

SUMMARY REPORT 2025

SAVE VIETNAM'S WILDLIFE



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SAVE VIETNAM'S WILDLIFE IN 2025



WILDLIFE CONSERVATION

In 2025, Save Vietnam's Wildlife's Ex-situ team collaborated closely with Cuc Phuong, Pu Mat, and Cat Tien National Parks to carry out 79 rescue missions, rescuing 280 animals from 22 species.

With a 95% rehabilitation success rate, 188 animals were successfully released back into the wild.

At the same time, the Owston's civet conservation breeding program continued to progress, with the birth of 10 civet kittens, marking an important step toward long-term species recovery and future rewilding efforts.



FOREST PROTECTION

In 2025, with SMART fully deployed in all sites, our Anti-Poaching teams' forest patrol coverage and threat detection have greatly improved. Alongside that, our public awareness efforts have yielded great results, with over 3200 individuals and businesses reached and up to 23 weapons and tools voluntarily surrendered, showing a shift of perception in buffer-zone communities. 2025 also marks the beginning of the Anti-poaching team's cooperation with Cuc Phuong National Park, with one anti-poaching officer transferred and the establishment of the community forest guards in Cuc Phuong National Park.



COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

In 2025, the Community Engagement program successfully achieved its initial objectives of raising public awareness and driving action towards nature conservation, while reducing the demand for illegal wildlife consumption in key conservation areas. This year also marked a strategic shift in our approach, expanding outreach to audiences in wildlife consumption hotspots through the "Mobile Nature Center." Additionally, communication efforts were significantly bolstered by the support of community influencers through the "Silent Forest" campaign.

WILDLIFE CONSERVATION



In 2025, Save Vietnam's Wildlife Ex-situ Team collaborated closely with **Cuc Phuong National Park, Pu Mat National Park, and Cat Tien National Park** to carry out **79 rescue missions**, saving **280 animals from 22 species**.

These included **46 Sunda pangolins, 175 carnivores, 35 primates, 14 reptiles, 06 birds, 03 rodents, and 01 ungulate**.

95% of the rescued animals made full recoveries during rehabilitation.

03 animals – 2 Sunda pangolins and one Owston's civet – were successfully **hand-reared**.

In 2025, Save Vietnam's Wildlife released **188 animals** back into the wild, including **32 Sunda pangolins, 143 carnivores, 10 reptiles, and 03 primates**.

The remaining animals are currently undergoing rehabilitation for varying periods.



CONTINUED SUCCESS OF THE OWSTON'S CIVET CONSERVATION BREEDING PROGRAM

In 2025, we continued to achieve success in the Owston's civet conservation breeding program, with **10 civet kittens born from four breeding pairs**.

Currently, the center is caring for 28 Owston's civets, and at least eight breeding pairs are ready for the 2025–2026 breeding season.

This marks an important milestone toward the goal of establishing a captive population of 40–50 healthy Owston's civets, with high genetic diversity and stable population growth, paving the way for a reintroduction (rewilding) program from 2027 onwards.

WILDLIFE CONSERVATION



WILDLIFE RESCUE NETWORK.

As coordinators of the **Wildlife Rescue Network (WRN)**, Save Vietnam's Wildlife facilitated the safe **transfer of 252 confiscated animals** from the illegal wildlife trade and handovers from local communities to various rescue centers.

In addition, **03 training and knowledge-sharing workshops** were organized for **15 participants** from national and international rescue centers, covering the following topics:

- Wildlife rescue, care, veterinary treatment, and release procedures
- Conservation breeding experience for Owston's civets
- Rescue and husbandry of pangolins in captive environments

Further support included providing **420 kg of pangolin food** and offering **technical advice in more than 30 cases** to partner rescue centers.

These efforts highlight Save Vietnam's Wildlife's ongoing commitment to wildlife protection and long-term conservation.

