

ANNUAL REPORT

2020

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FOREWORD

A Note from Our Director

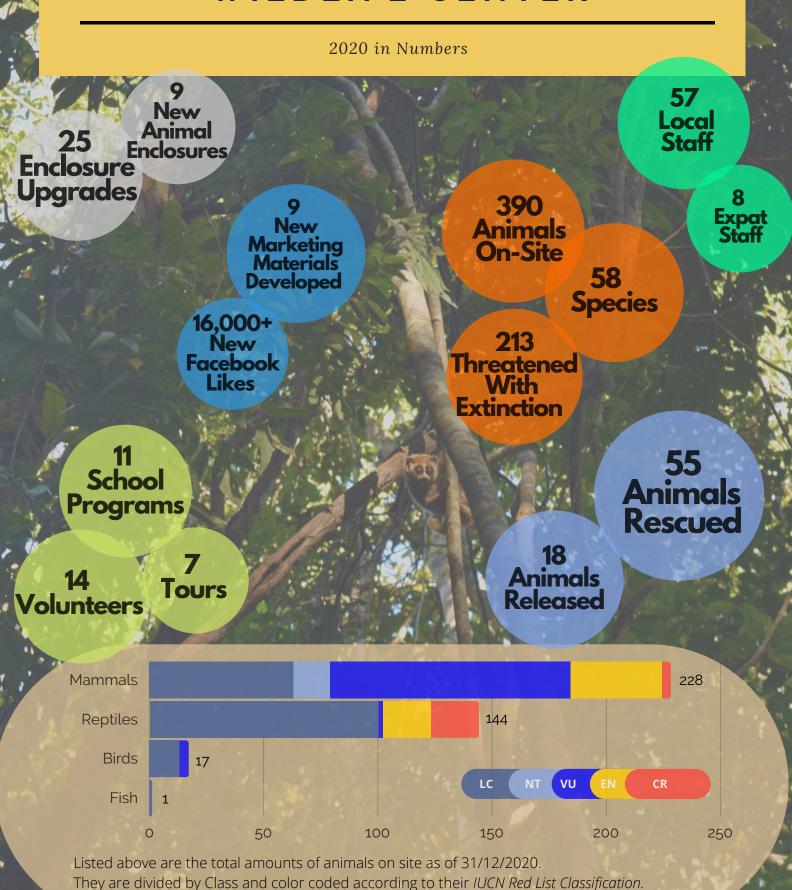
Most people around the world lived in an alternate reality this past year. One that is so foreign and unnatural to so many that it may have felt like they were starring in their own dystopian film.

The year 2020, will undoubtedly, go down in history as the year a pandemic swept across the globe. Its story will leave behind an unbelievable tale of overcrowded hospitals and lost lives, of systemic racism and unemployment rates not seen in decades, of family gatherings turned into zoom calls and country borders closed to those experiencing wanderlust.

The pandemic has, in turn, shed a brighter light on wildlife markets and not only their danger to animals, but our friends and families as well. This will hopefully lead to more conversations about these markets and how we as a global community can work together to solve this issue and make a real change.



Through all the uncertainty, loss, and pain over the past year it is important that we look back on lessons learned and those positive experiences that accompanied the year as well. I hope that this annual report will allow you to see that despite all the negativity in 2020 there were still many triumphs! Our center was still able to flourish this year through our generous supporters and unwavering staff, which allowed us to build new enclosures, continue our rescue, rehab and release program as well as strengthen our education program. We look forward to this next year as it will be our most impactful year yet and we can't wait to share our journey with you!



The colors correspond to the number of animals in that group and not the number of species.

Our Favorite Stories of 2020



BIG News!

Our largest resident got an upgrade this past year thanks to Worldwide Veterinary Services. Khaew Khun our Asian elephant got a new enclosure that now allows her to spend her days free of chains! Although she once was a logging elephant and then provided rides for guests Khaew Khun can now live her day free without chains or obligations, but still enjoys her walks to our forested back area. A great accomplishment for the welfare of this beautiful animal.



Meet Toasty!

