

### **Project Update: February 2010**

We have conducted a preliminary survey as part of the West Sumatra otter project. We have surveyed some wetland habitat in eastern Bukit Barisan area in West Sumatra province - Lake Singkarak and some rivers. We found human activities cause habitat destruction for otter, especially in rivers. Many sand mining and gold mining activities were found in this area. Based on interviews, there is decreasing population of otters. We make this statement as preliminary conclusion from people information that explains the rarity of otter encounters compared to several years ago.



Traditional sand mining