



保育工作：
在衝突中尋找平衡
Our Conservation Efforts:
Finding Balance in a Time of Conflict





© Thomas Ng / HKUST



亞洲地區經濟發展迅速，人與大自然衝突不斷。為了保護物種，保育基金近年啟動多元化的保育工作，以制定符合可持續發展原則的策略為最終目標，在支持區內人口發展及長遠保育物種多樣化之間取得平衡。在2011至2012年間，我們撥款港幣500萬元，在10個亞洲國家對27個不同物種開展了42個研究項目。以下我們就各項目內容及研究成果一一闡述。

Asia's rapid economic growth has created numerous conflicts for species across the region. To help address this critical issue, we have diversified our conservation efforts in recent years, with the ultimate goal of developing sustainable strategies that balance the needs of Asia's human inhabitants with the long-term conservation of the region's rich biodiversity. In 2011/12, we dedicated HK\$5 million to 42 new conservation projects studying 27 species in 10 countries across Asia. You can gain an overview of all we do in the following pages, including details of how our work is achieving real results.



「紅毛猩猩的家園因森林過度砍伐而被嚴重摧毀，我們爭分奪秒，搶在推土機前拯救牠們。」
“Orangutans lost their homes due to forest clearance. We compete with time and bulldozers to save them.”

Kriezna Ketapel (右)
及印尼保育組織人猿衝突協調隊伍隊員

致力拯救世上僅存的6,600頭蘇門答臘紅毛猩猩

Kriezna Ketapel (below right)
and the Human Orangutan Conflict Response Unit

a special team in Indonesia dedicated to save the remaining population of 6,600 Sumatran orangutans



© Yiu Wing Ho Dynax / HKAPA

保育工作無分疆界



保育狀況 (根據世界自然保護聯盟瀕危物種紅色名錄)
 Conservation Status (according to the IUCN Red List)

極危
 Critically Endangered

瀕危
 Endangered

易危
 Vulnerable

近危 / 資料不足 / 未評估 / 涉及多個物種
 Near Threatened / Data Deficient / Not Assessed / Various Species

Extending Support Beyond Boundaries

The map shows the following regions and their associated species:

- 香港 (Hong Kong):**
 - 紅樹林 (Mangrove) - © Mandy Li / City University of Hong Kong
 - 馬蹄蟹 (Horseshoe crab) - © Kevin Laurie
 - 印度太平洋駝背豚 (Indo-Pacific humpback dolphin)
- 台灣 (Taiwan):**
 - 印度太平洋駝背豚 (Indo-Pacific humpback dolphin)
- 越南 (Vietnam):**
 - 陸龜及淡水龜 (Tortoise and freshwater turtle) - © Tim McCormack / Cleveland Zoological Society
 - 馬來穿山甲 (Sunda pangolin) - © Dan Chlender / Carnivore and Pangolin Conservation Program
 - 兩棲類動物 (Amphibians) - © Jodi J. L. Rowley / Australian Museum Trust
- 菲律賓 (The Philippines):**
 - 菲律賓鱷 (Philippine crocodile) - © Willem van de Ven / Mabuwaya Foundation
 - 鯨鯊 (Whale shark) - © Steve de Neef / LaMaVe
 - 海洋哺乳類動物 (Marine mammals) - © Josh Silberg / Physalus
 - 珊瑚 (Coral) - © Zoological Society of London
- 印尼 (Indonesia):**
 - 爪哇懶猴 (Javan slow loris) - © Yayasan IAR Indonesia
 - 蘇門答臘紅毛猩猩 (Sumatran orangutan) - © Yayasan Orangutan Sumatera Lestari - Orangutan Information Centre
 - 科莫多龍 (Komodo dragon) - © University of Florence
 - 小葵花鳳頭鸚鵡 (Yellow-crested cockatoo) - © Steve Milpacher / World Parrot Trust
 - 鯨豚 (Cetaceans) - © Danielle Krebs / Yayasan Konservasi RASI



