## **Darwin Initiative: Half Year Report**

(due 31 October 2007)

Project Ref. No.	013-34		
Project Title	Wildlife Health Monitoring and capacity building for leopard conservation in Russia (Amur Leopard & Wildlife Health Project)		
Country(ies)	Russia		
UK Organisation	Zoological Society of London		
Collaborator(s)	s) Primorskaya State Academy of Agriculture, Ussuriysk, Primorski Krai		
	Wildlife Conservation Society, Representative Office in Russia, Vladivostok;		
	Moscow Zoo;		
	Novosibirsk Zoo;		
	Lazovsky State Nature Reserve, Laso rayon;		
	Primorski Krai;		
	Tigris, Vladivostok;		
	Institute of Biology and Soils, Far Eastern Branch of the Russian Academy of Science, Vladivostok;		
	Utios Wildlife Rehabilitation Centre, near Khabarovsk, Khabarovsk Krai;		
	International Fund for Animal Welfare, Russian Office, Moscow		
	Faculty of Veterinary Science and National Centre for Zoonosis Research, University of Liverpool		
Project Leader	Sarah Christie		
Report date	1 April – 31 October, 2008		
Report No. (HYR 1/2/3/4)	HYR 4		
Project website	Mentioned on <u>http://www.zsl.org/field-conservation/carnivores-and-people/amur-leopard-conservation-in-russia,468,AR.html</u> - in particular, please see the blog and photo story links at the bottom of the page. Mentioned on <u>http://www.amur-leopard.org/index.php?pg=1214035549</u> .		

## 1. Outline progress over the last 6 months (April – September) against the agreed baseline timetable for the project (if your project has started less than 6 months ago, please report on the period since start up).

See page 3 below

2. Give details of any notable problems or unexpected developments that the project has encountered over the last 6 months. Explain what impact these could have on the project and whether the changes will affect the budget and timetable of project activities.

In Nov 2008, we were to conduct a final veterinary training workshop in cooperation with WCS and with most funding coming from TMU. Neither ZSL nor WCS, however, were able to find a coordinator for this workshop given the absence of the previous project manager, as neither of the staff now filling that role had the necessary expertise/time, and it has now been postponed until Spring 2009. The project officially ends on Dec 31 08, however we have funds from other sources to continue salaries and activities until Mar 31 09 so will be able to assist with it (we will be applying for a time extension for the final report for this reason).

## Have any of these issues been discussed with the Darwin Secretariat and if so, have changes been made to the original agreement?

No we have not yet discussed this with the Darwin secretary and we will be doing so soon, and applying for an extension on the final report timing in the near future to accommodate the change in timing of the workshop.

**Discussed with the DI Secretariat:** 

no/yes, in..... (month/yr)

Changes to the project schedule/workplan: no/yes, in.....(month/yr)

3. Are there any other issues you wish to raise relating to the project or to Darwin's management, monitoring, or financial procedures?

If you were asked to provide a response to this year's annual report review with your next half year report, please attach your response to this document.

Please note: Any <u>planned</u> modifications to your project schedule/workplan or budget should <u>not</u> be discussed in this report but raised with the Darwin Secretariat directly.

Please send your **completed form email** to Eilidh Young, Darwin Initiative M&E Programme at <u>Darwin-Projects@ectf-ed.org.uk</u>. The report should be between 1-2 pages maximum. <u>Please state your</u> project reference number in the header of your email message eg Subject: 14-075 Darwin Half <u>Year Report</u>

Baseline progress for Apr – Sept 2008	Actual project progress for April – September 2008	Comments
	The Moscow Zoo Vet Training Workshop was	For further information
Activities for output 1:	successfully held June 23-28th, 2008. The	the Zoo workshop report
Training workshop	health and reproductive quality of three Amur	is attached in Annex I.
completed in Moscow	leopards at the Moscow Zoo Breeding Station	
Zoo	were assessed. Five students from the PSAA	
	received theoretical and practical training in	
	the management of an EEP and the	
	veterinary evaluation of wild animals in	
	captivity with a focus on Amur leopards and	
	additional training on other taxa. The	
	Workshop was led by ALWHP consulting	
	veterinarian Dr. John Lewis.	
Conduct final TMU	Neither ZSL nor WCS were able to find a	
workshop in autumn	coordinator for the final training workshop	
08 (Coordinator for	planned for Nov 08, so it was postponed until	
this not yet found).	Spring 2009. Darwin funding contributions to	
this not yet found).	this workshop series are small, with WCS	
	supplying most of the funds via TMU. The	
	project officially ends on Dec 31 08, however	
	we have funds from other sources to continue	
	salaries and activities until Mar 31 09 so hope	
	to be able to assist with the workshop	
	organisation and content as usual (we will be	
	applying for a time extension for the final	
	report for this reason).	
Develop joint	We contributed to the wildlife disease	
curriculum for	curriculum of PSAA; powerpoint presentations	
lectures in wildlife	of all wildlife veterinary workshops run by ZSL	
Diseases with PSAA	ALWHP/WCS have now been incorporated	
in autumn 2008	into the PSAA Wildlife Disease course which	
	is taught by Dr. Sergey Mihailovich Kovalov.	
Activities for output 2:	We made good progress with disease	Please see also the ZSL
	sampling. We captured and sampled 16 wild	inhouse magazine
Continue sampling in	animals from target species from 3 different	article previously
Lazo region through	areas in LZ and 54 domestic dogs and cats	submitted, which will
2008 until sufficient	from 8 villages adjacent to LZ. We also	form Annex II, and links
samples collected. If	collaborated with local hospitals and regional	to blog and photo story
resources allow,	veterinarians to acquire 5-10 year histories of	at the bottom of the
expand sampling	Zoonanthroponotic and zoonotic diseases in	page
effort to a second	the LZ area that may be important for leopard	http://www.zsl.org/field-
site. Carry out hunter	reintroductions. Resources did not allow for a	conservation/carnivores-
sampling in Lazo	second sampling site. In November, after the	and-people/amur-
region (and perhaps	hunting begins, we will conduct hunter	leopard-conservation-in-
elsewhere) in autumn	sampling of ungulates from 3 different hunting	russia,468,AR.html
2008.	bases adjacent to LZ. We will also begin	
	trapping ungulates after the onset of snowfall.	
Final sampling	Spring session was cancelled due to permit	
sessions of wild	problems but autumn session proceeded as	
Amur leopards and	normal. Project vet consultant Dr. John Lewis,	
tigers in 2008.	(Wildlife Vets International), was present	
-	during the capture of 1 adult male and 1 adult	
	female Amur leopard in October. Samples	
	were taken and will be made available to the	
	project. This session is still ongoing and so	
	we do not yet have any pictures or detailed	
	information to provide. Project employee	

	Misha Goncharuk will be joining the team shortly to gain experience.	
Activities for output 3: The WHMU should be in working order by the end of 2008.	Progress was made with the business plan for the WHMU (current draft attached) and purchasing the last of the furnishing needed for the lab. The major items are due to arrive in a couple of weeks, and pictures will then be forwarded to Darwin. The renovations also proceeded well and the lab room is now awaiting only the furniture – due to arrive in a week or so.	Please see Annex III
Activities for output 4: Continue progress towards output 2 & 3.	We made good progress towards outputs 2 & 3, which are essential precursors for output 4. The disease management chapter for the reintroduction plan is also in final draft stage (text attached).	Please see Annex IV