

## Conservation Division Report as of 24 August – 25 September 2020 (CMCO Period)

<b>1. Division Updates:</b>	
2 programme areas i.e. the Marine & Terrestrial programmes which support MNS Strategic Plan 2008–2020 implementation.	
Marine & Wetlands Conservation Programme	<p><u>Managers:</u> Sonny Wong &amp; 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 &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 project with RICOH Japan ended in June 2020. However, the migratory bird initiatives will continue, especially re. community training, Kapar monitoring and AWC, but we will have to look for other funding.</p> <p>b. Mangrove initiatives, Firefly and Otter projects;  Community mangrove tree planting supported by Forestry Department (RM6K); Firefly directory work supported by FRIM (RM22K); NCSC Otter project supported by MCIS (RM30K).</p> <p>c. Tree planting activities; UCF Resource Centre &amp; 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 the nurseries.</p>
Terrestrial Conservation Programme	<p><u>Managers:</u> Balu Perumal &amp; Yeap Chin Aik  <u>Staff:</u> Lee Ee Ling contracted as policy officer. Syamimi Makbul, Wan Rodiah, Woo Chee Yoong, 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.  <u>Activity focus:</u> Hornbill &amp; large mammals' 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 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) and Coffee Bean &amp; Tea Leaf campaign grant (RM30K),</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.
<b>3. Project Activities Updates</b> 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"> <li>• On-going planning for Marine/ Wetlands Programme 2020/21 underway; identification of new projects for 2020/21 and sourcing for possible funding/ donors.</li> <li>• 29 Aug: Organized the 1<sup>st</sup> MNS Nature Talks Series – A Race to Save Our Seagrass. Event facilitated by student intern, Hairul Rahman and delivered by Prof. Mutahara (UPM).</li> </ul> <p><u>NCSC Project and migratory bird initiatives:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• CGSO approved the monthly Kapar Waterbirds monitoring for the 2020-2021. The first counting will start on 6<sup>th</sup> Sept. 2020. These are now postponed due to KEV’s temporary restrictions due to Covid19.</li> <li>• 2 Sept: Wai Pak participated in the first Webinar for KPA: Marine Ecosystem in Malaysia: Mudflats and flyway, title: <i>Kepentingan Dataran Lumpur kepada Manusia &amp; Burung-burung Air</i></li> <li>• 7 Sept: Tree planting proposals at NCSC and Sg Yu, Merapoh submitted to Control Union: RM50k each.</li> <li>• 19 Sept: Mangrove clean-up activities during <i>air pasang besar</i> with the Flyway Komuniti at Kg Sg Lima, Pulau Ketam.</li> <li>• Ricoh’s AWC Seminar will be held in Oct. 2020, in conjunction with Pesta Sayap 2020. Internal Zoom Meet held on 26 Sept.</li> <li>• Discussion with BCC on publication of 3<sup>rd</sup> edition of Bird Check List for Malaysia.</li> <li>• Proposal for community project at Pulau Ketam developed for Hasanah Foundation funding (RM200K).</li> <li>• Ongoing: Developing “volunteer programme package” for Asian Waterbird Census 2021.</li> </ul> <p><u>Firefly Initiative</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• July - Sept: Discussion with FoBK, FRIM and UM on firefly citizen science programme at Bukit Kiara. MNS to facilitate seminar under the GEF-SGP funded community project.</li> <li>• 1<sup>st</sup> Sept: Virtual WFFD 2020 celebration winners announced.</li> <li>• Uploaded information: FB - Firefly, a Childhood Insect Talk for HaveHope.org.</li> <li>• Live interview on firefly by InsideMalaysia.</li> <li>• 11 Sep: SSC Leaders meet 3 (IUCN FSG) - In discussion: developing a global firefly monitoring including citizen science.</li> <li>• Proposal to support firefly community project in Malaysia submitted to CIMB Foundation (RM210K).</li> </ul> <p><u>Tree planting initiatives and Urban Resource Centre, including Climate Change:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ongoing: Paper preparation for submission to Forest Governance Forum 2021 highlighting MNS work re. PAKAS Komuniti and UCF Network.