



How do animals deal with logging and hunting?

Dr. Jedediah Brodie has always loved animals and plants, and wanted to explore interesting ecosystems like tropical jungles. Now he works in the jungle of Southeast Asia, investigating where animals live and how they deal with human disturbances like logging, hunting, and climate change.

Animals like elephants, rhinos, and big cats need large areas of land where they can find food, mates, and habitat. Few of the parks in Borneo are big enough on their own. Jedediah and his team are working to establish protected “habitat corridors” to allow wildlife to move between these parks.

Why study the clouded leopard?

Jedediah’s work focuses on finding the clouded leopard. The clouded leopard is known as an *umbrella species* because protecting it will benefit many other species, too. Identifying and preserving an area that can support this wide-ranging animal means we can also protect all of the other species within its habitat.

How do you find a wide-ranging, rare animal in the dense jungle?

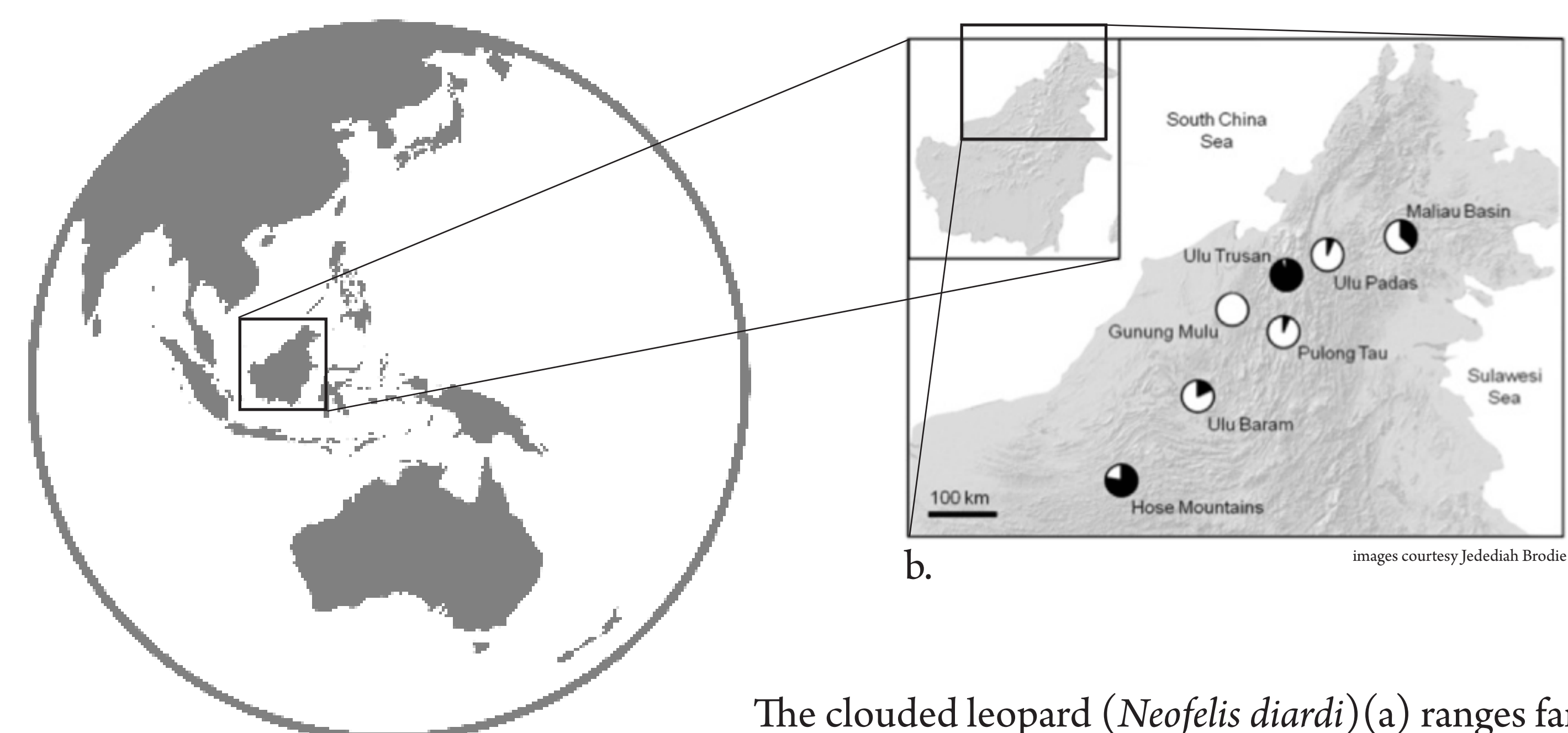
Jedediah’s team sets up camera traps. These are mounted and stay on trees for a few months to a year, automatically taking pictures when an animal is nearby.

How do you protect a vast area?

It takes many people to protect this last tropical Asian wilderness. Creating a “habitat corridor” to connect seven national parks takes the work of scientists, governments, international conservation agencies, and citizens, too. Jedediah’s team employs and trains local villagers in data collection, so that they become participants in the future monitoring efforts needed to ensure the long-term persistence of clouded leopards and biodiversity in this region.



a.



b.

The clouded leopard (*Neofelis diardi*) (a) ranges far over the jungle of Southeast Asia, including Jedediah’s study sites in Borneo (b). The graphs show the proportion of camera stations in unlogged (white) and logged (black) forest in each study area.