

# What's Up

A quarterly newsletter

**WAR**  
WILDLIFE AT RISK

## Welcome!



The most remarkable activity during the third quarter of 2017 was the successful association of a contest on wildlife, organized by WAR and VIETNAM YOUNG SPIKES in mid-July. WAR could exchange with other NGOs at the 5<sup>th</sup> fair of the Canadian International School (CIS) in district 7, Ho Chi Minh City. With the assistance of the Forest Ranger Department of Binh Duong province, WAR released 35 individuals of *Python molurus* (in total about 60 kg) back into wild nature in U Minh Thuong National Park. During the construction of a preservation center of WAR, advanced and environmentally friendly material was being used and applied directly. In this process, self-abortive tanks for septic water and combined with a system to handle waste water were installed to protect the environment.

WAR continued to build basic infrastructures and expanded breeding facilities to respond to the essential demands for nursing and treating wild animals transferred from other institutions.

WAR would like to express its gratitude to every person and organization that supported and cooperated with WAR in its actions on wildlife preservation in the past!

Sincere thanks!

**Nguyen Vu Khoi**

*Director*

Số  
2017

Trong số này

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## The fortunate fate of a small Bengal Monitor

## Law Enforcement



Accepting one Bengal monitor individual (*Varanus bengalensis*) at Binh Duong Forest ranger Department

On the 7<sup>th</sup> September 2017, 1 Bengal monitor individual (*Varanus bengalensis*) weighing 0,8 kg was handed over to the Forest Ranger Department in Binh Duong province by a local. This is a positive sign of local communities' awareness on wildlife protection. With the active support of WARs staff, the Bengal monitor was safely transferred to a preservation center. Most likely, in the future our little friend will be able to return into wild nature.

This is the third time WAR has cooperated with Binh Duong's Forest Ranger Department in rescuing and releasing wild animals back into the forest.

Photo: WAR/L.X.Lam



The Bengal monitor is being weighed before transferred into a quarantine area



Transfer to the quarantine cage

## Successfully releasing 35 wild animals back into the forest

## Law Enforcement



Photo 1: 35 Python molurus individuals arrive at U Minh Thuong National Park after the transport



Photo 2: Staff of the National Park assist carrying them to the banks of a canal



Photo 3: National Park staff transport them across a waterway

1st August 2017 – In U Minh Thuong National Park – Kien Giang province, Wildlife At Risk (WAR) joined hands with the Forest Ranger Department of Binh Duong to successfully release 35 Black-tailed Python individuals (*Python molurus*), with a total mass of about 60 kg. All the individuals were warmly taken care of by WARs experienced staff and were treated before being released back into the forest. Most of these released animals were confiscated by forest rangers and the police in illegal wildlife trade. This is the third time WAR cooperated with Forest Ranger Department of Binh Duong province in rescuing and releasing illegally traded wild animals back into wild nature.



Photo 5: A big python slowly returns to its ideal living environment



Photo 4: Everyone helps the pythons to get out easily

This activity turned out successful thanks to the support and programmes on biodiversity protection of WAR, the Institute of Ecology and Biological Resources (IEBR) and the active support of directorate of U Minh Thuong National Park – Kien Giang province.

Photo: WAR/ L. X. Lam

## Raising public awareness

### Friendly exchange with other NGOs

On 18<sup>th</sup> August 2017, WARs staff joined a friendly and open exchange with students of the Canadian International School (CIS) in district 7, Ho Chi Minh City, at the 5<sup>th</sup> fare with NGOs, being held at the school. By buying souvenirs made of environmentally friendly materials the students practically contributed to the protection of wildlife.

Photos: WAR/L.X.Lam



The children's innocent eyes are focused on the variety of stickers

## Education on preservation



## Raising public awareness

VIETNAM YOUNG SPIKES 2017

**BRIEF DAY**  
14 JULY

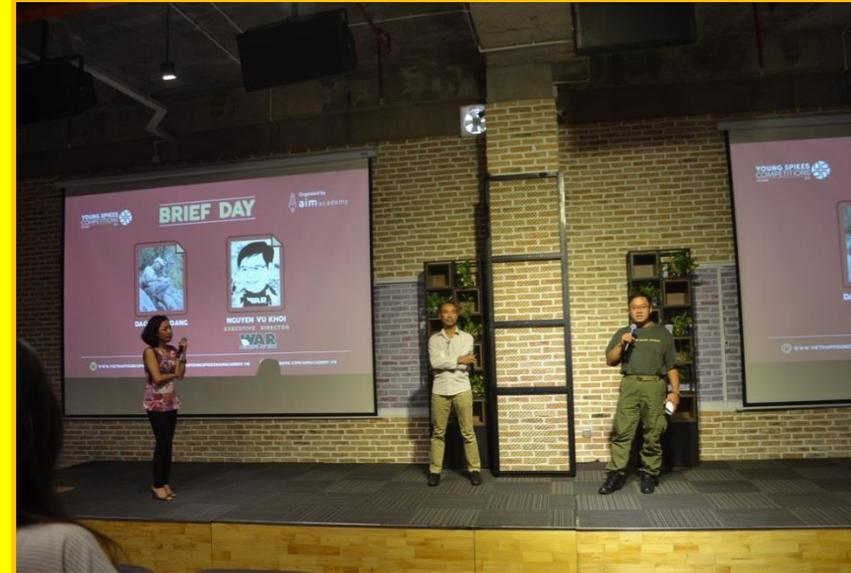
**WAR**  
WILDLIFE AT RISK

ORGANIZED BY  aim academy



In past July, WAR co-operated with VIETNAM YOUNG SPIKES in organizing a contest on wild animals. The focus during the contest ranged from the damage of environmental pollution to the protection of wildlife nowadays, the harm of non-endemic species coming from outside and reducing endemic species, as well as illegal breeding and wildlife trade nowadays.

