

Tiger Conservation in the Regional Development Context



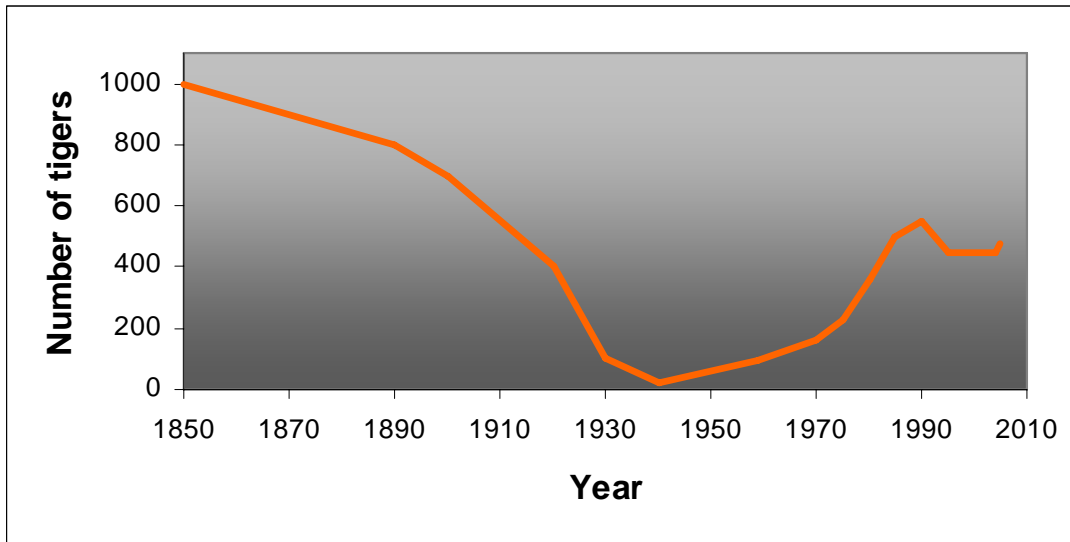
Lessons from the Russian Far East: Khabarovsk & Primorsky Krays

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Amur Tiger Dynamics

Today: 428...502 tigers in Russian Far East, and < 15 in N.-E. China

Population



1930's



1950-60's



1970-80's



Present Range

Recent Achievements

- Regular monitoring and inventory of Amur tiger population, prey base stock and habitats
- Protected area network ('tiger econet') established
- Continuous ecological education of target groups re Amur tiger conservation
- Conflict Tiger Response Team and Wildlife Rehabilitation center functioning
- Active anti-poaching structures
- Independent forest certification started (80,000 ha in tiger range)
- Most extensive knowledge base (due to research efforts) for any subspecies of tiger

Unresolved Issues

- Contradictions in Federal legislation re Protected Areas
- Inadequate fines for poaching of tigers and prey
- Lack of adequate funding for Amur tiger conservation activities by Government
- Legal vacuum re mitigation of loss/damage of tiger habitat from logging industry
- Tiger conservation measures not included in NRM decision-making
- Illegal logging of oak, Korean pine, black walnut (which provide critical winter forage for prey species)
- Large-scale forest fires poorly managed
- High unemployment and low wages in local communities still force people to illegally exploit forest resources (including poaching of tigers)

Priority Efforts

- Develop and endorse Regional Strategy & Action Plan for Amur tiger conservation
- Complete and sustain 'Tiger Econet' through zoning, indigenous land use, tourism
- Promote ecological certification, insurance & audit of industries active in tiger range
- Integrate tiger conservation in socioeconomic development programs & enhance potential for community-based management of resources
- Eliminate loopholes in anti-poaching and habitat protection regulations
- Strengthen forest fire prevention capacity
- Increase significantly public and private financing to implement Regional Strategy & Action Plan

For more information, look here:

- www.zapoved.ru
- www.khabkrai.ru
- www.primorsky.ru
- amur.org.uk
- www.phoenix.vl.ru
- www.wf.ru
- www.wwf.ru/about/what_we_do/species
- www.wcs.org/globalconservation/Asia/russia

