

The Buzzling Forests



Swiss Winnasis & Karmila Parakkasi



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The Buzzling Forest: Birds of PT. Royal Lestari Utama
Swiss Winnasis & Karmila Parakkasi

Editor: Panji Gusti Akbar
Fotografer: Swiss Winnasis, Izul
Translator: Riri Retnaningtyas

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Conservation area (HCV-HCS) in adefeling 6, site Kaltim. Can you imagine what's inside there?

About the forests of RLU

RLU was initially established as a joint venture between Michelin Group and Barito Pacific Group and a subsidiary of the Barito Pacific group in 2015 – operating three Forest Utilization Business Licensing (PBPH) units covering an area of ±71,000 ha in Jambi Province, PT. Wanamukti Wisesa (WMW) and PT. Lestari Asri Jaya (LAJ) and ±18,000 ha in East Kalimantan Province, PT Multi Kusuma Cemerlang (MKC). In mid-2022, Michelin acquired the sole ownership of RLU and emphasized Michelin's commitment to building sustainable natural rubber plantations in Indonesia. **RLU's vision is to demonstrate that natural rubber can be produced sustainably and economically by protecting forests and biodiversity and improving local communities' livelihoods.**

PT Lestari Asri Jaya (LAJ), with an area of ±61,495 ha, is the concession with the largest area compared to PT Wanamukti Wisesa (WMW), which only has an area of ±9,105 Ha. Before LAJ was granted license from the Ministry of Environment and Forestry (KLHK) in 2010, this area had been without management for a decade since HPH PT IFA, timber concession company, returned its license to the Government. Without management and availability of open access, this area has become a magnet for the surrounding community, both local communities and new settlers, to make a living or establish a business. at that time, it seemed as if a race was going on to occupy as much land as possible. The practice of land occupation without legality and the

conversion of forests into agricultural fields, especially oil palm plantations, became a common sight.

When RLU was established in 2015, apart from focusing on the agronomic aspects of rubber plantation, a Conservation Department dedicated for the Company's conservation aspects was also built at the start. Another priority is to assess High Conservation Value (HCV) Areas and High Carbon Stock Areas (HCS) to reorganize the concession land use plan so that it is in line with production, conservation and social interests. After establishing the Conservation Department, RLU's main attention in Jambi was immediately directed towards the northernmost part of the concession, particularly the forest area directly adjacent to the Bukit Tigapuluh National Park (TNBT) and the PT Alam Bukit Tigapuluh (ABT) Ecosystem Restoration Concession. on this area, there is still a stretch of lowland forest, which is intact, connected and integrated seamlessly with the TNBT and ABT forests. In the part of the forest that we later built into the Mandelang Forest Reserve, there are two main rivers, Mandelang River and Manggatal River that flow to four villages in the southern part of the concession. HCV and HCS assessments in 2015 and 2019 respectively, identified the available forests in the Jambi concession as only around 4% of the total area of the RLU concession in Jambi. Preserving the health and integrity of this forest has become our first and foremost priority.



A ranger explores the forest in block 23, one of the best forest associations managed by RLU where trees such as hundreds-of-year-old Ulin *Eusideroxylon zwageri*, and Bangkirai *Shorea laevis* still stand.

In the MKC Concession in East Kalimantan Province, our Conservation program started in 2016, a year after RLU was established. There are many similarities between Jambi and East Kalimantan, especially regarding threats to the existence of forests. However, in MKC, we are a little lucky because this province's local residents and new settlers are not as large as in Jambi. From the results of the 2016 socio-economic survey, it is known that there are at least 7,000 residents in the 4 (four) villages around the MKC concession, while around the two RLU concessions in Jambi, there are around 50,000 residents in 20 villages. This number affects the scale and intensity of pressure on the region and places Jambi under much higher pressure than MKC. The MKC concession is divided into two blocks located about two hours apart; Block I has more open access, mainly due to the Bengalon - Muara Wahau highway. On the other hand, Block II is completely isolated; the access opened by an Oil Palm Company is the only access to reach Block II. Because it is isolated from the center of human activity, the entire Block II area is practically without disturbance, particularly without illegal occupation by the community. This condition allows us to design the forest layout in Block II practically without interference. From the HCV and HCS assessment results in 2015 and 2019, respectively, forested areas reached 50% of the total concessions.

Though they are the remaining ones, yet the best

After going through the first three years, focused only on efforts to reduce all types of threats to forested areas, we started working on the next stage: the construction of forest trails. Throughout the Mandelang forest reserve, the buffer zone, and the Mnggatal riparians where the forests are connected, we have built seven forest trails. No part of our forest in Jambi cannot be reached with this trail network. In MKC concession, we have just completed 4 (four) main routes in Block 2, representing the diversity of forests there. Apart from protection patrols, these routes are built for restoration purposes, where we collect seeds and seedlings to be grown in our nursery before we plant them in open areas, especially on riparians, which are essential features in the ecosystem. The entire route was built to pass through large trees in the Mandelang Forest Reserve in Jambi and the MKC Block 2 Forest Reserve. With that, the seeds and saplings that we collect do come from the best native parent trees in the forest. We also utilized this forest trail network to monitor

wildlife, especially for elusive and specialist forest species, as well as for biodiversity and ecosystem research purposes. Another purpose of the forest route, which is no less important, is for everyone of all ages to enjoy the forest (forest tourism), breathe fresh air, admire the various species of trees and forest vegetation, and be accompanied by the sounds of nature and wildlife: sounds of water flowing, sounds of birds as well as insects. Japan even popularized walking in the forest as a form of physiological and psychological therapy that benefits physical and mental health, known as forest healing.

Wildlife monitoring is the next stage after the forest route network is completed. We started with monitoring large mammals for a simple reason: because these were the ones we could most easily identify, and there is internal knowledge available. By using camera traps, apart from confirming the species we commonly encounter during patrols, including endangered mammals such as the Sumatran tiger and Sumatran elephant, we also discovered species that are absolutely difficult to see directly or whose tracks always elude our observation. Almost all or over 90% of the wildlife in Indonesia are difficult to see directly, including in our forests in Jambi and East Kalimantan. Even though we ensure that there is no day without patrols, seven days a week, 365 a year, we still have not seen them directly. An example for this is the Tapir, a reasonably large mammal (the size of a cow calf). We often find footprints and droppings in the forests along the Manggatal River, but encounters with this species can only be done through camera traps. We started monitoring wildlife in 2019 and carry it out annually with our partner, Bukit Tigapuluh National Park. The results of this monitoring also serves as validation to the forests we patrol, that when the forest is undisturbed, it can provide the all of significant benefits, including providing a safe living space and habitats for various wildlife species.

Besides mammals, our forests are also a home for many types of birds. Information about the presence of bird species has been generated through HCV assessments. From the results of the second HCV assessment in 2019, there were 100 species identified in our concession in Jambi, and 122 species were identified in the East Kalimantan concession. Pretty good, right? Those unfamiliar with avifauna certainly feel that just having a list of bird species is more than enough. However, we were reminded by Dr Kevin Flesher, Michelin's Biodiversity Senior Fellow, who visited our conservation area in early 2023, that currently, RLU must be more strategic in terms of communication, conveying the achievements of the conservation



Some of precious mammals that inhabit the forests of PT. RLU site. From top left clock wise: Sumatran Elephant *Elephas maximus*, Sumatran Tiger *Panthera tigris sondaica*, Bornean Orangutan *Pongo pygmaeus*, and Tapir *Tapirus indicus*.



efforts that have been carried out, and the best way to do so starts with the birds. Why birds? Simply put, birds are known as indicators of environmental health.

Moreover, amazingly, birds are the animals with the most fans worldwide, only behind the number of sports fans and game fans. One media calculates that in 2023, at least 70 million people will be venturing out to observe birds in nature. In many countries, birders routinely contribute to estimates of their country's bird population. For instance in France, a network of volunteer bird watchers has been conducting bird population surveys every year since 1989. Meanwhile, in Indonesia, of course, it is still completely fresh in our mind that at the end of the first pandemic year, in December 2020, the Indonesian bird watchers group published the Indonesian Bird Atlas, an incredible milestone achievement and a memento of deep concern for the condition of birds in Indonesia.

In collaboration with Birdpacker, the largest bird community in Indonesia, we started surveying and documenting bird species in RLU areas in July 2023. There are no particular expectations from us, who know little about birds, other than our request to confirm the bird species identified through the HCV assessment and document those species in photos. Getting photos of mammals is not easy, let alone super agile and sensitive birds! However, in less than a week of the Birdpacker team's visit to the MKC forest, we already received complaints: "My shutter runs out so fast, the memory card is going to explode." Unexpectedly, it turns out that bird species are wildly abundant in MKC and our forest in Jambi. Fantastic? Definitely. Therefore, we agreed that the survey results and documentation of these bird species would not be in the form of a bird survey report but in the form of a "coffee table book." The aim is that everyone, all groups and all ages, can enjoy together the richness and diversity of birds in RLU. Birders and non-birders. It is also a reminder that the diversity and beauty of wildlife is part of the living space of every human being, every one of us.



Six o'clock in the morning. Even the fog is still lingering. The nursery workers are ready. Behind it is a lush forest along the Mandelang river.



Peta Lokasi Konsesi
PT. Royal Lestari Utama
Royal Lestari Utama
2021

Observing and Photographing Birds in RLU Areas

As a book about wildlife, you will probably see this book like the other wildlife books out in the market: lots of photos, with a bit of text here and there to interpret the visuals. If eventually you turn each page from the beginning to the very last, and wonder what differs this book with the others? In this book, we present approximately 161 out of 224 species of birds recorded within the concession areas of PT Royal Lestari Utama in East Kalimantan and Jambi. Yes, those numbers are already more than a half of the total species. However, do you know what the best part is? 161 species that you are going to see in this book were obtained only in 50 days! It is equal to 3-4 species recorded every day, all with quality pictures. We are not bragging but simply telling the truth. Also keep in mind that areas we surveyed are not even protected area (national park)!

When we first departed for East Kalimantan, as our first visit before going to Jambi, we thought this would be the like the other normal survey and photo hunting days: the dark forests, common birds, the pretty ones hiding in the thickets, or a seemingly lush forest without any single sound. We have always known that the songbird crisis phenomenon that has been going on in the last decade has struck bird conservation movement hard. It is getting more difficult for birdwatchers to find birds in the wild, and so is for bird photographers.

Songbird crisis is a term to describe new threats to wild birds as a result of excessive poaching to meet the demands of songbird markets. This crisis happens in Southeast Asia, with Indonesia as its epicenter. This crisis hits the passerine birds the hardest. Straw-headed Bulbuls are the prime example to convey the brutality of this uncontrolled songbird trade; they are almost completely wiped out from their original distribution range.

Another example is the Rufous-fronted Laughingthrush; we might even be able to consider them extinct in the wild. In addition to the passerine birds, some other species are not exempt from the practice of illegal hunting and trafficking, especially birds of prey and hornbills. Birds of prey are kept for their valor and gallantry; as a symbol of class or charisma. Hornbills are kept as pets due to their unique morphological features. In May 2017, IUCN officially launched the IUCN SSC Asian Songbird Trade Specialist Group (ASTSG) as an inevitable response to this crisis. There are 43 species listed in conservation priority action according to ASTSG recommendations. And six are listed in RLU's bird list.

In Java, to be able to photograph birds, you have to spend more money than it took 10 years ago. You cannot just come to the pristine forest. You need a trained guide who knows the area like the back of their hand and how to call the bird. Many guides even build and manage a site for bird photography with bird hides and blinds for some elusive species, which means one should dig one's pocket even deeper. Furthermore, if you ever visit Java, you will find no – or very few – cases of illegal logging or encroachment. The remaining forests appear immaculate, lush, and untouched. Great rivers with crystal clear water still run the highlands of Java. However, when you step into the woods, you will hear nothing but silence. Not a single bird sings, not even a note, hence the name the Silent Forest Phenomenon.

The condition is similar outside Java, like in Sumatera or Kalimantan. When the stock of natural birds diminished in Java, the other two islands become the new hunting targets. In fact, before the songbird crisis happened, Sumatra was once home for White-rumped Shama *Kittacinla malabirica*, Greater Green Leafbird *Chloropsis sonnerati*, Sumatran Laughingthrush *Garullax*

bicolor and of course Starw-headed Bulbul *Pycnonotus zaylanicus*. Within the last decade, the large scale hunting in Sumatera and Kalimantan has been getting out of control. Kualanam Airport in Medan is considered as one of the main spots for large scale bird shipment using air transport. While for land shipment, Bakaheuni port is the main route before the shipment gets into Java. In Kalimantan, sea ports like in Balikpapan, Banjarmasin dan Pontianak, are the sources of illegal traders before shipping the birds to Java.

Indonesia is indeed a mega biodiversity country with the fourth-greatest avian species diversity in the world. There are approximately 1800 species of birds in Indonesia, but it is all just numbers. In the actual wilderness, we are like people who get lost in a ghost town. Mega-ghost town!

What about East Indonesia, then? Are there lots of birds, too? Yes, that is right. Sulawesi is even the island with the highest endemicity in the world, on par with the Moluccas. Papua is a paradise for all bird lovers. However, reaching east Indonesia means more expenses. Visiting the Moluccas will drain your purse for island hopping trips.

Papua is considered to be the most expensive birdwatching destination in Indonesia. Amenities and the geographical factors in eastern Indonesia are the biggest constraints for anyone who wants to go birdwatching in those areas. Everyone must have dreamed of birding and photo hunting in the eastern parts of Indonesia, yet the cost could be a bit of a reality bite.

Before the silence forest phenomenon hit, many birdwatching sites in Java were accessible to anyone without a guide or blind hiding. For instance, in East Java, there is Tahura R. Soeryo, Baluran National Park, Kawah Ijen Nature Reserve, and Alas Purwo National Park. The best locations in Central Java and Yogyakarta are on the southern slopes of Mount Merapi and the northern slope of Mount Lawu. In West Java, we have Cibodas Botanical Garden, Ranca Upas or Mount Halimun. Compared to Eastern Indonesia, in Java - which represents the Greater Sundas - it was relatively easier to observe birds at that time. But it was then.

Then, off we went to East Kalimantan, carrying our doubt and fear of not finding birds in the wild. But once we arrived at the site, something felt off. Why are there so many birds here? After two weeks in Eastern Borneo, we resumed our journey to Jambi for

two weeks. And things were more unbelievable. We found even more birds! In seven weeks, we found 224 species of birds in RLU areas, and 161 species were well photographed and presented to you now. Please note that this expedition is unaccompanied by a guide, without any preliminary information, let alone blind hiding. Just casual trekking through the rainforests, with occasional coffee breaks every several hours.

Bird Photography

When you watch a wildlife TV channel, what animal does it show the most on the screen? You will always see the lion, elephants, giraffes, white sharks, Bengal tiger, crocodiles, and bald eagle. But they are from Africa, or India, or North America. When you enter the Indonesian rainforests, you will find them difficult to see, not to mention photographing animals the size of a tiger, a bear, or even a jungle cat.

Indonesia has Sumatran tigers, sun bears, deer, tapirs, banteng, leopards, elephants, orangutans, and many more. Indonesia has many choices of large animals to photograph. But why aren't those beasts widely available on BBC channels, National Geographic, or even Instagram wildlife accounts?

The main reasons why it is extremely challenging to photograph large mammals in Indonesia are the dense vegetation and the tall, dark canopies typical of the tropical primary rainforests. Indonesia has many open habitats, such as Nusa Tenggara, Papua, and Sulawesi savannahs. However, Indonesian large mammals generally inhabit dense rainforests; some are even found in high elevations with challenging contours. In addition, large portions of the archipelago are composed of mountains and mountain ranges; for instance, the landmass of Seram Island is largely dominated by the Mount Binaya landscape. Even Seram is an island where almost all of its land is dominated by the Mount Binaya landscape. Maybe only Kalimantan leaves flat ground if you're ready to try the rainforest or the wetlands or the difficult accessibility in the center part of the island.

The best chance of seeing large mammals directly in Indonesia could be the Banteng *Bos javanicus* in Alas Purwo National Park, Komodo dragon *Varanus komodoensis* in Komodo National Park, Orangutans *Pongo pygmaeus* in Tanjung Putting National Park, or elephants *Elephas maximus* in Way Kambas National Park. Some large primates also tend to be easy to find in several places. Perhaps

primates are the only large animals that are less challenging to photograph.

Therefore, if we talk about wildlife photography, birds rule. Birds are the easiest wildlife to find. They occupy a variety of habitats over a wide range of elevations. He can be found from National Monument (Monas) in Jakarta, to tens of kilometers offshore in the middle of the ocean. Starting from the Sumba Buttonquail *Turnix everetti* in the dry, open savanna of Sumba to the Bornean Ground Cuckoo *Carpococcyx radiceus* in the darkest forests of central Kalimantan. Starting from shorebirds at an elevation of 0 meters above sea level to the King-of-Saxony Bird-of-Paradise in the high mountains of Papua. Birds are the very first wildlife you see every day. No wonder birds are the most popular wildlife for any photographer around the world.

As far as birds are concerned, let's forget about the silent forest phenomenon. Let's just say the bird populations in the wild are doing just fine.

The growth of bird photography activity has increased significantly in the last decade. It's good news. For bird conservationists, this is a sign that more and more people appreciate wildlife. The most ideal appreciation of course that the birds are at their finest in the wild. This inevitable growth of wildlife photography is made possible as due to the cost, mostly the photography equipment becomes more affordable.

Wild birds are completely different from birds in cages or zoos, especially in terms of behavior. In nature, birds are impossible to approach. In bird photography, it is mandatory to use optical aids to magnify the photo objects. There are two known optical magnification techniques: *digiscoping* and the use of super zoom lenses.

Digiscoping is a technique that combines a monocular with a pocket camera or smartphone camera. But we will not discuss it since not many photographers use this technique. Instead, we will discuss mainstream techniques using super zoom lenses.

In the past, before the era of digital photography, wildlife photography was an extravagant activity. The lenses are costly, the bodies are pricey, and the post-processing is also expensive. Only professional photographers who can use it can have it. Professionals in the sense that they can make money from their photographs. If it's just a hobby, you must be wealthy enough to maintain this kind

We lost counts of the times we praised this place, the Ranger station of East Kalimantan. The most spoiled photography spot we have ever visited. We didn't even break a sweat, let alone be surrounded by mosquitoes, to get photos of the beautiful birds. Crave a cup of coffee? The kitchen is just a few steps from our tripod stand.





Bird's public space.

We obtained this photo in the Jambi concession. Precisely above the nursery location. An illustration of how abundant the birds are there. We summarize this sequel from three days of sitting and hiding at the same point. We call it bird's public space because one tree branch is used by several different types of birds: black-throated babbler, Rufous-fronted Babbler, hairy-backed bulbul, grey-headed babbler, and rufous piculet.



of hobby. This is what differentiates analog-era photography from the digital era.

Entering the period of 2000s, Indonesians were introduced to digital cameras, a major technological leap that cut the costs and hassles of post-processing in photography. Moreover, various new features have enable more people to become photographers: long ISO range, noise reduction, live view, countless number of frames compared to maximum 36 frames of negative film. Not long afterward, between 2005 and 2013, several photography tools came out at affordable prices, starting from super zoom telephoto lenses to camera bodies with large sensors to produce high-resolution images. Remember the birth of superzoom cameras, commonly known as prosumer cameras? Those are pocket cameras with a magnification range equivalent to more than 1000 mm, equivalent to a 3.5 mm camera.

At that point, more and more bird watchers and/or non-wildlife photographers are starting to invest their money in purchasing basic photography equipment for wildlife purposes. Around the same time Facebook became popular social media in Indonesia. Later, Facebook acquired another social media, Instagram from Apple. These two platforms soon dominates social media usage worldwide. The pattern of friendship and social interaction that has shifted to digital platforms also influences people to hunt for photos in the nature. Using social media as if it is their second life, many people posted photos to their profile page to show the identity they want to be known for. You are what photos you upload on your social media. Photos are no longer needed to be printed out, to be placed into photo albums, or displayed on walls. Nowadays they are displayed and stored on social media with an unlimited scale. And to our joy, birds are arguably the most uploaded photos on those social media pages.

Bird Photography in RLU Site

We return to the RLU concession. We have interesting notes while conducting surveys and photo-hunting here. First, White-rumped Shama around the ranger station building at site 2 in

The Ranger station at the East Kalimantan site: the most comfortable resting place, the most indulging observation spot, and obviously the right-wing corridor, which truly pampers any bird photographer.

