



Final Report

## **Seminar and Training on Shorebird Banding for Bird Conservationists at Trisik Beach, Kulon Progo, Special Region of Yogyakarta**



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## **BACKGROUND**

Birdbanding is a technique used to study wild birds which has been applied internationally in numerous researches. Birdbanding requires a distinct set of skills and expertise, including equipment use, bird safety, and alertness during the entire process.

Birdbanding has been a regular activity in Indonesia since the 1950s, and supervised by the Indonesian Bird Banding Scheme (IBBS). Since 2010, birdbanding groups have emerged from different cities including Bogor, Yogyakarta, and Surabaya. However, the majority of these groups have failed to maintain a consistent training program for the past few years, which resulted in the absence of new birdbanding activists. This is shown by the stagnant number of licensed birdbanders in Indonesia. We believe that reintroducing birdbanding through seminar and hands-on workshop to bird conservation activists, especially the younger age group, is urgently needed to ensure the continuity of birdbanding scheme in Indonesia as well as keeping information on bird migration updated.

## **OBJECTIVE**

1. Introducing birdbanding for stakeholders, birdwatchers and researchers.
2. Assisting stakeholders in site management planning.
3. Providing training on shorebird banding for birdwatchers and researchers.
4. Promoting shorebird banding programs to support shorebird migration research both locally and internationally.

## **PROJECT AREA**

Indonesia has the fourth longest coastline in the world with a length of more than 80,000 kilometres (John Howes et al., 2003). This allows Indonesia to have high biodiversity. One of the beaches that has such biodiversity is Trisik beach which is located in southern Java Island. Trisik Beach is located near the Progo river estuary which makes this area frequently visited by migratory water birds, especially shorebirds. Every year during the migration season, we can see thousands of waterbirds that visit this area. Imam Taufiqurrahman (2010) mentioned that Trisik Beach is an important location for migrant shorebirds in Yogyakarta.

Trisik Beach (7058'11.54" - 7058'58.87"S, 110011'82" -110012'20.10"E) is a sandy coastal beach about 2.4 km long on the south coast of Java approximately 20 km east of Glagah Beach and administratively located in Banaran village, Galur subdistrict, Kulon Progo district, Yogyakarta province. This becomes an ideal location for our training program due to its easy access and long history of shorebird records.

In addition to the sandy beach, several other wetland types are present in the area. Brackish lagoons lie behind the beach while rain-fed rice fields that are planted in wet season and then used to grow soybeans or chilli in dry season dominated inland areas. Nearby is the estuary of the Progo River, the biggest river in Yogyakarta.



Farms around the location



Progo river estuary during low tide



Shorebird flock



Shorebird flock

This location is one of Internationally Important Sites for the Wood Sandpiper (*Tringa glareola*) and Sanderling (*Calidris alba*). There are also first Indonesian records of Pectoral Sandpiper (*Calidris melanotos*), Common Ringed Plover (*Charadrius hiaticula*) and Red Phalarope (*Phalaropus fulicaria*) in this location. In addition, Ruff

(*Philomachus pugnax*) is recorded as a regular visitor in this area every migration season, while it is very rare in other parts of Greater Sunda.



*Calidris alba*



*Calidris melanotos*



*Phalaropus fulicaria*



*Philomachus pugnax*

Sadly, as a site visited by approximately 70% of shorebird species in Indonesia Trisik Beach has been facing a great threat, mainly from land conversion. Illegal iron sand mining becomes a prominent factor in the shifting shoreline, particularly around Progo river's estuary. Irresponsible shrimp farming by local people also severely contaminates the beach. We are hoping that by conducting a seminar for stakeholders, we could encourage better site management which could benefit both the people and shorebirds.

