



Orangutan Tropical Peatland Project

Protecting Borneo's biodiversity since 1999

The Orangutan Tropical Peatland Project is a research and conservation organisation based in the Sabangau rainforest, Indonesian Borneo, home to the world's largest orangutan and southern Bornean gibbon populations. We aim to protect, regenerate and restore this globally important habitat, through on-the-ground conservation, capacity building, sustainable livelihood development and applied scientific research.



We would like to thank the Primate Society of Great Britain for their generous support this year in nominating us as their conservation cause. For further information on our work, please contact info@outrop.com or visit outrop.com

Orangutans

Sabangau is home to approximately 6,900 wild orangutans, making it the world's largest remaining population.

To understand how this population survives in the area, we began following orangutans here in 2003, making 2013 this project's tenth anniversary! Over the last 10 years, 48 observers have collected over 16,000 hours of data on 61 different orangutans.



We study orangutan behavioural ecology, activity patterns, ranging, feeding, energetics, health, self-medication, culture, social networks and communication. We were the first to describe self-medication by orangutans and to document population compression resulting from illegal logging disturbance, which led to a dramatic population decline.

We hope that this project will continue for the foreseeable future, and that we will discover many more interesting facts about orangutans.

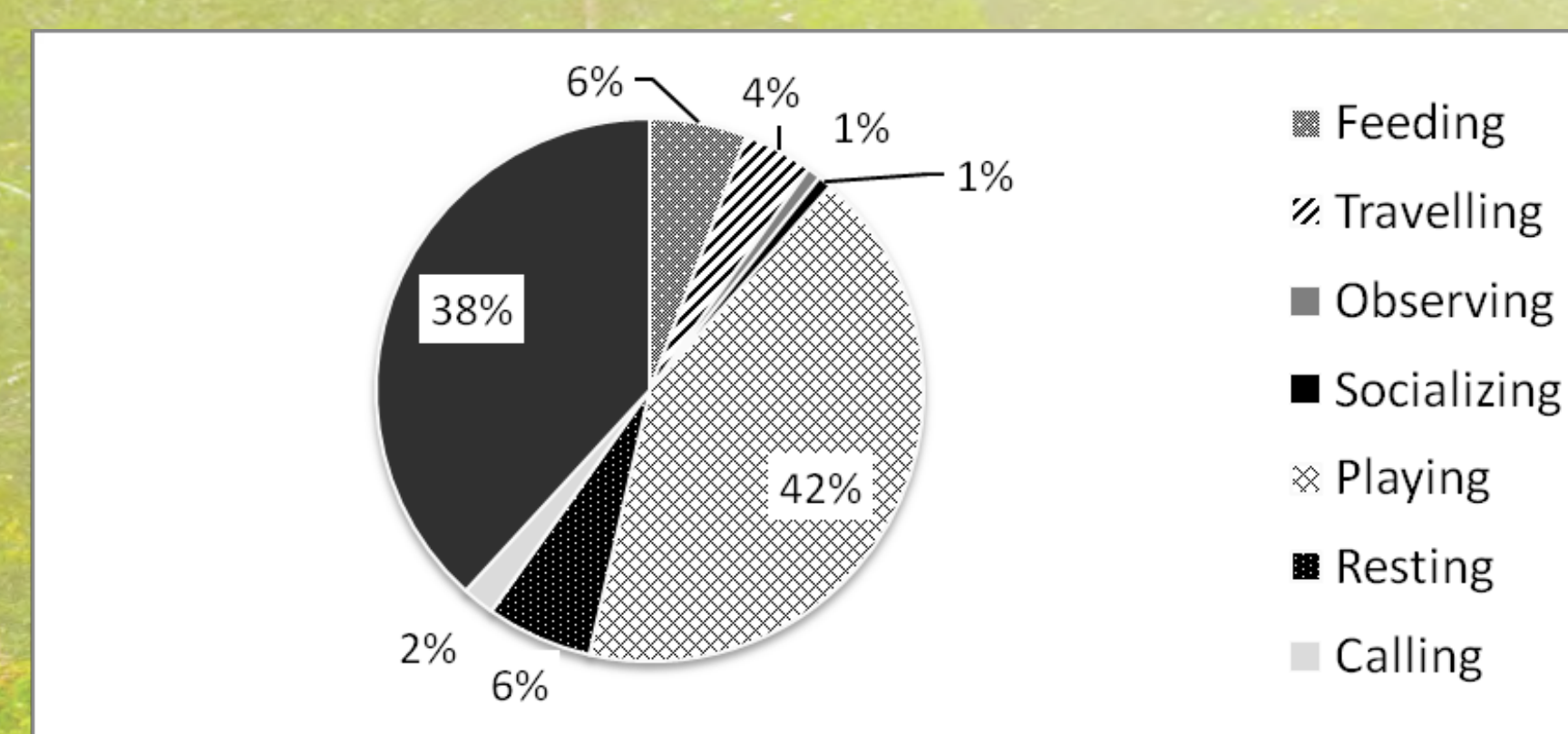
Gibbons

We have collected more than 3,000 hours of data on southern Bornean gibbons, in one of the only long-term studies of this endangered primate.



Key findings from this work are the negative effects of smoke on gibbon singing behaviour, and information

about ranging and territory size. We have identified that gibbons assess threat of predation, canopy height and presence of lianas when choosing a sleeping tree. Future work is looking at the role of female gibbons as the pivot for the group to travel through the forest and hand preference in these apes.



Activity budget of infant *Hylobates albibarbis*.

Red langurs

Ours is one of the first studies of red langurs in peat-swamp forests, and one of the few ever undertaken on this Borneo endemic primate. We are establishing the parameters required for its effective monitoring and conservation in Borneo, and have collected over 1000



hours of data detailing their home range, behavioural and feeding ecology.

It appears that low fluctuation in fruit availability results in a highly frugivorous population, with more than 80% of this



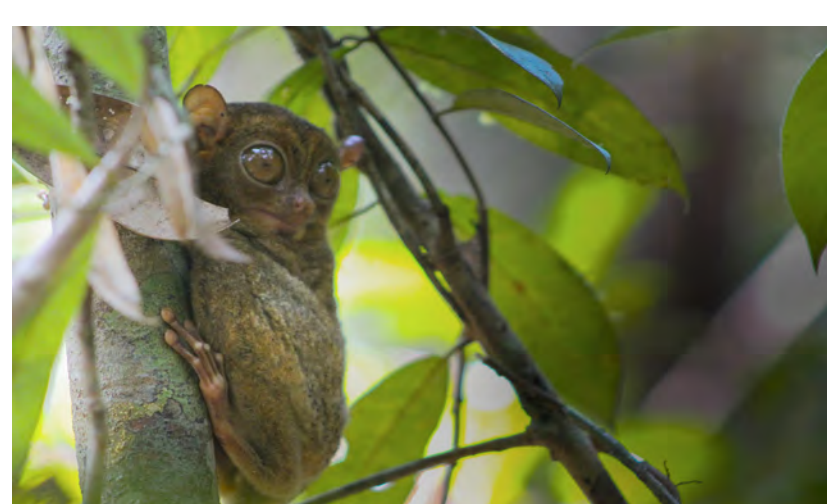
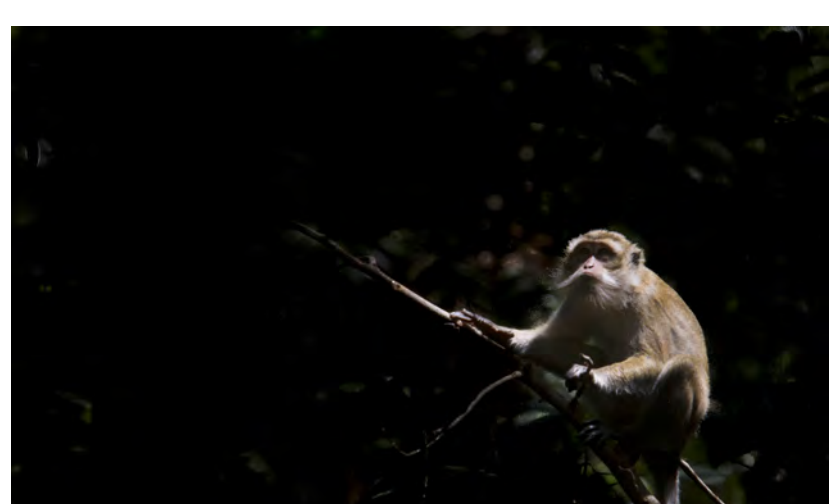
colobine's diet comprising fruit. This has profound effects on the ecology of our study population, as we see relatively high population density, very large home ranges and the highest day range of any 'folivorous' primate on Earth!