VOLUNTEER ACTIVITIES

In 2025, Save Vietnam's Wildlife:

- Hosted **38 short-term volunteers**, contributing a total of **361 working days**.
- Welcomed **06 professional volunteers**, contributing **254 working days**.
- Received **06 volunteers** from the **Kolping Program (Germany)** who supported animal care and conservation activities

In addition, the center welcomed **19 experiential visit groups**, with **348 participants** taking part in environmental education and hands-on conservation activities, helping to **spread conservation awareness within the community**.



CONSERVATION RESEARCH

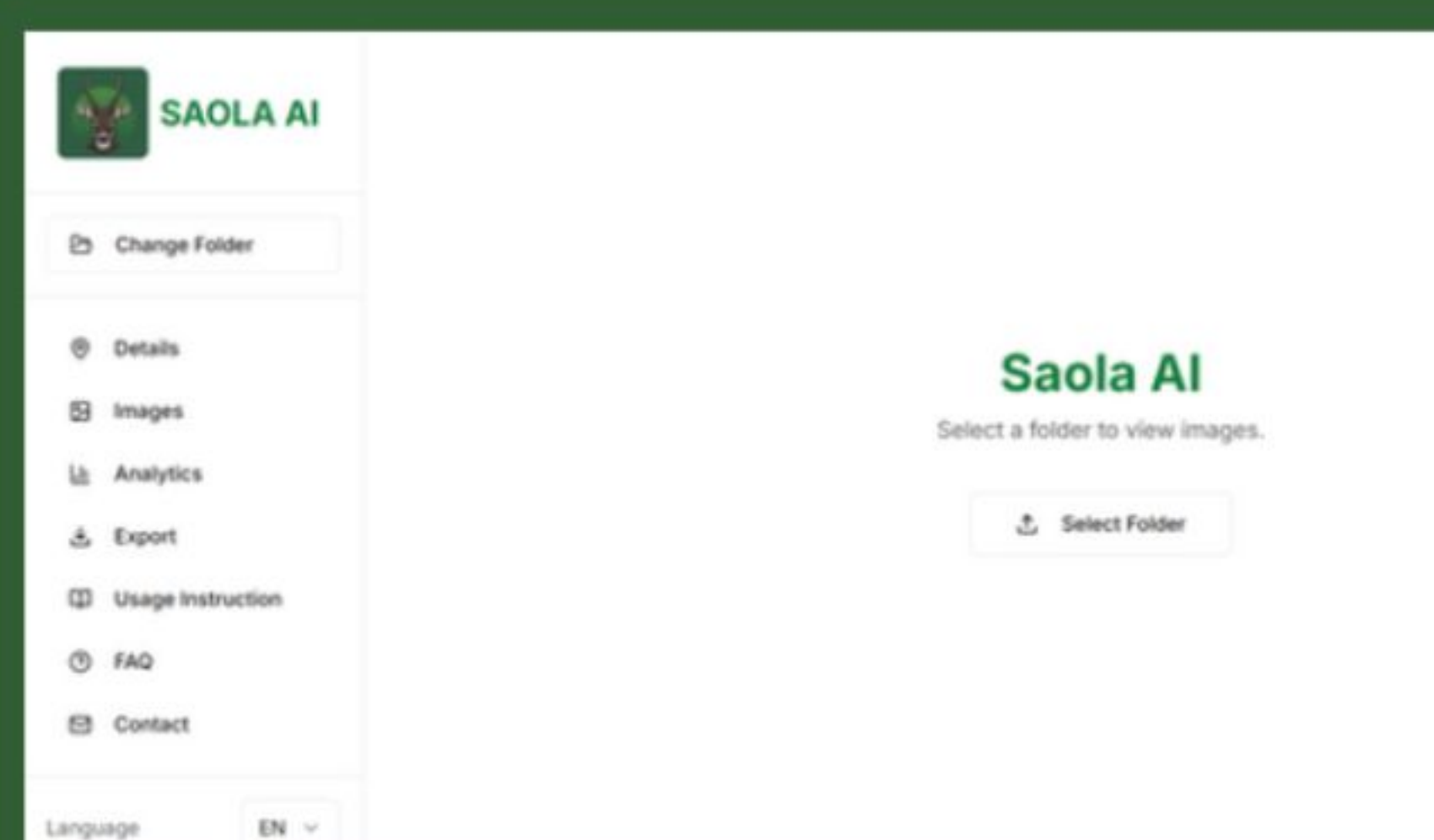
In 2025, significant conservation research outcomes were achieved across biodiversity monitoring, technology application, species management, and social research, providing a strong evidence base for long-term conservation planning.



