



The Jungle Times

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Visiting this month...



EcoHealth Alliance: The group came for a few days to carry out preliminary work for their Deep Forest project which will entail bat, primate and small mammal sampling.

Randy, Mary-Ellen and Morgan Zupanski: Randy is the General Manager of the Shangri-la Rasa-ria and came to DGFC for two nights to see what we get up to.

Chris Chong: Was here to see what projects are happening at DG at the moment with the view of coming back to make a documentary about the technology behind science.

Freska Sambrani, Muhammah Jamil bin Sabu, Abu Huzaifah & Timothy Fong: Four vet students from University Putra Malaysia came to DG for a few days to spend time in the forest and with our resident vet, Sergio.

Marta Pimeda, Consuelo Cardenas & Rosa Cecilic Pineda: Spent two nights at the centre, they went along with projects such as crocodile sampling and fishing, as well as being taken on night and day walks in the forest.

Elephant Update

There are currently three female elephants collared in the Kinabatangan, Aqeela (collared 5th October 2010), Liun (collared 11th April 2011) and Puteri (collared 19th October 2012). Aqeela and Liun are traveling together and are currently in Lot 4 of the LKWS. Puteri is in Lot 5. Aqeela's satellite unit has been working now for over 27 months and has produced more than 16,000 GPS points over this period. The unit is still giving 24 positions everyday!



This project is a collaboration between the Sabah Wildlife Department, Cardiff University, the NGO HUTAN and Danau Girang Field Centre. We would like to thank our funders Houston Zoo, Columbus Zoo, Elephant Family, Mohamed bin Zayed Species Conservation Fund and US Fish and Wildlife Service for their continuous support.

Sunda clouded leopard sighting at DG!

While La Verne University were having their field course at DGFC in early January, a group of DG and La Verne students were extremely lucky to catch a glimpse of the rare and elusive Sunda clouded leopard (*Neofelis diardi*).



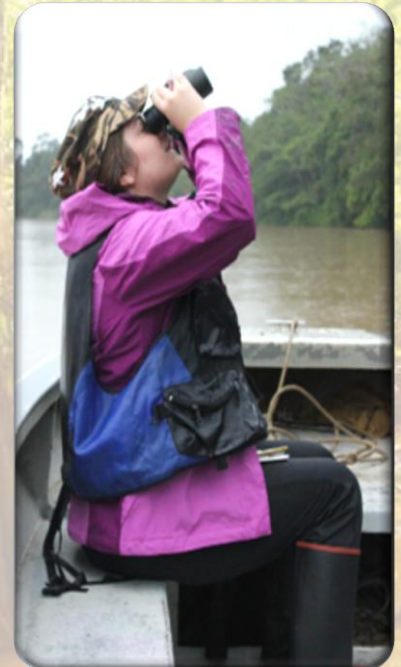
DG's Clouded Leopard Programme is due to kick start next month after receiving 1.46 million RM in funding from the Sime Darby Foundation. We just received 250 camera traps from Reconyx!



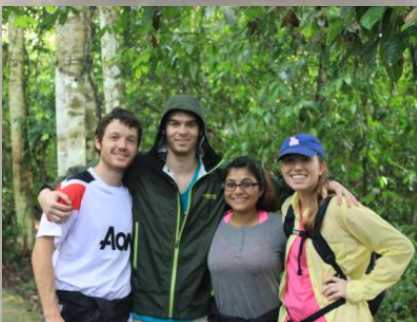
La Verne University Field Course



Earlier this month, we welcomed our first field course from La Verne University, California. A group of 13 students and 4 lecturers spent a week at DGFC completing a course in tropical biology while gaining field experience. We kept them very busy showing them all the projects happening at DG, including: fish diversity and parasitology, camera trapping, primate surveys, crocodile surveys, nocturnal primates and hornbill nest surveys.



