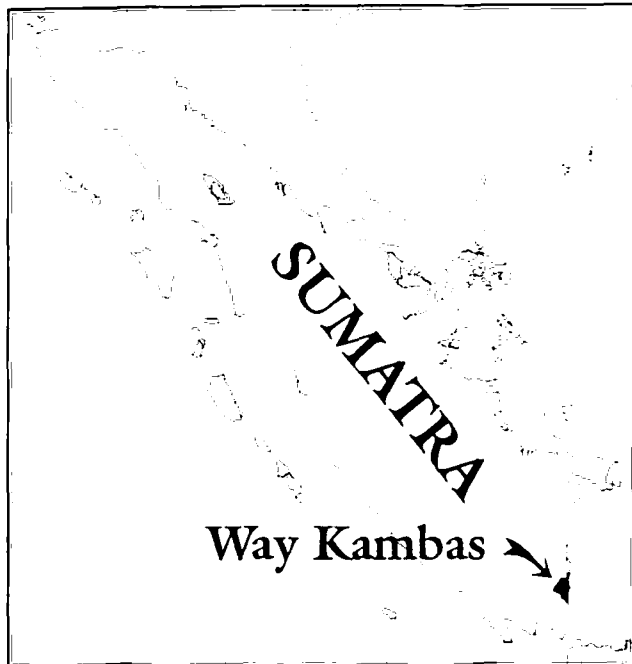


SUMATRAN RHINO SANCTUARY IN WAY KAMBAS NATIONAL PARK



Progress continues on development of a managed breeding center or Sumatran Rhino Sanctuary (SRS) in Way Kambas National Park on Sumatra. A Memorandum of Understanding was signed in September 1995 by PHPA, the International Rhino Foundation (IRF), and Taman Safari Indonesia (TSI). The MOU will permit IRF and TSI to proceed immediately with construction of enclosures for the rhino and support facilities for SRS staff while the process of completing formation of the Management Company and obtaining the conservation/eco-tourism concession in the Park continues. These plans were described in the last issue of *ASIAN RHINOS*. The IRF has allocated \$ 465,000 for the SRS through the end of 1996. Another \$ 100,000 to \$ 150,000 is needed for completion of the first phase of the SRS.

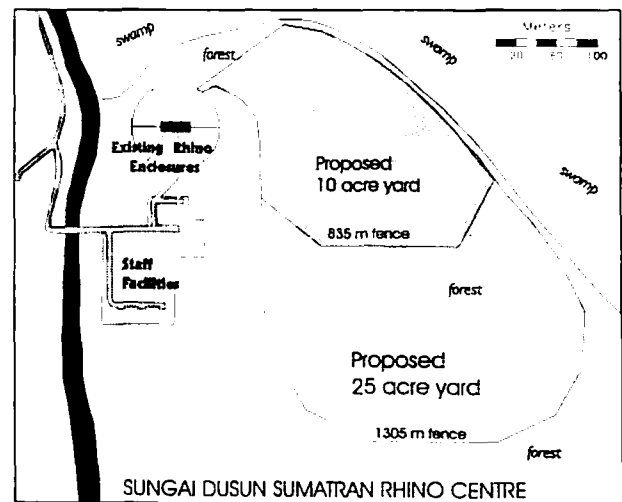
A detailed mapping of the terrain in the area where the enclosures will be constructed is underway, through a contract to the Way Kambas Sumatran Tiger Project led in the field by Neil Franklin and directed by Dr. Ron Tilson. The fence lines will be demarcated by mid-December 1995. Construction of the fence and other facilities will commence as soon as weather allows. At the latest, it is expected the SRS will be ready to receive rhino by May of 1996.

EXPANSION OF SUNGAI DUSUN

The Rhino Conservation Center at Sungai Dusun has been the most successful in terms of survival and health of captive Sumatran Rhino. The Center is situated at the edge of natural habitat in the Sungai Dusun Wildlife Reserve. Its enclosures are relatively large compared to other facilities but probably need to be still larger.

Scientists who have studied this species in both the wild and captivity believe that the lack of reproduction may be due to the size and complexity of the enclosures provided for the rhino. Normally Sumatran rhinos are very solitary in the wild. Males and females only associate when the males detect that the females are in estrus, probably through scent. Courtship is very violent and in the confines of captivity can be very injurious or even fatal to rhino.

For a number of years the Department of Wild Life and National Parks (DWLNP) has had plans to expand the enclosures into the forest. One or two enclosures of 10 hectares (25 acres) were envisioned. In fact, there had been an allocation for this purpose in the 6th Plan but the funds were ultimately reallocated.



Now a donation of \$ 50,000 from the International Rhino Foundation (IRF) will permit construction of an expanded enclosure of 4 hectares (10 acres).