© Yiu Wing Ho Dynax / HKAPA



調解與紅毛猩猩的衝突

蘇門答臘紅毛猩猩資料

- 極度瀕危物種，列入「世界最瀕危25種靈長類動物」之一
- 印尼獨有物種，現時僅有約6,600頭於印尼蘇門答臘島北部生活
- 屬樹棲類動物，生存受到森林開墾、濫伐樹木及基建工程等威脅

物種現況

在過去22年，蘇門答臘紅毛猩猩已失去了48%的森林棲息地，由於棲息地被割裂，紅毛猩猩被迫到森林及農田交界地帶覓食及棲身，不但危害到農作物，更與農民爭奪有限資源，益發加劇雙方的衝突。

合作項目

2011至2012年度，我們支持了人猿衝突協調隊伍的工作，保育棲息Gunung Leuser國家公園附近農地的紅毛猩猩，透過研究、教育、救護及實施各種最佳實務方法，緩和及防止人猿間的衝突，以長遠保育紅毛猩猩。

項目成效

在2011至2012年度，協調隊伍在孤立的樹林中拯救了10頭紅毛猩猩，9頭已被安置到其他森林地區，1頭正在康復中。保育團隊訓練了3個村落50位村民，學習使用聲音及以其他人道方法，緩和與紅毛猩猩的衝突，而舉辦的講座更讓230位當地政府官員、非政府機構人員及大學同學了解紅毛猩猩的現況。

「愛護地球，人人有責，我們應守護一個綠色的地球，避免環境受進一步破壞。作為印尼本土的非政府組織，我們正盡力保育極度瀕危的紅毛猩猩。」



© Yiu Wing Ho Dynax / HKAPA

Panut Hadisiswoyo 先生

印尼紅毛猩猩訊息中心創會總監，該中心負責人猿衝突協調隊伍的營運。

環保小貼士

根據聯合國估計，印尼境內98%的熱帶雨林會在2022年因大規模種植棕櫚樹而遭受破壞。請大家留意零食及個人護理用品標籤上所列出的成份，減少使用棕櫚油製品。



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Mitigating Conflicts with the Sumatran Orangutan

Sumatran Orangutan Facts

- Critically endangered, listed as one of 'The World's 25 Most Endangered Primates'
- Endemic to Indonesia with only 6,600 individuals remaining in the northern part of Sumatra Island, Indonesia
- An arboreal animal threatened by forest clearance for plantation development, logging and infrastructure projects

The Situation

The Sumatran orangutan (*Pongo abelii*) has already lost 48% of its forest habitats in the last 22 years. With fragmented habitats, orangutans are increasingly being forced onto forest-agricultural borderlands in their search for food and shelter. Crop raiding and competition for dwindling resources have led to a significant increase in their conflicts with humans.



© YOSL-Orangutan Information Centre

Joint Efforts

In 2011/12, we supported the Human-Orangutan Conflict Response Unit (HOCRU) to conserve the Sumatran orangutan in agricultural landscapes adjacent to the Gunung Leuser National Park. The project aims to achieve sustainable conservation through research, education, orangutan rescue, and implementation of best-practice techniques to mitigate and prevent human-orangutan conflicts.

The Outcome

In 2011/12, ten orangutans were rescued from fragmented forests, nine of which were relocated to forest areas, and one of which is under rehabilitation. Fifty farmers from three villages were trained on using sound-cannon and other conflict-mitigation measures. Presentations reached a further 230 people, including government workers, NGOs, and university students.

"Everyone shares the same responsibilities to keep our planet green and protect it from further destruction. As a local NGO in Indonesia, we are dedicated to conservation of the critically endangered Sumatran orangutan."

Mr. Panut Hadisiswoyo

Founding Director of Orangutan Information Centre which operates the HOCRU Team

The United Nations estimates that 98% of rainforests in Indonesia may be destroyed by 2022 due to widespread oil palm plantations. Check the ingredients labels on snacks and toiletries to reduce your consumption of palm oil by-products.