East Kalimantan. This bird is under very high pressure due to the bird trade, so it is included in the conservation priority action list according to ASTSG recommendations. White-rumped Shama is very popular among songbird hobbyists. The high price has driven a hunting frenzy for this species since the 90s. In Sumatra, this species is very difficult to find. In Java, perhaps the only remaining population is in Alas Purwo National Park, Banyuwangi. You had no idea how we felt when we heard their songs live in the forest. This bird can always be heard around the ranger station in East Kalimantan. However, to see it, let alone photograph it, wait a minute; it's not that easy, mates! It took us almost 2 weeks until this bird finally was willing to come out of the thick forest around the station.

Second, a surprising and unexpected encounter with the endangered Bornean Ground Cuckoo in block 23. This is a very rare endemic bird of Borneo. Even if there is, it is as sensitive as the other grown-dwelling birds. Photographing this bird requires a lot of patience. Even though its body size is large, it is not necessarily easy to see. Luring this bird out of the thick of the bushes is difficult. They always hide in the bushes while showing curiosity toward observers. Its movements are arbitrary, usually following the movements of wild boars, because the two species are symbiotic. Block 23 is one primary ecosystem with a composition of old trees with large diameters, including several rare tree species such as Bornean ironwood *Eusideroxylon zwageri*, bangkirai *Shorea laevis*, etc.

Third, Blue-headed Pitta. Birds are endemic with a vulnerable status. Since it was monitored on the first day, it has convinced us even more that the RLU conservation forest is not just a forest left aside for regulatory demands. Naturally, the population is very small, with an uneven distribution in the lowlands of Borneo. When photographing this bird, wearing a camouflage cloak or something that can blind you from its sight and make you "invisible" is highly recommended. If necessary, you have to set up a camouflage tent since free-roaming exploration is not the right way to get the picture of this bird.

Fourth, the very icon, the charismatic Helmeted Hornbill. The helmeted Hornbill is a bird driven to the brink of extinction due to hunting and illegal trade. The best location to get this bird is around the Jambi ranger station. Even though we did not arrive at the right time because it was not the fruiting season, we still saw it several times. Taking photos is a different and long matter. It

was a back-breaking business. Ideally, it would be best to photograph large birds that inhabit upper canopy niches from a distance. However, we had difficulty finding the shooting location because the forest around the ranger station was very dense.

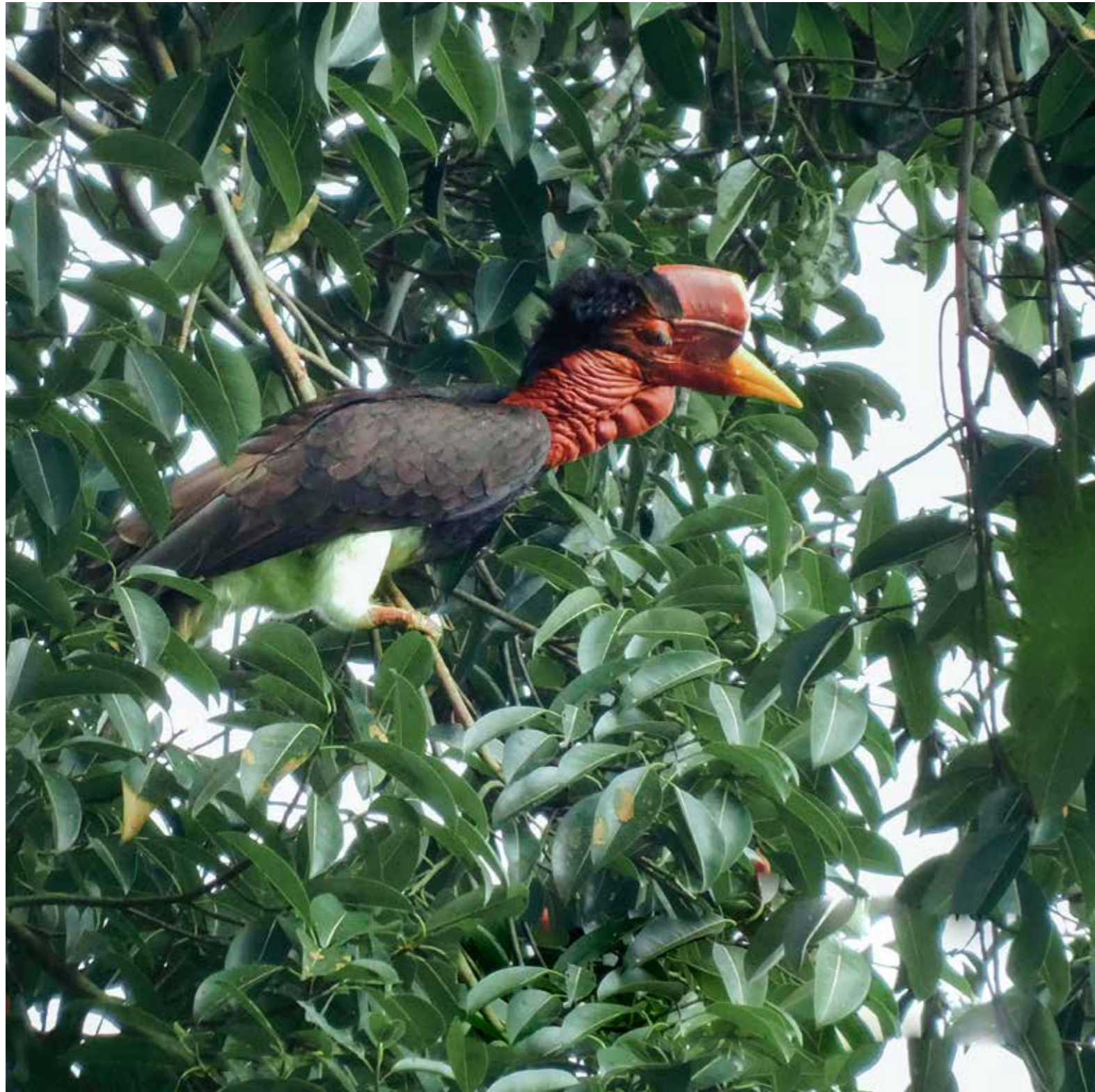
Moreover, it's not the fruiting season, which makes it even more impossible. Thus, we "forced" the bird to come to the tree we wanted. This bird is responsive to playback sound. As long as you have a loud, active speaker, it will come closer to where you are. The risk is that the photo angle is perpendicular. And this is actually not ideal for photography. But we have to, rather than not.

Fifth, it's not about the birds but the location. This is a nursery spot near the Jambi ranger station. We call it bird public space. Yes, because it seems like half the bird species in Jambi can be found and photographed at that location. All we did was wait and hide a bit. While occasionally playing playback to lure birds closer to our position. Several charming species such as the Rufous-collared Kingfisher, Black-throated Babbler, Red-bearded Bee-eater, Malay Black Magpie, Oriental Paradise Flycatcher, Scarlet-rumped Trogon, Gray-hooded Babbler, Yellow-bellied Bulbul, Finch's are the species that are guaranteed to always be present at the photo session; and of course, the Helmeted Hornbill has been monitored several times too.

Photographing birds in the RLU concession area differs between the Jambi and East Kalimantan sites. The strongest impression that differentiates the two is that the abundance of birds in East Kalimantan is higher. Still, they are very sensitive to humans, whereas in Jambi, the abundance is slightly lower, but the birds are quite friendly. We are still determining exactly what factors cause this difference. But in general, the East Kalimantan site is very remote, very far from the crowds. It is 10 hours from the provincial capital, Samarinda, dividing mining areas and oil palm plantations. Practically, the only human hanging around there are RLU employees, whose number is small compared to the size of the concession itself. In Jambi, even though it is far from the capital of Jambi province, the concession location is a route for several companies, whether mining, plantation, or forestry. Our favorite location in the nursery is just a few hundred meters from the main trail and villages along the way. Anyway, these two locations are still the best since the songbird crisis hit in this decade. Reminds us of the forests in Java before 2010, where birds were still easy to see. Absolutely must visited place for every birdwatcher and bird photographer.

The RLU conservation forest truly presents endless natural treats. It's not just that the forests are still very well maintained or that the diversity of bird species is high. More than that, it also possesses high carbon reserves.





Birds In 50 Days

All photos of the birds in this book were captured in just 50 days in East Kalimantan and Jambi Concessions of RLU. A fantastic personal record to the normal observation that commonly takes 2-3 years elsewhere.



Welcome Performer

It would surprise all bird watchers, whoever they are when a Brown Wood-owl *Strix leptogrammica* suddenly comes and perched beautifully right in front of the ranger station, where we would spend the first two weeks exploring the RLU conservation forests. It just sat there on its perch solemnly. It didn't seem to be bothered by our presence as we were excitedly preparing our cameras. After all, it was our first day on the site. All the gears were still neatly stored in the bags, yet to be set properly. Then, Brown Wood-owl was still perching in a small tree in front of the ranger station, as though it was waiting for our hasty preparations. After many frames were spent, only then did it disappear into the darkness of the night.

Although the brown wood owl was a common species, this welcome show was an omen, a good omen, hopefully. In the following days, during our stay at the ranger station, this bird even helped us catch rats that were running around in the station's kitchen, disturbing our sleep with their noises on the ceiling of the station.

We saw how strong the human-bird relationship is in this location. Wild birds which are unbothered in the presence of humans, and humans who are "aided" by wildlife. This Brown Wood-owl is the best welcome performer we have ever encountered.

A few days later, we found another night watch fellow: Sunda Frogmouth. She was busy sitting on her eggs, so busy that she didn't care about us, who were also busy enjoying her beauty. Only 1.5 meters above the ground, she built a nest and laid her eggs. In fact, anyone can always reach out and grab them, yet she and her eggs were still there, and didn't seem threatened even when we approached the nest.



Brown Wood-owl

Kukuk beluk | *Strix leptogrammica*

Brown Wood-owl prefers dense forests where they can easily hide themselves. Prefers to be alone or in pairs. At full moon, they are usually clamorous. Their main features are black spots around the eyes, and narrowly barred upper and lower body.

40-45 cm
Sumatra | Kalimantan | Java



Sunda Frogmouth

Paruh-kodok tanduk | *Batrachostomus cornutus*

Even though it is also a nocturnal bird like the Brown Wood-owl, the Sunda frogmouth and Brown Wood-owl are actually distantly related. Quite common in coastal forests, secondary forests and plantations. The photo on the side is a black form with a predominant color of dark grey. This bird is very agile at night, therefore it is difficult to see, let alone photograph. However, during the day, it will only move when somebody hit its head. It remains calm even when you touch its face with your nose.

20-23 cm
Sumatra | Kalimantan | Java



Generator house behind the East Kalimantan ranger station. Located in the middle of a young forest characterized by very dense low vegetation. We occasionally use this small hut to hide. Photographing birds from inside a dark room, pretty effective. Several species were photographed from this tiny hut include Brown Wood-owl, Little Spiderhunter, Blue-headed Pitta, Ruby-cheeked Sunbird and Grey-hooded Babbler.

The Forest Farmers

A healthy tropical forest is a rainforest that can maintain its heterogeneity. Heterogeneity creates a stable and strong ecosystem. Each plant species has the ability to reproduce: flowering and fruiting. However, at a certain time, ripe fruit must be planted in a suitable land so that it can grow well.

The seed dispersal of several important tree species is essential to sustain the composition of a healthy heterogeneous rainforest. And this is why the rainforest needs the capable hands and the green thumbs of farmers and gardeners. In this sense, no other species are as deft as the hornbills... and those often forgotten: the pigeons and doves of the Columbidae family. They eat the fruits and consequently disperse the seeds through their droppings in all corners of the rainforest as they wander around the canopies.

Finding this group of birds was more challenging than we expected. Hornbills have enormous body sizes, booming songs, and always perch on the highest branches of tall trees. With such traits, it should be easy to find them. So were the Columbids; despite their smaller sizes and quieter demeanor, most of the time, they always perch on the tips of canopies.

But there you have it: a pristine rainforest means a dense, dark canopy coverage. When you enter one, say goodbye to the sky. Everything is shrouded in darkness. What happened above the headers remains only a flickering shadow. So, thank God, the forest here is still very well maintained with dense canopy cover, high diversity, and giant trees are standing fiercely.. The forest farmers and gardeners are also still working faithfully to ensure the even distribution of seeds; and consequently we had difficulty seeing these paramount creatures.

Even if one can see and photograph them, there are only two possible outcomes: they are so far away, as in as far away as the next hill top; or they are right above one's head, which means one needs to look up 90 degrees to see them. And the latter will exhaust one's neck, eyes and hands for carrying the weight of cameras with large super tele zoom lenses.

Luckily, during a brief observation after heavy rain at the Jambi site, two species of hornbills were perching nicely on the trees behind the guard post in Manggatal. A pair of White-crowned Hornbills and two pairs of Black Hornbills arrived almost at the same time at the locations marking the concession perimeter. Even the officer on duty at the post confirmed that these two hornbill species stopped by that location almost every day.





Black Hornbill

Kangkareng hitam | *Anthracoceros malayanus*

Highly widespread in all concession areas. Never alone. Prefers to be in pairs or in small to large flocks. The male's bills and horns are white, while those of the females are black.

60-65 cm
Sumatra | Kalimantan
Protected
Vulnerable



Oriental Pied Hornbill

Kangkareng perut-putih | *Anthracoceros albirostris*

Pretty common in all concession areas. Never alone. Travels in pairs or small to large flocks. Similar to the Black Hornbill, only the belly to the lower tail is white. Male or female is distinguished by the tip of the bills and the casques of the female; white cheeks. This photo was taken from the porch of the ranger station in East Kalimantan. You can even photograph this bird without having to leave your morning coffee rituals.

55-60 cm
Sumatra | Kalimantan | Java | Bali
Protected
Vulnerable



Male Borneo race *B.r. borneensis*

Rhinoceros Hornbill

Enggang cula | *Buceros rhinoceros*

Fairly regular. It is extremely distinctive, with its bright red casque curved upwards resembling a rhinoceros' horn; hence the name rhinoceros. Their loud and noisy calls can be heard almost daily in all natural forests in the concession. The photo above is of a female individual, differentiated from the male by the black stripe on the horn between the black and yellow. Photographed even from the kitchen door of the East Kalimantan ranger station.

80-90 cm
Sumatra | Kalimantan | Jawa
Protected
Vulnerable



Male Sumatra race *B.r. rhinoceros*



Helmeted Hornbill

Rangkong gading | *Rhinoplax vigil*

The holy grail of all bird watchers and observers in Indonesia and worldwide. Overexploitation of this species for their casques to satisfy illegal wildlife trade demands has driven their population to the brink of extinction. Thankfully, in the RLU area, this bird is still easy to find. The ranger station in Mandelang is the best location to see this charismatic bird in the wild. Male individuals have red areas on neck, while females bluish white. The long tail makes it obviously easy to spot. It has a soft yet resonant call resembling crackling laughter.

110-120 cm
Sumatra | Kalimantan
Protected
Critically Endangered



Wrinkled Hornbill

Julang jambul-hitam | *Rhabdotorrhinus corrugatus*

This bird should be common, but during our observations in both concessions, we rarely saw this bird, perhaps because we did not arrive there during fruit season. Only occasionally did a glimpse of their shadows catch our attention in our camouflage under the shades of a canopy.

75 cm
Sumatra | Kalimantan
Protected
Endangered



White-crowned Hornbill

Enggang jambul | *Berenicornis comatus*

Quite rare, but a regular in the forest along the Manggatal River, Jambi. It seems to be familiar with human presence, even with the large trucks that constantly pass the Manggatal guard post. Their unique white crest feathers distinguish them from the other hornbill species.

85 cm
Sumatra | Kalimantan
Protected
Endangered





Wreathed Hornbill

Julang emas | *Rhyticeros undulatus*

A very common member of the Bucerotidae family, despite the fact that it is quite challenging to see them within a close range. Prefers to choose tall perch trees located deep in the middle of the forests. Our visit time off the fruiting season made it worse. This species is easily identified through their wings flapping sound “woshhh woshhh”. It is mostly quiet when perching.

38 cm
Sumatra | Kalimantan | Java | Bali
Vulnerable
Protected



Little Green-pigeon

Punai kecil | *Treron olax*

To us, this is the most beautiful green-pigeon. The combination of grey, maroon and orange is the most beautiful color combination for any living creature of any kind. And fortunately, they are quite common in both the Jambi and East Kalimantan concessions. In fact, as we recall, 9 out of 10 green-pigeons we encountered were Little Green Pigeon. But what's annoying is that this bird is extraordinarily sensitive. Their level of alertness is outrageous. We got the photo above after it rained overnight, taken from inside the ranger station building with the door almost closed. Look at their gestures, look how alert they are.

21-22 cm
Sumatra | Kalimantan | Java



Male

Thick-billed Green-pigeon
Punai lengguak | *Treron curvirostra*

Fairly common in both East Kalimantan and Jambi. Although not as regular as the Little Green Pigeon. We photographed this bird in between the canopy. Yes, like green-pigeons in general, they love to perch in the upper canopy. Even though they were occasionally seen in open dry trees, we still had to look up so high to put them in the frame.

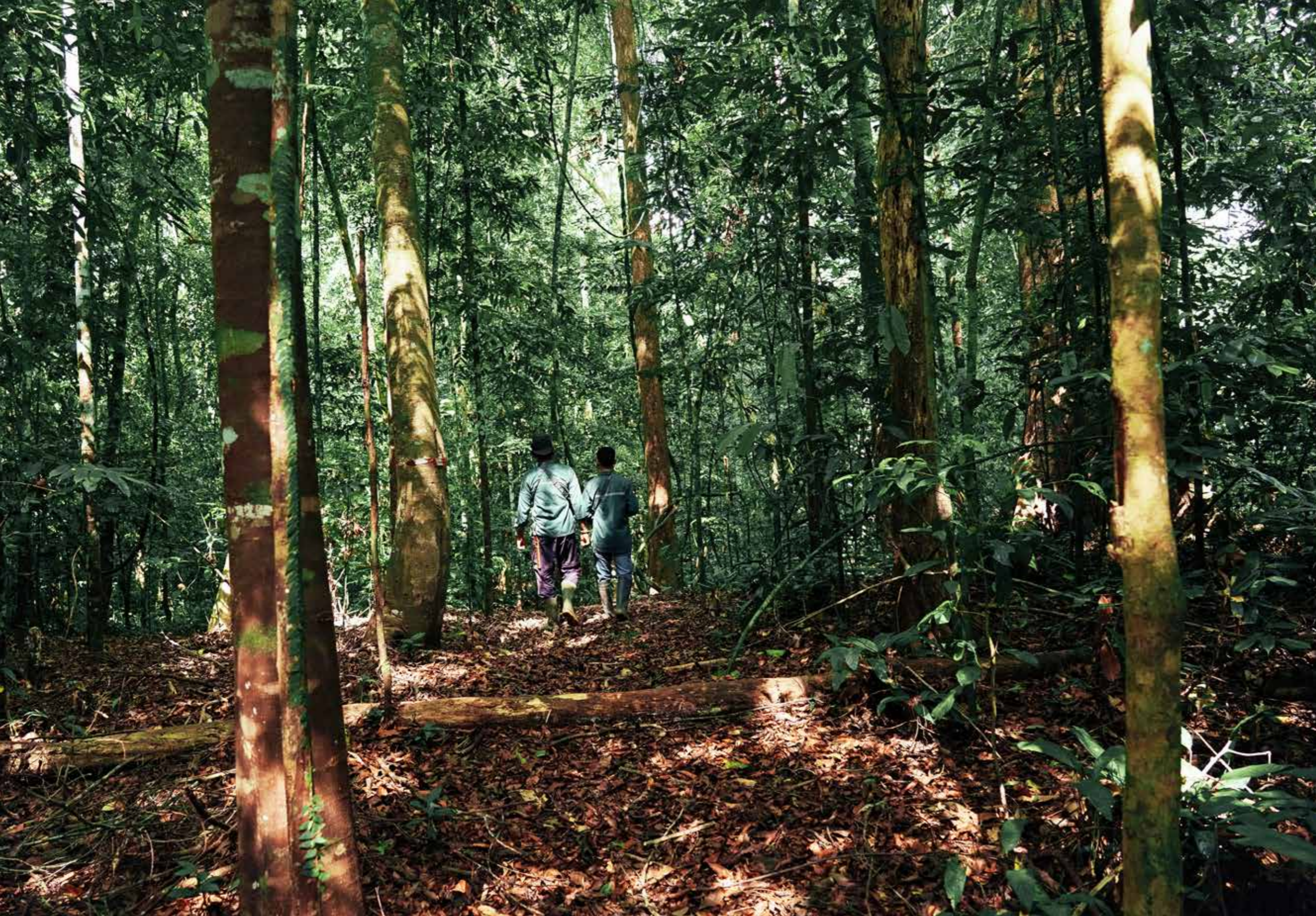
62 cm
Sumatra | Kalimantan | Java



Green Imperial-pigeon
Pergam hijau | *Ducula aenea*

Immensly common. In natural rainforest, this is probably the most usual bird of the Columbidae family. Prefers to travel in flocks and perches on the top of canopies. For newbie birdwatchers, this bird is often misidentified an eagle due to its large size. Males and females are almost the same. We didn't have a chance to photograph this bird well because it always perched on the tip of canopies of the tallest trees. This photo was even our only lucky shot of this bird.