</li> <li>• Aug. - Nov. 2020: 3 volunteers from local universities registered to help on routine work at UCF 3 times per weeks.</li> <li>• 1 Sept: OPPO management trainee briefing on UCF activities conducted by Shahril.</li> <li>• 5 - 10 Sept: At Gua Musang with 6 UMT student interns. Carried out nursery maintenance and did stock inventory.</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 10 Sept: IWK-MNS partnership (MOU signing) event held at Lembah Pantai 2, KL. This will support UCF tree planting activities.</li> <li>• 12 Sept: Attended the Program Bersama Menteri Kewangan Bersama NGO Berkaitan Pengurusan Hutan Paya Laut sempena Program Jelajah Bajet 2021 at Hutan Paya Laut, Kuala Sepetang, Perak.</li> <li>• 14 Sept: Facilitated Science Film Festival video recordings at UCF.</li> <li>• 18 Sept: Facilitated the planting of 20 merbau trees during Merdeka Day - MNS Apps launching program</li> </ul> <p><u>MNS Otter Project</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2 Sept: Prof Ahmad, Balu and Woo participated in discussion with DBKL. Agreed on the terms of MOU and asked to develop proposals for Urban Otter conservation, plus an Otter education centre at Taman Tasik Perdana.</li> <li>• 3 Sept: Submitted full proposal for Otter conservation project at KSNP to Conservation, Food and Health Foundation. Potential USD 30K funding for 1-year project.</li> <li>• 4 Sept: Woo participated in Otter Working Group Singapore Talk No. 4, and presented on KSNP: Tales of a Precious Wetland Refugia for Otters.</li> <li>• Started on the MCIS-CI field project - surveying otter population and its distribution along North Central Selangor Coast.</li> <li>• Woo CY worked on the logo for "Malaysia Otter Network".</li> </ul>
Terrestrial Conservation Programme	<p><u>FGV Sun Bear Project</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ongoing: Developing volunteer packages for Kenong Rimba Park &amp; Sun Bear Education Module</li> <li>• 24–27 Aug: Trip to Kenyir National Park with Perhilitan and UKM on a Sunbear release program - 2 Sun Bears, 5 Sambar Deers, 1 Buffy Fish Owl and a White Bellied Fish Eagle were released. Drone footage were taken during the event.</li> <li>• Financial report and claims were sent to FGV - managed by Syuhada and Intan.</li> <li>• 7 Sept: Drove to Kuantan to collect the ROS Certificate for SRR. Next day had meeting with the community on the next step for SRR as a formal registered organization. The meeting participated by Malayan Rainforest Station, a local NGO working on ecotourism in the area.</li> <li>• 10 Sept: Meet up with SBM Kuala Lipis after the MCO period.</li> <li>• 18 Sept: Wai Pak and Syuhada attended NTCAP crisis meeting at Perhilitan, Cheras.</li> </ul> <p><u>BTFC Forest/Hornbill Conservation Work</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Segre-BirdLife proposal was revised and accepted by the donor. However, the final amount is about Euro 95k for 3 years. The project is scheduled to start come 1<sup>st</sup> Nov. 2020.</li> <li>• BirdLife Tokyo Dinner Funds secured for Peninsular Malaysia and Sabah. MNS HQ and MNS Terengganu Branch will conduct work in BTFC and Terengganu under Peninsular Malaysia (RM65K) and MNS Sabah Branch will focus on Imbak Canyon (RM15K). Signed agreements completed.</li> <li>• Small grant Ulu Muda/hornbill proposal to a private donor through BirdLife did not succeed.</li> <li>• Malaysian Care will disburse the aid funds for indigenous community in stages. Have secured the funds for Kg Tebang and Kg Charokbus in Temengor. This will be disbursed in Oct. 2020. Sg Buloh and Kg Peta will follow suit after this.</li> <li>• Preparing proposals for donors to fund the Chuweh tree nursery.</li> <li>• Preparing quarterly report (July-Aug) for Bursa Malaysia.</li> <li>• Conducted fieldwork from 11-23 Sept under the BT hornbill conservation work.</li> </ul>

- MNS Hornbill Volunteer Programme 2020 cancelled due to COVID-19, but the Hornbill Guardians will still monitor and count them at fixed stations.
- Ongoing: Developing hornbill training modules.
- 1 Sept: Attended meeting called by DWNP HQ on matters pertaining to NGO Orang Asli work in CFS PL1.

