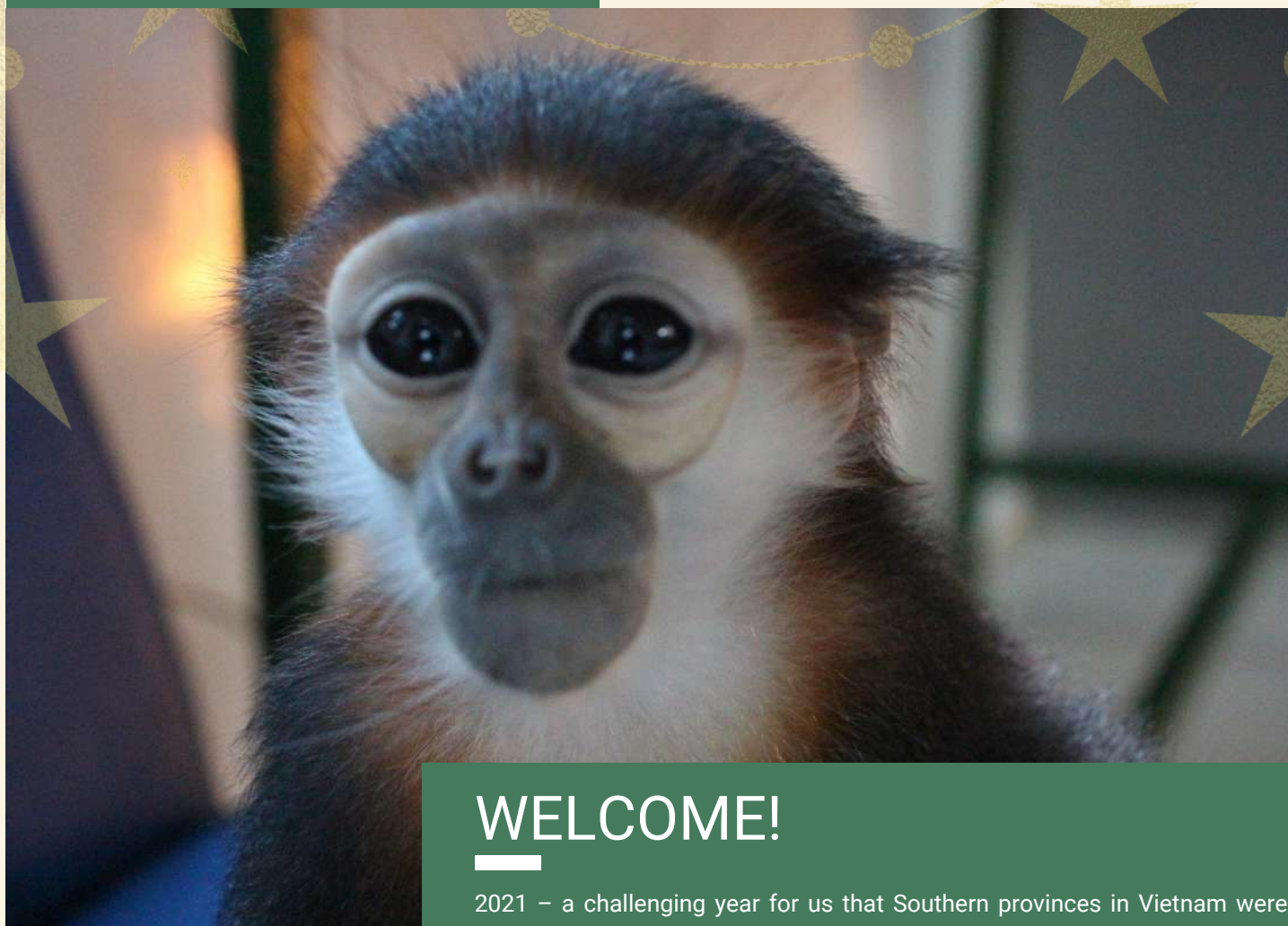


# ISSUE 47

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# WILDFLASH

DAU TIENG WILDLIFE CONSERVATION STATION



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### Editor:

Nguyen Vu Khoi

### Compilations:

Le Xuan Lam

Nguyen Thi Tam Anh

 [www.wildlifeatrisk.org](http://www.wildlifeatrisk.org)

