



Silent Forest Group Project update

Project name: Planet Indonesia - Wak Gatak Songbird rescue center

Project partners: Yayasan Planet Indonesia

Date: 1st September 2021

Contact: Adam Miller adam.miller@planetindonesia.org / Abrar Ahmad abrar@planetindonesia.org

- Don't forget to include images (>1Mb)/videos with credits when available (please specify a description, name of the image, any caption, date and location, species common/scientific name and photographers name when available)
 - Please feel free to attach documents that expand beyond the 300 words limit...
-

1. What project-related developments, either directly or indirectly, took place in the past months (in the field, press/media, research outcomes, local community and unforeseen circumstances?) (Max. 300 words)

Between June and August 2021, key project developments included completion of the quarantine building (Fig.1), land preparation for the first aviary block (Fig. 2), drilling of deep-tube wells & installation of overhead water storage tanks with connection of water pipes to existing facilities (Fig. 3), procurement of laboratory tables for the clinic (Fig. 4), and recruitment and basic training and assessment of the in-house veterinarian. The training curriculum included topics related to reporting rescue center activities to YPI management and government agencies, and management of rescue center data and documents. In this quarter, we also began engaging community members who reside near the rescue center to create awareness about the role of our rescue center in songbird conservation in Indonesia and to get their support for operating the rescue center in their neighborhood.

Circumstances that have caused delays to our scheduled work were related to heavy incessant rains and Covid-19 related government restrictions on movement and community activities in West Kalimantan. Additionally, we have found it difficult to find

local vendors who sell high-quality equipment/materials to develop the facilities at the rescue center (e.g. wires for cages). As a result, we are trying to source these materials from other Provinces in Indonesia and then import them to Pontianak.

2. Can you please give us a short status update on objectives and goals you specified in your project proposal?

In our proposal to the EAZA Silent Forest Group, we requested funds to develop our first (of three) block of aviary buildings. This aviary block will consist of 10 enclosures that have half-open roofs, a mixed substrate floor, songbird perching and bathing opportunities, and possibility to enlarge each enclosure by connecting multiple enclosures together. This building will be located just before the clinic building. Although we have had to stop construction for multiple days, we were able to commence construction work for the Aviary building in the middle of August. At present, we have finished the land clearing for the Aviary building and now are at the stage of commencing construction of the foundation (Fig. 2).

We are looking forward to completing this first block of aviaries by the end of the project year so that we can make the rescue center operational in terms of receiving, treating, and rehabilitating incoming songbirds. Especially, having this infrastructure in place will provide us with the opportunity to receive Kalimantan-endemic songbirds from other wildlife rescue centers in Indonesia that could then go through the final steps of rehabilitation at our center and then eventually be released into one of our community protected sites.

3. What activities are planned/ scheduled for the next three months? (Max. 300 words)

The following table highlights activities that are planned to be carried out in the next 3 months (September - November 2021)

Activity	Expected date of completion
Vet Training in CCBC, West Java	September/ October 2021
Construction of Aviary building	Q4 2021
Procurement of Transport Cage	Q4 2021
Purchase/procurement of Medical Devices and Other Clinical Supplies for Clinics	Q4 2021

**4. Other information to share with the public related to the project
(Max. 300 words)**

Even with multiple delays throughout the last one year, we have been steadily working towards completing the construction and development of the rescue center. We feel that we are extremely lucky to have the support of our donors such as the EAZA family and Silent Forests group, who are as committed as us in developing infrastructure across Indonesia that will enable the safe return of thousands of songbird victims back to their natural habitat.

Appendix



Figure 1: Completed quarantine building (left), with its own septic tank (right)



Figure 2: Land clearing for the first block of aviaries has been completed.



Figure 3: Installation of deep tube-well (left), and overhead water tanks for the rescue center (right).



Figure 4: Three laboratory tables (2.5m x 0.6 m x 1m) were procured for the clinic building.