

Conservation Division Report covering the period of 1 – 31 December. 2020 (Extended MCO Period)

1. Division Updates:	
2 programme areas i.e. the Marine & Terrestrial programmes which supported MNS Strategic Plan 2008–2020 implementation.	
Marine & Wetlands Conservation Programme	<p><u>Managers:</u> Sonny Wong & Balu Perumal <u>Staffs:</u> Ng Wai Pak hired as senior wetlands officer, Habibun as conservation centre and community officer, Shahril Kamarulzaman and Azelan Zakaria are hired-hand placed under UCF centers. EE staffs – Maichal (wetlands) and Zaid (marine/ education) assist on part time basis. <u>Activity focus:</u> KSNP for Ramsar, North Central Selangor Coast & TAT-KM Flyways, Migratory bird, otters & firefly; Urban Community Forest & UCF Network.</p> <p>Current Projects:-</p> <p>a. NCSC and migratory bird initiatives RicoH project (RM65K) came to a closure end Nov 2020. Current work related to AWC 2021 is funded by TKC MF (RM10K).</p> <p>b. Mangrove initiatives, Firefly and Otter projects; Community mangrove tree planting supported by Forestry Department (RM6K); Firefly directory work supported by FRIM (RM21K); GEF-SGP for community firefly study by FoBK (RM10K); NCSC Otter project supported by CI-MSIG (RM30K) and CFHF (USD25K).</p> <p>c. Tree planting activities; UCF Resource Centre & UCF Network activities are supported by self-funding activities related to tree planting and merchandise sales. At the moment there are planting stocks worth RM50K in nursery. Habitat Foundation provided fund for BTFC tree nursery (RM25K)</p>
Terrestrial Conservation Programme	<p><u>Managers:</u> Balu Perumal & Yeap Chin Aik <u>Staffs:</u> Lee Ee Ling contracted as policy officer. Syamimi Makbul, Wan Rodiah, Woo Chee Yoong, Mohd Fakhirul (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. <u>Activity focus:</u> Hornbill & large mammals’ conservation, forest policy work related to biodiversity & climate change; Important Bird & Biodiversity Areas (IBA) and MNS-BirdLife Partnership Programme.</p> <p>Current Projects:-</p> <p>d. Sun bear Conservation Programme with FGV, Perhilitan and UKM Value of sponsorship RM160K/ year for 5-years (2016-2020); Project supports the CEPA outreach programme for sun bear conservation, plus establishment of local community action groups. Negotiation is on-going to extend the project for next 5-years period.</p> <p>e. Hornbill Survey in BTFC NCTF project support worth RM75K for 2019/2020; BirdLife/NatGeo Helmeted Hornbill project (RM45K), Bursa KL grant for 2020 (RM116K); MNS HVP 2019 volunteer payments (RM30K), Coffee Bean & Tea Leaf campaign grant (RM30K), and Malaysia Wildlife Conservation Fund (RM15K).</p> <p>f. EU-BL Forest Governance project (MY forest Project)</p>

