

# **FINAL REPORT OF FAUNA**

# ASSESSMENT OF BIRD AT LANA CONSERVATION AREA, GLENEALY PLANTATIONS SDN BHD

For

GLENEALY PLANTATIONS SDN BHD (Sustainability Division)

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#### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

#### Objective

The primary goal of this assessment is to evaluate the existing bird species diversity at Lana Estate, Glenealy Plantations Sdn. Bhd.

This survey seeks to recognize potential influences on fauna specially birds and propose pertinent compensatory and mitigative actions to safeguard and preserve biodiversity in the potentially affected area. To accomplish this, we conducted a thorough preliminary fauna assessment focusing on the birds within the conservation area. This assessment is confined to the impacted biodiversity area and also examines potential direct as well as indirect/induced impacts and risks resulting from ongoing oil palm plantation activities.

#### Date

This study was conducted from 14 to 17 April 2025.

#### Methodology

Bird data were collected using three main methods: bird sound recordings (using a Tascam recorder), mist netting, and direct field observations. A total of 20 mist nets were set up across the study area. Tascam recorders were installed at 100-meter intervals along the transect, resulting in five (5) designated recording points. The recorded audio data were then uploaded to BirdNET. Analyzer for species identification and to evaluate bird species diversity.

#### **Result Summary**

A total of 85 bird species were recorded in the study area using bird sound recordings via the Tascam Recorder. Additionally, 10 species were captured through mist netting, and 8 species were observed using binoculars during field observations. Among the species recorded by the Tascam Recorder, 39 species are classified as totally protected, including 28 Near Threatened (NT) species, 10 Vulnerable (VU) species, and 1 Critically Endangered (CR) species. The remaining 53 species are listed as Least Concern (LC) on the IUCN Red List.

The Helmeted Hornbill (*Rhinoplax vigil*), the only Critically Endangered species detected in this area, highlights the ecological significance of the site. These findings indicate that the area harbors a high level of bird species diversity and serves as an important habitat for many avian species. Therefore, any activities that could disturb this forest should be strictly avoided, and conservation efforts should be prioritized to protect this valuable ecosystem.

### Recommendations

To enhance the protection of these bird species, the following recommendations are proposed:

- i. Establish a protected area status for the site to legally safeguard it from logging, development, or other disruptive land-use changes.
- ii. Conduct regular biodiversity monitoring to track population trends, detect threats early, and guide conservation strategies.
- iii. Implement community education and awareness programs to engage local residents in the importance of bird conservation and sustainable forest use.
- iv. Strengthen enforcement against illegal hunting, logging, or trade of protected bird species, particularly targeting the Helmeted Hornbill.
- v. Promote eco-tourism as an alternative source of income for local communities, emphasizing bird watching and habitat conservation.
- vi. Restore degraded habitats and maintain ecological corridors to support breeding, feeding, and migration of avian species.

We know very little about most of the species inhabiting the site, beyond their mere existence. To effectively conserve this unique ecosystem, it is crucial to implement several strategies. These include:

- i. monitoring existing species within conservation area.
- initiating tree planting programs particularly with local communities to share awareness on the area.
- iii. and legally protecting important areas from disturbance.

Consequently, it is essential to monitor the biodiversity in the region, particularly by inventorying rare, threatened, endangered, and near-extinct species.

## 1.0 INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND

Birds are recognized as vital indicators of environmental health and ecosystem integrity. Their presence, abundance, and behaviour provide valuable insights into the state of various habitats and the impacts of environmental changes. This introductory overview highlights why birds are effective indicators and how they are used in ecological monitoring and conservation efforts. Birds inhabit diverse ecosystems, from forests and grasslands to wetlands and urban areas. This widespread presence makes them suitable for monitoring a variety of habitats. Birds respond quickly to changes in their environment, such as habitat degradation, pollution, and climate change. These responses can be observed and measured, providing early warnings of ecological disturbances. Birds occupy multiple trophic levels and ecological niches, including predators, herbivores, and scavengers. This diversity allows them to reflect the health of different components of the ecosystem.

