



# Asian Turtle Program & Turtle Conservation Centre

Protecting today so we can see tomorrow...



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Mr Do Thanh Hao of the Turtle Conservation Centre (TCC) receives the turtles from rangers of Bac Giang Provincial Forest Protection Department (FPD).

Photo by: Nguyen Thu Thuy - ATP

## First rescue of turtles to the Turtle Conservation Centre in 2017

Following a confiscation of Tortoises and Freshwater Turtles (TFT) seizure in Bac Giang province, northern Vietnam, last week (posted on our Facebook on 29<sup>th</sup> of March 2017), the ATP and TCC team are making the first rescue of 2017 today. The Bac Giang city ranger station have been caring for these animals over the past week while the case has been processed and now all animals identified as illegal, are to be transferred to the Turtle Conservation Centre (TCC) at Cuc Phuong National Park.

Eleven turtles of three species including four Big-headed turtle (*Platysternon megacephalum*), two Impressed tortoise (*Manouria impressa*), and five Giant Asian pond turtle (*Heosemys grandis*) from this confiscation have arrived safe and sound at Cuc Phuong today. They will undergo 3-month quarantine where our staff will help the animals recover and rehabilitate them, unfortunately after the stress of the trade it is likely not all will make it. After that we hope to start releases of some back to the wild.

We would like to thank Bac Giang provincial Forest Protection Department (FPD) for their first TFT confiscation of 2017 and for their transfer of these animal to the TCC.

To allow us to release these turtles back into the wild we always need your support, please make your donation through our website at [http://www.asianturtleprogram.org/pages/support\\_atp.html](http://www.asianturtleprogram.org/pages/support_atp.html)



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Photo (left): Some large Impressed Tortoise (*Manouria impressa*) and Yellow-headed Temple Turtles (*Heosemys annandalii*) are prepared for transport.



Photo (right): The animals are packed individually to prevent stress and injuries; the Big-headed Turtles (*Platysternon megaephalum*) will fight viciously if kept together.

Photo by: Nguyen Thu Thuy - ATP



Photo (left): The team from the Turtle Conservation Centre (TCC) and the Asian Turtle Program (ATP) load the turtles into the car for the short trip to Cuc Phuong National Park. Photo by: Nguyen Thu Thuy - ATP.