

Date: 10 March 2017

Re: Inclusion of a personal communication in the manuscript entitled “Insectivorous bat reproduction and human cave visitation in Cambodia: A perfect conservation storm?” by Thona Lim, Julien Cappelle, Thavry Hoem & Neil Furey.

To whom it may concern,

I am pleased to confirm that I fully support the inclusion of my personal communication with the authors above, namely to the following effect in the text of their manuscript:-

“In predominantly Theravada Buddhist countries (Myanmar, Thailand, Cambodia & Laos), this [the new year] is celebrated in April, whereas countries of more mixed religion such as Vietnam follow a lunisolar calendar whereby the most important period for ceremonies and domestic cave visitation is during the Tet festival [6,46,48] (Vuong Tan Tu, Institute of Ecology and Biological Resources, Vietnam pers. comm.) in January–March.”

My agreement with this statement is based on more than a decade of research experience regarding cave-roosting bats and human-cave associations throughout Vietnam.

Yours sincerely,



Dr. Vuong Tan Tu
Institute of Ecology and Biological Resources,
Vietnam Academy of Sciences and Technology,
No. 18, Hoang Quoc Viet road, Cau Giay district, Hanoi, Vietnam.
Tel: 844 38 36 01 69 - Fax: 844 38 36 11 96. Email: vttu@iebr.ac.vn