

# News from the Field

## *Elephant Healthcare & Welfare Emergency Lifeline Fund*

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With the arrival of COVID-19, a group of elephants was moved to live in their home village in Huay Pakkoot, Mae Chaem in Chiang Mai province.

The number of elephants there has increased vastly. There are some old faces who have lived in the village for a long time, and newcomers who have just arrived.

**The Injury.** The elephants were roaming together. Slowly, food resources were fought over. Two male elephants were fighting and one of them was seriously hurt. His tusk was broken.



Veterinarians from the Thai Elephant Alliance Association (TEAA) were called to help.

Knowing that the broken tusk could become infected and harm the health of the elephant, he was referred to the Elephant Hospital at Lampang for aggressive treatment. Once there, staff contacted a dentist to further examine the

elephant. They were instructed to keep the wound as clean as possible.

**The Treatment.** On October 15, 2020, the elephant was scheduled to receive a tooth cap. Veterinarians supported by the *Elephant Healthcare Emergency Lifeline Fund* assisted the dentist, learning the technique that could help save another elephant with the same problem in the future.

We all hope the elephant will recover quickly and return home soon!

**Special thanks** to the kind people, from all around the world, who have made it possible for me and other Thai veterinarians to continue to stay on the job—helping elephants everyday during the COVID-19 pandemic. Together, we are stronger.

