

Insights into the spatial and temporal ecology of the sunda clouded leopard *Neofelis diardi*

Abstract

The Sunda clouded leopard *Neofelis diardi* is an extremely challenging species to study and as such remains one of the least known of the world's larger (>10 kg) cats. We used a combination of radio-tracking and camera-trap surveys to provide some of the first insights into the spatial and temporal ecology of this elusive felid. A female clouded leopard, radio-tagged and tracked over 109 days in Sabah, Malaysian Borneo, occupied a home-range of 16.1 km² and a core-range of 5.4 km² (95% and 50% fixedkernel estimators, respectively). Photographic records of this species from three intensive camera-trap surveys, amounting to 135 independent capture events of at least 22 individuals, were pooled and used to investigate patterns of activity. Sunda clouded leopards were found to be primarily, although not exclusively, nocturnal. We compare our results with those from two field studies of the mainland clouded leopard, *N. nebulosa*, in Thailand. Although preliminary, our data serve to underscore the need for more intensive research of this elusive wild cat. © National University of Singapore.