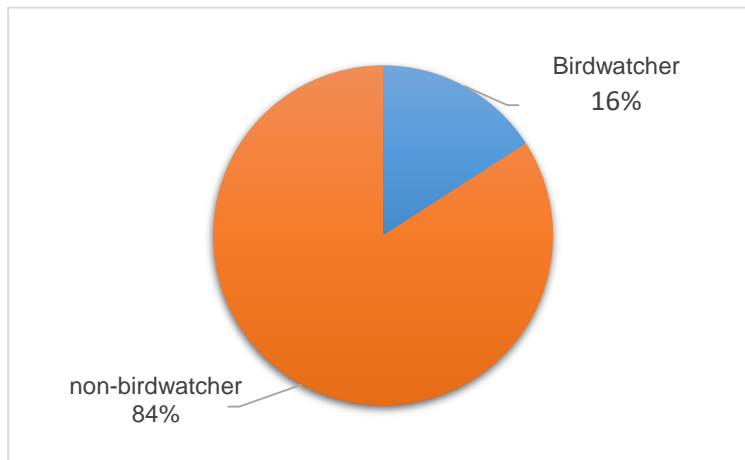
## PROJECT ACTIVITIES

### 1. Seminar

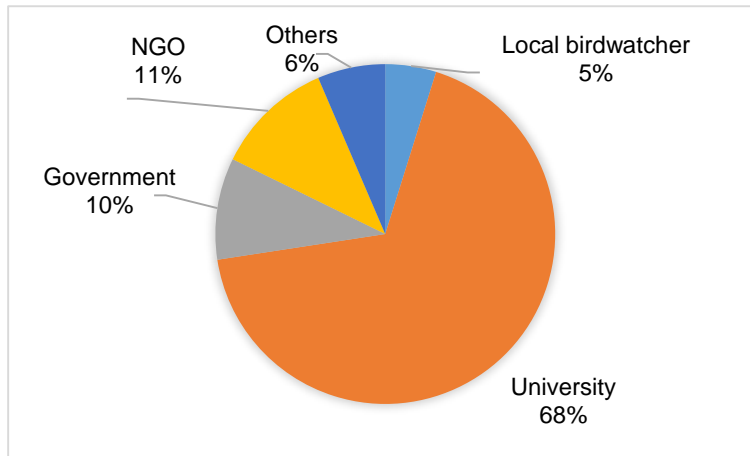
The first plan for the seminar, which was held offline, was changed to online in order to reach more participants. This seminar has presented speakers from ornithology experts, especially those related to bird banding and wetlands.

The seminar was attended by approximately 60 participants and came from various backgrounds. Here is a summary of the participants who attended the seminar :

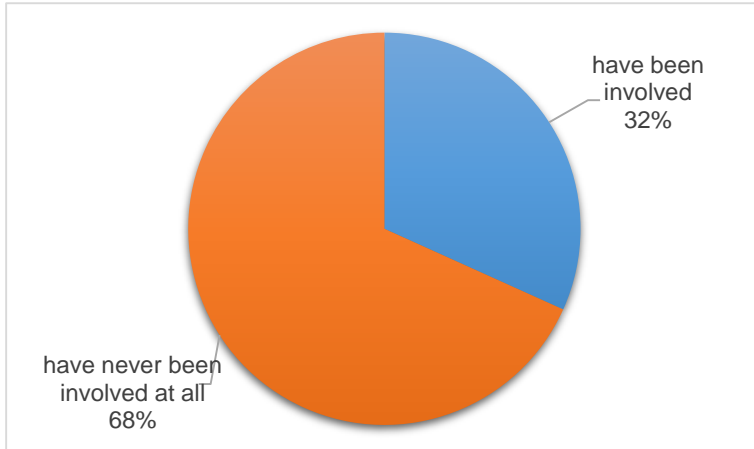
According to background :



According to institution :



According to birdbanding experience :



Presented seminar topics including :

1. *National and Global Perspective of Bird Banding*

Speaker : Prof. Dr. Dewi Malia Prawiradilaga, MSc., PhD. (National Research and Innovation Agency; Indonesian Bird Banding Scheme)

This topic discusses the contribution of Indonesian bird banding to conservation activities both nationally and globally.

The contribution of bird banding nationally includes :

- a. Human resource capacity building through training
- b. Research and monitoring activities
- c. Supporting the Government's conservation programmes

And globally, the role of birdbanding in Indonesia includes :

- a. Supporting partnerships in Asia-Australasia region and internationally.
- b. Participate in Research and Monitoring Activities of bird banding

2. *Bird Banding Techniques & Application in Research*

Speaker : Ign. Pramana Yuda, Ph.D. (Lecture of Atma Jaya Yogyakarta University; President of Indonesian Ornithologists Union)

The second session discussed about bird banding techniques, including :

- a. Description of bird banding
- b. Bird capturing and banding techniques
- c. Stages of bird banding
- d. Things that can be studied in birds through bird banding method
- e. The role of bird banding in the world of bird conservation (especially in Indonesia)

### 3. *Wetlands and Migratory Bird Conservation*

Speaker : Ragil Satriyo Gumilang, S.Hut., M.Si. (Wetlands International Indonesia)

The points discussed in session three including :

- a. Definition of wetlands and their current condition in Indonesia
- b. Benefits and various of wetlands in Indonesia
- c. Wetland conservation and its challenges in Indonesia
- d. Migratory waterbirds and its challenges in Indonesia

### 4. *Government's Role in Migratory Bird Conservation in Trisik Beach*

Speaker : Tri Dibyo Sumbogo (Natural Resources Conservation Agency of Yogyakarta)

The last session discussed the role of local governments in supporting conservation efforts. Speakers explained there many activities that have been carried out, especially to protect wetlands and waterbirds. In this session it was also mentioned that since this year the wetlands area in project location has a stronger protection status by becoming Kawasan Ekosistem Esensial (Essential Ecosystem Areas).



