

# NEWSLETTER

ISSUE OCTOBER 2024

## FOREST LOSS MONITORING PROJECT



JAPAN GOV  
THE GOVERNMENT OF JAPAN







## I. WHO PLAYED A KEY ROLE OF THIS ISSUE?

Let's get to know our super team who will play the role of heroes in this Issue of Newsletter. We will find out together why they became heroes!! Just follow me to the next column.



Mr. Shitichai Jinamoy and The Team from Phu Khieo Wildlife Sanctuary



## II. 2ND FIELD VISITED AND TRAINED OUR FIELD COORDINATOR ON NCAPS SYSTEM

This is the first time that the NCAPs system has been used to monitor and conserve community forest resources in Thailand, including in protected areas under the responsibility of the Royal Forest Department, which is something new to learn. This system is well-known and has supported the monitoring on the illegal things in protected areas by the Department of National Parks, Wildlife and Plant Conservation for over a decade.

Since our team which led by Professor Yongyut Traisurat conducted the first field survey in August and selected 4 community forests as pilot sites (as we reported in our first newsletter). On 10-14 September 2014, our team led by Mr. Sittichai Jinamoy visited Mae Hong Son again to make sure that everything is well prepared. As NCAPs are new technology for the Royal Forest Department and community forests, users need to embed all the techniques on the skin to perform all the intended tasks, which can take some learning time. The team has been transferring knowledge and techniques to our field coordinators in preparation for the big event.

This field visit was to survey the area for the NCAPs system training held on October 24-29, including introducing various applications, camera systems, and necessary technologies for surveying and finding suitable locations for installing cameras to our Hero field coordinators to find camera locations before the training.

We also met with the leaders of the 3 pilot community forests

1. Ban Tor Pae Community Forest
2. Thung Peam Community Forest
3. Ban Mae Thalu Community Forest

We brought camera traps to let the leader of communities to build an atmosphere, and discuss on a rough schedule for training to show the community forests that our project is sincere, caring, and ready to support the conservation of resources and the joint benefits of community forest members. You can see that there is 1 community forest area that we have not met this time, which is Baan Le koh Community Forest. Yes! We kept it as a challenge for our field coordinator. Keep fighting!



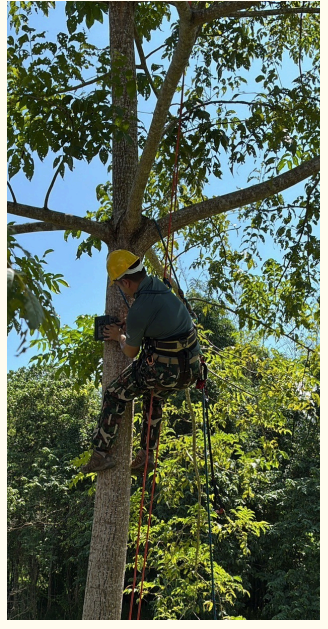


## HIGH LIGHT!!

### III. NCAPS TRAINING

Finally, the mobile training has happened. On October 24-29, the project's team organized the NCAPs System training in 4 pilot community forest which located in Khun Yuam District, Mae Sariang District, and Sop Moei District, Mae Hong Son Province, including with officials from Forest Resource Management Office 1, Mae Hong Son Branch. We were honored to have a team of lecturers from Phu Khieo Wildlife Sanctuary, Department of National Parks, Wildlife and Plant Conservation, which we introduced in the first column. This training had participants representing from 4 community forest, including the chief of community forest and members, as follows:

**Ban Tor Pae Community Forest**  
led by Mr. Chaidet Sutinakorn and 7 other community forest members.



**Ban Le koh Community Forest**  
led by Mr. Chairat Yokratanapong and 4 other community forest members.



**Thung Peam Community Forest**  
led by Kamnan Kongpun Bunyuang, along with 4 other community forest members.



**Ban Rai community forest**  
, led by Mr. Wira Sriboonma and 3 other community forest members



The Backup!!! According to situation our team has selected another one community forest, Pa Mak, as an option, but has not yet introduce our project to the community forest. The field coordinator has been assigned to proceed and will discuss with the team again soon!



## HIGH LIGHT!!

### III. NCAPS TRAINING

In addition to the 4 pilot community forests where we conducted training and installed NCAPs, there were also government agencies, including 2 officers from the Community Forest Division, SJP.1 Mae Hong Son Branch, who were with us for all 5 days of program, and 15 officers from Salawin National Reserve Forest, Forest Resource Protection Division, Forest Resource Management Office 1, Mae Hong Son Branch, who also participated in this training.



