



# BRINGING BACK TIGERS

In 2010, the world faced a future without wild tigers. Where 100,000 of these majestic cats once roamed, only about 3,200 tigers remained, and their numbers were falling. That year, 13 tiger range nations came together, committing to change the trajectory for tigers by 2022, the next Lunar Year of the Tiger. When WWF rallied our network behind this urgent goal, you answered the call.

**Thanks to you, the global effort to reverse tigers' decline is succeeding. After a century in freefall, wild tiger numbers globally are trending upward.**

Transformational change like this requires incredible stamina and support. Your commitment made it possible to create the conditions for tigers to thrive again. As we reflect on some of the highlights at the end of the Lunar Year of the Tiger, we celebrate you, without whom none of it would be possible. Thank you for shaping a brighter future for tigers and all who share our planet.

## BENDING THE CURVE

*"We have collectively succeeded in reversing the overall decline of tigers in the wild."*

*– Ginette Hemley, Senior VP of Wildlife Conservation*

4,500

Wild tiger population in July 2022, as estimated by IUCN

3,200

Estimated wild tiger population in 2010



## RECOVERING POPULATIONS

In July 2022, Nepal announced that it has almost tripled its wild tiger population, from 121 tigers in 2010 to an estimated 355 tigers today. WWF played a significant role in helping Nepal create the conditions for tigers to thrive.

Worldwide, tiger numbers are on the rise in five countries: India, China, Russia, Bhutan, and Nepal. Collectively, these advances generate new momentum for tiger recovery and demonstrate that with global cooperation and sustained investment, species recovery is possible.

**190%** Increase in Nepal's tiger population since 2010.

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## PROTECTING TIGERS – AND SO MUCH MORE

From the boreal forests of China and Russia, to the coastal mangroves of India and the mountainous slopes of Nepal, your support for tigers has created a brighter future not only for these big cats, but also for people and wildlife who depend on the ecosystems where tigers live. Protecting tigers' home ranges against poaching and habitat loss through better management ensures these landscapes continue to provide food and fresh water, income opportunities generated by wildlife tourism, and sustainable livelihoods such as beekeeping.

*“If tigers weren't there, people would destroy the forest by cutting down all its trees to earn a living... We would face even worse damage from the storms.”*

*– Mahua Pramanik, member of a wild honey collective in Sundarbans, India*



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## CONSERVING TIGER HABITATS

128

Sites in seven countries have completed or are pursuing accreditation through the [Conservation Assured | Tiger Standards \(CA|TS\)](#) program. WWF launched CA|TS in 2013 to ensure the highest standard of management for tiger protected areas and effective, long-term conservation.

15K

Square kilometers of new tiger reserves—collectively, an area larger than Connecticut—established in India since 2014. India is home to more than 60% of the world's tigers.

14.5K

Square kilometers of tiger habitat conserved and the largest tiger protected area on the planet established in China in 2018.



## TACKLING TIGER TRADE

In December 2022, after a decade of persistent advocacy by WWF and partners, the [Big Cat Public Safety Act](#) passed into law. This act brings much-needed oversight that will help prevent an estimated [5,000 captive tigers living in the US](#) from ending up in the illegal trade in tiger parts and products. Without sufficient federal regulations, these animals could easily slip into black markets. This illicit supply fuels demand for poaching, a major threat to wild tigers. The new law requires facilities to obtain a federal permit for big cat ownership and bans public contact like cub petting. This hard-earned victory strengthens the position of US agencies and advocates in calling for other countries to address illegal tiger trade.

5K

Captive tigers in the US will benefit from the Big Cat Public Safety Act.



# MAKING A WORLD OF DIFFERENCE

830M People depend on watersheds that overlap with tiger habitats.

25K Acres of forests are protected for each adult tiger, securing vital carbon storage and climate benefits.



Conserving tiger landscapes protects other threatened species like rhinos, Asian elephants, orangutans.



We still have much to do to secure a future for tigers. Wild tiger populations continue to decline in several nations, wildlife trafficking persists, and as tiger populations rise, so does conflict with people. In the next 12 years, WWF will renew our efforts with partners to expand habitat, address poaching, and put people living alongside tigers at the center of global tiger conservation.

And today, at the close of the Year of the Tiger, we pause to celebrate tremendous progress—and you, who made it all possible. At a time when nature faces immense pressures, the progress we have achieved for tigers is proof that, together, we can shape a better future for people and nature.



# THANK YOU



# TIGER RANGE COUNTRIES

- ↑ Trend increasing
- Trend stable
- Trend not determined
- ↓ Trend decreasing
- Historic Tiger Range

Due to varied sampling coverage and monitoring techniques there could be some uncertainty in the depicted trends

