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Welcome

During the second quarter of 2015, Wildlife At Risk (WAR) continued its efforts with wildlife protection through its rescue activities, biodiversity surveys and wildlife education. A contest on developing electronic power point lectures that integrates wildlife protection for Biology Subject Grade 7 was successfully held with 38 best lectures out of a total of 300 entries. The Wildlife Summer Camp connected 38 university students to wildlife conservation. The biodiversity survey in Bidoub Nui Ba National Park was also successfully conducted.

WAR expects to receive continuous supports from individuals, companies and organisations for its fight for wildlife protection and biodiversity conservation in Vietnam.

Your sincerely,

Nguyen Vu Khoi – WAR's CEO



Last April, Maggie Q a famous actress from Hollywood, USA, visited CuChi Wildlife Rescue Station to create educational video clips on Pangolin protection

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Biodiversity survey in Bidoub-Nui Ba National Park

May 2015, a biodiversity survey at Bidoub Nui Ba National Park, Lam Dong Province was conducted by national and international experts from WAR and the Institute of Ecological and Biological Resource (IEBR). The survey site was at Giang Ly and Hon Giao Forest Protection Stations, which are in the strictly protected area of Bidoub Nui Ba National Park. The site sits at an altitude of 1500-2000m above sea level.

In addition to flora, wild birds and butterflies, the survey also focused on species which are very active during the rainy season such as bats and reptiles. The survey recorded quite a few new species for the area. Some endangered species listed in the Vietnam Red Book were also found including *Magnolia Bidoupensis*, *Epigeneium Cacuminis* and *Dendrobium Bellatulum*.

Dendrobium bellatulum

©WAR/Pham Doan Quoc Vuong



Antheraea frithi

©WAR/Tran Anh Vu



Eria globifera

©WAR/Pham Doan Quoc Vuong



Actias selene

©WAR/Tran Anh Vu



Nepenthes annamensis

©WAR/Pham Doan Quoc Vuong

Gecko badenii was recorded for the first time in Kien Giang Province

Gecko badenii was recorded for the first time in 1994 in Ba Den Mountain, Tay Ninh Province in the South of Vietnam. This species was also found in Kon Tum Province further north of Vietnam in 1994. There is no other place where the species has been found.

However, in May and November 2014, *Gecko badenii* were found a few hundred meters away from WAR's Hon Me Wildlife Rescue Station in Kien Giang Province. This discovery was made by scientists from The Cologne Zoo, Institute of Ecological and Biological Resources (IEBR) and WAR.

In Ba Den Mountain, the geckos are often hunted for pets and meat. Thanks to this new discovery, we now know that the species has a bigger chance of survival from being hunted in Tay Ninh Province.



©T Ziegler

A female *Gecko badenii*.



©T Ziegler

A male *Gecko badenii*.

Rescues and releases

During the past quarter, **33** individuals of **13** endangered species have been rescued by WAR including Burmese Ferret-badger, Lesser Adjutant, Yellow cheeked Crested Gibbon, Pygmy Loris, Sunda Loris, Oriental small-clawed otter, Black Eagle and Bonelli's Eagle.

Also during the past quarter, **9** individuals of three wildlife species were released back to the wild including Small clawed Otte, Leopard Cat and Lesser Adjutant.



This endangered Black Eagle is being rescued at Cu Chi Wildlife Rescue Station. It will be released back to the wild soon.

©WAR/Do Thi Thanh Huyen

Cu Chi Wildlife Rescue Station

Locals hand over Northern White – cheeked Gibbon

Last April, an individual of Northern White-cheeked Gibbon weighing 4.5kg was handed over to WAR by a local people from Ba Ria Vung Tau Province. After spending sometime at Cu Chi Wildlife Rescue Station, this animal's health is now stable and it will be released back to nature as soon as possible.

It's a shame that one other individual Northern White-cheeked Gibbon died due to being captured in poor condition, just before it was rescued by WAR. There have been quite a few similar cases where the wildlife were not able to be rescued.

WAR expects to be reported on wildlife crimes and to receive live wildlife in order to release them back to the wild.

Please call our hotline at 0976 06 76 46 or Cu Chi and Hon Me Wildlife Rescue Stations if you are aware of any wildlife crime or caged animals.

Upgrade to the Bird Rescue Area

A net nearly 20m high and 600 m2 has just been installed as an upgrade from the old net at Cu Chi WRS. If visiting Cu Chi WRS, you might be able to interact with endangered birds at this Bird Rescue Area such as Great Hornbill, Wreathed Hornbill, Common Pheasant and Green Peafowl.



