



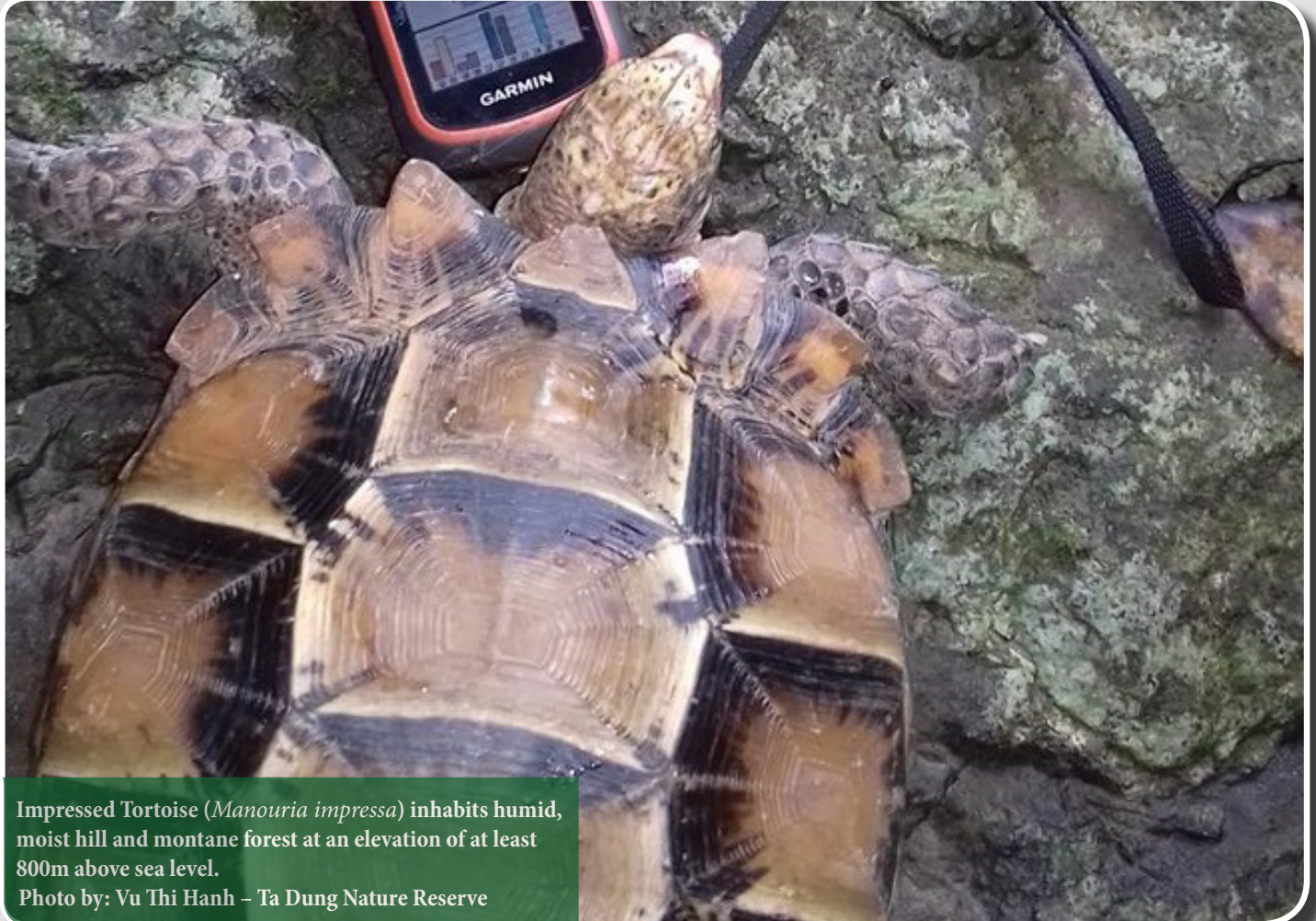
# Asian Turtle Program & Turtle Conservation Centre

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Impressed Tortoise (*Manouria impressa*) inhabits humid, moist hill and montane forest at an elevation of at least 800m above sea level.

Photo by: Vu Thi Hanh – Ta Dung Nature Reserve

## Impressed Tortoise Released in Dak Nong Nature Reserve, Vietnam

On the 20<sup>th</sup> of October, 2016, Mr. Ngan Suon Hung, residing at Gia Nghia Town, Dak Nong province contacted the ATP through its Facebook page messenger regarding handing in one juvenile endangered impressed tortoise (*Manouria impressa*) for conservation. Mr. Hung had bought the animal from a local hunter three days ago in his home town. Due to the distance from Dak Nong to the Turtle Conservation Centre (TCC) in Cuc Phuong National Park it was unrealistic to transfer the animal. Guidance was given on how to take care of this sensitive species in terms of food and diet and other basic needs while the ATP sought a suitable solution.

The following day, Friday, the 21<sup>st</sup> October, the ATP contacted Dak Nong Forest Protection Department (FPD) and Ta Dung Nature Reserve regarding the case

and it was arranging for the animal to be transferred to Ta Dung Nature Reserve the following Monday.

At 11:09am on the 24<sup>th</sup> of October, at an elevation of 843m above sea level, in protected area of Ta Dung Nature Reserve in Dak Nong province, the impressed tortoise was released back to the wild by rangers from the reserve.

The ATP would like to highlight that while this is a successful outcome for this animal we do not encourage people to purchase wildlife of the purpose of release as this still encourages the illegal wildlife trade. Rather case can be reported to the local authorities or to the Wildlife Trade Hotline of Education for Nature Vietnam (ENV), 1800 1522.

We would like to thank all those involved in the rescue and release, Mr. Hung and the FPD of Dak Nong Province and rangers of Ta Dung Nature Reserve.

Press release by: Hoang Van Ha - ATP/IMC  
Date: 26<sup>th</sup> October 2016

*For further information please contact:*

**Asian Turtle Program - Indo-Myanmar Conservation**

Room 1806, C14 Bac Ha Building, To Huu road, Nam Tu Liem Dist., Hanoi, Vietnam

PO Box 46

Tel: +84 (0) 4 7302 8389

Email: [info@asianturtleprogram.org](mailto:info@asianturtleprogram.org)

Website: [www.asianturtleprogram.org](http://www.asianturtleprogram.org)

Facebook: [www.facebook.com/AsianTurtleProgram](https://www.facebook.com/AsianTurtleProgram)

**Turtle Conservation Centre (TCC) - Cuc Phuong National Park**

Nho Quan Dist., Ninh Binh Prov., Vietnam

Tel: +84 (0) 3 0384 8090

Email: [haodt.turtleconservation@gmail.com](mailto:haodt.turtleconservation@gmail.com)

Website: [www.asianturtleprogram.org/tcc-home-page.html](http://www.asianturtleprogram.org/tcc-home-page.html)

Facebook: [www.facebook.com/TurtleConservationCenter](https://www.facebook.com/TurtleConservationCenter)

Mr. Hoang Van Hung, ranger, released impressed tortoise into protected area at Ta Dung Nature Reserve, Dak Nong province.

Photo by: Vu Thi Hanh – Ta Dung Nature Reserve



Mr. YGin Mlô, Chief of Dak Som commune police (on the left) and Mr. Hoang Van Hung, Head of Ranger station #3, Ta Dung Nature Reserve (on the right) with lucky impressed tortoise at release site.

Photo by: Vu Thi Hanh – Ta Dung Nature Reserve.