Toasty is a long-tailed macaque that had been living in a nearby village for a number of months and the people did not know where she came from as there was no known population of in the area. After many failed attempts by the villagers to capture her for relocation she met a different fate and was electrocuted by a power line.

Our rescue team leapt into action and quickly transported her back to the center where she received around the clock care to treat her severe burns among other injuries she sustained. Treatment and rehabilitation took well over 8 months and she has now been introduced to a group of long-tailed macaques at the center and is living a healthy life!

Our Favorite Stories of 2020



ASEAN Sustainable Tourism Solutions Expo!

We were very excited this year to be invited to setup a booth at this unique sustainability expo held at the Crowne Plaza in Vientiane. We got to meet a lot of different vendors working towards the betterment of Laos as well as share the work we do to help save Lao wildlife.



VIS Large Enrichment Delivery

One of our favorite programs is working with the design class at VIS. Over the past years their design class has come to the center to learn about our animals natural history. They can then take that information and build unique enrichment items suitable to the animals natural behavior!



Things get a "Little Spicy"

Ped Noi, meaning "Little Spicy" in Lao, was rescued from a Phongsali province in Northern Laos. We first received word about her from a tip-off via Facebook and one of our staff members went "undercover" to collect more information from the seller.

We then reported all the information we had collected to the Provincial Office of Forestry Inspection and they were able to contact the seller and meet with them to confiscate this critically endangered Northern white-cheeked gibbon.

Ped Noi is doing well and was recently introduced to another female gibbon at our center named Eeoo, and they have since been inseparable. Although usually solitary or only seen in pairs in the wild it is important for them to "learn" how to be a gibbon from other animals of their species to give them any hope of a possible introduction back into the wild!

Our Favorite Stories of 2020



Workshop on Wildlife Rescue in Laos

We held a workshop with the Deputy General of the Department of Forestry as well as the Deputy General of the Department of Forestry Inspection to better strengthen our cooperation with both governmental bodies when it comes to rescuing, rehabilitating and releasing Lao wildlife.



A Rescue of Over 30 Animals!

We received a report of a variety of animals being sold on Facebook. These animals included, pygmy slow lorises, baby macaques, bamboo rats, turtles, tortoises and a ferret badger.

Our staff was able to gather more information about the location of the seller so we could inform the Provincial Office of Inspection and they could take action to confiscate these animals. We are happy to announce that we were then able to release many of these species back into the forest!



Langurs Get an Upgrade!

Thanks to the funds generated by our volunteer program we were able to make a new enclosure for our two resident langurs!

This allows them to have ample room to jump, play, forage for food and enjoy the fresh air!

Not only will this benefit the langurs, but also make room for future rescues as our capacity increases at our center for animals that may not be able to be released back into the forest.

Our Favorite Stories of 2020

Our First Lao Vet Trainees

This year we were delighted to help one of the vets from Free the Bears learn more about different species and came to shadow our vets for a week. He wasn't our only trainee as we had also had our first Lao vet student come to train with our staff on the weekends for two months. We are excited to further our outreach to Lao vets and hope to widen our program in 2021 to help train the future wildlife vets of Laos.





A Big Win For Red!

We have been able to test for more diseases In our animals this year due to a new partnership with the International Medical Center in Vientiane. This allowed us to diagnose and treat, Red, a rhesus macaque. Red has had symptoms over the last two years that we had not been able to diagnose until now. His treatment took over 4 months and included not only oral medication, but also syringe injections, which he allowed voluntarily. Red has now recovered and is back with his troop!



Flying High!

Thanks to a grant from the Hong Kong Bird Watching Society we were able to build a unique bird rehabilitation enclosure for the many different bird species that we rescue here at the center. The enclosure features soft mesh, a circular flight path to encourage continuous flight and plenty of height. This will be important for our birds to build their flight muscles before being released back into the forest.

