

## Conservation Division Report covering the period of 1 -30 April 2021 (MCO Period)

<b>1. Division Updates:</b>	
2 programme areas i.e. the Marine & Terrestrial programmes which supported MNS Strategic Plan 2018–2030 implementation.	
Marine & Wetlands Conservation Programme	<p><b>Managers:</b> Sonny Wong &amp; Balu Perumal  <b>Staffs:</b> Ng Wai Pak left MNS with Jaclyn See (RA) taking over the migratory bird component, Habibun as conservation centre and community officer, Shahril Kamarulzaman and Azelan Zakaria are hired-hand placed under UCF &amp; GM centers. EE staffs – Maichal (wetlands) and Zaid (marine/ education) assist on part time basis.  <b>Activity focus:</b> KSNP for Ramsar, North Central Selangor Coast &amp; TAT-KM Flyways, Migratory bird, otters &amp; firefly; Urban Community Forest &amp; UCF Network.</p> <p><b>Current Projects:-</b></p> <p>a. NCSC and migratory bird initiatives            Current work related to AWC 2021 is funded by TKC MF (RM10K). New funding for NCSC secured from Full Circle Foundation (RM124K).</p> <p>b. Mangrove initiatives, Firefly and Otter projects;            Firefly directory work supported by FRIM (RM21K); GEF-SGP for community firefly study by FoBK (RM10K); FIN Firefly CEPA (RM6K); NCSC Otter project supported by CIAP-MSIG (RM30K), CFHF (RM105K) and Keidanren Nature Conservation Fund (RM104K).</p> <p>c. Tree planting activities; UCF Resource Centre &amp; Gua Musang Centre activities are supported by self-funding activities related to tree planting and merchandise sales. Other sources; Habitat Foundation (RM25K), Cooling Matrix (RM20k/year; 2021-2024) and OneTreePlanted (RM28K).</p>
Terrestrial Conservation Programme	<p><b>Managers:</b> Balu Perumal &amp; Yeap Chin Aik  <b>Staffs:</b> Lee Ee Ling contracted as policy officer. Woo Chee Yoong co-opted as new staff. Syamimi Makbul, Wan Rodiah, Mohd Fahirul (all attached to EU-BL project) and Nur Syuhada hired as RAs. EE staffs – Shashi (Certification/ EIA) and Adha (KPA/ education) assist on part time basis.</p> <p><b>Activity focus:</b> Hornbill &amp; large mammal conservation, forest policy work related to biodiversity &amp; climate change; Important Bird &amp; Biodiversity Areas (IBA) and MNS-BirdLife Partnership Programme.</p> <p><b>Current Projects:-</b></p> <p>d. Sun bear (and other wildlife) Conservation Programme with FGV, UKM and Perhilitan. Project extended for 4-years period (2020-2023); Value of sponsorship RM100K/year. Project supports the CEPA outreach programme for wildlife (sun bear, gibbon &amp; pangolin) conservation, plus establishment of local community action groups. PERHILITAN further allocated RM80K through their WildFriend programme (= supporting local community activity through IC-CFS project at Belum Temenggor and Merapoh.</p> <p>e. Hornbill Survey in BTFC</p>

