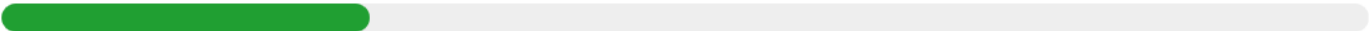




Searching for the birds: Field surveys to locate two of Javas rarest Songbirds

Applicant	Metropolitan University and Birdlife International
Project coordinators	Stuart Marsden, Nigel Collar
Location	West Java, Indonesia
Pledged amount	€36.000
Flagship species	Javan green magpie (<i>Cissa thalassina</i>) – CR

Project funding progress



27% funded

Raised: €9783 of €36000

- Undertake a systematic biological survey of the two most extensive forests for all their threatened wildlife and all endemic bird species and their habitat preferences, using line transects and automatic acoustic recording technology
- Record key environmental parameters (area of different habitats, extent of primary forest, trapping and other pressures) to establish a modern baseline concerning forest condition and provide an index of their conservation value and potential
- Work with Indonesian partners – the BirdLife Affiliate (Burung Indonesia), government authorities and local communities – to determine the official protection status of the forests, the management regimes, and local attitudes to the forests and their wildlife
- Provide strong evidence-based recommendations for improved management (and conservation status) of both forests, especially around strongholds for key traded songbirds, or potential reintroduction sites.

- A small team from Burung Indonesia, MMU and BirdLife, will undertake both visual and audial surveys
- A series of acoustic recorders will be placed at strategic points around the study sites
- Fieldwork will centre on a large series of plots at which habitat and other environmental variables will be recorded
- Camera traps will be placed in key locations in an attempt to record target mammals and ground-dwelling birds



- West Java, with westernmost Central Java, is a major centre of biological endemism. The montane forests growing on the multiple volcanoes in West Java are rich in endemic species of animal and plants
- The 17 most threatened endemic vertebrates will be targeted
- Two of the bird species, Javan Green Magpie and Rufous-fronted Laughingthrush, are now thought to have been virtually eliminated in the wild by trapping for the cage bird trade



OTHER BIRD TARGETS:

Javan Hawk-eagle *Nisaetus bartelsi* (EN)

Javan Scops-owl *Otus angelinae* (VU)

Javan Trogon *Apalharpactes reinwardtii* (VU)

Javan Blue-banded Kingfisher *Alcedo euryzona* (CR)

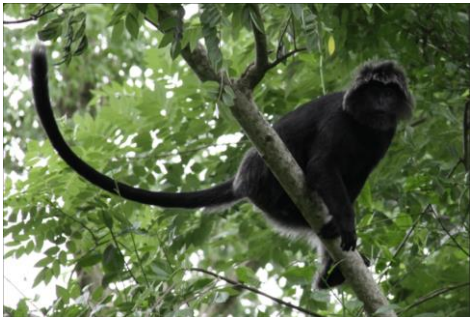
White-rumped Woodpecker *Meiglyptes tristis* (EN)

