Rapid Assessment of Hornbills at Ravenscourt Forest Management Unit (FMU), Lawas

Malaysian Nature Society Kuching Branch (MNSKB) February 2023

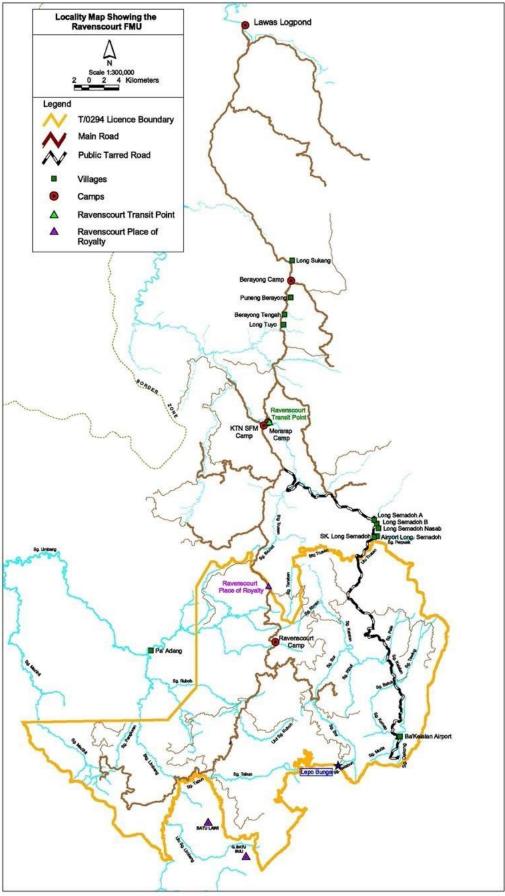
Ravenscourt Forest Management Unit (FMU) belongs to Samling Group of Companies. The FMU was issued a Forest Timber License (FTL) by Sarawak Forest Department on 28th January 1986 to manage a total area of 117,941 ha. This FMU is located 113 km from Lawas town and can be accessed by land by logging roads. All the four trails visited within the Ravenscourt FMU area are logging trails which are no longer in use. The FMU is located at an elevation, ranging from 800 to 1600 m asl. Forest types which can be found within the FMU is Hilly Mixed Dipterocarp Forest, Kerangas Forest and Lower Sub-montane Forest. The four trails within the Ravenscourt FMU are old logging trails with logged secondary forests fringing the edge. The highest elevation recorded during the survey was 1363 m asl. For the trail in Paya Maga, the team only walked until Camp 1 where the forest type is generally secondary forest with a swamp forest floor in certain areas.

The rapid assessment of hornbills was carried out between 28th September 2022 and 4th October 2022 with a total of five survey days. A total of five trails were surveyed where line transects and point counts were conducted. Line transects were conducted from the start point to the end point while point counts were conducted while walking from the end point to the start point. Point counts were conducted with intervals of 600 m with the duration of exactly 20 minutes at each point count. During the line transects and point counts, observation of birds were done based on sightings and calls. 86 species of birds were identified in the Ravenscourt FMU and 34 species were recorded along the trail in Paya Maga. One of the notable findings was the Black Oriole *Oriolus hosii* which could be observed throughout the Ravenscourt FMU. Please refer to the Bird List for more information. Other wildlife sightings include the Hose's Langur *Presbytis hosei*, Bornean Striped Palm Civet *Arctogalidia trivirgata*, Yellow-throated Marten *Martes flavigula* and Gibbons which were frequently heard there. Reptile species seen opportunistically included the Oriental Vine Snake *Ahaetulla prasina*, Speckle-headed Vine Snake *Ahaetulla fasciolata* and King Cobra *Ophiophagus hannah*. Please refer to the Additional Notes in the sampling data and Photos Section for more information.