Birds are generally conspicuous and easier to observe and identify compared to many other wildlife species. This accessibility facilitates regular monitoring and data collection. Extensive historical data and ongoing research on bird populations provide a robust foundation for assessing trends and making comparisons over time. Bird species composition and abundance can indicate the quality and health of specific habitats. For example, the presence of certain forest-dwelling bird species can signify a well-preserved woodland. Birds, especially those at higher trophic levels, can accumulate contaminants such as pesticides and heavy metals. Monitoring these birds helps assess the levels of pollution in the environment. Changes in bird migration patterns, breeding times, and distribution are valuable indicators of climate change impacts. Shifts in these patterns can provide insights into broader ecological responses to changing temperatures and weather conditions. Bird diversity and abundance serve as proxies for overall biodiversity and ecosystem health. Rich bird communities often correlate with high biodiversity and robust ecosystem functioning. Birds can reflect the impacts of human activities such as urbanization, deforestation, and agriculture. Declines or increases in specific bird populations can indicate the effects of these activities on the environment.

Birds, as sensitive and easily monitored components of ecosystems, play a crucial role in indicating the health and integrity of the environment. Their responses to various environmental factors provide valuable data for conservationists, researchers, and policymakers. By monitoring bird populations, we gain essential insights into the state of our natural world and can take informed actions to protect and preserve biodiversity and ecosystem services.

#### 2.0 Significant Studies of Fauna in Plantation Areas

Research on fauna in plantation areas has provided insights into biodiversity, ecosystem services, and the impacts of land use changes. Here are some notable studies and their contributions to our understanding of fauna in plantation environments. This research focused on the biodiversity in oil palm plantations compared to natural forests in Southeast Asia. Findings showed significant reductions in species richness and diversity in oil palm plantations. The study highlighted the need for biodiversity-friendly management practices and the conservation of natural forest fragments within plantation landscapes.

Bird surveys in oil palm plantations are critical for understanding and mitigating the ecological impacts of these agricultural landscapes. Here are several reasons why these surveys

are important. Surveys provide data on the variety of bird species present in oil palm plantations. This helps in assessing the overall biodiversity of the area. Birds often serve as indicators of ecosystem health. Changes in bird populations can signal changes in the environment, such as habitat degradation or pollution. Surveys help in evaluating the quality of habitats within and surrounding the plantations. This information is crucial for developing management strategies to improve or maintain habitat quality. Identifying key bird species and their habitat requirements assists in creating conservation plans and measures to protect vulnerable species and enhance biodiversity.

Bird surveys can reveal the effects of different plantation management practices on wildlife. This includes the impacts of monoculture practices, pesticide use, and deforestation. Data from bird surveys can guide the adoption of more sustainable agricultural practices that support biodiversity, such as agroforestry, organic farming, and the preservation of natural habitats within plantation areas. Birds are sensitive to changes in their environment, making them useful indicators of climate change. Surveys can track changes in migration patterns, breeding times, and distribution, providing valuable data on the impacts of climate change. Regular bird surveys establish baseline data and facilitate long-term monitoring of ecological changes, helping to detect trends and inform timely conservation actions.

Surveys contribute to scientific research on bird ecology, behaviour, and conservation. This knowledge is essential for developing effective conservation strategies and understanding the broader ecological impacts of plantations. Data from bird surveys can inform policy and decision-making at local, national, and international levels, promoting sustainable agricultural practices and biodiversity conservation. Bird surveys in oil palm plantations are essential for understanding and mitigating the ecological impacts of these agricultural systems. They provide valuable data for biodiversity assessment, conservation planning, and sustainable management practices. By monitoring bird populations, we can gain insights into ecosystem health, inform policy decisions, and engage communities in conservation efforts, ultimately contributing to the preservation of biodiversity and the promotion of sustainable agriculture.

#### 3.0 Objectives

The main objective of assessment is to assess baseline data on fauna particularly bird species within the Belaga Estate conservation area.

### 4.0 DESCRIPTION OF ASSESSMENT AREA

This study was conducted at Conservation are of Belaga Estate.



