

# Jungle Times

Independent Newsletter of Danau Girang Field Centre, Est. 2008



Issue No. 142:

January – March 2022

*Favourite Photos Credit:*

*Elephants – Timothy Chang*

*Flooded Macaques – Camera Trap*

*Motherhood – Camera Trap*

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# Regrow Borneo Update

Currently the team are working on opening a new restoration site in the Kaboi Lake area. Within the area 9 audiomoths (acoustic monitoring devices) have been deployed to monitor the biodiversity, and the pilot study for this has just been completed.

Additionally, newly planted trees are now being remeasured by the team, to keep tabs on the rate of growth and the success of the established plots. This was supposed to be done in December of 2021, however flooding unfortunately got in the way. Now it is all systems go as the team are busy making up for lost time!

Please continue supporting Regrow Borneo by donating on <https://regrowborneo.org/donate>.

We will continue updating you with the progress of the project.



# INL Project – MCMC Workshop

Members of the Wildlife Crime Interagency Working Group comprising of representatives from various state departments, law enforcement agencies and NGOs completed a two-day course on January 22<sup>nd</sup> looking at how to monitor social media platforms. This allowed them to develop ways in which to effectively seize digital equipment and evidence applicable to wildlife trafficking and illegal trade.

Jointly organised by Sabah Wildlife Department (SWD), the Malaysian Communications and Multimedia Commission (MCMC), and Danau Girang Field Centre (DGFC), the training provided an opportunity for the working group to improve their knowledge on theoretical and practical aspects related to information gathering using open-source techniques, "First Responder Activity" and also "Data Preservation" that will be used during raid activities carried out against the criminals involved who use Social Media as a platform for criminal conduct.

This course is the 14th in a series funded by the US Department of State's Bureau of International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Affairs (INL), through the project "Boosting Enforcement and Forensic Capability to Deter Wildlife Trafficking in Sabah" coordinated by the SWD and DGFC. Poaching, hunting, illegal killing and trade, are real threats to the many endangered species in Sabah and have been at the forefront of wildlife enforcement agenda, more so in recent years.

DGFC has been working intensely with SWD to combat these criminal activities by organising and facilitating trainings like this one, and by setting up an Intelligence Unit and a Forensic Unit at the SWD.



## Visit from the US Ambassador

On the 9<sup>th</sup> – 10<sup>th</sup> of March we had a visit, along with Sabah Wildlife Department, from the United States Ambassador from the Kuala Lumpur Embassy.

This visit was driven by a hope to renew all the partnerships the embassy has in Sabah, especially those that relate to the environment and climate crisis when the borders of the state are reopened .

The ambassador, Brian D McFeeters, said that the climate crisis was the main priority of the Biden administration, which emphasised the importance of the world's forests in combating the climate crisis.