 [info@wildlifeatrisk.org](mailto:info@wildlifeatrisk.org)

 0976.06.76.46

Photo: WAR/Nguyen Thi Tam Anh

## WELCOME!

2021 – a challenging year for us that Southern provinces in Vietnam were applied social distancing measures under the Prime Minister's Directive 16 for a long time. As a result, WAR spent the majority of time in the second quarter of 2021 for facilities development at Dau Tieng Wildlife Conservation Station (WCS). To be more specific, two (2) pangolin cages and eight (8) tortoise cages were built to respond promptly to the process of receiving and taking care of wildlife. At the same time, the quarantine area was upgraded to ensure the hygiene and safety for wildlife. Besides, two (2) ponds and 35m fence wall were erected to protect wildlife.

When society entered the new normal period in early October in 2021, Dau Tieng WCS achieved some striking achievements. As for law enforcement, we assisted authorities from Binh Duong, Quang Ngai and Tay Ninh provinces in caring for 125 wildlife totally including some endangered and rare species namely Northern Yellow-cheeked crested Gibbon (*Nomascus annamensis*), Black-shanked Douc Langur (*Pygathrix nigripes*). Furthermore, in collaboration with the Forest Protection Department of Binh Duong province and the Management Board of Dong Nai Culture and Nature Reserve, we had a release of 51 wildlife. In the meantime, an adorable offspring of Sunda Pangolin (*Manis Javanica*) was born at Dau Tieng Station. An unstable year came to a conclusion, WAR is incredibly grateful to its partners and donors who always support and follow us without whose support we wouldn't be able to carry out our work. Hopefully, 2022 is peaceful and prosperous for all of us.

# CAPTIVE BREEDING

## A CRITICALLY ENDANGERED SPECIES WAS BORN IN DAU TIENG WILDLIFE CONSERVATION STATION



Sunda Pangolin parents enjoy in their "own happy abode" in Dau Tieng WCS

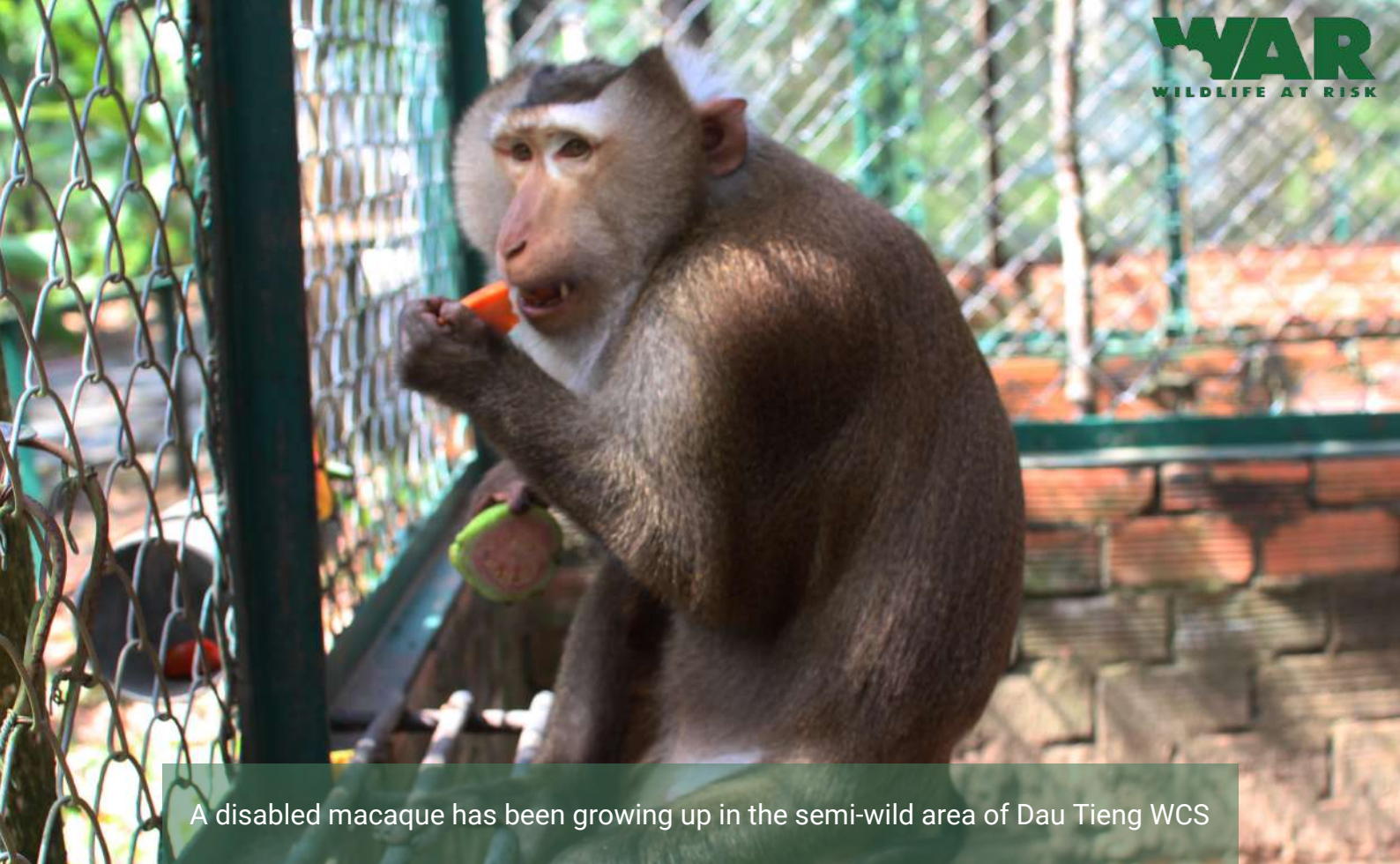
As a critically endangered species in IUCN-2021 and group IB of Decree 06/2019/ND-CP, Sunda Pangolin (*Manis Javanica*) is one of the species receiving lots of attention in conservation work. Therefore, Sunda Pangolin breeding for conservation is crucial, as it is part of the Dau Tieng WCS captive breeding program. We have continued to carry out and observe the matching process of a new couple confiscated from illegal trade in Binh Duong province and matched in February 2021, following the success of breeding to preserve this species at the end of 2020. About 8 months later, it is delightful news that a baby Sunda Pangolin (*Manis Javanica*) was born at Dau Tieng WCS. The appearance of newborn pangolin is a solid demonstration for our efforts in Vietnam to conserve precious and rare genetic resources.