Figure 1: Location of study area in conservation area at Belaga Estate

### 5.0 BIODIVERSITY ASSESSMENT TEAM

There are dedicated personnel from UPMKBs (Table 1) comprises of researchers and students who work tirelessly to advance our understanding of complex scientific concepts and push the boundaries of innovation. Their collaborative efforts are driven by a shared passion for discovery and a commitment to excellence. By integrating diverse expertise and fresh perspectives, they tackle challenging problems, develop cutting-edge technologies, and contribute to significant breakthroughs in their respective fields. Their work not only enhances academic knowledge but also paves the way for practical applications that can benefit society at large. Together, they embody the spirit of curiosity, creativity, and relentless pursuit of knowledge.

 Table 1: Fauna Assessment Team

No.	Name & Responsibility	Expertise & Experience
1	Dr. Zamri Bin Rosli	Wildlife management and ecology
	(Project Leader)	<ul> <li>Has 22 years services with UPM as a researcher and lecturer</li> <li>Published more than 30 papers in JCR, WOS and indexed journal.</li> <li>Presented more than 20 papers at national and international levels</li> <li>Receive more than 1 million research grant from university, ministry, agency and government sectors.</li> <li>Published 5 books related to wildlife</li> <li>Actively involved in community engagement project such as in tree planting programme and advention</li> </ul>
2	Mr. Muhamad Syafiq Che Shafine	<ul> <li>Has over 15 years services with forest</li> <li>Department Peninsular Malaysia and Wildlife</li> <li>Department Peninsular Malaysia</li> <li>Taking PhD in the field of wildlife management</li> <li>and currently study on birds using sound recorder</li> <li>(Tascam Recorder)</li> </ul>

### 6.0 APPROACH AND METHODOLOGY OF THE ASSESSMENT

There are Two (2) methods were used in order to obtain bird diversity in this area. The bird song recorder via 'Tascam Recorder' were used to detect the existence of bird using their song or voice. The recorded audio data were then uploaded to Bird NET. Analyzer for species identification and to evaluate bird species diversity. The mist netting method was used to capture cryptic bird species which cannot be detected using binoculars such as those species that belong to the understorey level. All birds captured were identified by using 'Field Guide to the Birds of Borneo' by Phillip. Birds were then released immediately after identification.



Figure 2: Record bird song using 'Tascam recorder'



Figure 3: Setting up mist net

### 7.0 ASSESSMENT AND FINDINGS

Assessment of birds was conducted from 14<sup>th</sup> to 17<sup>th</sup> April 2025. Data collection was done from 8:00am in the morning up to 3.30pm. The results of the fauna assessment are as follows:

### 7.1 Result of bird's survey using 'Tascam Recorder'

A total of 85 bird species were recorded in the Belaga Conservation Area using a Tascam recorder, as shown in Table 1. Among these, only one species (1.2%) is classified as Critically Endangered (CE) : the Helmeted Hornbill (*Buceros vigil*) (Table 2). One species (1.2%) considered Endangered (E): Wrinkled Hornbill (*Rhabdotorrhinus corrugatus*) (Table 3). Additionally, 9 species (10.6%) are categorized as Vulnerable (V), this represented by including the Grey-cheeked Bulbul (*Alophoixus tephrogenys*), Great Argus (*Argusianus argus*), Rhinoceros Hornbill (*Buceros rhinoceros*), Short-toed Coucal (*Centropus rectunguis*), Cinnamon-headed Green-Pigeon (*Treron fulvicollis*) Cinnamon-rumped Trogon (*Harpactes orrhophaeus*), Bornean Bristlehead (*Pityriasis gymnocephala*), Great Slaty Woodpecker (*Mulleripicus pulverulentus*), and Wreathed Hornbill (*Rhyticeros undulatus*) (Table 4). 29 species (34.1%) fall under Nearly Threatened (NT) by IUCN Red List as shown in Table 5, while 45 (52.9%) species fall under Least Concern (LC) as shown in Table 6.

