



Helmeted Hornbill, courtesy of partner YRAN



Wreathed Hornbills (male and female),  
by Independent Birds

# Save Critically Endangered Helmeted Hornbill from Poaching in Indonesia

Indonesia is a hotspot for massive-scale poaching of the Critically Endangered Helmeted Hornbill. The bird is being hunted to extinction across its range in Southeast Asia. Without protection, its very existence is in jeopardy.

Hornbills are distinctive birds with long, curved beaks and a bony structure on top of their heads called a casque. Although the characteristics of casques vary among different hornbill species, the Helmeted Hornbill's casque is solid and brightly colored. Sadly, this "hornbill ivory" is highly coveted and sold around the globe for making carved trinkets.

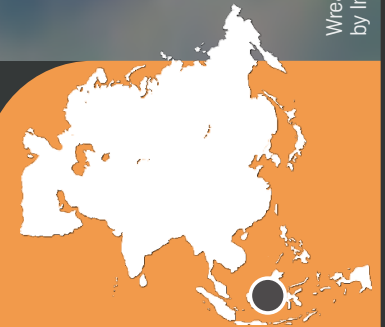
An expanse of rainforest in Indonesia stands as a crucial stronghold for the Helmeted Hornbill and seven other hornbill species: Endangered White-crowned Hornbill and Wrinkled Hornbill; Vulnerable Black Hornbill, Rhinoceros Hornbill and Wreathed Hornbill; and the Bushy-Crested Hornbill and Oriental Pied Hornbill. It is located within the Kapuas Hulu regency in West Kalimantan, near the Malaysian border on the island of Borneo. The area is renowned for its largely pristine landscape of lowland rainforest, heath forests and peat swamps. But with less than 20% of Forest Areas in Indonesia as Conservation Forests, it is urgent that we safeguard this important hornbill habitat.

Rainforest Trust is supporting Yayasan Rekam Jejak Alam Nusantara to facilitate the communities to secure 54,000 acres of this exceptional ecosystem as a customary forest through a designation known as "Hutan Adat," whereby the ownership and rights of Indigenous Peoples to manage and protect their traditional territories are legally recognized—in this case, traditional villages of the local Dayak Iban community. Sustainable management of these forests will help alleviate economic pressures that drive hunting and poaching of hornbills, giving the species a chance to recover in the area.

## SAVE A RARE BIRD FROM ANNIHILATION

The Helmeted Hornbill can live from 40 to 50 years in the wild, and they mate for life. But when mature adults are taken, it can lead to death for the remaining mate and certainly the young offspring.

Recent studies conducted in Indonesian Borneo estimate that the Helmeted Hornbill population has declined dramatically, and in some areas is locally extinct. The decline is primarily due to massive poaching on the Island.



**54,000**  
ACRES

**\$469,591**  
PROJECT COST

**\$8.70**  
COST PER ACRE

**13,175,761 mT**  
CO<sub>2</sub> EQUIVALENTS  
STORED

### KEY SPECIES:

- Helmeted Hornbill (CR),
- White-crowned Hornbill (EN),
- Wrinkled Hornbill (EN),
- Rhinoceros Hornbill (VU),
- Black Hornbill (VU),
- Wreathed Hornbill (VU)





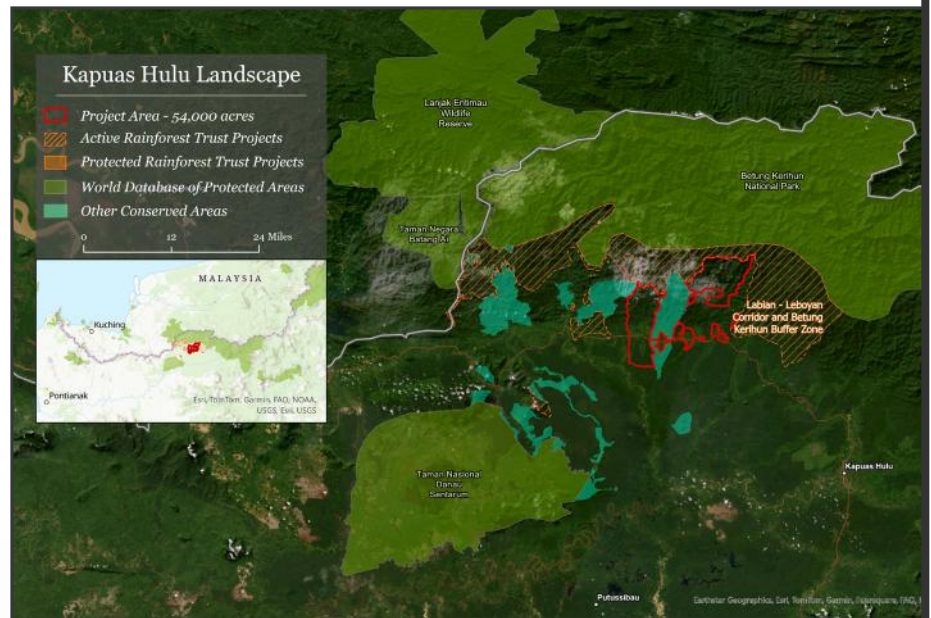
Rhinoceros Hornbill, by Feather Collector

## FORTIFY A VAST TRANSBOUNDARY RAINFOREST IN SOUTHEAST ASIA

This project links the largely intact Kapuas Hulu lands with a 2.3-million-acre corridor of lowland rainforest critical to the survival of threatened species like hornbills, orangutans and gibbons. This corridor includes the Betung Kerihun National Park and the Danau Sentarum National Park. Another Rainforest Trust project adjacent to this one is supporting the establishment of 179,000 acres of customary forests.

Kapuas Hulu is also within the landscape of the 54-million-acre "Heart of Borneo" conservation agreement signed by the governments of Brunei, Indonesia and Malaysia, which commits them to protect ecologically connected forest landscapes across an area the size of Scotland and England combined.

This project is supporting a future where the Helmeted Hornbill population thrives, the forest ecosystem remains robust, and local communities benefit from both ecological and economic well-being through sustainable livelihoods.



White-crowned Hornbill, by Thipwan