45-48 cm
Indonesia except Moluccas & Papua



The riparian forest along the Manggatal River which is also the entrance gate to the Jambi concession (PT. Lestari Asri Jaya) is the best location to find the endangered White-crowned Hornbill, Black Hornbill, Western Hooded Pitta, and even elephants.



Don't Ever Lose Them!

In truth, no one should vanish. Absolutely not. Each species has its own beauty, its own melodious songs. More importantly, as part of the ecosystem, they have their respective critical roles. Losing one species of bird in the wild is like losing a bolt in your car. Say it's just one bolt on the rearview mirror; your car will not immediately break down. However, in the long run, the damage will be cancerous - slowly consuming the entire constellation of forest ecosystem, which also means destroying life in a broader sense.

Greater Green Leafbird is one of the bolt ties that is loosened in the name of money and momentary pleasure. Everywhere else, their population is distressingly low. Throughout our observation in East Kalimantan, we still encountered this bird from time to time. As for Para tailorbirds, this species is very common; hence, their population is safe and sound. But, in Java, this species become increasingly rare. What about them in RLU, though? Fortunately, in RLU, we ran out of memory storage on our cameras because of them.

And finally, the icon of the songbird crisis in Indonesia is none other than the White-rumped Shama. Throughout Indonesia, this species is almost extinct. Even in protected areas, this species is extremely scarce. At East Kalimantan concession, delightfully, they are still found scattered around the ranger station, indulging us each and every morning of our stay with their heavenly song.



White-rumped Shama
Kucica hutan | *Kittacincla malabarica*

On our first morning at the ranger station in East Kalimantan, everything seemed normal. Just another lush primary rainforest, just another cacophony of small birds singing their dawn chorus. Until we heard this particular bird's song. Wow! In Indonesia, this species is slowly turning into ghosts. Not everyone is able to see or hear their distinct magical songs with brilliant timbre. So, on our first day in East Kalimantan, we did not move a single inch from our birding spot. We waited for this specter to emerge from the darkness of the forest. And you know what? We managed to capture their sheer beauty after a week later! Yes, that's right, this species is hyper-sensitive!

We even swore to all the rangers over there, "If we ever get the picture of this Shama, we will go home right away! It's worth more than its weight in gold!". That was how precious one picture of this species was to us. And it is not without reasons.

To note, this species is almost extinct in the wilderness of Java and Sumatra. Poaching and hunting to meet the extreme high demand for songbird trade puts so much pressure on this particular species. To add into the pressuring factors, this species's conservation status is Least Concern or not categorized as threatened. However in Indonesia, all the subspecies are considered to be at high risk of extinction due to overexploitation.

39 cm
Sumatra | Kalimantan | Java



Greater Green Leafbird
Cica-daun besar | *Chloropsis sonnerati*

Unlike the White-rumped Shama with their magical songs and chic look, Greater Green Leafbird's colors are not that enchanting. Almost all of the body is covered in green, yet their singing skills are on par with the Shammas. Their songs are what made them the commodity in songbird trades. Consequently, their population has declined drastically in the last decade. They were not observed in Jambi, not even once. In East Kalimantan, they still visited the ranger station on a few occasions. Taking pictures of this bird was quite a challenge. They like to hang out under the shades of the highest canopies. Thus, the photos would either be backlit or blocked by leaves and branches.

18-21 cm
Sumatra | Kalimantan | Java
Endangered
Protected



Immature male



Female



Male

Lesser Green Leafbird
Cica-daun kecil | *Chloropsis cyanopogon*

At first glance it is strikingly like the Greater Green Leafbird. And after a closer look, it's still similar! The best way to differentiate these two species is by their vocalizations. The Lesser Green Leafbird has a slightly more varied call "cliu-criet-criet". In Jambi, these birds are easy to find in Mangatal buffer zone.

18-21 cm
Sumatra | Kalimantan | Java
Near Threatened
Protected



Dark-necked Tailorbird

Cinenen belukar | *Orthotomus atrogularis*

Fairly abundant in secondary forests or the edges of primary rainforests. They have intensely loud and variable songs. Perhaps, that is why they begin to be the target of poaching and trade; despite the fact that, in general, they are still pretty easy to find. Their black throat and neck distinguish them from other tailorbird species.

11-12 cm
Sumatra | Kalimantan



Ashy Tailorbird

Cinenen kelabu | *Orthotomus ruficeps*

Rather rare in Jambi but quite common in East Kalimantan. At the East Kalimantan ranger station, it is our main entertainment during lunch breaks or after returning from the forest. Or when it rains, it forces us to watch birds near the station only. This bird is starting to appear in many bird markets in Java. Its call is not as attractive as the Dark-necked Tailorbird, but it still does not escape the target of hunters and songbird keepers. Somewhat similar to the Olive-backed Tailorbird, distinguished by its dark grey wings and white belly.



11-12 cm
Sumatra | Kalimantan | Java



Rufous-tailed Tailorbird

Cinenen merah | *Orthotomus sericeus*

Common in secondary forests or edges of primary forests. Similar to Dark-necked Tailorbird, the call is loud and diverse. They are more sensitive to observers. It is easy to distinguish from other species of tailorbirds from the brick red tail (rufous red), black area on the side of the neck, and white lower body.

11-12 cm
Sumatra | Kalimantan



Oriental Magpie-robin

Kucica kampung | *Copsychus saularis*

One of the birds that is heavily hunted and poached to meet the demand for the songbird market. Extremely rare in dense wooded forests, either secondary or primary. Prefer open habitats such as fields, forest edges, or plantations. The only location with a higher chance of observing them is around the employee housing in afdeling 5 in East Kalimantan site.

11-12 cm
Sumatra | Kalimantan



Blue-crowned Hanging-parrot
Serindit melayu | *Loriculus galgulus*

The only parrot we photographed. We obtained it in the East Kalimantan concession. In fact, it is widespread in almost all habitat types, even plantations. But it tended to perch at the highest canopy or pass very quickly above us. Parrots are a group of birds that are incredibly popular as pets. We can still breathe a sigh of relief, seeing that it is still common during this expedition. Male birds have bright red throats, while females have none.

12 cm
Sumatra | Kalimantan



Employee housing in afdeling 5, Block 2 of East Kalimantan. Who would have thought that the Oriental Magpie-Robin, one of the songbird species that is heavily poached for sale, is still often found here? And at this site, it was actually observed around residential areas. Living side by side with nature is not impossible as long as communication and law enforcement are carried out with total commitment by all parties.



Those Hiding in the Dark

The most beautiful flower is the one that grows in the aridest of all deserts, and the loudest stadium uproar is the one for a goal at injury time. In the tropical rainforests, the most gorgeous creatures are those concealed by the darkness. Bornean Ground Cuckoo and Pittas are stunning birds that spend their time on the forest floor, lurking under the lowest canopy tiers, concealing their beauty in the shades of the rainforest. And one cannot fathom how blaring our excitement was when we caught a glimpse of their sheer beauty by the end of our expedition.

This is the group of birds most coveted by all birdwatchers and bird photographers, due to their unique colorations and the challenge of getting their pictures. To find Garnet Pitta, we even had to give away the worms for days until they came out of their “hiding” place. So did the Blue-headed Pitta. The Bornean Ground Cuckoo is only found in old growth forests with pitch dark canopy shades.



Bornean Ground-cuckoo

Tokhtor kalimantan | *Carpococcyx radiceus*

The extremely rare species we encountered during our 50-day expedition, even compared to the Helmeted Hornbill. Their utterly shy behavior, their wide and arbitrary home range make them immensely difficult to find. Moreover, they are forest floor dwellers whose movements are almost completely covered by dense undergrowth or bushes and make sounds only as needed. Their colors are predominantly dark green and dull blue. Combined with the low-light environment, perfect camouflage! The population is believed to be declining due to habitat loss and habitat alterations for mining and plantations. An encounter with this species is truly a gift from heaven for any birdwatcher or wildlife photographer, and that's why they become the ultimate target for birdwatchers and photographers visiting Kalimantan.

60 cm

Kalimantan

Vulnerable

Endemic Borneo



Male

Blue-headed Pitta

Paok kepala-biru | *Hydrornis baudii*

Somewhat rare, with low records of encounters in Indonesia; perhaps due to the partial (fragmented) distribution. It mainly inhabits lowland primary and secondary forests. It was quite common to find them around the ranger station; we even saw an entire family of adult male and female, along with their juvenile. It required extra patience to photograph them since they were really shy. It is easy to distinguish from other pittas from their distinct feather color pattern.

16-17 cm
 Kalimantan
 Vulnerable
 Endemic Borneo
 Protected



Female



Juvenile



Garnet Pitta

Paok delima | *Erythropitta granatina*

Somewhat common in Kalimantan, but we never encountered them in Sumatra. Very timid. We even had to use worms to get this bird to come out of its "hiding place". Their calls are also super soft. Luckily, the red color on the belly and the bright blue on the wings helped us to find it.

15-16 cm
 Sumatra | Kalimantan
 Near Threatened
 Protected



Western Hooded Pitta

Paok hijau | *Pitta sordida*

Common both in Sumatra and Kalimantan. Like other pittas, they prefer heavy and even slightly humid forests. Quite self-conscious, and it really took a lot of efforts to see this bird. With predominantly green colors, this bird is often overlooked by birdwatchers.

18-20 cm
Sumatra | Kalimantan | Java



Male

Rufous-collared Kingfisher

Cekakak-hutan melayu | *Actenoides concretus*

Scarce in all distribution areas. In East Kalimantan we didn't even hear its calls. The only location we saw this bird was around the nursery not far from the ranger station of Jambi. Despite its striking colors and its familiarity to human presence, it never perch in open spaces. It also mostly remain silent and still.

23-25 cm
Sumatra | Kalimantan
Near Threatened
Protected



Plot 23 of East Kalimantan site gave us profound and everlasting memories. This was where we found the Bornean Ground Cuckoo. One spectacular species that is extremely difficult to find, let alone photograph. This endemic bird to Borneo is timid, almost never out of the thickets of bushes. Constantly alert and quick to react to human presence. Plot 23 is the location where the old forest association remains and is well preserved. The prominent ironwood trees believed to age hundreds of years can still be found here.



The Flowery Matchmakers

Frankly, we were a bit unlucky on this expedition since our visit was not coincide with the flowering seasons. We barely saw any plants flowering throughout this expedition. However, if we do the math again, even when we came off the flowering season, we still got plenty of Nectariniidae species. Can't imagine what would it be like if we had come at the peak flowering season?

Sunbirds, spiderhunters, and flowerpeckers are birds closely associated with flowers. They feed on nectars from the flowers and eventually assist the pollination process. Therefore, we call them the flowery matchmakers. As the name suggests, they match one flower to another and wear rainbows on their feathers.

The best place to photograph these fascinating tiny birds is the ranger station in East Kalimantan. The construction of the second-floor building made it perfect for us to get eye-level photo angles. The distance between the forest and the facilities, which is only 8 meters, is the optimal distance to get ideal photos. We did not disturb the birds with that distance; our telephoto lens range could record images well. Just perfect!



Male

Brown-throated Sunbird

Burung-madu kelapa | *Anthreptes malacensis*

A sunbird species with a very wide distribution, from East Asia to Southeast Asia and to the easternmost corner of the Sula Islands. There are 16 subspecies, seven of which are found in Indonesia. Common in a wide array of habitats. In East Kalimantan, we could even photograph this species easily from the ranger station kitchen door.



Female



12-13 cm
Indonesia except Moluccas, Timor and Papua.



Male

Red-throated Sunbird

Burung-madu leher-merah | *Anthreptes rhodolaemus*

Closely identical to the Brown-throated Sunbird that we almost missed it. Distinguished only by the side of the head and rusty red coat. Observed twice and only around Manggatal buffer zone. Indeed, its presence is definitely rarer than its relative and extra sensitive towards humans.



Female

12 cm
Sumatra | Kalimantan
Near Threatened



Male

Ruby-cheeked Sunbird

Burung-madu belukar | *Chalcoparia singalensis*

To us, this is the most elegant amongst all sunbird species in Sumatra and Kalimantan. Even the females still retain the radiance that the males have. It is pretty common particularly in primary or secondary rainforests with dense undergrowth. Ruby-cheeked sunbirds are the only *Chalcoparia* genus in Nectariniidae family.

10-11 cm

Sumatra | Kalimantan | Java



Female



Upperpart Male

Purple-naped Sunbird

Burung-madu rimba | *Kurochkinogramma hypogrammica*

Unique sunbird. The only one in the genus *Kurochkinogramma*, the same as the Ruby-cheeked Sunbird. Its chest is distinctly streaked, unlike most sunbirds. The color is also not as vibrant as the others. Only the purplish blue nape distinguishes between males and females, and it is the only metallic color it has.

13-15 cm

Sumatra | Kalimantan





Male



Female



Male

Crimson Sunbird

Burung-madu sepahraja | *Aethopyga siparaja*

If the ruby-cheeked sunbirds are the elegant ones, then sunbirds from the genus *Aethopyga* are the glamorous ones. The male's red color is very brilliant, combined with a metallic blue tail and black forehead and malar. This bird is regular in East Kalimantan and Jambi and prefers open forests or edges of primary-secondary forests.

12-15 cm
Sumatra | Kalimantan | Java
Protected

Temminck's Sunbird

Burung-madu sayap-merah | *Aethopyga temminckii*

Similar to Crimson Sunbird. In fact, several days later, we still identified it as a Crimson Sunbird due to a photograph of an individual without a tail. The tail color should be red. What differentiates it from other *Aethopyga* is its pure white belly, a thin line in the middle as the crown. The female's wings and tail are orange-brown. In general, it is quite rare in Indonesia.

10-13 cm
Sumatra | Kalimantan



Male

Plain Sunbird

Burung-madu polos | *Anthreptes simplex*

For a sunbird, this species is the “dullest” of sunbirds, since sunbirds are supposed to have vibrant colors! Yet precisely because of that, it is the most beautiful bonus for anyone who can photograph or see it in nature. Its plain color makes it difficult to detect, thus sometimes overlooked. Being able to photograph this species can score a point in itself. We didn’t find it in East Kalimantan, and it passed in front of the camera only once near the ranger station in Jambi.

12 cm
Sumatra | Kalimantan



Juvenile



Long-billed Spiderhunter

Pijantung besar | *Arachnothera robusta*

The largest spiderhunter species with the longest beak. Relatively rare in both the East Kalimantan and Jambi concessions. Only once observed in Manggatal buffer zone. Or perhaps it is often overlooked, owing to its inconspicuous color, and very seldom perched on low branches.

21-22 cm
Sumatra | Kalimantan | Java



Grey-breasted Spiderhunter

Pijantung dada-kelabu | *Arachnothera modesta*

Common in Jambi, but rare in East Kalimantan. It looks comparable to the Streaky-breasted Spiderhunter, which is found at elevations of 800-1,600 (Sumatra) meters above sea level (meters asl), 1,500 meter asl (Kalimantan), whereas this species is generally found in the lowlands. Physically almost indistinguishable from Streaky-breasted Spiderhunter. It requires thorough identification to be able to tell the difference since the distribution of the two species overlaps with each other.

17-18 cm
Sumatra | Kalimantan



Thick-billed Spiderhunter

Pijantung kampung | *Arachnothera crassirostris*

Rare in both East Kalimantan and Jambi. Only once observed in Jambi. The chance of the encounter could be more intense. The biggest obstacle is that this bird likes to fly quickly and relatively high, and its color is inconspicuous. The main feature is a thicker bill compared to that of other species.

16-17 cm
Sumatra | Kalimantan



Little Spiderhunter

Pijantung kecil | *Arachnothera longirostra*

Widespread in all concession areas. Easily recognized by its smallest size compared to other spiderhunters, its throat, neck and upper chest are white. Found in open forests, edges of primary forests or plantations.

14-16 cm
All Greater Sundas



Yellow-eared Spiderhunter

Pijantung telinga-kuning | *Arachnothera chrysogenys*

Rare throughout its distribution range. Prefers lowland forests, peat or mangroves, or forest edges. Similar to the Spectacled Spiderhunter, it is only distinguished by its incomplete eye-ring and the wider yellow on its ears. Our only encounter with this bird was around the Mandelang nursery location.

17-18 cm
Sumatra | Kalimantan | Java



Spectacled Spiderhunter

Pijantung tasmak | *Arachnothera flavigaster*

The last Spiderhunter we obtained throughout this expedition. It seems that it is the rarest compared to other species. At first sight, it is resembling to the Yellow-eared Spiderhunter. The easiest differentiation is its eye ring. The Spectacled Spiderhunter has a complete eye ring around the eye, while the Yellow-eared Spiderhunter is cut off at the bottom of the eye.

21-22 cm
Sumatra | Kalimantan



Scarlet-backed Flowerpecker

Cabai merah | *Dicaeum cruentatum*

Rather uncommon in all concession areas. In fact, it was only observed once in Mangatal buffer zone. Maybe because it is often overlooked due to its predominant black color. A really agile bird and doesn't really favor the presence of humans.

8-9 cm
Sumatra | Kalimantan



Adult male



Juvenile



Female

Adult female



Immature

Orange-bellied Flowerpecker

Cabai bunga-api | *Dicaeum trigonostigma*

The most usual flowerpecker. Wherever you find flowerpeckers, whatever species they are, this species must be one of them. It also occupies a highly diverse range of habitats: around settlements, plantations and natural forests. In young growth wood to old natural forest, this species is definitely present. They are not too bothered by human presence.

8-9 cm
All Greater Sundas





Yellow-vented Flowerpecker
Cabai rimba | *Dicaeum chrysorrheum*

This is the rarest flowerpecker. It was only observed once in Mangatal buffer zone, and even then, we had to climb the highest and open land to be able to see it. Even if we could see it, however, it was still challenging to photograph them because they kept their distance from humans. And, certainly, they are agile!

9-10 cm
Sumatra | Kalimantan | Java | Bali



Female



Male

Crimson-breasted Flowerpecker
Pentis pelangi | *Prionochilus percussus*

Frequent in both East Kalimantan and Jambi. The best place to photograph this bird is on the edge of a forest or generating forest with a low canopy. It's a small bird that prefers the upper canopy, so searching for it in old-growth forests is not a good idea. Almost identical to the Yellow-rumped flowerpecker (endemic). The difference is that the crimson-breasted flowerpecker has white malar stripe.

10 cm
Sumatra | Kalimantan | Java





Male

Yellow-rumped Flowerpecker

Pentis kalimantan | *Prionochilus xanthopygius*

Super rare. Throughout the expedition, it was only observed once or twice. And that's only in Afdeling 6, East Kalimantan site. This could be because it is often overlooked since they look similar to the Crimson-breasted Flowerpecker. Endemic to Borneo.

9 cm
Kalimantan'
Endemic Borneo



Yellow-breasted Flowerpecker

Pentis raja | *Prionochilus maculatus*

We are always excited to catch the moment to get a flowerpecker photo with an eye-level angle. It seems that the ideal photo must be at eye level. Generally, this bird prefers the upper canopy, despite their tiny size. In East Kalimantan, we never encountered them at all. Once we arrived in Jambi, they were very common. Even our team made a rule: if a photo of a flowerpecker doesn't show the crown, it's not valid.

10 cm
Sumatra | Kalimantan | Java



We believe that East Kalimantan Ranger Station is the best place for bird photography. It has two stories, with a balcony directly facing the forest, with 8-12 meters away, making it the most ideal distance for photographing birds. Early in the morning, we could even clearly see a bird that is very rarely found in the wild: the White-rumped Shama. Photographing small birds is straight forward from here. From the kitchen door of this station, we could even get a Green Broadbill without breaking a sweat.



The Pageant Beauties

You will never want to miss these birds if you are a photographer. You will turn into a mindless, insentient being who does not even know how to think before doing. You will follow your gut and gut alone. Your index finger refuses to coordinate with your brain as it keeps on pressing the shutter button. Never mind the shutter count, never mind the memory card storage capacity. Never mind the curation process.

