



Sumatran Ranger Project Quarterly Report

March 2024, Leuser Ecosystem, North Sumatra

Executive Summary

The last quarter has seen the rangers busy with elephant monitoring, with elephants sighted across all three months. With the increase in elephant activity, an increase in tiger activity was also recorded with 11 sets of tracks seen, which has become a trend the rangers see. Orangutan sightings also increased as the Durian trees come into flower.

The team have been conducting regular community engagement sessions with three forest edge communities over this last quarter.

April will see head ranger Jasson returning from Spain with his new baby; we are very excited to have his enthusiasm and motivation back on the team. We will also welcome a team of Canadian zookeepers who will work alongside the rangers to construct our 14th predator-proof livestock corral.

At the time of writing, we have been sent the final analysis of the bio acoustic survey led by Pera in 2023. Working in partnership with Deep Energies and Rainforest Connection we have used acoustic recording technology to identify wildlife along the forest edge. We look forward to sharing the results with you in the next quarterly report.



Our Vision

To ensure long term protection of the forest edge within the Leuser Ecosystem in North Sumatra.

Our Mission

To halt activities that are a threat to the environment and to wildlife, and to support forest edge communities in ways that benefit people and the environment.

Patrols

A total of 15 snares were destroyed in the first quarter of 2024; one third of the annual snare total for the entirety of 2023.

42 GPS points were recorded associated with Sumatran elephants and rangers monitored them closely from the safety of trees.

Illegal logging was recorded along the border of the National Park forest in January with two trees found felled and processed on site. An additional event was recorded in March with four Kruing trees found felled; the wood typically used for wooden planks.

Signs of wild Boar were the most common species recorded whilst on patrol, followed by Sumatran elephant, Leopard cat, Sumatran orangutan and Civet.

Community outreach was conducted over all three months in the villages of Tualang Gepang, Gelugur, and Afd XII.



One of 15 snares destroyed



Felled Kruing trees



Monitoring Sumatran elephants

Summary of species recorded in Q1

| Species | Sighted | Tracks | Faeces | Scratches | Nest | Wallow | Damage | Food remains | No. |
|-----------------------------------------------------------|---------|--------|--------|-----------|------|--------|--------|--------------|-----|
| Malayan sun bear <i>Helarctos malayanus</i> | | 1 | 3 | 13 | 1 | | | | 18 |
| Leopard cat <i>Prionailurus bengalensis</i> | | 1 | 33 | | | | | | 34 |
| Sumatran orangutan <i>Pongo abelii</i> | 4 | | | | 22 | | | | 24 |
| Thomas leaf monkey <i>Presbytis thomasi</i> | 3 | | | | | | | | 3 |
| Wild boar <i>Sus scrofa</i> | 1 | 97 | 3 | | 3 | 26 | | | 130 |
| Sambar deer <i>Rusa unicolor</i> | | 20 | 1 | | | | | | 21 |
| Sumatran tiger <i>Panthera tigris sumatrae</i> | | 11 | | | | | | | 11 |
| Silvery lutung <i>Trachypithecus cristatus</i> | 1 | | | | | | | | 1 |
| Muntjac <i>Muntiacus montanus</i> | | 1 | | | | | | | 1 |
| Palm civet <i>Paradoxus hermaphroditus</i> | | | 24 | | | | | | 24 |
| Lesser mouse-deer (chevrotain) <i>Tragulus kanchil</i> | | 1 | | | | | | | 1 |
| Brahminy kite <i>Haliastur indus</i> | 6 | | | | | | | | 6 |
| Sumatran elephant <i>Elephas maximus sumatrensis</i> | 13 | 8 | 18 | | | | | | 39 |
| Prevost squirrel <i>Callosciurus prevostii</i> | 1 | | | | | | | | 1 |
| Sumatran porcupine <i>Tricys fasciculata</i> | | 2 | | | | | | | 2 |

Human-Wildlife Conflict

Sumatran elephants destroyed a total of five oil palm trees across the last quarter, with noise deterrents donated to landowners and mitigation measures taken by the rangers to drive them back to the forest. The team have been closely monitoring a bull with what appears to be a snare injury to his trunk, with the end almost severed. It seems to be healing and not causing him major issues with feeding.

