

Conservation Division Report covering the period of 1 -31 May 2021 (MCO Period)

1. Division Updates:	
2 programme areas i.e. the Marine & Terrestrial programmes which supported MNS Strategic Plan 2018–2030 implementation.	
Marine & Wetlands Conservation Programme	<p>Managers: Sonny Wong & Balu Perumal Staffs: Woo Chee Yoong working on Otter Project, Jaclyn See (RA) focusing on migratory bird component, Habibun as conservation centre and community officer, Shahril Kamarulzaman and Azelan Zakaria are hired-hand placed under UCF & GM centers. EE staffs – Maichal (wetlands) and Zaid (marine/ education) assist on part time basis. Activity focus: 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 Current work related to AWC 2021 is funded by TKC MF (RM10K). New funding for NCSC secured from Full Circle Foundation (RM124K) and FRIM (Rm70K).</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 & 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>Managers: Balu Perumal & Yeap Chin Aik Staffs: Lee Ee Ling contracted as policy officer. Syamimi Makbul and Wan Rodiah are RAs hired under EU-BL Project. Fadhil and Nur Syuhada left, replaced by Ng Sean Fong. EE staffs – Shashi (Certification/ EIA) assist on part time basis.</p> <p>Activity focus: Hornbill & large mammal 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 (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 & 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. Additional funding (USD40K) secured from GFW to support MY forest Watch activity.</p>
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3. Project Activities Updates

Projects activities are on track with proposed timeline with no major issues.

