

# ORANGUTAN HAVEN

Sumatran Orangutan Conservation Programme





# Contents



SOCP	1
THE SUMATRAN ORANGUTAN	2
PROBLEM STATEMENT	3
Statement	3
Location	4
Main Objectives	4
ORANGUTAN HAVEN CONCEPTS	5
The Visitor, Education & Ecology Centres	6
The Orangutan Islands	8
Wildlife Trade	11
Promoting Sustainable Development	12
Additional potential	13
PROJECT TEAM	14
Project Team	14
SUPPORT THE ORANGUTAN HAVEN	15
Support the Orangutan Haven	15
DONATE NOW	16

# SOCP



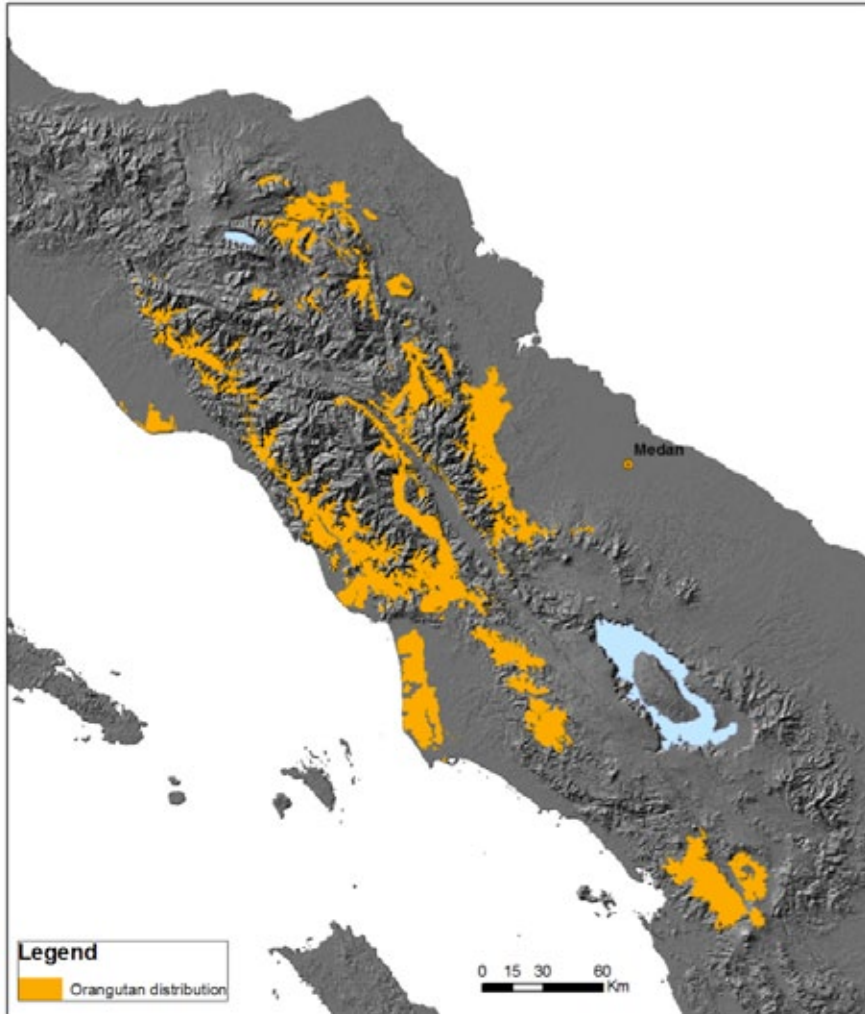
The Sumatran Orangutan Conservation Programme (SOCP) works on all aspects of Sumatran orangutan conservation including:

- a) Rescue, quarantine and reintroduction of illegal pet orangutans;
- b) Surveys and monitoring of remaining wild populations;
- c) Habitat conservation;
- d) Research on conservation and behavioural ecology of wild orangutans;
- e) Conservation education and awareness.

SOCP is a collaborative programme of PanEco Foundation<sup>1</sup> and its counterpart NGO Yayasan Ekosistem Lestari or YEL<sup>2</sup> (based in Medan, North Sumatra), under an MoU with the Conservation Department of the Indonesian Ministry of Forestry.

