

โครงการคืนชะนีสู่ป่า Gibbon Rehabilitation Project



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2016 January, Volunteer Profile:



1-Name: Emily Mettler

2-Nationality: United States

3-Education/profession: Environmental Science

4-Age: 23 years

5-Length of Volunteering: 4 months

6-Describe you favorite day: Some of my favorite days working at GRP have been going into the forest, and seeing gibbons living freely. It is incredibly rewarding and exciting to see the result of GRP's years of hard work. After

meeting so many gibbons with such sad histories, it is wonderful to be able to see them finally returned to their natural state, and see how happy they are swinging high in the trees and singing to other wild gibbons. I was lucky enough to be at GRP for the release of a couple, Epsilon and Sylvia, and that was by far one of my favorite days. After months of seeing them almost every day at the rehabilitation center, it was amazing to see them in their first moments finally outside of a cage, and watch them bravely climb high into the treetops for the first time.

7-Describe your funniest moment at GRP: Every day working with our animals I see something funny or adorable, and it is hard to choose just one story. One moment that stands out occurred when I noticed one of our langur monkeys looking intently at something he was holding in his hand. I looked a little closer, and discovered it was a large piece of his own feces. After studying it for a while longer, he licked it, and then took a small bite. He looked thoughtful for a minute, and then I guess he decided it was not that bad, because he took another, larger bite, and then put it down and moved on to eating some leaves.

8-Describe one of the gibbon/langur characters that you feel you have gotten to know a little bit during your stay here: One of my favorite gibbons is Rumthai, a sweet and curious gibbon with a very sad past. Before she came to GRP, she was kept in a small birdcage, and her spine and limbs never had room to develop properly. As a result, Rumthai can never be released into the wild, and she prefers to use her feet rather than her hands for many things, including eating. At first she was quite shy around me, and would stay up high in a corner in her cage, only coming down to eat after I had walked away. After she had gotten used to me, she started waiting by her food bowl while I put food in, and became comfortable enough to eat and sing in front of me. She is very curious about the world around her, and sometimes when I'm cleaning her cage, if I'm not looking at her she will sneakily use one foot to reach out and touch the hose, or even my hair or my ears, and if a frog or lizard wanders by her cage, she cautiously tries to touch them, but is usually too slow.

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มูลนิธิช่วยชีวิตสัตว์ป่าแห่งประเทศไทย

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