

## Siberian tiger that terrified Vladivostok gets new wild home

May 18 2017



In this image made from video released by Amur Tiger Centre/WWF, a male Amur tiger is seen before being released into the wild in Bikin National Park in southeastern Russia, Monday, May 15, 2017. A Siberian tiger that terrorized Russia's Far East city of Vladivostok by prowling its suburbs has been relocated to a vast, wild Russian national park where officials hope he will thrive. The tiger, nicknamed Vladik, was captured last October on the edge of Vladivostok. He was helicoptered Monday to Bikin National Park, 500 kilometers (350 miles) further north. (Amur Tiger Centre/WWF via AP)



A Siberian tiger that terrorized Russia's Far East city of Vladivostok by prowling its suburbs has been relocated to a vast Russian national park where officials hope he will thrive.

The tiger, nicknamed Vladik, was captured in October on the edge of Vladivostok. He flown by helicopter Monday to Bikin National Park, 500 kilometers (350 miles) further north.

Russia has declared Siberian, or Amur, tigers a protected species. Only about 540 are estimated to live in the wild.

World Wildlife Fund video shows the tiger appearing initially bewildered when his cage was opened. But he then leapt out with a growl, ran around the space where the helicopter landed and disappeared into the woods.

Pavel Fomenko of WWF says Vladik "has little chance of wandering into urban jungles again."





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Citation: Siberian tiger that terrified Vladivostok gets new wild home (2017, May 18) retrieved 11 May 2024 from <u>https://phys.org/news/2017-05-siberian-tiger-vladivostok-wild-home.html</u>

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