

Protecting the rainforest and the critically endangered orangutan

Mawas, Central Kalimantan, Borneo – Best Practice Conservation



Save the Orangutan's efforts to protect the wild Bornean orangutan populations

- Restoring the rainforest benefits the climate and improves the orangutan's survivability
- Protecting the rainforest ensures the natural habitats of the orangutan
- Empowering and supporting local communities ensure long-term and sustainable solutions
- Research and mitigating conflicts protect the wild orangutan populations

Mawas – home to one of the world's largest populations of wild orangutans

Mawas is located in Kalimantan, Indonesian Borneo. The area comprises 309,000 hectares (3090 km²) of carbon-rich tropical peat forest. Since 2007, Save the Orangutan and Indonesian BOS Foundation have worked together in Mawas. Being home to 62 small villages and one of the world's largest wild orangutan populations - consisting of more than 2500 individuals - the Mawas area is unique.

The activities in Mawas are examples of 'best-practice conservation', and their success are based on a sustainable and comprehensive effort in cooperation with BOS Foundation. Several projects are undertaken with the mission of extending and inspiring the management of other areas on Borneo with high conservation value.

Your support to Save the Orangutan and Mawas helps:

- Protect more than 2500 wild orangutans
- Reforest degraded rainforest and establish new habitat
- Reduce CO₂ emissions
- Reduce the risk of forest and peat fires
- Develop sustainable livelihoods
- Support indigenous peoples' rights



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MORE THAN
2.500
orangutans
inhabit Mawas

Activities in Mawas

MAWAS
309.000
hectares
=
approx. twice
the size of
LONDON

Ecosystem restoration

Re-wetting degraded peat forest by blocking man-made canals makes the forest less vulnerable to forest and peat fires and reduces CO₂ emissions.

Reforestation and village nurseries

Replanting deforested areas with seedlings from local village nurseries ensures a future food supply for the orangutans inhabiting the area.

Firefighting and fire patrols

Local communities receive training and tools to patrol and fight fires, which often start in the extremely vulnerable and degraded peat forest.

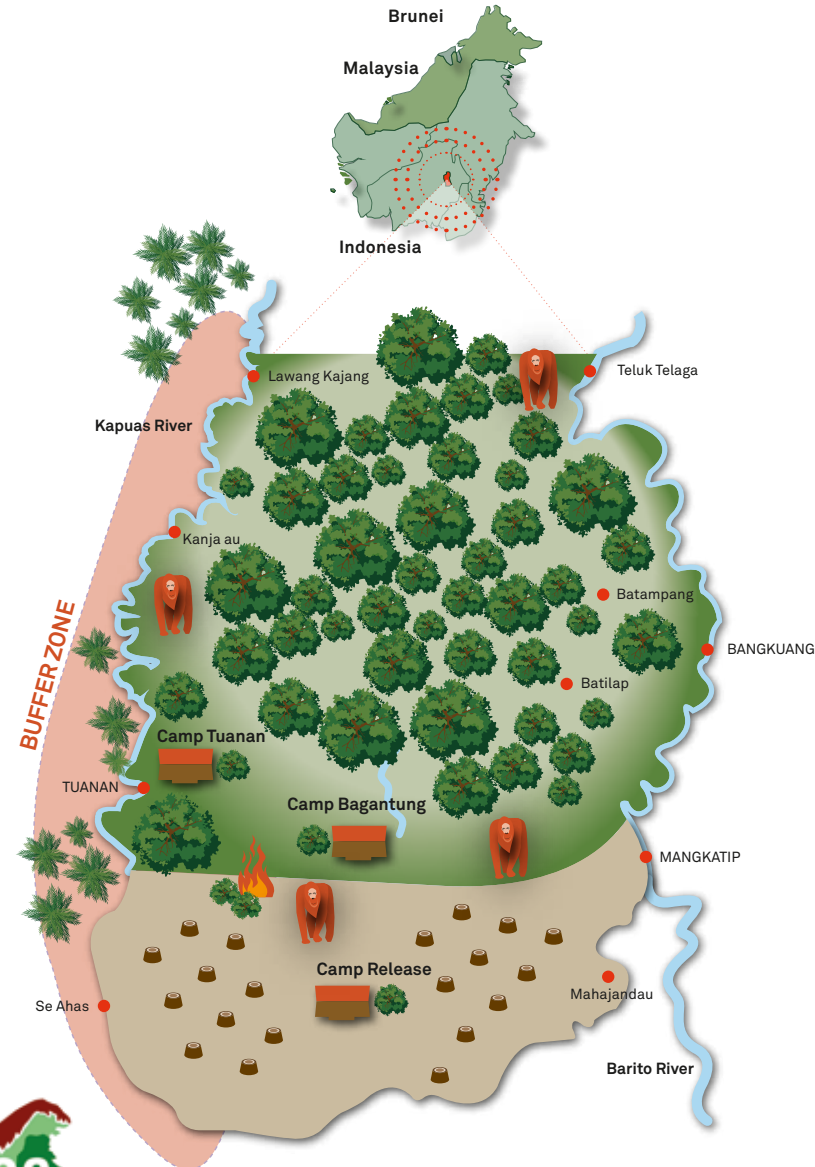
Combating illegal logging

Daily patrols carried out in cooperation with local communities protect the forest against illegal activities such as logging and other threats.

Policy work

Policy work ensures continued formal protection of the Mawas area and provides harmonised plans that protect the wild orangutan populations in the area.

Borneo



Sustainable buffer zones

Supporting the development of sustainable livelihoods and agroforestry within communities in and around Mawas reduces the pressure on Mawas' natural resources.

Indigenous peoples' rights

Supporting efforts to ensure the indigenous Dayak peoples' rights and access to land and forest is the most sustainable way to protect the rainforest.

Sustainable livelihoods and education

Local families are supported in the development of sustainable livelihoods as an alternative to logging, and environmental education is included in school curricula.

Increased awareness of the orangutan

A permanent research station provides new knowledge about the orangutan and its biology and contributes to optimal efforts to ensure the species' survival.

Conflict mitigation in oil palm plantations

Education and awareness raising in oil palm plantations around Mawas mitigate the risk of human-orangutan conflicts.