

Bornean Orangutan © Milan Zymunt



Male Helmeted Hornbill © Thipwant

Safeguard a Critical Corridor for Orangutans in Indonesia

The Critically Endangered Bornean Orangutan is at high risk of extinction in its Indonesian home in Borneo. Their numbers have been in sharp decline since the 1950s and if that trend continues, they will have lost 82% of their global population by 2025 due to the destruction of their rainforest habitat and illegal hunting and killing. The illegal wildlife trade and the habitat loss and fragmentation of forests that comes with agricultural encroachment are pushing wildlife closer to the edge of extinction.

We now have the opportunity to safeguard Orangutan habitat in the highly intact Labian-Leboyan Corridor, an area of lush ancient rainforests, meandering rivers, high biodiversity, and traditional territories of Indigenous communities. But we must move quickly.

Rainforest Trust and our local partner, Yayasan Sangga Bumi Lestari, seek \$1,200,528 to support the designation of 179,000 acres as Customary Forests whereby the Indonesian government formally recognizes the ownership and rights of Indigenous Peoples to manage and protect their traditional territories in perpetuity. Customary Forest designation will prohibit activities that threaten the integrity of the natural environment, such as commercial-scale logging, mining and hunting by outsiders (the spiritual beliefs of local Indigenous Peoples prevent them from hunting orangutans).

SAFEGUARD OLD-GROWTH FORESTS AND RARE BORNEAN SPECIES

Four species at great risk of localized extinction in this region are the Critically Endangered Northwest Bornean Orangutan, Critically Endangered Bornean Banded Langur, Vulnerable Bearded Pig and Critically Endangered Helmeted Hornbill. Protection of the Labian-Leboyan Corridor, the majority of which is high-carbon, old-growth forest, will fortify a conservation area between two large national parks to the north and south and give these species a fighting chance.

Protecting the Labian-Leboyan corridor for ongoing Bornean Orangutan research and monitoring efforts has been a priority for many years, and this project will bring that work forward. Population surveys conducted in 2023 of orangutans indicated a significant decline in their population, with estimates of only 202 individuals residing inside Danau Sentarum, the national park to the south of this project, and a further



179,000
ACRES

\$1,200,528
PROJECT COST

\$6.71
COST PER ACRE

44,971,128 mT
CO₂ EQUIVALENTS
STORED

KEY SPECIES:

Bornean Orangutan (CR),
Bornean Banded Langur (CR),
Helmeted Hornbill (CR)



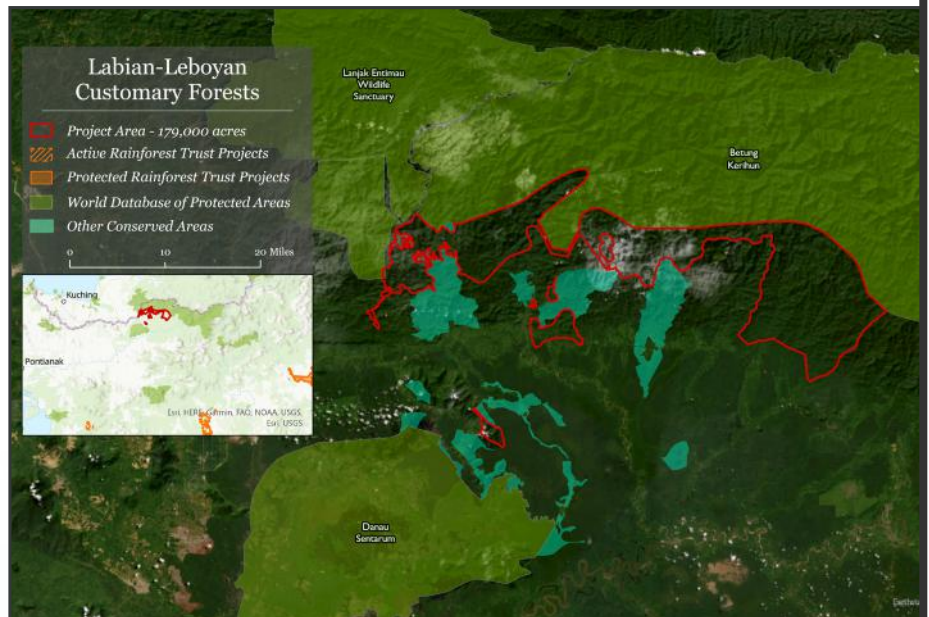
Landscape of project area © courtesy partner Yayasan Sangga Bumi Lestari

71 within the southern corridor area. This project is essential to connecting their habitat.