Baseline biodiversity surveys were conducted in Dong Nai Culture and Nature Reserve and key Sunda pangolin stronghold areas using camera traps. In Dong Nai, 99 camera-trap stations (198 cameras) recorded **75 species, including 28 mammals, 46 birds, and 1 reptile, notably including Sun bear, Sunda pangolin, Black-shanked douc, and Asian elephant.** Additional targeted surveys using 64 camera-trap stations were implemented in Cat Tien National Park and Dong Nai Culture and Nature Reserve. **Cat Tien recorded 62 species (25 mammals, 35 birds, 2 reptiles), while Dong Nai recorded 45 species (20 mammals, 23 birds, 2 reptiles), including 50 records of Sunda pangolin in both sites.** These datasets establish critical baselines for hotspot identification and long-term biodiversity trend monitoring.

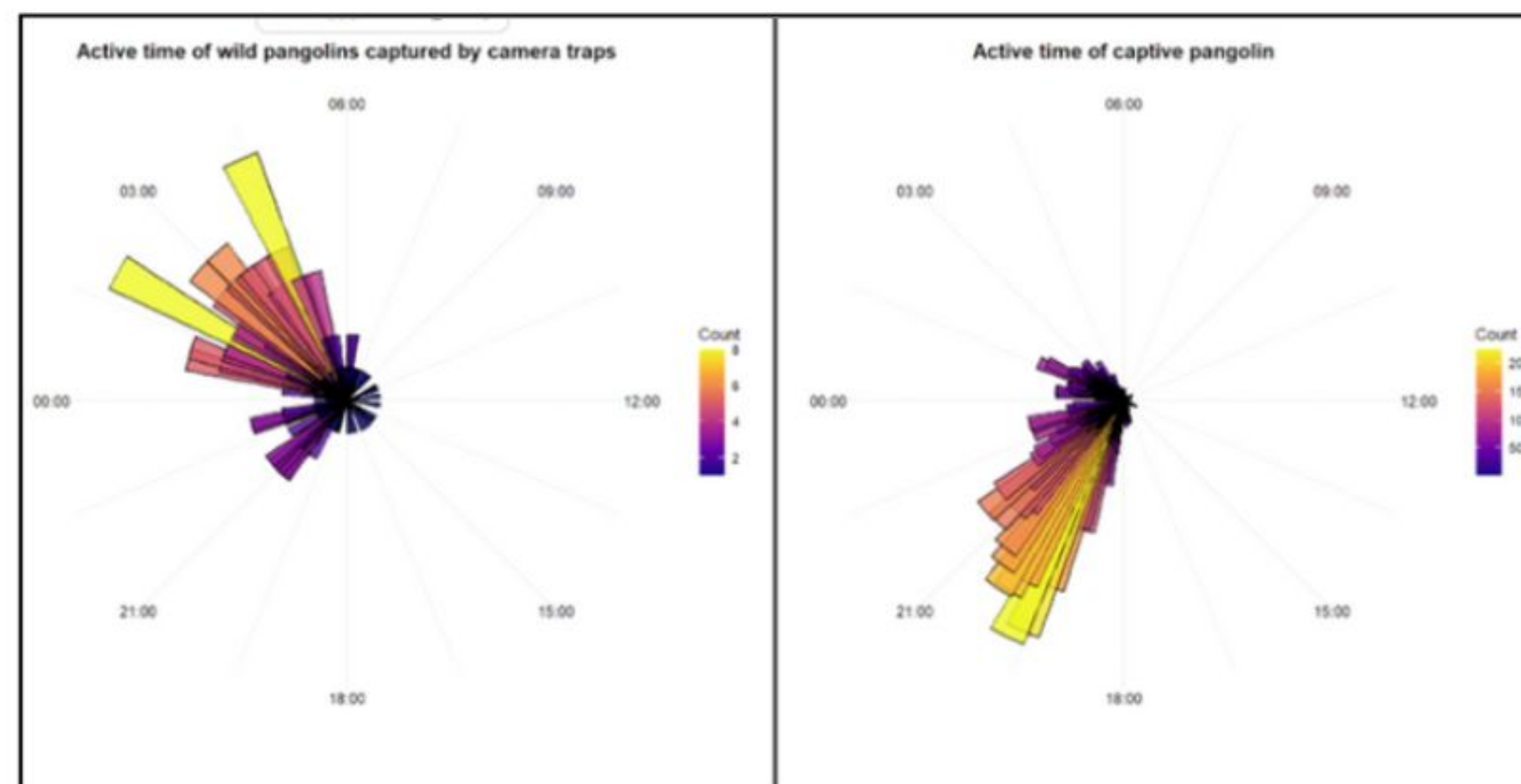
SAOLAAI

To improve data processing efficiency, the team developed SaolaAI, a web-based camera-trap classification tool built on the open-source SpeciesNet algorithm. The innovation received The Boring Fund award, enabling pilot implementation and training for our partner conservation organizations.



OBSERVATION OF BEHAVIOR CHANGE OF RESCUED SUNDA PANGOLINS IN CAPTIVITY

Behavioral monitoring of **six rescued Sunda pangolins** in 2 months revealed rapid adaptation to captivity, with reduced stress behaviors and increased foraging and movement over time. Activity patterns shifted earlier than in the wild, beginning between **19:00–20:30**, providing actionable insights for improved captive management.



MORE SUITABLE RELEASE SITES FOR SUNDA PANGOLINS, MASKED PALM CIVETS AND SMALL CLAWED OTTERS



Release site assessments identified **3 more suitable sites for Sunda pangolins, confirmed 3 sites for Masked palm civets, and added one more site for Small-clawed otters** to guide future release work.

