

Project Update: November 2013

Field surveys were conducted in limestone forests of Hin Nam No National Protected Area (NPA) between May and July 2013.

145 reptile specimens were examined morphologically in the laboratory for 3 months. As the results, a total of 40 species of reptiles belonging to nine families and two orders were identified for Hin Nam No NPA. Almost of them are new records for Hin Nam No NPA.

Remarkably, the project was discovered an undescribed *Cyrtodactylus* species from Khammouane Province. Two species and one subspecies of reptiles are known for the first time from Laos: *Cyrtodactylus phongnhakebangensis*, *Lycodon futsingensis*, and *Lycodon ruhstrati abditus* from limestone forests in Khammouane Province. A specimen of *Trimeresurus* cf. *truongsonensis* was also found in Khammouane Province, which has been known to occur only in Vietnam. However, the taxonomic placement of this specimen is unclear based on morphological examination only and thus molecular comparisons are currently processed.

With the notable results, I have submitted two manuscripts for international journals and an abstract for the Rufford Grantees Meeting in Myanmar next year.

Currently, I am waiting for results from molecular analyses to write the final report for the project next month.