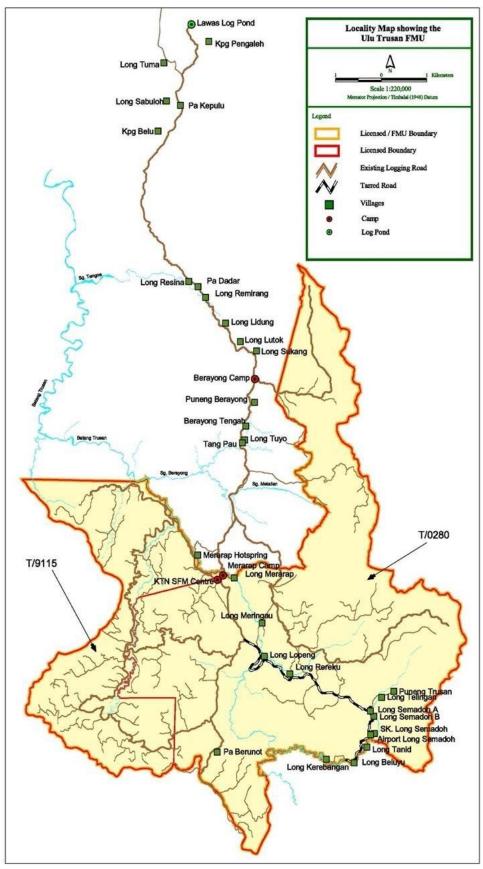
The major threat to the hornbills is most likely habitat degradation. Ravenscourt FMU is a Forest Management Unit with a timber license thus there were only a few trees greater than 50 cm DBH within the area. As hornbills require large trees for nesting, this could be the threat to their population. According to the interviews obtained from the local community, hunting might also have been a threat to the hornbill species especially before the pandemic as outsiders would trespass across the borders.

Community interviews were also conducted among the Lun Bawang natives in Ravenscourt FMU, Ba'Kelalan and Paya Maga in order to gather information and knowledge on hornbills and wildlife threats in the areas. According to the interviewees, the hornbills could be heard and seen in their area during the fruiting season. Most of the interviewees are able to recognize the hornbill species. Interestingly, there are local names for almost every hornbill species i.e. 'Menagang' (Rhinoceros Hornbill), 'Rot' (Wreathed Hornbill), 'Menudun' (Helmeted Hornbill), and 'Sui Teroek' (Black Hornbill). The two species of hornbills which are commonly seen and heard by the interviewees within the area are the Wreathed and Black Hornbills. The hornbills parts are not traditionally used by the Lun Bawang people but there are outsiders who would trespass and hunt in their area.

We would like to thank the staff of Forest Management Certification (FMC) team from Samling Group of Companies who participated and helped us throughout the surveys, Frazier Parose, Racheal Rosedy, Christly Bian Dawat, Clarence Agong Elia, Bryan Danil, Jack Palong, Robin Rining, Lorin Sanggit and Samuel Pengiran.



Map 1. Locality Map of Ravenscourt FMU (Credit: Samling Group of Companies)



Map 2. Locality Map of Ulu Trusan FMU (Credit: Samling Group of Companies



Photo 1. Ravenscourt FMU office (Credit: Batrisyia Teepol)



Photo 3. Line transect in Trail 3 (Credit: Hendry Michael Paong)



Photo 2. Walking along a trail in Paya Maga (Credit: Batrisyia Teepol)



Photo 4. Team observing Sambar Deer tracks in Trail 1 (Credit: Racheal Rosedy)



Photo 5. Potential hole observed in Trail 3 but no sighting of hornbills (Credit: Batrisyia Teepol)



Photo 6. Team looking for Hornbill (Credit: Batrisyia Teepol)



Photo 7. Conducting point counts in Trail 1 (Credit: Batrisyia Teepol)



Photo 8. Team before entering a trail (Credit: Batrisyia Teepol)

Page **6** of **18**



Photo 9. Interviewing the community in Ba'Kelalan (Credit: Racheal Rosedy)



Photo 10. Community interview in Long Telingan (Credit: Racheal Rosedy)



Photo 11. Community interview in Long Telingan (Credit: Batrisyia Teepol)



Photo 12. Interviewing locals in Demaring (Credit: Hendry Michael Paong)



Photo 13. Interviewing Samling staff in Demaring (Credit: Racheal Rosedy)



Photo 14. Line transect in Trail 3 (Credit: Hendry Michael Paong)



Photo 15. The unsuccessful nesting tree (Credit: Ng Jia Jie)



Photo 16. Group photo at Demaring hut (Credit: Racheal Rosedy)



Photo 18. Photo with Samling management staff at their office (Credit: Batrisyia Teepol)



Photo 17. Group photo with the guide at Paya Maga (Credit: Batrisyia Teepol)



Photo 19. Team photo after surveying Paya Maga (Credit: Hendry Michael Paong)



Photo 20. Blue-banded Pitta (Credit: Hendry Michael Paong)



