

Two Decades of Guarding the Mountains

用雙腳愛山二十載

專訪太管處保育巡查員Buya與Nobu

An Interview with Buya and Nobu, Park Rangers of Taroko National Park Headquarter



保育巡查員的「辦公室」就在海拔3000公尺的高山上 / 林永賢攝
Park rangers' "office" is right in high mountains at an altitude of more than 3000 meters. / by Yung-hsien Lin

採訪撰文 Interview & Text / 賴宛晴 Wan-ching Lai 攝影 Photographer / 呂建毅 Chien-yi Lu、林永賢 Yung-hsien Lin 特別感謝 Special thanks to / 太管處解說課林茂耀 Mao-yao Lin of Interpretation & Education Section、遊憩服務課林永賢 Yung-hsien Lin of Recreation Services Section, Taroko National Park Headquarters (TNP) 翻譯 Translator / 鄭佩芬 Wendy Cheng

莫拉克颱風席捲台灣，林相保持相當完整的太魯閣國家公園，所幸並未傳出重大災情。風災過後，面對千瘡百孔的國土，人們積極討論該如何推動生態保育及環境永續，也注意到劃入國家公園保育範圍的山林，在水土保持極佳狀況下，能安然度過天災的考驗。

自從1986年太魯閣國家公園正式成為台灣第4座國家公園後，就是中外人士造訪台灣的必遊景點。只是，要守護這片偌大的山林，談何容易？即使科技進步、資訊發達，但廣袤的山澗水涯裡有些工作還是無法以機器取代，仍需要人力親力親為。

幅員遼闊的太魯閣國家公園要善盡管理之責，需要這些日復一日、背著沉重行囊，默默行走在小徑間的保育巡查員，他們用自己的體力、耐力及毅力，捍衛著國家公園生態的完整

「誰不希望自己的工作錢多事少離家近，但保育巡查員卻是錢少事多，還必須經常離家，在山裡趴趴走。」

Buya 大哥爽朗的一笑，身為太魯閣族人的他，18歲時曾千里迢迢到外地工作，但城市的車水馬龍、水泥叢林，讓他透不過氣，繁榮的大千世界未令他留戀，因對山的了解及熱愛，他決定回到太魯閣。1979年政府尚未明令禁伐的年代，回鄉的Buya參與了林務局的開墾伐木計畫，直到入伍當兵才停止。

從伐木工到保育志士

當年的林業是台灣經濟命脈，換取了豐厚的外匯存底，卻犧牲了千萬年來守護國土的無數巨木。那段埋首山林砍伐的歲月，與Buya天生的原民精神—尊重自然、合理利用的理念相違背。「我們懂狩獵，但絕不會在繁殖季打獵、騷擾動物傳宗接代；我們也會伐木，但僅止於取用大樹側枝來搭建房舍、不會砍伐牟利。」

Buya大哥說，那一棵棵千年大紅檜、紅豆杉倒下後，巨木不易腐爛的樹根還能緊緊抓牢土壤，「但30年了，這些大樹根爛了，土壤漸漸鬆，我猜想，這與近年來不斷出現的土石流，或許脫不了關係。」

幸而，隨著生態保育觀念興起，台灣終於在1981年

As Typhoon Morakot rampaged through Taiwan, Taroko National Park (TNP), with its well-preserved forests, fortunately only suffered minimal damages. In the aftermath of the disaster, ecological conservation and sustainability have been under serious discussion, and people have noticed areas conserved by national parks all survived the natural disaster thanks to the well-maintained water and soil conservation.

TNP has been a must-visit attraction for both local and foreign tourists since it officially became the fourth national park in Taiwan in 1986. It is never easy to maintain this spacious forest. Despite the advancement in technology and information, there is still some work on this extensive land that cannot be done by machines but by hands.

To manage this vast land, TNP must count on park rangers who have to walk along the allies with heavy bags day after day, and guard the Park with their stamina, perseverance and strong will.

“Who doesn't want to have an easy, well-paid job that is also close to home? But the job as a ranger is demanding and humbly-paid, and requires us to be in the mountains away from home.”

As a Truku, Buya had worked in the city far away from home when he was 18, but he never liked the life in the busy city jungle. Later, his love for and knowledge about mountains brought him back to Taroko. He had participated in the Forestry Bureau (FB)'s deforestation and cultivation project since 1979, an era when the government had not forbid logging, until he went into the army for military service.