An Oriental Pied Hornbill in the new Bird Rescue Area at Cu Chi WRS.

©WAR/Do Thi Thanh Huyen



©WAR/Le Thi Kim Ngan

Saving Leopard Cat

Last April, a female Leopard Cat weighed roughly 2kg was handed over to WAR by Mr. Vo Duy Anh at Nha Be District, Ho Chi Minh City. At the time of being handed over, the Leopard Cat was injured in one leg and quite exhausted. Anh contacted the fan page SOS Bao ve dong vat hoang da and received support contacting as well as handing over the wild animal to WAR. Currently, the Cat is recovering and will be released back to its natural habitat soon.

Hon Me Wildlife Rescue Station

Rescue Sunda Loris

This female Sunda Loris weighed roughly 0.4kg when handed over to WAR by a local people in Hon Dat District, Kien Giang Province early last May. The Loris is being taken care of and rehabilitated at Hon Me WRS. When ready, it will be released back to the wild.



©WAR/Nguyen Vu Khoi

Rescue Elongated Tortoises

These three individual Elongated Tortoises were registered to Hon Me WRS last April. One female among them weighed approximately 1kg when handed over by Mr. Ta Quoc Thanh, a local from Rach Gia City, Kien Giang Province in the Mekong Delta River. The tortoise used to be a pet of one of his friends. Mr. Thanh was successful in convincing his friend to hand over the tortoise to WAR. We highly appreciate the effort of people like Mr. Thanh's and their attitude to helping wildlife.

The other two individuals were handed over by Can Tho Provincial Forest protection Department. All three Elongated Tortoise should be released back to the wild soon.



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Upgrading facilities

Some of the wildlife enclosures, including those of the Moon Bears, were painted. Some food plants for wildlife such as banana and papaya have been planted. These activities were supported by nearly 40 university students from four different provinces under the Wildlife Summer Camp 2015 last June.

SOS Programme

Awards for the 38 best power point lectures which include wildlife protection

On the occasion of the International Day for Biological Diversity 2015, WAR and the HCMC Department of Education and Training organised an awarding ceremony for those that have developed a power point lecture for any lesson that includes wildlife protection content of Biology Subject Grade 7. The awarding ceremony was organised at Cu Chi WRS. Participating in the ceremony were over 60 leaders and teachers.

The 38 best power point lectures not only met curriculum learning objectives, but also integrated wildlife protection content in an attractive and effective manner. From 22 August 2014 to 20 April 2015, the contest received over 300 power point lecture entries from 19 districts of HCMC.

In the next academic year, the awarded lectures will be shared amongst all secondary schools in HCMC.

©WAR/Le Thi Kim Ngan



Discovering the nature of Can Gio Mangrove Forest

Over 30 of WAR's volunteer students in the SOS programme were excited to discover the nature of Can Gio Biosphere Reserve over two days and one night. A series of creative and attractive activities were organised for the youth to get to know the mangrove forest. The trip was an award from WAR for the volunteers for their excellent contribution to the SOS programme in the academic year 2014-2015.



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Vietnamese students help wildlife at Cu Chi Wildlife Rescue Station

Cu Chi, on the 9th June over 30 Vietnamese students aged from 12-18 years old and teachers from Sai Gon Practice High School visited WAR's Cu Chi WRS. This was a great opportunity for the students to interact with wild animals and learn about wildlife rescue activities. In order to help the students learn about the nature, WAR also organized a few games and quizzes with real situations for the students to learn about wildlife in an engaging manner.

While most other trips to Cu Chi WRS for Vietnamese schools are covered by WAR under the SOS programme the students and teachers of the Sai Gon Practice High School covered all expenses of this trip. This is a great contribution from the students and teachers to wildlife conservation. We hope to receive further supports from individuals, companies and organizations for wildlife rescue activities.



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Wildlife Summer Camp 2015

Kiên Giang – Kien Giang Province, dated 22 June 2015 - WAR and Douc Langur Foundation (DLF) successfully organised the Wildlife Summer Camp 2015 from 18 - 22 June 2015 at WAR's Hon Me Wildlife Rescue Station. The Camp connected nearly 40 university students from Ho Chi Minh City, Hanoi Capital and Vung Tau and Can Tho Provinces through for a series of practical and meaningful activities.

Wildlife Summer Camp is an annual camp launched by WAR in June 2013 with the aim of connecting youth to wildlife conservation. The Camp not only raises awareness, provides knowledge, enhances skills, fosters attitude but also creates opportunities for the campers to act and contribute directly to wildlife conservation.

