Wild Tiger Health Centre Information Sheet

Disease threat: Platynosomum fastosum

Hazard description: An hepato-pancreatic trematode.

Host species: Felid species. The life cycle is indirect with two intermediate hosts: snails; amphibians and reptiles, especially lizards.

Pathogenesis: Heavy infections in the final host may cause liver pathology (so-called lizard poisoning) (Taylor et al. 2007), but assume this is uncommon in wild felids due to lack of reports.

Diagnosis: Eggs in faeces.

Free-ranging tiger occurrence: Reported from Amur tiger in RFE (González et al. 2007), and from an Indo-Chinese tiger in Thailand (Patton & Rabinowitz, 1994).

Distribution: Reported from RFE (González et al. 2007), and cited as present in Malaysia (Taylor et al. 2007). Otherwise unknown, assume likely present in all tiger range states.

Assumptions: Assume low pathogenicity in wild felids.

Limitations: Distribution data poor.