

Enggano Hill Myna (*Gracula enganensis*)



## PRIGEN CONSERVATION BREEDING ARK

Summer Update  
June 2022

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## Preface

While in Indonesia, like many other parts of the world, Covid related restrictions have largely been lifted and life returned to normal, the pandemic still casts its shadow over certain aspects of life. For instance we had to realize that travel restrictions in China made it impossible for Chinese participants to plan their trip to the International Galliformes Symposium in October, hence, we had to make the decision to postpone the Symposium by one year and are now planning to invite the international Galliformes community to Prigen in October 2023.

PCBA is proud to welcome an ever growing number of sponsors and supporters to the team. Only as a joined effort of likeminded people and institutions a facility like PCBA can be truly successful. Not only the financial support we receive but also the continuous exchange of knowledge with colleagues around the world is what makes PCBA so successful.



PCBA's partners and sponsors



## Second quartal 2022

To keep up with the growth of PCBA's facilities, it became necessary to employ yet another animal keeper. In Khusniah we found an ideal candidate.

Nia did an internship at PCBA earlier this year and prove herself to be a very promising young animal keeper.



For the first time in more than two years we were able to travel more freely, nationally and internationally. This gave us the opportunity to form new cooperations and strengthen existing partnerships.

In the near future KASI foundation and PCBA will increase efforts to join forces with partners in other regions of Indonesia and implement more in-situ conservation work

## Rainbowfish tanks

In June the construction of eight large tanks for threatened Indonesian Rainbowfish has been finished. Each tank has a capacity of around 6,000 liters of water and will enable us to keep larger numbers of some of Indonesia's most threatened Rainbowfish species.

Focus will be on species that occur in highly restricted ranges and are threatened by human actions. At the same time we will make sure to focus on those species that are not well established in the aquarium hobby around the world.



Rainbowfish tanks before being filled

Species prioritization has been done by Hans-Georg Evers and Jeffrey Christian, leading experts on the field.

This project has been made possible by a cooperation with Tierpark and Fossilium Bochum and ZGAP

# Sulawesi Freshwater endemics



Sulawesi's unique freshwater fauna is under growing pressure by a increasing number of manmade factors.

Invasive introduced species, pollution and over harvesting are taking a huge toll on the ecosystems and are pushing more and more species to the very brink of extinction.

For many species in-situ conservation efforts might well come too late given that it would take years to revers some of the negative human impacts.

In order to prevent the extinction of some of Sulawesi's most threatened freshwater endemics, PCBA is teaming up with the Sulawesi Keepers network, Zoo Wroclaw, Re:wild and ZGAP to set up an ex-situ breeding facility in Java.

This facility will consist of 140 tanks in 22 separate systems. Each system will consist of several tanks and a water volume of about 600 liters, providing for the necessary stability of water parameters. The entire facility will be climate controlled in order to provide perfect conditions for its inhabitants.

Among our focal species will be:

*Caridina spinata*,

*Tylomelania kruimeli*

*Sulawesidrobia datar* and

*Oryzias soerotoi*



## Bawean Warty-Pig facility

Enabled by the "Zootier des Jahres" campaign we are currently building a breeding facility for the severely threatened Bawean Wart-Pig (*Sus blouchi*). Endemic to the island of Bawean, north of Java, this species is not only threatened by poaching and retaliation hunting when crops have been destroyed but increasingly also by disease.

African Swine Fever (ASF) and Foot and Mouth disease are currently raging in Indonesia and at least ASF is so infectious and lethal, that it can wipe out entire wild suid populations. Therefore, it is urgently necessary to establish an insurance population of Bawean Warty-Pigs in human care, to prevent extinction in case these disease reach Bawean Island.

The facility at PCBA will cover 2,500 square meters divided into five large enclosures, each with a paddock and holding pens to be able to safely manage groups of pigs.



Bawean Pig facility under construction



## In-situ efforts on Maratua island

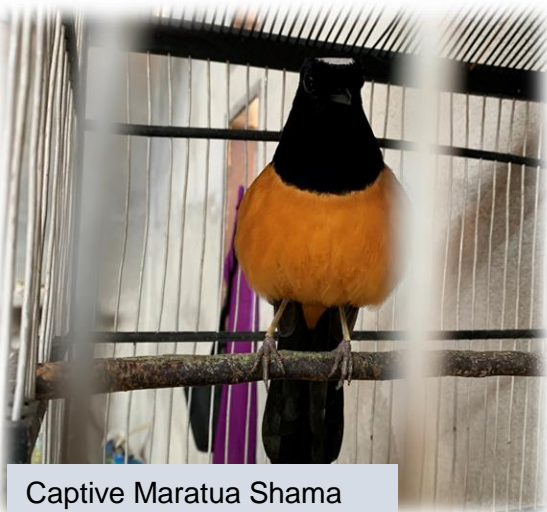
With our in-situ project in Wangi-Wangi Island slowly taking shape and passing all necessary administrative steps we have been able to engage in the second, equally important in-situ conservation project.