First session



Second session



Third session



Fourth session



## 2. Training

The training was attended by 20 participants who had registered and selected. This activity was assisted by trainers and assistants who have bird banding licenses issued by the Indonesian Bird Banding Scheme. The main trainer was Iwan Febrianto from the Yayasan Ekologi Satwa Liar Indonesia. Participants came from various backgrounds such as students, lecturers, NGO activists, bird watchers, and veterinarians.

Shorebird banding requires more preparation than passerine. Therefore, the training was designed in such a way that participants could learn optimally and consider the safety aspect. Initially, the training was held in only one stage. However, considering the readiness of the participants, the event was divided into two stages.

### First Stage

The first stage was conducted twice, in 25-27 July and 9-10 September, with passerine birds as the target. This stage aimed to introduce and familiarise the participants with birdbanding techniques.



Bird banding in July



Introduce mist net installation



Discussion session



Bird tagging



Bird banding in September



Bird measurements



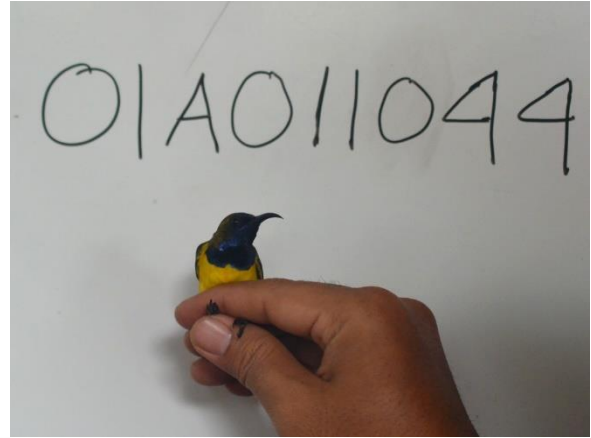
*Actitis hypoleucos*



*Orthotomus sutorius*



*Halcyon cyanoventris*



*Cinnyris jugularis*

## Second Stage

The second stage, training with shorebird targets, was conducted in 20-23 November on the Progo river estuary, which is a resting place for shorebirds when the low tide occurs. The area leading to the site is dominated by farms and a large lagoon-like pond.

During the four days of training, it was raining almost every evening and night with strong winds. This condition causes the installation of nets to become not optimal considering that shorebird banding is ideally carried out at night. Training was maximized in the morning and afternoon by targeting birds in the location, which were mostly passerine birds.



Briefing for participants



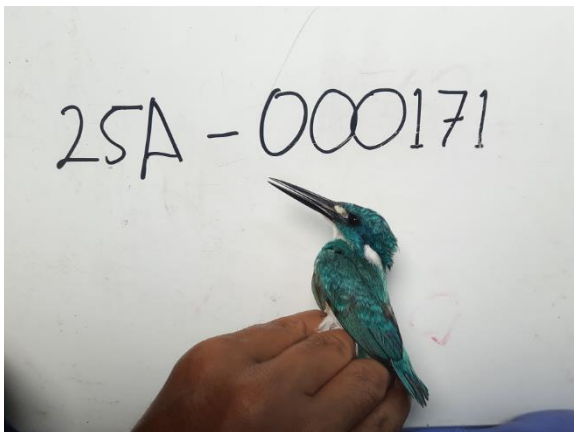
Mist net installation practice



Mist net installation practice



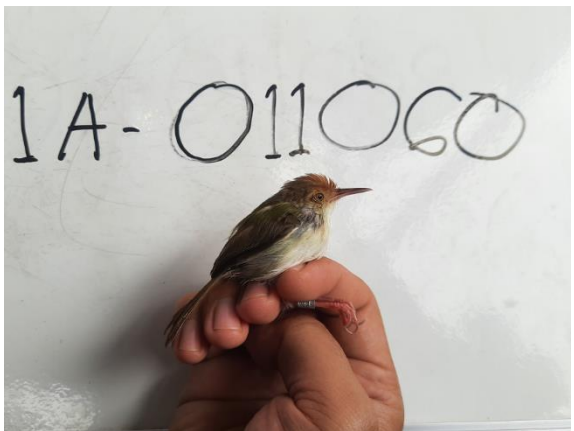
Bird tagging



*Alcedo coerulescens*



*Anthreptes malacensis*



*Orthotomus sutorius*



*Prinia inornata*



*Turnix suscitator*



*Lonchura leucogastroides*

Table of tagged birds in both stages :

