

Straw-headed Bulbul (*Pycnonotus zeylanicus*)



TSI-PRIGEN CONSERVATION BREEDING ARK

Summer Update

June 2026

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PREFACE

In ex situ conservation, we are often faced with the question of how to ensure that our efforts create a lasting impact. While ex situ management is not the right solution for every threatened species, it can become an indispensable conservation tool where wild populations continue to decline and suitable alternatives are lacking.

Many of the species we work with remain poorly understood, requiring us to develop husbandry techniques and breeding strategies through careful observation, research and experience. Not every approach will succeed immediately, but every step forward expands our knowledge and strengthens the foundation for future conservation success.

For species that clearly benefit from ex situ measures, long-term stability depends on establishing self-sustaining populations and building strong conservation networks. Yet, many of Indonesia's overlooked species still lack dedicated partners willing or able to take on this responsibility.

This is where PCBA has developed a unique role. By steadily expanding our facilities, expertise and breeding programmes, we are able to build viable assurance populations for species that would otherwise have few or no opportunities for long-term ex situ conservation. Each new breeding success, rescued founder animal and conservation partnership brings us one step closer to securing a future for Indonesia's most threatened and least-known wildlife.



hand reared Javan Leafbird and Wangi-Wangi White-eye

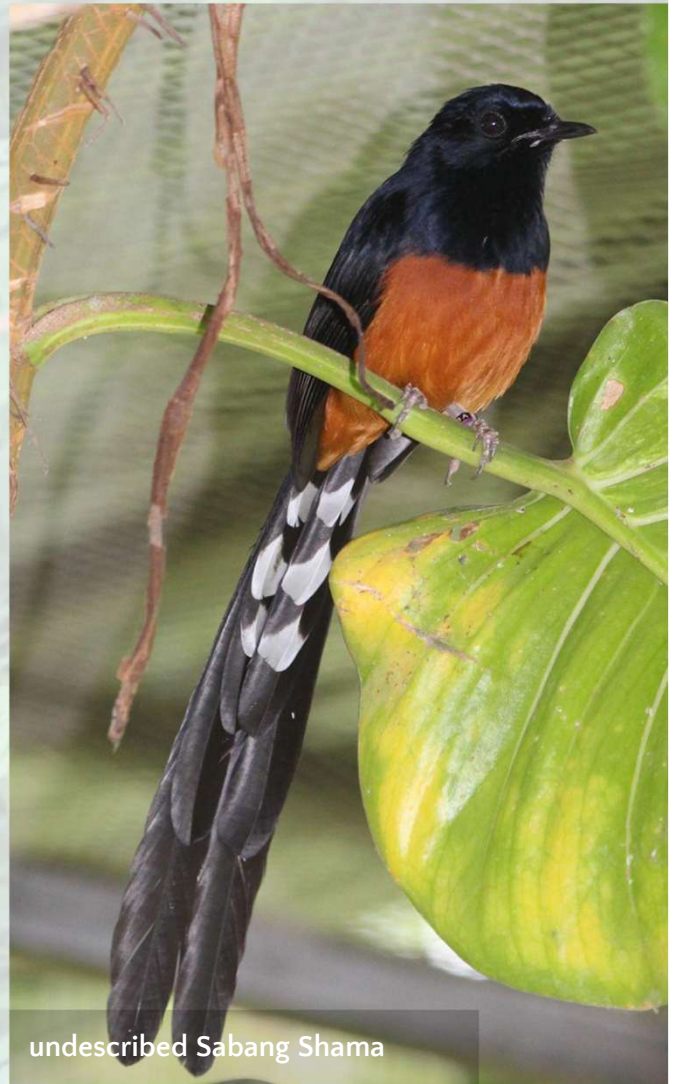
Second Quartal 2026

On our quest to further the understanding of behavior and needs of the species in our care we have found great support in Clara Renner.

Clara has joined us for three months to dedicate her time to behavioral observations that will ideally lead to knowledge gain regarding the reproductive behavior of some of our focal species.

While PCBA is not only home to a growing number of individual Shamas it might also be the place on earth accommodating the greatest taxonomic diversity of this enigmatic species group. This makes Prigen the ideal place to learn about unique behavioral traits and compare the different Shama taxa amongst each other.