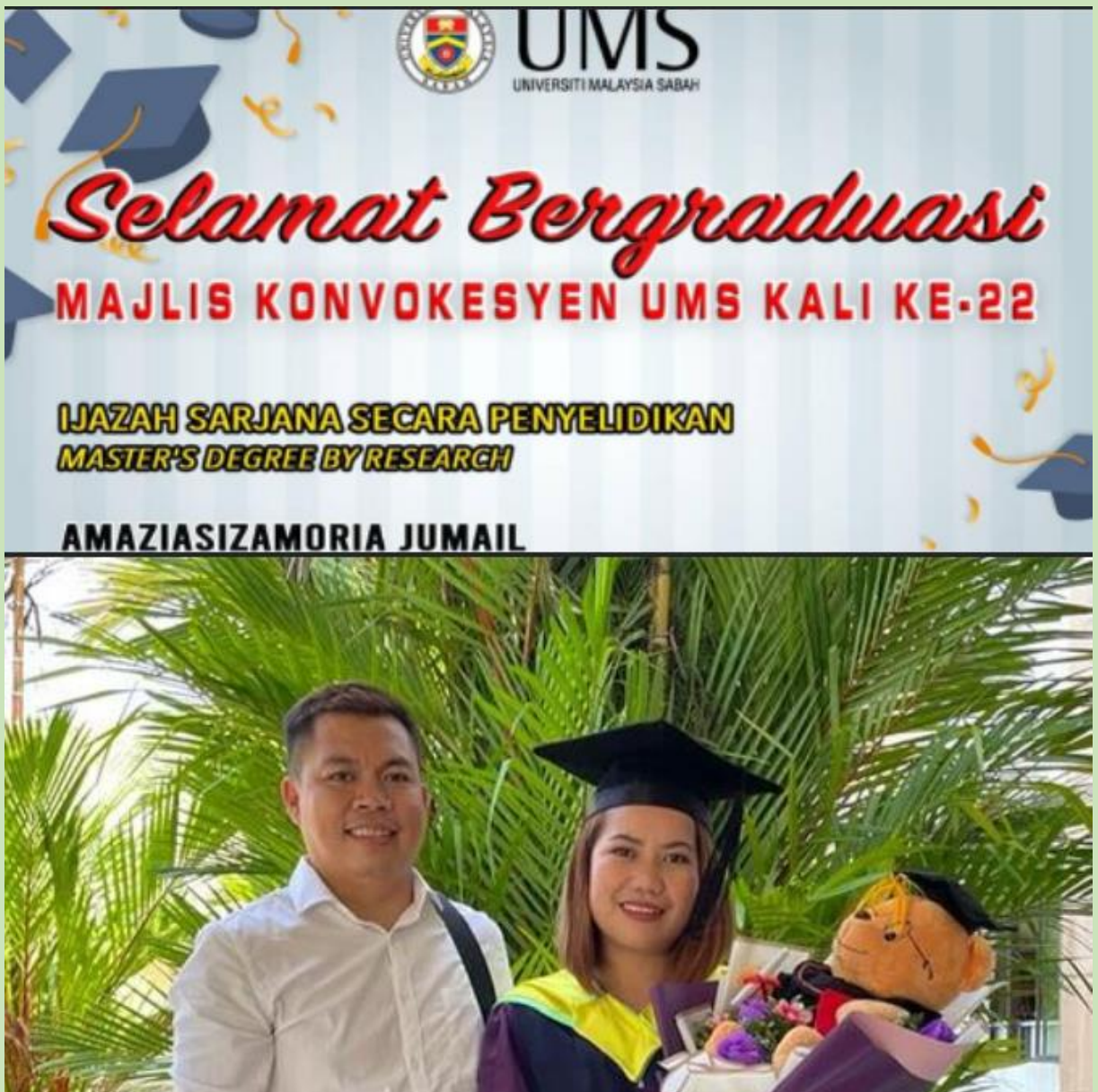
McFeeters added that during his visit he spoke to Sabah officials about further plans to protect the forests here.

This is certainly very good news for Sabah, Malaysia, and the world, and will hopefully lead to some great things!



## Congratulations Maz!

We would like to say a massive congratulations to one of our masters students Amaziasizamoria Jumail, who has graduated on the 26<sup>th</sup> of March from Universiti Malaysia Sabah with a masters through research. Well done, Maz! All of us here at DGFC are very proud of you!



## PROTECT

The Sabah Forestry Department's special tactical enforcement team, the PROTECT unit, has been highly successful in battling wildlife poaching, and trafficking in the region. So far, the unit has successfully recorded 145 cases including 77 cases of forest offences, 55 cases of wildlife offence, and 13 cases of other offences since 2016.

This has further resulted in the arrest of 53 suspects and confiscated exhibits including 1316 pieces of converted timber, 900 mangrove poles, 957 bundles of tangar bark, 122 kg of gaharu, 300 pieces of nibong, 1022 kg of mixed wildlife meat, four pieces of elephant tusk, 538 turtle eggs, 60 pieces of home-made firearms, 176 bullets, three wooden barges, 10 four-wheel drives, 15 chainsaws, 49 packs of methamphetamine and 1226 cartons of illegal cigarettes.

It is clear from those numbers that the unit has been highly successful, and we are glad they are at the forefront of protecting our natural environment here in Sabah.