A newborn pangolin – A outcome of love

Photos: WAR/Nguyen Thi Tam Anh





A disabled macaque has been growing up in the semi-wild area of Dau Tieng WCS

# LAW ENFORCEMENT

## RECEIVING TWO INJURED MACAQUES

After getting information from FPD of Binh Duong province, a rapid rescue team of WAR traveled to receive two disabled Northern Pig-tailed Macaques (*Macaca leonina*). Thanks to intensive treatment from both vet and animal keepers at Dau Tieng WCS, their health condition, currently, is good completely. However, they are unable to back the nature because of body defect leading to the high mortality. As a consequence, we continue to care for and nurture them in captivity, putting pressure on enclosure conditions for attempting to save another endangered species owing to the space constraints.



Before



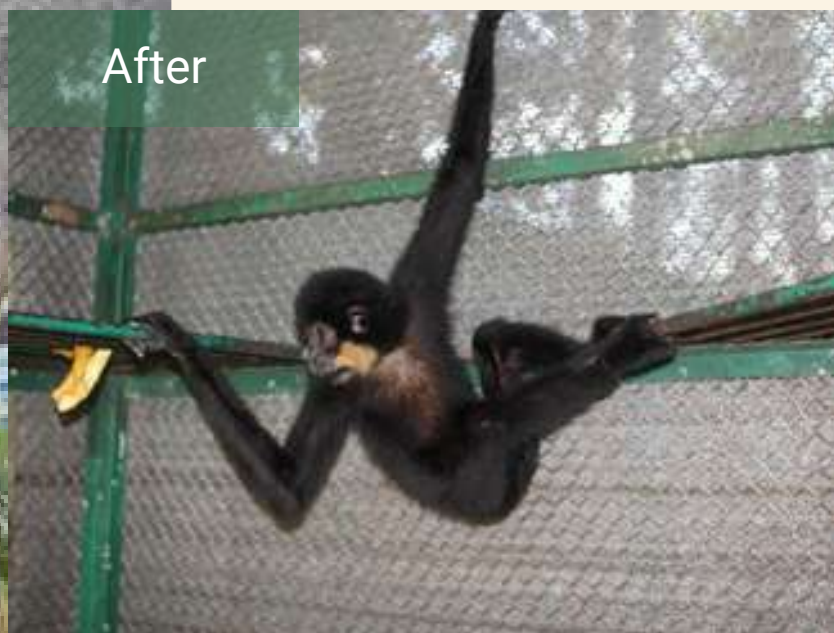
“

All creatures are deserving of a life free from fear and pain”