While certainly having shown our competence in caring for these Songbirds, there is yet a lot to learn and optimise in our care protocols. Claras dedicated observations will enable us to do exactly that.



undescribed Sabang Shama



Clara

Buton

Our in-situ biologist Ilham spent weeks setting up camera traps in isolated forest patches in southern Buton with the aim to locate any potentially remaining Anoa in order to plan future conservation measures. Besides the Anoa, our declared focus is on the local wild pig population which has greatly decline in recent times.

Furthermore, Ilham visited a multitude of villages around potential Anoa habitat in order to gather insight into local customs and the relationship between villagers and the native wildlife.

In the meantime, Adella, PCBA's educator visited 16 different schools around crucial wildlife refuges to be able to draft up a tailor made conservation education program, targeting school children who regularly get in contact with our focal species.

All our activities to conserve Buton's last remaining Anoa and other threatened species are carried out in close and trusting partnership with BKSDA Sulawesi Tenggara, a particular shout out goes to Laode Kaida the Kepala SKW 1.

All our crucial conservation efforts on Buton are generously supported by ZGAP and TIMM Stiftung



Kabaena



Located just east of Muna Island, Sulawesi Tenggara, Kabaena Island has yet to receive targeted conservation attention.

Measuring roughly 900km², the island is known to be home to an endemic *Geokichla* taxon but has otherwise not been in the focus of zoological research.

Kabaena is of particular interest for us since it is known to still harbour a healthy population of Warty Pigs (*Sus cf. celebensis*), a species that is under increasing threat due to the rampant ASF pandemic.

To investigate the true condition of Kabaena's wild pig population and build an initial network on the island, Ilham undertook an exploratory trip to Kabaena.

To our relief he was able to confirm that the population of Kabaena's Warty Pigs seems to be doing alright for the moment.

On the other hand, the hunting pressure is worryingly high and locals report that the pig population has markedly declines.

Most concerning seems to be the fact that hunted pigs are being transported to North Sulawesi for consumption, on vehicles from North Sulawesi, much increasing the risk of introducing the deadly ASF virus.

Our explorations of Indonesia's understudied Pig diversity is generously supported by Tiergarten Nuernberg and ZGAP

Significant Breeding Successes

SONGBIRDS

Successfully raised during the past three months:

- Five Larwo Shamas (*Copsychus omissus*) chicks contribute to the steadily growing ex-situ population of this terminally threatened species. With the involvement of new generations of breeding birds and additional founder individuals, our local Larwo population is shaping up to become ever more long-term viable
- Two Kangean Shamas (*Copsychus nigricauda*) were reared by a very experienced pair.
- One Maratua Shama (*Copsychus barbouri*) marks the start of a new breeding season
- Five East-Javan Grey-backed Myna (*Acridotheres melanopterus tricolor*) grew up healthy, making for a three-fold population growth within less than one year. The first ever chick to grow up at PCBA hatched in September 2025 and was followed by 19 others so far.
- One Tenggara Hill Myna (*Gracula venerata*) contributed to the species' continuous population growth.



Kangean Shama nestlings

- For the first time the critically endangered Javan Blue Flycatcher (*Cyornis banyumas*) reproduced at PCBA, marking a true conservation breakthrough. Both chicks hatched after artificial incubation and were hand-reared by Febry.
- One Wangi-Wangi White-eye (*Zosterops paruhbesar*) has successfully been raised, this is especially remarkable since it's the first breeding success in a while and with a new group of birds.
- One Javan White-eye (*Zosterops flavus*) grew up under its parents' care.
- Among the most challenging species to breed are the Leafbirds, therefore, we are even prouder to have managed to raise yet another two Javan Leafbird (*Chloropsis cochinchinensis*) chicks.



Flycatcher fledgeling



Wangi-Wangi White-eye nestling

MAMMALS

Our mammal conservation programmes continue to develop encouragingly, with several important milestones strengthening the long-term outlook for some of Indonesia's most threatened mammals.

Particularly encouraging are two additional births of Javan small-toothed palm civets (*Arctogalidia trivirgata trilineata*), both females. As the world's only ex situ conservation breeding programme dedicated to this highly threatened Javan endemic, every offspring is of exceptional importance. The female-biased offspring is especially valuable for establishing a sustainable breeding population. With several successful births already this year and further litters expected in the coming months, the programme is steadily progressing towards a secure, self-sustaining population.



