INDONESIA PROGRAM CBSG News

Indonesia is India's high bio-diversity South-east Asian neighbour with many beautiful and rare species of wildlife. The wildlife and zoo community of Indonesia is very active in trying to protect and conserve Indonesian species and work together to plan programmes for effective conservation action. Indonesia has a branch of CBSG like our CBSG, India which works to bring specialists together to work on conservation problems of endangered species. The CBSG Indonesian Programme brings out a Newsletter from which we have exerpted summaries of their most important projects reported this year, Population and Habitat Viability Assessment workshops for Javan Hawk-Eagle, Anoa and Babyrusa.

Anoa Species *(Buballus quarlesi & Bubahis depressicornisis)*

Anoa are small buffalo-like animals endemic to the Indonesian island of Sulawesi. Traditionally two species are recognised: the lowland anoa and the mountain anoa. There are taxonomic questions still to be answered about anoa and uncertainties about the ecology, biology and behaviour of these animals also exist. Both species of anoa are listed as Endangered in the 1994 IUCN Red List (Groombrige, 1993) and both are included in CITES Appendix

Anoa still appear to be widely distributed on Sulawesi but they have been in decline since the beginning of the twentieth Century particularly over the 1970-1995 period, precipitously in some areas. Hunting and habitat loss have been, and continue to be the major causes of decline; with hunting the more serious factor in most areas. The current status of the anoas is thus a matter for serious concern with populations in small reserves threatened with local extinction, and even the population in large protected areas and other large forest blocks reported to be in decline as a result of heavy hunting pressure.

A PHVA Workshop was held for anoa spp. with 37 stakeholders participating in Cisarua, Indonesia at the Safari Garden Hotel on July 22-26, 1996 where stakeholders from both gtovernment and non-governmental organisations, including the relevant SSC Specialist Group reviewed data from the wild and captive populations as a basis for assessing extinction risk, assessing different management scenarios, evaluating the effects of removals by hunting from the population, evaluating available information on the taxonomy, and developing stochastic population simulation models. Recommendations were made and on that basis an action plan is being constructed.

Javan Hawk-Eagle *(Spizaetus bartelsi)*

A Population and Habitat Viability Assessment (PHPA) Workshop was held for Javan Hawk eagle *sponsored By:* CalEnergy Company, Inc., Peter and Kiewit Sons', Inc. This was also a collaborative workshop with the wildlife authorities and NGO's.

The critically endangered Javan Hawk-eagle *(Spizaetus bartelsi)* is endemic to Java in Indonesia. It was recently designated the national bird of Indonesia which increased public awareness and interest. Historically, the population was widely distributed in the wet tropical forest of Java but has since declined to an estimated 80-108 pairs of birds as the result of habitat loss from extensive deforestation on Java, sporadic hunting, and disturbance. They may be fragmented into several subpopulations in West, Central and East Java with limited capability for natural exchange. Efforts to establish a practical conservation management and research program for this species have been hampered by a lack of information on their current distribution, difficulties in protecting them in remote areas, uncertain priorities, and lack of funding. Forty-five biologists, managers, and decision makers attended the Population and Habitat Viability Assessment (PHVA) Workshop in Cisarua, Bogor, Indonesia at the Safari Garden Hotel on May 6 - 8, 1996 to review data from the wild and captive populations. Recommendations included determination of habitat and carrying capacity requirements, role of captive propagation, and prioritised research needs.

Babyrusa *(Babyrousa babyrussa)*

Babyrusa appear to be widely distributed on Sulawesi, however they are in decline and have been so for some time as a result of hunting and habitat deterioration. Additional threats include even natural catastrophes. A PHVA for the Babyrusa was held July 22 - 26, 1996 with 37 stakeholders and specialists participating.

Recommendations included a movement to stop hunting involving a community development programme for the people. More survey work is required in the areas where data is insufficient, including population density and trends. A protected area around the Nantu Forests is required as well as protected areas for the two subspecies which do not have a protected area. The creation of a Sulawesi Endemic Wildlife Information and Study Centre was also recommended.

Captive recommendations were also made so that breeding to support and strengthen the wild population could be done.