



## Asian Turtle Program Indo - Myanmar Conservation



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Conservation

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Nguyen Van Trong, our local counterparts  
are doing observation at the Lake.  
Photo by: Nguyen Tai Thang - ATP/IMC.

## On-going effort to find wild *Rafetus* in northern Vietnam

This June, our *Rafetus* team conducted a two-week field observation at another large lake in northern Vietnam to find remaining wild *Rafetus* after the discovery of the second wild individual in Xuan Khanh Lake in April 2018.

The weather has been super-hot in northern Vietnam, with the water level at the Lake going down significantly, making the team's job easier as they had a smaller area on which to focus. During this survey, we also used a sonar FishFinder to learn more about the composition of the lake and look for the turtle under water. We also made use of ANDe kit which was developed by Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS) as part of a larger collaborative project with the Centre for Natural Resources and Environmental Studies (CRES) in Hanoi, the Turtle Survival Alliance and Washington State University. Filtration of water samples for eDNA was undertaken at the lake edge.

We hope to successfully confirm the third wild *Rafetus* for Vietnam this year!!!

Press Release by: Nguyen Tai Thang - ATP/IMC

Date: 20<sup>th</sup> June 2018

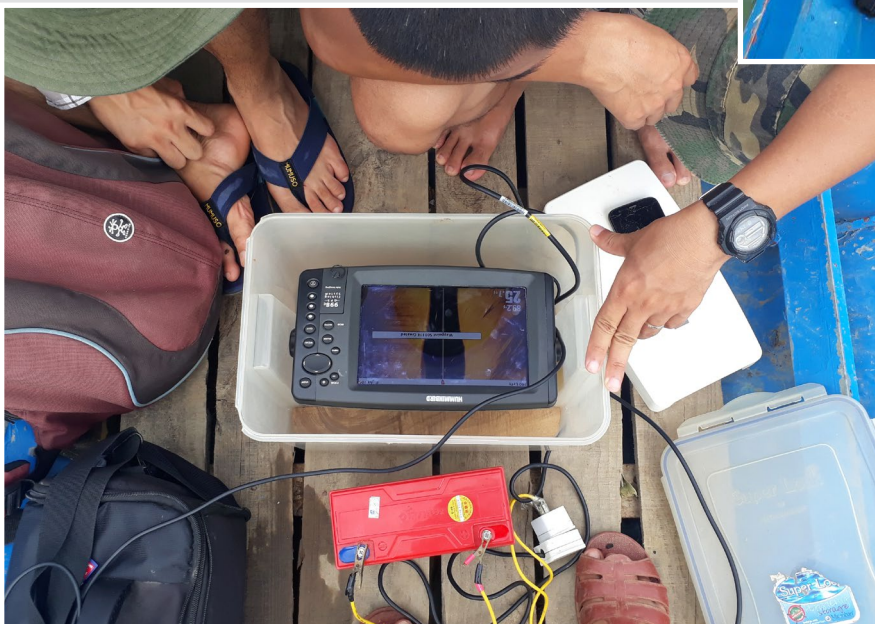
We would like to thank the Quang Ninh Forest Protection Department and the Management Board of the lake for their legal support to this observation. We would also like to thank Turtle Conservation Fund and The Mohamed bin Zayed Species Conservation Fund for their financial support to this activity.





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Picture right: Using ANDe machine to pump and filter eDNA water samples at the lake.  
Photo by: Nguyen Tai Thang – ATP/IMC.



Picture left: Fish Finder machine was used to find turtle and learn more about the Lake's bed composition.  
Photo by: Nguyen Tai Thang – ATP/IMC.

Picture right: Nguyen Van Trong and Do Van Bao, our local counterparts are doing observation at the Lake.  
Photo by: Nguyen Tai Thang – ATP/IMC.