From a Logger to a Park Ranger

Once one of the economic arteries, logging industry had earned considerable foreign reserves for Taiwan at the expense of numerous giant trees guarding the land for millenniums. Those logging days were against Buya's nature and will as an aborigine, which respect the Nature. “We hunt but we never do it in breeding seasons; we log but we only cut the branches for building houses and never for profit.”

The roots of all the felled Taiwan Red Cypress (*Chamaecyparis formosensis Matsumura*) and Taiwan Yew (*Texus chinensis*) were able to hold the soil at first, said Buya. “But now after 30 years, the roots had all rotted away, which might be the cause of recent mudslides.”

全面禁伐，那長年迴盪山裡的鋸木聲，才漸漸平息。

Buya 退伍後，正值太魯閣國家公園招考保育巡查員，因緣際會加入了國家公園體系，成為太魯閣第一批保育巡查員，也提攜許多優秀後進。

小 Buya 5 歲的 Nobu 也曾參與林務局的工作，只不過參與的不是伐木，而是造林。

和身手矯健的 Buya 相比，Nobu 笑說自己沒那麼耐操，考上保育巡查員的過程很搞笑。「我壓根不知道進國家公園要做什麼，猜想可能就是負責把樹木剪得圓圓的園藝工作吧，我的手還算靈巧，修剪花木難不倒我。」

但 Nobu 猜錯了。當天應考的有 30 幾人，只取 4 名，競爭很激烈，除筆試外，還得扛著 30 公斤的沙袋，須在 1 個半小時內從天祥走到海拔 1 千公尺的豁然亭。

天祥豁然亭步道前不見盡頭的長階梯讓人看了就腿軟，不少人走到一半，就很帥氣的卸下鋁架、把沙包倒空，瀟灑地揚長而去。

但 Nobu 憑藉著原住民天生的好體力及不服輸的個性，完成了艱難的任務，順利成為第 2 屆太魯閣保育巡查員，成為 Buya 的學弟。「保育巡查員不僅要了解山，還要能揹重物走在山徑裡。考試過程雖辛苦，但表示須有過人的耐力、體力及毅力，才能勝任吃重的巡山工作。」

Luckily, as concepts of conservation began to sprout, logging has been prohibited in the 80's in Taiwan, and the all-year-long sawing sounds in the mountains finally subsided.

At the time Buya left the army, TNP was recruiting park rangers, and he became one of the first rangers in the Park, and had since helped train more talented successors.

Nobu, 5 years younger than Buya, also once worked for FB with missions for afforestation rather than deforestation.

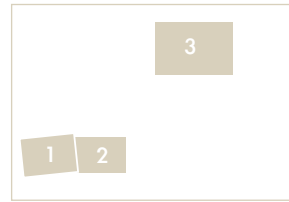
Nobu said laughingly that he was not as endurant as Buya. It was quite funny how he became a park ranger. "I didn't have a slightest clue about what a ranger does. I thought I would be doing gardening work or trimming the trees in the national park and that would be easy since I had green fingers, sort of."

But Nobu was wrong. In addition to paper tests, contestants had to carry 30-kg sand bags and to walk up to Huoran Pavilion in Tianxiang, from 1,000 meters in altitude, within 1.5 hours.

The long stairway trail in front of the Pavilion was intimidating. Most of the contestants just put down the aluminum pack frame, emptied the sand bags and then left half way.

Nobu completed the test with his innate aboriginal strength and stubbornness, and became a junior ranger to Buya. "A park ranger needs to know the mountains well and also be able to walk in the mountains with heavy loads. The test may be hard but it shows that only someone with outstanding perseverance, stamina and will power could be qualified for such difficult patrolling work."