	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.
3. Project Activities Updates Projects activities are on track with proposed timeline with no major issues.	
Marine & Wetlands Conservation Programme	<p><u>General:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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 Seribuat Archipelago (Tioman and Mersing Islands) and the Andaman Seas (Langkawi, Penang, and the coastline of Kedah and Perlis). <p><u>NCSC Project and migratory bird initiatives:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2 Dec: WaiPak attended training workshop titled, “Essential elements for shorebird site managers”, organised by Society of Wetland Scientists, Australia. 5-6 Dec: Woo, Chen and Jacelyn attended Flyway Youth Forum 2020 16 Dec: Balu and WaiPak having virtual meeting with PERHILITAN En. Taufik and Khusaini, reporting the AWC 2020 results and discuss on the planning for the up-coming AWC 2021; Sonny and Wai Pak attended Yellow & Bohai Sea Coastal Wetlands Symposium 2020 organised by EAAFP secretariat. 17 Dec: CV team attended BirdLife International webinar, “Birds & the Red List”. 27 Dec: Virtual AWC workshop 2021 organised by MNS Secretariat & BCC. Invited speakers: David Li (NPARK SG), Dr Scott (Taiwan), Tom (WI), funded by TKC Bird Conservation Memorial Fund. 27 Dec: Submitted hornbill & NCSC proposal to Full Circle Foundation (USD50k). In discussion: CV publication of Bird Check List (3rd edition) proposed by BCC. <p><u>Mangrove and Firefly Initiative</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 4 Dec: Sonny as honorary secretary to FIN submitted half-yearly report to MBZ Species Conservation Fund. 7 Dec: Sonny attended FIN steering committee year end meeting and presented on World Firefly Day 2020 celebration. 8 Dec: Followed by discussion with SEA regional co-chair on SEA firefly experts meet and KBA; CPSG planning another Red Data List training in March for Europe and Asia region Received news that FoBK proposal to GEF-SGP for community firefly study approved. MNS to play a major role in developing firefly citizen science programme at Bukit Kiara (RM10K). <p><u>MNS Otter Project</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2 Dec: DBKL Otter project – internal meeting. Woo currently in the midst of preparing proposals on Urban Otter project and Otter Interpretative Centre for them. 11 Dec: Woo attended the “Mai Po Research and Monitoring” webinar organized by WWF Hong Kong. 14-24 Dec: Woo at KSNP pursuing fieldwork on NCSC Otters. <p><u>Tree planting initiatives and Urban Resource Centre, including Climate Change:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 3 Dec: WaiPak attended webinar: Ecological Restoration of Impacted Ecosystems: Encouraging Results from the Field, University of Newcastle and the Universitas Lambung Mangkurat, Indonesia.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 15 Dec: Ecocentric SDG online series; interviews with Balu (Life in Water) and Ee Lynn (Green Living). • 19 Dec: Habibun collected <i>Hopea helferi</i> (IUCN Red List - CR species) at Rimbun Dahan, Sungai Buloh donated by Angela Hijjas. • 20-25 Dec: Habibun at Gua Musang - seeding <i>Hopea helferi</i> at the nursery. Also prepared business proposal for GMFC . • Received good news that Habitat Foundation will be funding the BTFC tree nursery project (RM25K). • Sonny submitted UCF and SEMAI article to Tan Sri Salleh and Su Win for the 80th Anniversary book; prepared UCF Sustainability proposal for the ED (RM80K/year). • Wan Rodiah presented a talk on “Fungi of Malaysia” organized by Have Hope
Terrestrial Conservation Programme	<p><u>FGV Sun Bear (tiger & other mammals) Project</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ongoing: Developing volunteer packages for Kenong Rimba Park & Sun Bear Education Module • 15 Dec: Syuhada submitted write up on Sunbear for the next issue of Tabir Bulletin sent to EE Div for finalising. • 17 Dec: Balu, Habibun, WaiPak attending: Taklimat Pembentangan Program Pengurusan dan Perlindungan Harimau Malaya dan Hidupan Liar Terancam Lain Di Landskap Taman Negara-Banjaran Titiwangsa di bawah RMK-12. • 20 Dec: Held discussion with SRR re. drafting tiger proposal for PERHILITAN. The completed proposal was send to PERHILITAN via email on 28 Dec 2020. • 25 Dec: Visited SRR project house which was razed by fire; collected donation from MNS office to help the individual effected, plus help to launch a police report. Some of MNS equipments kept with the community was lost, namely tents, plastic chairs and tables, a laptop computer, a LCD projector & a white screen. Total lost estimated to RM10,000. • Woo and Syamimi attended the IUCN Small Ape Working Group meetings. <p><u>BTFC Forest/Hornbill Conservation Work</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 13-30 Dec: Conducted fieldwork under the BT hornbill conservation work. Others involve time spend on developing hornbill training modules and preparation of project reports. • Prepared quarterly reports (July-Aug/Sep-Oct/Nov-Dec 2020) for Bursa Malaysia. • Prepared reports on food aid deliveries to Orang Asli villages (Kg Charokbus/Tebang/Sg Buloh/Kg Peta) for Malaysian Care (funder). • Work with a media production company for RTM to interview Hornbill Guardian for their new show in 2021 #AndaLuarBiasa. • Worked on presentation (project development) on hornbills for Climate Governance Malaysia. • Worked on proposal development for Full Circle Foundation (HK grant-maker). Submitted the proposal (USD50,000/1 year) on 2nd Jan 2021. • Invited to submit a small proposal to the Malaysian Wildlife Conservation Fund. Submitted and successfully received fund (RM15,000/year) for BTFC. Project to start in Jan 2021. • Received confirmation of funding from Habitat Foundation for Kg Chuweh community nursery project (RM25,000/1 year). • Agreement for Segre-BirdLife hornbill project finalized and BirdLife Asia for review and signing. This is 3-year project to start in Jan 2021. <p><u>PUBLICATIONS/REPORTS/PAPERS</u></p>