Month	Scientific Name	Common Name	Ring Number	Retrap
July	<i>Pellorneum capistratum</i>	Rufous-browed Babbler	1B-01602	No
	<i>Malacocincla sepiaria</i>	Horsfield's Babbler	04Y-000192	No
	<i>Arachnothera longirostra</i>	Little Spiderhunter	1A-01352	No
	<i>Arachnothera longirostra</i>	Little Spiderhunter	1A-01320	Yes
	<i>Actitis hypoleucos</i>	Common Sandpiper	04Y-000193	No
	<i>Alophoixus bres</i>	Brown-cheeked Bulbul	1B-01548	No
	<i>Arachnothera longirostra</i>	Little Spiderhunter	1A-01353	No
	<i>Arachnothera longirostra</i>	Little Spiderhunter	1A-01354	No
	<i>Arachnothera longirostra</i>	Little Spiderhunter	1A-01355	No
	<i>Arachnothera longirostra</i>	Little Spiderhunter	1A-01356	No
	<i>Arachnothera longirostra</i>	Little Spiderhunter	1A-01357	No
	<i>Cinnyris jugularis</i>	Olive-backed Sunbird	01A-011044	No
September	<i>Geopelia striata</i>	Zebra Dove	06Y-001720	No
	<i>Halcyon cyanoventris</i>	Javan Kingfisher	25A-000169	No
	<i>Lonchura leucogastroides</i>	Javan Munia	1A-01358	No
	<i>Lonchura leucogastroides</i>	Javan Munia	01A-011046	No
	<i>Lonchura leucogastroides</i>	Javan Munia	01A-011047	No

	<i>Lonchura leucogastroides</i>	Javan Munia	01A-011048	No
	<i>Lonchura leucogastroides</i>	Javan Munia	01A-011049	No
	<i>Malacocincla sepiaria</i>	Horsfield's Babbler	1B-01604	No
	<i>Orthotomus sutorius</i>	Common Tailorbird	01A-011045	No
	<i>Passer montanus</i>	Eurasian Tree Sparrow	1B-01550	No
	<i>Passer montanus</i>	Eurasian Tree Sparrow	1B-01551	No
	<i>Passer montanus</i>	Eurasian Tree Sparrow	1B-01552	No
	<i>Pellorneum capistratum</i>	Rufous-browed Babbler	1B-01603	No
	<i>Pellorneum capistratum</i>	Rufous-browed Babbler	1B-01546	No
	<i>Pellorneum capistratum</i>	Rufous-browed Babbler	1B-01547	No
<b>November</b>	<i>Alcedo coerulescens</i>	Cerulean Kingfisher	25A-000171	No
	<i>Anthreptes malacensis</i>	Brown-throated Sunbird	1A-01364	No
	<i>Cisticola juncidis</i>	Zitting Cisticola	01A-011058	No
	<i>Cisticola juncidis</i>	Zitting Cisticola	01A-011061	No
	<i>Geopelia striata</i>	Zebra Dove	06Y-001721	No
	<i>Lonchura leucogastroides</i>	Javan Munia	01A-011056	No
	<i>Lonchura punctulata</i>	Scaly-breasted Munia	1A-01363	No
	<i>Orthotomus sutorius</i>	Common Tailorbird	01A-011060	No
	<i>Orthotomus sutorius</i>	Common Tailorbird	01A-011063	No
	<i>Orthotomus sutorius</i>	Common Tailorbird	1A-01362	No
	<i>Passer montanus</i>	Eurasian Tree Sparrow	1B-01553	No
	<i>Prinia inornata</i>	Plain Prinia	01A-011057	No
	<i>Prinia inornata</i>	Plain Prinia	1A-01366	No
	<i>Turnix suscitator</i>	Barred Buttonquail	06Y-001722	No

## **CONCLUSION**

Birdbanding in Indonesia has the potential to be maximised in order to support bird and habitat conservation efforts, as this method has been known for a long time in this country. However, there needs to be continuous encouragement from all stakeholders. It is also important to encourage young researchers to explore this method further. In addition, the fulfilment of more adequate equipment is also essential to support birdbanding activities so that the data generated can be more comprehensive and accurate.

## **ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

We would like to thank :

1. East Asian Australasian Flyway Partnership (EAAFP) for the financial support.
2. National Research and Innovation Agency, Indonesian Bird Banding Scheme, Atma Jaya Yogyakarta University, Indonesian Ornithologists Union, Wetlands International Indonesia, and Natural Resources Conservation Agency of Yogyakarta as the parties who are willing to be speakers and share their knowledge in the seminar.
3. Paguyuban Pengamat Burung Jogja (local birdwatcher club) and Jogja Bird Banding Club for the great support in terms of equipment and personnel for this activity.
4. EKSAI Foundation for his willingness to be a trainer in this training.
5. The local government for granting permission during the training.
6. All parties involved in the implementation of this programme.