

Asian Turtle Program Indo - Myanmar Conservation



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Going, going, home! 68 endangered tortoises and freshwater turtles returned home in northern Vietnam

It is not a case of 'Going, going, gone!' but more 'Going, going, home!' for 68 lucky turtles. On the 14th and from the 26th-27th of May 2021, the Asian Turtle Program (ATP) of Indo-Myanmar Conservation (IMC), in collaboration with the Turtle Conservation Centre (TCC) of Cuc Phuong National Park, Save Vietnam's Wildlife (SVW), and local rangers, completed its first and second release trips of the year to bring 68 critically endangered or endangered turtles home in two protected areas in northern Vietnam.

The first trip comprised 25 endangered Keeled Box Turtles (*Cuora mouhotii*) while the second one consisted of multiple species including 28 critically endangered Big-headed Turtles (*Platysternon megacephalum*), 6 Keeled Box Turtles, one vulnerable Impressed Tortoise (*Manouria impressa*), and 8 critically endangered Indochinese Box Turtles (*Cuora galbinifrons*).



One healthy male endangered Keeled Box Turtle (*Cuora mouhotii*) settles into his new home ready for the summer. © Nguyen Thu Thuy – ATP/IMC.

We would like to thank Cleveland Metroparks Zoo (CMZ), Fondation Segré Conservation Fund, and Thanh Truong Loc Construction Co., Ltd for supporting this release. In addition, we thank all of staff of ATP/IMC, TCC, Cuc Phuong National Park, and SVW for their work in this release.











Date: 31st May 2021

Press release by: Ha Hoang - ATP/IMC



The release team had to climb through thick jungle to reach an elevation of approx. 800m above sea level to release the Impressed tortoise (*Manouria impressa*). © Tran Thi Ngoc Hang – ATP/IMC.

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The beautiful shell pattern of this Indochinese box turtle (*Cuora galbinifrons*) provides great camouflage against the leaf litter. © Tran Thi Ngoc Hang – ATP/IMC.



Tran Thi Ngoc Hang (ATP/IMC staff) releasing a critically endangered Big-headed Turtle (*Platysternon megacephalum*) into its new home.

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