1. 一次次的艱難訓練，培養出保育巡查員急難救助的能力 / Buya 提供
Strenuous trainings develop the park rangers' ability to provide emergency relief. / Photo provided by Buya
2. 保育巡查員的裝備沉重，但責任更重。林永賢攝
Park rangers always have to carry heavy equipment, but the responsibility on their shoulders is even greater. / by Yung-hsien Lin
3. 保育巡山員隨時記錄山林生態的脈動，許多學者都需要仰賴他們的協助，才能完成研究。/ 林永賢攝
Park rangers record changes in the mountain ecology. Many researchers need the assistance from park rangers for their research. / by Yung-hsien Lin

非常任務 非常人能捱

Buya 說，他帶過許多新人，Nobu 是表現最出色的，為了讓巡山任務執行得更完善，太管處需要訓練更多的「Buya 和 Nobu」才行。目前，太管處編制的15名巡山員，只有6人是平地人，其餘皆為原住民，但國家公園幅員遼闊、工作繁重，巡山工作危險性又高，人力斷層嚴重。

年近50的 Buya 便憂心地說，現在新進人力青黃不接，待這些元老級的保育巡查員紛紛退休了，到時候，誰來接手這吃重的巡山工作？前些日子行政院為提高就業率，推動立即上工方案，但前來報到的新人即使有心，也沒有體力，往往連受訓的課程都沒上完，就掛冠求去。

在失業率高漲的現今，屬約僱職的巡山工作福利保障方面都不甚完備，月薪不到3萬，還得在山裡出生入死，「除非是天生對大自然有份守護的使命感，否則這樣的工作條件，的確難以留住新人。」

人力嚴重不足的情況下，這一片9萬2,000公頃的山林，常常見到 Buya 及 Nobu 這對好搭檔的身影。

身體的疲累倒還能應付，Buya 說，剛進太管處最不能調適的，是與族人的關係。太魯閣族傳統文化與祖先的經驗傳承，賦予 Buya 與 Nobu 與山林共處的本事，但原住民的生活習性，常和國家公園法令有所衝突，有幾回他們拆完獵具，回到部落族人指著他們罵「漢奸」。

被族人誤解，當然令重視家族關係的兩人很受傷，但經過不斷溝通說明，族人才漸漸地認同國家公園的保育觀念，進而化解對立。

「其實，原住民的對待大自然的態度，從來不是趕盡殺絕、消耗殆盡。」

Tough Tasks Require Tough Guys

To more perfectly fulfill mountain- patrolling missions, TNP should train more “Buya and Nobu.” So far only 6 out of the 15 rangers in TNP are Han Chinese, the rest are all aborigines. But the Park is such a vast land with heavy workload and the patrolling is dangerous. Shortage of hands is really a big problem now.

Buya, in his late 40s now, worried that the new rangers would not be ready to take charge when the experienced ones are retiring. Though the Executive Yuan unveiled plans promoting instant employment, the newcomers, despite their sincerity, just didn't have the strength to even go through the training.

As contract employees without full insurance and welfare, park rangers have to risk their lives in the mountains for a humble monthly salary less than NT\$30,000. “Unless driven by a strong sense of duty to the Nature, no one will want to stay on this job.”

Buya and Nobu are often seen in the 92,000-acre mountains and forests as there are not enough rangers.

While they can handle physical fatigue, the toughest challenge comes from their relationship with the tribe people. The Truku traditional culture and the ancestors had taught Buya and Nobu the survival rules in the mountains. But the aboriginal ways were often in conflict with national park laws. A couple times when they went home after removing some hunting traps in the mountains, their tribe people called them “traitors.”

Buya and Nobu valued their families the most so it hurt to be misunderstood by their tribe people. But the conflicts were gradually resolved after continuous communication.

“Actually, we aborigines never treat the Nature in ruthless and greedy ways.”



Nobu 表示，多年來他們拆除無數獵具，有時還得面對窮凶惡極的盜伐者，手無寸鐵的保育巡查員只能靠智取。

「政府應該將查緝重點放在山產店等源頭，沒有買賣，就不會有殺戮。如果不是大盤商出重金購買山產、珍貴林木，也不會有人鋌而走險。」Buya 語重心長的說。

而原住民與生俱來的天賦，讓 Buya 與 Nobu 能隨時迎接大自然給的挑戰。

有回他們與太管處的長官到磐石西峰巡視，到營地時，發現附近唯一的水源—黑水塘剛有一群水鹿「享用」過，水鹿群攪起塘底的泥沙，不僅讓水變得混濁，還留下了濃厚的排遺氣息，使原本就像黑咖啡般的池水，這下更加「色香味俱全」了！Buya 旋即決定另找水源，他花了20分鐘下切到溪谷，再花了1個多小時把乾淨的水扛上來。