**Our vision is to prevent the extinction of the Sumatran Orangutan.**

# The Sumatran Orangutan



Plan of orangutan distribution in Sumatra

The Sumatran orangutan (*Pongo abelii*) is a unique species, distinct from its relative the Bornean orangutan (*Pongo pygmaeus*). There are only around 7,000 Sumatran orangutans remaining in the wild.

The World Conservation Union (IUCN) lists the Sumatran orangutan as Critically Endangered in its Red List of Threatened Species. The species is also considered one of the world most endangered primates.

The Sumatran and Bornean Orangutans' rainforest habitats are disappearing at an alarming rate due to deforestation and clearing of the land for pulp paper and palm oil plantations, with the remaining forest degraded by drought and forest fires.

*Orangutans are arguably the most intelligent of the great apes and one of our closest relatives. However, because of the ongoing destruction of the remaining rainforests, they are on the brink of extinction.*

Sumatran Orangutan Conservation Programme



# Problem Statement



Leuser an unreleasable male is blind

The Orangutan Haven will provide a long term refuge for un-releasable orangutans currently residing at the SOCP's orangutan quarantine centre. Most orangutans at the centre can be released to the wild at one of two SOCP reintroduction centres. To date the SOCP has confiscated more than 270 illegal pet orangutans and over 190 of these have been returned to the wild, establishing 2 entirely new populations of the species.

The orangutans at the quarantine centre which cannot be released include: Leuser (male, aged 15) who is blind after being shot 62 times with an air rifle, Tila (female, aged 12) is a carrier of human hepatitis B, even though she suffers no symptoms, and Dek Nong (female, 14 years old) suffers from a chronic arthritic condition. There will almost certainly be others arriving with similar problems in coming years.

*Since they could live to be more than 50 years old and can never be released, there is a pressing need to provide these individuals with a more suitable and natural environment than the cages they live in today.*



*Aerial Photo of site*



*View from Central ridge of site*

## Location

48 hectares have been secured for the Orangutan Haven. This is located along a main route well travelled by residents of nearby Medan, a major conurbation of over 4 million people.

## Main objectives

1. Provide 'un-releasable' orangutans with a high quality environment where they can live out the rest of their days in relative comfort.
2. Inform the public on the plight facing wild orangutans and other species in their natural habitat, and the impact they themselves have on this.
3. Educate visitors about species and habitat conservation, the environment and sustainable development.
4. Improve awareness of the importance of maintaining Medan's principle water catchment area, in which the site sits.





The Concept for the Orangutan Haven - Stage 1

# Orangutan Haven Concepts



*A Karonese traditional house provides a good example for detailing for the proposed Visitor Centre Buildings*

## The Visitor, Education and Ecology Centres

The Visitor Centre will be an educational facility that allows visitors easy access to every level of the Orangutan Haven Rainforest; from the forest floor to the upper most reaches of the canopy. The Centre is the ideal place for the story of the Orangutan to unfold and its relationship with the surrounding rainforest environment.

Two main educational facilities will be used by all visitors, including schools and universities. An education centre will highlight the importance of conserving ecosystems for both wildlife and humans alike by means of displays, films, talks and other interpretive activities.

An ecology centre will emphasise the intricacies of wild ecosystems, emphasising the interactions and interdependence of components within such systems. The centre will also be used by schools and universities, as part of organised education programmes and for research projects.





The Orangutan Haven entry point with the Visitor, Education & Ecology Centre - Stage 1



Dek Nong in her housing facility at SOCP Quarantine Centre



A new life for our orangutans on the new island habitat

## The Orangutan Islands

A beautiful valley at the heart of the haven rainforest offers the perfect location to build some naturalistic 'islands for Leuser, Tila and Dek Nong to spend the rest of their days.

