

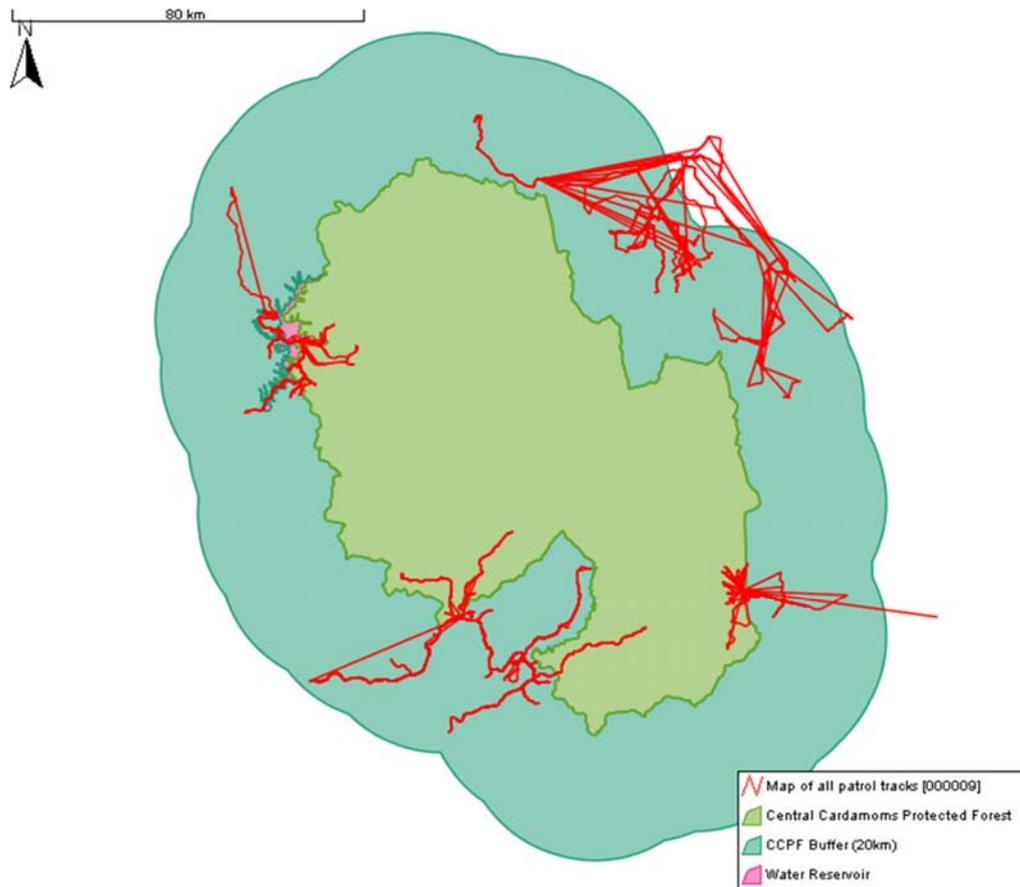
**Cambodia
Central Cardamom Protected Forest Project**

News from the Field

**January 2015
Conservation International**

Forest Patrols

The forest rangers are performing their duties well. The map below shows the patrols they have conducted around the Central Cardamom Protected Forest, with efforts focused on four particular points.



Patrols conducted between October and December 2014

This is a period when traditionally there are high levels of land encroachment as communities clear land for planting of crops. There were fifteen incidences of illegal activity recorded in October, and these encounters resulted in the rangers confiscating logging equipment (in fourteen of the cases) and making one arrest. In November there were far fewer encounters of illegal activity (only four)

despite a similar number of patrols as in October. It is likely that the successful October patrols deterred much illegal logging in November. In December the number rose again slightly (seven encounters).

Trust Fund Establishment

We had promising meetings with the Ministry of Economics and Finance, which means that the final permissions to begin operating the Trust Fund may soon be received. We are also working with the trustee for the trust fund, a bank in Singapore, to finalize trust fund agreement documents and an operations manual which explains all of the necessary requirements and terms of managing and implementing the trust fund.

Community Engagement and Ecotourism

Community engagement is strong, especially for patrolling. The conservation agreements were renewed in September 2014 and continue to be a successful motivator for communities to protect their forest and biodiversity. We will continue to fundraise to support ecotourism development, which we hope can eventually replace these agreements.

Other Related Activities

International Conferences

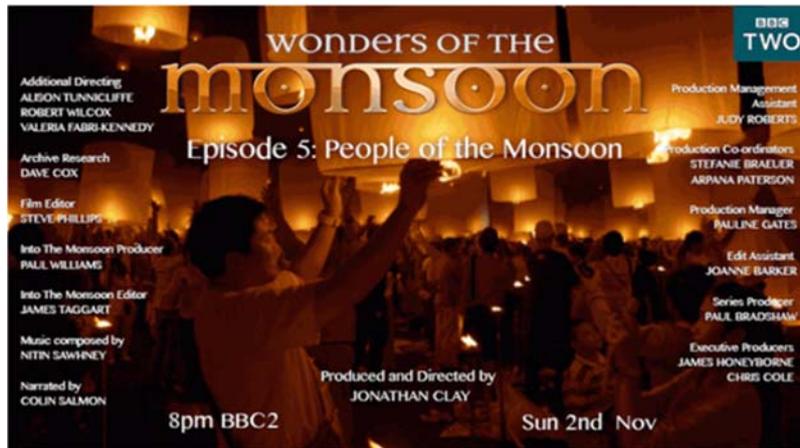


At a conference on climate change in the Mekong region, members of Conservation International and the Central Cardamom Protected Forest had a presentation about the Central Cardamom project at a panel discussion. At the IUCN World Parks Congress in Sydney, Australia, we successfully promoted the project to a many attendees of this event through exhibits and networking efforts.

Central Cardamom Featured in BBC Series 'Wonders of the Monsoon'

We assisted the BBC (British Broadcasting Corporation) in the filming of its TV series 'Wonders of the Monsoon'. We hope this series brings the Central Cardamom region to the attention of a wider audience.

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/p026gm1z>



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