# Recent Publications

## Third-party vocal intervention in the proboscis monkey (*Nasalis larvatus*)

Marina Scheumann<sup>1</sup>  · Kathrin M. Röper<sup>1,2</sup> ·  
Senthilvel K. S. S. Nathan<sup>3</sup> · Benoit Goossens<sup>3,4,5,6</sup>

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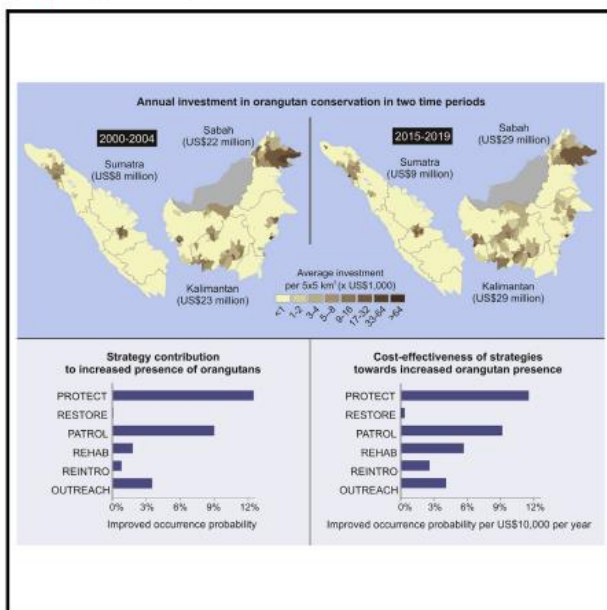


This paper looking at how third-party vocalisation intervene in intragroup conflicts amongst proboscis monkeys can be found open access [here](#).

## Current Biology

### Effectiveness of 20 years of conservation investments in protecting orangutans

#### Graphical abstract



#### Authors

Truly Santika, Julie Sherman, Maria Voigt, ..., Rizki Wahyudi, Achmad Yanuar, Erik Meijaard

#### Correspondence

emeijaard@borneofutures.org

#### In brief

Orangutan conservation continues to face challenges in halting the species' decline. Santika et al. evaluate the cost effectiveness of 20 years of orangutan conservation investments in a spatiotemporal context. Differences in the number of orangutans saved per dollar spent on different conservation strategies can help inform more efficient resource allocation.

If interested, this paper can be found open access [here](#).

## Homing: a case-study on the spatial memory of the Asian water monitor lizard *Varanus salvator* in the Kinabatangan floodplain

SERGIO GUERRERO-SANCHEZ<sup>1,2,5\*</sup>, RICHARD BURGER<sup>1,2</sup>, MOHD SHAH FITRI BIN ROSLI<sup>2</sup>,  
NAZRUL BIN MOH NATSYIR<sup>2</sup>, ROSLEE BIN RAHMAN<sup>2</sup>, SILVESTER SAIMIN<sup>3</sup>,  
PABLO OROZCO-TERWENGEL<sup>1</sup> & BENOIT GOOSSENS<sup>1,2,3,4</sup>

For further delving into this paper when it takes your fancy, find it open access [here](#).

RESEARCH ARTICLE

Ecology and Evolution  WILEY

## The effect of oil palm-dominated landscapes on the home range and distribution of a generalist species, the Asian water monitor

Sergio Guerrero-Sanchez<sup>1,2</sup>  | Katherine Majewski<sup>1,2</sup> | Pablo Orozco-terWengel<sup>1</sup>  |  
Silvester Saimin<sup>3</sup> | Benoit Goossens<sup>1,2,3,4</sup> 

Lastly is another Asian water monitor paper for all your herpetological needs. This paper can once again be found open access following this link [here](#).





2021-12-08 3:18:18 PM M 1/3  
KMTFR CT 8B



2021-11-22 1:48:08 PM M 3/3

# Favourite Photos

Jan – Mar 2022



29°C





### Danau Girang Field Centre

*Danau Girang Field Centre was opened in July 2008. It is located in the Lower Kinabatangan Wildlife Sanctuary, Sabah, Malaysia.*

*Danau Girang is owned by the Sabah Wildlife Departments and supported by Cardiff University. Its purpose is to further scientific research with the aim of contributing to long-term conservation projects in the area and develop a better understanding of our environment and the living things we share it with.*

Contact Us:

#### **Danau Girang Field Centre**

Lot 6

The Jungle

Lower Kinabatangan Wildlife Sanctuary

Sabah

Email: [contact@dgfc.life](mailto:contact@dgfc.life)

Web Page Address: [www.dgfc.life](http://www.dgfc.life)

*Editor: Tyler Cuddy*

*Director of Publication: Benoit Goossens*

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