

Thank you for your generous donation last year. Your money helped us to open a new wildlife park in Kenya as part of our work to help protect the 1,000 elephants left in Africa.

Unfortunately, elephants are endangered in other parts of the world, too, and we need your help again. This time we need you to help us in Thailand. One hundred years ago, millions of wild elephants lived in Asia. Today there are only 30,000 Asian elephants. The situation in Thailand is especially serious. Thailand now has only 1,800 to 2,000 elephants. Experts believe that by the year 2010, elephants in Thailand will be extinct.

Why are the elephants in Thailand endangered?

They don't have enough food to eat.

Paper companies cut down banana trees and bamboo. These plants are native to Thailand, and they are eaten by elephants. The companies plant eucalyptus trees instead. The eucalyptus trees grow fast, and the companies use their wood for boxes and other paper products. The paper companies make a lot of money from the eucalyptus trees. But what about the elephants? They need 150 to 300 kilograms of food every day, and they can't eat eucalyptus trees! Hunters kill hundreds of wild elephants every year.

Hunting elephants is not legal in Thailand, but many hunters kill these animals anyway. These illegal hunters make a lot of money from selling elephant tusks. The only way to get the tusk off the elephant is to kill the animal. The hunters sell the tusks to people who make furniture, jewelry, and art from the ivory in the tusk.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Mark Gow

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casual
nature
scanner
résumé
crops raises
bill
cleanser
hire
manager
vines
out of work
wild

career
donation
courage
artist
employment
detergent
hunter
plants
nice
polite
protect
illegal
receive
convince
prevent
proud
wild
nervous
organize
fake
skill
nice
ripen
insect
dust
shine
soap
natural
weeds