Phnom Penh, Cambodia - March 2, 2020 - Reports of the death of a ranger last Sunday in Roveang, Pursat province, have been dismissed as false news by NGO Wildlife Alliance.

A local online media outlet reported that the Wildlife Alliance - Ministry of Environment (MoE) ranger had been shot whilst on an operation to crack down on illegal forestry activity.

Suwanna Gauntlett, CEO of Wildlife Alliance, thanked the cooperation of local authorities over the weekend. “Everybody was mobilised to find out how this false news was spread and we thank local authorities.”

Wildlife Alliance will continue to work alongside local authorities to look into how the rumour spread to the local media outlet.

It is suspected that the rumour was started as a scare tactic to instill fear amongst the rangers.

Ms. Gauntlett said, “This news does not scare our rangers who are specially trained to overcome any challenges they can expect in their line of work. Our rangers will continue to operate as effectively as they have for almost 20 years now. The spread of false information is something we do not take lightly and people should be aware of the consequences.”

Wildlife Alliance praised the MoE for their commitment in protecting the Cardamom Rainforest Landscape.

Wildlife Alliance - MoE rangers patrol an area of almost 1.5 million hectares of the Cardamom Rainforest Landscape, one of the last great rainforests in Southeast Asia, and are considered one of the most effective ranger teams in the region.
A truck carrying 42m³ (steres) of illegal fire timber that was seized by Roveang station rangers last November. Click here for a high-quality image.

A Wildlife Alliance - MoE ranger team patrol an area of the Cardamom Rainforest Landscape. Click here for a high-quality image.
About Wildlife Alliance:

Wildlife Alliance was founded by Suwanna Gauntlett to offer direct protection to forests and wildlife through cutting edge conservation programs. The organization provides technical assistance and critical thinking to governments and strives for stakeholder consensus in achieving solutions to multiple environmental threats, including animal trafficking, economic land concessions for agro-industrial plantations and mining, and community encroachment on forestland. Wildlife Alliance is the leader in direct action in the Southeast Asian tropical belt.

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