



Newsletter

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**KEO SEIMA REDD+**



No. 07  
April - June 2017

## Wildlife Photographs in Keo Seima Wildlife Sanctuary Confirms Site's Importance for Conservation

Recent images from hidden cameras placed in Keo Seima Wildlife Sanctuary (KWS), in Kratie and Monduliri Provinces, have confirmed the protected area's ongoing importance for many of Cambodia's most charismatic species. Wildlife recorded include Asian Elephant, Guar, Banteng, Sambar, Wild Pig, Leopard Cat, Macaque species (Pig-tailed, Long-tailed and Stump-tailed), East Asian Porcupine, Large-spotted Civet, Lesser Oriental Chevrotain, Green Peafowl, Germain's Peacock Pheasant and other wild birds.

WCS's Wildlife Research and Monitoring Team placed hidden cameras (called camera trap) traps at natural waterholes and wildlife hotspots in order to record wild mammals and birds living in KWS. This study was to check for the continued presence of difficult to see wildlife.

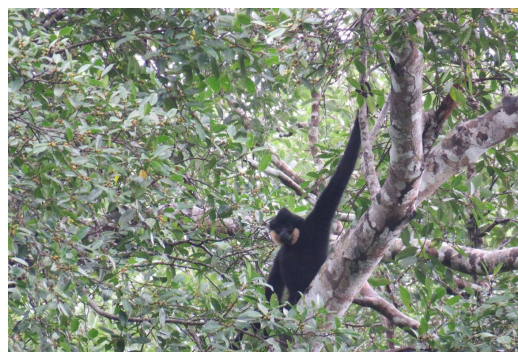
"This study again confirms that key wildlife species are still living in KWS, making it a very important protected area in Cambodia for wildlife conservation," said Sot Vandoeun, WCS's Wildlife Research and Monitoring Team Leader.



*Asian elephant recently photographed in Keo Seima Wildlife Sanctuary. © WCS*

## Making friends with Gibbons at Jahoo Gibbon Camp

Training Yellow-cheeked Crested Gibbons (*Nomascus gabriellae*) not to be frightened of people in the forest surrounding Jahoo Gibbon Camp - Andoung Kralong's community-based ecotourism project inside Keo Seima Wildlife Sanctuary - is allowing tourists visiting the area a unique insight into the life of these primates. Tourists visiting the Jahoo Gibbon Camp have been spending over half an hour watching the gibbons.



*Female Yellow-cheeked Crested Gibbon photographed in Keo Seima Wildlife Sanctuary. © SVC / WCS*

As part of this eco-tourism enterprise, visitors that see primates pay a fee into the community's development fund that is used to develop social services in the community. The payment is for the privilege of seeing two globally Endangered species of primate—Yellow-cheeked Crested Gibbon and Black-shanked Douc Langur— incentivises forest protection by the community at Andoung Kralong.

## Celebrating Environment Day 2017

WCS joined the Ministry of Environment, non-governmental organizations and other 400 local students and community members to mark the celebration of World and National Environment Day 2017 at Mondulkiri Province.

With this year's theme of "connecting people to nature", this awareness event was organized to urge all local stakeholders to engage in forest protection and biodiversity conservation that will significantly contribute to addressing climate change issues in the country.

During the event, WCS staff briefed local communities and students about the importance of wildlife protection and encouraged them all to help conserve those species by not purchasing or eating bush meat.



*WCS partner, Ibis Rice, displayed its rice product during the event. © Tan Setha / WCS*

## Participants in ASEAN Working Group on Social Forestry (AWG-SF) Conference learned about KSWS REDD+ project

The 7th AWG-SF Conference was hosted by the Royal Forest Department (RFD) of Thailand in collaboration with the AWG-SF Secretary and other partners in Chiang Mai. The theme of the Conference is "Social Forestry in Forest Landscape Restoration: Enabling Partnership and Investments for Sustainable Development Goals".

During the conference, more than 200 participants from ASEAN countries including representatives from government, civil society organizations (CSOs), dialogue partners, development partners, private sector and academic/research institutions used the conference as a platform to share their thoughts, ideas and experiences on social forestry and climate change with the aim to mainstream social forestry in the region and scale up its impacts. Mr. Yeang Donal, WCS's REDD+ Technical Advisor, gave a talk at the parallel session on the experience from Keo Seima REDD+ Project in the context of safeguarding local communities through forest landscape



*Slide presentation about the KSWS REDD+ during the 7th AWG-SF Conference. © Yeang Donal / WCS*

restoration.

[Link to conference page](#)

## Representatives Confirm Their Priorities for Community Development

WCS in collaboration Ministry of Environment (MoE) organized a meeting with local communities to discuss and confirm their community development priorities. With about 25 local people representing 20 villages situated in the Keo Seima Wildlife Sanctuary, the meeting allowed them all to present their goals and priorities by using the funds from the recent Keo Seima Wildlife Sanctuary carbon credit sale for forest and wildlife protection, villages' development and local livelihood improvement.

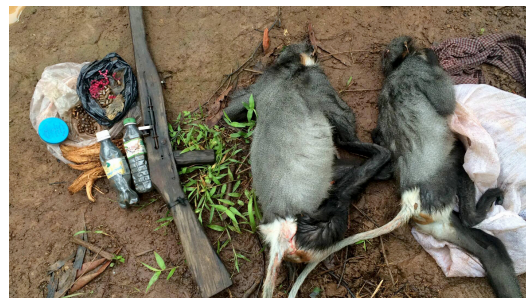
After the meeting, community representatives agreed to establish a committee in each village. Members of the committee will be nominated from the Indigenous Community Committee (ICC), members of the commune council, chief of village and supported by a representative from WCS.



*Representatives from MoE, WCS, local authorities and communities stand in front of Keo Seima Wildlife Sanctuary's office. © Eng Mengey / WCS*

## Poaching for Traditional Medicine a Threat to Colorful Primate's Last Refuge

Two suspects have been sent to Mondulkiri Provincial Court after being arrested on suspicion of killing two Globally Endangered Black-shanked Douc Langur inside Keo Seima Wildlife Sanctuary (KSWS).



*Two globally Endangered Black-shanked Douc Langur were poached inside Keo Seima Wildlife Sanctuary. © Hor Reaksmey / WCS*

"While patrolling inside KSWS, we saw three men carrying the dead Black-shanked Douc Langurs along a track in the forest. Our team immediately arrested the suspects and filled the complaint to send to the court," said Mr Em Tray, KSWS's Community Patrolling Team Leader.

Black-shanked Douc Langurs (*Pygathrix nigripes*) are found only in Cambodia and Vietnam, with the largest known surviving population found in KSWS. Sadly, these beautiful animals are hunted for their stomachs due to a mistaken belief that they are medicinally beneficial. They are also killed for meat, and in some areas adults are killed and their babies taken for the pet trade. They are listed on IUCN Red List as Globally Endangered. Under Cambodia's Protected Area Law, poaching endangered wildlife can result in a prison sentence of up to 5 years and a fine of 15-100 million riels.



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