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## **Preservation status of Gua Naga Mas fossil, threats and strategies for moving forward**

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**Abstract:** The rare, almost complete felid fossil of Gua Naga Mas (identified a *Panthera tigris*) has attracted various studies since its discovery in 1992, indicating its importance for education and research. It has also been given attention by the media, indicating significance value to the public. The in-situ fossil site has been gazetted under a protection act and developed as a geosite for Kinta Valley Geopark since 2018. However, the invaluable fossil has been subjected to potential natural degradation and various man-made threats with no visible proper management in place. It is exposed to fumes, tremor from drilling/blasting and fire hazards for years. We suggest some moving forward strategies for better protection of the country's natural heritage, to avoid further degradation or unfortunate implication.

**Keywords:** Geosite, felid fossil, heritage