## Education on preservation



Photos: WAR/L.X.Lam

The contest attracted many university students from the universities around Ho Chi Minh City. The winners of the first prize will compete in Singapore this September.

## Taking care of wild animals



WARs veterinarian is performing a health check on a water varan (*Varanus salvator*)

Photos: WAR/L.X.Lam

Wild animals are being taken care of and fed every day at the preservation centers. Blood samples are taken for check-ups, to assess the DNA and infectious diseases in a professional manner and according to standards by WARs veterinarian. The unfortunate individuals who were infected by contagious diseases are being put into a quarantine area to avoid the spread of the disease as well as for special and effective treatment.



The veterinarian takes a blood sample from the water varan (*Varanus salvator*) to assess its DNA and to check on contagious diseases

## *Building breeding facilities and developing basic infrastructure*



A Primate breeding facility is gradually being finished by the skilled hands of members of WARs staff.

Photos: WAR/ L.X.Lam



A cage for small animals of 9 m3 was just finished

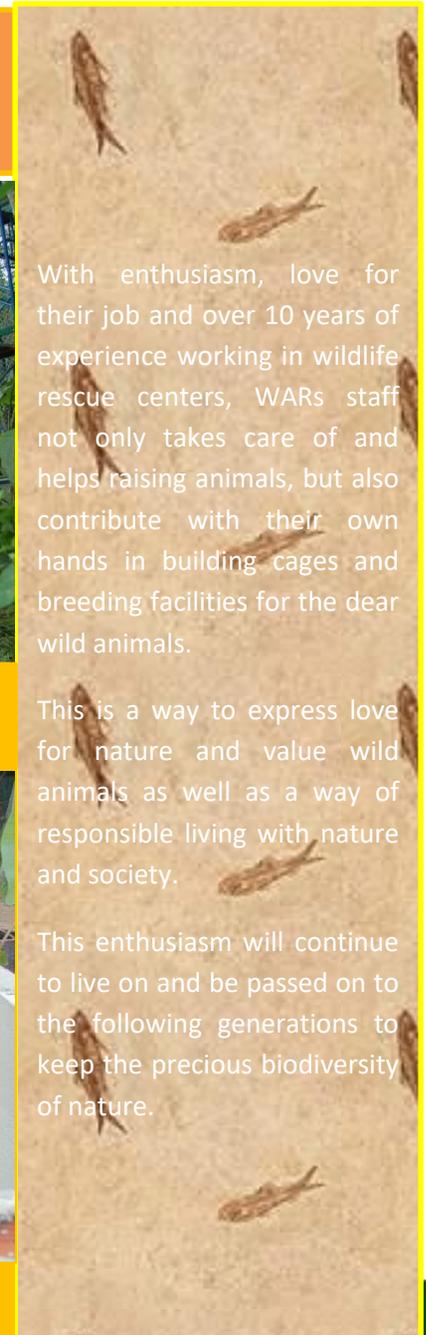


A complex of ponds for raising turtles is being finished

With enthusiasm, love for their job and over 10 years of experience working in wildlife rescue centers, WARs staff not only takes care of and helps raising animals, but also contribute with their own hands in building cages and breeding facilities for the dear wild animals.

This is a way to express love for nature and value wild animals as well as a way of responsible living with nature and society.

This enthusiasm will continue to live on and be passed on to the following generations to keep the precious biodiversity of nature.



*Practical activities for nature*

Right from the start, when placing the first bricks, we defined all the activities in the center to aim for the protection of environment. The environment is the criteria for every action of every person here. Therefore, a septic tank is the most suitable choice to further complement the waste water system for every breeding area of small carnivorous animals and reptiles. The self-abortive septic tank was designed specifically to filter waste water and prevent it from leaking, guaranteeing that the released waste water is of category B (secure for living environment). The tank is made of primary plastic with a long lifetime and a strong ability to oppose absorption, preventing water from leaking into the groundwater. Combined with the waste water system, the tanks will guarantee the waste water disposal of the breeding cages in the future.

Photos: WAR/L.X.Lam



Photo 1: A Septic water tank of 2000 liters just arrived in the center.



Photo 2: Staff of the center carry the tank to its needed place.



Photo 3: An excavator is digging a hole to bury the septic tanks



Photo 4: The excavator is lowering the tank into the hole.



Photo 5: The tank was placed in the hole well balanced and with the appropriate measures.

## *Colors and diversity of nature*



What animal is this?

This species lays eggs.....



The hatchlings at the age  
of one day



It resembles a snake, but it's not a snake....



The hatchlings after one week



The second primate cage is completed to up to 90%

Photo: WAR/L.X.Lam

## *Acknowledgements*

*WAR would like to express its gratitude to:*

*The company Dragon Capital for cooperating with WAR in all activities for the protection of wild animals in the recent years.*

*Thanks to all organizations and individuals that gave support in rescue activities to protect Vietnam's wild animals.*