2,5 month old Javan small-toothed palm civets with mother

Our Sunda pangolin (*Manis javanica*) programme has also reached another important milestone. During the past months, two additional rescued individuals were entrusted to PCBA by **BBKSDA Jatim**, reflecting the continued confidence placed in our institution and the strong partnership we have established in the rescue,



rehabilitation and conservation management of this Critically Endangered species. With these new arrivals, our Sunda pangolin population has grown to five females and several breeding males, providing an excellent foundation for establishing a sustainable conservation breeding programme and significantly strengthening the long-term outlook for the species under human care.



Meanwhile, the female born at PCBA earlier this year continues to develop very well. As she grows increasingly independent, she is now regularly venturing out on her own to explore the enclosure.

Fish

Labyrinth fish originating from blackwater habitats on the floor of peat swamp forests comprise some of the world's most threatened species groups. At the same time, long term management under human care poses unique challenges due to the animals very particular care requirements.

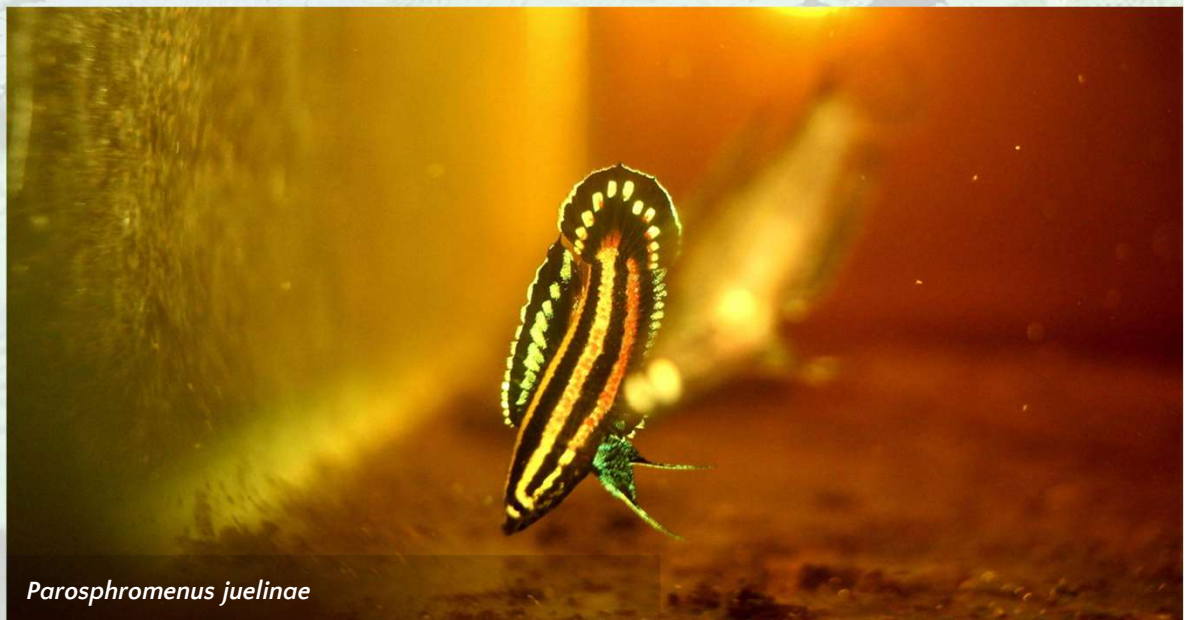
With our dedicated breeding facilities PCBA has become a leading stakeholder in conservation breeding of those most threatened species.

In the recent past we have witnessed recurring challenges, particularly in mitigating the continually looming threat posed by *Oodinium* a skin parasite that severely weakens the fish.

With recent upgrades to our facilities and more hands-on husbandry we have been able to celebrate substantial population growth in some of our focal specie within a very short period.

Species like *Parosphromenus juelinae*, *P.sumatranus*, *P.quindecim* or *P.cf.bintan* from Belitung reproduced in large numbers.

For the first time ever we were able to successfully breed *Betta chloropharynx* a critically endangered species endemic to Bangka.



Parosphromenus juelinae