Yes, that was what happened to us when we saw the pageant beauties of the bird realm. Trogons and broadbills are sorcerers and sorceresses, especially the paradise flycatchers! They are the enchantresses. Anyone who sees them will be spellbound.

RLU forest really pampers photographers, especially the Jambi site. The birds were lining up to be photographed. The Scarlet-rumped trogon that never stopped flexing its radiant make-up, even though the cameramen were begging for mercy, for a break from pressing the shutter button. Oriental Paradise Flycatchers were flying about, flashing their stark white tails like a superstar posing for the cameras on the red carpet or a broadbills that refused to be eclipsed, trying so hard to appear in the frames.



Male



Female

Oriental Paradise-flycatcher
Seriwang asia | *Terpsiphone affinis*

As a bird watcher and wildlife photographer, is there any reason to be bored with this one? We have traveled around Indonesia, visiting its distribution areas: Java, Nusa Tenggara, Kalimantan and Sumatra. But still, every encounter with this one always feels like seeing them for the first time, like a love at first sight, on every date night. We could photograph this bird all day. At the Jambi concession, around the ranger station, we could spend thousands of frames on it. Just look at it; even the females are stunning.

23-25 cm
Sumatra | Kalimantan | Java



Male



Female

Chinese Paradise-flycatcher
Seriwang utara | *Terpsiphone incei*

A very unexpected encounter considering this bird is a migratory species from far away land, East Asia, and their records in Indonesia are still scarce. Remarkably similar to the red morph of the Oriental Paradise-flycatcher. Around Manggatal buffer zone, this bird often appears together with fellow migratory birds such as the Siberian Blue Robin, but outside that area, it is never seen at all.

20-25 cm
Sumatra | Java



Male



Female

Black-and-yellow Broadbill
Sempur-hujan darat | *Eurylaimus ochromalus*

“Like a doll, huh?” That’s the response of anyone who sees this bird for the first time. The color, the shape and even the behavior. When perched, it will freeze, like a doll in a display case: still and lovely. The good news is, this species is common in both East Kalimantan and Jambi. It occupies primary forests with large trees, secondary forests, and even neglected forests. This species inhabits the upper canopy niches, but it can descend to 1 meter above the ground at the Jambi ranger station.

13-15 cm
Sumatra | Kalimantan
Near Threatened





Male

Banded Broadbill

Sempur-hujan melayu | *Eurylaimus harterti*

As a fellow doll bird, this species is even infrequent than the Black-and-Yellow Broadbill. This one is more sensitive and lives at a higher niche. Its darker color makes it harder to see. Even with larger size, this bird is still difficult to find compared to their relatives.



Female

21-23 cm
Sumatra | Kalimantan



Dusky Broadbill

Madi kalam | *Corydon sumatranus*

It is not a bird with vibrant colors, just as the name suggests. However, this bird is well worth the effort for many birdwatchers and photographers. This unique bird is the only one in the genus *Corydon*, and not very common. Usually prefers old forests with large trees. In East Kalimantan, the best location is in plot 23. In Jambi, they are found along the forest of Manggatal river.

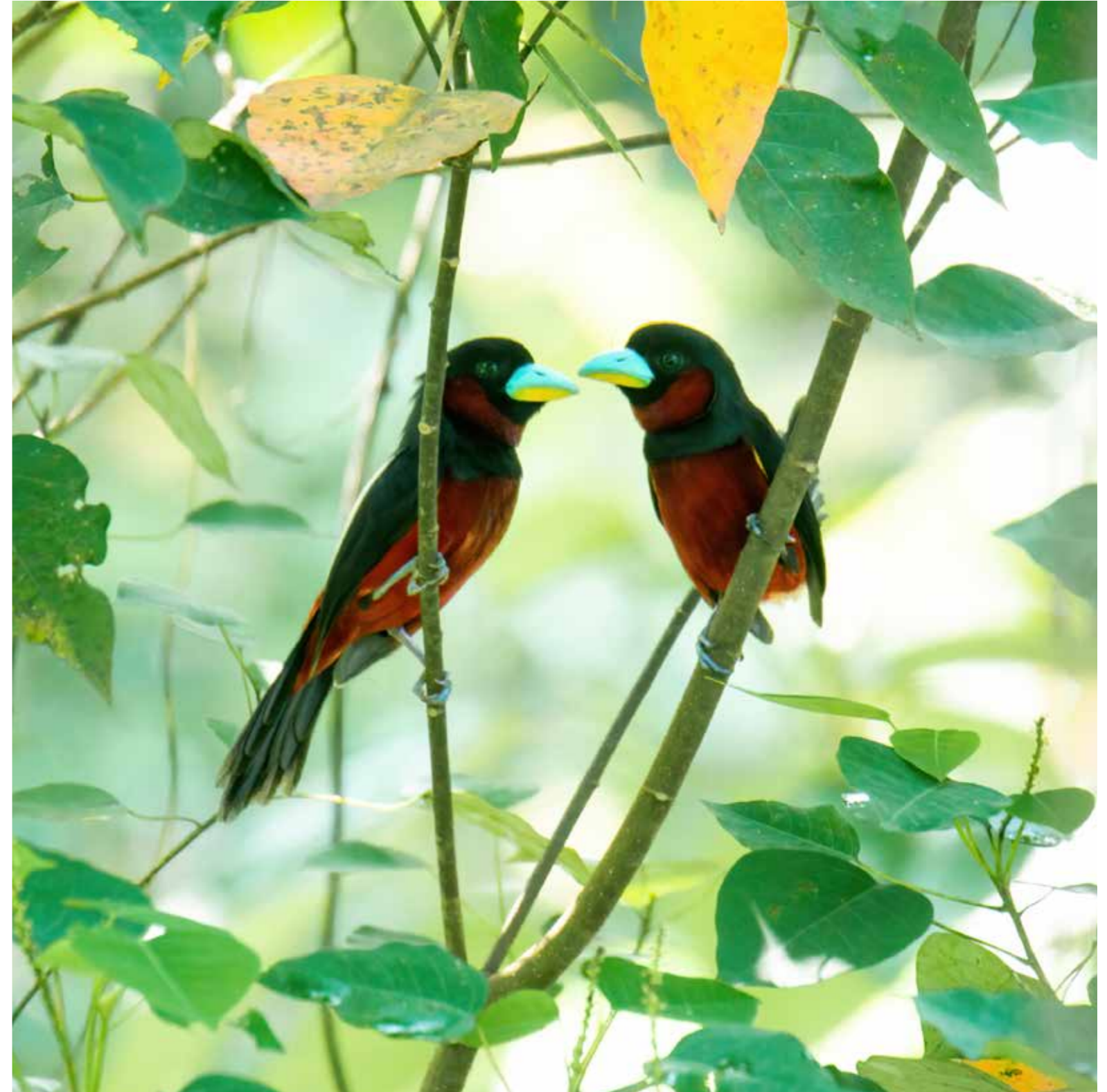
24-29 cm
Sumatra | Kalimantan



Black-and-red Broadbill
Sempur-hujan sungai | *Cymbirhynchus macrorhynchos*

The most unique doll bird on our entire expedition. The red-black body color combination is very aesthetic, plus its cyan-yellow bill; making them look even more like a doll. The only one in the genus *Cymbirhynchus*, and commonly encountered in both East Kalimantan and Jambi along the river banks. The nest is also consistently found at the river bank, which explains their name in Indonesian: Sempur-hujan Sungai.

24-29 cm
Sumatra | Kalimantan





Male



Female



Green Broadbill
Madi-hijau kecil | *Calyptomena viridis*

If we could find a better photo of this bird in more ideal condition, maybe this species would grace the cover of this book. When we started learning to watch birds in the 1990s, the bird guidebook we used had a picture of this species on the cover, and it was the only guidebook at that time. Since then, this bird has been an idol for all bird watchers in Indonesia. As a rare species, being able to find this bird is a blessing. We even photographed it from the kitchen door of the ranger station in East Kalimantan. After that, we have not seen it again.

14-17 cm
Sumatra | Kalimantan
Near Threatened



Male



Diard's Trogon
Luntur diard | *Harpactes diardii*

Common in East Kalimantan but rare in Jambi. Occupies primary, secondary forests, plantations near forests and heath forests. Alone or in pairs. The male differs from the female by a wash of maroon color on the black head and a strong pink hind-collar. Meanwhile, the female is brown with the same dark red on the belly like the males.

34 cm
Sumatra | Kalimantan
Near Threatened
Protected



Male



Female



Scarlet-rumped Trogon
Luntur putri | *Harpactes duvaucelii*

In contrast to Diard's Trogon; familiar in Jambi, but in East Kalimantan, it has never been observed. Males and females differ significantly in color, but both have a special feature: the scarlet-colored rump. That is also what distinguishes it from other species of trogon. Incredibly friendly with humans, although somewhat shy.

23-24 cm
Sumatra | Kalimantan
Near Threatened
Protected



Juvenile



Female



Red-bearded Bee-eater
Cirik-cirik kumbang | *Nyctyornis amictus*

Infrequent in Jambi, in fact, never observed in East Kalimantan during expeditions. In Jambi, the best location to see and photograph them until you are satisfied is in the nursery near the ranger station. Although uncommon, we can mark their presence from the contrasting red color on its face and chest. The call is also strikingly noisy. Also, the fun thing is that they are not too frisky and love to stay for a while before moving to another perch.

30 cm
Sumatra | Kalimantan

Male



The conservation area or High Conservation Value (HCV) area at the East Kalimantan site is the best remaining natural forest. This is where endangered birds are still easy to find. In Jambi, forests are directly connected to the natural landscape of Bukit Tigapuluh National Park. In East Kalimantan, they are not adjacent to any national protected areas.

The Singing Forest

When you happen to be in a forest, or at least be not far away from it, stop strolling. Be still, quit chatting with your mates, and listen. You will find, in that silence, the singing forest. The incessant cacophony of songs by the birds. Switching from tone to tone, one note to the other, changing lyrics, and occasionally getting into a chorus. From dawn to dusk to nightfall, these birds fill up all the space on our minds and ears, but never with their bodily presence. They rarely show their heavenly bodies. And the birds we are talking about are the bush and shrub dwellers: the babblers. Some of them spend their lives as parts of flocks. Generously sociable. They are mostly brown in color, and some of them have a vocal box in their throats to produce soft but resonant calls. Bold-striped Tit-Babblers are the lead vocalist of this vocal group. Their calls are ear-piercing yet melodic, the loudest and the most tumultuous of all. Bold-striped Tit-Babbler and Chestnut-winged babblers are the next in rank.





Chestnut-backed Scimitar-babbler

Cica-kopi melayu | *Pomatorhinus montanus*

Somewhat rare, even their calls are rarely heard. Among other races, the Sumatran *occidentalis* race and Kalimantan *bornensis* have lesser variations in their vocalizations. Just a low “hup-hup-hup”; the rough “wrik-ik-ik” calls, as well as the single tone “wik”. That might be why they are less frequently recorded in Sumatra and Borneo, compared to Java and Bali, but they are very friendly. Once you find them, seeing them more closely or photographing them will be a piece of cake.

19-21 cm
Sumatra | Kalimantan | Java | Bali



Fluffy-backed Tit-babbler

Ciung-air pong-pong | *Macronus ptilosus*

Uncommon. Easy to find in natural forests not far from the river. Along the Mandelang river and Manggatal rivers, these birds often flock with other species. The most frequently heard call is a loud, guttural “ngrrrueek”; especially when another individual sings. Quite sensitive with human presence.

16-17 cm
Sumatra | Kalimantan
Near Threatened



Bold-striped Tit-babbler

Ciung-air coreng | *Mixornis bornensis*

This is the bird with the longest breath. All day long, their calls never ceased to jazz up the forest. The monotonous series of “cyok cyok cyok cyok” over and over again, or the two repeated notes “ckcuk ck-cuk ck-cuk”, or “cyeo ku’ku’ku’ku..” They can even forage from the forest ground all the way up to the top canopy. At the height of the canopy, their songs could be heard from a long distance. The prominent streaks on the neck to belly and blue face making it easily identified.

11-12 cm
Kalimantan | Java



Pin-striped Tit-babbler

Ciung-air melayu | *Mixornis gularis*

Even though this bird is quite chatty, it is not as bad as its close relative, the Bold-striped Tit-Babbler. Their song is similar to their kin’s, but softer and less varied. Maybe it’s just “cyok-cyok-cyok-cyok” over and over again, followed by a rough squeak of “crrrrr-yok”, “crrr-crrr-crrrt”. The streaks on the lower body are also fainter, with a wash of basic dull yellow color. The blue color on the face is not as wide and striking as the Bold-striped Tit-babbler.

11-12 cm
Sumatra



Grey-hooded Babbler

Tepus-merbah kalimantan | *Cyanoderma bicolor*

The bird with the second longest breath after the Bold-striped Tit-Babbler. Their calls can be incessantly heard throughout the forest all day long, although it is still quieter than Bold-striped Tit-Babbler. On top of that, they are timid and extremely cautious when it comes to revealing themselves. When humans are present, they stay still. They just don't want to show up. Prefer to live in flocks or pairs. With its Blue to greyish blue color at the head to upper chest, instant identification is possible though just a flash.

12-14 cm
Kalimantan
Endemic

Chestnut-winged Babbler

Tepus-merbah melayu | *Cyanoderma erythropterum*

Similar to the Grey Hooded Babbler, as it was previously considered the same species. Morphologically identical except for a lighter belly, dull brown at the back of the head, and a paler blue color on the face. The softer song "tutrutrutrutrutru..." is often followed by the song "crrr". Not too sensitive and even seem to be unbothered by human presence. Widespread in Jambi concessions. Live in mixed flocks with other babblers.

12-14 cm
Sumatra



Rufous-fronted Babbler

Tepus dahi-merah | *Cyanoderma rufifrons*

This bird is considerably ubiquitous, yet the most challenging to observe directly. They are usually tolerant towards human presence, but can also be discreet. The call is a monotonous series of around 5-10 notes “cit ti-ti-ti-ti-ti-” for 1-1.5 seconds. Immensely indistinguishable to the Golden Babbler that we did not encounter during the expedition.

12 cm
Sumatra | Kalimantan

Grey-headed Babbler

Tepus kepala-kelabu | *Stachyris poliocephala*

Unforeseen bird! Even after we took the photo we failed to notice that we were taking photos of this species. Despite pretty common in Jambi, we hardly ever to be aware of its presence, either auditorily or visually. Perhaps because they are predominantly flat brown and dark gray colors Their call is also a little monotonous “chu’ichu’i-chi’uu”; or a ascending high pitch “cuWIIII-CIUII” or a simple whistle “ci-cici-cu”. Grouped with other species of babblers, it is often overlooked.

13-14,5 cm
Sumatra | Kalimantan



Black-throated Babbler
Tepus kaban | *Stachyris nigricollis*

The greatest gift given to us that day. Among the bush birds that sent us scramble to press the shutter. It has limited and exceptionally partial distribution. In Jambi, this one is a loyal guard at the nursery site near the ranger station. The sound is soft “hup-hup-hup...” lasting for three seconds. Usually preceded by “pi-ce-ciyuww”.

15,5-16 cm
Sumatra | Kalimantan
Near Threatened





Chestnut-rumped Babbler
Tepus tunggir-merah | *Stachyris maculata*

In Jambi, they are the noisiest birds, but not in East Kalimantan where we never hear, let alone see them. Their calls can be heard all day long. With the main song “woop”, “woow” sounds like the whistle when one blows an empty bottle; or two notes “wu-kop wu-kop”. Just like Black-throated Babbler, this species is also quite rare with a partial (fragmented) distribution in both Sumatra and Kalimantan. In Jambi, they are quite common, especially on the riparian forest of the Mangatal river, where there can be dozens in one group.

17-18 cm
Sumatra | Kalimantan
Near Threatened





Rufous-crowned Babbler

Asi besar | *Malacopteron magnum*

In general, the genus *Malacopteron* is a group of babbler species that are quite rare in Indonesia. The Rufous-crowned babbler is one of those birds that are difficult to observe. In East Kalimantan, we only saw them once or twice not far from the ranger station and block 23. In Jambi, this species was never observed even once. They possess varied calls, yet to differ them from other species of babbler, seeing their enormous body size is enough. Their bills are sturdier and grey in color (without the pink color).



Immature

18-19,5 cm
Sumatra | Kalimantan
Near Threatened



Sooty-capped Babbler

Tepus topi-jelaga | *Malacopteron affine*

For anyone who sees this species for the first time, they will likely be difficult to identify. At first glance, they look like Horsfield's Babbler except having a thinner and slightly curved bill and a longer tail. When referred to the one in the field guides, they are also different if you look at the color of the head, which generally has stark white cheeks and eyebrows, so it will appear to have a dark cap. The individual photographed above may still be a juvenile. Just like other babbler species, this species is quite uncommon. It is only found in Jambi and is never recorded in East Kalimantan.

15-17 cm
Sumatra | Kalimantan
Near Threatened



Scaly-crowned Babbler

Asi topi-sisik | *Malacopteron cinereum*

They are supposed to be the most widespread babbler species, although we only encountered them once in the nursery. Unlike other babblers, this species has fewer vocalization variation. It's 3-8 ascending high notes, and stressed "pi'yi-piii-PII", "pi'pii'PII'pye" and all its variations. The size is the smallest among other babblers. The most striking feature is the red crown with black feather tips that over all resemble scales.



14-16 cm

Sumatra | Kalimantan | Java



Moustached Babbler

Asi kumis | *Malacopteron magnirostre*

Bush-dwelling birds of the genus *Malacopteron* (Pellorneidae) are generally a bit tricky to identify, including this bird. If one is not careful, one will think it's Horsfield's Babbler. Almost all the morphological features point to Horsfield's Babbler. However, when we see its long tail, we can confirm that it is of the genus *Malacopteron*. Relatively common at the edges of natural forests with dense undergrowth.

16,5-18 cm

Sumatra | Kalimantan



Female



Male



Siberian Blue Robin
Berkecet siberia | *Larvivora cyane*

Another bird that is ultimately beyond our expectations. It could be our once-in-a-lifetime encounter with this species. A Long distant nomad from Siberia, Kazakhstan, Mongolia or China. Indonesia is the most distant region in its distribution range, where Java is the southernmost island this species has ever visited. The female is exceptionally similar to a Lesser Shortwing, while the male has unmistakably bold navy blue-white color.

13-14 cm
Sumatra | Kalimantan | Java



White-chested Babbler
Pelanduk dada-putih | *Pellorneum rostratum*

Fairly regular in both East Kalimantan and Jambi. Despite their Near Threatened (NT) status, this bird was still easy to find in both concessions, particularly along the river. As long as there is a flowing water; streams, creeks, this bird will surely be present. The call is excessively loud with few variations: “p’yeot-twit’TWIIT” and usually sing in a duet with another individual.

15-17 cm
Sumatra | Kalimantan
Near Threatened



Abbott's Babbler

Pelanduk asia | *Malacocincla abbotti*

This bird is supposed to be quite common in both Kalimantan and Sumatra. It is also widespread and evenly distributed on both islands. Nonetheless, it was very rarely observed during our expeditions. Only once photographed on the route to the waterfall from the ranger station.

15-17 cm

Sumatra | Kalimantan | Java



Black-capped Babbler

Pelanduk-topi melayu | *Pellorneum nigrocapitatum*

A new species resulted from a split from the Rufous-browed Babbler *Pellorneum capistratum* which is now restricted to Java. Ubiquitous in all types of natural forests, forest edges or plantations with dense canopies. Usually maintains distance from humans but at times it curiously peeking out of the thickets of bushes. The call is a monotonous "pu-wiiti" ascending for 0.5 seconds and repeated every few seconds.

16-17 cm

Sumatra | Kalimantan

Short-tailed Babbler

Pelanduk ekor-pendek | *Pellorneum malaccense*

This is the hardest babbler to find. Not exceptionally unusual, but supershy. Even when it is about to show up, they still need to stay in the thickets. This bird would only come out from their hiding place if there is a dark shade as a cover. Their song is moderately varied, ranging from a rattling sound "crr'rr'rr'rrt'wit'wit wit-wit-wiiit", to the polygene of initial 5-15 progressively longer note "crrt-kiew kiewkiew-kieew-kieeeeew." continued by 20 -30 whistles "piew-piew-piew tck'tck'tck'tck...".