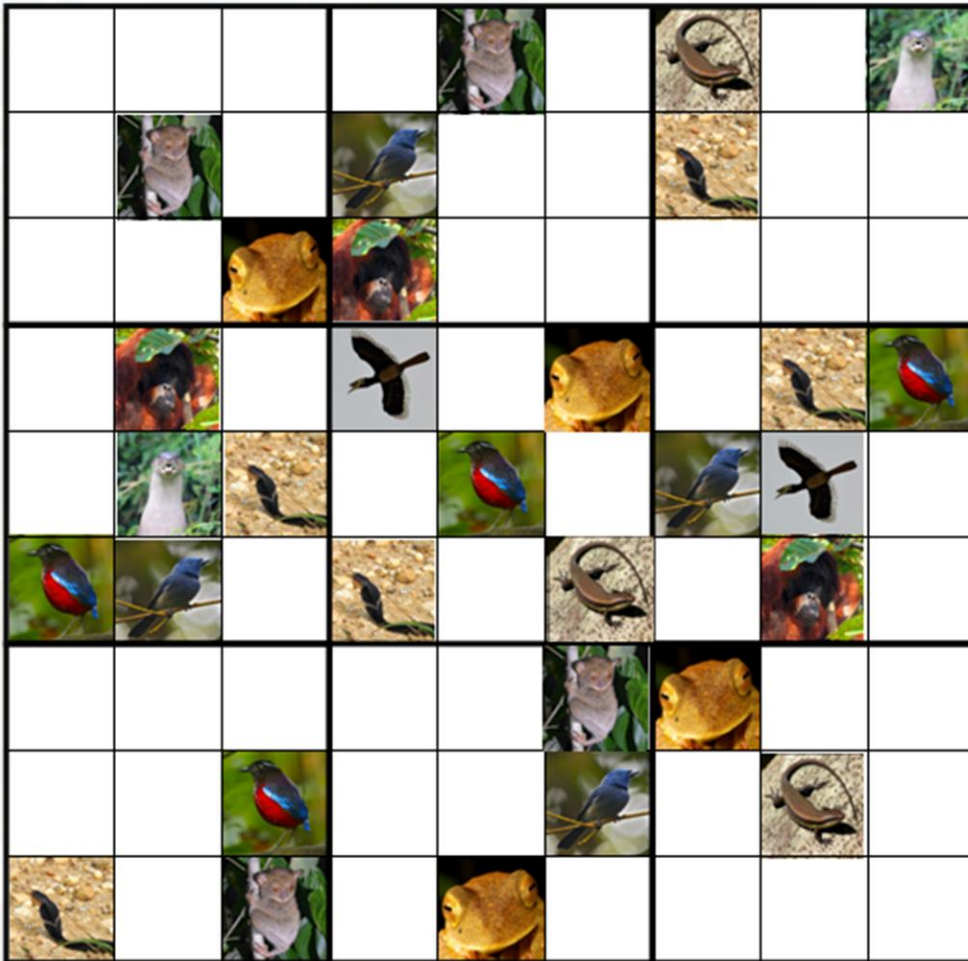
La Verne's photo album!



Jungle Sudoku!

A jungle twist on the classic Sudoku cube. Your task: To fill in the blanks...

There's only one rule... All nine animals must appear once and only once in each row, column and box (bold lined).



Animals this month:

- ❖ Sumatran cobra (Camila Goossens)
- ❖ Orang-utan (Helen Cadwallader)
- ❖ Smooth otter (Helen Cadwallader)
- ❖ Harlequin tree frog (Rudi Delvaux)
- ❖ Western Tarsier (Thomas Meignan)
- ❖ Oriental pied hornbill (Thomas Meignan)
- ❖ Skink (Meg Harris)
- ❖ Black headed pitta (Baharudin Resake)
- ❖ Black naped monarch (Baharudin Resake)

Conservation Corner:

Tomistoma

Scientific name: *Tomistoma schlegelii*

ICUN status: Endangered

Wild Population trend: Decreasing



Tomistoma are one of the rarest crocodilian species in the world. Active researchers estimate the global population at around 2,500 individuals. Remaining individuals are spread over 39 locations in more than 10 different rivers throughout parts of Indonesia and Malaysia. They have a slender snout with 76 to 86 short spiky teeth. Slow flowing freshwater rivers are their preferred habitat but they are also found in lakes and swamps where vegetative cover is high. Adults feed on a wide range of species from small invertebrates such as insects and spiders to large vertebrates such as monkey and deer.

Threats:

- Habitat destruction and development.
- Forest fires- destroy nesting areas.
- By catch in fish traps and nets.
- Overfishing.
- Poaching for skins.

Conservation:

- Listed on the CITES appendix I.
- Creation of the Tomistoma Task Force in 2003, who are dedicated to conserving this rare reptile.

Photos of the Month!



Photos left to right:

Reticulated python; orang-utan mother & baby; divided grass yellow butterfly; La Verne's massage train after a long day in the field; Sunda clouded leopard; fungal hyphae found growing under tree bark; Mike showing students his fishy work; jungle flowers emerge; the La Verne boys on the river to go camera trapping; orang-utan watching; orang-utans play in front of our camera traps.

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 Department
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.*

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The opinions expressed in this newsletter do
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of Cardiff University.

