



TIGRESS PRODUCTIONS IS GOING APE AGAIN **WITH ANIMAL PLANET INTERNATIONAL**

Bristol, 24 January 2008: Leading independent factual producer Tigress Productions has been commissioned by Animal Planet International to produce a further 12 episodes of its highly acclaimed series **Going Ape**. The new half-hour series, **Going Ape 2** (working title), will again follow the perilous lives of apes orphaned by the bush-meat trade in West Africa, rescued by frontline workers from the UK, US and Cameroon.

Commissioned by Animal Planet's Mark Wild, **Going Ape 2** will be executive produced by Tigress' Jeremy Bradshaw and series produced by Melanie Darlaston. Aidan Woodward and Launa Kennet will produce/direct.

Currently being filmed in Cameroon, the series documents the efforts of Rachel Hogan, Felix Lankester, Sheri Speede and Babs Tafon and their dedicated team of veterinarians and volunteers as they work to save and rehabilitate endangered chimpanzees and gorillas in the rainforest.

In this edgy, on-the-ground series, Tigress will follow the orphans' fight to stay alive. Each new arrival reveals their own story as they overcome physical and psychological scars. Apes feel every emotion from being traumatized to grief to joy. There will be heart-warming tales of survival against the odds and drama as workers encounter every obstacle imaginable in the rescue and rehab of apes, providing a unique opportunity to get up close and personal with apes and their lives.

The series has filmed the triumphant homecoming of the Taiping Four – four orphan gorillas seized from the wild in Cameroon and illegally smuggled to a zoo in Asia using forged documents. After years in the Taiping Zoo in Malaysia, the four gorillas have been returned to their native land in Cameroon. Tigress has unique coverage of the repatriation.

The first 13 episodes of the series aired last autumn on Animal Planet International and the new season will premiere in all international markets in 2008.

Jeremy Bradshaw, Executive Producer at Tigress Productions says: "**Going Ape** is the front line of animal protection. This observational series is compelling and will raise awareness of the illegal trade of apes and bushmeat in Africa."

"We're excited to continue to follow the important and groundbreaking work of Rachel Hogan and her brilliant team in the field, rehabilitating primates," adds Mark Wild, Commissioning Producer, Animal Planet International.