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## Wild jumbo relocated to Taman Negara



KUALA KRAI: A wild elephant named Awang Uban which encroached into Kampung Tok Uban, Lata Rek, has been relocated by the Kelantan Department of Wildlife and National Parks (Perhilitan) to Taman Negara.

Kuala Gandah National Elephant Conservation Centre (NECC) operations chief Mohamad Khairul Adha Mat Amin said the wild elephant entered the village from the nearby Lata Rek Forest Reserve in search of food. “We used tranquillisers to capture the elephant when it

entered the area looking for food,” he told reporters. The five-hour capture and transfer operation of the 2.5-tonne wild elephant to Taman Negara in Pahang yesterday involved 25 personnel from Kelantan Perhilitan, who were assisted by Kuala Gandah NECC members.

The team also used two female elephants, named Rambai and Abot, to lure the 30-year-old wild elephant away.

“We believe there are nine or 10 more wild elephants from the same herd located at the nearby forest reserve, based on information from villagers,” Khairul said.

He said the encroachment was likely due to the destruction of the elephants’ natural habitat, adding that Perhilitan constantly monitored such situations and acted whenever reports of wildlife encroachment into human areas were lodged.

He urged people not to act on their own if they came across wild elephants but to report the sightings to Perhilitan. — Bernama

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