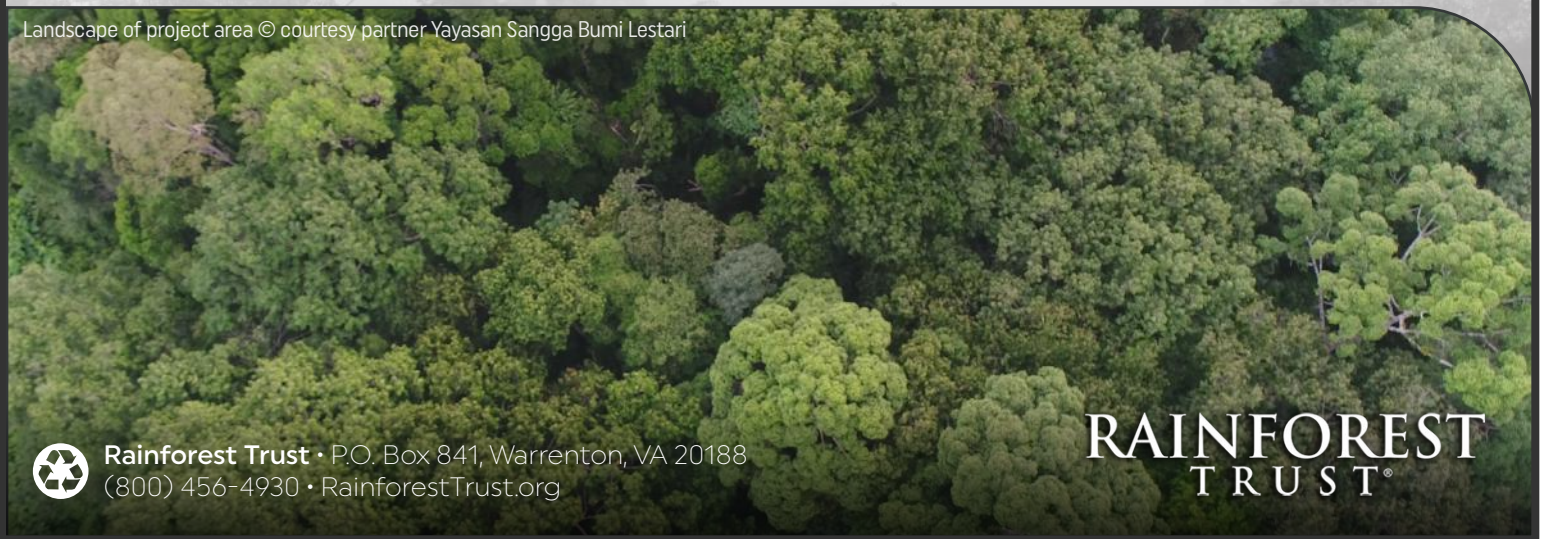
The drastic decline of Critically Endangered Bornean Banded Langurs, once common across Borneo, is due to habitat loss and hunting. Its current estimated population is critically low at 200-500 individuals. The Vulnerable Bearded Pig was common in Peninsular Malaysia and Borneo prior to the 1950s, but heavy hunting, habitat loss and disease have decimated their populations. The Helmeted Hornbill is subject to intense hunting pressure and habitat loss. This project protects critical habitat for them all.

SUPPORT INDIGENOUS GUARDIANSHIP OF RAINFORESTS

The daily lives of local Indigenous Peoples are still guided by their customary practices. It is well documented that Indigenous People's traditional customs and sustainable livelihoods protect the forests and waters of their territories, benefiting the abundant biodiversity within. This project ensures that their rights to own and manage their customary forests in the Labian-Leboyan corridor will benefit people, species and the planet for generations to come.



Areas in red are proposed as customary forests for Indigenous Peoples.



Landscape of project area © courtesy partner Yayasan Sangga Bumi Lestari