

Editorial Note on Animal Conservation

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EDITORIAL

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ABSTRACT

Animal conservation is the act of protecting ecosystems and environments to guard the animals that live there. The importance of animal conservation is immeasurable, at a time where our planet is currently experiencing the sixth major extinction event within the 3.6 billion years that life has been thereon. This is often also the primary extinction event caused by humans and therefore the just one to occur since the dinosaurs were exhausted some 65 million years ago. This is often at a time where the rubbish path within the Pacific is larger than the U.S.A and where baby birds swallow more shards of plastic than nutritious food. Unfortunately, despite the effort put into conservation by organizations and activists, their work can easily be undermined by those who have other interests. This occurs, for example, from habitat destruction, illegal poaching, to influencing or manipulating laws designed to protect species.

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The greatest threat to wildlife in many parts of Southeast Asia is almost invisible and indiscriminate in killing or injuring any ground-dwelling wildlife that crosses its path. Snares are one among the foremost destructive hunting techniques, cheap and straightforward to supply, and sometimes made up of widely available home items like rope, wires, and cables. Primarily used for capturing animals for the illegal wildlife trade and sale in urban markets, they're devastating the region's wildlife populations and at the present times, even more than habitat loss and degradation, contributing to the wildlife extinction crisis in Southeast Asia.

To combat this crisis within the Greater Mekong, WWF-supported ranger patrols are set up in 10 protected areas where there has been a significant reduction through detection and removal of just about 15,000 snares and traps in 2019 alone. WWF is additionally conducting trainings so as to assist rangers identify wildlife crimes so as to issue fines and arrest poachers.

The WWF continues to deal with the snaring crisis across Southeast Asia by monitoring wildlife species in protected areas through camera trapping and landscape level analysis.