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推動與東北虎和平共存

東北虎資料

- 是現存六個老虎亞種中身型最大的一種，另有三個亞種已經絕種
- 瀕危物種，現時只有不足600頭生活於俄羅斯遠東地區及中國東北部
- 受到偷獵、棲息地流失及獵物減少的威脅

物種現況

東北虎是中國東北及俄羅斯東部森林生態系統的旗艦物種，而中國的琿春國家級自然保護區則是連繫中俄兩個東北虎種群的重要生態廊道，但由於棲息地遭破壞，現時中國境內僅有約20頭野生東北虎。

「香港海洋公園保育基金的資助，讓我們加強了吉林省社區對東北虎的保育意識，並讓我們在2012/13年在吉林省及黑龍江省開展消除非法獵套的行動。」

康譎黎博士

國際野生生物保護學會中國項目主管

合作項目

保育基金資助國際野生生物保護學會，於2011年10月舉辦琿春東北虎國際文化節，藉以提升當地社區對東北虎的認識及其保育價值，展示如何與東北虎和平共存。

項目成效

巡遊活動吸引了2,500位市民參與，巡迴展覽則讓與東北虎為鄰的20個村落約600位居民提高對東北虎的數量、獵物及威脅的了解，期望開創一個人虎共存的新時代。



© Liu Peiqi / WCS

環保小貼士

老虎需要大面積的森林及足夠的獵物才能生存，但現時只有五分之一的潛在棲息地受到法例保護。請大家節約用紙，以減少砍伐森林的需要，並拒絕購買老虎製品和野生動物非法貿易。



© Julie Larsen Maher



© Julie Larsen Maher

Promoting Peaceful Co-existence with the Amur Tiger

Amur Tiger Facts

- This is the largest of the world's six extant tiger subspecies. Three subspecies are now extinct
- It is an endangered species with fewer than 600 living in the forests of far eastern Russia and north eastern China
- Threatened by poaching, habitat loss and prey depletion

The Situation

The Amur tiger (*Panthera tigris altaica*) is the flagship species in the forest ecosystem of northeastern China and eastern Russia. The Hunchun National Nature Reserve in China is a vital cross-border corridor connecting these populations. Due to habitat destruction, only about 20 wild Amur tigers remain on the Chinese side of the border.



© Liu Tong / WCS

Joint Efforts

We supported the Wildlife Conservation Society to organise the Amur Tiger Festival in Hunchun in October 2011. The festival sought to raise local awareness of this endangered species and its conservation value, and show people how to peacefully co-exist with the tigers.

The Outcome

The parade attracted some 2,500 participants and spectators. A roving exhibition also helped about 600 people in 20 villages in close proximity to tiger habitats to better understand the local tiger population, its main prey and the threats to its survival, all of which are helping to inspire a new era of peaceful co-existence.

"OPCFHK's funding enabled us to raise awareness of Amur tiger in Jilin Province and to start a poach snare removal campaign in Jilin and Heilongjiang Provinces in 2012/13."

Dr. Aili Kang

China Programme Director of Wildlife Conservation Society

Tigers need large forests and sufficient prey to survive, but now only about one-fifth of potential tiger habitats are legally protected. You can help by reducing your paper consumption, which will lessen the need for deforestation. Do not support tiger products and illegal wildlife trade.

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© Asha de Vos



解構斯里蘭卡藍鯨現況

藍鯨資料

- 地球上最大的哺乳類動物，身長可達30米、體重約180公噸
- 數量介乎10,000至25,000，廣泛分佈全球各大洋，以北冰洋除外
- 瀕危物種，受到船隻撞擊及漁網纏繞等威脅

物種現況

在印度洋北部出沒的藍鯨鮮為人知，該種群有別於其他鬚鯨，全年停留在熱帶海域生活而不會遷徙。牠們於斯里蘭卡南部水域覓食、求偶及哺育幼鯨，但該處亦是全球最繁忙航道之一，藍鯨被船撞死事件時有發生，在2012年3月及4月就有兩宗明顯的事故紀錄。