#### Publications/ Reports/ Papers

- Preparing a Plain-pouched Hornbill Triangle Monitoring Report for 2018 and 2019 (MNS Conservation Publication Series). Submitted 2019 draft to Thailand Hornbill Project team for inclusion of information for the Bang Lang (southern Thailand) side.
- MNS Conservation Publication No. 21 have been distributed to JPSM, DWNP and PSPC. Five copies were also submitted to the National Library as stipulated by law.
- Finalising the paper on Ulu Muda hornbills with co-authors for MNS Ulu Muda Seminar in Nov 2020.
- Preparing hornbill-related article for the MNS 80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Book.
- 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 Dec. 2020, in time for the start of the UN Decade on Ecosystem Restoration 2021-2030 (decadeonrestoration.org).
- Resubmitted a short communication on hornbill to the IUCN SSC Hornbill Specialist Group's bulletin.

#### EU Forest Governance Project

- 24 Aug: Submitted MNS EU-BL Project factsheet (Jan – July 2020); Submitted MNS feedbacks to the Pandangan Awam – Draft Perubahan 3, Pelan Bandar Raya Kuala Lumpur 2020.
- 25 Aug: Attended the TORAC Meeting on TOR Projek Penanaman Kelapa Sawit Dan Ternakan Lembu Di LOT PT 32799 Di Mukim Pulau Kerengga, LOT PT 14380, Sebahagian LOT 26099 Dan Sebahagian LOT 12171 Di Mukim Merchang, Daerah Marang, Terengganu, and shared MNS comments.
- 27 Aug: Balu attended 3<sup>rd</sup> IGEN Task Force meeting at KASA. Discussion on MCCG partnership and participation in the conference session. Follow-up meeting held with MCCG members on 4 Sept.
- 28 Aug: Weekly EU-BL project meeting. This was followed by subsequent meetings on 4 & 25 Sept.
- 31 Aug: Submitted MNS comments to the public announcement of evaluation of Gerak Saga Sdn. Bhd. By Control Union.
- 1 Sept: Yeap and Balu attended the Sesi Perkongsian Maklumat Berkenanan Dengan Aktiviti Pembangunan Komuniti Yang Melibatkan Masyarakat Orang Asli di Koridor Ekologi Gerik (CFS1: PL2) and Sg. Yu, Merapoh (CFS: PL1).
- 2 Sept: Shared the available information related to public outcry and MNS concerns with regards to deforestation and development projects within the forest reserves in the State of Perak, as part of the on-going stakeholder consultation process warranted for the FMU certification in Perak, with SIRIM QAS International Sdn Bhd.
- 2-3 Sept: Balu & Ee Ling participated in the Conferences of Parties of Malaysia Peatlands Stakeholder – Sustainable Use of Peatland And Haze Mitigation in ASEAN, organised by People for Peat/ TRCRC.
- 8 Sept: Virtual meeting (9<sup>th</sup> meeting) of RSPO JAWG; attended by Balu.
- 9 Sept: MNS Sabah attended the Lawatan Tapak Hutan Simpan Bukit Hampuan, Ranau, Sabah, upon invitation by Jabatan Audit Negara Malaysia.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 10 Sept: Attended the Sesi Webinar Bersama Pemegang Taruh Program UK Partnering For Accelerated Climate Transitions (UK Pact) Untuk Malaysia, organised by KASA; Balu participated the 3<sup>rd</sup> RSPO-NPP standards review meeting.</li><li>• 14-22 Sept: Attended the International Palm Oil Sustainability Conference 2020 – Module 1: Agricultural Commodities And Sustainability Certification, organised by MPOC.</li><li>• Ongoing: Yeap working with Woo on the IBA revision work. IBA review workshop scheduled for 24 Oct. 2020.</li></ul>
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Prepared by: Balu Perumal, HOD Conservation; 25 September 2020