HOG DEER SUB-SPECIES IDENTIFICATION FOR REINTRODUCTION PROGRAM

Genetic analyses of the captive hog deer (*Axis porcinus*) population at Saigon Zoo indicate that the individuals are most likely **Indochinese hog deer** (*Axis porcinus annamiticus*), the subspecies historically native to Vietnam. This result provides an important scientific foundation for assessing the feasibility of a future **reintroduction program**, subject to further expert validation.

Additionally, **800 post-intervention** interviews were designed and analyzed across U Minh Thuong, U Minh Ha, and Cat Tien National Parks, supporting evaluations of community engagement outcomes. The team also designed the **assessment frameworks for community ranger training program** for further evaluations of this initiative.



FOREST PROTECTION



A pangolin rescued from a snare trap and released, Dong Nai Culture and Nature Reserve.

Across all sites, patrol teams substantially expanded their coverage by conducting longer patrols, increasing patrol frequency, and covering greater distances compared to the previous year. While overall violation numbers remained stable, this increased effort translated into **significantly fewer violations per patrol**, demonstrating stronger deterrence and improved enforcement effectiveness.

Through coordinated public awareness efforts, across our sites, a total of **2,746 days** of public awareness activities were conducted, **reaching 3,100 individuals and engaging 147 restaurants and business households** across **267 joint public awareness events**. These activities supported forest rangers in national parks and nature reserves by strengthening community awareness, promote appreciation for nature, and encourage collective action to protect forests and wildlife.

