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PRESS RELEASE
For Immediate Release

Students learn about Balintong: celebrating the World Pangolin Day

February 18, 2017 – Young Palaweños learn about Balintong: Celebrating the World Pangolin Day. To call attention about the conservation status of the Palawan or Philippine Pangolin *Manis culionensis*, KFI had an exhibit, information booth and video showing at the Puerto Princesa Campus of the Western Philippines University (WPU). KFI and WPU are long-term partners in the conservation of threatened wildlife in Palawan.

KFI had followed the call of the IUCN-SSC Pangolin Specialist Group to participate in the annual campaign aimed at raising global awareness about pangolins.

The Palawan Pangolin *Manis culionensis* is one of KFI's flagship species. Under the Palawan Pangolin Conservation Project, KFI is conducting research on the species since 2008. An initial study on the trade of the species in Southern Palawan had been conducted in 2008 and was followed by a phylogeny and taxonomic status study in 2009. Surveys on the hunting pressure and distribution and first population surveys were conducted starting 2012. The most recent are studies on the movement pattern of the species. Key sponsors and partners of KFI are Wildlife Reserves Singapore Group (WRS), Palawan Council for Sustainable Development Staff (PCSDS), and anonymous funders.

The celebration of World Pangolin Day was a perfect time to share our learning with the public, Dr. Sabine Schoppe who is member of the IUCN-SSC Pangolin Specialist Group, said.

Follow IUCN-SSC Pangolin Specialist Group from your personal and project social media accounts. You can find us on Twitter (@PangolinSG) and Facebook (@IUCNPangolinSG).

Use the hashtags **#WorldPangolinDay**, **#Pangolin**, **#ScalingUpPangolinConservation** and **#SavePangolins** in your posts to celebrate World Pangolin Day, pangolins and the work of the Pangolin Specialist Group. Please

tag us in your posts on Facebook (@IUCNPangolinSG) and Twitter (@PangolinSG) so that we can share and amplify your messages from our accounts.

For more information, please contact Sabine Schoppe, Katala Foundation, P.O. Box 390, Puerto Princesa City, Palawan or at sabine_schoppe@web.de and visit our homepage at www.philippinecockatoo.org.
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