proper transportation of animals and staff training, we hope to refine the Yangtze stranding network and make it a powerful new tool in conservation efforts.



伸出援手 Уou can lend a hand..

- 幫助香港的江豚,支持本港的擱淺通報網絡,倘 發現擱淺海豚,請即致電1823。
- 請勿污染江豚及人類的共同家園 一 海洋。
- Help protect Hong Kong's marine population by supporting the local stranding network. If you see a stranded dolphin in Hong Kong, call 1823 straight away.
- Do not pollute our aquatic environment as we share the same habitat with the finless porpoise.

未來計劃 What's next

在2011至2012年度,我們會開展一項新的研究,了解鄱陽湖長江江豚被誤捕的情況。

In 2011/12, we will augment this project with a new survey of Yangtze finless porpoise fisheries bycatch in the Poyang Lake, China.





暹羅鱷

Siamese crocodile (Crocodylus siamensis)

保育狀況: 極度瀕危

生境受損及非法捕獵 主要威脅:

野外數量: 不足250條

分佈情況: 主要分佈於柬埔寨的

偏遠高地

暹羅鱷過去足跡遍及東南亞,但由於百多年來生境遭受破壞及非法捕獵活動, 其棲息範圍已減少99%,現時的野外成體數量只有約150至250條,主要棲身 於柬埔寨遍遠高地的河流、湖泊、濕地及沼澤。然而,暹羅鱷的淡水棲息地現 正受到水壩工程的威脅。

這項研究旨在更全面探討暹羅鱷主要種群的數量及生態,加強當地社區對暹羅 鱷保護區的管理, 並提高非政府組織、政府機構、主要社區及公眾的保育意識 及能力技術。

Conservation status: Critically

Endangered

Habitat destruction Major threats:

and illegal hunting

Population in the wild: Fewer than 250

Distribution: Mainly the remote

highlands of Cambodia

Over the past hundred years, habitat destruction and hunting have eradicated the Siamese crocodile from 99% of its historical range throughout Southeast Asia. Today, only 150-250 adults remain in the wild, chiefly in the remote highlands of Cambodia where it inhabits freshwater rivers, lakes, swamps and marshes. However, many of these habitats are now under threat due to dam construction.

This project sought to provide a more complete understanding of the status and ecology of Cambodia's principle crocodile populations, to strengthen the protection of Siamese crocodile sanctuaries under the management of local communities, and to build the awareness and technical capacity of NGOs, government agencies, key communities and the general public to conserve crocodiles.



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研究人員將一條一歲大的人工飼養暹羅鱷放歸野外,幼暹羅鱷至少需要15年才 長成。

Releasing artificially bred individuals into the wild. It will take these youngsters at least 15 years to mature. This tiny crocling is about one year old.



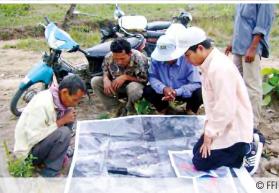
雌性暹羅鱷每次可產卵約20枚

The female lays about 20 eggs at a time.

研究人員與村民舉行會議,共同商討訂立土地用途規

Meetings were held with local villagers at Chhay Reap to develop a Participatory Land Use Plan and ground analysis.





保育團體「野生動植物保護國際」在三個暹羅鱷保護區 進行樣線調查。

Transect surveys were conducted by Fauna & Flora International in three crocodile sanctuaries to record dung, tracks and sightings.

伸出援手 You can lend a hand...

- 保護鱷魚,拒絕鱷魚皮革製品。
- 參與濕地保育工作,保護各地急速消失的濕地。
- Protect crocodile populations by refusing to buy crocodile leather.
- Join the fight to protect Asia's fast-disappearing wetlands.

未來計劃 What's next

未來一年,保育基金會繼續資助保育野生暹羅鱷的第二年研究。

To help protect the future of Siamese crocodiles in the wild, we will continue to support this important project in 2011/12.