

# Third Quarterly Report

July 1 to September 30 2009

## Batu Mbelin Orangutan Quarantine Centre, North Sumatra, Indonesia



Morgan, 23<sup>th</sup> July 2009

Sumatran Orangutan Conservation Programme



The Sumatran Orangutan Conservation Programme is a collaborative project involving:-



## **Introduction**

The Sumatran Orangutan Conservation Programme is a collaborative programme involving the Swiss based PanEco Foundation, the Indonesian Yayasan Ekosistem Lestari (Foundation for a sustainable ecosystem), Germany's Frankfurt Zoological Society (which manages the orangutan reintroduction site in Jambi Province) and the Indonesian Government's Directorate General of Forest Protection and Nature Conservation. It is a multifaceted programme engaged in all aspects of Sumatran orangutan conservation including;

- a) Confiscation, quarantine and reintroduction of illegal pet orangutans,
- b) Surveys and monitoring of remaining wild populations,
- c) Research on conservation and behavioural ecology of wild orangutans,
- d) Habitat conservation, and
- e) Education and awareness raising.

A major focus of the work of SOCP is the confiscation, quarantine and reintroduction in Jambi, of confiscated, illegally held pet orangutans. This requires the long term operation of SOCP's orangutan quarantine facility near Medan, North Sumatra. Construction of the facility began in 2001 and by mid 2002 the first orangutans had already moved in. This was followed by the first successful reintroduction of wild Sumatran orangutans in Jambi, in January 2003. By the end of September 2009, a total of 180 orangutans had been received at the quarantine centre and 120 had been transferred to Jambi for reintroduction, of which more than 80 have already been released to the wild.

## **Previous 3 month plan and status of implementation:**

- Drh. Rachmad and Drh. Yenny attended a Workshop on Orangutan Veterinary at Samboja Wanariset East Kalimantan 4-11 August 2009. They were also joined by Drh. Arief Febriwan (FZS-Jambi), Drh. Endiansyah and Ricko, SKH (University Syiah Kuala)
- New food storage facility is already being used and the renovation is continuing of the old storage building into staff accommodation.
- The Janto reintroduction site must be constructed as soon as possible due to over population at the quarantine station.
- Repair to the Isolation block cage is on hold until orangutans housed here undergo health checks and are moved to the socialisation cage. In the meantime, both the accommodation and kitchen areas have been finished.
- Electricity installation has been repaired and is functioning well.
- A White handed gibbon still resides at the center, awaiting a decision from KSDA.
- Compost storage and infant care facility is not yet constructed.

## **Additional activities during the period:**

- The following orangutans were received –  
Sangir (OU174)  
Tono (OU175) and Pungut (OU176)  
Alex (OU177)  
Manohara (OU179)
- A clouded leopard (*Neofelis nebulosa*) was treated and medicated at the BKSDA Aceh office.

- General health examinations were undertaken for orangutans; Frens (OU 171), Chaka (OU172), Sangir (OU174), Tono (OU175),Pungut (OU176) and Alex (OU177). The condition of adult female Meutia was also examined a few days after she gave birth to Morgan (OU173).
- A job vacancy was advertised and interviews undertaken for keepers.
- PDAM (water company) presented a proposal for cooperation (50:50) to fix the red bridge, at a cost of Rp. 4.000.000(each), to purchase materials and pay labour, with the repairs being finished by Oct 2009 (estimated).
- Daily activities as per normal.

## Status of orangutans

As can be seen from Table 1, a total of eight orangutans arrived at the quarantine centre during the period and one baby was born at the quarantine station. No orangutans were transferred elsewhere.

### Medical cases of note:

Seven orangutans had routine medical checks. They were Frens, Sangir, Tono, Chaka, Pungut, Alex and Butet.

### Manohara:

According to Agusyasin BKSDA staff, Manohara was confiscated from a Mr. Taharuddin, the chief of the elementary school at Desa Paya Tumpi Kecamatan Kebayakan in South East Aceh. He had kept her for three years.



Manohara in the cage at BKSDA Banda Aceh Office, and her arrival at the quarantine centre

### Meutia and Morgan:

Meutia gave birth naturally to Morgan on Monday 13 July 2009. The birth was normal, although Meutia appeared somewhat unsure. She consumed the placenta shortly after giving birth, and took approximately two hours before cleaning the infant and placing him on her stomach. Meutia was provided with extra food and bedding, and by the following day Morgan had begun to suckle.

Concerns were raised when Meutia continued to bleed for a few days after giving birth, and also began to emit a strong smell. She was anaesthetised to check for infection, and both Meutia

and Morgan were given thorough examinations. Morgan was weighed at 2kg, and Meutia was prescribed a course of antibiotics as well as extra minerals and vitamins. The anaesthetic took place on 21 July 2009.

