

## HLF funding to help save the ‘Highland Tiger’

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Eight organisations including Scottish Natural Heritage, the Scottish Wildlife Trust, the Royal Zoological Society and the Royal (Dick) Vet School have formed a partnership to address the threats to the species - the main ones being interbreeding with domestic or feral cats, and the risk of disease.

They will provide training in wildcat surveys and wildcat-friendly land management practices, and will involve schools, volunteers and community projects in learning about wildcats, and responsible domestic cat ownership. The work will also co-ordinate neutering and vaccination of feral cats, and will monitor the wild-living cat populations through an extensive network of trail cameras.

Commenting on the announcement, Colin McLean, Head of HLF in Scotland, said: “We have some incredible native wildlife in Scotland but our species and habitats are under constant threat. We are delighted to see such a strong partnership working together for the good of this iconic Scottish species. We hope that with the HLF grant announced today, communities across the country will be inspired and empowered to safeguard the existence of these rare creatures”.

**Further information**

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