”

-Maura Cummings-

After



## A WEAK NORTHERN YELLOW-CHEEKED CRESTED GIBBON WAS HANDED OVER TO DAU TIENG WCS

At around noon on November 9th, 2021, a gibbon appeared at the Political school of Binh Duong province and local people urgently informed a mobile range team in order to save this species. As a supporter for authorities including the Forest Protection Department, Police and Veterinary Department of Binh Duong province, WAR rapidly arrived on the scene to receive and transport it to Dau Tieng WCS.

This is a 1.5kg Northern Yellow-cheeked Crested Gibbon (*Nomascus annamensis*). This gibbon, according to local people, was raised as a pet for a long time. Because the cage was not safe, it escaped posing health and economic risks to the community.

It was suffering from anorexia when it initially arrived to Dau Tieng WCS. With an effort and dedicated care of not only the vet but also the animal keeper, a gibbon's health is better. However, for this species, recovering an instinct will be a long process in order to return to the forest.

Extinction – don't let it end for them







Before: Living in a tinny bucket of water

## RESCUE A RARE CREATURE

In Vietnam, marine creature is well-known as nutritious, delicious and expensive food. As a result, they have considerably overexploited. Located at Ho Chi Minh city about 50km, Can Gio beach is a popular destination for seafood. Due to a massive demand from consumers, a variety of restaurants have begun to offer endangered aquatic species as delicacy.

Dated 15th November, thanks to the mobilization of the local authorities, a restaurant in Can Gio district handed over a 22kg Green Turtle (*Chelonia mydas*) to An Nghia Fisheries Station (belongs to Ho Chi Minh Sub-Department of Fisheries). WAR promptly traveled over 100km supporting the authority to accept this species after receiving the news from Ho Chi Minh Sub-Department of Fisheries. According to the IUCN Red List-2021, Green Turtle (*Chelonia mydas*) is an endangered species. Because of the excessive pollution and hunting for food, it could become extinct in Vietnam in the near future unless conservation solutions are implemented timely and effectively.

We do welcome the spirit of self-discipline to enforce the law from owners. Biodiversity protection would be ineffective without the active cooperation of locals and authorities.



After: Swimming at a Dau Tieng Station pool



## QUANG NGAI PROVINCE – A HOT SPOT FOR DOUC LANGUR POACHING AND ILLEGAL TRADE

A lovely Doc Langur has been looking after by WAR's staff



Goodbye! She will miss you



Well, we will move to a new house " Dau Tieng  
Wildlife Conservation Station"

The WAR team completed the procedure and transferred to Quang Ngai province after receiving the need of Tu Nghia district FPD, Quang Ngai province for taking care of a Douc Langur on November 23rd, 2021. Within roughly 30 hours, we arrived at the local authorities' office to accept the Douc Langur.

This is Gray-shanked Douc Langur (*Pygathrix cinerea*) being one in five endemic species in Vietnam which is classified as an endangered species (Vietnam Red List) as well as a critically endangered species (IUCN). According to a forester, this Douc Langur was kept as a pet in a resident's house for a long time in Tu Nghia district. Locals called authorities as soon as they became aware of the illegal wildlife in captivity and voluntarily transferred wildlife. We met him when he was in poor health and weighed just 1.3kg. There were no words to describe how much both the WAR team and rangers pity for him. At the present, he is not only safe but also well-cared for at Dau Tieng WCS.



# A REPORT – MORE THAN 100 FRESH TURTLES AND TORTOISES WERE RELEASED



At the end of the year, the illegal wildlife trade and transportation, especially turtle species, has increased sharply. With a witness from FPD of Tay Ninh province and Dau Tieng district, Dau Tieng WCS supported the Environmental Police Department – Police of Tay Ninh province to save a great number of fresh turtles and tortoises on December 24th, 2021. All species are prioritized to protect belonging to group IIB- Decree 06/2019/ND-CP.