**Table 1 . Orangutans housed at the quarantine centre as of 1 July- 30 Sept 2009**  
(shading, grey = new arrivals)

No	Record Code	Name	Chip	Sex	Aproox age on arrival	Origin	Entri date	Location end June 09
1	OU27	Tila	00063C09E4	F	2	N.Tala,Sampan Getek/ SUMUT	23-09-2003	Permanent Isolat
2	OU69	Beckham (2 <sup>nd</sup> )	00066D58A2	M	4	Jambi TNBT/FZS	25-07-2006	Isolat IB
3	OU105	Kevin	000683191D	M	2	Belawan, Medan/ SUMUT	13-11-2006	Social A
4	OU45	Leuser/Loser (2 <sup>nd</sup> )	0006832258	M	7	Jambi TNBT/FZS	23-11-2006	Permanent Isolat
5	OU109	Ayu	00068343D8	F	1	Blangkejeren/NAD	21-12-2006	Social A
6	OU112	R. Fidel/Ugo B	0006B9471A	M	4 days (infant)	Bukit Lawang/ BTNGL	12-02-2007	Social B ¼
7	OU119	Miriam (MRT/1 <sup>st</sup> )	00066D7AF4	F	1 month	Jambi TNBT/FZS	14-09-2007	Social B ¼
8	OU125	Jarot Pakpahan	0006B933AC	M	8 Month	Padang Sidempuan/ SUMUT	26-03-2008	Social B ¼
9	OU134	Jeki	0006830B40	F	1.5	Patumbak/SUMUT	09-04-2008	Social A
10	OU143	Meutia	0006831AFC	F	14	Sunggal/SUMUT	17-09-2008	Isolat IV A
11	OU144	Mamut	00066FFEA8	M	8	Banda Aceh/NAD	26-10-2008	Social B
12	OU145	Tobi	00066FF817	M	6	Banda Aceh/NAD	26-10-2008	Social B
13	OU146	Pibi	00066D580A	F	5	Banda Aceh/NAD	26-10-2008	Social A
14	OU147	Gober	0006894686	F	25	Sampan Getek/SUMUT	22-11-2008	Isolat IV C
15	OU149	Robert	0006893571	M	6	Blang Jeranggo/NAD	19-12-2008	Social A
16	OU150	Pingki boy	0006894C61	M	1.5	Rikit Gaib/NAD	19-12-2008	Isolat II CD
17	OU151	Delavita	0006896B15	F	7	Lawe Sikap/NAD	19-12-2008	Social A
18	OU152	Dewabunien	0006B93989	M	5	Lawe Sikap/NAD	19-12-2008	Social A
19	OU153	Vewe	00068966F7	M	6	Lawe Sikap/NAD	19-12-2008	Social A
20	OU154	Nando	0006B94892	M	7	Gunung Merutung/NAD	19-12-2008	Social B
21	OU155	Coty	0006B94BF5	F	1.5	Cot Simantouk/NAD	22-12-2008	Isolat II CD
22	OU156	Miky	0006B94E31	M	2	Alue Billie/NAD	22-12-2008	Isolat II CD
23	OU157	Suro	Not yet	F	2 weeks	Bukit Lawang/BTNGL	08-01-2009	Clinic
24	OU159	Virina	0006B95C58	F	6	Kutacane/NAD	10-02-2009	Social A ¼
25	OU160	Dito	0006B93F51	F	2	Banda Aceh/NAD	22-02-2009	Isolat II CD
26	OU118	Dek Nong (2 <sup>nd</sup> )	0006832BFD	F	12	Jambi TNBT/FZS	25-02-2009	Isolat IVB
27	OU162	Juna Dezky	0006894221	M	6	Kutacane/NAD	20-03-2009	Social A
28	OU163	Frangki T.pura	0006B8F8B5	F	5	Tanjung Pura/SUMUT	07-04-2009	Social A ¼
29	OU164	Ongki Patumbak	0006B9823E	M	1.5	Patumbak/SUMUT	15-04-2009	Isolat II CD
30	OU165	Brownie	0006B932D8	F	1.5	Banda Aceh/NAD	30-04-2009	Isolat II CD
31	OU166	Evan Dairi Meha	0006B955B1	M	4	Dairi/SUMUT	18-05-2009	Isolat III C
32	OU167	Kis Kis	0006B9A7DB	M	4	Aceh Tamiang/NAD	27-05-2009	Isolat I A
33	OU168	Yusniar	0006B9343A	F	2	Blang Pidie/NAD	28-05-2009	Isolat II CD
34	OU169	Jeff Corwin (tito)	0006B96514	M	2	Idi-Langsa/NAD	06-06-2009	Social B ¼
35	OU170	Jecko (toti)	0006B935E0	M	2	Idi-Langsa/NAD	06-06-2009	Social B ¼
36	OU171	Frens	0006B95755	M	1.5	Singkil-Subussalam/NAD	24-06-2009	Isolat ID
37	OU172	Chaka	0006B950F0	F	1.5	Singkil-Subussalam/NAD	24-06-2009	Clinic
38	OU173	Morgan Aqiqqa	Not yet	M	4	Born at Quarantine/SUMUT	13-07-2009	Clinic
39	OU174	Sangir	0006B96435	M	6	Sangir-Kutacane/NAD	29-07-2009	Isolasi IIIB
40	OU175	Tono	0006B9461B	M	3	Kuala Simpang/NAD	01-08-2009	Isolasi IAD
41	OU176	Pungut	0006B93882	F	2	Kuala Simpang/NAD	01-08-2009	Isolasi IAD
42	OU177	Alex	0006B9871E	M	6	Simalingkar/SUMUT	06-08-2009	Isolasi IID
43	OU178	Butet	0006B9390F	F	6	Tapaktuan/NAD	14-08-2009	Isolasi IIA
44	OU179	Manohara	Not yet	F	6	Banda Aceh/NAD	12-09-2009	Isolasi IIIA
45	OU180	Coconut	Not yet	M	4	Banda Aceh/NAD	26-09-2009	Isolasi IBC



