

Wildlife DNA Forensics Course

Lecture A1

Introduction to the course

No: A1

Lecturer: R. Ogden

Date: 02/08/10

Introduction


This first lecture provides some background to the Darwin project and an overview of the course. It includes a description of the timetable for the week and an explanation of the different activities to be undertaken by enforcement and scientific participants.

We will discuss the aims and objectives for the week, the environment of the course and the key points we want everyone to take home.

Lecture Aims


- To learn about the three-year ASEAN Wildlife Forensics Network Darwin project
- To understand the course structure
- To introduce the course tutors and assistants
- To discuss course and domestic arrangements

Introduction to the course




ASEAN-WEN
Wildlife Enforcement Network


ASEAN Wildlife Forensics Network



TRACE
the wildlife forensics network




DARWIN
INITIATIVE



TRAFFIC
the wildlife trade monitoring network

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Darwin Project

Project history
 Wildlife DNA Forensics project – Malaysia 2005 (Perhilitan and Kimia)
 ASEAN-WEN regional needs for enforcement support
 UK Darwin Initiative – supports capacity building for CBD & CITES

Project application process	2006-2009
Project duration	September 2009 - August 2012
Project cost	~£350,000 GBP (~500,000 USD)


Partners: TRACE, TRAFFIC SEA, ASEAN-WEN
 Additional Funding: Royal Zoological Society of Scotland



Darwin Project

Project aims and scope
“To provide the ability for ASEAN countries to undertake coordinated wildlife forensic analysis for CITES enforcement operations and to deter further wildlife crime in the ASEAN region”

- Establishing a wildlife forensics network
- Providing training to scientific and enforcement officers
- Building capacity in each country to support forensic applications
- Enabling ASEAN members to develop own identification methods
- Provide access to national and international resources



Course Aims

Everyone

- Learn more about wildlife crime in the ASEAN region
- Raise awareness of forensic science
- Understand how it can be used in investigations
- Learn about the forensic process and the people involved

- Develop contact with people from your own country
- Develop contact with people from the ASEAN region

- Begin to create a network of wildlife forensic practitioners



Course Aims

Enforcement officers

- Understand how best to collect and secure wildlife DNA evidence
- Learn how to identify items being illegally traded

- Learn about the range of forensic tests available
- Develop links with scientific staff who can help you
- Examine the barriers to producing & using forensic evidence
- Understand how forensic evidence is treated by the legal system

- Learn how to prepare and present forensic evidence



Course Aims

Scientists

- Understand how best to collect and secure wildlife DNA evidence
- Learn the difference between research and forensic lab methods

- Follow the forensic process through the lab
- Develop links with enforcement staff – understand their needs
- Learn about the range of DNA techniques that can be applied to wildlife forensic investigations

- Understand how to prepare and present forensic evidence



Timetable

Fri 6th Aug	Scientists	Enforcement Officers
09.00 - 10.00	Lecture A6: Laboratory models for wildlife DNA forensics	
10.00 - 11.00	Lecture A7: Building a forensic network for ASEAN-WEN	
11.00 - 11.30	Morning tea break	
11.30 - 12.00	Closing ceremony & Certificates	
12.00 - 13.00	Lunch and depart	



Course Tutors

- Ross McEwing (TRACE)
 - Wildlife DNA forensics
 - DNA evidence & lab techniques
 - Forensic applications
- Rob Ogden (TRACE)
 - Wildlife DNA forensics
 - Data analysis, reporting
 - Forensic applications
- Chris Shepherd and Claire Beastall (TRAFFIC SEA)
 - Introduction to the Illegal Wildlife Trade
 - Species Identification Sheets
 - Identifying animal parts



Course Assistants


- Jen Mailley (TRACE): Project Manager
- Leonie Grenfell (TRACE): Lab assistant
- Noorainie Awang Anak (TRAFFIC SEA): Senior Programme Officer
- Officers from Department of Wildlife and National Parks

They are here to help. Please ask if you have any questions




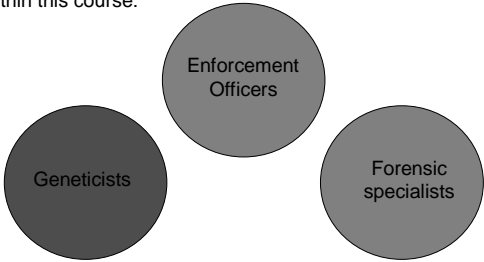
Course Environment

- The more you get involved, the more you will benefit
- Opportunity to meet people, ask questions, discuss problems
- Informal, polite, friendly, respectful
- 50% direct learning, 50% informal learning
- Very diverse participants – cannot address every specific need, but can advise and help on specific cases.




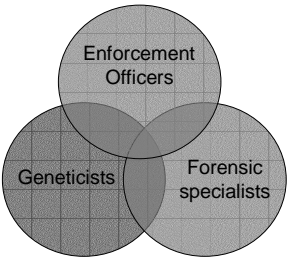
Communication

Within this course:



Communication

Within this course:



Domestic Arrangements

- Information in workbook
- Lunches, tea breaks, dinners
- Free time, evening lectures

- Airport transfers
- Per diem
- Local advice / assistance

- Timing