

# WILDLIFE NEWSLETTER

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## Summary

### Tiger Rescued from Janaknagar

A tiger was captured after entering human settlements.

### Two Tigers Found Dead

Two tigers were found dead due to a territorial fight.

### Captive Tiger Health Assessment

A captive tiger received treatment for a fracture.

### Tiger Rescued from Dangpur

A male tiger was captured involved in livestock depredation

### Leopard Captured

A leopard was captured after attacking a child.

### Rogue Elephant Recapture

A rogue elephant was recaptured after attacking its handler.

### Collared Tiger Monitoring

A collared tiger was monitored in Banke National Park.

### Rhino Calf Postmortem

A rhino calf's death was investigated after a tiger attack.

### Female Tiger Death

A female tiger died due to injuries and starvation.

### Captive Elephant Recapture

A captive elephant was recaptured after escaping.

### Sambar Deer Rescue

A sambar deer was rescued and relocated to a zoo.

### Tiger Death at Rescue Center

A tiger died at a rescue center due to illness.

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## Monitoring of collared tiger in Banke National Park

From March 26 to April 2, 2025, a team monitored a collared tiger in Banke National Park to facilitate collar removal. Four main techniques were employed: GPS satellite tracking, sign surveys, camera traps, and VHF signal detection. Baits were placed in likely locations, but the tiger was not visually confirmed during the monitoring period.



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## Consecutive rescue of 2 problematic tigers from human settlements in Geruwa RM



Beginning April 5, 2025, a problematic tiger was repeatedly observed entering human settlements in Janaknagar, Geruwa Rural Municipality, where it primarily preyed on livestock, especially bulls, killing four and injuring another. After four days of intensive monitoring using camera traps, drone surveillance, bait placement, and curtaining techniques, the tiger was successfully captured on April 8, 2025. Similarly, another male tiger in Dangpur, Geruwa RM, had been preying on livestock for over five months, from December 2024 to May 2025. While initially infrequent, the attacks became increasingly frequent and began targeting livestock kept within human settlements. Rescue operations were launched after the tiger's identity was confirmed through camera trap footage and drone surveillance. After two capture attempts, the tiger was finally sedated on May 25, 2025, during the third baiting operation.



# Leopard rescued from Gularia



On May 28, 2025, a tragic incident occurred in Tharu Community Forest, Gularia-5, where a 7-year-old girl was fatally attacked by a leopard within her home premises. In response, a joint rescue team from the Division Forest Office (DFO) Bardia, Bardia National Park, and NTNC-BCP launched an intensive operation. Six box traps and twelve camera traps were deployed to monitor the area. After eight days of search and surveillance, the leopard was successfully captured in one of the traps.

## Sambar deer rescued from Kapilvastu

In a separate case, a six-year-old male sambar deer was repeatedly sighted in Shivapur Municipality-09, Kapilvastu, causing damage to crops and raising concerns due to its large antlers. Consequently, the DFO sought assistance from NTNC-BCP for its rescue. With support from DFO Chandrauta, Banke National Park and cooperation from residents, the deer was safely caged without sedation on May 17, 2025, and subsequently transported to the Central Zoo, where it was released on May 19, 2025.



## Two captive bull elephants recaptured

Bardia National Park also dealt with two major incidents involving captive elephants. On April 27, 2025, a captive bull elephant escaped its chains and ventured into a nearby forest. Initial attempts by handlers to recall it using verbal commands failed, and the elephant became aggressive. A rescue team from NTNC-BCP was dispatched. The elephant was eventually sedated near the recreational park the following day and returned to its enclosure. Later, on May 21, 2025, another captive elephant attacked its handler during jungle grazing and went rogue. The NTNC-BCP team carried out multiple capture attempts and finally sedated the elephant around midnight, securing and returning it to its shed. These coordinated responses highlight the critical importance of rapid intervention and inter-organization collaboration in addressing both human-wildlife conflict and captive animal management.





## Territorial clashes and health-related tiger deaths



On April 8, 2025, two male tigers of similar age were found dead near a tributary of the Geruwa River close to Laguna Machhan. Postmortem examinations indicated advanced decomposition, but external injuries and distinct wound patterns suggested a fatal territorial fight between the two. Just ten days later, on April 18, a 13-year-old female tiger was discovered dead in Janashakti Community Forest, Tikapur, Kailali. Postmortem analysis revealed multiple 2 cm round wounds on the scapular, lumbar, and abdominal regions, consistent with injuries from a territorial conflict. Additionally, the empty digestive tract indicated the tiger had suffered prolonged starvation before her death, highlighting the harsh realities of competition for resources in the wild.

In a separate incident, on June 11, 2025, a 14-year-old problematic tiger died at the Rammapur Rescue Center in Bardia National Park. The animal had been under veterinary care for a month due to signs of chronic illness. Postmortem examination revealed worn teeth and a severe urinary blockage caused by a urethral calculus, which led to kidney failure. This case underscores the health challenges aging tigers face in captivity, particularly those rescued after prolonged conflict with humans. Together, these incidents reflect the complex interplay of natural behavior, environmental stress, and medical issues impacting tiger survival in the region.

## Rhino calf died of tiger attack



On April 17, 2025, a three-month-old male rhino calf was found dead in Shiva Community Forest, Dalla (Khata Division Forest Office). The carcass was transported to the Khata Sub-Division Office in Sanoshree for a detailed necropsy. Multiple bite marks and puncture wounds were documented across the body, with severe hemorrhage and a fractured skull indicating a fatal tiger attack.

## Captive tiger health assessment at BaNP

A three-year-old female tiger, rescued earlier from Balapur and housed in BaNP, sustained an injury on April 18, 2025, after colliding with an enclosure structure. Bleeding from the mouth was noted. Upon clinical examination the next day, a complete lower mandible fracture was diagnosed. Hematological and biochemical analysis of blood samples collected from this tiger revealed hypocalcemia. Although surgical intervention was not feasible, a three-week course of veterinary treatment, based on laboratory findings, led to significant improvement. The tiger is now feeding normally and recovering well.





## RESCUED ANIMAL MANAGEMENT AND CARE

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*Two Common leopard cubs, approximately one month old, were transferred to the Bardia Conservation Program (BCP) from the Division Forest Office, Dailekh, for ongoing care and veterinary management. The pair consists of one male and one female cub. Both are being regularly fed a diet of skimmed milk and finely chopped meat to ensure proper nourishment and development.*



*On May 27, 2025, four juvenile Spotted owls were rescued and transferred to the Bardia Conservation Program (BCP) facilities for immediate care and rehabilitation. Upon arrival, the owlets were assessed by the veterinary team and provided with appropriate food, hydration, and a safe environment to stabilize their condition.*



*Over the course of a week, they received close monitoring and supportive care to ensure they were healthy and capable of surviving independently. After confirming their readiness, all four owls were successfully released back into their natural habitat, marking a positive outcome for their short-term rehabilitation.*