In May, PCBA's biologist Febry spent ten days in Maratua to conduct an initial bird survey, mainly focusing on Maratua Shama (*Copsychus barbouri*) and other endemics.

This first survey was carried out in partnership with Yayasan Konservasi Alam Nusantara.

While many bird species like the endemic subspecies of black-headed Bulbul (*Brachypodius atriceps hodiernus*) remain common on the island, the survey did not produce any solid evidence of the continued existence of the wild Shama population in Maratua. Nevertheless, Febry did encounter a few Shammas kept by local people, some of these birds were apparently very young and freshly wild caught. This offers hope that there might be an undiscovered surviving population somewhere in Maratua.

Our conclusion of this findings is that if we want to preserve the Maratua Shama in its native habitat we have to act fast. Therefore, we are planning to visit the island again as soon as possible, in order to set up a network of people who could potentially become guardians for the last remaining Shammas in Maratua.



Captive Maratua Shama



Maratua Bulbuls

# Remarkable changes in our animal populations

## Mammals:

### Javan Warty Pig (*Sus verrucosus*):

Six of the seven piglets born in late march are developing nicely and growing up fast. The seventh disappeared early after birth and was most likely eaten by the parents.



Javan Warty Pigs

### Indonesian Mountain Weasel (*Mustela lutreolina*):

All four Indonesian Mountain Weasels are doing good and first partner introductions have started. So far no clear signs of estrous have been observed but nevertheless it seems advisable to try to pair the individuals regularly in order to gain as much experience as possible with this virtually unknown species.

### Javan Small-toothed Palm-Civet (*Arctogalidia t.trilineata*):

In early May yet another Civet was born at PCBA and is being raised without complications by its mother.

The total number of Javan small-toothed Palm-Civets kept at PCBA has now risen to 13 of which six have been born here.



## Songbirds



Kangean Shama fledgling

Successfully raised during the last three months:

- Seven Javan Pied Starlings (*Gracupica jalla*) were raised by four different pairs.
- One Tenggara Hill Myna (*Gracula venerata*) was successfully raised
- One orange spotted Bulbul (*Pycnonotus bimaculatus*) was raised by its parents.
- Two ruby-throated Bulbuls (*Rubigula dispar*) were raised by two different pairs.
- One Kangean Shama (*Copsychus nigricauda*) was raised, representing the first captive breeding record of this highly threatened taxon. Unfortunately we lost three other chicks to Trichomoniasis
- Four Maratua Shamas were successfully raised by two pairs.
- One Javan White-eye (*Zosterops flavus*) grew up under the care of its parents. This species has not yet fully started its breeding season due to the delayed onset of the dry season.



Javan White-eye hatchling

## Losses:

- Two Javan Green Magpies (*Cissa thalassina*) have been lost, one with lung nodules, the other one without clear cause of death
- Two Ruby-throated Bulbuls died, one due to unknown cause, one due to partner aggression.
- One female Greater Leafbird (*Chloropsis sonnerati*) was killed by its long term partner after being moved to a new aviary
- One Straw-headed Bulbul died due to an bacterial infection
- Our only remaining Bare-throated Whistler (*Pachycephala nidiigula*) died without previous indication.



Male Crestless Fireback

## Galliformes

We have been able to acquire a pair of Malay crestless Fireback Pheasants (*Lophura erythrophthalma*) from a private owner. We have been enabled to do so by the support from WPA Germany. Unfortunately the female succumbed to an Aspergillosis infection shortly after arrival.

Our adult pair of Grey-breasted Partridge (*Arborophila orientalis*) reproduced again and is currently raising two chicks.





Male Sulawesi Forest Turtle

## Turtles

With three pairs of Sulawesi Forest Turtles (*Leucocephalon yuwonoi*) PCBA's first reptiles arrived in May.

These first individuals will hopefully be the base of a successful conservation breeding project for this sensitive and Critically endangered species in Indonesia.

In the future we will strengthen our partnership with Allwetterzoo Muenster, Zoo Leipzig and ZGAP in order to preserve the endemic Sulawesi Forest Turtle in stable ex-situ populations in Indonesia and Europe.

## Blackwater fish

Over the course of the last three months we have been able to breed the following species:

*Parosphromenus anjunganensis*,

*P. pahuensis*,

*P. deissneri*,

*Betta miniopinna*,

*B. burdigala*,

*B. cf. uberis* Belitung and

*B. rutilans*.

Additionally we received some founder individuals of *Parosphromenus linkei* and two new undescribed *Parosphromenus* from Bangka island.