Our Favorite Stories of 2020





Closing the Divide

One of the major goals of LCTW is professional development for Lao staff as well as bridging the gap between Lao and expat staff members. This year we were able to move Ms. Somkhit from the primate team onto the veterinary team where she is being trained in her dream position as a veterinary assistant. We were also able to move Mr. Phong to our Husbandry and Enrichment team where he has really been making a difference In for the animals in his care.



Wildlife Hospital Doubles in Size!

The LCTW has received support from the British Embassy for many past projects and last year was no different. The embassy's devotion to conservation has allowed us to strengthen our hospital by doubling its size allowing for a designated x-ray and ultrasound room, small animal recovery, surgery and a necropsy room. Our vets have been busy filling the space with important life saving equipment and materials to ensure we give the best care possible for all the species we rescue here in Laos. Pictured to the left is the new designated surgery room!



A Scaley Release

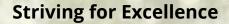
We were able to start 2020 off right with a fantastic release of two Sunda pangolins. These pangolins had very different stories as one was found wandering the grounds of an embassy in Vientiane and the other was confiscated from a poacher. No matter what their background they have found their way back into the forest where they can dig, climb trees and forage for ants and termites.

Our Favorite Stories of 2020



Daisies, Brownies and Juniors!

This year we were so happy that this troop of young ladies decided to come to the center. They got to learn all about wildlife and what they can do to make sure the amazing animals they got to see would be around for generations to come. They even got to make some enrichment for our 25 bears, which they absolutely loved!



In 2018, LCTW built their first designated rehabilitation enclosure. This year we were able to improve that enclosure thanks to a donation from the Phoenix Zoo and help from one of their keepers! Shelly Donohue, a zookeeper from the Phoenix Zoo, came out to our center and spent two weeks learning about what we do and helped to improve our rehab enclosure by creating visual barriers and feeding platforms to decrease the amount of human contact for the animals that go into the enclosure.





Lao Disabled Women's Development Center

LDWDC helps disabled women earn an income and we were happy to partner with them to produce LCTW merchandise that is made from recycled materials.



VIS Bunny Enrichment

One of the schools we often partner with is Vientiane International School. One of the projects we did this year was to teach their Early Years class all about enrichment! So we made their two bunnies some fun, safe enrichment to keep them occupied during the day.

Our Favorite Stories of 2020



Our First H&E Coordinator Intern

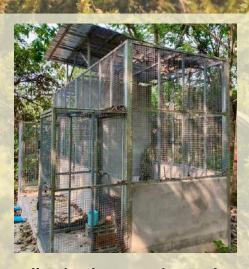
We welcomed our first husbandry and enrichment coordinator intern this year! Gillian was part of the Northeastern University Co-op program and was supposed to stay with us until May, but unfortunately had to leave early due to the pandemic.

We look forward to the opportunity to host more interns in the future as it give them a chance to work in a center where they get to see the frontline of conservation!



Promoting Sustainability

Bamboo straws are becoming popular around the world as a sustainable way to sip your favorite drinks! Thank you to the company Bamboo Straws Laos for donating a large amount of bamboo straws to our center so we could hand them out to our local school to help promote sustainability.



New Small Animal Quarantine Enclosure

Thanks to our project with the EU and WCS we were able to increase our quarantine capacity to safely hold smaller species of animals. We have already put this enclosure to good use in housing a variety of rescued reptiles!

Our Favorite Stories of 2020



Successful treatment of suspected gastro-intestinal ulceration and parasitism in a rescued Chinese pangolin (Manis pentadactyla)

Marta Pereira1, Gareth Jones1

Lao Conservation Trust for Wildlife (LCTW), Namak Village, Ban Keun, Thoulakhom District, Vientiane Province, Lao PDR; martanep@gmail.com





INTRODUCTION

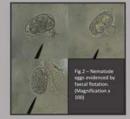
Chinese pangolins (Manis pentadactyla) are a critically endangered species¹. In captivity, pangolins are known to have low survival rates and to be prone to develop gastro-intestinal ulceration^{2,3}. Because it is projected that the species will experience further population declines due to indiscriminate hunting and poaching1, a better understanding on how to improve their health care and welfare in captivity may be key to the species' conservation.