筆者不禁好奇，缺乏資訊的情況下，Buya 如何知道何處有水源？「與其說是靠原住民的天生直覺，不如說是對山的了解。我們在這片佔地9萬2,000公頃的超大辦公室已經工作了20多年，一花一草都很熟悉，我想只要有心，平地人也可以訓練出這樣的本能。」Buya 說道。

雪地救援 準新郎終極任務

巡山這份吃力不討好的工作，還須具備冒險犯難的大無畏精神。涉險，只是家常便飯。

2004年2月，台灣遭逢強烈冷氣團侵襲，師大郭姓研究生在奇萊山區進行水鹿研究，期間因山區天氣變壞而一度失聯，由太管處等救難單位組成了7人救難隊，冒著大風雪、在危機四伏的山區步行5天，終於順利將郭姓研究生安全帶下山。這是國內首度啟動雪地救援任務，參與救難的隊員都是一時之選，除了 Buya 及 Nobu 外，還有知名教練歐陽台生、伍玉龍、方有水等國內重量級登山好手。

值得一提的是，被點名須參與救援的 Nobu，擔心雪地救援會延誤到幾天後就要舉行的婚禮，但救人要緊，他還是整裝上山出任務。

Nobu said that they had removed countless hunting traps and sometimes had to, totally unarmed, deal with the illegal loggers.

“When the buying stops, the killing will, too. So the government should focus on cracking down those who sell precious lumber and mountain products,” Buya said from the bottom of his heart.

The innate abilities Buya and Nobu were born with as aborigines have enabled them to face the challenge pose by the Nature at any time.

One day while patrolling with the officers of TNP, they found the only water source, Heishuitang, near the campsite was just tainted by the Formosan Sambar (*Cervus unicolor swinhoei*) with their stamping and feces. The water was like black coffee, and just couldn't look or smell any worse! Buya soon decided to look for another one. It took him 20 minutes to go down the valley and then over an hour to carry the clean water up to the campsite.

As the interviewer, I couldn't help wondering how Buya knew where another water source was. “It is my understanding of the mountains over my aboriginal instinct. We have been working in this 92,000-acre ‘office’ for over 20 years. We know about everything here. Even a Han Chinese will be able to do just that with heart and proper training”

An Ultimate Rescue in Snow Right Before Wedding

Mountain patrolling is not just tough but also takes a fearless spirit of braving any danger. Taking risks is just part of the rangers' daily lives.

In Feb. 2004, a graduate student surnamed Kuo was once reported missing during his research of the Formosan Sambar in Mt. Qilai when a cold air mass hit. Walking for 5 days in the snow blizzard, the rescue team assembled by TNP eventually brought Kuo back safe and sound. It was the first in-snow rescue. Besides Buya and Nobu, members of the rescue team were the elite mountaineers in Taiwan, such as Tai-sheng O'young, Yu-long Wu, and You-shui Fang.

Nobu, a groom-to-be, worried that the rescue would delay his wedding, to be held in a few days. But he still got himself ready for the rescue since the life of a man depended on it.

「頂多是下了山、揹著裝備直接衝進禮堂，來得及、來得及啦！」Buya 開著玩笑說。當時將過43歲生日的他，也得暫時揮別家人，在冷冽的低溫中整理行囊上山支援。

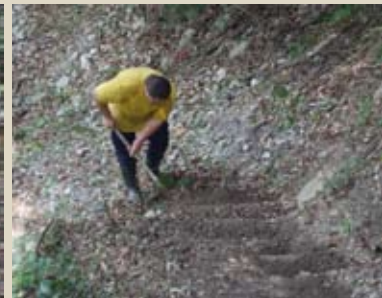
Buya 與 Nobu 憑藉著對山的了解，在積雪比人高的奇萊山區進行救援任務，幾乎呈90度的岩壁佈滿冰雪，一不小心就會摔得粉身碎骨；而落滿雪的箭竹林上也成為致命陷阱，踏空即可能跌下山谷、甚至遭箭竹刺穿身體……這驚心動魄的過程，沒有實地走過一次，著實很難體會雪地求生的艱難。

而原住民也非銅鑄鐵打之軀，只是善用上天賦予的求生本能，懂得避風躲雨。當時，只有經驗老到的 Buya 沒有弄濕，他靠不是什麼神奇的高科技裝備，而是包覆背包的雙層大垃圾袋、還有與生俱來的警覺心，救了自己也救了隊友，他們冒險營救的偉大情操，著實令人欽佩。完成任務的 Buya 回到家，累得到頭狂睡，壓根把生日聚會給忘光光；而準新郎 Nobu 也能順利完成任務、趕上婚禮，就像是為這場救援劃下了完美句點。

“At worst I'll just rush to my wedding with all my gears on. But I'll be there in time. No problem!” Buya joked. About to celebrate his 43rd birthday, Buya had to part with his family and came to the rescue in a chilly low temperature.

