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**Nagao**  
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**Nagao NEF project:**

**Species diversity of terrestrial vertebrates in  
the mountains of Indochina**

**Field survey in Xuan Nha nature reserve,  
Son La province, Northwest Vietnam**

*Principal Investigator:*

**Dr. Masaharu Motokawa**

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# ACTIVITY PHOTOS

2024 August 4 – 2024 August 17

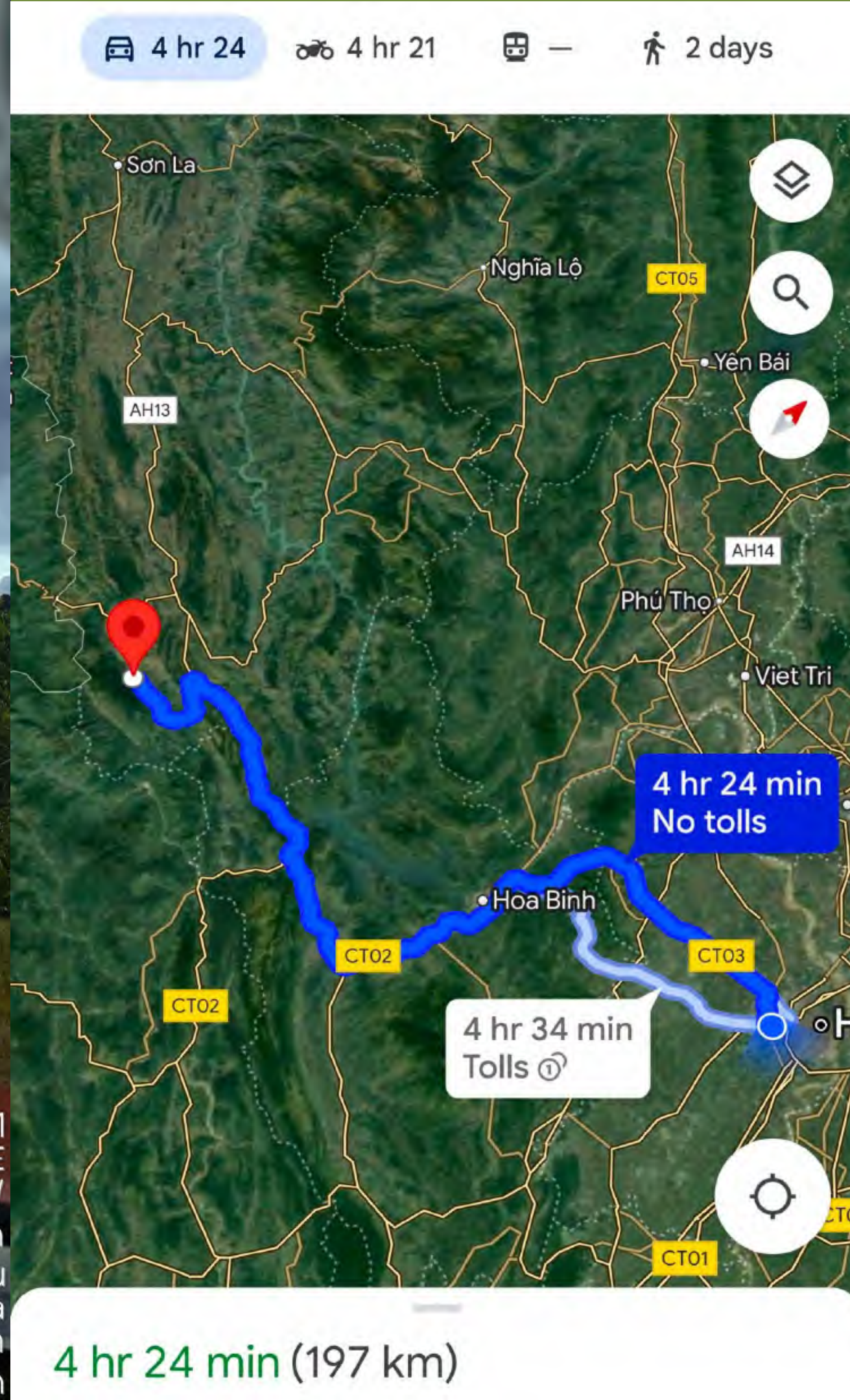




# –Travel–

Field survey in Xuan Nha nature reserve,  
Son La province, Northwest Vietnam  
2024 August 4 – 2024 August 17

2024/08/04 13:51  
+20.7091N +104.7599E  
269° W  
Đường chưa đặt tên  
Mộc Châu  
Sơn La  
Altitude: 209.2m  
Speed: 2.4km/h



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Two pick-up cars,  
197 km from Hanoi  
4h30 driving



**"White stone" pass (Hoa Binh province).**  
**The most beautiful pass in National Highway No. 6**







**National Highway 6 is a road like a silk strip in the clouds, passing through many mountains, with many sharp turns and steep slopes.**



We had lunch with a friend of Dr. Bui, who was born in the province of Son La. Mr. Chung (blue shirt and eyeglasses) helped the team buy local cage traps.







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# – Habitats and Environment –





The main habitat of the study area is the post-extraction secondary forest on the high mountains. Meanwhile, the foothills at lower altitudes are usually corn fields, sticky rice dry paddy field and paddy field.







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**Common habitat types include rice fields, planted forests, bamboo forests, post-extraction secondary forest dirt mountains, and primary forests on limestone mountain tops.**









Buffaloes, cows, pigs, horses, and their traces are frequently found in the study area.



08/15/2024 08:41:00 023°C



To care for livestock and poultry, people built simple houses in the forest for overnight stays.









## Forest habitats on mountain tops in the study area







Our biggest challenge, in addition to the long distance and steep slopes into the forest, was the unpredictable weather in the research area.