13-15,5 cm

Sumatra | Kalimantan

Near Threatened





Merabung or Mahang Macaranga gigantea stands are commonly found in the ecotone zone between natural forests and rubber plantations. Around Jambi ranger station, this zone is perfect for bird observation and photography. The tree's wide leaves provide good shade with enough light. In the Macaranga association, so far, there has almost always lacked understory vegetation, either shrubs or seedlings of large tree species. With lighting and visibility like this, photographing small birds is excitingly enjoyable. It is super easy to find almost all types of shy bush birds, such as babblers, tit-babblers, and even black magpies in this place.

The Woodworkers

To be honest, we were very determined to find the woodpecker family just because we love them. We are always fascinated by their appearance: tufted feathers on the head, unique coloration, and how they move vertically on the tree trunks. The RLU forests have many species of woodpeckers to see. We found at least 11 species of woodpeckers, and seven of which were documented! The Greater Sunda region has 27 species of woodpeckers, with four species found only in Java. With that numerous species in RLU forests, it seems that this was the first time we could be free-handed in pressing the camera shutter and filling up our memory cards with hundreds of frames of these amazing birds.





Rufous Piculet
Tukik tikus | *Sasia abnormis*

Common in diverse habitats. It was also often found throughout both Jambi and East Kalimantan concession areas. Its small size and beautiful color made us never cease filling our memory space with their pictures.

8-10 cm
Sumatra | Kalimantan | Java

Male



Female





Female



Male



17-18 cm
Sumatra | Kalimantan

Buff-rumped Woodpecker
Caladi-batu melayu | *Meiglyptes grammithorax*

This bird is widespread in almost all habitats, both natural forests and rubber plantations, both in Jambi and East Kalimantan. We even found an active nest facing the ranger station kitchen door. The eggs are incubated alternately by the male and female.



Male

Grey-and-buff Woodpecker
Caladi-tikotok melayu | *Hemicircus sordidus*

A distinctive woodpecker family with a striking crest, making them look as though they have enormous heads. Males are even more striking with their blush-red front crest. Previously, it was grouped as the same species as the Javan Grey-and-buff Woodpecker *H. concretus*.

13-14 cm
Sumatra | Kalimantan



Female



Male



Buff-necked Woodpecker
Caladi badok | *Meiglyptes tukki*

This bird should be quite rare in general, especially in Indonesia due to lowland forest habitat loss. However, throughout our expedition, both in Jambi and East Kalimantan, this bird was still easy to find, especially in dipterocarp forests. Its presence is easy to recognize from the call “kit-ti kit-ti” it makes wherever it goes.

21 cm
Sumatra | Kalimantan
Near Threatened



Male



Female

Crimson-winged Woodpecker
Pelatuk sayap-merah | *Picus puniceus*

Widespread in all habitats. Although we only saw them once in Jambi; perhaps it's just not the right day, or just because there were so many other birds to be photographed. For some novice birdwatchers, this bird is often misidentified as Checker-throated Woodpecker. The most obvious distinction is the red color from the head to the top crest.

25 cm
Sumatra | Kalimantan | Java



Maroon Woodpecker

Pelatuk pangkas | *Blythipicus rubiginosus*

Possibly this is the most beautiful woodpecker we encountered. Predominantly maroon in color, making it unique from other species of woodpeckers. Its bright yellow bill blends seamlessly with the maroon color of its body. This species was even pretty common in Jambi. The back part of male's head is deep red; females lack the red on the head.



25 cm
Sumatra | Kalimantan

Female



Male



Male



Female

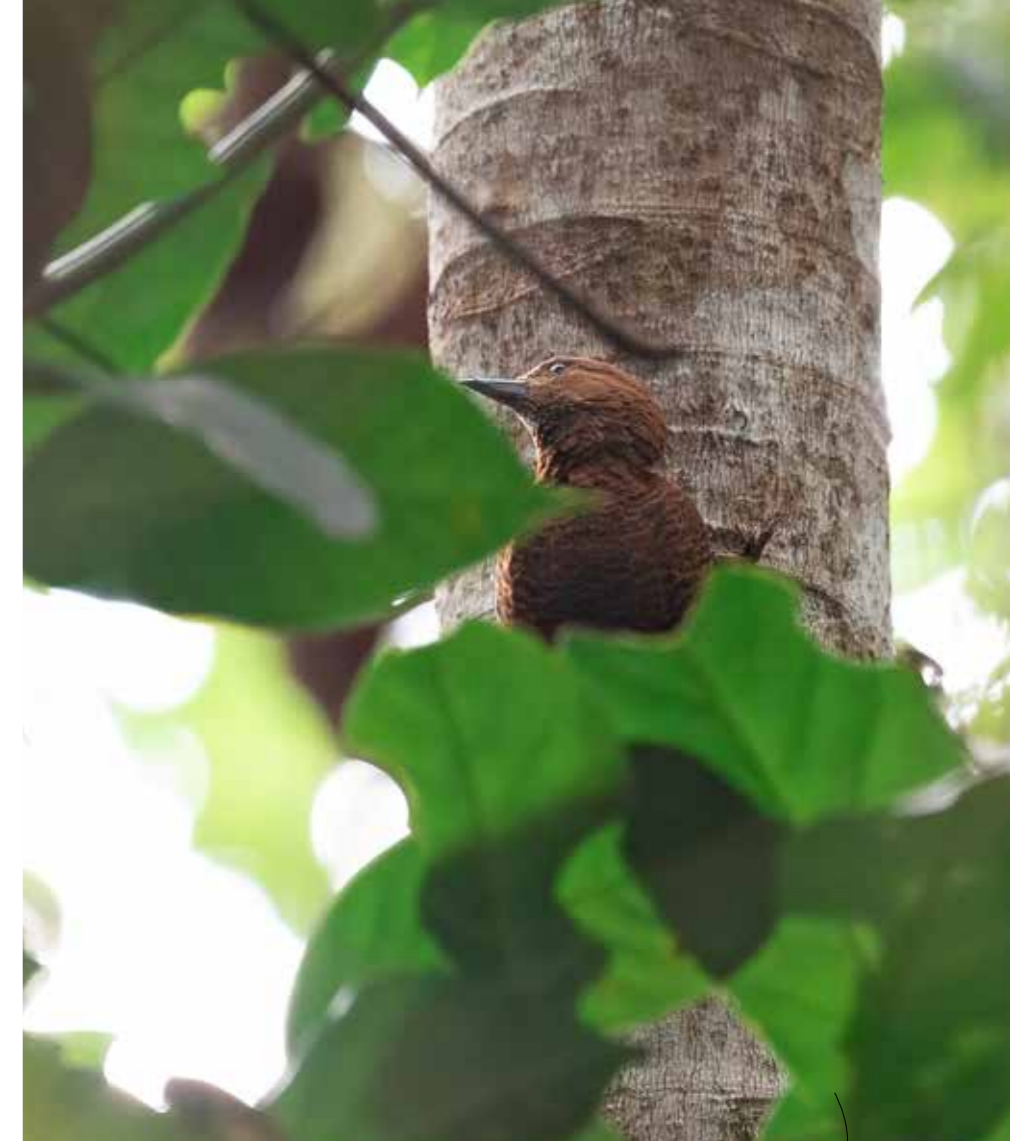
Orange-backed Woodpecker

Pelatuk kundang | *Chrysocolaptes validus*

Uncommon. There are only few records in Indonesia. Only once was it observed in both East Kalimantan and Jambi concessions. In some references, the Picidae family, they are included in the single genus Reinwardtipicus. The colorations do look contrastingly different from the other woodpeckers. Female birds are predominantly brown.

30 cm

Sumatra | Kalimantan | Java



Female

Rufous Woodpecker

Pelatuk kijang | *Micropternus brachyurus*

This species is actually quite common in both East Kalimantan and Jambi sites. Often seen passing quickly among dense vegetation in primary forests. Unfortunately, we only had the chance to photograph it once. The color of its feathers, which is not as conspicuous as other woodpecker species, makes it often overlooked by birdwatchers.

25 cm

Sumatra | Kalimantan | Java



Bornean Brown Barbet

Takur-ampis kalimantan | *Caloramphus fuliginosus*

Unlike its kin, the Malay Brown Barbet, this bird is quite rare. Prefers to perch at the top of the highest canopy, either with dense or dry foliage. It has a sound that is unlike that of barbets in general. The brown barbet makes a series of hissing sound of “pseee” or squeaking “pseeoo” or “tseet tseet”, repeated in thin high pitch.

17-18 cm

Endemic to Borneo

Protected

Female



Malay Brown Barbet

Takur-ampis melayu | *Caloramphus hayii*

Although it doesn't belong to the woodpecker family, we include this particular barbet species into this category. The first reason is that it has the habit of hollowing out tree trunks to make nests. The Brown Barbet is quite different from the (green) barbet in general, apart from the calls that were previously explained. Also, this bird doesn't hesitate to perch on a low branch. They don't share these characteristics with other barbet species, not even with The Bornean Brown Barbet, even though they used to be categorized as the same species before being split into two separate species.

17-18 cm
Sumatra
Near Threatened
Protected



Gold-whiskered Barbet

Takur gedang | *Psilopogon chrysopogon*

Apart from the fact that it likes to perch on high canopies and its color blends seamlessly with leaves, this bird is rare at both Jambi and East Kalimantan sites. Records on these two islands are generally scarce. We only saw it once, in Jambi site near Manggatal River.

30 cm
Sumatra | Kalimantan
Protected



Red-throated Barbet

Takur warna-warni | *Psilopogon mystacophanos*

This bird is supposed to be easy to photograph since it is relatively everywhere in both Jambi and East Kalimantan sites. However, owing to their preference to perch at the high canopies and its color resembling the leaves, this bird is difficult to spot. Its call is loud and can be heard from all corners of the forest.

23-24 cm
Sumatra | Kalimantan
Near Threatened
Protected



The existence of rivers is hugely important for animal life. For example, the river we passed on the route behind the East Kalimantan ranger station. The presence of large flowing rivers is generally accompanied by several species of birds, such as Black-and-red Broadbill, White-chested Babbler, Oriental Dwarf-kingfisher, or Blue-eared Kingfisher. Unfortunately, we were unable to capture the last two species. Maybe because there are so many rivers at all RLU sites, thus, it was also challenging to determining observation spots.



The Lords of The Sky

No bird flies higher on the horizon than the birds of prey, from the smallest falcon to the largest eagles. They never care about birds flying higher than them, except the other birds of prey. In Indonesia, there are 75 known species of diurnal predators or birds whose very nature is soaring in the limitless sky. Eagles and kestrels are birds of prey that stalk their prey from above the horizon, searching for the highest vantage point, riding the wind, sharpening their vision, and looking for a target before diving to snatch the game with their strong and sharp claws.

Ruling at the top of the food chain in both terrestrial and aquatic ecosystems, birds of prey play an important role in maintaining ecosystem health. Their targets are the old, the sick and the weaklings of the prey population to maintain the species population number.

Birds of prey, especially eagles, have long been a symbol of strength, speed, and dominance; thus, are often used by various organizations from the ancient times to the present to show essential qualities we want to associate with ourselves.

Within the RLU concession, we identified 11 species of birds of prey, five of which are well documented in photos.



Crested Serpent-eagle

Elang-ular bido | *Spilornis cheela*

Regularly observed in RLU concessions in both Jambi and East Kalimantan, with more frequent encounters in Jambi than East Kalimantan. Crested Serpent-eagle is one species of eagles that is most often photographed by rangers when patrolling or monitoring wildlife, since it often perches on the trees at the edge of the forest, be it at the entrance or by the end of the forest trails. This species can be easily spotted with their yellow-skinned face and white spots on the body, and its loud chatty calls when flying.

50-74 cm

Sumatra | Kalimantan | Java | Bali

Protected



Black-winged Kite

Elang tikus | *Elanus caeruleus*

Seeing this eagle in either Jambi or East Kalimantan is special because it is not as common as the Crested Serpent Eagle, even though it is actually widespread across Kalimantan and Sumatra. This bird is one of the species, which to our rangers, are easy to identify both while flying or perching. This species is easy to spot due to its smaller size than most eagles, the dominant white color, and thick eye-line circling red eyes. Prefers dry dead trees, or single stumps for perching.

30-37 cm

Sumatra | Kalimantan | Java | Bali

Protected



Changeable Hawk-eagle
Elang brontok | *Nisaetus cirrhatus*

The most common member of Acciptridae throughout its distribution range. The photo above is the dark morph out of the other two morphs: the light and intermediate phases just as the name suggests, changeable. Easily distinguished from Wallace's Hawk-eagle by its inconspicuous crest, especially when perched.

51-82 cm
Sumatra | Kalimantan | Java | Bali
Protected



Wallace's Hawk-eagle
Elang wallace | *Nisaetus nanus*

This eagle is the most frequently observed raptor in the East Kalimantan concession apart from the Black Eagle. Nicknamed the survey specialist eagle, since on every survey carried out at MKC, whether for assessing high conservation areas or orangutan surveys, this eagle will always be present, as if to make sure it is documented by every researcher. It has a noticeable crest, though often misidentified as the Javan Hawk Eagle.

43-58 cm
Sumatra | Kalimantan
Vulnerable
Protected



Oriental Honey-buzzard
Sikep-madu asia | *Pernis ptilorhynchus*

Generally, in Indonesia, this raptor is a migratory species that comes from the northern hemisphere during winter season. Scarce records for resident races, including what we observed in the Jambi site. From their physical features, they appear to belong to the race *P. p. orientalist*. During migration season, it is super easy to observe this raptor in all locations.

52-68 cm
Indonesia except Papua
Protected



Black-thighed Falconet
Alap-alap capung | *Microhierax fringillarius*

The smallest bird of prey. Nevertheless, their small size doesn't stop them to spread their wings and soar high in the sky. They have a slightly different modus operandi in terms of hunting from other birds of prey. Black-thighed Falconet observes and stalk their prey while perched. They are also extremely skilled ambush predator, striking their preys from their high posts, or ambushing flying preys. In East Kalimantan, their favorite place to roost are on dead leafless trees, the remnants of the previous big wildfire circa 1980s and 1990s.

14-16 cm
Sumatra | Kalimantan | Java | Bali
Vulnerable
Protected



The landscape of the Jambi site seen from the ranger station. Imagine being an eagle that flies higher than this. What other beauty could those predators' eyes see?



The First And Foremost

The Pycnonotidae family always become the first birds to start the day. Black-headed bulbul's song will be the first bird we hear wherever we set foot. The Puff-backed bulbul was the first bird to see when we entered our favorite spot in the Mandelang nursery area. Hairy-backed bulbul was the first to be photographed in the forest along the Mandelang River. The Buff-vented Bulbul was first seen at the Mandelang ranger station. And what else, if not Cream-vented bulbul, will be at the front lines of all forests? They even greeted us when we woke up at the East Kalimantan ranger station. Sooty-headed bulbul? Out of question!

The Pycnonotidae family has always been the most resilient birds wherever they are. In fact, in many places, they are the sovereigns. They flock in large numbers and sing clamorously all day. And at the end of the day, they were the ones who escorted us out of the forest.



Scaly-breasted Bulbul

Cucak bersisik | *Ixidia squamata*

This is the most beautiful bird we have ever seen! Never mind documenting it; being able to see it directly in nature is already a blessing from heavens! This species is extraordinarily rare, and terribly sensitive. We only encountered this species once in Manggatal buffer area in the northern part of the concession. It doesn't make much noise. The golden color on the back helps us mark their presence. This species is the only species of the Pycnonotidae family with striking scale-like patterns on its breast.

15 cm

Sumatra | Kalimantan | Jawa

Near Threatened



Sumatran Bulbul

Brinji sumatra | *Ixos sumatranus*

This is probably the first record of this species at elevations below 800 m. Observed right in front of the ranger station (150 m above sea level) in Jambi concession. It is a species separated from the Sunda bulbul *I. virens*, a mountain specialist. We only recorded this species once: with just two individuals. There was a debate among our team, considering it was supposed to be a specialist in highlands above 800 meters above sea level.

20 cm
Sumatra
Endemic



Buff-vented Bulbul

Brinji mata-putih | *Iole charlottae*

Quite common in Jambi concessions. We consistently observed them on the long trail behind the ranger station in mixed flock with Cream-vented bulbul. Their sound is rarely heard. In several areas in Sumatra, this bird is becoming increasingly rare due to habitat degradation.

20 cm
Sumatra
Near Threatened



Hairy-backed Bulbul

Brinji rambut-tunggir | *Tricholestes criniger*

The only species in the genus *Tricholestes*. As the name suggests, there are long feathers from the nape to the mantle, but hard to see them clearly in the field. Relatively regular in both Jambi and East Kalimantan. A little quiet, occasionally making “pri-cuk, pri-cuk, pri-cuk” sounds. Rarely seen in mixed flocks. It is easy to identify this species from the wide yellow area around the eyes.

16-17 cm
Sumatra | Kalimantan



Sooty-headed Bulbul

Cucak kutilang | *Pycnonotus aurigaster*

It is widespread throughout its natural distribution, ranges from South China to the Thailand Peninsula, Java and Bali. In Sumatra and Kalimantan, they are an introduced population. Its natural distribution. This species occupies disturbed and human-altered habitats. In dense natural rainforest, this species is rarely observed.

20 cm
Introduced to Sumatra and Kalimantan



Black-headed Bulbul

Cucak kuricang | *Brachypodius atriceps*

In primary and secondary forests, this species is the most common member of the Pycnonotidae family apart from Cream-vented bulbul. They are absolutely vocal wherever they go and is usually seen in flocks. Although highly common, it is a bit difficult to get photographs of this species since it is mainly active at the highest canopy.

17 cm

Sumatra | Kalimantan | Java



Immature

Ruby-throated Bulbul

Cucak kuning | *Rubigula dispar*

Ubiquitous in light-canopy forests, edges of primary rainforests adjacent to plantations or settlements. In general, the population has declined drastically due to poaching. Their populations in Sumatra and Java may be of different races. In Java, the iris is red, and in Sumatra, the iris is white. Endemic to Indonesia after being separated from *R. melanicterus* of mainland Asia.

20 cm

Sumatra | Java | Bali
Endemic Indonesia
Vulnerable



Adult



Puff-backed Bulbul

Cucak rumbai-tungging | *Euptilotus eutilotus*

Relatively common in both East Kalimantan and Jambi. Even though its status is Near Threatened, this bird is still considerably easy to find in both concessions. The biggest threat is lowland forest habitat losses in Sumatra and Kalimantan. Rarely seen in large flocks, perhaps 2-3 individuals per flock. It is easily recognized from its striking crest. Kalimantan race has a shorter crest.

20 cm
Sumatra | Kalimantan
Near Threatened



Grey-bellied Bulbul

Cucak kelabu | *Ixidia cyaniventris*

To us, they were the most beautiful bulbul we encountered during the expedition. And yes, they are uncommon. That's the law of nature: one thing is beautiful because there aren't so many of them. We only observed them a few times around the ranger station in Jambi, with only one or two individuals. A little sensitive to humans and soundless.

16 cm
Sumatra | Kalimantan
Near Threatened



Immature



Adult



Finsch's Bulbul

Empuloh leher-kuning | *Iole finschii*

Widespread in Jambi concessions. But it has never been observed in East Kalimantan. Quite tolerant with human presence. In Jambi, they were found around the ranger station and in the forest along Manggatal river.

17 cm

Sumatra | Kalimantan
Near Threatened



Yellow-bellied Bulbul

Empuloh irang | *Alophoixus phaeocephalu*

A bird with a blaring call. Our first impression when we saw this one was the striking yellow on its belly. Widespread in both East Kalimantan and Jambi.

17 cm

Sumatra | Kalimantan



White-eyed

Red-eyed



Yellow-vented Bulbul

Merbach cerukcuk | *Pycnonotus goiavier*

Super abundant around residential areas, plantations, along roadsides, or disturbed forests. We never observed in primary or secondary forests. They are easily recognized by their black crest and thick black lore.

20 cm

Indonesia except Moluccas, Eastern Lesser Sunda and Papua

Cream-vented Bulbul

Merbah corok-corok | *Pycnonotus simplex*

The most common bird in all types of primary and secondary forests and rubber plantations. There are two variants: white-eyed ones and red-eyed ones. The red eye variant has only been seen in the East Kalimantan concession, while the white eye is also observed in Jambi.

18 cm

Sumatra | Kalimantan | Java



Olive-winged Bulbul

Merbah belukar | *Pycnonotus plumosus*

Widespread both in East Kalimantan and Jambi. Likes to visit open habitats: forest edges, plantations, or disturbed forests. It's not that conspicuous and easy to miss, especially if it overlaps with the Cream-vented bulbul. It can be distinguished from other bulbul species by the white streaks from the cheeks to ears and olive-colored wings.