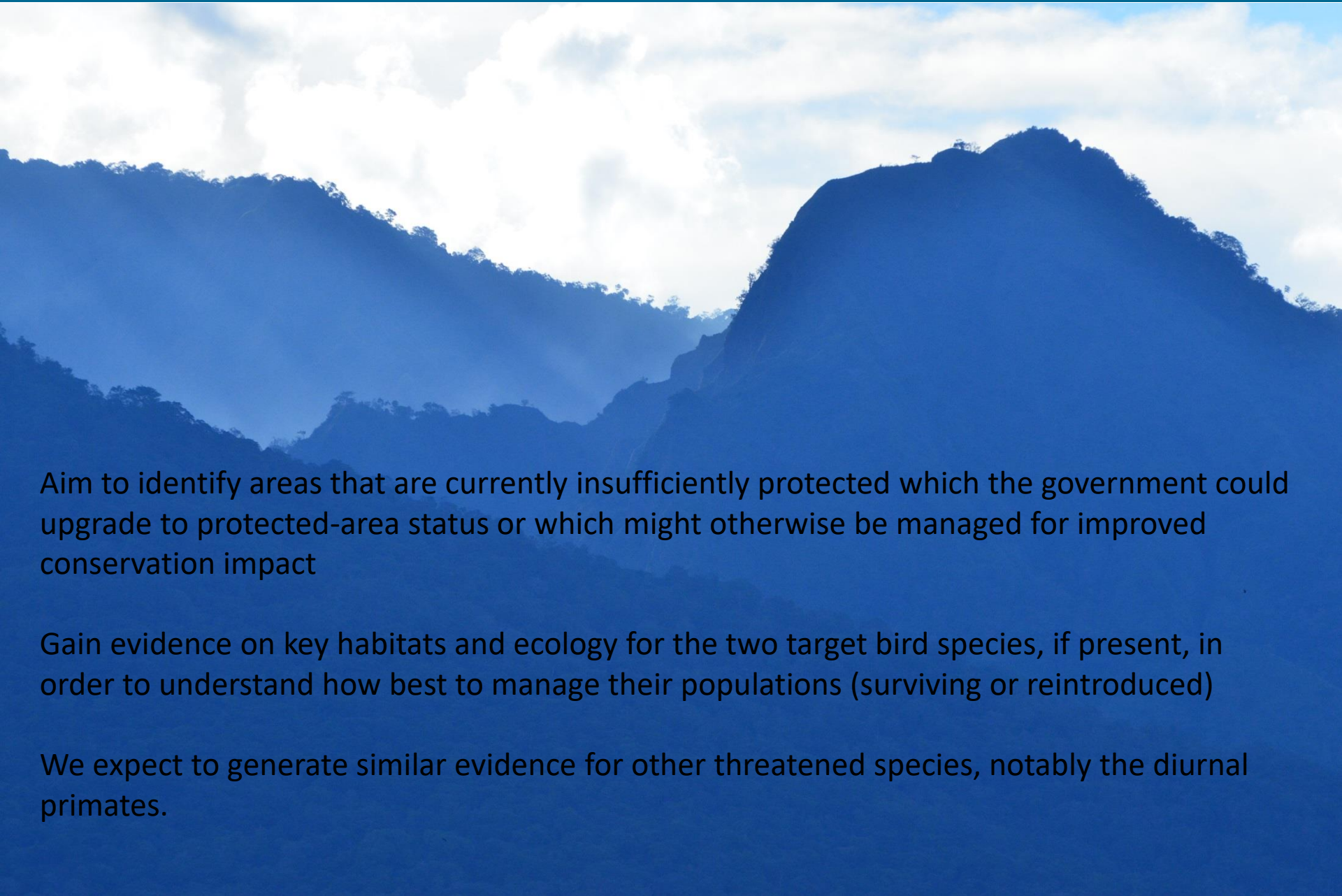
Javan Cochoa *Cochoa azurea* (VU)



OTHER NON-BIRD TARGETS:

- Javan Slow Loris *Nycticebus javanicus* (CR)
- Javan Leaf-monkey *Presbytis comata* (EN)
- Ebony Leaf-monkey *Trachypithecus auratus* (VU)
- Javan Gibbon *Hylobates moloch* (EN)
- Javan Warty Pig *Sus verrucosus* (EN)
- Leopard *Panthera pardus* (VU) [not endemic to Java]
- Dhole (Asian Wild Dog) *Cuon alpinus* (EN) [not endemic to Java]
- Red Tree-rat *Pithecheir melanurus* (VU)
- Javan Bamboo-rat *Kadarsanomys sodyi* (VU)



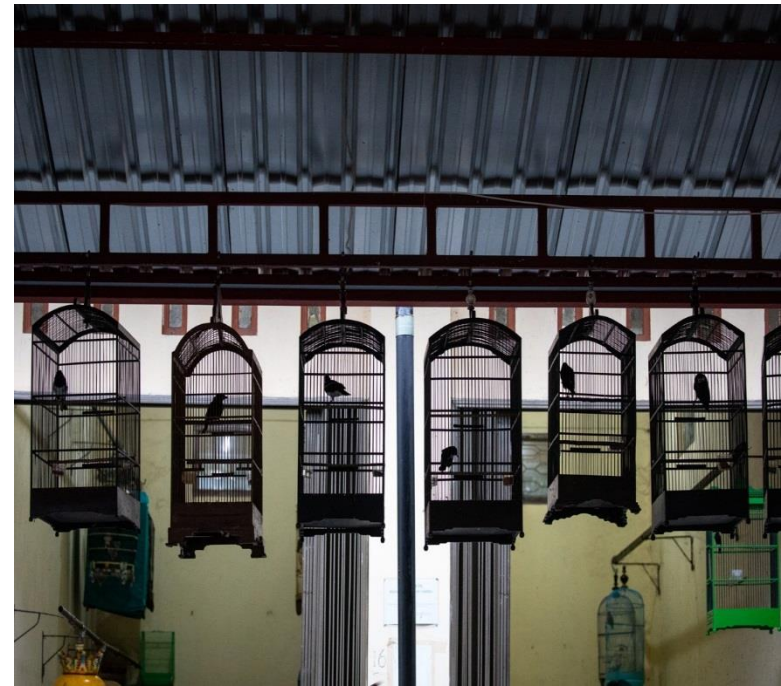


Aim to identify areas that are currently insufficiently protected which the government could upgrade to protected-area status or which might otherwise be managed for improved conservation impact