「斯里蘭卡南部水域是全球最繁忙航道之一，亦是藍鯨活動頻繁區，我們實在有必要提高對當地藍鯨的關注。」

合作項目

我們在2011年7月資助了西澳洲大學進行研究，旨在建立一個長期資料庫，以監測斯里蘭卡南部的藍鯨數量及其棲息地的情況，並根據藍鯨與海洋地質、食物分佈及藍鯨出沒的關係，建立一個棲息地模型，針對現有及潛在威脅，為保育藍鯨種群的長遠政策提供依據。

項目成效

研究團隊拍攝的藍鯨背鰭及尾鰭相片及資料已編入《斯里蘭卡藍鯨目錄》內，長遠而言可更準確估算當地藍鯨數量。研究人員亦希望了解海洋環境如何影響此藍鯨種群，因此收集了海水鹽度、水面溫度及食物分佈等資料。



© Sopaka Karunasundara

Asha de Vos 女士

西澳洲大學博士生，現正於斯里蘭卡進行藍鯨研究

環保小貼士

現今全球化的消費文化大幅增加了海上交通的壓力，威脅著鯨豚的安全。請減低個人消費，奉行減少使用、重複使用、循環再用及重新思考的「4R」生活方式。請多跟朋友提起藍鯨的現況及威脅，說服朋友加入保育的行列。



© Asha de Vos



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Unravelling the Secrets of Sri Lanka's Blue Whales

Blue Whale Facts

- The largest mammal on earth, capable of reaching 30 metres in length and 180 metric tonnes
- A cosmopolitan species, probably with 10,000 to 25,000, living in all oceans except the Arctic Ocean
- Now officially endangered, and under threat from ship strikes and net entanglements

The Situation

Unlike most baleen whales, the little known blue whale (*Balaenoptera musculus*) populations in the northern Indian Ocean do not migrate but remain in tropical waters year round. They are seen feeding, engaging in courtship and in mother calf pairs off the Southern coast of Sri Lanka which supports one of the busiest shipping lanes in the world. Whale death due to ship strike is not uncommon with two cases documented in March and April 2012.



Joint Efforts

In July 2011, we supported The University of Western Australia on a project designed to build a long-term database for monitoring the blue whale populations and their habitats around southern Sri Lanka. Based on the relationship between oceanographic features, prey distribution and whale presence, the project is building a habitat model that can be used for long-term population management in response to current and evolving threats.

The Outcome

The team has collected photos of the dorsal flanks and tail flukes, and the information is being added to the Sri Lankan Blue Whale Catalogue, which in the long-term will allow better estimations of how many individuals are using these waters. The team is also interested in understanding how the physical environment influences this population and therefore, collect information such as salinity, sea surface temperature and prey abundance which is helping build a picture of the importance of this habitat to these blue whales.

"The southern coast of Sri Lanka is home to one of the busiest shipping lanes and it overlaps with areas of high blue whale activity. There is definitely a reason for growing concern."

Ms Asha de Vos

Blue whale researcher in Sri Lanka and PhD candidate at The University of Western Australia

Today's global consumer culture has led to a huge surge in ocean traffic. You can help the blue whale by reducing your consumption, and instead practise the 4Rs : reduce, reuse, recycle and recover. Talk about them and tell others about the threats they face.

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Green Tips**

保育項目遍及亞洲

野生白海豚數量普查

Survey Wild Populations

六年來一直支持南京師範大學在中國進行印度太平洋駝背豚的研究

Six-year support to Nanjing Normal University for research on the Indo-Pacific humpback dolphin in China



© Xu Xinrong

灰鯨個體識別

Identify Individuals

連續三年資助研究極度瀕危的灰鯨

Three-year support for the critically endangered gray whale in Russia



© Dr. Alexander Burdin

拯救野生動物

Rescue and Rehabilitate Confiscated Animals

連續兩年資助印尼保育組織Yayasan IAR Indonesia救助及治療從非法貿易中拯救的爪哇懶猴

Two-year support to Yayasan IAR Indonesia to rescue and rehabilitate confiscated endangered Javan slow lorises in Indonesia



© Carmen Or & Ken Chan / HKU

動物野放標籤及監測

Tag and Monitor Animals Released into the Wild

資助Mabuwaya Foundation將人工繁殖屬極度瀕危的菲律賓鱷放歸野外

Support to the Mabuwaya Foundation to tag and release artificially hatched critically endangered Philippine crocodiles into the wild



© Mabuwaya Foundation

Diversified Conservation Efforts

設立動物擱淺監察網絡

Set up a Stranding Network

資助保育團體 Physalus 教導500人有關處理擱淺海洋生物的知識，並成功拯救一條擱淺的鯨鯊、兩條海豚及數隻極度瀕危的玳瑁

Support the Physalus organisation to train 500 people to respond to marine wildlife strandings. Successes to date have included the rescue of a whale shark, two dolphins and several critically endangered hawksbill turtles



© Helen Fong / USSP

修復受損棲息地

Restore Damaged Habitats

支持臥龍自然保護區種植160,000株竹樹苗，修復於2008年大地震中受損的大熊貓棲息地

Support Wolong Nature Reserve by planting 160,000 bamboo seedlings to restore giant panda habitats destroyed by the earthquake in 2008



© Wolong Nature Reserve

公眾教育

Educate the Public

連續四年資助Yayasan Konservasi RASI保護印尼沿岸的鯨豚

Four-year support to Yayasan Konservasi RASI to protect coastal cetaceans in Indonesia



© Yayasan Konservasi RASI

訪問社區人士

Interview Local Communities

支持中國科學院水生生物研究所進行長江江豚漁業誤捕調查

Support the Institute of Hydrobiology, The Chinese Academy of Sciences to survey fisheries' by-catch of the Yangtze finless porpoise



© Institute of Hydrobiology

堅持不懈續見成效

建立中華白海豚自然保護區

物種現況

中華白海豚是國家一級重點保護野生動物，其中湛江的中華白海豚種群約300多條，數量僅次於珠江三角洲，因此有需要趕在污染及航運進一步破壞棲息地前，及早保育湛江的中華白海豚種群。



© Xu Xinrong

合作項目

我們繼續資助南京師範大學的周開亞教授研究湛江的中華白海豚種群，由2005年至2011年間，研究團隊在雷州半島東部沿岸1,000平方公里的水域，進行了約2000小時的考察工作。

項目成效

在2005至2006年間蒐集當地中華白海豚的數量、活動範圍、季節遷移及停留的情況，促成於2007年設立全國第8個中華白海豚保護區，為湛江白海豚種群提供了一個重要棲身之所。編入相片辨認目錄的中華白海豚數量，由2005年的38條，增加至2011年的430條。研究團隊會繼續進行長期監測工作。

於東南亞發現兩棲類新物種

物種現況

東南亞的兩棲動物受到全球最大規模的森林開拓及過度捕捉的影響，已瀕臨滅絕的邊緣。最新資料顯示東南亞近五分之一的兩棲動物面臨威脅，然而由於大部分地區仍未進行調查，物種數量被低估，大部分的品種更缺乏基本自然歷史資料可供參考。

合作項目

我們資助澳洲博物館基金Jodi ROWLEY博士在越南山區的偏遠森林及河溪進行科學考察，了解當地兩棲類動物的多樣性及保育情況。而透過搜集數碼圖像、錄音、基因樣本及證據標本等，有助辨識及記述新發現物種。

項目成效

在多次考察中共發現10個新的兩棲類物種，不但引證了熱帶雨林的物種多樣性，更提醒大家保育這些物種的迫切性。我們在2008至2009年度提供的資助直接帶來的成果，是發現及記述了橙腹枯葉蟾蜍，並協助記述一種在蝌蚪期長有毒牙的青蛙－吸血飛蛙。項目團隊繼續培訓從事兩棲動物研究的當地生物學家。