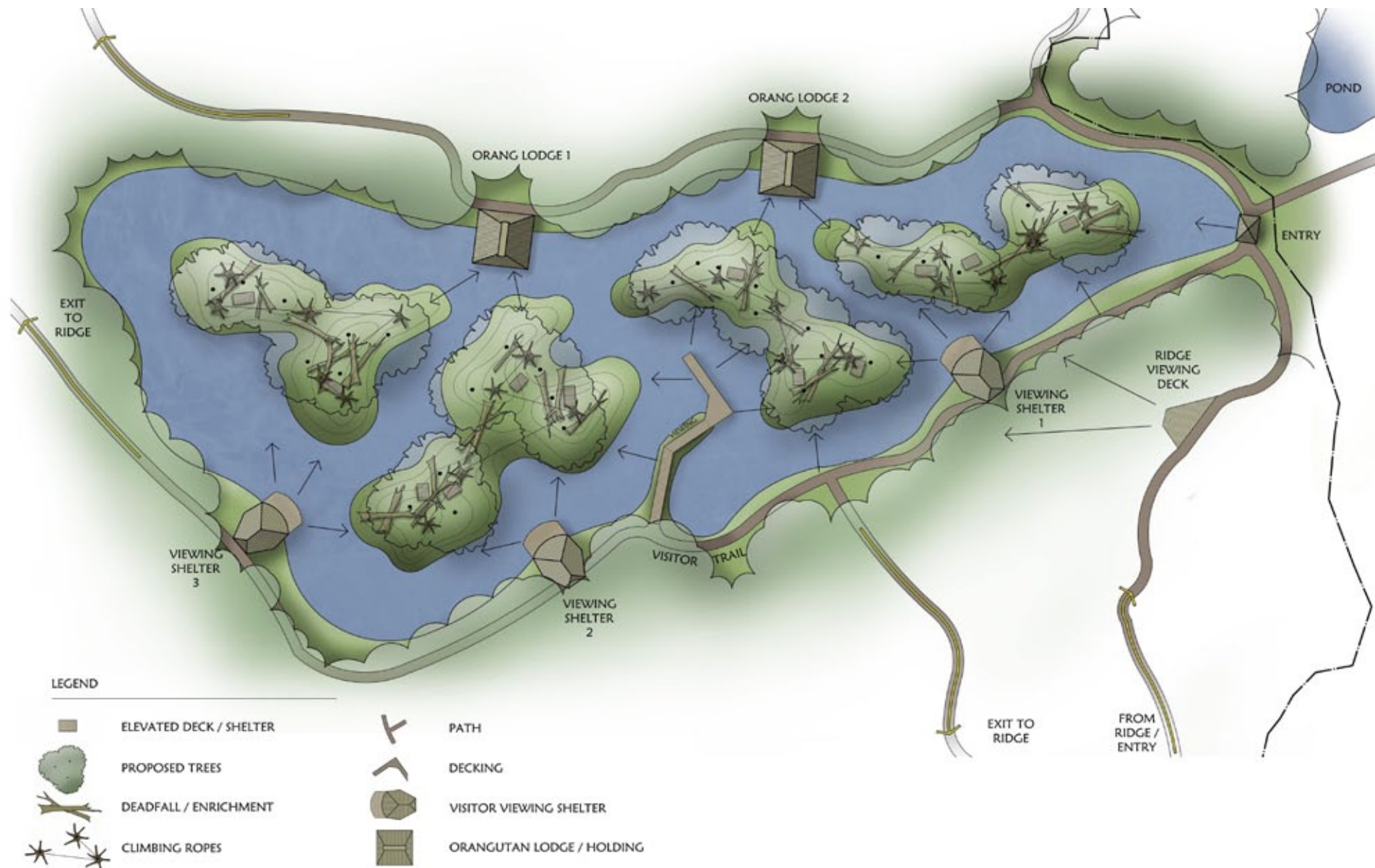
The former rice paddy has a guaranteed supply of fresh clean water year round and is enclosed on all sides by gently sloping forested hill sides. Four main island 'habitat's will be constructed, surrounded by water moats to separate the orangutans from the people.

This will provide visitors with a unique, unobstructed perspective of the animals. Interpretive displays and activities will explain clearly why these particular orangutans cannot be released and how all of their problems are a direct consequence of human actions.

*"Orangutans look you in the eye. They meet your gaze with that of an equal. It is a startling moment - that first, personal exchange - as if there is mutual understanding.... Destroying them will rank as one of the great barbarous acts of humankind"*

