Results of leopard and tiger feces collection and DNA extraction on the Russian Far East

- **Only 40-50 Far Eastern leopards and 31 Amur tiger IUCN Red Data Book-Critically Endangered, or almost Extinct**
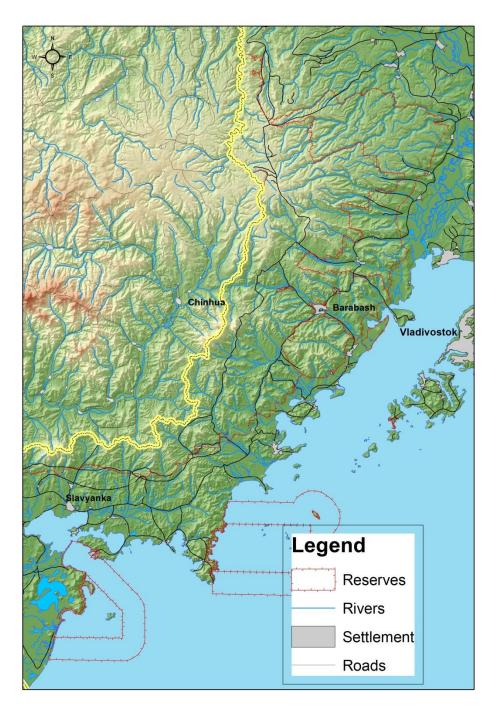
Objectives

- To collect leopard and tiger feces samples

- To extract DNA from this samples

Study area

Period of feces collection:

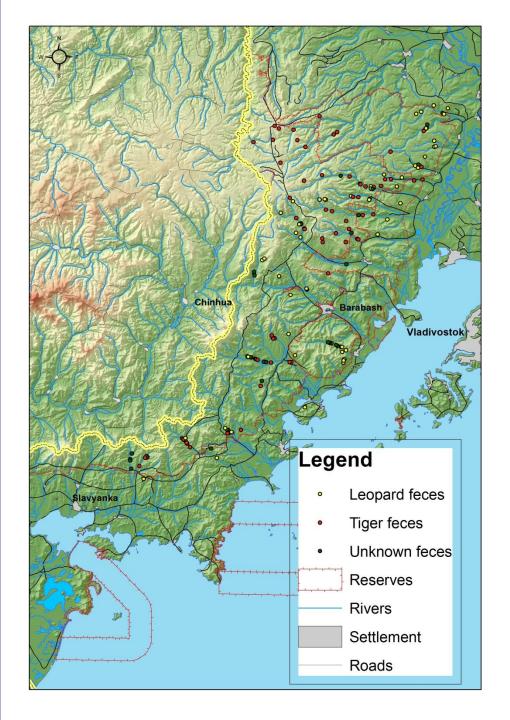Late November to the end of March

Methods of feces collection

- On the roads by car

- Searching along ridges and plateau

- Follow tracks

Methods of feces collection

- On the roads by car

- Searching along ridges and plateau

- Follow tracks

Location points of feces collection

Totally 196 samples of feces were collected:

Leopard – 76

Tiger – 80

Unknown – 40

Places of feces collection

- Roads - 98

- Animal trails - 70

- Off roads and trails - 28

Aspect

S slops	18
N slops	8
Ridges and plateau	82
Valley	88

DNA extraction

DNA samples were extracted using standards QIAGEN QIAamp DNA Stool Mini Kit.
For the best result every sample from 196 was processed three times for DNA extraction.

DNA extraction

As a result of work 135 samples of DNA were extracted:
57 – Far Eastern leopard;
49 – Amur tiger;
29 – unknown