GRANT ACQUITTAL REPORT

Telemetry-Based Elephant Monitoring and Community Protection in Sumatra

Submitted to: Forix Foundation
Grant recipient: Wildlife Conservation International – International Elephant Project
Grant amount: USD $6,900
Reporting period: May–October 2026

1. PROJECT OVERVIEW

Wildlife Conservation International (WCI), through its International Elephant Project (IEP), is pleased to report on the outcomes of the Forix Foundation's generous grant of USD $6,900 to strengthen elephant monitoring and human-elephant conflict mitigation in Sumatra, Indonesia.

The grant was awarded to purchase three telemetry receiver and antenna sets for two frontline conservation partners working to protect *Critically Endangered* Sumatran elephants in the Leuser Ecosystem in North Sumatra and Way Kambas National Park in Lampung Province.

We are delighted to report that, through a change in supplier and careful management of procurement costs, we were able to purchase four complete telemetry sets instead of the three originally proposed, delivering an additional unit within the original grant budget.

The equipment has been allocated equally between our two conservation partners. Two sets are already in use by the Way Kambas Elephant Response Unit, while the remaining two have been sent to the Wildlife Monitoring and Mitigation Unit in the Leuser Ecosystem, ready to support planned elephant radio-collaring activities.

This investment is strengthening the field teams' capacity to monitor elephant movements, anticipate potential conflict with surrounding communities, and support the long-term protection of one of the world's most threatened elephant subspecies.



Drh. Firdaus (left), veterinarian at the Wildlife Ambulance handing over the telemetry units to Pak Nazaruddin (right), Field Manager of Komunitas untuk Hutan Sumatera in the Way Kambas National Park.

2. PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION & OUTCOMES

Equipment Procurement

The original grant application proposed purchasing three telemetry receiver and antenna sets at an estimated cost of USD $2,300 each.

Following approval of the grant, IEP's Project Manager, Dr Alexander Mossbrucker, identified an opportunity to purchase the equipment directly from US manufacturer Telonics, rather than through the South African supplier previously used by the project.

This significantly reduced the cost per set, enabling the purchase of four Telonics TR-8 scanning receivers and four RA-23K antennas for USD $6,140, plus USD $482 in international freight.

The total supplier cost was therefore USD $6,622, allowing the project to acquire an additional telemetry set while remaining within the original equipment and freight budget.

The equipment was shipped to Indonesia through the Way Kambas National Park Authority, with additional customs storage clearing fees totalling IDR 8,869,087 (USD $490) before distribution to the conservation partners.

Equipment Allocated - Way Kambas National Park

Komunitas untuk Hutan Sumatera (KHS) operates the Way Kambas Elephant Response Unit (ERU), which monitors and protects the northern and northeastern boundaries of the Way Kambas National Park.

This area experiences significant human-elephant conflict, as wild elephants regularly approach farmland and settlements bordering the national park.

The ERU undertakes regular patrols, including night-time monitoring and crop-guarding activities, working closely with local communities to prevent conflict and protect both people and elephants.

The two new telemetry sets are now in use by the ERU team, strengthening its capacity to monitor radio-collared elephants and support timely responses to elephant movements near the park boundary.

By providing additional equipment, the grant helps the team maintain and expand its monitoring capabilities across a large and challenging patrol area



Ranger from the Way Kambas Elephant Response Unit (ERU) testing the newly purchased telemetry unit and antenna.

Equipment Allocated - Leuser Ecosystem

Yayasan Sumatera Hijau Lestari (SHL) operates the Wildlife Monitoring and Mitigation Unit (WMU) in the Langkat district of the Leuser Ecosystem in North Sumatra.

The team monitors wild elephant populations, documents individual elephants and herd movements, and responds to incidents of human-elephant conflict in villages and agricultural areas bordering elephant habitat.

Two telemetry sets have been sent to SHL to support the next phase of its elephant monitoring program.

The equipment will become operational once the team has successfully fitted GPS collars to three target elephants. These collaring activities are planned for completion before the end of 2026, subject to field conditions and operational requirements.

Once the elephants are collared, the new equipment will allow WMU rangers to locate and monitor their movements more effectively, providing valuable information to guide patrol activities and conflict prevention.

This will be particularly important in areas where elephants regularly move between forest habitat, plantations and community farmland.

3. CONSERVATION IMPACT & EXPECTED BENEFITS

The telemetry equipment funded by the Forix Foundation supports a central component of IEP's conservation strategy: using elephant tracking technology to help frontline teams anticipate and prevent human-elephant conflict.

Radio telemetry enables rangers to locate collared elephants and monitor their movements, helping teams make informed decisions about where and when to undertake patrols and mitigation activities.

The anticipated benefits include:

- **Improved elephant monitoring:** Strengthening the ability of field teams to locate radio-collared elephants and understand their movements.
- **Earlier intervention:** Helping rangers identify when elephants are approaching farmland or settlements, allowing preventive measures to be taken before conflict escalates.
- **Greater community safety:** Supporting early warnings and coordinated responses that reduce risks to people living alongside elephants.
- **Improved elephant protection:** Reducing opportunities for dangerous encounters and retaliatory harm to elephants.
- **Long-term monitoring capacity:** Providing durable field equipment that can support ongoing elephant conservation activities for several years.

With two units already in use at Way Kambas and two allocated to the Leuser Ecosystem, the grant has established additional monitoring capacity across two of Sumatra's most important remaining elephant habitats.

As the equipment becomes fully integrated into both partners' operations, IEP will continue monitoring its contribution through regular partner reports, including telemetry-assisted patrol activities, elephants tracked, and instances where tracking information supports early warning or conflict mitigation.

4. FINANCIAL ACQUITTAL

The Forix Foundation awarded USD $6,900 towards the purchase of three telemetry receiver and antenna sets.

By purchasing directly from the US manufacturer, the project secured four complete sets at a substantially reduced unit cost.

Expenditure	**Amount**
Four Telonics TR-8 scanning receivers	USD $4,760.00
Four Telonics RA-23K antennas	USD $1,380.00
International freight	USD $482.00
Total supplier invoice	**USD $6,622.00**
Customs storage and clearing charges (Fedex)	USD $490.00
Shipping 2 units to SHL (North Sumatra) from KHS office in Way Kambas	**USD $34.00**
Total	**USD $7,146**

5. NEXT STEPS

The immediate priority is to complete the planned radio-collaring of three target elephants in the Leuser Ecosystem, enabling SHL's two new telemetry sets to be brought into operational use.

At Way Kambas, the ERU will continue incorporating its two new sets into ongoing monitoring and conflict mitigation activities.

IEP will maintain oversight of both programs and track the use and effectiveness of the equipment through regular field reports from its conservation partners.

6. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Wildlife Conservation International, and our project partners KHS and SHL, extend our sincere thanks to the Forix Foundation for its generous support of Sumatran elephant conservation.

Your grant has enabled us to achieve more than originally anticipated, equipping our frontline conservation partners with four telemetry sets rather than three.

These essential tools will support the dedicated rangers working to protect *Critically Endangered* Sumatran elephants and help communities coexist more safely with wildlife.

We are deeply grateful for the Foundation's investment in practical, on-the-ground conservation and its contribution to safeguarding the future of Sumatra's elephants.

7. SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION

1. Invoices
2. Photographs of telemetry equipment