20 cm

Sumatra | Kalimantan | Java



Spectacled Bulbul

Merbah kacamata | *Ixidia erythrophthalmos*

During the first days when we obtained their photos, we had difficulty identifying them. The color and size are similar to the Cream-vented Bulbul, but the sound differs. We had never seen them before. In other parts of Sumatra and Kalimantan, this species is quite rare. Until we noticed that they had yellow eye-rings, the only identification key that differentiated them from other bulbul species.

18 cm

Sumatra | Kalimantan



In dense, lowland tropical rainforests like this, the chances of getting bird photos are actually pretty slim. Not because there are few birds but because visibility is limited. But don't worry, at least you can always get the Cream-vented Bulbul. Yes, it is the most common bird wherever the camera is aimed at, occasionally accompanied by the Spectacled Bulbul.



Sing it! Even Louder!

These birds are those whose songs belong to the koplo genre. Koplo is contemporary music rooted in dangdut music. Why koplo genre, though? Because koplo never feels good if it's not heart-poundingly loud. At festivities, or celebrations like weddings, or any other events involving large audience with high-power sound systems, this koplo music must be played.

The Malay Black Magpie is our inspiration for koplo category in the realm of ornithology. Their call is incredibly loud! Especially when a playback provokes them, they will go even crazier. Then we have the Slender-billed Crow whose calls can even be heard from tremendously long distance. Finally, the Ashy Drongos, their calls are not only loud but also highly varied. Their songs, calls and even alarm vocalizations are remarkably variable.

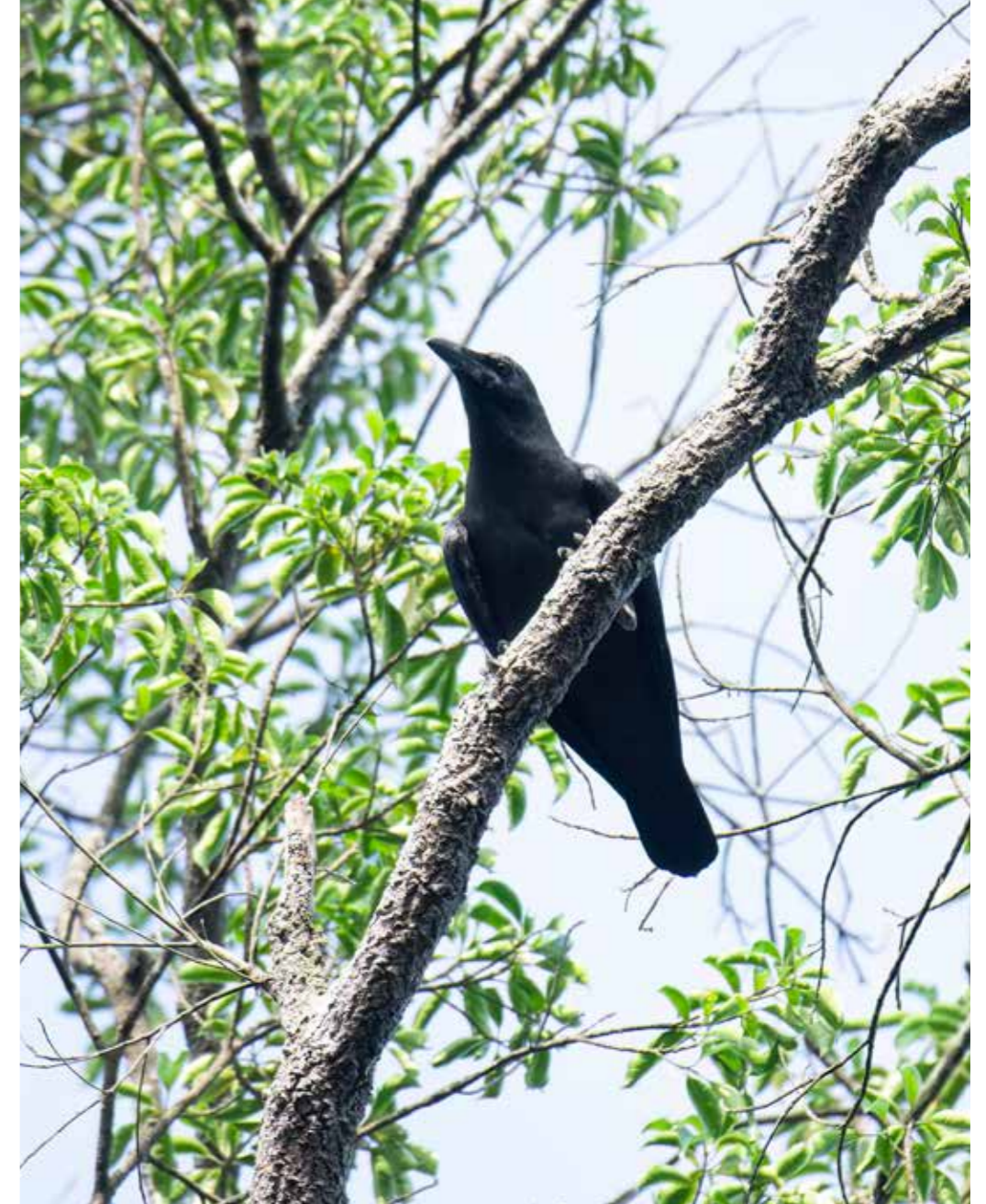


Greater Racquet-tailed Drongo
Srigunting batu | *Dicrurus paradiseus*

The most common species in primary and secondary forests in both Jambi and East Kalimantan, although it is seriously skilled at keeping its distance from observers. It is particularly curious about the sound of the other flocks of birds. And as though not wanting to be outdone, its loud calls will liven up the atmosphere and be as bustling as a busy market.



30 cm
Sumatra | Kalimantan | Java | Bali



Slender-billed Crow
Gagak hutan | *Corvus enca*

Universal in all types of vegetations, from primary to secondary forests, plantations, and even near-forest settlements. It is super easy to recognize for its loud calls which can be heard throughout the day. The crow's typical cawing sound, "argh argh argh", or "eyk... eyk..." is made both when flying and perching.

43-47 cm
Indonesia except Lesser Sunda, Moluccas
and Papua

Malay Black Magpie

Tangkar-kambing melayu | *Platysmurus leucopterus*

And finally, the loudest, the unusual, even funny birds. When it makes a clear “clinging” xylophone-like sound, it extends its neck and bends it to make a loud sound, as if choking on something. Being able to get the photo is a joy in itself. This bird is big and easy to identify its perching poses, but it is terribly shy. Hardly perches on open branches and always looking for a place blocked by something, be it leaves, large branches, bushes, epiphytes, or anything!

39 cm

Sumatra

Protected





Beauty In Simplicity

These birds are beautiful because of their simplicity. The colors are simple, muted, not as striking as a trogon, metallic like sunbirds, or multicolored like pittas. Just two or three combinations and that's it. Simplicity, modesty.

Don't forget the flycatchers and philentomas. Their fashion isn't as conspicuous as that of broadbills or trogons, even they are smaller in size. Nevertheless, the contrast of their colorations reflects the beauty in simplicity; and elegance in modesty. And don't get us wrong, they are excellent singers!

They are also not so rare. You can even find birds like the Malay Blue Flycatcher anywhere in the East Kalimantan concession. The songs of the Mangrove Blue Flycatcher can be heard everywhere in the Jambi concession.



Male

Female

Rufous-winged Philentoma

Philentoma sayap-merah | *Philentoma pyrhoptra*

While exploring the forest along the Mandelang River, it suddenly perched in front of us. We just kept quiet. What bird is this? The combination of blue and red bricks hypnotized us for a moment. This was the first time we saw a philentoma bird. We really never thought the bird would be here. Surprised, yes. Excited, for sure. Continuous shutters then rained down on it. It the first time we saw this species of philentoma. A few days later, we found the female, no less gorgeous than the males.

16-17 cm
Sumatra | Kalimantan

Grey-chested Jungle-flycatcher

Sikatan-rimba dada-kelabu | *Cyornis umbratilis*

Honestly speaking, jungle-flycatchers are not that appealing anywhere. Their color is just mundane: predominantly brown. However, this one we got was quite special – they are not common. We only saw it in East Kalimantan; even so, there were not so many of them. Ah yes, one thing, no matter how mundane jungle-flycatchers can be, they are excellent singers. Can you imagine their tail bobbing up and down while chirping?

15 cm
Sumatra | Kalimantan
Near Threatened



Large-billed Blue-flycatcher
Sikatan sunda | *Cyornis caerulatus*

The general public knows them as the Sunda Blue-flycatcher. At first, we thought this was a Mangrove Blue-flycatcher. This bird is quite regular at the Jambi site, even in the Madelang area near office. Because it is so common, we never thought this one was a Large-billed Blue-flycatcher until we consulted with several experts to confirm that we found one of the endangered flycatcher species.

14-15 cm
Endemic to Sumatra and Kalimantan
Vulnerable



Malay Blue-flycatcher
Sikatan melayu | *Cyornis turcosus*

At first glance it looks similar to the Large-billed Blue-flycatcher, or you could say that at first glance, all the members of *Cyornis* genus look identical: blue upper body, yellow-orange and white lower body. It takes a good eye to identify all species in *Cyornis* genus. For the male Malay Blue-flycatcher, the most obvious feature is the blue color from head to the throat. Females are similar to males but with a yellow-orange throat. Common in East Kalimantan but was never observed in Jambi.

13-14 cm
Sumatra | Kalimantan
Near Threatened



Juvenile

Bornean Blue-flycatcher
Sikatan kalimantan | *Cyornis superbus*

It is not easy to identify juvenile birds as their feathers are not yet fully developed. However, based on photographic, behavioral, and acoustic information, we are sure this is the endemic Borneo flycatcher, and they were found in block 23.

15 cm
Kalimantan
Endemic Borneo



Adult male

Rufous-chested Flycatcher
Sikatan dada-merah | *Ficedula dumetoria*

The arey quite rare in East Kalimantan and has never been recorded in Jambi. A species of flycatcher that barely produces any sounds. Just a high and faint whistling ascending and descending sound of "sii, wii-sii, si-wi-si-ii". Timid and inconspicuous, and perhaps these behaviors are the reasons why it is rarely seen. The regular sighting location in East Kalimantan is near the waterfall behind the ranger station.



11-12 cm
Sumatra | Kalimantan | Java



Juvenile male



Verditer Flycatcher

Sikatan hijau-laut | *Eumyias thalassinus*

Uncommon in both East Kalimantan and Jambi. As far as we explored, it was only found around the Manggatal buffer zone. The main feature of this bird is a prominent black mask from the base of the bill to around the eyes.

15-17 cm

Sumatra | Kalimantan



Yellow-rumped Flycatcher

Sikatan emas | *Ficedula zanthopygia*

Winter migratory bird from the northern hemisphere. It is uncommon in their wintering grounds, especially in Indonesia. In the concession area, it was only observed once in Manggatal buffer zone.



13-14 cm

Sumatra | Kalimantan | Java | Bali



Asian Brown Flycatcher
Sikatan bubuk | *Muscicapa dauurica*

Migratory species from the Northern Hemisphere during winter. This species winds up in all the Greater Sundas to Sulawesi and Nusa Tenggara. Quite common during migration season. Mostly observed alone and super calm.

12-14 cm
Indonesia except Moluccas and Papua



Grey-streaked Flycatcher
Sikatan burik | *Muscicapa griseisticta*

Also a migratory species like the previous one. However, this species is even rarer. Only observed in Kalimantan and Java. A quiet loner.

15 cm
Kalimantan | Java



Green Iora

Cipoh jantung | *Aegithina viridissima*

They are supposed to be fairly common both in East Kalimantan and Jambi. However, the fact was we only saw this species once in East Kalimantan. Their predominantly green color blends perfectly with their surroundings. Unlike their close relative, the Common Iora, they are also not too vocal. In fact, when they show themselves, the green color and contrasting black wings look incredibly elegant. They are also super friendly with humans although not really active.

12-15 cm
Sumatra | Kalimantan
Near Threatened



Female

Black-naped Monarch

Kehicap ranting | *Hypothymis azurea*

As a fellow member of the Monarchidae family with the Oriental Paradise-flycatcher, this species was born with a dazzling design. The blue color is not just another blue: it's azure blue. Even though it is widespread in all areas of its distribution, this bird will always remain beautiful. They are also not particularly sensitive to humans. It's not difficult to see and photograph them. Females have a duller blue color and no black crown.

15-17 cm
All Greater and Lesser Sundas



Male



Mandelang Nursery, which is also an office complex for PT. LAJ. The background is a lush forest along the Mandelang River. Even though plantations surround this area, this area has a vital role in bird life and survival. The Sunda Blue Flycatcher, a threatened and extremely rare species, can be found there.



Uninvited yet Delightful

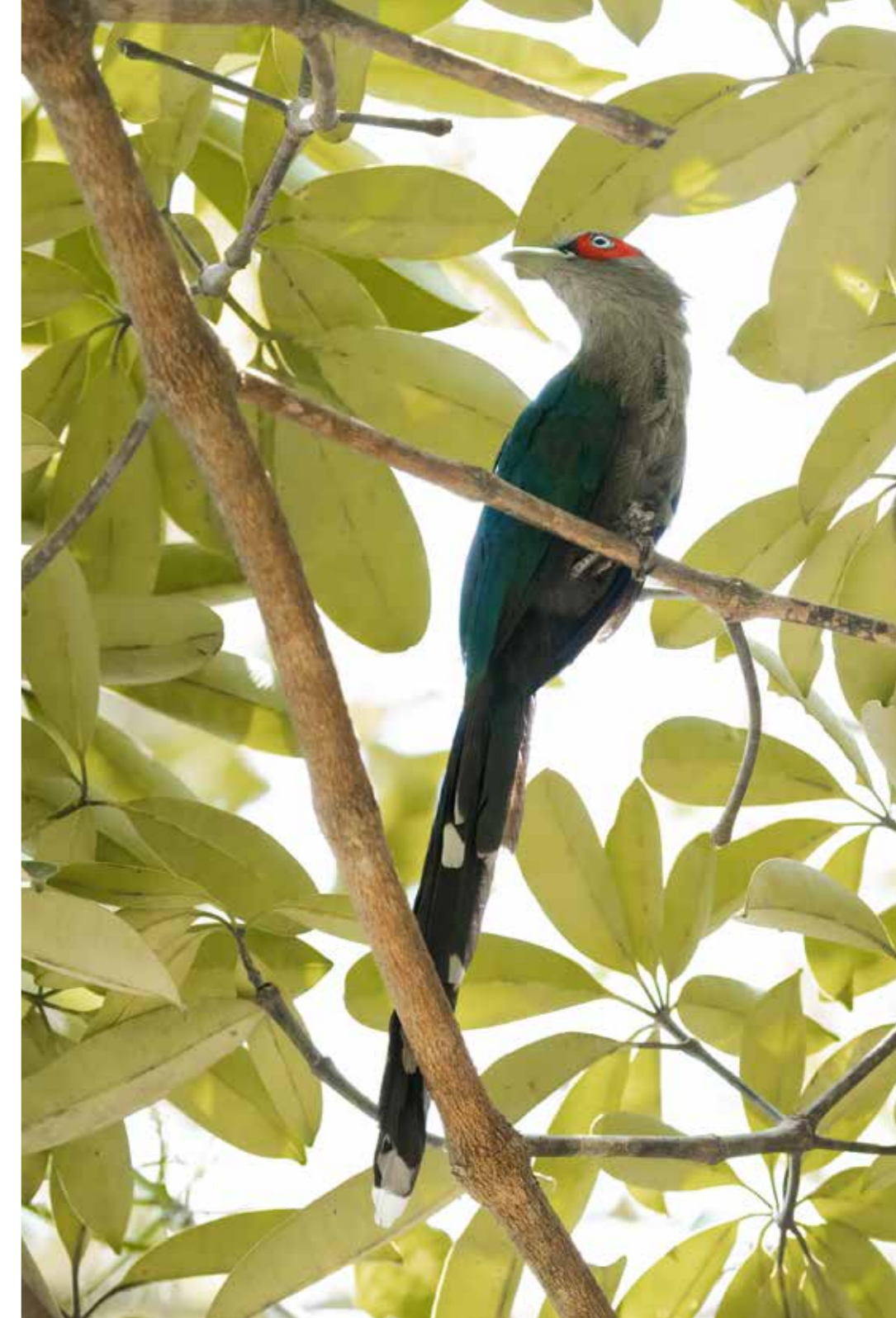
These are the birds that usually came to us uninvited. Those who have yet to show up when we called but did so when we least expected it. They even appeared before us, enticing us to take their photographs. Their medium-large size and striking colorations make it easy for anyone to see and identify them without needing optical gear such as binoculars or cameras. Also, we were confident enough to identify them without a field guidebook. However, they often appeared when we were not deliberately watching, when the camera was not in hand, during our breaks, or when we conversed. Their presence at the times we did not allocate for observation complements the other times. The presence of birds does not always have to be preserved in pictures but is to be enjoyed with our eyes, live in the field.



Chestnut-breasted Malkoha
Kadalan birah | *Phaenicophaeus curvirostris*

This species is a member of the Cuculidae family which has a wide distribution throughout the world. In Indonesia, it is known that there are 58 species and 12 species are found in the RLU concession areas. The habitats range from swamp forests and peat forests to hill forests. This species also occupies areas on the edge of the forest. In our area in Jambi, this bird is usually observed at the gate to the Ranger Station. This bird actually always makes us itch to take photos. The size is large enough therefore easy to see. The movements are not too agile, but the issue is that once you take a photo, then they go hides among the leaves.

42-49 cm
Sumatra | Kalimantan | Java | Bali



Black-bellied Malkoha
Kadalan beruang | *Phaenicophaeus diardi*

For birdwatchers the Black-bellied malkoha actually has two “twin siblings” namely Chestnut-bellied malkoha and Green-billed Malkoha. They are called triplets because these three species of malkohas are really like three peas in a pod. The most visible differences are in body size and color gradations on the facial skin. The Black-bellied Malkoha photographed in Jambi always became our guessing game because we often found them right above our heads and facing away from the sun so that they appeared as silhouettes. In this silhouette position, the guess was: Is it Black-bellied Malkoha or Chestnut-bellied Malkoha?

36-38 cm
Sumatra | Kalimantan
Near Threatened
Protected



Raffles's Malkoha

Kadalan selaya | *Rhinorhtha clorophaea*

Like the Chestnut-breasted Malkoha, the Raffles's malkoha also has facial skin that contrasts with the color of its feathers, making it unchallenging to identify. We normally saw this bird while resting on a forest patrol route, when the camera was placed on the bag, and our hands were on our food. But when we went back into birding mode, this bird chose to hide itself.

42-49 cm
Sumatra | Kalimantan
Protected



Greater Coucal

Bubut besar | *Centropus sinensis*

This bird is easy to identify from its rapid and repetitive "But but but..." sound, and this sound inspires the name of this species. This bird is pretty much everywhere in all RLU concessions, in both Jambi and Kalimantan. It is easier to see it on forest edges or among rubber plants and often perches on bushes or low vegetation. This bird is super easy to identify either because of their large size, striking color or remarkable sound.

47-56 cm
Sumatra | Kalimantan | Java | Bali





Spotted Fantail

Kipasan mutiara | *Rhipidura perlata*

From the Rhipiduridae family which is distributed in Asia and Australia. There are 32 species known in Indonesia. In RLU concessions, we identified two species. This species can live in various types of habitat, starting from primary forests to urban areas. However, our encounters with the Spotted Fantail in Jambi are relatively rare. It could be because the population is small, and quiet, and their movements are very agile, so they escape our observation.

17-18 cm
Sumatra | Kalimantan



Sunda Pied Fantail

Kipasan belang | *Rhipidura javanica*

With predominantly dark colors, black and cream and with a slightly larger body size, the Sunda Pied Fantail is relatively more common than its relative, the Spotted Fantail. Every time we see this bird, it reminds us the Great Argus, especially when it opens and wags its tail. It is a simple but spectacular and entertaining performance amidst our tiredness at the end of a forest patrol trip.

18-20 cm
Sumatra | Kalimantan | Java | Bali
Protected



White-crowned Forktail

Meninting besar | *Enicurus leschenaulti*

Photographed in Jambi, the White-crowned Forktail is known to prefer riverbanks as a place to forage for food. Dozens of tributaries are crossed by various patrol routes in the forests that we built in Jambi and Kalimantan. The best river is a rocky one because the water is guaranteed to be crystal clear. Apart from being our favorite rest area during the day, we also use it to search for foraging among the rocks, including the White-crowned Forktail.

