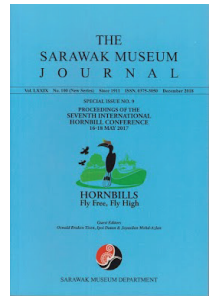




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**ORIENTAL PIED HORNBILL (*Anthracoceros albirostris*) IN WEST BRUNEI:
SUCCESSFUL NEST BOX BREEDING IN A RESIDENTIAL ENVIRONMENT**

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ABSTRACT

In Brunei, a large population of Oriental Pied Hornbills survives in a patch of remnant coastal forest. Interestingly, this is a residential area. In 2006 it was shown that there was likely to be a shortage of nesting sites. They might be cut off from normal nesting sites and in addition the trees (although > 55 years old) might not provide suitable sites for nesting. The introduction of nest boxes since 2007 has shown to be successful. These were placed close to fruiting trees and in secondary forest to minimise the risk of disturbance and poaching. We present case studies here, which include a Hornbill pair that over two years did not breed successfully. The introduction of a nest box within their territory produced offspring. We conclude that a population of Hornbills within a relatively young area or an area that suffered habitat loss could benefit from the introduction of nesting boxes to support the repopulation.

Keywords: Nest box, Oriental Pied Hornbill, *Anthracoceros albirostris*, repopulation, residential

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INTRODUCTION

Hornbills in Brunei

In Brunei, all eight species of Hornbills that are known to Borneo can be found (Charles 2001) although most are rare (Charles 2001; Phillips 2011). All of them are protected under the Brunei Wildlife Act (1978, amended 1984). Some, like the White-crowned Hornbill and the Helmeted Hornbill, are found in primary forests only and are becoming increasingly threatened. Most of the other species (Rhinoceros, Asian Black, Bushy-crested, Wreathed, Wrinkled and Oriental Pied Hornbills) are rare but sometimes more common in a particular