© Jodi J.L. Rowley

Achieving Sustainable Results: The Value of Patience and Perseverance

Setting up a Chinese White Dolphin Nature Reserve in China

The Situation

The Chinese white dolphin is a Grade 1 national key protected animal in China. One of its main population areas is Zhanjiang which counts above 300 dolphins, making it the second largest population area after the Pearl River Estuary. Before pollution and boat traffic in Zhanjiang worsens with its economic boom, there is a pressing need to protect this population before it too becomes a victim of habitat destruction.

Joint Efforts

We are continuing to sponsor Prof. Zhou Kaiya of Nanjing Normal University to study the Zhanjiang population. Between 2005 and 2011, the team spent approximately 2000 hours surveying an area of 1,000 km² along the eastern coastline of the Leizhou Peninsula.



© Xu Xinrong

The Outcome

The project data from 2005 to 2006 provided important information on population size, geographic range, seasonal movements and residence patterns, which facilitated the establishment of China's 8th Chinese white dolphin nature reserve in 2007. This reserve provides a much-needed sanctuary for the remaining dolphin population. The population's photo-identification catalogue likewise increased from 38 dolphins in 2005 to 430 dolphins in 2011 and the team continues its long-term monitoring programme.

Discovering New Amphibian Species in Southeast Asia



© Jodi J.L. Rowley

The Situation

Confronted with the highest deforestation rate on the planet and huge pressure from over-harvesting, Southeast Asian amphibians are being driven towards extinction. Current information indicates that almost one-fifth of Southeast Asian amphibians are now threatened. However, large areas remain unsurveyed, current species numbers are underestimated, and we lack even a basic natural history for most species.

Joint Efforts

We supported Dr. Jodi J. L. Rowley of the Australian Museum Trust to conduct scientific expeditions to mountain forests and streams in Vietnam, with the aim of gaining a better understanding of the diversity and conservation status of the country's amphibians. Digital images, sound recordings, DNA samples and voucher specimens enabled formal identification and descriptions of new species.

The Outcome

The expeditions resulted in the discovery of ten new amphibian species, which is not only testament to the incredible biodiversity of the rainforests, but also a reminder of the urgent need to protect them. Our support in 2008/09 directly resulted in the discovery and description of the orange-bellied leaf-litter toad (*Leptotalax croceus*), and facilitated the description of the Vampire Flying Frog (*Rhacophorus vampyrus*), a species with "fanged" tadpoles. The team continues to build the capacity of local amphibian biologists.

身體力行保育本地野生動物

海馬研究 - 將菲律賓的經驗引入香港

物種現況

海馬被大量捕撈作中藥、水族觀賞、製作紀念品及滋補食品等用途，每年約有二千萬隻海馬被捕撈，其中近500噸用於配製中藥。現時全球有32個國家及地區撈捕海馬供國際貿易之用，當中涉及90多個國家，香港是海馬最大進口區，而菲律賓在2007年禁止出口海馬前是重要出口國之一。



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合作項目

我們連續四年資助 Project Seahorse Foundation 推行社區為本的海馬保育項目，並支持 Danajon Bank 雙堡礁的恢復工作。2011 及 2012 年度，我們更在香港水域進行海馬調查。



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項目成效

不少人未聽說過香港水域有海馬的蹤跡，更未必知道這個脆弱的物種是反映珊瑚健康的一個重要指標。在2011至2012年度，我們在香港東面16處地點的淺水珊瑚及周邊地區進行調查，紀錄海馬密度、物種數量、分佈及棲息地的情況。為取得更多資料，我們亦鼓勵市民提供海馬的踪跡，讓我們進行系統化的紀錄。

