DISTRIBUTION AND ABUNDANCE OF PROBOSCIS MONKEY (Nasalis larvatus) IN KLIAS PENINSULA

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ABSTRACT

DISTRIBUTION AND ABUNDANCE OF PROBOSCIS MONKEY (Nasalis larvatus) IN KLIAS PENINSULAR, SABAH

Proboscis monkey is one of the species which is endemic to Borneo. This species has been considered as an endangered species according to the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) Red List under Appendix I of the Convention on International Trades in Endangered Species (CITES). This monkey has been one of the tourist attractions, where it is crucially important to make sure that the monkey can successfully survive in the area to avoid local extinction of the species. The distribution and abundance study of Proboscis monkey was conducted in Klias Peninsular by using the method proposed by Bennett's (1986) and calculated by using the equation of estimation of population density used by Bernard & Hamzah (2006). The results obtained states that the population density of the Proboscis monkey is 16.8 individuals / km² with mean and standard deviation group of 50 ± 21.79 . The Proboscis monkeys are widely distributed in Garama River which composed of mixed mangrove-riverine habitat which is influenced by the availability of food sources. It is recommended that this study is to be conducted at other forest reserves to evaluate the status of Proboscis monkey and maintain their population from extinction.