

Oil Palm and Orangutan: Integrating Conservation with Agriculture



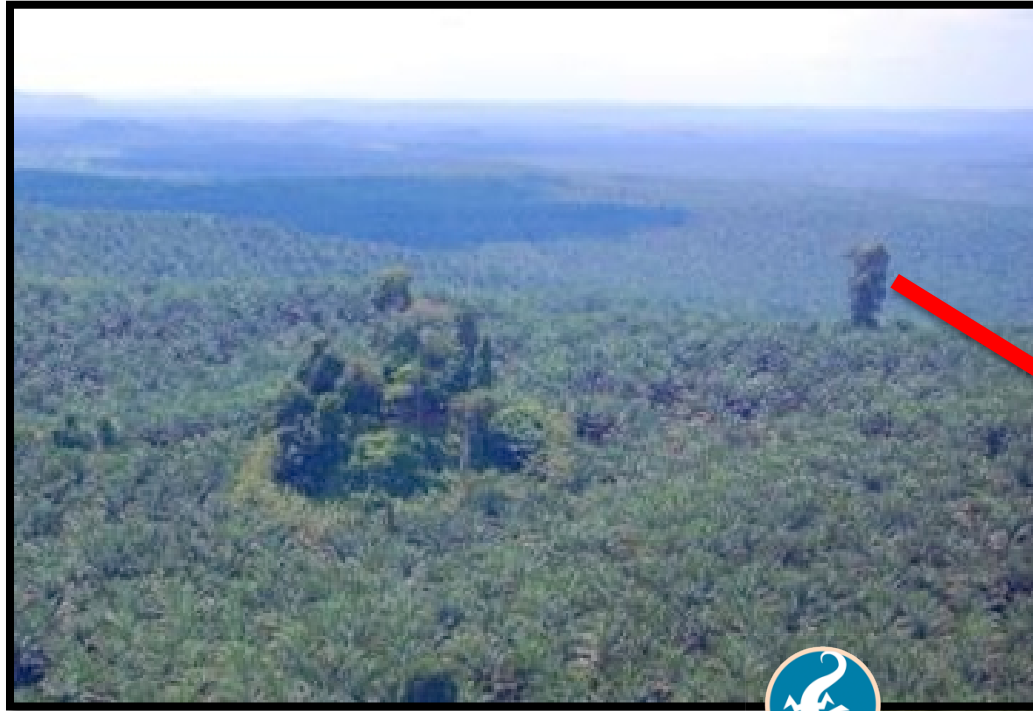
Palm Oil & NGO Alliance (PONGO Alliance)

Fact ➡ Orangutan natural habitat: forest



Fact ➔

Orangutan are **INCREASINGLY**
part of the oil palm landscape



Orang-utan nest

Fact ➡

Orangutans use the
oil palm landscape for food



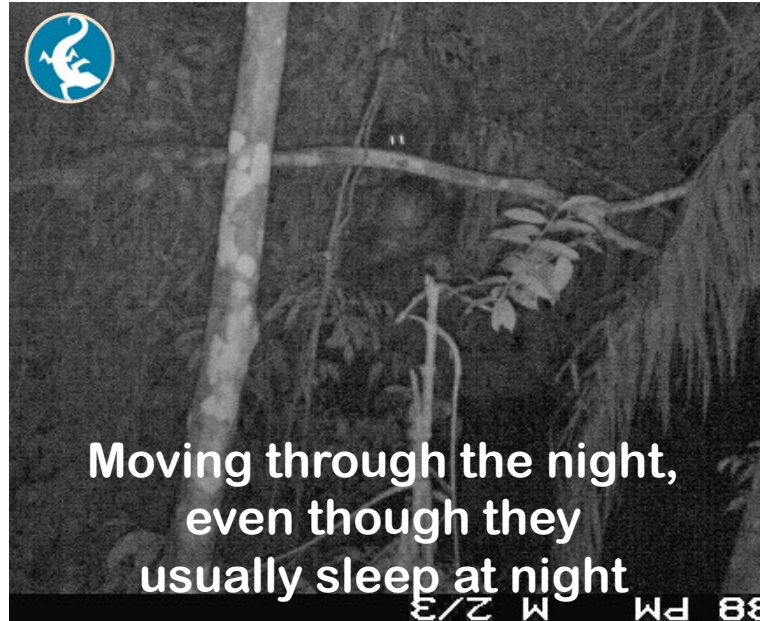
Feeding on fresh fruit bunches
Eating on shoots

Fact ➡

Orangutans **HAVE NOT** adapted to
SURVIVE WITHIN the oil palm
landscape, they are travelling to get to
another forest

Fact ➔

Orangutans use the oil palm landscape to move around



Of Pongo, palms and perceptions: a multidisciplinary assessment of Bornean orang-utans *Pongo pygmaeus* in an oil palm context

MARC ANCRENAZ, FELICITY ORAM, LAURENTIUS AMBU, ISABELLE LACKEMAN
EDDIE AHMAD, HAMISAH ELAHAN, HARIINDER KLER
NICOLA K. ABRAHAM and ERIC MEIJAARD

Abstract: The oil palm industry is blamed for the decline of iconic species such as the orang-utan *Pongo pygmaeus* in

Keywords: Aerial nest surveys, best management practices, Borneo, nest decay rate, oil palm plantation, orang-utan, *Pongo pygmaeus*

SCIENTIFIC
REPORTS

OPEN

Coming down from the trees: I
activity in Bornean orangutans natural
or disturbance driven?

SUBJECT AREAS:
CONSERVATION
ANIMAL BEHAVIOUR

Marc Ancrenaz^{1,2,3*}, Felicity Oram^{1,2,3}, Laurentius Ambu^{1,2,3}, Isabelle Lackeman^{1,2,3}, Eddie Ahmad^{1,2,3}, Hamisah Elahan^{1,2,3}, Hariinder Kler^{1,2,3}, Nicola K. Abraham^{1,2,3} and Eric Meijaard^{1,2,3}

Fact ➔

- Damage to mature palms is **extremely minor**
- Damage to new plantings can be controlled

Fact ➡ Orangutans need forest patches and tree corridors to move across the oil palm landscape

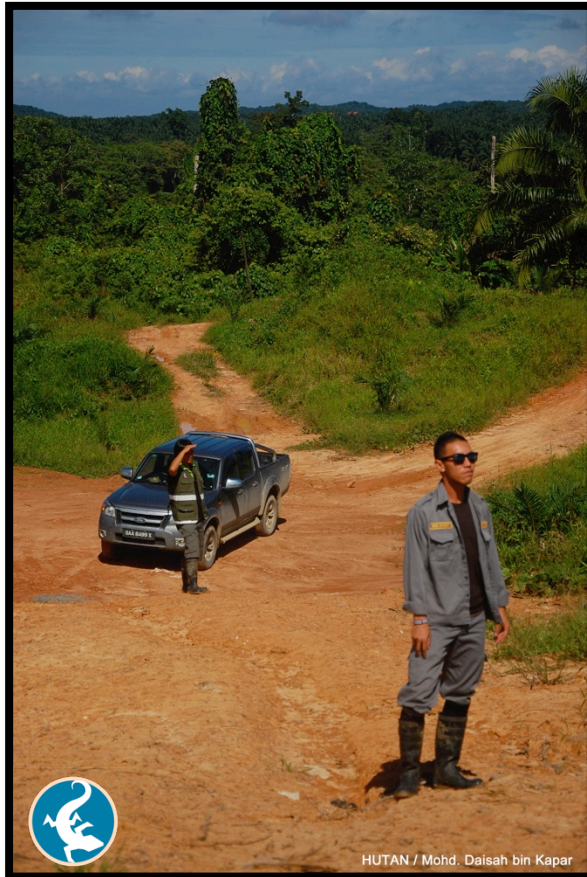
Example ➡ Abandoned oil palm areas with overgrown could be used by orangutans



How do we integrate oil palm and orangutan conservation?

Solutions

- Conduct HCV assessment
- Develop & implement HCV/ orangutan management plan
- Manage conflict with wildlife
- Develop “In-house” HCV / environmental/ conservation management team
- Throughout process access advice/assistance from orangutan experts within the PONGO Alliance



How do we integrate oil palm and orangutan conservation?

Solutions

- Collaboration among oil palm companies
- Collaboration at landscape level
- Sharing of lessons learnt and successes



Fact →

Orangutan translocation is
VERY RARELY the solution

Orangutan is a **FULLY** protected species

Companies cannot move orangutans without
Governments and authorized NGOs

Why?



Virtually impossible, extremely expensive and time consuming to translocate all wildlife that comes into the plantations

This would have to be a continuous process as orangutans will continually come into plantations

So, when will it end?

Solutions

RSPO Compensation Mechanisms

OR

Potential Collaborative Projects

- Need for FOREST CORRIDORS and FOREST PATCHES to create “SAFE PASSAGES” for wildlife, thereby providing an orangutan conservation landscape;
- Investment in in-house capacity building and providing resources for securing an orangutan landscape;
- Companies with compensation liability – wanting to compensate ha to US\$ / support orangutan conservation outside of their concession (if the companies are outside of the orangutan range)





Orangutans is an example of umbrella species. Assisting orangutan will also help secure other species and ecosystem services



Palm Oil & NGO Alliance (PONGO Alliance)



Mission: To serve as a collaborative platform that supports managing orangutans within an oil palm landscape



Plantation



Fact ➔

Africa has **THREE Great Apes**
(Gorillas, Chimpanzees and Bonobos)



Opportunity ➔ Apply lessons learned in Asia to
Africa

Summary

1. Forests are orangutan's habitats but increasingly also found in oil palm landscapes
2. They cannot survive in oil palm plantations but will use them to move around
3. Orangutan populations can be managed within this mix landscape
4. Opportunity for compensation procedure to provide support to orangutan conservation:
 - a. Extending corridors;
 - b. Building internal capacity for management; and
 - c. Support to external orangutan conservation initiatives