*Gerald Durrell*





The Orangutan Islands Concept Plan



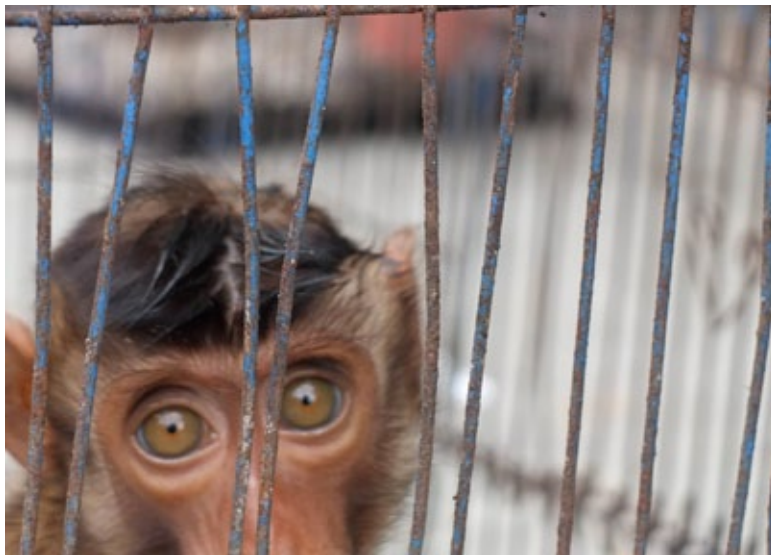
The Orangutan Islands Perspective





*Roadside wildlife trade of fruit bats*

Photo courtesy of E. Bowen-Jones



*An imprisoned & bewildered macaque*

Photo courtesy of Lyndal May Stewart

## The Wildlife Trade

Most visitors to the centre will have only ever seen some species, such as fruit bats, loris and mouse deer, in tiny cages or tied up by the roadside, being offered for sale, often in an area not far from the Haven site. The centre will house small collections of some of these species in large natural habitat environments. This will offer a unique opportunity to open visitors eyes to the complex social lives and high intelligence of some of these creatures. It is hoped that this will reduce demand for wildlife traded, at least in the local area, since many visitors will be the very people that usually buy the animals being sold.



*An orangutan rescued from a suburban home*

Photo Credit: © Sumatran Orangutan Sanctuary



*Bohorok Environmental Education Centre is an example of sustainable organic farming*

## Promoting Sustainable Development

The large size of the area offers considerable potential to promote sustainable, organic farming practices. The site already contains areas of rubber, citrus, cacao, durian, corn, pineapple and oil palm cultivation, among many other fruit and vegetable crops. These will be managed to certified organic standards and offered for sale on the local market. School, university and farmer training course will be conducted to encourage more sustainable production methods throughout the region.

Produce will also be sold and promoted in a high quality restaurant and farm shop to be established on site.

All facilities and amenities of the Haven will be designed and constructed according to sustainable, eco-friendly principles. A dedicated 'green technology' centre will educate visitors about sustainable alternatives to more traditional methods, such as water treatment, composting, and electricity generation, by means of working demonstration models and specifically tailored education and training modules.





*The Environmental Education Centre will create opportunity for local employment from surrounding villages*

*Photo credit: © Rainforest Rescue*

## **Additional Potential**

- The Orangutan Haven will generate considerable local employment in an area of typically low rural incomes.
- There is potential to develop new and innovative wildlife conservation projects based at the site, including captive breeding and reintroduction projects for some critically endangered species
- The centre will promote protection of Medan's own critically important water catchment area and all the various wildlife species currently residing within it.
- There is considerable potential to gain long-term support and funding from Medan based groups like the Rotary and Lions clubs and the local Hash House Harriers that regularly visit the area.
- Developing and operating the Orangutan Haven offers considerable scope for volunteer contributions, both locally and internationally. Both locals and non locals can benefit tremendously from such opportunities for intercultural exchange.

# Project Team



## **REGINA FRY**

*President and Managing Director PanEco*

As a biologist Regina Frey has worked since 1973 to preserve the habitat of the Sumatran orang-utans of Indonesia. After completing studies at the University of Zurich, Regina Frey and a fellow student travelled to Sumatra. There the two women built the first orang-utan rehabilitation centre in the Gunung Leuser national park on behalf of WWF International, the Indonesian government and the Frankfurt Zoological Society.



## **IAN SINGLETON**

*Founder | Director*

Dr Ian Singleton is a former zookeeper, specialising in orangutans. After completing a Ph.D study of orangutan ranging behaviour in the Gunung Leuser National Park, Ian joined with the Swiss-based PanEco Foundation and Yayasan Ekosistem Lestari (YEL) in 2001 to establish the Sumatran Orangutan Conservation Programme. With PanEco Founder, Regina Frey, and Chairman of YEL, Dr Sofyan Tan, Ian is ultimately the one tasked with being the senior director and decision maker for the development of Orangutan Haven. He is responsible for ensuring that all staff and initiatives during the development process are working towards the same goal in a coordinated fashion.