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The heat from early morning, along with the showers and thunderstorms in the late afternoon, made our climb up and down the 500-meter altitude difference feel like an extreme sport.







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# – Research Activities–







**The team includes researchers, students, forest rangers, and local people.**



Each day, we climbed a path with an average slope of up to 30 degrees, including sections that exceeded 60 degrees.



Aug 7, 2024 6:52:54 AM  
111°E  
Chieng Xuân  
Mộc Châu  
Son La  
Altitude: 513.0m  
Speed: 0.0km/h  
Index number: 7/





The sweat-soaked clothes are clear evidence of our research efforts in challenging terrain and weather conditions.



Distribute Sherman traps to the members.











Cat dry food and  
fresh corn are also  
used as bait.



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**Local cage traps and pitfall traps are installed with the assistance of local people.**









## Setting mist net





## Collecting animals

























## Bat photography and ecolocation recording



Aug 6, 2024 10:00:31  
Altitude:56  
Speed:0.7  
Index number



Aug 11, 2024

Đường

Altitude  
Speed  
Index







## Students training





# – Live animals photos –

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**A Fruit Bat**













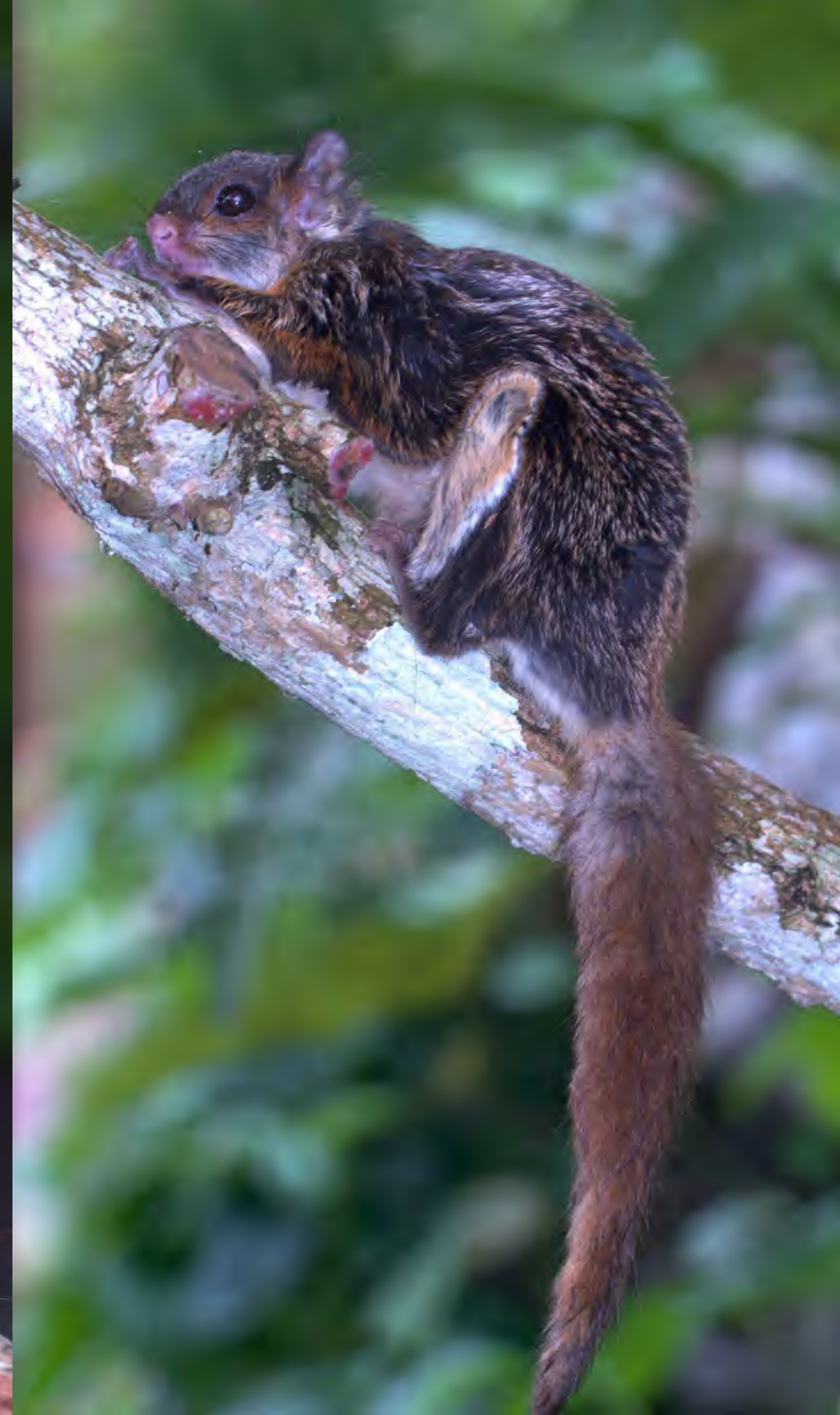




















## A mouse-eared bat



## A Fruit Bat





## A Horseshoe bat







## A Roundleaf bat



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## A Bamboo Bat





## A Trident Bat





## A Newt







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## – Life in the field survey and Communication –





















## Resting







**The teacher-student relationship is increasingly strengthened.**





**Language differences don't stop the connections and smiles.**





Legal drinking age in Vietnam is 18,  
and in Japan is 20



We attended a “New Rice” party to celebrate a bountiful harvest and pray for good luck. Taking this opportunity, we collected valuable information about biodiversity and promoted the importance of biodiversity conservation and its related laws.





Legal drinking age in Vietnam is 18,  
and in Japan is 20



We came for science and the environment, brought knowledge to share, and learned a lot from the local culture. We will remember these happy smiles forever.