Meutia consuming the placenta post-birth, with Morgan on her chest.

**Dek Nong:**

Dek Nong's general condition has been good, although her hand wound has not been healing as expected. Her appetite decreased, and her activity levels had been decreasing as well. During the workshop at Wanariset this case came under discussion, and as it had never been seen before, the recommendation was made to perform surgery to remove the abscess. The abscess had been removed in the past, and was shown to grow again, thus causing more problems. From here it was recommended that it would be best to manage it by maintaining her condition with a good diet and pain killers. It is believed to be a similar condition to human uric acid disease (gout), and as this is treated by maintaining condition, a good diet and painkillers, this was the path taken with Dek Nong. Her uric acid levels were checked again after some time, and as the levels were normal (at human levels), it was decided to continue with painkillers, a diet of skim milk and also to avoid nuts etc.



Dek Nong's hand and thumb, 09 September 2009

**Beckham:**

Beckham's condition has deteriorated somewhat in the past 2 months, with more frequent coughing, a decrease in appetite and a nasal discharge. Beckham's case was also presented at the conference at Wanariset. It is proving to be a difficult case as Beckham has been treated and has been on medication for quite some time, although few tests have been done for antibiotic sensitivities. He is presently moving fairly well, and his appetite has increased, but his medical problems have not yet been solved.

**Other activities:**

Whilst picking up Manahara (OU179) at the Banda Aceh BKSDA Office on 11 September 2009, the SOCP vet also checked on the condition of the confiscated Clouded Leopard (*Neofelis nebulosa*). This animal was rescued at Calang due to village reports of his hunting the village chickens, and had been at the office for one day. He was underweight and malnourished and his keeper reported that he appeared to have a poor appetite. The leopard was anaesthetised, and given antibiotics and vitamins. Corneal bleeding was discovered, as well as dry wounds on the body. The leopard was recovered, and within a few hours had consumed some hand-fed boneless chicken.

As there was a necessity to get Manohara to the quarantine centre, the leopard was left at the BKSDA office. Unfortunately it died after five days, and post-mortem showed a severe worm infestation in the lungs, as well as a plastic bag in its stomach.



Drh Rachmad Wahyudi hand feeding and giving an impromptu medical check to a clouded leopard in Banda Aceh, whilst there to collect an orangutan Leopard and during hand feeding

**Capacity building, training and research:**

- Dr. Rachmad and Dr. Yenny attended the Workshop on Orangutan Veterinary at Samboja Wanariset East Kalimantan 4-11 August 2009, and were joined by Dr. Arief Febriwan (FZS-Jambi), Dr. Endiansyah and Ricko, SKH (University Syiah Kuala)
- Hannah Rose Trayford (Cambridge University) is beginning her research focusing on behavioural enrichment for captive orangutans in rehabilitation and reintroduction programmes in Indonesia.

**Plans for next 3 months:**

- Continuing intensive treatment of Dek Nong and Beckam until stable.
- Introduction of blind orangutans Gober and Leuser.
- Continuing maintenance of the cage isolation block I, clinic roof and kitchen/security area.
- Discussions with the Aceh government regarding 27 confiscated orangutans currently in quarantine – no decision has been made as yet as to where they will be released.
- Relocation of 3-5 orangutans to Jambi
- Possible transfer of more orangutans to Jambi (namely Windass and Raja)
- Ongoing discussions with KSDA regarding a more permanent home for the white handed gibbon which has resided at the centre since July 2007.