

PhD Dissertation
Department of Environmental Science and Policy
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Title: Silent Killer: Evaluating Anti-Poaching Management Practices in Assam, India

Dissertation Director: Dr. Younsung Kim

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ABSTRACT

Poaching causes species extinction and a broader crisis in biodiversity loss. Wild Bengal tigers, greater one-horned rhinos, and Asian elephants are being hunted to extinction. Anti-poaching management practices have thus been adopted in tiger reserves and national parks. However, little is known about whether they are effective. This dissertation evaluates the impacts of anti-poaching management practices, including deterrence policies and patrolling capacity on wildlife population and wild rhino poaching in national parks in Assam, India. Stakeholders' perception of anti-poaching practices was also examined to understand collaborative governance potential. The findings highlight a targeted species-specific approach and stakeholder buy-in for anti-poaching.