Dr. Feng Limin

College of Life Sciences

Beijing Normal University

Beijing, 100875

P. R. China

Dear Dr. Feng Limin,

I would like to invite you and your graduate student field assistant, Yang Haitao, to visit Khao Nang Ram Wildlife Research Station(KNRWRS) in Uthai Thani province of Thailand, to learn how to capture, immobilize and radio collar tigers and leopards. Dr. Achara Simcharoen and her field team will work with you and Yang Haitao to develop the skills to capture immobilize and radio collar tigers and leopards. During your visit to KNRWRS you will work with Dr. Achara Simcharoen, her colleague, Sonphot Duangchantrasiri, Dr. Saksit Simcharoen and Achara’s field team. Achara and her team have had more than 30 successful tiger captures using foot snares. Dr. Saksit Simcharoen will also be able to share with you his experience capturing leopards using box traps.

I suggest you arrive on March 25th and leave on April 15 th. During your visit we will cover the following aspects of capture and immobilization:

1. Snares and box traps for capturing tigers and leopards
2. Darting equipment Pneu-Dart capture projectors and darts
3. Immobilization drugs
4. Vectronic Iridium GPS collar specifications
5. Capture equipment and safety procedures for both animals and humans

Sincerely



James L. David Smith

Professor

**TIGERS AND LEOPARDS WILDLIFE CAPTURE, IMMOBILIZATION, AND**

**HANDLING COURSE**

**DATES:** March 25th –April 15th 2017

**LOCATION:** Khao Nang Ram Wildlife Research Station

 Uthai Thani province

 Thailand

**COURSE TITLE:** Capture, Immobilization, and Handling of tigers and leopards Vertebrates

**COURSE ORGANIZER:** James L. David Smith

**INSTRUCTORS:** Dr. Achara Simcharoen, Khao Nang Ram Wildlife Research Station(AS)

 Dr. Sonphot Duangchantrasiri, Khao Nang Ram Wildlife Research Station(SD)

Dr. Saksit Simcharoen, Khao Nang Ram Wildlife Research Station(SS)

 J. L. David Smith, University of Minnesota(DS)

**COURSE OBJECTIVES:**

You will learn

1. Snares and box traps for capturing tigers and leopards
2. Darting equipment Pneu-Dart capture projectors and darts
3. Immobilization drugs
4. Vectronic Iridium GPS collar specifications
5. Capture equipment and safety procedures for both animals and humans

**COURSE OUTLINE:**

**Section One: Chemical Immobilization**

1. Introduction: Course Overview (DS)
2. IACUC requirements; University, State and Federal regulations; DEA and controlled substances; MN Pharmacy Board; International transportation of drugs (DS)
3. Legal Considerations: (AS)
4. Capture Drug Pharmacology: (AS)
5. Equipment lecture: (AS)
6. The Drugging Event: putting it all together (i.e., drugs and equipment)(AS)
7. Emergency Medical Treatment – Animals (AS)
8. Emergency Medical Treatment – Humans (AS)

**Section Two: Handling and Data Collection Methods** ( SS)

1. Morphological and physiological measurements

2. Handling equipment/supplies: hobbles, scales, blindfolds, thermometers, ear-tags, tattoos, biopsy needles, ultrasounds, radiocollars (VHF, GPS).

3. Drugging, reversal (i.v. and i.m.), and antibiotics: syringes, pole syringes, blow-pipes, darts, dart-guns

4. Sampling (this will include various tissues and body fluids and *why* you are sampling, e.g.., tooth, blood, urine, fecal, semen, DNA, body fat, etc..; DNA sampling without capture.)

5. Radio collaring; GPS, VHF, breakaway devices, eartag transmitters, etc.

**Section Three: Field Capture** (DS and AS,SD,SS)

1. Setting the snares, capture and collar the tigers
2. Setting the box traps, capture and collar the leopards
3. Tracking the tigers and the leopards