<p>Marine & Wetlands Conservation Programme</p>	<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 the Marine Protected Areas at 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"> Preparation of Bird Check List (3rd edition) by BCC – ongoing activity. AWC 2021 report is currently being prepared by Jacelyn (new recruited RA). Dr. Ding Li from BL Asia assisting in finalising the proposal for water bird study in Sabah. 17 May: Online meeting with Ding Li & Rose re. YCL internship for Ms. Batrisyah. The support if secured will help with MNS Kuching Branch monitoring of Bako-Buntal Flyway. Jacelyn been tasked to develop proposals on the Conservation of Lesser Adjutant at NCSC for OBS, HKBCS and MBZ funding. <p><u>Mangrove and Firefly Initiative</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 3 May: Attended “Mesyuarat Core-Group Project Penanaman Pokok Bakau & Spesies-speseis Sesuai di Persisiran Pantai Negara BIL 01/2021”. Subsequently submitted a proposal for PM coastal water bird study (RM84K). 7 May: Sonny interviewed by students from Binus Simprug intercultural school, Simpang Indon; Zaid attended the TORAC meeting on the Malacca Gateway Project. 8 May: Balu submitted feedback on the Kuala Gula mangrove chapter for a book publication by Dr. Hiromi Yamashita. 13 May: Purchased 5,000 mangrove seeds from Kuala Gula, Perak and delivered to KSNP for planting in the nursery. This is for later tree planting activity with Caterpillar Malaysia under OneTreePlanted funding. 21 May: Attended IUCN SSC event: Success stories around Reverse the Red webinar 24 May: Sonny attended Focus group of National Agenda on national water transformation 2040. 26 May: Attended Red List firefly meet. <p><u>MNS Otter Project (wetland small mammal programme)</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1-14 May: Woo participating in online course, “Facilitating Species Conservation Planning Workshops” organised by IUCN. 17-25 May: Woo at KSNP conducting his monthly fieldwork along the NCSC coastline. 26 May: Woo attended the IOSF World Otter Day 2021 Webinar as invited speaker.
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 27 May: World Otter Day 2021: AM: MON 2nd annual meeting; PM: MNS-World Otter Day 2021 Opening event and followed by 2 Webinar sessions; Woo attended an open discussion on PERHILITAN culling langur incident organized by MPS. • 28 May: World Otter Day 2021: AM: Live telecast of Otter from Taiping Zoo coordinated by Habibun; PM: Woo attended the KPA Webinar Series as speaker. <p><u>Tree planting and Urban Community Forest initiatives</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 20 May: Submitted Rhingle.Com proposal for UCF tree planting • 23 May: MNS Photo Group video submission for activity related to OneTreePlanted during Earth Day 2021. • 26 May: Meeting with Jesse from OneTreePlanted Asia-Pacific re. submitted tree planting proposal titled “Trees for Wildlife”. We requested for RM50K/ yearly for 3 years to support our community tree planting activities.
Terrestrial Conservation Programme	<p><u>FGV Sun Bear (tiger & other mammals) Project</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nur Suhada tendered in her resignation. Habibun will now work on developing the 2nd phase project activities with FGV based in Gua Musang. • Preparation for Tiger Awareness Day 2021 celebration with SRR. Plan B formulated to conduct it online in case the MMCO restriction continues. • 5 May: Habibun attended Perhilitan CEPA workshop at Holiday Villa Hotel, Subang. • 12 May: Submitted ACOP 2021 report to RSPO. This is annual requirement of the RSPO members failing which our membership can be suspended. • 12 & 21 May: Discussion with BL Asia re. Neste CORE project; followed by a briefing on the implementation of the project in Sumatra by Ms. Fenekle from Diameter. • 17, 23 & 24 May: Working Group discussion re. public consultation on the new RSPO-NPP. • 25 May: Attended the 1st National Tiger Survey briefing by Perhilitan. <p><u>BTFC Forest/Hornbill Conservation Work</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 5-29 May: Conducted fieldwork under the BT hornbill conservation work. Others involve time spend on developing hornbill training modules and preparation of project reports. • 24 May: Media training session with 2 Hornbill Guardians in MNS Gerik Centre conducted by Ms Leong Hon Yuen for her Pulitzer-funded project and Kg Chuweh honey project. • Finalised the agreement with DWNP to support OA livelihood project under their IC-CFS project. First tranche of funds received in early May. Inception work with Kg Chuweh started in mid-May. • Online meeting with The Habitat Foundation (Justine Vaz and team) on the making of short features in RTM TV2 (Mandarin segment) of THF-funded projects. The MNS Kg Chuweh hornbill tree nursery project funded by THF will be featured. Required to prepare materials for submission to TV2 for segment production. • Prepared and submitted Q1/2021 Report (narrative and financial) to BirdLife/Segre Foundation under the Helmeted Hornbill project in BTFC. • Assisted MNS Kuching Branch in developing a 3-year hornbill conservation project in Usun Apau National Park and submitted to BirdLife International to source for funding. <p><u>PUBLICATIONS/REPORTS/PAPERS</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Preparing a Plain-pouched Hornbill Hornbill Triangle Monitoring Report for 2018, 2019 and 2020 (MNS Conservation Publication Series). 2019 Report being finalized.

- 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. The paper is still in development stage among authors.
- Syamimi is one of the co-author on a paper entitled Diversity of Herpetofauna in Kadamaian, Kota Belud by Mdm Anna Wong (MNS Sabah branch chairperson) along with Mr Paul Y. Imbun (Sabah Parks). The paper has been submitted to the Journal of Tropical Biology and Conservation (JTBC) for publication.

