



CCBC Newsletter



April 2020 – August 2020

#18

Breeding Facilities

In what has felt like a never-ending project due to mesh production issues, travel restrictions and everything else in between, we narrowly edge closer to a finished aviary block! Since our last update on this build in edition 16, all remaining mesh arrived and has now been fitted, aviary roofs are installed and the final coat of paint inside the aviaries is currently going on! In preparation for birds going into the aviaries we have recently cut back much foliage from surrounding trees to maximize sunlight reaching the aviaries intended for the Black-winged Myna and will now start planting up finished aviaries with trees and plants and preparing for the installation of nest site CCTV. It is important we have birds moved and established in these cages before the rains start as this is the breeding season for the Javan Green Magpie and Rufous-fronted Laughingthrush. The Rufous-fronted Laughingthrush is still a difficult species to breed in captivity and it is the hope this aviary design will help us to understand their requirements better. In our next update we hope our patience on this build, which has now been incomplete for over a year, has been rewarded!



The day we had all been waiting for, mesh arrival!



Mesh fitted and roof structure in place



Roof and paint going on



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Final section of roof to paint



Outward facing side of larger breeding aviaries



Outward facing side of smaller breeding aviaries



Overview

Javan Warty Pig Translocation

Once CoVID-19 travel bans were lifted, personnel from Batu Secret Zoo and ourselves successfully transported a group of three Javan Warty Pig to Batu Secret Zoo, East Java. This 20 hour journey is the furthest we have ever transported this species, which is very prone to stress that, in the worst cases, can be fatal. Once on the road however these individuals were calm and arrived in East Java healthy where they have established a new captive satellite population, a really important step in the *ex situ* conservation efforts for the Javan Warty Pig.



Head pig keeper Pak Aos, cool, calm and collected!



Team effort loading



Thumbs up from Pak Aos on the successful boxing and loading of pigs



Packed and ready to go

No sooner has one translocation of pigs finished do we prepare for another! The next translocation we plan is of three males and 2 females to Baluran National Park where they will contribute to the breed and release programme. This translocation has been talked about for a few years now and it is great to see progress also with the *in situ* conservation efforts for the Javan Warty Pig. It is the wishes of everyone involved that this translocation is completed in the coming months, all that is left now is the paperwork authorizing the movement of pigs across Java! In the meantime, we habituate these pigs to the transport boxes and house them in enclosures closer to human noise and activity in an attempt to reduce the stress of boxing and transporting.

Captive Breeding

Javan Green Magpie

Whilst captive breeding of the birds at CCBC is taking, what we hope is a brief, hiatus until the effects of CoVID-19 are not felt as strongly and/or we reach a more financially stable time, we can update you on the Javan Green Magpies bred in the previous breeding season. The seven chicks reported on in the previous edition have now all be removed from their parents and live in a sibling pair or singularly. We have DNA sexed all individuals from feather samples and subsequently know we have a ratio of two males and five females from these chicks.



Ringing one of the chicks

Javan Warty Pig

Within weeks of the translocation of pigs to Batu Secret Zoo we welcomed a litter of five piglets from our most consistent breeding pair, Rimba and Seni. All pigs initially looked healthy, although slightly on the small side, Seni however obviously knew something we did not about one of the piglets as at just over a week after birth there was only four piglets one morning and it was not possible that it could have escaped. Seni continues rearing four piglets that are developing well and are already very mobile! We always want to promote breeding that maximizes genetic diversity in our local population so a litter from a consistent breeding pair may not immediately seem a huge success, however these results enable us to contribute to conservation efforts such as the program at Baluran National Park without detrimentally affecting the genetic diversity of our local population.



You can always rely on piglets to lift the spirits! Litter at one week old.

Ciletuh-Pelabuhan Ratu UNESCO Global Geopark

In what is an exciting development for the parent foundation of CCBC, Yayasan Cikananga Konservasi Terpadu (YCKT - *Cikananga Integrated Conservation Society*), an official MoU has been signed with the Regent stating YCKT as an official partner of the Ciletuh-Pelabuhan Ratu UNESCO Global Geopark (CPUGGp). Furthermore, Resit Sözer (Director of YCKT), has been appointed by the Regent as the head of the sub-section "Conservation of the Geopark" and currently an agreement is in process stating YCKT will be executing the conservation programs in and around the site of the CPUGGp.



The official signing of the MoU

Ciletuh is a site only a few hours drive from Cikananga which has an unusual topography meriting it the UNESCO Global Geopark status. As well as unusual topography, Ciletuh has a variety of habitats ranging from savannah type land to forest that, as a commitment to the Geopark status which undergoes periodic assessment, the site must actively conserve. This presents a great opportunity for the foundation and has a lot of potential benefits in the future to species housed at CCBC as well as community outreach and education. Despite the impacts of the CoVID-19 pandemic we are really pleased to see these plans progress and we look forward to bringing you more updates as this develops.

Final Thought

As Zoological institutions around the world are being impacted heavily by the current CoVID-19 pandemic restrictions and regulations we are really thankful for you keeping CCBC in mind and for any support you can afford at this moment in time. We extend our best wishes to all the members of your teams and we look forward to sharing our news and progress with you in more stable times.

The CCBC Team



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Our work is made possible by your support and material donation.
Thank you from all the Cikananga Conservation Breeding Center Team!



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