Tay Ninh Provincial Police said that they had discovered an unlawful inter-provincial truck which loaded a volume of evidence up to 185kg. The quantity of exhibit hidden on the truck was 118 endangered species such as Mekong Snail-eating Turtle (*Malayemys subtrijuga*), Southeast Asian Box Turtle (*Cuora amboinensis*), Giant Asian Pond Turtle (*Heosemys grandis*), Yellow-headed Temple Turtle (*Heosemys annandalii*) and Elongated Tortoise (*Indotestudo elongata*). When WAR's vet checked up their health, he found out the number of species in terrible health including those who were weak, dehydrated, scratched and had some minor injuries from transportation and living in an uncomfortable environment.

They are now being cared for and treated at the Dau Tieng WCS semi-wild area. With love and enthusiasm, we do hope that they will get healthy soon and return to the forest.







Photo: WAR/Le Trung Vuong

## RECEIVING A VENOMOUS SNAKE – A KING COBRA



The Hoa Thanh Police and the Forest Protection Department of Tay Ninh Province handed over a King Cobra (*Ophiophagus hannah*) weighing 6.4kg to Dau Tieng WCS on December 27th, 2021.

Photo: WAR/Nguyen Thi Tam Anh

King Cobra is considered the longest of all snakes. They are known to be extremely dangerous snakes. This species is capable of delivering a high quantity of venom into the victim in a single bite, ranging from 200 to 500mg. Without quick treatment, the venom will attack the nervous system and disrupt the heart rhythm enough to kill the victim after 30 minutes. For this reason, having a King Cobra in the house is extremely hazardous to human life. With many years of experience in the care and release of venomous snakes in the Southern region of Vietnam, WAR warns native residents about keeping venomous snakes indoors. At the same time, we strongly encourage and welcome the spirit of wildlife handover to the authorities.



# FREEDOM TO WELCOME A NEW YEAR



Luck and happy in your real home



About 100km from Dau Tieng WCS, Dong Nai Culture and Nature Reserve is a peaceful home for various endangered species. Because of advantageous geographical location and abundant natural resources, WAR coordinated with FPD of Binh Duong province to release 51 wildlife there. This release journey brought Northern Pig-tailed Macaques (*Macaca leonina*), Leopard Cat (*Prionailurus bengalensis*), Giant Asian Pond Turtle (*Heosemys grandis*), Yellow-headed Temple Turtle (*Heosemys annandalii*), Black Marsh Turtle (*Siebenrockiella crassicollis*), Elongated Tortoise (*Indotestudo elongata*) to the mother nature. Those species are prioritized for protection according to Decree: 06/2019/ND-CP, especially the Yellow-headed Temple Turtle (*Heosemys annandalii*) is an endangered species (IUCN-2021). Besides, the majority of releasing species were seized from illegal trafficking and captive breeding by FPD of Binh Duong province. After that, they were transferred to Dau Tieng WCS to rescue, nurture and rehabilitate.

Photos: WAR/Le Xuan Lam



# INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT



In the final 6 months of 2021, the development of infrastructure at Dau Tieng WCS was a highlight. In terms of enclosure, WAR's construction team was built 2 pangolin enclosures with an area of 12m<sup>2</sup> each and 8 turtle cages with nearly 15m<sup>2</sup> in a total area to focus on satisfaction for a variety of wildlife species. Enclosures inside were designed and arranged with the best possible materials for wildlife living at Dau Tieng WCS.

Furthermore, both a 35m fencing wall and 2 ponds with an area of about 25m<sup>2</sup>/1 pond had been constructed during this period. In particular, 2/3 of the isolation area (nearly 140m<sup>2</sup>) was tiled floors to ensure sanitary conditions and prevent disease when taking care of newly received animals.

We are always changing and improving in order to provide the best condition for wildlife in captive at the conservation station.







## ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

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**Cologne Zoo**  
**Douc Langur Foundation (DLF)**  
**International Primate Protection League (IPPL)**  
**Osprey Packs**

And other people are always willing to aid us in wildlife conservation. On the occasion of new year, WAR wishes all of partners and sponsors prosperity, success, and peace.