No.	Common Name	Scientific name	Status
1.	Rufous-collared Kingfisher	Actenoides concretus	NT
2.	Yellow-bellied Bulbul	Alophoixus phaeocephalus	LC
3.	Gray-cheeked Bulbul	Alophoixus tephrogenys	VE
4.	House Swift	Apus nipalensis	LC
5.	Little Spiderhunter	Arachnothera longirostra	LC
6.	Great Argus	Argusianus argus	VE
7.	Blyth's Frogmouth	Batrachostomus affinis	LC
8.	Gould's Frogmouth	Batrachostomus stellatus	NT
9.	Puff-backed Bulbul	Brachypodius eutilotus	NT
10.	Barred Eagle-Owl	Bubo sumatranus	NT
11.	Rhinoceros Hornbill	Buceros rhinoceros	VE
12.	Helmeted Hornbill	Buceros vigil	CE
13.	Sunda Brush Cuckoo	Cacomantis sepulcralis	LC
14.	Green Broadbill	Calyptomena viridis	NT
15.	Short-toed Coucal	Centropus rectunguis	VE
16.	Blue-winged Leafbird	Chloropsis cochinchinensis	LC
17.	Lesser Green Leafbird	Chloropsis cyanopogon	NT
18.	Violet Cuckoo	Chrysococcyx xanthorhynchus	LC
19.	White-rumped Shama	Copsychus malabaricus	LC

Table 1: List of bird species recorder using 'Tascam Recorder' at Lana Conservation Area

20.	Rufous-tailed Shama	Copsychus pyrropygus	NT
21.	Dusky Broadbill	Corydon sumatranus	LC
22.	Chestnut-winged Babbler	Cyanoderma erythropterum	LC
23.	Malaysian Blue Flycatcher	Cyornis turcosus	NT
24.	Gray-chested Jungle-Flycatcher	Cyornis umbratilis	NT
25.	Scarlet-backed Flowerpecker	Dicaeum cruentatum	LC
26.	Orange-bellied Flowerpecker	Dicaeum trigonostigma	LC
27.	Greater Racket-tailed Drongo	Dicrurus paradiseus	LC
28.	Green Imperial-Pigeon	Ducula aenea	NT
29.	Mountain Imperial-Pigeon	Ducula badia	LC
30.	Garnet Pitta	Erythropitta granatina	NT
31.	Black-crowned Pitta	Erythropitta ussheri	NT
32.	Indigo Flycatcher	Eumyias indigo	LC
33.	Malaysian Rail-babbler	Eupetes macrocerus	NT
34.	Banded Broadbill	Eurylaimus javanicus	NT
35.	Black-and-yellow Broadbill	Eurylaimus ochromalus	NT
36.	Rufous-chested Flycatcher	Ficedula dumetoria	LC
37.	Diard's Trogon	Harpactes diardii	LC
38.	Narcissus Flycatcher	Ficedula narcissina	NT
39.	Red-naped Trogon	Harpactes kasumba	NT
40.	Orange-breasted Trogon	Harpactes oreskios	LC
41.	Cinnamon-rumped Trogon	Harpactes orrhophaeus	VE
42.	Whiskered Treeswift	Hemiprocne comata	LC
43.	Moustached Hawk-Cuckoo	Hierococcyx vagans	NT
44.	Bornean Banded-Pitta	Hydrornis schwaneri	LC
45.	Black-naped Monarch	Hypothymis azurea	LC
46.	Streaked Bulbul	Ixos malaccensis	NT
47.	Bat Hawk	Macheiramphus alcinus	LC
48.	Fluffy-backed Tit-Babbler	Macronus ptilosus	NT
49.	Abbott's Babbler	Malacocincla abbotti	LC
50.	Horsfield's Babbler	Malacocincla sepiaria	LC
51.	Sooty-capped Babbler	Malacopteron affine	NT
52.	Scaly-crowned Babbler	Malacopteron cinereum	LC
53.	Moustached Babbler	Malacopteron magnirostre	LC
54.	Rufous-crowned Babbler	Malacopteron magnum	NT
55.	Bold-striped Tit-Babbler	Mixornis bornensis	LC
56.	Great Slaty Woodpecker	Mulleripicus pulverulentus	VE
57.	Brown Boobook	Ninox scutulata	LC
58.	Red-bearded Bee-eater	Nyctyornis amictus	LC
59.	Dark-throated Oriole	Oriolus xanthonotus	LC
60.	Ferruginous Babbler	Pellorneum bicolor	LC
61.	Black-capped Babbler	Pellorneum capistratum	LC
62.	Short-tailed Babbler	Pellorneum malaccense	NT
63.	Temminck's Babbler	Pellorneum pyrrogenys	LC
64.	Chestnut-bellied Malkoha	Phaenicophaeus sumatranus	NT
65.	Maroon-breasted Philentoma	Philentoma velata	NT