With the theme "Scattering of Love", the campers join WAR staff preparing food and feeding the wildlife, painting wildlife enclosures, and growing wildlife food plants.

Campers prepared food for wildlife.

©WAR/Do Thi Thanh Huyen



The students also visit over 500 local households of Hon Dat District, Kien Giang Province to talk to people and distribute leaflets. In addition, they also learnt skills related to wildlife conservation jobs and creating video clips on wildlife protection. A few social skills, those deemed necessary for their lives and recreational activities, were also conducted.

Campers painted wildlife enclosures.

©WAR/Do Thi Thanh Huyen



Lucky Wildlife photo exhibition

WAR and Mango Bay Resort opened a photo exhibition entitled "Lucky Wildlife" at Mango Bay Resort. The exhibition lasted for a month from 15 April to 15 May 2015 at Mango Bay Resort, Ong Lang Beach, Phu Quoc Island. The photo exhibition aims to encourage love for wildlife and to call everyone to take part in wildlife protection by saying NO to illegal wildlife products.

Over 40 artistic photos of endangered wildlife, luckily rescued by WAR, were displayed at the exhibition. Each photo mostly sized 30x45cm includes a story about that endangered wildlife and its fate. All live photos of endangered wildlife such as Asian Leopard, Yellow cheeked Crested Gibbon and Grey-shanked Douc were taken in their natural setting. Many of them are now enjoying freedom in the forest or enjoying comfortable lives at WAR's rescue facilities.

Visiting photo exhibition.



©WAR/Phan Thi To Duyen

During the last quarter, WAR received generous support from individuals and groups for its wildlife conservation activities. WAR would like to express our deepest thanks to the following individuals and groups.

The Douc Langur Foundation joined WAR connecting youth to wildlife conservation through the Wildlife Summer Camp 2015.

The Osprey Company supported WAR in biodiversity conservation in Vietnam.

The Sai Gon Practice High School organised a field trip for teachers and students to visit Cu Chi WRS.

Worldwide Veterinary Service, United Kingdom supported WAR with veterinary materials and equipment which is helpful at WAR's rescue facilities.

Mr. Joseph Hoess, Director of The Dragon Capital Clean Development Investments Ltd supported wildlife conservaton activities.

Volunteers and tourists at Cu Chi Wildlife Rescue Stations supported and encouraged WAR in its wildlife conservation activities.

University Students of the Wildlife Summer Camp 2015 contributed their time and effort to upgrade the animal facilities and grow wildlife food plants at Hon Me WRS.



Who is looking at you?

Take a look at the photo and guess who is looking at you?





Elephants in Vietnam are going away

From Jan to June 2015, five individual of tamed Asian Elephants aged from 33 to 43 years old died. Their work-load was too heavy and they were worked too hard. In the wild, an Asian Elephant can live up to 70 years old.

With this loss, it's estimated that roughly 43 tamed elephants left in Daklak Province – the province with highest number of tamed elephants.

Wild elephants in Vietnam are in even a more dangerous situation. According to the Forest Protection Department of Vietnam, there were only about 75 to 130 wild Asian Elephants left in Vietnam in 2010. However, according to WAR's records based on mass media, in the past five years, over 40 wild elephants died or were killed.

The future outlook is very black for elephants in Vietnam. In the next decade, it is foreseeable that **we might not have both wild and tamed elephants in the country.**



Siamese Fireback

Siamese Fireback (*Lophura Diardi*) is commonly found in forests of Vietnam, Laos, Cambodia, and Thailand. The species has a pretty long tail. The striking male Siamese Fireback often has a long crest of up to 9cm length, and a hook-curved tail. The female has a straight tail and less colourful plumage. The Siamese Fireback seeks for food on the ground during the day and sleeps on tree branches at night. The species feeds on nuts, fruits, insects and worms. A Siamese Fireback lays eggs after three years. Each time it delivers five to six eclipse eggs.

Siamese Fireback is categorized as Vulnerable (VU) in the Vietnam Red Book. The number of Siamese Fireback in the wild is steadily reducing due to illegal hunting for meat and decoration purposes. Habitat loss, due to deforestation, is one reason that has pushed the species to the brink of extinction. Nowadays, the Siamese Fireback is being protected in many national parks and nature reserves in Vietnam.

Please help us "Say NO!" to illegal products from the Siamese Fireback and other wild animals to protect the biodiversity of Vietnam.