## **JESS MCKELSON**

*Founder | Project Manager*

Jessica McKelson is Co-Founder of Earth 4 Orangutans, Founder Director of Raw Wildlife Encounters and former Supervisor of Primates at Melbourne Zoo, Australia. Jessica developed a deep passion for animal conservation during a confronting visit to Indonesia's orangutan habitats in 2003 and since then has devoted her life to saving the species from extinction.



## **SUHERRY**

*Project Leader SOCP/YEL*

Suherry has been involved in community development programs for various NGO's since 1989. He was active in the establishment of the Sumatran Orangutan Conservation Program (SOCP) and actively involved in the lobbying and the establishment of the Sumatran orangutan Batumbelin Quarantine Station in North Sumatra and Re-introduction Station in Jambi



## **STUART GREEN**

*Zoological Planner and Landscape Architect | Project Site Design / Planning, and Zoological Design*

Stuart is a Principal of Green & Dale Associates, a Melbourne based company, in Australia. He brings expertise in environmental site planning and zoo exhibit design to the Orangutan Haven team. Stuart has over 15 years experience in the planning and design of major zoos and parks in Australia and overseas.



# Support the Orangutan Haven



The Orangutan Haven will be unique in Indonesia. No such dedicated conservation, education and sustainable development centre yet exists. It is highly innovative in its approach, and something that we anticipate will be replicated in other parts of the country.

The land has already been obtained, but some outstanding debts, incurred unavoidably due to the pressing need to secure such an ideally suited site at the time it became available, remain to be repaid.

If you would like to support the Orangutan Haven there are a number of funding options, ranging from the small to the large. Donations of just a few dollars will always be welcome, and those of a few thousand will contribute greatly towards development and employment of local staff.

For greater donations that exceed \$100,000 there are a number of options that the Orangutan Haven will promote your support.

# Donate Now!

**If you would like to make a donation or would like further information please contact us:**

Jessica McKelson - [jess.mckelson@orangutan.org.au](mailto:jess.mckelson@orangutan.org.au)

Ian Singleton - [mokko123@gmail.com](mailto:mokko123@gmail.com)

Donations can also be made via paypal at:  
[www.sumatranorangutan.org/orangutan-haven](http://www.sumatranorangutan.org/orangutan-haven)

## **Other:**

Australia - [www.earth4orangutans.com](http://www.earth4orangutans.com)

America - [redapes.org/earth4orangutans](http://redapes.org/earth4orangutans)

UK - [www.forests4orangutans.org/earth-4-orangutans/](http://www.forests4orangutans.org/earth-4-orangutans/)

Donations recognition packages have been developed to appeal to, be marketed to and be marketed by respective organisations. The packages available include the development of Stage 1 facilities:

- Name an Orangutan Island
- Build an Education Centre
- Build an Ecology Centre
- Restaurant and corporate facilities
- Green Technology Development
- Local employment

If you require a further funding report on how you can make a significant contribution, please contact us for a full Project Report and donation options.

## **Join Us!**

Follow our developments by joining us online:

[www.sumatranorangutan.org](http://www.sumatranorangutan.org)

[www.earth4orangutans.com](http://www.earth4orangutans.com)



Facebook - @sumatranorangutan @earth4orangutans



Twitter - @socp\_tweets



Pinterest - @orangutansocp



Photo courtesy of Lyndal May Stewart





Photo courtesy of Udin@SOCP

**PanEco Foundation**

Chileweg 5  
CH-8415 Berg am Irchel  
Switzerland  
Tel: +41-52-318 23 23  
Email: mail@paneco.ch

**SOCP**

Jl. K.H. Wahid Hasyim no 51/74  
Medan 20154  
Indonesia  
Tel: +62-61-451 43 60  
Email: mokko123@gmail.com

**Earth4Orangutans**

Jl. K.H. Wahid Hasyim no 51/74  
Medan 20154  
Indonesia  
Tel: +62-61-451 43 60  
Email: jess.mckelson@orangutan.org.au  
[www.earth4orangutans.com](http://www.earth4orangutans.com)

# PanEco



**EARTH4**  
**ORANGUTANS**

Earth 4 Orangutans is an international awareness campaign developed to support the Orangutan Haven through fundraising and awareness activities for PanEco/SOCP.