In August 2018, a sub-adult female Chinese pangolin (Fig. 1) was admitted into the Lao Conservation Trust for Wildlife -LCTW after confiscation from the illegal wildlife trade. We will present the treatment instated upon development of clinical signs compatible with gastro-intestinal ulceration.

CASE PRESENTATION

Approximately one month after arrival, mild diarrhoea was noted. Faecal flotation evidenced a moderate burden of nematode eggs (Fig. 2) that persisted after initial treatment with ivermectin. Eighteen days later, the patient presented acutely lethargic, anorexic and with emetic episodes containing live nematodes. Its clinical status deteriorated, with severe lethargy and anorexia, melena and necrotising gastro-enteritis.

Abdominal ultrasound evidenced hypermotility but no free fluid; blood analysis showed hypoproteinaemia, hypoalbuminaemia, anaemia and leucocytosis. Findings were found to be consistent with gastro-intestinal ulceration and therapy was instated as described in Table 1. The patient relapsed after antibiotherapy was discontinued, metronidazole was reinitiated for an extended course. Annetite, demeanour and faeces improved again and returned to normal within six days. Once food intake was consistent, cimetidine and sucralfate were changed to oral administration. Following 28 days of treatment, clinical signs had resolved. Six subsequent coprological analysis over the following four weeks showed no



Day 1 (approx. one roorth after arrival)	Mild diarrhoes, faecal flotation — moderate burden nematode eggs	Nermectin - 0.2 mg/kg, SC, SO Scheduled faecal and repeat dose in 2 weeks	
Day 5	No diarrhoes, mild burden of nematode eggs	-#	
Day 19	Lethargy, anorexia, vomit with live nematodes, abdominal discomfort, normal temperature (83.5 °C). Faccal floatation – mild burden of nematode eggs, numerous linear notile protocoa.	Nermectin - 0.2 mg/kg, SC, SD Comerdides - 5 mg/kg, SC, BD Ternadol - 7 mg/kg, SC, BD Metoclopsamide - 0.5 mg/kg SC, BD Metoclopsamide - 0.5 mg/kg SC, BD Amodictilin-Culturatione - 10 mg/kg SC, SD, 8 days Binger-inctate with SN glocon - 60ml, SC, BD Metonalstable - 55 mg/kg, PO - refused	
Day 29	Americals, further lethangs, live nematodes in diarrhose	Light and disting. Charequan - 1 way Ng, 164 One seaths inchalation. Water - 10 mil., 10 p. 10	
Day 21	Stupor, mucoid faeces, with melena and gastro-intestinal mucosa	Oro-gestric intubation: Sucraffate Stimping PO, SO	
Day 22	Abdominal ultrasound: no free fluid gastre-intestinal hypernosility 80006 analyses: Hypoproteinaemia; hypoproteinaemia; hypoproteinaemia; 1113 a 1071, brucorybosie 1113 a 1071, by reutrophilis (1781);	no changes - maintained metronidatole, amescillin clandatate, metodoporanole, cimertelme and socialise	
Day 25	Acceptance of small amounts of food without vomit	Metoclogramide withdrawn Sucralifate Increased to BID, PD w/out ora-gastric intubation	
Day 27	Improved appetite, demeanour, normal faeces, negative faecal flotation	Amoracilia-clavularate discontinued Metronidacole discontinued Congastis: instalation. Scrutilatis: Song/lig PO, SIO rejection of prior 3 doses	
Day 28	Anoresia, diarrhoea		
Day 25	Lethergy; ancrexis; vomiting with live nomatodes; hypoglycaemia (3.3 mmol/L)	Fluids with 5% glucose - 20 mt 5C, BID, 3 doses Metoclogramide - 0.5mg/kg SC, TID, following 48 hours Metronidacide - re-limitated - Previous dose, for 24 consecutive additional disc.	
Day 30	Lethargy, anorexia	Soldeline: diarepan + letamine - 1mg/kg + 3mg/kg 1M Crosstilic intubation: Albendation: 20mg/kg FO Hella Mr. 12 mr. Weter - 4 mr. Crosstilic and a straight a maintained	
Day 33	Negative faecal flotation	Ivermectine - 0.2 mg/Kg SC	
Day 36	Normal appente, demeanour and faeces	Cimetidine - changed route to PO, continued until total 28 d Sucraffate - maintained PO BID, without oro-gastric insulation until total After 28 d. these were gradually decreased and then discontinued	