海馬是海洋環境的健康指標，保護海馬亦有助保育與海馬共棲的其他海洋生物。

救助擱淺海豚 - 將本港經驗引入內地

物種現況

珠江三角洲（包括香港）白海豚種群約有2,500條，香港水域亦有約217條江豚生活。除了進行數量調查，我們亦可透過跟進海豚擱淺個案取得重要資料，了解牠們的現況，然而，由於大部分擱淺的海豚已經腐爛不全，有礙了解牠們的死因。

合作項目

自2006年起，我們與漁農自然護理署合作，跟進在香港水域擱淺的海豚。透過與海洋公園獸醫及醫療化驗室團隊加強合作，讓我們得以從屍體搜集到更多資料，包括年齡及性別，體內污染物及病原體水平等。



項目成效

由2006年至2012年6月間，我們的鯨豚擱淺行動組共處理了57宗中華白海豚及129宗江豚擱淺個案。我們更與海洋公園獸醫合作，合力救助兩條在內地擱淺的海豚：一條是2012年2月被誤捕、身長僅95厘米的年幼長江江豚；另一宗個案是在2012年3月在佛山發現的中華白海豚，該成年中華白海豚約30歲，身長2.6米。我們的團隊更與內地工作人員分享了處理擱淺海豚的經驗。



當你發現有海豚擱淺時，請即致電熱線 1823，你們的合作有助我們搜集更新鮮的樣本作分析之用。

Helping Animals at Home

Studying Seahorses – Bringing Insights from the Philippines to Hong Kong

The Situation

Seahorses are widely exploited for traditional medicines, aquariums, souvenirs and tonics. About 20 million seahorses are caught in the wild each year, with some 500 tonnes used annually in traditional Chinese medicine alone. About 32 countries and regions are involved in harvesting seahorses to support the trade in over 90 countries worldwide. Hong Kong is one of the largest import markets, whilst the Philippines was a well-known exporter before the ban in 2007.

Joint Efforts

We have supported the Project Seahorse Foundation for four years in its community-based seahorse conservation project and the recovery of coral habitats on the Danajon Bank Double Barrier Reef. In 2011/12, we also initiated our own seahorse survey in Hong Kong waters.

The Outcome

Many people seem unaware that Hong Kong has seahorses, and that this fragile species is actually a key indicator of coral health. In 2011/12, we surveyed 16 sites in Hong Kong's eastern waters to document the density, species diversity, distribution and habitat of seahorses in shallow coral communities and adjacent areas. This survey is ongoing. We have also invited members of the public to report any sightings of seahorses in Hong Kong, so that we could record the sightings systematically.



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Seahorse is a flagship species of healthy marine environments. Protecting seahorses is a way of protecting all other marine life that share the same habitat.



Rescuing Stranded Dolphins – Life-saving Work in Hong Kong and the Mainland

The Situation

There are about 2,500 Chinese white dolphins living in the Pearl River Estuary (including Hong Kong) and about 217 finless porpoises in Hong Kong waters. In addition to population surveys, our response to strandings provides valuable insights into understanding their population status. However, the badly decomposed carcasses of most strandings hinder our understanding of the causes of death.

Joint Efforts

Since 2006, we have collaborated with the AFCD to respond to marine mammal strandings in Hong Kong waters. Thanks to enhanced collaboration with Ocean Park's veterinarian and clinical laboratory team, our Stranding Response Team is now able to collect more information from these dead bodies, such as age and sex, level of accumulated pollutants and pathogens.

The Outcome

Locally, our response team handled 57 and 129 cases of white dolphin and finless porpoise strandings between 2006 and June 2012. Working with Ocean Park's professional veterinary team, we were also invited to provide emergency veterinary support to two live stranding cases in China: one was a 95cm Yangtze finless porpoise calf, which was a fisheries' by-catch in February 2012, and the other was a 2.6m Chinese white dolphin estimated to be about 30 years of age, found in Foshan in March 2012. The team also shared experiences with local participants on how to handle strandings.

When you encounter a stranding in Hong Kong waters, please call the stranding report hotline at 1823. Your cooperation will enable us to collect fresher samples for analysis.