66.	Oriental Bay-Owl	Phodilus badius	LC
67.	Bornean Bristlehead	Pityriasis gymnocephala	VE
68.	Black Magpie	Platysmurus leucopterus	LC
69.	Chestnut-backed Scimitar-Babbler	Pomatorhinus montanus	LC
70.	Gold-whiskered Barbet	Psilopogon chrysopogon	LC
71.	Blue-eared Barbet	Psilopogon duvaucelii	LC
72.	Red-throated Barbet	Psilopogon mystacophanos	NT
73.	Red-eyed Bulbul	Pycnonotus brunneus	LC
74.	Yellow-vented Bulbul	Pycnonotus goiavi er	LC
75.	Wrinkled Hornbill	Rhabdotorrhinus corrugatus	EN
76.	Raffles's Malkoha	Rhinortha chlorophaea	LC
77.	Malaysian Pied-Fantail	Rhipidura javanica	LC
78.	Wreathed Hornbill	Rhyticeros undulatus	VE
79.	Spectacled Bulbul	Rubigula erythropthalmos	LC
80.	Rufous Piculet	Sasia abnormis	LC
81.	Chestnut-rumped Babbler	Stachyris maculata	NT
82.	Gray-throated Babbler	Stachyris nigriceps	LC
83.	Black-throated Babbler	Stachyris nigricollis	NT
84.	Cinnamon-headed Green-Pigeon	Treron fulvicollis	VE
85	Large Wren-Babbler	Turdinus macrodactylus	NT

**CE** – Critically Endangered, **EN** – Endangered, **VE** – Vulnerable, **NT**– Nearly Threatened,

LC - least Concern

# Table 2: list of Critically Endangered (CE) Species

No.	Sceintific name	Species name
1.	Buceros vigil	Helmeted Hornbill

## Table 3: List of Endangered species

No.	Sceintific name	Species name
1.	Rhabdotorrhinus corrugatus	Wrinkled Hornbill

## Table 4: List of 'Vulnerable' (VE) species

No.	Scientific name	Species name
1.	Centropus rectunguis	Short-toed Coucal
2.	Pityriasis gymnocephala	Bornean Bristlehead
3.	Mulleripicus pulverulentus	Great Slaty Woodpecker
4.	Harpactes orrhophaeus	Cinnamon-rumped Trogon
5.	Rhyticeros undulatus	Wreathed Hornbill
6.	Buceros rhinoceros	Rhinoceros Hornbill
7.	Argusianus argus	Great Argus
8.	Treron fulvicollis	Cinnamon-headed Green-Pigeon
9.	Alophoixus tephrogenys	Gray-cheeked Bulbul

No.	Scientific name	Species name
1.	Stachyris maculata	Chestnut-rumped Babbler
2.	Stachyris nigricollis	Black-throated Babbler
3.	Turdinus macrodactylus	Large Wren-Babbler
5.	Psilopogon rafflesii	Red-crowned Barbet
6.	Pellorneum malaccense	Short-tailed Babbler
7.	Phaenicophaeus sumatranus	Chestnut-bellied Malkoha
8.	Philentoma velata	Maroon-breasted Philentoma
9.	Malacopteron magnum	Rufous-crowned Babbler
10.	Malacopteron affine	Sooty-capped Babbler
11.	Macronus ptilosus	Fluffy-backed Tit-Babbler
12.	Harpactes kasumba	Red-naped Trogon
13.	Erythropitta granatina	Garnet Pitta
14.	Erythropitta ussheri	Black-crowned Pitta
15.	Eupetes macrocerus	Malaysian Rail-babbler
16.	Eurylaimus javanicus	Banded Broadbill
17.	Eurylaimus ochromalus	Black-and-yellow Broadbill
18.	Ducula aenea	Green Imperial-Pigeon
19.	Cyornis umbratilis	Gray-chested Jungle-Flycatcher
20.	Copsychus pyrropygus	Rufous-tailed Shama
21.	Calyptomena viridis	Green Broadbill
22.	Ixos malaccensis	Streaked Bulbul
23.	Hierococcyx vagans	Moustached Hawk-Cuckoo
24.	Ficedula narcissina	Narcissus Flycatcher
25.	Cyornis turcosus	Malaysian Blue Flycatcher
26.	Chloropsis cyanopogon	Lesser Green Leafbird
27.	Bubo sumatranus	Barred Eagle-Owl
28.	Brachypodius eutilotus	Puff-backed Bulbul
29.	Batrachostomus stellatus	Gould's Frogmouth