DISCUSSION

As is common with

many wildlife species, the lack of data and literature complicates clinical management more so than with domestic species. This is further complicated by limited resources and lack of expertise in range countries such as Lao PDR

Interpretation of blood results is hindered by the limited baseline data. Haematology and blood biochemistry reference ranges have been published for the species4. However, because the study sampled all rescued animals with no apparent disease, it is possible both unhealthy and dehydrated animals were included, resulting in wide reference ranges, as is the case of the reported haematocrit range (18-53%). Because the patient was dehydrated, she was considered likely mildly anaemic.

Diagnosis of this case was made based on clinical signs and species history of being prone to developing gastric ulceration in captivity2.3. While the clinical presentation was highly suggestive, the lack of further diagnostic tests such as endoscopy or histopathology of the defecated gastro-intestinal mucosa, makes it impossible to confirm the presence of ulcers and their location in the gastro-intestinal tract. The etiology of this condition is thought to be stress-related³, so care was taken to balance appropriate treatment with avoidance of excessive stress through handling and medical administrations.

The ventral tail vein was used to administer fluidtherapy and collect a blood sample. However, repeated IV administration was impossible. In veterinary practice. metronidazole has been anecdotally reported to cause local inflammation and necrosis when peri-vascular infiltration occurs. The difficult oral administration and IV access, prompted the sub-cutaneous administration in a diluted form, under expert advisement. Although manual restraint was necessary and the volume had to be distributed in two sites on the ventral aspect of the animal due to limited dorsal sub-cutaneous space, no adverse reactions were ever observed.

The patient recovered and has been healthy ever since. While some drugs have been suggested to treat early-stage ulcers in pangolins3, to the authors' knowledge, this is the first report of a full clinical case where gastro-intestinal ulceration was successfully managed in this species.

ARNOWLEDGEMENTS
The authors would like to thank Jessica Jimerson and Save Vietnam's Wildlife had been expertise with us and to Eve Manufield, George Sellivan and Jere Fhan for all the support provided during the clinical case's development.

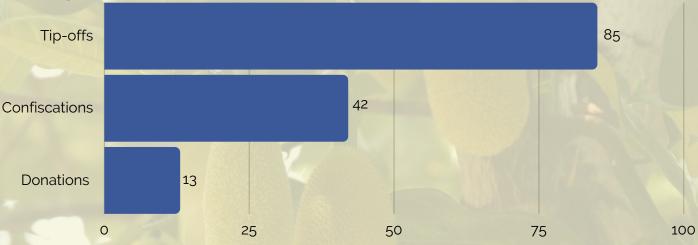
LCTW's First Poster Presentation

A former veterinarian of the LCTW, Marta Pereira, was able to present a unique case of a rescued Chinese pangolin who suffered from suspected gastro-intestinal ulceration and parasitism. This animal's health became critical and our vets worked tirelessly to save her life with great success! As our center rescues, rehabilitates and releases many species, in which little is known, the data we can collect is extremely valuable to the wider conservation, veterinary and zoology community. We hope to further research opportunities to help the scientific community.

COMBATING WILDLIFE CRIME

Wildlife Crime Reporting Statistics

This year was our first full year of collecting the following information in a database that in turn allowed us to easily see the effectiveness of different platforms being used to affect the illegal wildlife trade.



Tip-offs: When a person alerts us of animals (live or dead) or animal parts being sold or kept illegally.

Confiscations: When government is able to seize an animal/s whether it is due to a report by us or they confiscate the animal on their own.

Donations: When a person surrenders an animal to the center. This can be an old pet or an animal they purchased.