FOREST PROTECTION



*Signing of guarantee form,
Pu Mat National Park*



*A variety of guns surrendered, including
homemade muzzle-loader guns and
PCP air guns*

In 2025, coordinated public awareness efforts with police and forest rangers at Pu Mat, U Minh Thuong, and U Minh Ha National Parks reached **3,050 people and 148 restaurants**, secured commitments from high-risk individuals and groups such as suspected hunters and restaurants in the buffer zone. Our activities here have led to the surrender of **23 illegal weapons and devices** as well as **2 endangered Rhesus Macaques**. It is to be noted that the increased voluntary surrendering of forest exploitation tools and wildlife means that the local people's perception of forest exploitation activities are changing, now seen as increasingly unviable and undesirable.

Collaboration with law enforcement also resulted in **two wildlife trade cases being intercepted** in buffer zones, effectively preventing illegal hunting before it reached protected forests.

SMART DEPLOYMENT

- Launching of SMART-augmented public awareness activities across all our sites.
- Ensuring that 100% of forest protection officers and forest rangers are proficient in using SMART mobile.
- Maintaining the implementation of **SMART connect** in Cat Tien National Park, U Minh Thuong National Park, U Minh Ha National Park, Dong Nai Culture and Nature Reserve.
- Organizing additional advanced SMART training sessions for forest patrol officers and field officers at Tan Phu, Xuan Loc, Long Thanh Forest Management Departments in the province of Dong Nai as well as the forest protection staff of Van Long Nature Reserve in Ninh Binh province.