25-28 cm
Sumatra | Kalimantan | Java | Bali
Protected



Asian Fairy-bluebird

Kecembang gadung | *Irena puella*

Quite rare. In fact, we only observed them in Jambi site. Even then, we had to “force” them to come out of their hiding place with a playback sound. In Java, this species is already exceptionally difficult to observe. Its dazzling colorations makes it popularly sought after for songbird trades.

21-26 cm
Sumatra | Kalimantan | Java



Common Hill Myna
Tiong emas | *Gracula religiosa*

This bird has been extremely popular as a pet bird for a long time. Even though it is not threatened by extinction, in Indonesia, the population of this bird is becoming increasingly worrisome due to illegal hunting and trade. In both concessions, this bird is still frequently found. However, it is rather challenging to photograph this one because it is mostly active on high canopies.

25-35 cm
Sumatra | Kalimantan | Java | Bali
Protected



Oriental Dollarbird
Tiong-lampu biasa | *Eurystomus orientalis*

Pretty common. Consisting of two races: orientalis (resident in the Greater Sunda) and prospectiveyx (migratory). Prefers open habitats, such as plantations, forest edges, damaged forests, or settlements around the forest. A quiet loner, without making so much noise.

30 cm
Sumatra | Kalimantan | Java | Bali



All Around Us

In the end, we will return home; back to our camp, to the accommodations. ., seeing lines of trucks carrying the rubber harvest or tractors leaving dust, people going back and forth, workers with their own equipment; making sure the wheels of the economy and business run.

At the same time, we must maintain the balance of nature. We need to make sure that economic growth does not involve extirpating other species with the same right to live and reproduce. We must ensure the Bar-winged Prinia still religiously wakes us up in the morning or that the Paddyfield Pipit still makes some noise in the office yard, and that the munias still accompany the ladies tending to rubber seedlings or the sparrows nesting in our house.

Birds occupy various habitats; one of them is settlement area, or habitats altered by human intervention. Generally, these birds are uncommon or even non-existent in natural forests. Some may still be found in monoculture plantations or forests. In Jambi, we were grateful that we could still find Bar-winged Prinia in large numbers. Because in Java itself, this bird has experienced severe depopulation.

The 20 species of birds presented here are some species we frequently encountered apart from the once we did on our daily patrols in the forest area. For instance, those we encountered when we were at the ranger station, and in the office to fill in attendance lists or submit patrol reports. Generally small in size and often live in flocks, these species of birds remind us that wildlife is an integral part of human daily life.



Bar-winged Prinia
Perenjak jawa | *Prinia familiaris*

They are native to Sumatra, Java, and the surrounding smaller islands. We mostly observed them among the bushes in natural regeneration plots which are next to the Ranger Station and office complex in Mandalang. In Kalimantan, they are an introduced population.



13 cm
Sumatra | Kalimantan (introduced) | Java | Bali
Near Threatened



Yellow-billed Prinia
Perenjak rawa | *Prinia flaviventris*

A prinia species with bright colors, especially the yellow color on the belly. Every time we see this bird, it reminds us to one local tea brand that uses this bird species as its trademark. Can you guess which tea brand is it?

12-14 cm
Sumatra | Kalimantan | Java



Pacific Swallow

Layang-layang batu | *Hirundo javanica*

Tremendously species of swallow. When flocking with the Barn Swallow, we sometimes find it difficult to differentiate between these two species. The easiest way to tell apart is a black breastband. Pacific swallow lacks breastband, and its tail is not forked.

13-14 cm
Indonesia



Barn Swallow

Layang-layang asia | *Hirundo rustica*

When these birds arrived, they filled almost all the electrical cables stretched in front of office buildings and employee housing facilities. They are more regular and larger in number than Pacific Swallows.

16-17 cm
Indonesia



Javan Myna

Kerak kerbau | *Acridotheres javanicus*

We often saw this bird on the roadside to and from the PT MKC block 2 area. We could easily spot them through the overall greyish black body, contrasting the yellow beak and eyes. The population in Kalimantan is an introduced one, since this species is supposed to be endemic to Java.

21-25 cm
Sumatra (feral) | Kalimantan (introduced) | Java | Bali
Vulnerable



Paddyfield Pipit

Apung sawah | *Anthus rufulus*

Also known as Pipit. It's incredibly unchallenging to find at the rubber plant nursery in Mandelang. They seem to have been friends with the nursery workers for a long time, as seen from how friendly this species is with humans.

15-16 cm
Indonesia except Moluccas



White-headed Munia

Bondol haji | *Lonchura maja*

Seed-eating birds. Often seen flocking with other munias. They have distinctive color thus it is easy to identify: brown body and wings; white on the head all the way to the breast.

11 cm
Sumatra | Kalimantan (feral) | Java | Bali



White-headed Munia

Bondol peking | *Lonchura punctulata*

Widespread bird throughout its distribution range. Small, attractive and love to sing. We often see it in the bushes behind the office water tank in Mandelang. There is a distinct scaly pattern on its breast as the name suggests.

10-12,5 cm
Sumatra | Kalimantan } Java | Bali



Dusky Munia

Bondol kalimantan | *Lonchura fuscans*

As the name suggests, this bird is known to have occurred only on the island of Kalimantan. The color is predominantly brown-black. We usually find it in bushes areas at the perimeter of the forest bordering the rubber plantation. Even though they are common, it is still challenging to photograph this bird.

11 cm
Endemic to Borneo and island around



White-rumped Munia

Bondol tunggir-putih | *Lonchura striata*

Popular at the Jambi site, especially around the nursery area in Mandelang. It was never seen in the forest. Even though it is common near residential areas, photographing it really requires patience, because it is rather tough for humans to approach this bird.

11-12 cm
Sumatra



Tiger Shrike

Bentet loreng | *Lanius tigrinus*

Another migratory species from the northern hemisphere, Russia-China. In the Greater Sunda, this species is uncommon or is rarely observed. It prefers open habitats, from young forests dominated by small shrubs to plantations. Immensely noiseless while stalking for prey.

17-18 cm
Sumatra | Kalimantan | Java | Bali | Celebes



Long-tailed Shrike

Bentet kelabu | *Lanius schach*

In our opinion, this species is the prettiest bird in our surrounding areas, with black masks and grey on its head and orange on their wings and lower body. They are known to imitate the sounds of other species.

20-25 cm
Indonesia, except Moluccas & Papua; feral to Celebes



Zitting Cisticola
Cici padi | *Cisticola juncidis*

A tiny bird that joins in the cacophony in grass patch between the blocks in the rubber nursery area in Mandelang. Even though they are everywhere, still not easy to photograph it. Apart from its very small size, it also likes to hide in the grass.

10-14 cm
Indonesia except Kalimantan



Blue-throated Bee-eater
Kirik-kirik biru | *Merops viridis*

It is commonly found in open habitats, such as plantations, nursery complexes, and residential areas. It was never seen in primary or secondary forests with dense vegetation throughout the survey. It is easy to recognize because of its attractive behaviour of striking its prey in the air.

28 cm
Sumatra | Kalimantan | Java





Eastern Spotted Dove

Tekukur biasa | *Spilopelia chinensis*

Widespread in all types of open and monoculture habitats, grasslands, moors, rubber plantations, oil palm plantations, and even settlements. Live in small to large flocks.

27-30 cm
Indonesia except Papua



Zebra Dove

Perkutut jawa | *Geopelia striata*

This bird species is regular around sharecroppers' houses by the edge of the area, along the main road, and around the office. They are basically everywhere! Active on the ground up to the tree tops.

20,5-21,5 cm
Indonesia, except Papua; feral to Celebes, Moluccas & Borneo



Common Iora
Cipoh kacat | *Aegithina tiphia*

In contrast to the Green Iora, which has been classified as a threatened species, the Common Iora is still considered quite safe regarding population number. It is proven that we encounter this species more often than its relative.

12,5-13,5 cm
Sumatra | Kalimantan | Java | Bali



Black-winged Flycatcher-shrike
Jingjing batu | *Hemipus hirundinaceus*

Widespread in all distribution ranges in Indonesia. Easy to find in disturbed forests, old plantations, and freshwater swamp forests, including mangroves. It is quite active, moving and singing. Prefers to live in mixed flocks with other species.

14-15 cm
Sumatra | Kalimantan | Java | Bali



White-breasted Kingfisher

Cekakak belukar | *Halcyon smyrnensis*

The most dominant predators of insects and small reptiles. This species doesn't favor dense forests. It is super easy to find in open places, whether in disturbed forests, plantations, or in someone's front yard. A solitary bird that will deliberately chase away anyone who enters its territory, especially if it is the other insects and small reptile predators.

14-15 cm
Sumatra | Kalimantan | Java



Sacred Kingfisher

Cekakak australia | *Todiramphus sanctus*

They are migrants from the north during winter. During the migration season, we constantly observe this bird in the concession area. Often perches on the branches of rubber trees beneath which there are workers. It is also always seen perched on electric cables along the plantations.

22 cm
All Indonesia



Lesser Coucal

Bubut alang-alang | *Centropus bengalensis*

Fairly regular, like their relative, the Greater Coucal. However, this species does not like evergreen forest habitats. They prefer open habitats, nursery areas, rubber plantations, settlements, and oil palm plantations.

31 cm
Indonesia except Papua



White-breasted Waterhen

Kareo padi | *Amaurornis phoenicurus*

With its grey and white color and the size of a chicken, we sometimes see this bird crossing the main road we are on. Not a path to the forest but a path between plant blocks. Very common, especially in areas flooded or near water bodies.

28-33 cm
Indonesia, except Papua



Asian Glossy Starling
Perling kumbang | *Aplonis panayensis*

In Kalimantan, this species is widespread in disturbed forest habitats, plantations, and even settlement areas. The nests were found on electricity poles from outside Samarinda to Bengalon. We don't get to see them often in the evergreen forest. But only once observed near the ranger station at the East Kalimantan site.

17-20 cm
Sumatra | Kalimantan | Java | Bali | Celebes



White-breasted Woodswallow
Kekeb babi | *Artamus leucorhynchus*

We nicknamed this bird the monochrome or the high schooler group because their colors are only gray and white, like high schooler uniforms in Indonesia. Similar to the swallows when flying. When perching, they choose dry leafless trees, electricity poles, antennas or towers.

17,5-19,5 cm
All Indonesia



Bronzed Drongo
Srigunting keladi | *Dicrurus aeneus*

They type of birds that we much enjoy watching around the Ranger Station at the Jambi site in the afternoon. Fairly common in Jambi but rare in Kalimantan. This species is the smallest in size compared to other species of drongos. The tail is not deeply forked, and its metallic color is the most straightforward marker to identify this bird.

22-24 cm
Sumatra | Kalimantan



Grey-rumped Treeswift
Tepekong jambul | *Hemiprocne longipennis*

When flying, at first glance, it looks like a swallow, but its body is slimmer and longer, with long wings resembling a crescent moon. Very common and super easy to find, especially in open habitats. The crest is noticeable when perching, with its wings longer than its tail.

21-25 cm
Indonesia except Moluccas & Papua



Mandelang nursery area, as well as the Jambi site office complex (PT. LAJ), the morning after last night's rain. Almost every day during our visit to the Jambi site, we were served with morning mist. The cold and cool air made us forget that this area is supposed to be one of the areas with the hottest temperatures in Indonesia. In the midst of the fog, the birds began to move, foraging for food.

Daftar Jenis Burung di Konsesi PT. Royal Lestari Utama

No	Family	Indonesia Name	Scientific Name	English Name	Protection	IUCN
1	Phasianidae	Ayam-hutan merah	<i>Gallus gallus</i>	Red Junglefowl	No	LC
2		Kuau raja	<i>Argusianus argus</i>	Great argus	Yes	NT
3		Puyuh batu	<i>Coturnix chinensis</i>	King Quail	No	LC
4		Puyuh sengayan	<i>Rollulus rouloul</i>	Rollulus rouloul	No	VU
5		Sempidan-biru kalimantan	<i>Lophura ignita</i>	Bornean Crested Fireback	Yes	VU
6		Sempidan-biru melayu	<i>Lophura rufa</i>	Malay Crested Fireback	Yes	VU
7	Columbidae	Delimukan zamrud	<i>Chalcophaps indica</i>	Common Emerald Dove	No	LC
8		Pergam hijau	<i>Ducula aenea</i>	Green Imperial Pigeon	No	LC
9		Perkutut jawa	<i>Geopelia striata</i>	Zebra Dove	No	LC
10		Punai gading	<i>Treron vernans</i>	Pink-necked Green Pigeon	No	LC
11		Punai kecil	<i>Treron olax</i>	Little-green pigeon	No	LC
12		Punai lengguak	<i>Treron curvirostra</i>	Thicked-billed green pigeon	No	LC
13		Tekukur biasa	<i>Streptopelia chinensis</i>	Spotted Dove	No	LC
14		Uncal kouran	<i>Macropygia ruficeps</i>	Little Cuckoo Dove	No	LC
15	Apodidae	Walet sapi	<i>Collocalia esculenta</i>	Glossy Swiftlet	No	LC
16		Walet sarang-hitam	<i>Collocalia maximus</i>	Black-nest Swiftlet	No	LC
17		Walet sarang-putih	<i>Collocalia fuciphagus</i>	Edible-nest Swiftlet	No	LC
18	Cuculidae	Bubut alang-alang	<i>Centropus sinensis</i>	Greater Coucal	No	LC
19		Bubut besar	<i>Centropus bengalensis</i>	Lesser Coucal	No	LC
20		Kadalah saweh	<i>Phaenicophaeus sumatranus</i>	Chestnut-bellied Malkoha	No	NT
21		Kadalan beruang	<i>Phaenicophaeus diardi</i>	Black-bellied Malkoha	No	NT
22		Kadalan birah	<i>Phaenicophaeus curvirostris</i>	Chestnut-breasted Malkoha	No	LC
23		Kadalan kembang	<i>Zanclostomus javanicus</i>	Red-billed Malkoha	No	LC
24		Kadalan selaya	<i>Rhinortha chlorophaea</i>	Raffles's Malkoha	No	LC
25		Kedasi hitam	<i>Surniculus lugubris</i>	Square-tailed Drongo-cuckoo	No	LC
26		Kedasi ungu	<i>Chrysococcyx xanthorhynchus</i>	Violet Cuckoo	No	LC
27		Tokhtor Kalimantan	<i>Carpococcyx radiceus</i>	Bornean Ground-cuckoo	No	NT
28		Wiwik kelabu	<i>Cacomantis merulinus</i>	Plaintive Cuckoo	No	LC
29		Wiwik uncuing	<i>Cacomantis sepulcralis</i>	Rusty-breasted Cuckoo	No	LC
30	Rallidae	Kareo padi	<i>Amaurornis phoenicurus</i>	White-breasted Waterhen	No	LC
31		Tikusan ceruling	<i>Rallina fasciata</i>	Red-legged Crane	No	LC
32	Ardeidae	Bambangan merah	<i>Ixobrychus cinnamomeus</i>	Cinnamon Bittern	No	LC
33		Cagak merah	<i>Ardea purpurea</i>	Purple heron	No	LC
34		Cagak besar	<i>Egretta alba</i>	Great Egret	Yes	LC
35		Kuntul kecil	<i>Egretta garzetta</i>	Little Egret	No	LC
36		Kuntul kerbau	<i>Bubulcus ibis</i>	Cattle Egret	No	LC
37	Ciconiidae	Bangau Sandang-lawe	<i>Ciconia episcopus</i>	Woolly-necked stork	Yes	LC
38	Phalacrocoracidae	Pecuk-ular asia	<i>Anhinga melanogaster</i>	Oriental Darter	Yes	NT
39	Turnicidae	Gemak loreng	<i>Turnix suscitator</i>	Barred Buttonquail	No	LC
40	Podargidae	Paruh-kodok tanduk	<i>Batrachostomus cornutus</i>	Sunda Frogmouth	No	LC
41	Caprimulgidae	Cabak kota	<i>Caprimulgus affinis</i>	Savanna Nightjar	No	LC
42		Cabak maling	<i>Caprimulgus macrurus</i>	Large-tailed Nightjar	No	LC
43	Tytonidae	Serak bukit	<i>Phodilus badius</i>	Oriental Bay-owl	No	LC
44	Strigidae	Kukuk beluk	<i>Strix leptogrammica</i>	Brown Wood-owl	No	LC

No	Family	Indonesia Name	Scientific Name	English Name	Protection	IUCN
45	Hemiprocnidae	Tepekong jambul	<i>Hemiprocne longipennis</i>	Grey-rumped Treeswift	No	LC
46		Tepekong rangkang	<i>Hemiprocne comata</i>	Whiskered Treeswift	No	LC
47	Accipitridae	Elang-alap cina	<i>Accipiter soloensis</i>	Chinese Sparrowhawk	Yes	LC
48		Elang-alap jambul	<i>Accipiter trivirgatus</i>	Crested Goshawk	Yes	LC
49		Elang-alap nipon	<i>Accipiter gularis</i>	Japanese Sparrowhawk	Yes	LC
50		Elang kelelawar	<i>Macheiramphus alcinus</i>	Bat Hawk	Yes	LC
51		Elang setiwel	<i>Hieraaetus pennatus</i>	Booted Eagle	Yes	LC
52		Elang brontok	<i>Nisaetus cirrhatus</i>	Changeable Hawk-eagle	Yes	LC
53		Elang hitam	<i>Ictinaetus malayensis</i>	Black Eagle	Yes	LC
54		Elang-ikan kepala-abu	<i>Ichthyophaga ichthyaetus</i>	Grey-headed Fish Eagle	Yes	LC
55		Elang tikus	<i>Elanus caeruleus</i>	Black-winged Kite	Yes	LC
56		Elang-ular bido	<i>Spilornis cheela</i>	Crested Serpent Eagle	Yes	LC
57		Elang wallacea	<i>Nisaetus nanus</i>	Wallace's Hawk-eagle	Yes	VU
58		Sikepmadu Asia	<i>Pernis ptilorhynchus</i>	Crested Honey Buzzard	Yes	LC
59	Trogonidae	Luntur diard	<i>Harpactes diardi</i>	Diard Trogon	Yes	NT
60		Luntur putri	<i>Harpactes duvaucelli</i>	Scarlet-rumped Trogon	Yes	NT
61	Bucerotidae	Egang jambul	<i>Aceros comatus</i>	White-crowned hornbill	Yes	EN
62		Egang klihingan	<i>Anorrhinus galeritus</i>	Bushy-crested Hornbill	Yes	NT
63		Julang emas	<i>Rhyticeros undulatus</i>	Wreathed Hornbill	Yes	VU
64		Julang jambul-hitam	<i>Aceros corrugatus</i>	Wrinkled Hornbill	Yes	EN
65		Kangkareng hitam	<i>Anthracoceros malayanus</i>	Black Hornbill	Yes	VU
66		Kangkareng perut-putih	<i>Anthracoceros albirostris</i>	Oriental Pied Hornbill	Yes	LC
67		Rangkong badak	<i>Buceros rhinoceros</i>	Rhinoceros Hornbill	Yes	VU
68		Rangkong gading	<i>Rhinoplax vigil</i>	Helmeted Hornbill	Yes	CR
69	Coraciidae	Tiong-lampu biasa	<i>Eurystomus orientalis</i>	Oriental Dollarbird	No	LC
70	Meropidae	Kirik-kirik biru	<i>Merops viridis</i>	Blue-throated Bee-eater	No	LC
71		Cirik-cirik kumbang	<i>Nyctyornis amictus</i>	Red bearded Bee-eater	No	LC
72	Alcedinidae	Cekakak australia	<i>Todiramphus sanctus</i>	Sacred Kingfisher	No	LC
73		Cekakak belukar	<i>Halcyon smyrnensis</i>	White-throated Kingfisher	No	LC
74		Cekakak sungai	<i>Halcyon chloris</i>	Collared Kingfisher	No	LC
75		Cekakak-hutan melayu	<i>Actenoides concretus</i>	Rufous-collared Kingfisher	Yes	NT
76		Pekaka emas	<i>Pelargopsis capensis</i>	Stork-billed Kingfisher	No	LC
77		Rajaudang biru	<i>Alcedo coerulescens</i>	Cerulean Kingfisher	No	LC
78		Rajaudang meninting	<i>Alcedo meninting</i>	Blue-eared Kingfisher	No	LC
79		Udang api	<i>Ceyx erithaca</i>	Oriental Dwarf Kingfisher	No	LC
80	Megalaimidae	Takur-ampis kalimantan	<i>Calorhamphus fuliginosus</i>	Brown Barbet	Yes	LC
81		Takur-ampis melayu	<i>Caloramphus hayii</i>	Malay Brown Barbet	Yes	NT
82		Takur gedang	<i>Megalaima chrysopogon</i>	Golden-whiskered Barbet	Yes	LC
83		Takur kuping-hitam	<i>Psilopogon duvaucelii</i>	Black-eared Barbet	No	LC
84		Takur tutut	<i>Megalaima rafflesii</i>	Red-crowned Barbet	Yes	LC
85		Takur ungkut-ungkut	<i>Megalaima haemacephala</i>	Coppersmith Barbet	Yes	LC
86		Takur warna-warni	<i>Psilopogon mystacophanus</i>	Red-throated Barbet	Yes	NT
87	Picidae	Caladi badok	<i>Meiglyptes tukki</i>	Buff-necked woodpecker	No	VU
88		Caladi-batu melayu	<i>Meiglyptes tristis</i>	Buff-rumped Woodpecker	No	LC
89		Caladi-tikotok melayu	<i>Hemicircus sordidus</i>	Grey-and-buff Woodpecker	No	LC
90		Caladi-tilik melayu	<i>Dendrocopos moluccensis</i>	Sunda Pygmy Woodpecker	No	LC

