

Project Update: October 2013

Research - Camera trap data were collected in August 2013 from the remote interior primary forested regions of Wehea Forest and in October 2013 from the logged forest bordering Wehea. Initial results from the remote primary forested areas of Wehea Forest reveals outstanding abundance and diversity of mammal species. A meeting was held in October 2013 with the logging company where ICON's research is taking place and a plan was developed for continued collaboration.

Development - The Wehea Conservation Center is almost done with the expected completion date being January 2014. Management training sessions took place at the WCC 10 times between August and October 2013. The rangers have learned how to drive and are now driving ICON's truck to and from the forest and using it to collect seedlings from Wehea as well as to resupply forest rangers. In addition, ICON and the rangers worked intensively to bring seedlings from Wehea Forest to the nursery where they will be sold to companies. Lastly, we have almost completed the tourism protocol and we held four eco-tourism training courses between August and October 2013.

Outreach - In October 2013, ICON's executive director, Brent Loken, and programme manager, Nunuk Kasyanto, visited the OuTrop research station at Sabangau National Park. During the visit, we learned how they ran their research, internship and volunteer programmes and began to brainstorm ideas for closer collaboration in the future. In addition, ICON and two Wehea rangers visited the regional government and two universities in East Kalimantan. These visits focused on building closer ties with the regional governing body for Wehea and to attract more local researchers to come to Wehea.



A clouded leopard checks out ICON's camera in the remote interior of Wehea Forest - photo by ICON



A recent meeting held between ICON and a logging company bordering Wehea - photo by ICON



ICON held numerous management training sessions in Wehea - photo by ICON



ICON continued to help Wehea's agroforestry programme - photo by ICON



Work continued on The Wehea Conservation Center from August to October 2013 - photo by ICON