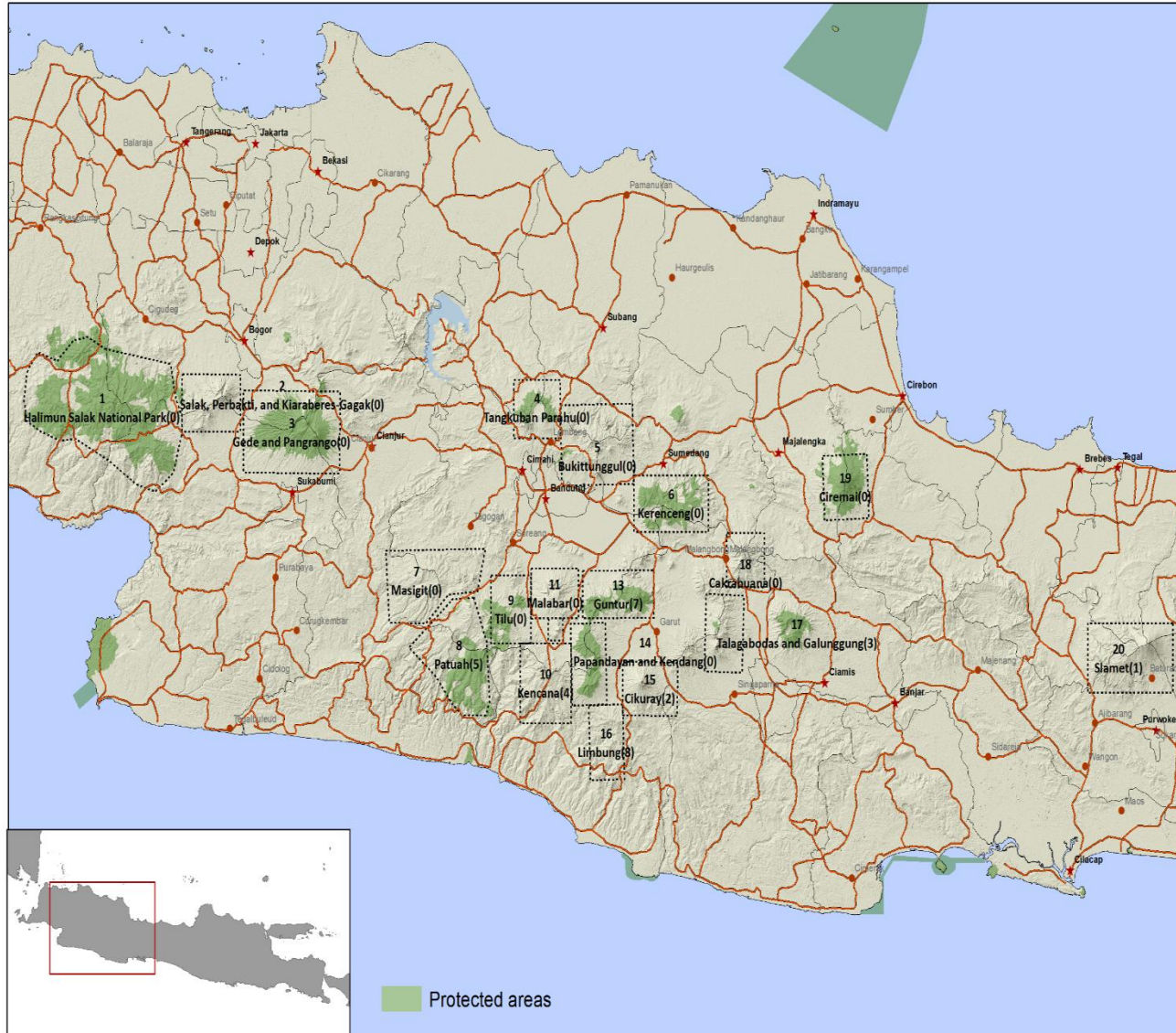
Gain evidence on key habitats and ecology for the two target bird species, if present, in order to understand how best to manage their populations (surviving or reintroduced)

We expect to generate similar evidence for other threatened species, notably the diurnal primates.

- There is an acute lack of field data on bird species affected by the Asian Songbird Crisis
- Our project will assess the distribution and abundance of key songbird species across the mountains of West and Central Java
- We will also survey other taxa such as primates, ground-dwelling mammals, and some frogs
- Information will feed into efforts to save and perhaps release key species, and to support siting of new Protected Areas



Around 20 mountains will be surveyed over the next 24 months



Surveys have already started on Gunung Slamet in Central Java



The tech is working, and interesting records and data already coming in
(we are cautious about disclosing some information at present)



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Please support this vital conservation work

Thank you!