	<p>NCTF project support worth RM47K for 2021, Malaysia Wildlife Conservation Fund (RM15K), Full Circle Foundation (RM82K) and Foundation Segre/ BL support for 3-years (2021-2023) valued at RM123K/year; and Avifauna Sweden (RM20K) support Ulu Muda work.</p> <p>f. EU-BL Forest Governance project (MY forest Project) Value of sponsorship Euro100K/year for period of 5 years (2017 -2021). Main trust of this multi country project will be on capacity building of non-state actors in forest governance including REDD+ and FLEGT-VPA.</p>
<p><b>3. Project Activities Updates</b> Projects activities are on track with proposed timeline with no major issues.</p>	
<p>Marine &amp; Wetlands Conservation Programme</p>	<p><u>General:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• On-going planning for Marine/ Wetlands Programme 2020/21 underway; identification of new projects for 2020/21 and sourcing for possible funding/ donors. Appointed En. Azli Abu Bakar as programme advisor for work with Marine Parks Department, Malaysia. Focus will be on the Marine Protected Areas at the Andaman Seas (Langkawi, Penang, and the coastline of Kedah and Perlis).</li> </ul> <p><u>NCSC Project and migratory bird initiatives:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Preparation of Bird Check List (3<sup>rd</sup> edition) by BCC – ongoing activity.</li> <li>• AWC 2021 report is currently being prepared by Wai Pak (his last day with MNS was 15 Apr.), and the exercise will be continued by Jacelyn (new recruited RA).</li> <li>• Dr. Ding Li from BL Asia assisting in finalising the proposal for water bird study in Sabah.</li> <li>• 3 Apr: Sonny, Wai Pak and Habibun attended Waterbird ID webinar organised by N9/Malacca Branch.</li> <li>• 8 - 9 Apr: CV staffs participated in the BirdLife Flyways Capacity Workshop (online).</li> <li>• 9 - 10 Apr: Habibun at Pulau Ketam assisting with drone footage for the Coke project.</li> <li>• 15 Apr: CV staffs participated in BL organised webinar on “Stopping the Illegal Killing of Birds- BirdLife Actions that Work”.</li> </ul> <p><u>Mangrove and Firefly Initiative</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 6 Apr: Sonny organised discussion on the rehabilitation of Sungai Yakyah for fireflies with Dr Nada (FRIM), Dr Aldrie (Lestari UKM), Yazid and Zaid (Kertih Ecocare).</li> <li>• 9 &amp; 19 Apr: Zoom meet with Dr Sara (FIN chair) to plan for the World Firefly Day 2021. The international event will be jointly organised by FIN &amp; MNS. World Firefly Day 2021 poster and programme announced thereafter (FIN website).</li> <li>• 10 &amp; 19 Apr: FoBK Magical mystery at Bukit Kiara - virtual training workshop 1. In this project, we have an agreement to train FoBK members as citizen scientist.</li> <li>• 21 &amp; 30 Apr: Sonny asked to continue his post as co-chair in IUCN-Firefly Specialist Group for next quadrennial, and subsequently attended the Q&amp;A session with IUCN SSC Chair's Team.</li> </ul> <p><u>MNS Otter Project (wetland small mammal programme)</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Submitted paper on the hairy-nosed otter records in Kuala Selangor and Sabak Bernam area to IOSF.</li> <li>• Prepared and submitted proposal to CIAP-MSIG grant (RM35K) for 2<sup>nd</sup> year funding cycle.</li> <li>• Revised and re-submitted proposal for Keidanren Nature Conservation Fund (RM104K). Project to start in June 2021.</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 1-30 Apr: Woo participating in online course, “Facilitating Species Conservation Planning Workshops” organised by IUCN.</li> <li>• 10 Apr: Site recce along the Klang River (between Gardens Mall and KL Eco City) with Mr. Martin (Otter Ambassador).</li> <li>• 13 Apr: World Otter Day 2021 preparatory meeting. Earlier prepared and distributed the proposal to all staff members involved with the activity.</li> <li>• 22 Apr-4 May: Woo at KSNP conducting his monthly fieldwork along the NCSC coastline.</li> </ul> <p><u>Tree planting and Urban Community Forest initiatives</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Raffi (M&amp;P) arranged PTT Outdoor sales donation to support UCF activities.</li> <li>• 7 Apr: Proposal submitted to Morph Collective CSR package.</li> <li>• 10 - 23 Apr: Post maintenance of Cooling Matrix tree planting site at UCF – trail clean up, tree tagging, etc. New site preparation continued for Earth Day tree planting on 24 Apr.</li> <li>• 18 Apr: Article by William Tham Wai Liang in MalaysiaKini focussed on Bukit Persekutuan, “The Last Forest of Kuala Lumpur”. Sonny and Ee Ling provided the information and help edit the article.</li> <li>• 24 Apr: Celebrating World Tapir Day and Earth Day 2021 with OneTreePlanted; 150 trees of multi species planted with 63 volunteers in the UCF; Habibun collected more <i>Hopea helferi</i> saplings with RAs at Rimbun Dahan, Sungai Buloh, Selangor.</li> <li>• 29 Apr: Attended DAGES Malaysia (Rotary) webinar on “Protection of green lungs: the role of collective community action/ district action group on environmental sustainability”.</li> <li>• 28 - 30 Apr: Habibun negotiating with Sahabat Hutan Bakau Kuala Gula to procure 5,000 mangrove seeds for OneTreePlanted activity at KSNP (scheduled June 2021).</li> </ul>
Terrestrial Conservation Programme	<p><u>FGV Sun Bear (tiger &amp; other mammals) Project</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Developing volunteer packages for Kenong Rimba Park &amp; Sun Bear Education Module – on going activity.</li> <li>• Received news from PERHILITAN that our proposal for Tiger Awareness Day 2021 celebration with SRR, has been approved (RM10K).</li> <li>• Nursuhada prepared financial report for 2020. Draft report was sent to Intan for final review, and submission to FGV.</li> <li>• Worked on 2<sup>nd</sup> phase project activities and timeline with Habibun and Syuhada.</li> <li>• 2, 6, 19 &amp; 21 April: Meetings organised for World Tapir Day 2021, including engagement with Zoo Taiping to facilitate some of the live telecast activities. Dr Kevin Lazarus, the director agreed to give a talk and sponsor the contest prizes.</li> <li>• 5 Apr: Habibun and Nursuhada visited ROS Pahang at Kuantan to collect SRR organisation certificate, which later were used to open a bank account.</li> <li>• 6 - 8 Apr: Habibun and Nursuhada went to Gua Musang centre for community meeting with SBM and SRR community. Bought saplings from SRR community for forest tree nursery at Gua Musang.</li> <li>• 21-25 – Video editing on President’s speech for WTD 2021</li> <li>• 27 April: Online World Tapir Day 2021 celebration with Tapir Talk, and webinars for KPA schools and KPA Youth. Raffi (M&amp;P) assisted with securing the needed fund (RM8,000) from Gobi Mavcap Management (M) Sdn. Bhd.</li> </ul> <p><u>BTFC Forest/Hornbill Conservation Work</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 12-23 Apr: Conducted fieldwork under the BT hornbill conservation work. Others involve time spend on developing hornbill training modules and preparation of project reports.</li> </ul>

- Preparing quarterly and final reports (July-Aug/Sep-Oct/Nov-Dec 2020) for Bursa Malaysia.
- Agreement with Full Circle Foundation (HK grant-maker) (USD50,000/1 year/March 2021-Feb 2022) signed and awaiting first tranche of funds.
- First tranche of funds from The Habitat Foundation for Kg Chuweh community nursery project (RM25,000/1 year/2021) has been received. YCA evaluated work progress on the nursery in Apr.
- Funds from the Avifauna Sweden (via BirdLife Asia) has been received. Work is being planned.
- Restructured the remaining BT hornbill project activities/expenses under the National Conservation Trust Fund (NCTF), with guidance from KeTSA. Have submitted official letter to present the restructuring, awaiting KeTSA's approval.
- Finalised the agreement with DWNP to support OA livelihood project under their IC-CFS project. Waiting for the transfer of first tranche of fund. This small grant is valued at about RM70,000 and to be implemented in 2021. Also had discussions with project collaborators as part of project planning/inception.
- Meeting with PSPC on 21 Apr to plan for hornbill conservation training workshop for their MENRAQ community patrol teams in late May. Preparing training module for the workshop.
- Start work on preparing a Kertas Kerja on "Tapak Kajian MNS" in the Halong area (Temenggor) for submission to JPSM Perak.
- Had online meetings/discussions with MNS Kuching Branch and BirdLife on the Important Hornbill Landscapes in Sarawak work on 2 Apr.

#### PUBLICATIONS/REPORTS/PAPERS

- Preparing a Plain-pouched Hornbill Hornbill Triangle Monitoring Report for 2018, 2019 and 2020 (MNS Conservation Publication Series). 2019 Report being finalized.
- Preparing a MNS CV Publication on Malaysian wildlife food plants – a compilation of plants consumed by our wildlife which supports MNS' tree planting and habitat rehabilitation work and guide to plant selection. Target completion is end December 2020, in time for the start of the UN Decade on Ecosystem Restoration 2021-2030 (decadeonrestoration.org). Work on hold for now.
- Invited to be co-author in a human-elephant conflict/indigenous peoples/forest/agriculture paper initiated by Dr Wong Ee Phin (lead author/Nottingham University). Had initial group discussion.
- Invited to be a co-author on a paper on Nature-based Solutions (NbS) by Dr Chee Su Yin (USM). The paper has been submitted to the journal for publication.
- Submitted paper on Hornbill Guardians/forest conservation and policy to the IUCN Policy Matters journal in final stages of printing. Done final proofreading as requested by the editor.

#### EU Forest Governance Project

- Yeap, Woo and Syamimi continue to work on the revised/updated IBA directory after the MNS IBA 2.0 Second Workshop.
- 5 Apr: Ee Ling submitted MNS feedbacks on RSPO Recertification Assessment of Sime Darby Plantation Berhad -Strategic Operating Unit (Sou 11) Kerdu Palm Oil Mill And Supply Base, Temerloh, Pahang, Malaysia.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 8 Apr: Ee Ling attended the Mesyuarat Jawatankuasa Siasatan Dan Pendengaran Awam Draf Rancangan Tempatan Majlis Bandaraya Shah Alam 2035; Balu and Syamimi attended the Sesi Perundingan Protokol Kerangka Kewangan REDD PLUS (REDD PLUS Financial Framework Protocol) Bersama Pemegang Taruh.</li> <li>• 11 Apr: Ee Ling and Pasu attended the PEKA's Invitation to all environmental NGOs/NGIs to demand immediate &amp; full protection for our national treasures from the Malaysia Government.</li> <li>• 12 Apr: Ee Ling and Syamimi attended the Roundtable Discussion on Low Emissions Pathway for Malaysia.</li> <li>• 13 Apr: Ee Ling and Syamimi participated in the UNEP/CTCN Webinar on Emerging Lessons from the Adaptation Fund Climate Innovation Accelerator.</li> <li>• 14 Apr: Balu was interviewed by Alien Lian Jun Yi from PreferredByNature (or Napcon) on ESG Performance of Palm Oil Companies in Malaysia.</li> <li>• 15 &amp; 26 Apr: Ee Ling attended the iGEM 2021 virtual briefing, followed by Balu attending the 1st Task Force Meeting.</li> <li>• 16 Apr: Ee Ling submitted an official letter notifying DOE on the clearance of 2,400 acres (970 ha) at Mukim Sungai Panjang, Sabak Bernam District for The Selangor Smart Agro Park (SSAP) Project.</li> <li>• 20 Apr: Ee Ling submitted MNS feedbacks on RSPO Recertification Assessment Of Sime Darby Plantation Berhad - Strategic Operating Unit (Sou 12) Jabor Palm Oil Mill And Supply Base, Kemaman, Terengganu, Malaysia.</li> <li>• 20 Apr: Ee Ling and Syamimi participated in the UM organized Ambassador Lecture Series Webinar - The Nordic Model: Swedish and Norwegian Perspectives.</li> <li>• 23 Apr: Ee Ling attended the Mesyuarat Jawatankuasa Teknikal Semakan Semula Dasar Kepelbagaian Biologi Kebangsaan 2016-2025 (DKBK) Bil. 2/2021.</li> <li>• 24 - 25 Apr: Yeap attended webinar on indigenous peoples organized by UKM.</li> <li>• 27 Apr: MYforest Project Team organized the Tapir Talks 9.0 – Clash of Champions: The State of Conservation in Malaysia, in conjunction with World Tapir Day 2021 celebration.</li> <li>• 29 Apr: Balu was interviewed by Mr. Law Yao Hua (Editor, Macaranga) on shrinking losses in primary forest in Malaysia. The interview was featured in an article, 'Can Oil Palm Explain The Lower Forest Loss Here?', published on 29 April 2021 (<a href="https://www.macaranga.org/explaining-malaysia-declining-forest-loss/">https://www.macaranga.org/explaining-malaysia-declining-forest-loss/</a>)</li> <li>• 30 Apr: Ee Ling submitted feedbacks on Dasar Alam Sekitar Negara 2002 (DASN 2002) to Ministry Environment And Water, responding to the invitation 'Sesi Libat Urus Projek Kajian Semakan Semula Dasar Alam Sekitar Negara 2002 (DASN 2002) Dan Penyediaan Dasar Alam Sekitar 20XX'.</li> </ul>
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Prepared by: Balu Perumal, HOD Conservation; 18 May 2021