Photo 22. Black Oriole in Ravenscourt FMU (Credit: Batrisyia Teepol)



Photo 21. Bornean-banded Pitta (Credit: Hendry Michael Paong)



Photo 23. Bornean Bulbul (Credit: Batrisyia Teepol)



Photo 24. Dark-sided Flycatcher (Credit: Batrisyia Teepol)



Photo 26. Female Jambu Fruit Dove (Credit: Ng Jia Jie)



Photo 25. Mountain Barbet (Credit: Batrisyia Teepol)



Photo 27. A male Bornean Leafbird (Credit: Ng Jia Jie)

Page **12** of **18**



Photo 28. Bushy-crested Hornbill pair (Credit: Batrisyia Teepol)



Photo 30. Rhinoceros Hornbills flying over Batu Lawi (Credit: Ng Jia Jie)



Photo 29. Male Hose's Langur (Credit: Ng Jia Jie)



Photo 31. Adult male Wreathed Hornbill (Credit: Ng Jia Jie)



Photo 32. Giant Squirrel (Credit: Ng Jia Jie)



Photo 34. Red-necked Phalarope (Credit: Ng Jia Jie)



Photo 33. King Cobra (Credit: Ng Jia Jie)



Photo 35. Whitehead's Pygmy Squirrel (Credit: Ng Jia Jie)

Table 1. Bird list in Ravenscourt FMU

No	Common Name	Scientific Name
1	Ashy Drongo	Dicrurus leucophaeus
2	Ashy Tailorbird	Orthotomus ruficeps
3	Asian Koel	Eudynamys scolopaceus
4	Bar-winged Flycatcher-shrike	Hemipus picatus
5	Barn Swallow	Hirundo rustica
6	Black Eagle	Ictinaetus malaiensis
7	Black Oriole	Oriolus hosii
8	Black-and-crimson Oriole	Oriolus cruentus
9	Black-and-yellow Broadbill	Eurylaimus ochromalus
10	Black-bellied Malkoha	Phaenicophaeus diardi
11	Black-capped Babbler	Pellornum capistratum
12	Black-naped Monarch	Hypothymis azurea
13	Black-thighed Falconet	Microhierax fringillarius
14	Blue-banded Pitta	Erythropitta arquata
15	Blue-eared Barbet	Psilopogon duvaucelii
16	Blyth's Hawk-Eagle	Nisaetus alboniger
17	Blyth's Paradise Flycatcher	Terpsiphone affinis
18	Bold-striped Tit-Babbler	Mixornis bornensis
19	Bornean Banded Pitta	Hydronis schwaneri
20	Bornean Barbet	Psilopogon eximus
21	Bornean Bulbul	Rubigula montis
22	Bornean Leafbird	Chloropsis kinabaluensis
23	Bornean Spiderhunter	Arachnothera everetti
24	Bornean Treepie	Dendrocitta cinerascens
25	Brown Fulvetta	Alcippe brunneicauda
26	Brown-backed Needletail	Hirundapus giganteus
27	Bushy-crested Hornbill	Anorrhinus galeritus
28	Charlotte's Bulbul	Iole charlottae
29	Chesnut-backed Scimitar-Babbler	Pomartorhinus montanus
30	Chestnut-bellied Malkoha	Phaenicophaeus sumatranus
31	Chestnut-crested Yuhina	Staphida evertti
32	Chestnut-hooded Laughingthrush	Pterorhinus treacheri
33	Chestnut-winged Babbler	Cyanoderma erythropterum
34	Cinereous Bulbul	Hemixos cinereus
35	Crested Shrikejay	Platylophus galericulatus
36	Crimson-headed Partridge	Haematortyx sanguiniceps
37	Crimson-winged Woodpecker	Picus puniceus
38	Dark Hawk-Cuckoo	Hierococcyx bocki