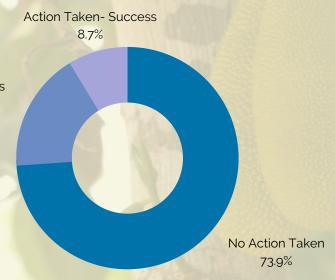
Releases: These are animals that passed through our rehabilitation program and were released into the wild.

Government Action

Action Taken- No Success 17.4%

*Not all tip-offs can be reported to the government, usually due to a lack of information able to be gathered.

Therefore, this data is based off of the reports that were directly given to the government by LCTW.



COMBATING WILDLIFE CRIME

EU and WCS Collaboration "Partners Against Wildlife Crime"



This year we were able to make great headway with our partnership between the European Union and WCS, "Disrupting illicit supply chains of wildlife in Asia by leveraging civil society partnerships to increase effectiveness of Government action"

Facebook



We gained over 16,000 Facebook followers with 50% of our following being Lao! This has greatly increased the amount of tip-offs we receive from Lao citizens and shows the amount of support we have from the Lao community,



We were able to improve our existing 24hr hotline by making it a toll-free 4-digit number for anyone with a Lao phone number. Our team also worked to design 3 different billboards to help spread the message about our hotline number to get more engagement from the entire country of Lao. See the billboards on the next pages!

EU and WCS Collaboration "Partners Against Wildlife Crime"



ຂ້ອຍຈະໜີດໄປແລ້ວ I'm already gone

Tôi tiêu rồi

我已离去



ຢ່າໃຫ້ພວກເຮົາເປັນເປົ້າໝາຍຕໍ່ໄປ Don't let us be next

Đừng để chúng bắt tôi

请不要让我们成为下一个

ການລັກລອບຄ້ຳຂາຍສັດປ່າ ເປັນການທຳລາຍອະນາຄົດຂອງພວກເຮົາ WILDLIFE TRAFFICKING DESTROYS OUR FUTURE BUÔN BÁN ĐỘNG VẬT HOANG DÃ HỦY HOẠI TƯƠNG LAI CHÚNG TA 走私野生动物威胁我们的未来





ສາຍດ່ວນ ແຈ້ງຊ່ວຍເຫຼືອສັດປ່າ • REPORT WILDLIFE CRIME • Tố GIÁC TỘI PHẠM ĐỘNG VẬT HOANG DÃ • 请积极举报野生动物违法犯罪行为

ມນນິທິ ຂະນຸລັກ ສັດປ່າ ລາວ • Lao Conservation Trust for Wildlife









EU and WCS Collaboration "Partners Against Wildlife Crime"



ການລັກລອບຄ້າຂາຍ ແລະ ບໍລິໂພກ ສັດປ່າ ເຮັດໃຫ້ຄອບຄົວຂອງທ່ານ ສ່ຽງຕໍ່ການຕິດເຊື້ອພະຍາດ



WILDLIFE TRAFFICKING PUTS YOUR FAMILY AT RISK OF DISEASE



ມຸນນິທີ ອະນຸລັກ ສັດປ່າ ລາວ • Lao Conservation Trust for Wildlife • ໄດ້ຈິດທະບຽນມຸນນິທີ 326/ພນ • Registered foundation 326/MoHA ພາລະກິດຂອງພວກເຮົາແມ່ນເພື່ອຕ້ານການຄຳສັດປ່າທີ່ຝຶດກິດໝາຍ ແລະ ປັບປຸງສະຫວັດດີການ ແລະ ການສຶກສາດຳນສັດປ່າໃນປະເທດລາວ. Our mission is to eradicate the illegal wildlife trade and improve wildlife education and welfare in Laos.