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.
- 4 & 8 May: Submitted revised proposal to Global Forest Watch (USD40K), which was developed in partnership with Ecological Economic Solution; Subsequently were notified that we managed to get the project and it will start in August 2021.
- 5 May: Balu and Ee Ling attended the FoGo Partner Meeting – Project Update; Mdm Anna Wong attended the Mesyuarat TORAC on ‘Cadangan Projek Pembangunan Resort Di Atas Lot 31831, Plot 1, Pulau Rusukan Besar, Wilayah Persekutuan Labuan’; Submitted MNS feedbacks on Draft RSPO Revised 2015 FPIC Guide for Palm Oil Producers and Draft RSPO Simplified FPIC Approach for RSPO Independent Smallholders via RSPO online submission system.
- 6 - 7 May: Nur Syamimi and Ee Ling attended the Sesi Bengkel Libat Urus Bersama Pemegang Taruh Untuk Mengemaskini Adaptasi Dalam Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC) Update.
- 10 May: Submitted 6-month factsheets (Jan – Dec 2020) and 3 articles published in MN to Ms. Arunsiri Phothong (EEAS-Bangkok) for the Malaysia EU Delegation Newsletter.
- 12 May: Submitted the EU-BL Project key results achieved in Malaysia (Jan – May 2021) to Dr. Hum. The info was submitted to Ms. Arunsiri Phothong (EEAS-Bangkok) for updates to the new EU Ambassador in Malaysia; Nur Syamimi and Rose Au attended the ERE Consulting Group Sdn Bhd organized meeting on Mesyuarat TORAC on Kuching Urban Transportation System (KUTS) Phase 1 - Samarahan Line (Line 1) And Serian Line (Line 2) By Sarawak Metro Sdn. Bhd.
- 17 May: Submitted MNS feedbacks to the EIA on Proposed Disposal 50 Acre Area of Sediment from Jor Lake of Sultan Yussuf Power Station, at PDA3, Rizab Hutan Simpan Bukit Tapah, Mukim Batang Padang, Daerah Batang Padang, Perak, to DOE.
- 19 May: Submitted MNS feedbacks on the RSPO Initial Certification Milestone B (MS B) Audit of Pertubuhan Tani Niaga Lestari Negeri Johor (PERTANIAGA), (RSPO Membership: 1-0308-20-000-00) to BSI Services Malaysia Sdn. Bhd.
- 20 May: Submitted feedbacks to the Asahi Glass Foundation’s Questionnaire on Environmental Problems and the Survival of Humankind 2021.
- 21 May: Submitted MNS feedbacks on the Draft of RSPO New Planting Procedure 2021; Had our weekly EU-BL meeting to plan for the project mid-term review; Send MY forest article to Sue Win.
- 24 May: Sean attended the Mesyuarat TORAC on Manganese Mining Operation On PT 11202 Measuring An Area Of 40.48 HA (100.0 Acres) At Mukim Relai, Daerah Chiku, Jajahan Gua Musang, Kelantan Darul Naim; Submitted MNS feedbacks on the TOR on Manganese Mining Operation On PT 11202 Measuring An Area Of 40.48 HA (100.0 Acres) At Mukim Relai, Daerah Chiku, Jajahan Gua Musang, Kelantan Darul Naim.
- 24 – 27 May: Project Team participated in the BL organized Accelerator Online Conference 2021.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 25 May: Submitted MNS feedback on RSPO Principle & Criteria Recertification Assessment of Genting Plantation Berhad – Genting Sabapalm Palm Oil Mill And Supply Base, Sandakan, Sabah, Malaysia. • 27 May: Balu attended the Sesi Libat Urus Bersama Pemegang Taruh Sempena Persidangan UNFCCC Climate Change Conference 2021 – Sessions of The Subsidiary Bodies, 31 Mei 2021 – 17 Jun 2021 Secara Atas Talian. • 28 May: Sean attended the Mesyuarat TORAC on Proposed Gold Mining (Alluvial) On ML05/2020 LOT 35523 With An Area Of 54.90 HA, Locality Of Merapuh Mukim Batu Yon, Daerah Lipis, Pahang; Submitted MNS feedbacks on the EIA on Proposed Gold Mining (Alluvial) On ML05/2020 LOT 35523 With An Area Of 54.90 HA, Locality Of Merapuh Mukim Batu Yon, Daerah Lipis, Pahang to DOE; Submitted MNS feedbacks for the Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) National Forest Stewardship Standard (NFSS) of Malaysia revision. • 31 May: Balu, Ee Ling and Sean attended the Mesyuarat EIATRC on Proposed 8,498.58 ha (21,000 acres) of Logging, Oil Palm Plantation and Agroforestry Development in Private Land Bukit Batu Putih (PT12227), Mukim Keratong, District of Rompin, Pahang Darul Makmur Oleh YP Olio Sdn Bhd.
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Prepared by: Balu Perumal, HOD Conservation; 24 June 2021