The training in all spots were started with introduce the NCAPs system and how to install cameras by Mr. Sittichai and team who are professional on camera installation which led by Mr. Supalak Khanphu Khiao, the handsome Chief assistant from Phu Khiao Wildlife Sanctuary, who came to give a lecture. There was a demonstration of the use of tree climbing equipment for safety when going up to install cameras in high places. This time, the participants learned the techniques of camera trap installation, the benefits of technology to enhance the efficiency of natural resource care, and participated in actual use in their own community forest, including the staffs from national reserve forests under the Royal Forest Department. This is the first step of the RFD to use the NCAPs and SMART systems to strengthen the forest resource conservation system.



It is very pleasing that we have received good cooperation from both of the officers from Forest Conservation Area 1 and the community forest representatives. The project sincerely hopes that the information obtained will be useful in planning for wisely use of resources in the community forests.

The project has allocated cameras to 4 community forests and 1 national reserved forest, totaling 5 areas, with 3 cameras assigned to each area. Due to the limited time of 1 day per area, the team were created a campaign for each community forest which is **“Helping to Installing 2 cameras and let CF team try to installing 1 camera by themselves”** so that the community and officers could practice all the processes they had learned. This was a great success. All 11 cameras have been installed and are continuously sending us data. Who knows, while you are reading this Newsletter, may some cameras be sending images of people who’s going around the forest to our team to ponder.



P.S. Many of you may wonder why we only installed 11 cameras when there are 5 communities forest selected. As I reported e, we are selecting another representative area. This time, we will see the skills of our field coordinators again. They are really excellent!





## IV. THE IMAGE INTERPRETATION

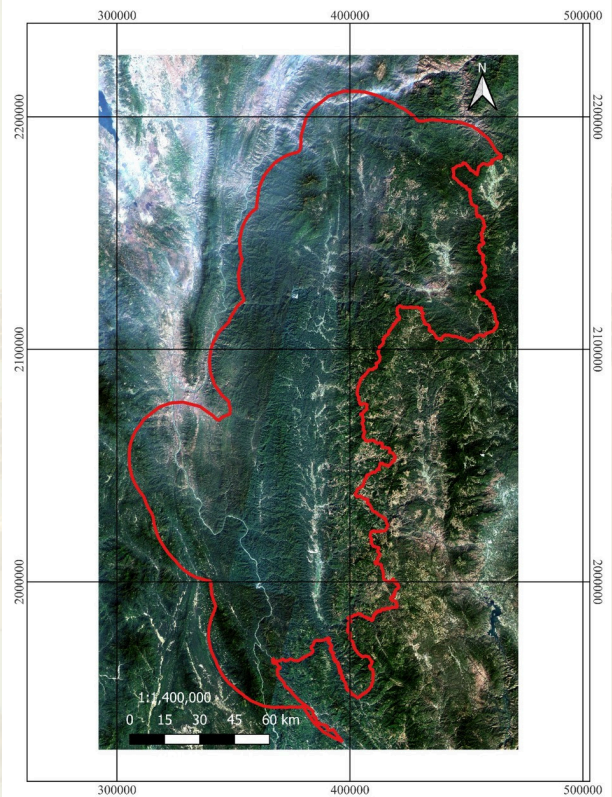
Don't forget!! Still another technology that we are using in this project it's call satellite imagery. This technology used to compare land use from the past to the present and predict the future. Led by Asst. Prof. Dr. Laddawan Rientrakul and her team, the experts that helped interpret satellite images to look at changes in land use in Mae Hong Son Province and extending into Burma for a distance of 20 kilometers between 1990 and 2023.



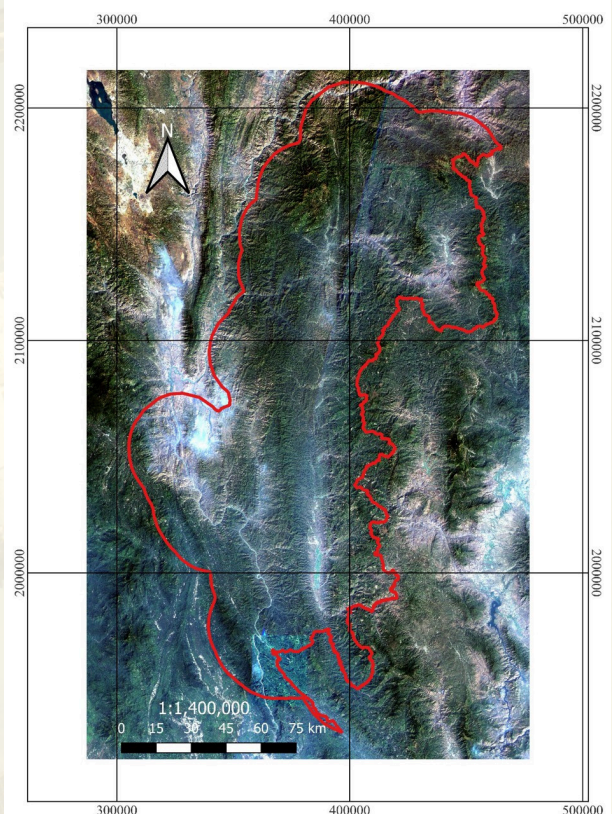
Details are as follows: Prepare satellite imagery data used for land use classification, namely Landsat 5 satellite imagery, Thematic Mapper (TM) data recording system, Level 1 Precision terrain corrected (L1TP) product, 30 meter resolution for land use classification in 1990, 5 image scenes: Path 131 Row 046, Path 131 Row 047, Path 131 Row 048, Path 132 Row 046 and Path 132 Row 047, and Landsat 8-9 satellite imagery, Operational Land Imager (OLI), Operational Land Imager-2 (OLI-2) data recording system, L1TP product, 30 meter resolution for land use classification in 2023, 6 image scenes: Path 131 Row 046, Path 131 Row 047, Path 131 Row 048, Path 132 Row 046, Path 132 Row 047 and Path 132 Row 048 and set the time period of satellite image data for both 1990 and 2023 to be between February and May.

