

**Cambodia  
Central Cardamoms Protected Forest Project**

**News from the Field**

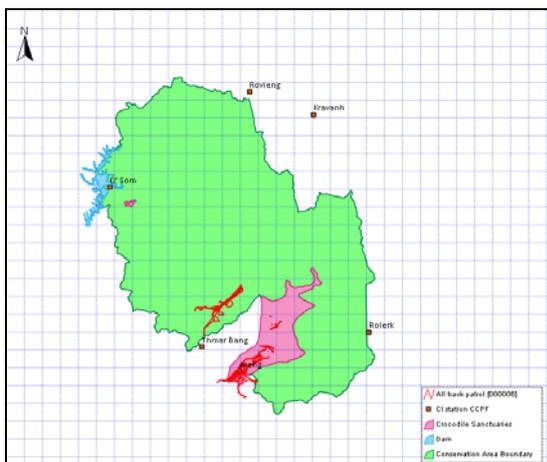
**August 2015  
Conservation International**

**Forest Patrols**

In our patrols, we make use of a tool called SMART, which stands for “Spatial Monitoring and Reporting Tool.” SMART allows us to easily manage information such as when and where patrols are carried out and what problems were discovered.

*SMART Reports by the Community*

During this past reporting period, patrol teams from three communities (Tatai Leu, Chumnoab, and Thmar Doun Pao) conducted 51 patrols each around their respective community boundaries and covered a combined distance of 438 kilometers.



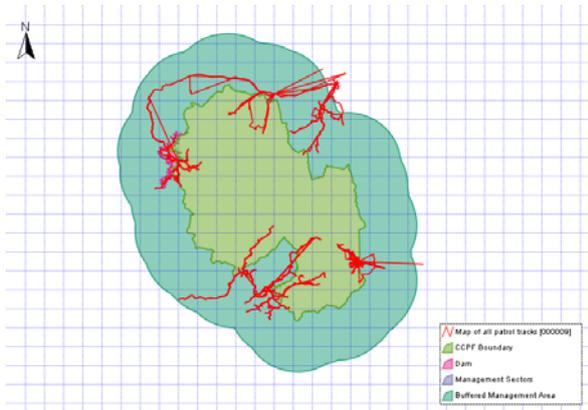
Area patrolled by community rangers (in red) from April to June 2015



Female community rangers

*SMART Reports by Forestry Administration (FA) Rangers*

There are currently six ranger stations and 46 rangers in and around the Central Cardamoms Protected Forest (CCPF). During the reporting period (April to June), there were 315 patrols covering a combined distance of 6,280 kilometers. The rangers confiscated five chain saws, 38 pieces of luxury wood, 1.2 cubic meters of timber, eight pieces of wood that is the raw material for making drugs, and seven axes. They also issued two written warnings and 37 verbal warnings.



Area patrolled by Forestry Administration (FA) rangers (in red) from April to June 2015



Chain saws confiscated by the rangers

### Trust Fund Established

The interest yielded by the Central Cardamoms Protected Forest Trust Fund goes to support the activities of the project. At the initial meeting of the trust fund operations committee, participants heard about the history of the protected forest, the trust fund's goals and functions, and the importance of the trust fund as a long-term, sustainable funding mechanism. The Central Cardamoms Protected Forest Trust Fund Committee is crucial to the operation of the trust fund and comprises seven members: two from Cambodian government ministries, two from NGOs, one from a university, one from a private company, and one from an industrialized nation government organ.

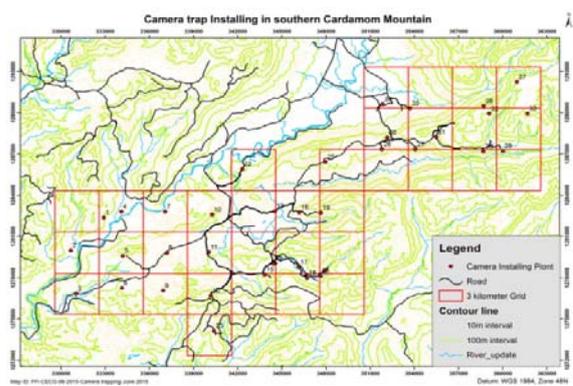


The workshop for initial members of the CCPF Trust Fund Committee

All documentation for the trust fund has been completed and the first deposit has been made into the trust fund's bank account. This is a major step for the Central Cardamoms Protected Forest.

### Camera Trap Setting

In June 2015, CI, the Cambodia Forestry Administration, Fauna and Flora International (FFI), and other groups collaborated to set 37 camera traps around the Areng Valley in the south of the CCPF along a corridor used by Asian elephants. Three teams totaling 17 people spent six nights in the forest setting these camera traps.



Locations where camera traps were set

A training session in camera trap setting was held at the Areng forestry station beforehand. Participants learned safety measures, what to do in emergency situations such as when bitten by a snake or suffering from dehydration, and who to contact. Finally they checked their first aid kits and tested their radio communications system.



Participants undergo training prior to setting the camera traps  
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The camera traps will allow us to get records of what animal species are living in the survey areas. Besides notifying us of which animal species and areas require immediate protection, the camera traps will also provide information useful in raising awareness of the importance of the CCPF.

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