No	Family	Indonesia Name	Scientific Name	English Name	Protection	IUCN
91		Pelatuk ayam	<i>Dryocopus javensis</i>	White-bellied woodpecker	No	LC
92		Pelatuk kijang	<i>Celeus brachyurus</i>	Banded Woodpecker	No	LC
93		Pelatuk kundang	<i>Chrysocolaptes validus</i>	Orange-backed woodpecker	No	LC
94		Pelatuk merah	<i>Picus miniaceus</i>	Banded Woodpecker	No	LC
95		Pelatuk pangkas	<i>Blythipicus rubiginosus</i>	Maroon Woodpecker	No	LC
96		Pelatuk raffles	<i>Chloropicoides rafflesii</i>	Olive-backed Woodpecker	No	NT
97		Pelatuk sayap-merah	<i>Picus puniceus</i>	Crimson-wing woodpecker	Yes	LC
98		Pelatuk-kelabu besar	<i>Mulleripicus pulverulentus</i>	Great Slaty Woodpecker	No	VU
99		Tukik tikus	<i>Sasia abnormis</i>	Rufous Piculet	No	LC
100	Falconidae	Alap-alap capung	<i>Microhierax fringillarius</i>	Black-thighed Falconet	Yes	LC
101	Psittacidae	Nuri tanau	<i>Psittinus cyanurus</i>	Blue-rumped Parrot	Yes	LC
102		Serindit melayu	<i>Loriculus galgulus</i>	Blue-crowned Hanging Parrot	Yes	LC
103	Pittidae	Paok delima	<i>Erythropitta granatina</i>	Garnet Pitta	Yes	NT
104		Paok hijau	<i>Pitta sordida</i>	Western Hooded Pitta	Yes	LC
105		Paok kepala-biru	<i>Hydrornis baudii</i>	Blue-headed Pitta	Yes	VU
106	Eurylaimidae	Madi kelam	<i>Corydon sumatranus</i>	Dusky Broadbill	No	LC
107		Sempur-hujan darat	<i>Eurylaimus ochromalus</i>	Black-and-yellow Broadbill	No	NT
108		Sempur-hujan sungai	<i>Cymbirhynchus macrorhynchos</i>	Black-and-red Broadbill	No	LC
109		Sempur-hujan melayu	<i>Eurylaimus harterti</i>	Banded Broadbill	No	LC
110	Calyptomenidae	Madi-hijau kecil	<i>Calyptomena viridis</i>	Green Broadbill	No	NT
111	Acanthizidae	Remetuk laut	<i>Gerygone sulphurea</i>	Golden-bellied Geryone	No	LC
112	Oriolidae	Kepudang kuduk-hitam	<i>Oriolus chinensis</i>	Black-naped Oriole	No	LC
113		Kepudang hutan	<i>Oriolus xanthonotus</i>	Dark-throated Oriole	No	NT
114	Pachycephalidae	Kancilan bakau	<i>Pachycephala cinerea</i>	Mangrove Whistler	No	LC
115	Campephagidae	Sepah hutan	<i>Pericrocotus flammeus</i>	Scarlet Minivet	No	LC
116		Sepah kecil	<i>Pericrocotus lansbergei</i>	Little Minivet	No	LC
117		Sepah tulin	<i>Pericrocotus igneus</i>	Fiery minivet	No	LC
118	Artamidae	Kekep babi	<i>Artamus leucorhynchus</i>	White-breasted Woodswallow	No	LC
119	Vangidae	Jingjing batu	<i>Hemipus hirundinaceus</i>	Black-winged Flycatcher- Shrike	No	LC
120		Jingjing bukit	<i>Hemipus picatus</i>	Bar-winged Flycatcher- Shirke	No	LC
121		Jingjing petulak	<i>Tephrodornis virgatus</i>	Large Woodshrike	No	LC
122		Philentoma sayap-merah	<i>Philentoma pyrhoptera</i>	Rufous-winged Philentoma	No	LC
123	Aegithinidae	Cipoh jantung	<i>Aegithina viridissima</i>	Green Iora	No	LC
124		Cipoh kacat	<i>Aegithina tiphia</i>	Common Iora	No	LC
125	Pityriasiidae	Tiong-batu kalimantan	<i>Pityriasis gymnocephala</i>	Bornean Bristlehead	No	VU
126	Rhipiduridae	Kipasan belang	<i>Rhipidura javanica</i>	Pied Fantail	Yes	LC
127		Kipasan mutiara	<i>Rhipidura perlata</i>	Spotted Fantail	No	LC
128	Dicruridae	Srigunting batu	<i>Dicrurus paradiseus</i>	Greater Racquet-tailed Drongo	No	LC
129		Srigunting bukit	<i>Dicrurus remifer</i>	Lesser-racquet-tailed drongo	No	LC
130		Srigunting hitam	<i>Dicrurus macrocercus</i>	Black Drongo	No	LC
131		Srigunting keladi	<i>Dicrurus aeneus</i>	Bronzed Drongo	No	LC
132		Srigunting sumatera	<i>Dicrurus sumatranus</i>	Sumatran drongo	No	LC
133	Monarchidae	Kehicap ranting	<i>Hypothymis azurea</i>	Black-naped Monarch	No	LC
134		Seriwang utara	<i>Terpsiphone incei</i>	Chinese Paradise-flycatcher	No	LC
135		Seriwang asia	<i>Terpsiphone paradisi</i>	Asian Paradise Flycatcher	No	LC
136	Laniidae	Bentet kelabu	<i>Lanius schach</i>	Long-tailed Shrike	No	LC
137		Bentet loreng	<i>Lanius tigrinus</i>	Tiger shrike	No	LC

No	Family	Indonesia Name	Scientific Name	English Name	Protection	IUCN
138	Corvidae	Gagak hutan	<i>Corvus enca</i>	Slender-billed Crow	No	LC
139		Gagak kampung	<i>Corvus macrorhynchos</i>	Large-billed crow	No	LC
140		Tangkar-kambing kalimantan	<i>Platysmurus aterrimus</i>	Bornean Black Magpie	No	LC
141		Tangkar-kambing sumatra	<i>Platysmurus leucopterus</i>	Malay Black Magpie	Yes	LC
142	Cisticolidae	Cici padi	<i>Cisticola juncidis</i>	Zitting Cisticola	Yes	LC
143	Sylviidae	Cinenen belukar	<i>Orthotomus atrogularis</i>	Dark-necked Tailorbird	No	LC
144		Cinenen kelabu	<i>Orthotomus ruficeps</i>	Ashy Tailorbird	No	LC
145		Cinenen merah	<i>Orthotomus sericeus</i>	Rufous-tailed Tailorbird	No	LC
146		Perenjaj Jawa	<i>Prinia familiaris</i>	Bar-winged Prinia Y	No	LC
147		Perenjaj rawa	<i>Prinia flaviventris</i>	ellow-bellied Prinia	No	NT
148	Hirundinidae	Layang-layang api	<i>Hirundo rustica</i>	Barn Swallow	No	LC
149		Layang-layang batu	<i>Hirundo tahitica</i>	Pacific Swallow	No	LC
150	Pycnonotidae	Brinji mata-putih	<i>Iole charlottae</i>	Buff-vented Bulbul	No	LC
151		Brinji rambut tunggir	<i>Tricholestes criniger</i>	Hairy-backed Bulbul	No	NT
152		Brinji sumatra	<i>Ixos sumatranus</i>	Sumatran Bulbul	No	LC
153		Cucak bersisik	<i>Ixidia squamata</i>	Scaly-breasted Bulbul	No	NT
154		Cucak kelabu	<i>Ixidia cyaniventris</i>	Grey-bellied Bulbul	No	NT
155		Cucak kuning	<i>Pycnonotus melanicterus</i>	Black-crested Bulbul	No	LC
156		Cucak kuricang	<i>Pycnonotus atriceps</i>	Black-headed Bulbul	No	LC
157		Cucak kutilang	<i>Pycnonotus aurigaster</i>	Sooty-headed Bulbul	No	LC
158		Cucak rumbai-tunggging	<i>Pycnonotus eutilotus</i>	Puff-backed Bulbul	No	NT
159		Empuloh irang	<i>Criniger phaeocephalus</i>	Yellow-bellied Bulbul	No	LC
160		Empuloh melayu	<i>Alophoixus tephrogenys</i>	Grey-cheeked Bulbul	No	VU
161		Empuloh leher-kuning	<i>Iole finschii</i>	Finsch's Bulbul	No	NT
162		Merbah belukar	<i>Pycnonotus plumosus</i>	Olive-winged Bulbul	No	LC
163		Merbah cerukcuk	<i>Pycnonotus goiavier</i>	Yellow-vented Bulbul	No	LC
164		Merbah corok corok	<i>Pycnonotus simplex</i>	Cream-vented Bulbul	No	LC
165		Merbah kacamata	<i>Ixidia erythroptalmos</i>	Spectacled Bulbul	No	LC
166		Merbah mata-merah	<i>Pycnonotus brunneus</i>	Asian Red-eyed Bulbul	No	LC
167	Phylloscopidae	Cikrak kutub	<i>Phylloscopus borealis</i>	Arctic Warbler	No	LC
168	Timaliidae	Cica-kopi melayu	<i>Pomatorhinus montanus</i>	Chestnut-backed Scimitar Babbler	No	LC
169		Ciung-air coreng	<i>Macronous gularis</i>	Striped Tit-Babbler	No	LC
170		Ciung-air pongpong	<i>Macronous ptilosus</i>	Fluffy-backed Tit-Babbler	No	NT
171		Ciung-air melayu	<i>Mixornis gularis</i>	Pin-striped Tit-babbler	No	LC
172		Tepus dahi-merah	<i>Cyanoderma ruffifrons</i>	Rufous-fronted Babbler	No	LC
173		Tepus-merbah kalimantan	<i>Cyanoderma bicolor</i>	Grey-hooded Babbler	No	LC
174		Tepus-merbah sumatra	<i>Cyanoderma erythropterum</i>	Chestnut-winged Babbler	No	LC
175		Tepus kaban	<i>Stachyris nigricollis</i>	Black-throated Babbler	No	NT
176		Tepus kepala-kelabu	<i>Stachyris poliocephala</i>	Grey-headed Babbler	No	LC
177		Tepus tunggir-merah	<i>Stachyris maculata</i>	Chestnut-rumped Babbler	No	NT
178	Pellorneidae	Asi besar	<i>Malacopteron magnum</i>	Rufous-crowned Babbler	No	NT
179		Asi topi jelaga	<i>Malacopteron affine</i>	Sooty-capped Babbler	No	LC
180		Asi topi sisik	<i>Malacopteron cinereum</i>	Scaly-crowned Babbler	No	LC
181		Asi kumis	<i>Malacopteron magnirostre</i>	Moustached Babbler	No	LC
182		Pelanduk asia	<i>Malacocincla abbotti</i>	Abbott's Babbler	No	LC
183		Pelanduk dada-putih	<i>Pellorneum rostratum</i>	White-chested Babbler	No	NT

No	Family	Indonesia Name	Scientific Name	English Name	Protection	IUCN
184		Pelanduk ekor-pendek	<i>Pellorneum malaccense</i>	Short-tailed Babbler	No	NT
185		Pelanduk topi-melayu	<i>Pellorneum nigrocapitatum</i>	Black-capped Babbler	No	LC
186	Sturnidae	Kerak kerbau	<i>Acridotheres javanicus</i>	White-vented Myna	No	VU
187		Perling kumbang	<i>Aplonis panayensis</i>	Asian Glossy Starling	No	LC
188		Tiong emas	<i>Gracula religiosa</i>	Common Hill Myna	Yes	LC
189	Turdidae	Meninting besar	<i>Enicurus leschenaulti</i>	White-crowned Forktail	No	LC
190	Muscicapidae	Kucica ekor-kuning	<i>Trichixos pyrropygus</i>	Rufous-tailed Shama	No	NT
191		Kucica hutan	<i>Copsychus malabaricus</i>	White-rumped Shama	No	LC
192		Kucica kampung	<i>Copsychus saularis</i>	Oriental Magpie-Robin	No	LC
193		Sikatan burik	<i>Muscicapa griseisticta</i>	Grey-streaked Flycatcher Asian	No	LC
194		Sikatan bubik	<i>Muscicapa dauurica</i>	Brown Flycatcher	No	LC
195		Sikatan hijau-laut	<i>Eumyias thalassinus</i>	Verditer Flycatcher	No	LC
196		Sikatan sunda	<i>Cyornis caerulatus</i>	Large-billed Blue-flycatcher	No	VU
197		Sikatan emas	<i>Ficedula zanthopygia</i>	Yellow-rumped Flycatcher	No	LC
198		Sikatan dada-merah	<i>Ficedula dumetoria</i>	Rufous-chested Flycatcher	No	LC
199		Sikatan biru-muda	<i>Cyornis unicolor</i>	Pale Blue-flycatcher	No	LC
200		Sikatan kalimantan	<i>Cyornis superbus</i>	Bornean Blue-flycatcher Malay-	No	LC
201		Sikatan melayu	<i>Cyornis turcosus</i>	sian Blue Flycatcher Grey-chest-	No	LC
202		Sikatan-rimba dada-kelabu	<i>Rhinomyias umbratilis</i>	ed Jungle Flycatcher Siberian	No	NT
203		Berkecet siberia	<i>Larvivora cyane</i>	Blue Robin	No	LC
204	Chloropseidae	Cica-daun besar	<i>Chloropsis sonnerati</i>	Greater Green Leafbird	Yes	EN
205		Cica-daun melayu	<i>Chloropsis moluccensis</i>	Blue-winged Leafbird	Yes	LC
206		Cica-daun dahi-emas	<i>Chloropsis media</i>	Sumatran Leafbird	Yes	EN
207		Cica-daun kecil	<i>Chloropsis cyanopogon</i>	Lesser Green Leafbird	Yes	NT
208	Irenidae	Kecembang gadung	<i>Irena puella</i>	Asian fairy bluebird	No	LC
209	Dicaeidae	Cabai bunga-api	<i>Dicaeum trigonostigma</i>	Orange-bellied Flowerpecker	No	LC
210		Cabai merah	<i>Dicaeum cruentatum</i>	Scarlet-backed Flowerpecker	No	LC
211		Cabai polos	<i>Dicaeum minullum</i>	Plain Flowerpecker	No	LC
212		Cabai rimba	<i>Dicaeum chrysorrheum</i>	Yellow-vented Flowerpecker	No	LC
213		Pentis kalimantan	<i>Prionochilus xanthopygius</i>	Yellow-rumped Flowerpecker	No	LC
214		Pentis raja	<i>Prionochilus maculatus</i>	Yellow-breasted Flowerpecker	No	LC
215		Pentis kumbang	<i>Prionochilus thoracicus</i>	Scarlet-breasted flowerpecker	No	NT
216		Pentis pelangi	<i>Prionochilus percussus</i>	Crimson-breasted flowerpecker	No	LC
217	Nectariniidae	Burung madu kelapa	<i>Anthreptes malacensis</i>	Brown-throated Sunbird	No	LC
218		Burung madu leher merah	<i>Anthreptes rhodolaema</i>	Red-throated Sunbird	Yes	NT
219		Burung madu polos	<i>Anthreptes simplex</i>	Plain Sunbird	No	LC
220		Burung madu sepahraja	<i>Aethopyga siparaja</i>	Crimson Sunbird	Yes	LC
221		Burung madu sriganti	<i>Cinnyris jugularis</i>	Olive-backed Sunbird	No	LC
222		Burung-madu ekor-merah	<i>Aethopyga temminckii</i>	Temminck's Sunbird	No	LC
223		Burung-madu rimba	<i>Kurochkinogramma hypogram- mica</i>	Purple-naped Sunbird	No	LC
224		Burung madu belukar	<i>Anthreptes singalensis</i>	Ruby-cheeked Sunbird	No	LC
225		Pijantung besar	<i>Arachnothera robusta</i>	Long-billed Spiderhunter	No	LC
226		Pijantung dada-kelabu	<i>Arachnothera modesta</i>	Grey-breasted Spiderhunter	No	LC
227		Pijantung kampung	<i>Arachnothera crassirostris</i>	Thick-billed Spiderhunter	No	LC
228		Pijantung kecil	<i>Arachnothera longirostra</i>	Little Spiderhunter	No	LC
229		Pijantung telinga-kuning	<i>Arachnothera chrysoyeny</i>	Yellow-eared Spiderhunter	No	LC
230		Pinjantung tasmak	<i>Arachnothera flavigaster</i>	Spectacled Spiderhunter	No	LC

No	Family	Indonesia Name	Scientific Name	English Name	Protection	IUCN
231	Estrildidae	Bondol haji	<i>Lonchura maja</i>	White-headed Munia	No	LC
232		Bondol Jawa	<i>Lonchura leucogastroides</i>	Javan Munia	No	LC
233		Bondol kalimantan	<i>Lonchura fuscans</i>	Dusky Munia	No	LC
234		Bondol peking	<i>Lonchura punctulata</i>	Scaly-breasted Munia	No	LC
235		Bondol rawa	<i>Lonchura malacca</i>	Blach-headed Munia	No	LC
236		Bondol tunggir-putih	<i>Lonchura striata</i>	White-rumped Munia	No	LC
237	Ploceidae	Burung gereja erasia	<i>Passer montanus</i>	Eurasian Tree Sparrow	No	LC
238	Motacillidae	Apung sawah	<i>Anthus rufulus</i>	Paddyfied Pipit	No	LC

Detail information:

1. Regulation of the Minister of Environment and Forestry of Indonesia Number P.106/MENLHK/SETJEN/KUM.1/12/2018 REGARDING SECOND AMENDMENT TO REGULATION OF THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTRY NUMBER P.20/MENLHK/SETJEN/KUM.1/6/2018 REGARDING PROTECTED PLANT AND ANIMAL SPECIES
2. Threat categories based on IUCN-RedList Databook: LC: Least Concern; NT: Near Threatened; VU: Vulnerable; EN: Endangered; CR Critically Endangered.

Explanation:

Critically Endangered (CR), a category containing those species that possess an extremely high risk of extinction as a result of rapid population declines of 80 to more than 90 percent over the previous 10 years (or three generations), a current population size of fewer than 50 individuals, or other factors

Endangered (EN), a designation applied to species that possess a very high risk of extinction as a result of rapid population declines of 50 to more than 70 percent over the previous 10 years (or three generations), a current population size of fewer than 250 individuals, or other factors

Vulnerable (VU), a category containing those species that possess a very high risk of extinction as a result of rapid population declines of 30 to more than 50 percent over the previous 10 years (or three generations), a current population size of fewer than 1,000 individuals, or other factors

Near Threatened (NT), a designation applied to species that are close to becoming threatened or may meet the criteria for threatened status in the near future



RLU's vision is to demonstrate that natural rubber can be produced in a sustainable and economical way while protecting forest and biodiversity as well as improving livelihoods for local communities. The book you are holding now is clear evidence of how we maintain our commitment to our conservation mission: to preserve the primary forest and biodiversity as well as restore degraded High Conservation Value (HCV) areas.

This book contains extraordinary visualizations of the birds in the PT RLU concession area in both Jambi and East Kalimantan. All photos were taken directly from the concession area. Described very straightforwardly and lightly. Enjoy the beauty of one of Indonesia's biological riches and we will continue to preserve it forever.