Table 5: List of 'Nearly Threatened' species (NT)

 Table 6: list of 'Least Concern' (LC) species

No.	Common Name	Scientific name
1.	Yellow-bellied Bulbul	Alophoixus phaeocephalus
2.	House Swift	Apus nipalensis
3.	Little Spiderhunter	Arachnothera longirostra
4.	Blyth's Frogmouth	Batrachostomus affinis
5.	Sunda Brush Cuckoo	Cacomantis sepulcralis
6.	Blue-winged Leafbird	Chloropsis cochinchinensis
7.	Violet Cuckoo	Chrysococcyx xanthorhynchus
8.	White-rumped Shama	Copsychus malabaricus
9.	Dusky Broadbill	Corydon sumatranus
10.	Chestnut-winged Babbler	Cyanoderma erythropterum
11.	Scarlet-backed Flowerpecker	Dicaeum cruentatum

12.	Orange-bellied Flowerpecker	Dicaeum trigonostigma
13.	Greater Racket-tailed Drongo	Dicrurus paradiseus
14.	Mountain Imperial-Pigeon	Ducula badia
15.	Indigo Flycatcher	Eumyias indigo
16.	Rufous-chested Flycatcher	Ficedula dumetoria
17.	Diard's Trogon	Harpactes diardii
18.	Orange-breasted Trogon	Harpactes oreskios
19.	Whiskered Treeswift	Hemiprocne comata
20.	Bornean Banded-Pitta	Hydrornis schwaneri
21.	Black-naped Monarch	Hypothymis azurea
22.	Bat Hawk	Macheiramphus alcinus
23.	Abbott's Babbler	Malacocincla abbotti
24.	Horsfield's Babbler	Malacocincla sepiaria
25.	Scaly-crowned Babbler	Malacopteron cinereum
26.	Moustached Babbler	Malacopteron magnirostre
27.	Bold-striped Tit-Babbler	Mixornis bornensis
28.	Brown Boobook	Ninox scutulata
29.	Red-bearded Bee-eater	Nyctyornis amictus
30.	Dark-throated Oriole	Oriolus xanthonotus
31.	Ferruginous Babbler	Pellorneum bicolor
32.	Black-capped Babbler	Pellorneum capistratum
33.	Temminck's Babbler	Pellorneum pyrrogenys
34.	Oriental Bay-Owl	Phodilus badius
35.	Black Magpie	Platysmurus leucopterus
36.	Chestnut-backed Scimitar-Babbler	Pomatorhinus montanus
37.	Gold-whiskered Barbet	Psilopogon chrysopogon
38.	Blue-eared Barbet	Psilopogon duvaucelii
39.	Red-eyed Bulbul	Pycnonotus brunneus
40.	Yellow-vented Bulbul	Pycnonotus goiavi er
41.	Raffles's Malkoha	Rhinortha chlorophaea
42.	Malaysian Pied-Fantail	Rhipidura javanica
43.	Spectacled Bulbul	Rubigula erythropthalmos
44.	Rufous Piculet	Sasia abnormis
45.	Gray-throated Babbler	Stachyris nigriceps

Table 7 highlights the 19 most frequently captured bird species groups. Leading the list is the babbler group, comprising 19 species (22.3%). Following are the bulbul and flycatcher groups, each with 7 species (8.2%). The broadbill, hornbill, and trogon groups are represented by 4 species each (4.7%). Additionally, the barbet, cuckoo, pigeon, pitta, and shama groups each include 3 species (3.5%). The remaining groups—flowerpecker, frogmouth, leafbird, malkoha, owl, swift, and woodpecker—are each represented by 2 species (2.3%).