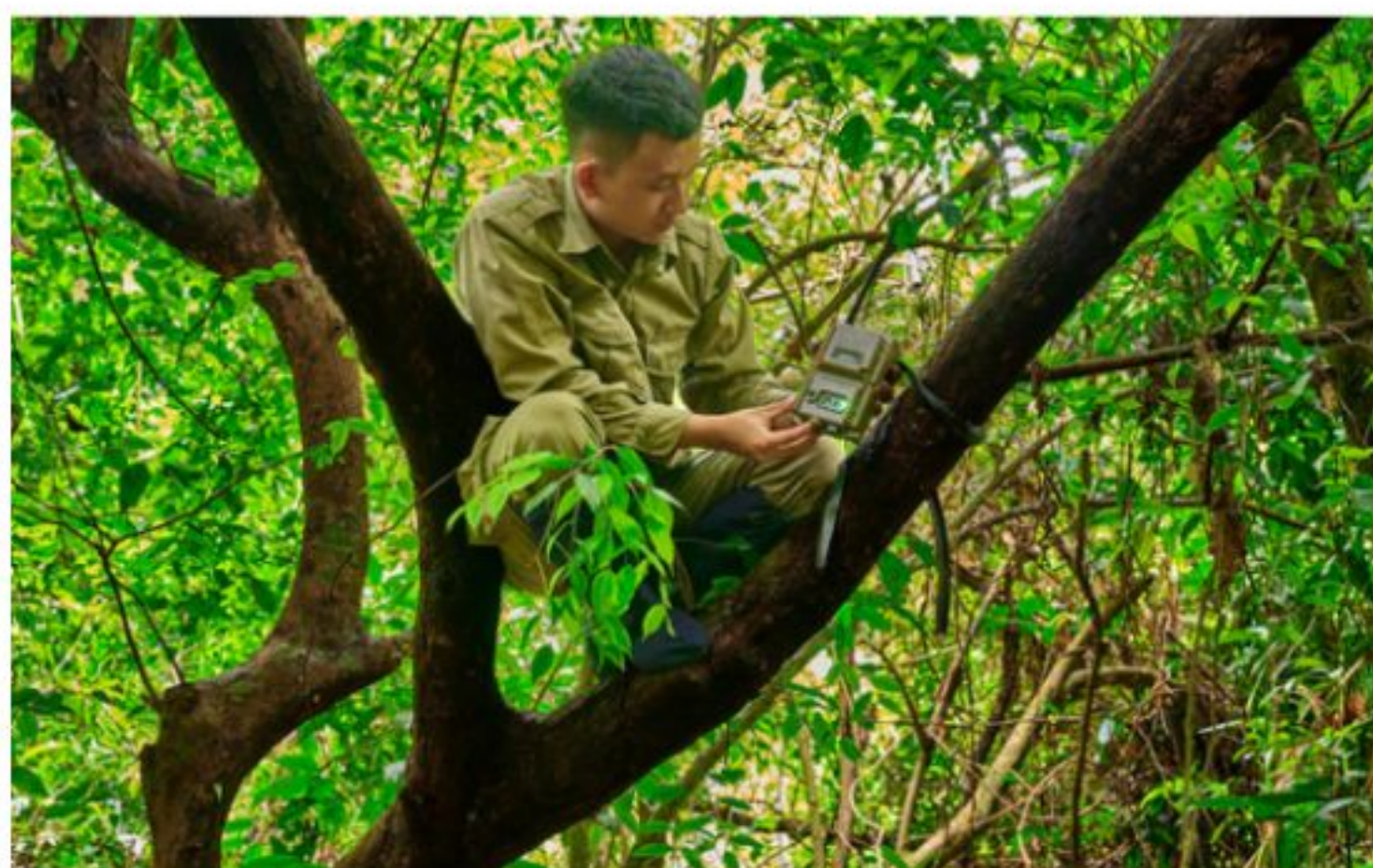
ESTABLISHMENT OF COMMUNITY FOREST PROTECTION FORCE IN CUC PHUONG NATIONAL PARK

- Completed recruitment, equipment procurement and capacity building training for **12 officers** of community forest protection forces in **Cuc Phuong National Park** as well as other local forest protection forces.
- Training for community forest guards of **Cat Tien National Park** and **Dong Nai Cultural and Nature Reserve** was also completed in 2025.



POACHERCAM APPLICATION

During the year, the use of PoacherCam was maintained, **625 photos** of trespassers were taken, of which 9 subjects were arrested, **147 forest exploitation tools, including 3 guns**, were confiscated.



POLICY ADVOCACY



In 2025, SVW actively engaged in policy advocacy to support the Ministry of Agriculture and Environment in the refinement of legal frameworks related to forestry management, forest protection, and wildlife conservation. SVW's contributions aimed to ensure that emerging regulations are grounded in field realities, strengthen enforcement effectiveness, and better address biodiversity conservation challenges linked to illegal wildlife exploitation.

For the draft Decree replacing **Decree No. 35/2019/ND-CP** on administrative sanctions in the forestry sector, SVW provided technical inputs to strengthen the legal basis for addressing wildlife-related violations, with a particular focus on snaring, which remains one of the most widespread and destructive threats to wildlife in Vietnam. In practice, materials such as bicycle brake cables and metal wire are commonly used to construct **deadly snare traps**. However, under existing regulations, individuals carrying these materials into forest areas without having yet assembled a trap are often not considered to be in violation, limiting the ability of forest rangers to intervene early and prevent wildlife crimes. To address this gap, SVW emphasized the need to explicitly define the act of bringing materials that can be used to create traps into forest areas as a sanctionable violation, alongside establishing clearer and more differentiated penalty levels for related offences. SVW also recommended provisions addressing unauthorized entry into forest areas without the consent of forest owners or managers, as a preventive measure to reduce illegal activities at their source.

In parallel, SVW contributed recommendations to the draft Decree replacing **Decree No. 45/2022/ND-CP** on administrative sanctions in the field of environmental protection. These focused on closing legal gaps related to wildlife species that are not listed in the Forest Animal Lists and the CITES Appendices, introducing sanctions for the use of hunting tools outside forest land, and requiring violators to bear the costs associated with handling confiscated wildlife, including rescue, rehabilitation, and release. Such costs are often substantial and currently place a heavy burden on the State and wildlife rescue centers.