Let's go depth in some detail: We can say that the team has classified land use areas into 13 types from actual fieldwork at 79 survey points. This is more than 80% complete, and we will see maps from 1990 and 2023 to see how they have changed.

**Landsat 8-9 satellite image of Mae Hong Son Province in 2023 Map**



**Landsat-5 satellite image of Mae Hong Son Province in 1990 Map**





## V. COMING UP EVENT

### 1<sup>st</sup> PSC AND PTC MEETING

On November 19, 2024, the project will hold the first project committee meeting from 9:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at Rama Gardens Hotel, Bangkok. Details are as follows:

In the morning, there will be a project technical committee meeting, which will be held online, and in the afternoon will be a project steering committee meeting, there will be an onsite meeting for us to meet in person. In the meeting, there will be presentations:

- Project summary report, data used in the project, and a report on the project implementation plan for the first 6 months.
- Report on the results of satellite image interpretation and implementation plan.
- and a report on the installation of NCAP, inspection, and implementation plan.

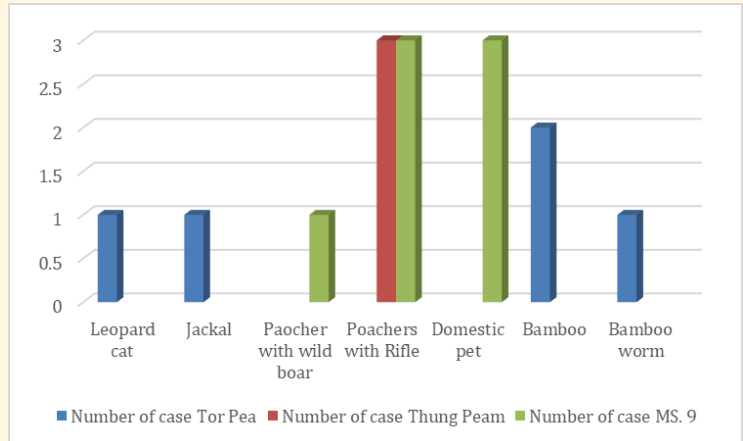
This meeting will review the progress of the implementation plan, including finances, by the project committee, and proposals for budget reduction.





## VI. HOT ISSUE FROM NCAPS

Reports from the 11 NCAPs cameras that we installed since October 25, 2024 to November 12, 2024, approximately 22 days, the cameras were able to capture images of two wildlife species including leopard cats and Jackals, found the Poachers with carry a wild boar, capture the Poachers with Rifle, harvesting for NTFPs such as bamboo worms, the bamboo, and also the camera can capture images of domestic pets such as cows, buffaloes and dogs.



And the on November 12, while the officers of the National Forest Conservation Division (MS.3 Khun Yuam) and our field coordinators were in the process of moving the camera at SARRF-001 and testing the camera system, the field team encounter to the illegal logging case which found 6 processed wooden board of teak. The estimates size of the 5 wooden boards, were 60-80 centimeters wide, 2 meters long, and 6-8 inches thick, and another board that was being loaded onto a truck, which was larger, and was being transported by truck. One offender was arrested, while 3 escaped. An illegal sawmil was also found close to the point where the offender was found. The incident occurred near the Ban Tor Pea community forest. From our initial survey, this community forest still has a ton of large trees in this forested area. If there are no systematic monitoring in the area, we are afraid that this forest may not have any trees for us to see. We hope that the ITTO Forest Loss Monitoring Project will help to increase the efficiency of our natural resource conservation by using the NCAPs and SMART Patrol systems to help monitor and keep an eye on it. Now, we are currently developing the system and wish we are on the right time!!

### SARRF-001



Activity while moving the camera 11/12/2024 16:30






# ITTO - FOREST LOSS MONITORING PROJECT


## THE SMART PATROL AND DRONE TRAINING



**COMING SOON!!  
THIS DECEMBER**

### MORE INFORMATION

 ongsprasertpreecha@gmail.com

 fforckn@ku.ac.th

 <https://itto-forestloss.org>