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ORANGUTANS

[2012 APPEAL: The Slaughter continues](#)

[Find out more on HSI'S campaign to help secure the future of the Orangutan](#)

HSI has been supporting Orangutan on-ground conservation projects in Indonesia since 2000, allocating a range of small grants to NGOs and programs. Including past financial contributions, forward commitments and funds leveraged, HSI has directed approximately AU\$250,000 towards Orangutan protection efforts. In addition, HSI has been instrumental in ensuring that over AU\$1,000,000 in US and Australian Government funding has been allocated to Orangutan and related habitat conservation programs in Indonesia.

HSI fully supports the recent findings of the United Nations Environment Program (UNEP) report entitled "The Last Stand of the Orangutan – State of Emergency: Illegal logging, fire and palm oil in Indonesia's National Parks." The recommendations relate particularly to the need for para-military type patrol units for securing national parks and the requirement to significantly step up intelligence and enforcement activities.

At present, we are continuing a two year program to fund important Orangutan - human conflict/interaction research in Northern Sumatra, with the Born Free Foundation, the Sumatran Orangutan Conservation Program and the Durrell Institute of Conservation Ecology. The project is called "Bittersweet knowledge - can people and Orangutans live in harmony", and the work is progressing well. The program aims to recommend mitigation techniques for avoiding fatal Orangutan-human conflict in agricultural regions.

Continuing resources are being provided to our major partners in Indonesia, the Friends of the National Parks Foundation (FNPF), for their ongoing "Integrated Conservation & Development" project, which includes Orangutan conservation efforts in Tanjung Puting National Park in Kalimantan. FNPF's Kalimantan program has also successfully gained funding in the past from the Commonwealth's Regional Natural Heritage Program, a program which HSI helped to establish.

During 2007, HSI was also successful in working with the Australian Government's "Volunteering for International Development from Australia" program, to find FNPF a fundraiser/administrator to help progress their conservation work. Also during 2007, working with the Rainforest Information Centre and Indonesian NGOs, HSI made financial contributions to education programs in Kalimantan, to help fight the growing problem of palm oil plantations and the extremely negative effects upon Orangutans.

We have continued to support the UNEP GRASP (Great Ape Survival Project) Secretariat in Australia, which has been prioritising a campaign against palm-oil importation, while HSI Australia became a Partner in the international GRASP conservation efforts.

In 2008, while continuing to support solution oriented work into Orangutan-human conflict in Northern Sumatra and the work of FNPF in Kalimantan, we shall also be investing in new programs to combat the ongoing threats to Orangutan populations in Indonesia.

2009 Update

Subsequent to the activities outlined in the attachment, HSI has funded a small road building program in Sumatra, designed to avoid conflict between farmers moving between their villages and crop fields, where a population of 16 orangutans currently live, and have funded further research work with a Cambridge University PhD candidate into the science of orangutan rehabilitation in Sumatra and Kalimantan. We are also committed to a three year \$75,000 project with the Australian Orangutan Foundation, supporting the creation of a "Wildlife Protection Unit" in Sumatra and a further \$50,000 to the Friends of the National Parks Foundation (FNPF) in Kalimantan for protection work in Tanjung Puting national Park. We will be undertaking further work with FNPF for a long-term reforestation program in Kalimantan, which will also act as an informal "carbon-neutral" program, available to our



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membership. Our total contributions through past grants, leveraged monies and committed monies would now be in the region of \$400,000.

Our [current technical bulletin](#) highlights some of these activities.

Working through the Ecosystems Climate Alliance (<http://www.ecosystemsclimate.org/>) HSI is working hard in the current global climate change negotiations, trying to ensure that tropical forest conservation will benefit from any post Copenhagen arrangements.

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[Vital orangutan habitat under threat from fires.](#)

[Orangutan housing crisis - Read how you can help](#)

[Peter O'Brien visits the Orangutan Sanctuary in Borneo](#)

[Click here for more information on HSI's Project Work around the globe.](#)

Image courtesy of Michael Kennedy

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PO Box 439 Avalon NSW 2107 Australia

Telephone: +61 2 9973 1728 · Fax: +61 9973 1729 · email: admin@hsi.org.au

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