EU and WCS Collaboration "Partners Against Wildlife Crime"

ຢ່າປ່ອຍໃຫ້ຊະນິດພັນສັດປ່າ ຕ້ອງສູນພັນ ທ່ານສາມາດລາຍງານ ເພື່ອຊ່ວຍເຫຼືອສັດປ່າ ໃນທຸກກໍລະນີ



DON'T LET THEM DISAPPEAR
Report wildlife trafficking

ມຸນນິທີ ອະນຸລັກ ສັດປ້າ ລາວ • Lao Conservation Trust for Wildlife • ໄດ້ຈິດທະບານມຸນນິທີ 326/ພນ • Registered foundation 326/MoHA ພາລະກິດຂອງພວກເຮົາແມ່ນເພື່ອຕ້ານການຄໍາສັດປ່າທີ່ຜິດກົດໝາຍ ແລະ ປັບປຸງສະຫວັດດີການ ແລະ ການສຶກສາດ້ານສັດປ່າໃນປະເທດລາວ. Our mission is to eradicate the illegal wildlife trade and improve wildlife education and welfare in Laos.



TENTATIVE WORKPLAN

2021

Pi	oi	e	ct
	-		

Complete New Gibbon Island Enclosure Construction

Complete P13/P14
Gibbon Enclosures

LCTW Renovations

- Natural History Museum
- IWT Education Center
- Souvenir Shop/Lao Zoo History Museum
- Various other site improvements for both guests and resident animals

DoFl and PoFl Training Sessions

- 6 provinces

P15/P16 Gibbon Enclosures

Opening of LCTW

- Basic Guided tours for all guests
 - Free for Lao citizens
 - Small fee for foreigners

Ban Bo Secondary School Program

Rescue, Rehab and Release

Billboard Installation

Timeline

February

March-April

March-September

April-December

May-June

October- Ongoing

Ongoing

Ongoing

Ongoing

OUR DONORS AND PARTNERS

Thank you to all of our donors and partners for their support in 2020.





We would like to give a special thank you to NCX Honda for their support of our center from its founding in 2018.

As our main sponsor NCX Honda has allowed our center to stay strong during a year where many other organizations similar to ours struggled to stay open, keep staff, care for their animals and do the necessary work of rescuing, rehabilitating and releasing wildlife.

Therefore, on behalf of the over 60 staff members, 400 center residents and countless wild animals that we have saved from the illegal wildlife trade we thank you for your continued support in 2020 and the years to













































ງານວາງສະແດງແນວທາງການພັດທະນາ ການທ່ອງທຸ່ງວແບບຍືນຍິງ ອາຊຸເນ 2020 ASEAN SUSTAINABLE TOURISM **SOLUTIONS EXPO 2020**





VIENTIANE INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL CHALLENGE | INSPIRE | EMPOWER

HELP SAVE WILDLIFE TODAY!

Volunteer with us!

As the world slowly starts to return to normal, now is the perfect time to plan your future holiday! Why not make it something meaningful and come out to our center and help care for some of the world's most unique animals while enjoying the Lao culture and knowing that your money is helping to support a great cause!

For more information simply email us at volunteer@lctwildlife.org or check out our website for more information.

Donate!

It's not always possible for people to travel across the world to make a handson difference, but it is just as important to do what you can from your home!

If that means you want to make a <u>monetary donation</u>, <u>donate some much</u> <u>needed supplies</u> or put together a fundraiser to help support Lao wildlife we are happy to assist you in any way possible. If you have any questions about donating or fundraising please don't hesitate to email us at <u>info@lctwildlife.org</u>

The good news is that you can still help the center and conservation even if your pocket book is empty!

Some of the most important work you can do is to educate your family and friends about the plight of wildlife and how they can conserve species and their habitat by being smart consumers, responsible tourists, reducing their carbon footprint and not supporting the illegal wildlife trade! Feel free to point them in the direction of our Facebook to learn how they can help conserve wildlife.

Spread the Word!



1601

ສາຍດ່ວນ ແຈ້ງຊ່ວຍເຫຼືອສັດປ່າ REPORT WILDLIFE CRIME



Thank you to all of our supporters, volunteers, donors, staff, fellow conservationists and wildlife enthusiasts who help us conserve the unique species of Laos everyday.

We couldn't have done it without YOU!

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Ban Wattaiyaithong, Muang Sikhottabong

Vientiane, Lao PDR

Center Address: Lao Conservation Trust for Wildlife

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