

Corbett tiger found dead in wire snare

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At a time when tiger census is in progress amid concerns over the dwindling population of tigers, yet another tiger was found dead in Fonto Range of Tarai West Division of Corbett Tiger Reserve.

A male tiger estimated to be six or seven years was found trapped in a wire snare near agriculture fields. The body of the tiger was lying there for the last 48 hours. The post-mortem report also revealed that the big cat died of a wire snare which had caused a wound in its belly.

"I believe there was no involvement of poachers as all the organs of the feline

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was found intact. It seemed to be a case of human-animal conflict, as farmers placed a wire snare near agriculture field to prevent wild boars from reaching the field. The feline trapped in the same snare and died due to bleeding, said RK Mishra, Director of Corbett National Park.

Mishra added that a red alert has been sounded and teams have been pressed to remove wire snares placed near agriculture fields. Divisional Forest Officer of Tarai West Division said that a search for culprits is being undertaken in 30 villages falling within 5 kilometre radius of the site where tiger was found. A sniffer dog from Rajaji Park is also being used in the search operation.