



Patuxent Science Meeting 2004 Poster Abstract

Patuxent/Smithsonian Mammal Survey in Myanmar

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During August of 2003, Patuxent's Biological Survey Unit (BSU) joined Smithsonian Institution partners from the National Museum of Natural History (NMNH) to assist with a preliminary survey of small mammals in the Southeast Asian nation of Myanmar. The survey is part of a long collaboration among NMNH, the National Zoological Park (NZP), California Academy of Sciences, and the Myanmar Division of Nature and Wildlife Conservation. Myanmar has a diverse, but poorly documented, vertebrate fauna that suffers greatly from habitat destruction and fragmentation and an active wild animal trade. Data from biological inventories provides baseline information necessary for understanding the impact of such activities on the native fauna. Fieldwork in 2003 provided a training workshop on mammals for Burmese wildlife rangers and a field survey of mammals in remnant forest tracts around Pyin-Oo-Lwin, Mandalay Division. This work documented the presence of 23 native species of four orders of mammals and provided evidence for the importance of remnant and regrowth forest patches in maintaining pools of original diversity within heavily altered landscapes.