No.	Group	No of individuals
1.	Babbler	19
2.	Bulbul	7
3.	Flycatcher	7
4.	Broadbill	4
5.	Hornbill	4
6.	Trogon	4
7.	Barbet	3
8.	Cuckoo	3
9.	Pigeon	3
10.	Pitta	3
11.	Shama	3
12.	Flowerpecker	2
13.	Frogmouth	2
14.	Leafbird	2
15.	Malkoha	2
17	Owl	2
18.	Swift	2
19.	Woodpecker	2

**Table 7**: List of 17 most recorded species by Group

### 7.2 Birds captured using mist-netting method

An assessment of bird species using the mist netting method recorded ten bird species, including the Scarlet-breasted Flowerpecker (*Prionochilus thoracicus*), Grey-cheeked Bulbul (*Criniger bres*), Scaly-crowned Babbler (*Malacopteron cinereum*), White-rumped Shama (*Copsychus malabaricus*), White-chested Babbler (*Pellorneum rostratum*), Green-winged Pigeon (*Chalcophaps indica*), Jambu Fruit Dove (*Ptilinopus jambu*), Rufous Piculet (*Sasia abnormis*), Maroon Woodpecker (*Blythipicus rubiginosus*), and Red-eyed Bulbul (*Pycnonotus brunneus*) (Figures 4–13). Additionally, two bat species were captured: the Horseshoe Bat (*Rhinolophus malayanus*) and the Short-nosed Fruit Bat (*Cynopterus brachyotis*) (Figures 14 & 15).

Table 8 lists the captured bird species and their conservation status. One species, the Grey-cheeked Bulbul, is categorized as Vulnerable (VU). Three species are classified as Near Threatened (NT) by the IUCN: the Scarlet-breasted Flowerpecker (*Prionichilus thoracicus*), White-chested Babbler (*Pellorneum rostratum*) and Jambu Fruit Dove (*Ptinopus jambu*). The remaining six species are listed under the Least Concern (LC) category.

**Table 8**: List of birds captured using mist net and their status

No.	Common name	Scientific name	Status
1.	Scarlet-breasted Flowerpecker	Prionichilus thoracicus	NT
2.	Grey-cheeked Bulbul	Criniger bres	VE
3.	Scaly-crowned Babbler	Malacopteron cinereum	LC
4.	White Rumped Shama	Copsychus malabaricus	LC
5.	White-chested Babbler	Pellorneum rostratum	NT
6.	Green-winged Pigeon	Chalcophaps indica	LC
7.	Jambu Fruit Dove	Ptinopus jambu	NT
8.	Rufous Piculet	Sasia abnormias	LC
9.	Maroon Woodpecker	Blythipicus rubiginosus	LC
10.	Red-eyed Bulbul	Pycnonotus brunneus	LC

Appendix: Pictures of birds captured using mist net



Figure 4: Scarlet-breasted Flowerpecker (Prionichilus thoracicus)



Figure 5: Grey-cheeked Bulbul (Criniger bres)



Figure 6: Scaly-crowned Babbler (Malacopteron cinereum)



Figure 7: White Rumped Shama (Copsychus malabaricus)



Figure 8: White-chested Babbler (Pellorneum rostratum)



Figure 9: Green-winged Pigeon (Chalcophaps indica)



Figure 10: Jambu Fruit Dove (Ptinopus jambu)



Figure 11: Rufous Piculet (Sasia abnormias)



Figure 12: Maroon Woodpecker (Blythipicus rubiginosus)



Figure 13: Red-eyed Bulbul (Pycnonotus brunneus)



Figure 14 : Horsesoe Bat (Rhinolophus malayanus)



Figure 15 : Short-nose Fruit bat (Cynopterus brachytis)

#### 8.0 CONCLUSION

Based on the data collected from the Lana Conservation Area, several key conclusions can be drawn regarding avian biodiversity and conservation priorities. A total of 85 bird species were recorded using acoustic monitoring (Tascam recorder), indicating a rich avian diversity within the Belaga Conservation Area. This diversity underscores the ecological significance of the region and its role as a habitat for various bird species. Among the recorded species, several are listed under threatened categories by the IUCN Red List: Critically Endangered (CR): Helmeted Hornbill (*Buceros vigil*), Endangered (EN): Wrinkled Hornbill (*Rhabdotorrhinus corrugatus*) and Vulnerable (VU): Nine species, including the Grey-cheeked Bulbul (*Alophoixus tephrogenys*), Great Argus (*Argusianus argus*), and Rhinoceros Hornbill (*Buceros rhinoceros*). Approximately 34.1% of the recorded species are categorized as Near Threatened (NT), indicating that a substantial portion of the avian population is at risk of becoming threatened in the near future. This emphasizes the importance of proactive conservation measures to prevent further declines.

