

## **Large Mammal Monitoring 2005**

### **LIPI Report**

#### **Project leader: Dr Philip Wheeler**

Camps: LaSolo, Wahalaka, Laweli, Anoa Wabalamba, Lapago

Dates: 3 July - 17 August 2005

Students: Asri Dwiyahreni, Ambang Wijaya

Guide: La Au, La Marini, La Rasiu

Four volunteers over the season: Nanda, Jumrin, Arthur, La Ode Kaida

#### ***Summary***

The large mammal monitoring project in 2005 concentrated on sign surveys of anoa and line transect surveys of Buton Macaques on transects running from the six node camps. In all, 24 3km transects were surveyed over a seven week period. In addition a number of exploratory walks between transects and away from base camps were made. Main problems encountered were with persistent wet weather at the start of the season. Signs of anoa were recorded on all transects despite substantial variation in forest type, quality and disturbance. Of the node camps, camp Anoa continues to support highest track densities. Sightings of anoa were fewer this year. Only 5 sightings have been confirmed with other four encounters with fleeing animals that were probably anoa (confirmed by observation of very fresh tracks). However, there were no encounters with hunters this year.

#### ***Methods***

Anoa were surveyed by counting independent sets of tracks on 3km transects. Details of the method and location are given in Operation Wallacea LIPI report 2004. Four transects at each of six sites were surveyed and numbers of anoa tracks at each counted. Total efforts (man hour) were calculated based on average hours spent in every 100 m looking for anoa tracks times the number of people involved in the search. Faecal samples were collected on these transects and from recce lines walked between transects.

Macaques were surveyed by Distance sampling along the same transects as Anoa. Surveys began at 7.00am. Full details are given in Operation Wallacea LIPI report 2004.

## *Results*

### Anoa track densities

<b>Camp</b>	<b>Mean Tracks per 100m</b>	<b>Total effort per 100 m (man hour)</b>
LaSolo	1.00	1.20
Bala	0.96	1.80
Wahalaka	1.78	2.20
Anoa	1.80	1.32
Wabalamba	3.53	3.20
LaPago	2.08	1.60

Over the two months (July and August) of this year Operation Wallacea season, 5 anoas have been seen in the Lambusango forest. Other four encounters with fleeing animals that probably anoa were also recorded (confirmed by observation of very fresh tracks). There were no encounters with hunters this year.

### Number of Macaque troops

<b>Camp</b>	<b>Number of troops</b>	<b>Average group size</b>
LaSolo	9	4.11
Bala	8	10.75
Wahalaka	4	8.75
Anoa	8	6.00
Wabalamba	14	9.33
LaPago	9	6.67

Compare to last year data, this year we recorded pretty high abundances of both anoa tracks and macaques sightings in Wabalamba despite the high logging activities in the area. Further research is needed in order to more understand this unusual trend.

## *Outputs*

The anoa work is part of the Lambusango Forest Conservation Programme and will be used as part of a PhD thesis for Asri Dwiyahreni. This will be completed in October 2008. The Macaque surveys will form an undergraduate dissertation for Ambang Wijaya. This will be completed by June 2006.