39	Dark-sided Flycatcher	Muscicapa sibirica
40	Dusky Munia	Lonchura fuscans
41	Fluffy-backed Tit-Babbler	Macronus ptilosus
42	Gold-whiskered Barbet	Psilopogon chrysopogon
43	Golden-bellied Gerygone	Gerygone sulphurea
44	Great Argus	Argusianus argus
45	Greater Coucal	Centropus sinensis
46	Grey wagtail	Motacilla cinerea
47	Jambu Fruit Dove	Ptilinopus jambu
48	Japanese Sparrowhawk	Accipiter gularis
49	Little Cuckoo-Dove	Macropygia ruficeps
50	Little Spiderhunter	Arachnothera longirostra
51	Long-billed Spiderhunter	Arachnothera robusta
52	Malaysian Pied Fantail	Rhipidura javanica
53	Maroon-breasted Philentoma	Philentoma velata
54	Mountain Barbet	Psilopogon monticola
55	Mountain Serpent-Eagle	Spilornis kinabaluensis
56	Orange-bellied Flowerpecker	Dicaeum trigonostigma
57	Oriental Honey-buzzard	Pernis ptilorhynchus
58	Oriental Magpie-Robin	Copsychus saularis
59	Pacific Swallow	Hirundo tahitica
60	Pacific Swift	Apus pacificus
61	Penan Bulbul	Alophoixus ruficrissus
62	Plain Sunbird	Anthreptes simplex
63	Pygmy White-eye	Heleia squamifrons
64	Raffles's Malkoha	Rhinortha chlorophaea
65	Red-bearded Bee-eater	Nyctyornis amictus
66	Red-breasted Partridge	Arborophila hyperythra
67	Red-eyed Bulbul	Pycnonotus brunneus
68	Red-necked Phalarope	Phalaropus lobatus
69	Rhinoceros Hornbill	Buceros rhinoceros
70	Rufous Piculet	Sasia abnormis
71	Rufous-bellied Eagle	Lophotriorchis kienerii
72	Scaly-breasted Bulbul	Rubigula squamata
73	Scarlet Minivet	Pericrocotus speciosus
74	Scarlet-rumped Trogon	Harpactes duvaucelii
75	Slender-billed Crow	Corvus enca
76	Spectacled Bulbul	Rubigula erythropthalmos
77	Spotted Fantail	Rhipidura albogularis
78	Sunda Cuckooshrike	Coracina larvata
79	Temminck's Sunbird	Aethopyga temminckii

80	White-bellied Erpornis	Erpoenis zantholeuca
81	White-rumped Shama	Copsychus malabaricus
82	Wreathed Hornbill	Rhyticeros undulatus
83	Yellow-bellied Prinia	Prinia flaviventris
84	Yellow-rumped Flowerpecker	Prinochilus xanthopygius
85	Yellow-vented Bulbul	Pycnonotus goiavier

Table 2. Bird list in Paya Maga (Ulu Trusan FMU)

No	Common Name	Scientific Name
1	Ashy Tailorbird	Orthotomus ruficeps
2	Barn Swallow	Hirundo rustica
3	Black Oriole	Oriolus hosii
4	Black-and-yellow Broadbill	Eurylaimus ochromalus
5	Black-naped Monarch	Hypothymis azurea
6	Blue-eared Barbet	Psilopogon duvaucelii
7	Bornean Barbet	Psilopogon eximus
8	Bornean Bulbul	Rubigula montis
9	Bornean Treepie	Dendrocitta cinerascens
10	Brown Fulvetta	Alcippe brunneicauda
11	Brown-backed Needletail	Hirundapus giganteus
12	Checker-throated Woodpecker	Chrysophlegma mentale
13	Chestnut-backed Scimitar-Babbler	Pomartorhinus montanus
14	Chestnut-winged Babbler	Cyanoderma erythropterum
15	Cinereous Bulbul	Hemixos cinereus
16	Crested Shrike Jay	Platylophus galericulatus
17	Dayak Blue Flycatcher	Cyornis montanus
18	Dusky Munia	Lonchura fuscans
19	Gold-whiskered Barbet	Psilopogon chrysopogon
20	Great Argus	Argusianus argus
21	Little Spiderhunter	Arachnothera longirostra
22	Mountain Barbet	Psilopogon monticola
23	Mountain Serpent-Eagle	Spilornis kinabaluensis
24	Penan Bulbul	Alophoixus ruficrissus
25	Pygmy White-eye	Heleia squamifrons
26	Raffles's Malkoha	Rhinortha chlorophaea
27	Red-bearded Bee-eater	Nyctyornis amictus
28	Rhinoceros Hornbill	Buceros rhinoceros
29	Rufous-collared Kingfisher	Actenoides concretus

30	Spectacled Bulbul	Rubigula erythropthalmos
31	Tiger Shrike	Lanius tigrinus
32	White-rumped Shama	Copsychus malabaricus
33	Yellow-bellied Prinia	Prinia flaviventris