Analysis of species groups reveals that babblers are the most frequently captured group, comprising 22.3% of the total. Bulbuls and flycatchers each represent 8.2%, while broadbills, hornbills, and trogons each account for 4.7%. This distribution provides insights into the habitat preferences and ecological niches within the conservation area. The mist netting method successfully recorded ten bird species, including the Scarlet-breasted Flowerpecker (*Prionochilus thoracicus*) and Jambu Fruit Dove (*Ptilinopus jambu*). Notably, this method also captured two bat species, demonstrating its utility in monitoring a range of volant fauna. Among the species captured through mist netting: Vulnerable (VU): Grey-cheeked Bulbul (*Criniger bres*), Near Threatened (NT): Scarlet-breasted Flowerpecker (*Prionochilus thoracicus*), White-chested Babbler (*Pellorneum rostratum*), and Jambu Fruit Dove (*Ptilinopus jambu*).

The presence of multiple threatened and near-threatened species necessitates the development and implementation of targeted conservation strategies. Efforts should focus on habitat preservation, mitigating threats, and continuous monitoring to ensure the long-term survival of these species. Regular monitoring using methods like acoustic recording and mist netting is crucial for tracking population trends, assessing the effectiveness of conservation measures, and making informed management decisions. Such practices enable early detection of population declines and facilitate timely interventions.

In summary, the Lana Conservation Area serves as a vital habitat for a diverse array of bird species, including several that are threatened or near-threatened. The data underscores the importance of ongoing conservation efforts, habitat protection, and continuous monitoring to preserve the region's avian biodiversity

Overall, the results demonstrate the high avian diversity within the Lana Conservation Area, with a notable proportion of species under various threat categories, underscoring the importance of continued conservation and monitoring efforts in the region. Studying birds in these areas is crucial for biodiversity conservation, ecological research, climate monitoring, public engagement, and economic sustainability. Birds are excellent indicators of biodiversity and environmental health. Monitoring bird populations can provide valuable data on the state of ecosystems. Birds play key roles in ecosystems, such as seed dispersal, pest control, and pollination. Studying their interactions within the ecosystem helps in understanding and maintaining ecological balance. This area still contains several important species such as Great Argus, Hornbills and Babbler species which can be used as the indicator of a forest ecosystem.

## 9.0 RECOMMENDATION

From this study, some recommendations are made as follows:

## i. Enhance Protection for At-Risk Species

Launch focused efforts to safeguard bird species at high risk of extinction, especially those listed as Critically Endangered and Vulnerable. Priority should be given to the Helmeted Hornbill and other hornbills, which are essential for forest regeneration through seed dispersal.

## ii. Safeguard and Rehabilitate Natural Habitats

Conserve the remaining forest ecosystems within the Lana Conservation Area. Additionally, initiate habitat rehabilitation projects in deforested or degraded zones to aid in the recovery of species with shrinking populations and restricted habitats.

## iii. Broaden and Combine Survey Techniques

Maintain the use of passive acoustic tools, such as Tascam audio recorders, and incorporate other methods like mist-netting and direct observation. A mixed-methods approach will yield a more accurate and holistic view of bird species diversity and trends over time.

### iv. Foster Community Engagement and Education

Encourage local involvement in bird conservation by raising awareness through outreach programs and promoting community-based ecotourism. These initiatives can help locals recognize the ecological and economic value of protecting avian species.

### v. Implement Ongoing Biodiversity Monitoring

Carry out routine ecological assessments to track fluctuations in bird populations, species diversity, and conservation statuses. These insights will support data-driven decision-making and flexible management strategies.