With their understanding of the mountains, Buya and Nobu operated the rescue in the snowy and slippery Mt. Cilai. Any mistake on their steps would have caused them to fall into the valley and break into pieces or even get pierced through by the arrow bamboos. The difficulty of surviving in the snow was hard to imagine unless one had actually been there.

The aborigines were not made of iron; they were just good at using their basic instinct of survival. Buya ended up the only person who didn't get wet. He did so with just some big double-layered plastic bags and his alertness as he saved himself and his teammates. After the mission was completed, Buya was so exhausted that he headed straight to bed and forgot all about his birthday party. And another happy ending of the rescue was that Nobu made it to his wedding in time.



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1. 伴著保育巡查員揮汗工作的，是雲彩清風和壯麗景色 / Buya 攝

Gentle breeze, beautiful clouds and spectacular views accompany the park rangers. / by Buya

2-6. 從協助山屋修繕、路標架設，到移除倒木、鋁梯安設、清出路徑……都是保育巡查員的工作項目 / Buya 攝

Park rangers repair mountain cabins, set up road signs, remove fallen trees, set up aluminum ladders, and clear paths. / by Buya



把傷者安全送上直升機後，保育巡查員才能鬆一口氣，然後揹起沉重的背包，一步步走下山去。圖中左為 buya 右為 Nobu/Buya 提供
Park rangers feel relieved after having carried the wounded onto a helicopter. Then they carry heavy backpacks on their back and climb down the mountains. In the photo are Buya (left) and Nobu (right). / Photo provided by Buya



入山總量管制是確保遊客登山安全的方法，每位入山遊客都該尊重保育巡查員的職責所在。/ 林永賢提供
Capacity control aims to ensure the safety of the visitors. Each visitor should respect the duty of park rangers. / Photo provided by Yung-hsien Lin

再多感謝 不如正視需求

每趟任務背後，都有著精彩絕倫的故事，這宛如電影情節的片段，可都是 Buya 與 Nobu、還有許多埋首深林揮汗工作的保育巡查員的真實人生。

以前海鷗直升機規定不能載運屍體，Buya 與 Nobu 就曾揹著死亡多日、已經腐爛的屍首，走了5天才下山；海鷗直升機也不載運救難人員，往往費盡千辛萬苦找到奄奄一息的山友，目送傷患安全上了直升機，看著直升機遠颺，救難人員再扛起沉甸甸的背包，帶著一身疲累緩步下山。

「這種沒人做的苦差事，我們扛下了。揹屍聽起來令人毛骨悚然，但我們相信，這是上帝賦予的使命。」Nobu 與 Buya 異口同聲說道。

有人形容，國家公園的保育巡查員，就像是國家公園及自然生態的守護神，如果沒有他們捍衛著第一線，確實執行任務，守護自然生態，國家公園保育山林的非但不易運作，更將淪為口號。國家公園的工作屬性特殊，不是在辦公室聽取簡報、看看公文就可以顧全大局的。

但行走山林20餘載，Buya 與 Nobu 也深刻體會到，純潔無瑕的大自然常敗給人的自私。

山多的台灣，喜愛登山的人也不在少數，但有些登山客只懂得以蠻力去征服峻嶺，卻缺乏尊重自然公德心，為了減輕負重隨意拋擲垃圾，這些無法腐爛的塑膠袋、寶特瓶可是比紅檜、雲杉還長壽，得靠保育巡查員將萬年垃圾背下山；而相較於沉重的垃圾負擔，少數登山客無視園區規定的輕蔑態度，更讓保育巡查員洩氣。

Supplies Are Better than Appreciation

Each task seems like a story we only see in a movie. But to those hard-working park rangers like Buya and Nobu, it is reality.

As by rule the Seagull Helicopter did not transport corpse or the rescue crew, Buya and Nobu had to carry decaying corpses down the mountains by walking for 5 days. Also they had to walk down the mountains with heavy gears after their exhausting mission while the rescued hikers were flown away by the helicopter.