- Preparing a Plain-pouched Hornbill Triangle Monitoring Report for 2018 and 2019 (MNS Conservation Publication Series). Thailand Hornbill Project team has returned with data for inclusion of information for the Bang Lang (southern Thailand) side. 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 progressing with intern.

EU Forest Governance Project

- 1 Dec : Fahirul working on Sarawak FRs mapping, which includes license planted forest area and logging concessions in Sarawak
- 2 Dec: Syamimi attended the Taman Kinabalu Webinar 2020, “Sambutan Ulangtahun Pengisytiharan Taman Kinabalu Sebagai Tapak Warisan Dunia”.
- 8 - 10 Dec: Zaid, Sashi and Syamimi attended the national stakeholder consultation on of MYNI Common Guidance for Management and Monitoring HCV (Draft 2).
- 9 Dec: Organised the Tapir Talks 7.0 – Big Data Sciences and Bioinformatics for Biodiversity and Forest Management.
- 9 Dec: Sashi attended the virtual TORAC meeting organised by DOE re. “Proposed manganese ore mining operations at Aring 5 (68 ha.), Kelantan by Messrs. Sungei Hijau Sdn. Bhd. Written submission sent on 13 Dec.
- 10 Dec: Similarly Ee Ling attended the EIATRC meeting “Cadangan Ladang Hutan Di Kompartmen 15, 42 Dan 43, Hutan Gunung Bongsu, Kedah Selatan (500 ha.).
- 11 Dec: Balu participated in the webinar organised by Forest-First Approach, “Supporting the effective implementation of deforestation-free supply chains in producer countries”.
- 12 Dec: Ee Ling submitted comments to DOE on “TOR for the Proposed Gold Mining at Hutan Simpan Kekal Sokor Taku (%47 ha.), Jajahan Tanah Merah, Kelantan.
- 13 – 30 Dec: Yeap and Woo focussing on MNS IBA 2.0 directory post workshop work and follow-ups.
- 15 Dec: Balu attended the NSC meeting conducted online on 3rd Biennial Update Report (BUR) Bil.1/2020.
- 19 Dec: Syamimi and Mdm. Anna Wong attended program “Kempen Pelancaran Penanaman 100 Juta Pokok Peringkat Negeri Sabah” oleh YAB Ketua Menteri Sabah.
- 23 Dec: Ee Ling submitted comments to DOE on “TOR Projek Membina Dan Menyiapkan Kerja-Kerja Pengukuhan Tebing, Tambatan Rumah Bot, Gerai Dan Surau Serta Kemudahan Berkaitan Di Pengkalan Utama (3 ha.), Tasik Kenyir, Hulu Terengganu, Terengganu.

Prepared by: Balu Perumal, HOD Conservation; 27 January 2021