SVW's comments have been acknowledged by the drafting committees and incorporated into the draft Decrees, which are being finalized for submission to the Government. If adopted and promulgated in the first half of 2026, these contributions will help strengthen Vietnam's legal framework for forest protection and wildlife conservation.



COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

EDUCATION AND RAISING AWARENESS

To enhance coordination among law enforcement agencies and raise awareness within communities surrounding key conservation areas, SVW organized **12 workshops** reaching nearly **1,708 participants**. These included provincial, district, and commune leaders, local residents, teachers, students, and media agencies across **Dong Nai, Binh Phuoc, Lam Dong, Kien Giang, and Ca Mau provinces**. 2 major competitions, the "Speaking for the Voiceless" public speaking contest and the "**Living in Harmony with Nature**" video content creation contest, successfully promoted conservation messages to youth living in the buffer zone of **Cat Tien National Park** and across Southern Vietnam.

The Education Program in the **Pu Mat National Park** buffer zone continued to lead conservation initiatives by integrating nature protection messages into the local mainstream curriculum. Notably, the project, which incorporates **Wildlife Conservation** into experiential learning and career guidance, themed "**I Love the Environment**" and featuring "**A Day as a Forest Ranger**" experiential program, attracted significant interest from local Departments of Education and Training. These successes have paved the way for replicating the project in schools throughout the Pu Mat buffer zone and expanding it across Nghe An province. A review workshop, witnessed by **170 delegates**, honored **24 core group members and educational units** for their outstanding contributions to the cause of conservation.



DEMAND REDUCTION

The **"Wildlife Demand Reduction Campaign"** operated actively across five provinces (Dong Nai, Binh Phuoc, Lam Dong, Kien Giang, Ca Mau), installing **115 advocacy billboards**. The campaign successfully mobilized **454 restaurants** and wildlife breeding facilities to pledge against the illegal trading, slaughtering, consumption, transportation, and advertising of wildlife. An impact assessment survey was also conducted with **840 participants** to evaluate the effectiveness of the demand reduction activity series.



2025 also marked the debut of two new SVW initiatives: the **"Mobile Nature Center"** and the **"Silent Forest Campaign."** The Mobile Nature Center has finalized its detailed content; the retrofitting of **three 30-seat bus** frames is currently being completed for official operation in the first quarter of 2026. Meanwhile, the Silent Forest campaign secured the support and partnership of singer **Ha Anh Tuan and VietVision**. The campaign has established its media channels, including brand identity, website, and fanpage, and actively promoted conservation messages at various music and art events.



