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Officials weigh seized wildlife meat late last week in Ratanakiri province. Forestry Administration

Two fined for holding illegal meat

Mon, 7 November 2016 [Khouth Sophak Chakrya](#)

Two Ratanakiri men were reprimanded and fined late last week after a joint operation uncovered six mountain tortoises and more than 60 kilograms of illegal wildlife meat in their possession.

The 66-kilogram haul came from a cornucopia of illicit species, including wild boar, flying squirrel, porcupine, red deer, tortoises, black soft-shell turtles and monitor lizards.

The six mountain tortoises, weighing 14 kilos, were released into the forest.

Lumphat district Forestry Administration, working together with the NGO Alliance and other authorities, arrested the pair in Laban Siek village, Banlung district on Thursday. Lumphat Forestry Administration official Sophan said the meat had been buried in the forest and declined to name the two men, who will not face charges.

The two men and their transporters were educated [about illegal wildlife trafficking] and were not fined. They signed contracts promising to stop transporting and selling [wildlife meat] in the future," Sophan said.

"If they do it in the future, they will be sent to the court for legal proceedings."

Contact author: [Khouth Sophak Chakrya](#)

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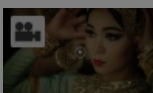
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