There were no recorded human-tiger or human-orangutan conflict events in the first quarter of 2024.



Sumatran tiger pugmarks



Measuring elephant dung



Oil palm tree destroyed by elephants



Probable snare injury to bull elephant's trunk

Camera Traps

The frequency of Muntjac *Muntiacus muntjak montanus* (also known as Barking deer) on our camera traps continues to be significant.

We captured our first ever videos and images of Binturong in March. The rangers see Binturong which are the largest species of civet on patrol occasionally but in eight years of camera traps we have never recorded one until now.

We also captured video of a female Malayan sun bear and cub, and an image of the most traded animal in the world, the Sunda pangolin (below.)



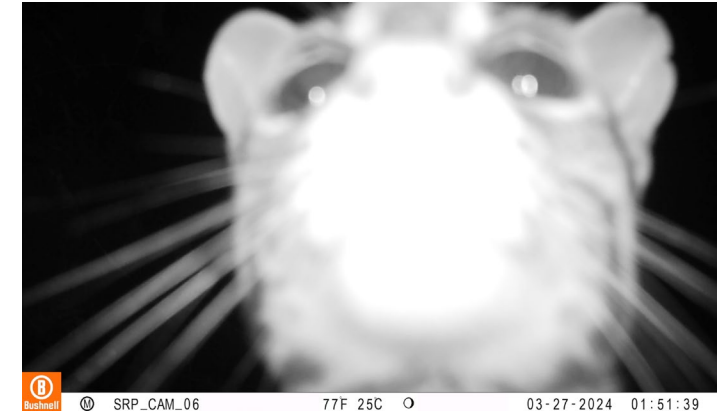
Pig-tailed macaque



Muntjac



Binturong



Leopard cat

Communities

Our seedling programme is blooming with the seedlings almost at a size where they can be planted. These will be given to community members to improve income opportunities in this first phase of the programme. As the table below shows, a total of 4337 seedlings have been grown and cared for by our seedling staff.

**REKAPAN TANAMAN DI PEMBIBITAN SRP
PER APRIL 2024**

| NO | NAMA TANAMAN | JUMLAH/DEC | MATI | BERTAMBAH | TOTAL/APRIL |
|----|--------------|--------------|------------|------------|--------------|
| 1 | KETAPANG | 461 | 4 | | 457 |
| 2 | SENGON | 54 | 0 | 34 | 88 |
| 3 | SALAM | 33 | 16 | | 17 |
| 4 | MERANTI | 60 | 10 | | 50 |
| 5 | MAHONI | 640 | 0 | 61 | 701 |
| 6 | MANGGA | 127 | 0 | 21 | 148 |
| 7 | ALPUKAT | 24 | 0 | 4 | 28 |
| 8 | RAMBUTAN | 692 | 20 | | 672 |
| 9 | CEMPEDAK | 159 | 27 | | 132 |
| 10 | KOPI | 68 | 0 | | 68 |
| 11 | GELUGUR | 12 | 2 | | 10 |
| 12 | KELENGKENG | 41 | 3 | | 38 |
| 13 | DURIAN | 670 | 36 | | 634 |
| 14 | JENKOL | 650 | 19 | | 631 |
| 15 | PETE | 518 | 17 | | 501 |
| 16 | SIRSAK | 25 | 1 | | 24 |
| 17 | SRIKAYA | 99 | 0 | | 99 |
| 18 | DUKU | 11 | 0 | 2 | 13 |
| 19 | JERUK | 26 | 0 | | 26 |
| | TOTAL | 4,370 | 155 | 122 | 4,337 |



Thank you to our partners



Huge thanks to our partners at Brevard Zoo for supporting Sumatran Ranger Project through the Quarters for Conservation programme. The team collected wild elephant dung and painted river rocks in an expression of gratitude for the support!

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