“Carrying corpse sounds creepy but we still do this kind of unpleasant task because we believe it is what god wants us to do,” said Nobu and Buya with one accord.

Some would describe national park's rangers as guardians to national parks and the natural environment. Without them, conservation would be nothing but words. The tasks in national parks are not just some routine office work; they cannot get done just by listening to briefings or reading through some official documents.

20 years of patrolling have made Buya and Nobu realized that how people's selfishness could damage the Nature.

Taiwan is an island full of mountains and mountain climbers. However, some climbers just don't respect and care about the Nature. They discard the indecomposable plastic bags and bottles in the mountains only to unburden themselves, which increases the burden of the park rangers. What's even more frustrating is some climbers' disrespect toward parks' rules.

“We as park rangers are not national park police, who can prosecute the lawbreakers. We can only advise climbers. Dealing with those who disregard the



Nobu(左)和Buya是出生入死共患難的好搭檔，也是太管處保育巡山的兩大重要支柱。他們盼望有新血輪加入巡山陣容。/Buya提供

As the mainstays of the Taroko National Park Headquarters, Nobu (left) and Buya have risked their lives together patrolling the mountains. They look forward to newcomers to join the ranks of park rangers. / Photo provided by Buya

「保育巡查員不是國家公園警察，無法執行公權力，只能以規勸方式，提醒山友注意，有時遇到不守規矩、不聽勸阻的登山客，藐視保育巡查員的職責，這比揹幾十公斤的垃圾、連走幾天山路，更讓人無力。」Buya與Nobu遺憾的說。

身為國家公園體系中最重要基層之一，Buya與Nobu鮮少為自己的權益發聲，但隨著年華老去，矯健的身手會退化、無窮的體力會消失，但山林的保護呢？能夠有片刻中斷、能夠因人力不足而空窗？

幾年前，一齣以高山保育巡查為主題的優質連續劇——〈聖稜的星光〉，曾點燃年輕一代擔任保育巡查員的熱情，但深入了解了工作內容後，還願意留下來的，寥寥可數。

不只是Buya與Nobu，還有許許多多為國家公園保育巡查努力付出的朋友們，懷著敬山愛山的至誠，從事這如此艱辛又偉大的工作。

誰，能成為他們的接班人？誰能讓提升保育巡山工作的保障與福利？或許，在人們廣泛討論「永續」的現今，也應將保育巡查員的永續傳承之路，想得更透徹才是。🌿

regulations, advice, or our duties is sometimes even more exhausting than carrying tons of trash down the mountains,” said Buya and Nobu helplessly.

Buya and Nobu seldom speak up for themselves. But as time goes by, they will grow old and weak and who will continue the guardian work? Can we take any chance to leave the mountains unguarded just because of shortage of manpower?

Several years ago, the TV serial “The Starlight of Shengling,” whose main theme was about park rangers in high mountains, did appeal to the younger generations to be rangers. However, after knowing more about the work, few were willing to stay for the job.

There are a lot more people who love and respect the mountains just as Buya and Nobu. They, too, have worked hard to guard the environments.

Who, then, will succeed them? and who can promote better welfare of the job and make it more appealing to more people?

While people nowadays have been widely discussing about sustainability, perhaps the sustainable development of park rangers should deserve more thorough pondering, too. 🌿

Buya & Nobu 簡介 Profile of Mr. Buya & Nobu



Buya，漢名張文德，太魯閣族人。投入太魯閣國家公園巡山工作已逾20載，是太管處第一代保育巡查員。士官役退伍後經年在外地工作，但放不下家鄉太魯閣，最後還是回到山林，奉獻於保育巡查工作。

Buya, Chinese name Wende Zhang, is a Truku. As the first generation of the park rangers of the TNPH, Buya has dedicated to the patrolling work of the TNP for over 20 years. He worked away from his hometown after he left the army but eventually returned to the mountains and work as a park ranger.

Nobu，漢名王永春，太魯閣族人。太管處第二代保育巡查員，是Buya的學弟，也是好搭檔。童年時就跟著父親協助林務局造林，對於大自然永保熱誠，天生的原民血統賦予他矯健身手，能扛下保育巡查重責。

Nobu, Chinese name Yongchun Wang, is a Truku. He is the second generation of the TNPH park rangers and a junior of Buya. When he was young he worked with his