Other Primates

Sabangau is also home to an additional six primate species, including tarsiers, lorises, proboscis monkeys, silver leaf monkeys and two species of macaque. Little is known about these species.

The nocturnal tarsiers and lorises live at low densities in this forest. This indicates that large swathes of forest, such as in Sabangau, are needed for their conservation.

Macaques are also relatively rare in Sabangau, being recorded occasionally in one habitat type. These animals appear much more transient, but we still have a huge amount to learn about their behaviour!



Patrol Team and Conservation

With funding from OuTrop and supporters, our local partners, CIMTROP, run a Community Patrol Team. Their essential conservation work includes fighting and preventing fires, forest patrols for logging and other illegal activities, community awareness raising and development of alternative sustainable livelihoods. This is vital for protecting the area and its primates, and helping ensure continued local community support for their conservation.

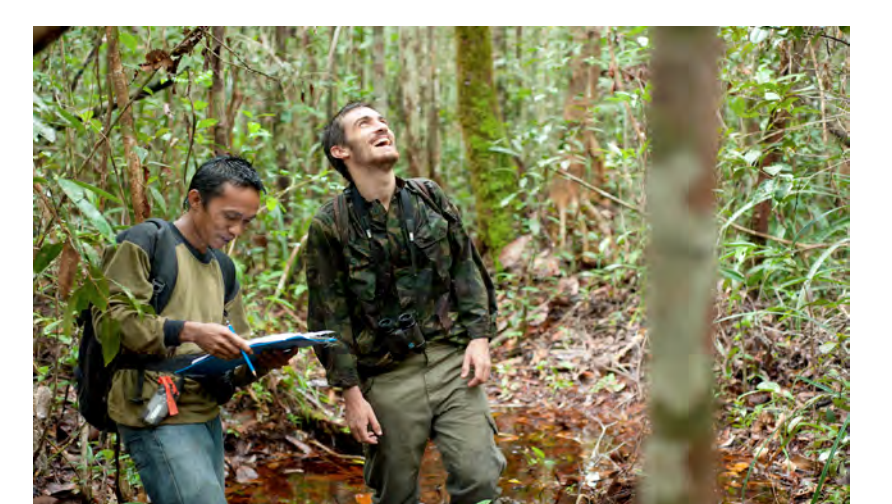
OuTrop are proud to support these local people's efforts in protecting their forest for the benefit of future generations.



Opportunities

We work in the Sabangau rainforest in Central Kalimantan, Indonesian Borneo, which is where our jungle research camp is based (left-hand side below).

Here, we host researchers and students from across the world, in addition to running both intern and volunteer programmes. These provide opportunity for early-career scientists and conservationists to gain valuable first-hand experience of working in a tropical forest environment, and for conducting dissertation research. To find out more information about working with OuTrop in any one of these roles, visit outrop.com.



OuTrop is generously supported by:

