
Short Communication

Silvered Langur (*Trachypithecus cristatus*) Survey in Sibuti Wildlife Sanctuary, Miri, Sarawak

Wan Nur Syafinaz Wan-Azman¹, Norfarhana Mazlan¹, Muhammad Farhan Abd Wahab², Abdul Ajis Taib³, Sunni Mali³, Faisal Ali Anwarali Khan^{1*}

¹Faculty of Resource Science and Technology, Universiti Malaysia Sarawak, 94300 Kota Samarahan, Sarawak

²Institute of Biological Sciences, Faculty of Science, Universiti Malaya, 50603 Kuala Lumpur

³Sibuti Wildlife Sanctuary, Sarawak Forestry Corporation, 98150 Bekenu, Miri, Sarawak

*Corresponding author: akfali@unimas.my

Abstract

A rapid and passive primate survey using a scanning technique was conducted in Sibuti Wildlife Sanctuary (Sibuti WS) from 11th to 16th July, 2018. This study provided the first confirmed record of the presence and the diet of silvered langur in the wildlife sanctuary. A group of silvered langur that comprise 20 to 30 individuals were observed in the vicinity of the sanctuary. The diurnal langur feeds on fig plants (*Ficus* sp.), *simpoh air* (*Dillenia suffruticosa*) and tree from the family Leguminosae. However, this langur population appears to be isolated and is probably decreasing due to limited food sources, intra- and interspecific competition, and hunting pressure by local people.

Keywords: diet, ecology, scan sampling, silvered langur

Introduction

The Malaysian primate population is not an exception to the ongoing decline of the global primate population due to human activities such as land conversion for oil palm plantations (Meijaard & Nijman, 2020). Despite the anthropogenic activities, ongoing monitoring efforts are still the practical means to assess changes in wildlife population trends. This is particularly important for Colobine monkeys in determining their population size and distribution. This information will be critical in developing conservation plans of the targeted species such as silvered langur to increase their population size (Revoro et al., 2015; Matsuda et al., 2020). The IUCN Red List has listed *Trachypithecus cristatus* (silvered langur) as a rare species that is categorised as Vulnerable (VU) due to poaching activities by local people (Chivers & Davies, 1979; Meijaard, & Nijman 2020).