ECOTOURISM PROMOTION

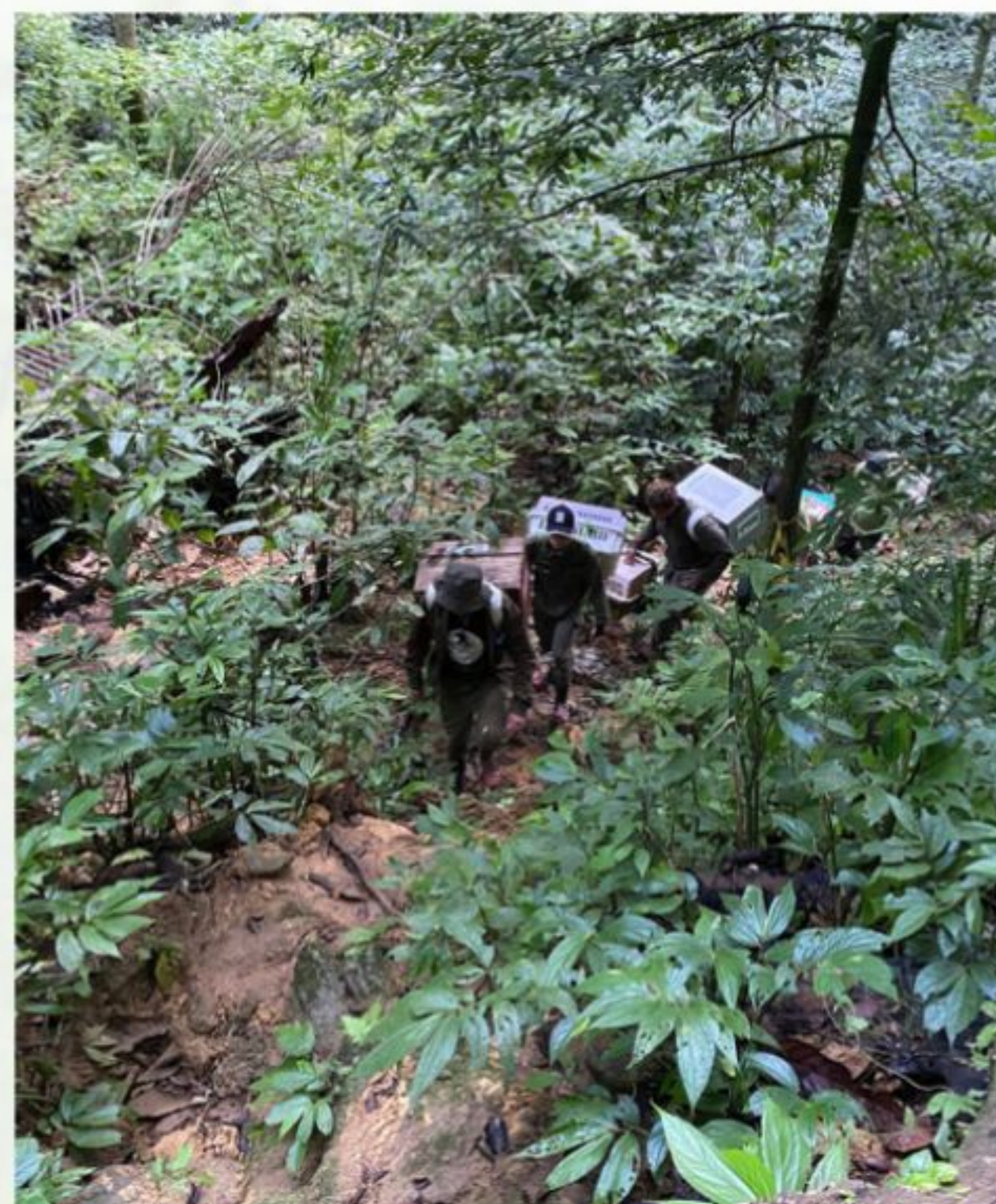


We partnered with **Cuc Phuong National Park** to promote ecotourism and experiential education programs for the community, especially students, focusing on a love for nature and responsibility towards the destination. **Nearly 16,000 visitors** were inspired by conservation, including almost **1,100 students from buffer zones** and beyond who participated in the park's experiential education program. In addition, we enhanced the capacity of Cuc Phuong National Park guides to effectively operate the experiential education model; trained boatmen, tourism officers, and other stakeholders in basic guiding and media skills to raise conservation awareness among tourists at Van Long Nature Reserve; and supported communication efforts for ecotourism at Pu Mat National Park.



THANK YOU

FOR BEING WITH US DURING THE WHOLE 2025.
WE WISH TO HAVE YOU ACCOMPANY US ON
THE NEXT JOURNEY IN 2026.



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VIETNAM'S
WILDLIFE**
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SAVE VIETNAM'S WILDLIFE HIGHLY APPRECIATES AND ACKNOWLEDGES OUR GENEROUS DONORS, PARTNERS, EXPERTS AND INDIVIDUALS WHO HAVE BEEN HELPING US ACHIEVE OUR MISSION.

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TOGETHER WITH THOUSANDS OF OTHER INDIVIDUALS AND ORGANISATIONS