

## White-fronted Langur *Presbytis frontata* at Bukit Santuai, Kalimantan Tengah, Indonesia

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**Observers:** Ika Yuni Agustin, Arif Setiawan, Salmah Widyastuti, Abrar Ramlan.

**Photographs by:** Ika Yuni Agustin; Arif Setiawan.

**Subjects identified by:** Ika Yuni Agustin, Arif Setiawan, Abrar Ramlan, Kasih P. Handayani.

**Location:** Bukit Santuai, Kotawaringin Timur, Sampit, Central Kalimantan, Indonesia.

**Precise location of record:** Lat 01° 43' 12.65" S, Long 112° 22 '56.90" E

**Elevation:** 61 metres amsl.

**Habitat:** Natural secondary forest surrounded by palm oil concession.

**Date and time:** 23 October 2018, ~08:30 hrs.

**Identity of subjects:** White-fronted Langur, *Presbytis frontata* (Mammalia: Primates: Cercopithecidae).

**Description of record:** Two individuals of White-fronted Langur were seen foraging in secondary forest near a palm oil plantation, along an ex-logging road running through the Bukit Santuai forest (Fig. 1 and inset). The monkeys were about 40 meters from our location, at a height of around 25 metres, and were observed for 5 minutes whilst they were eating young leaves. After 5 minutes, the monkeys climbed down the tree, and were out of view. One of the monkeys appeared to be an adult, and the other a sub-adult (based on its smaller size).

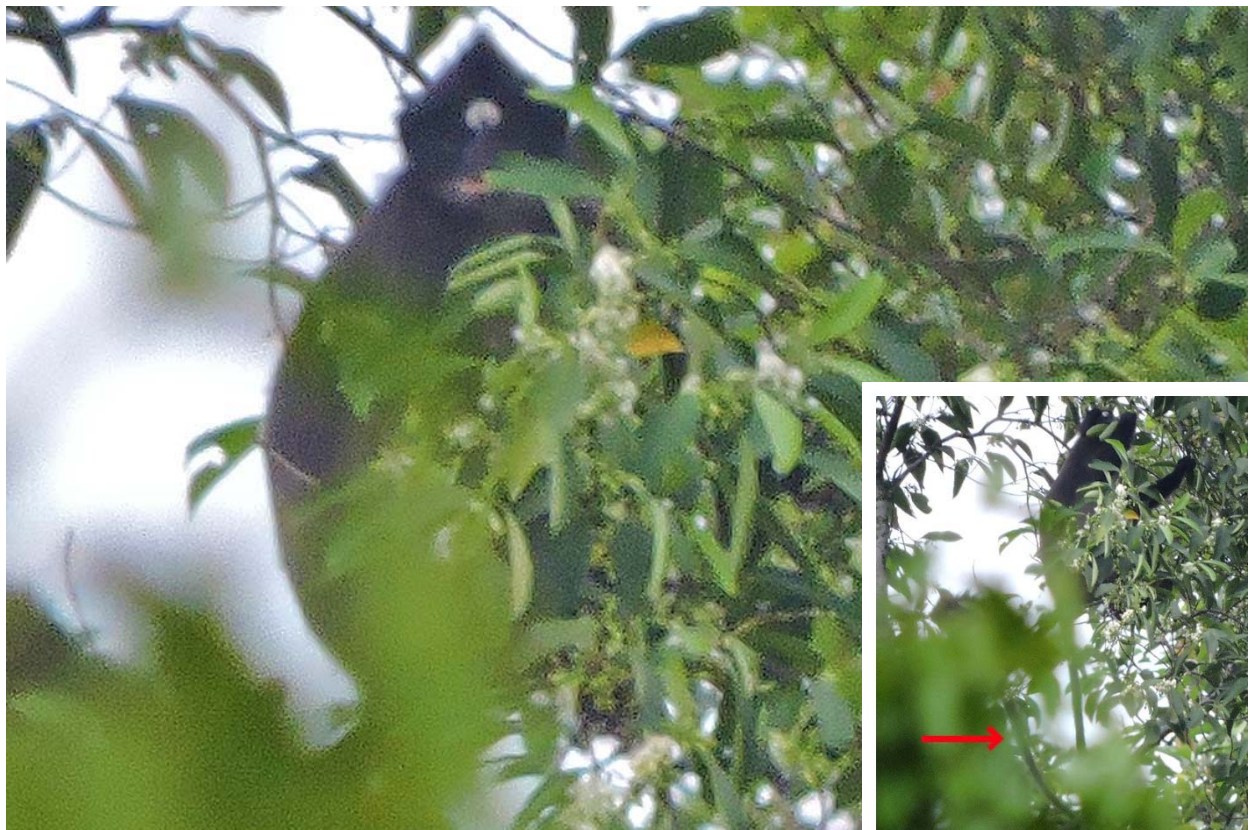


Fig. 1 and inset  
(The red arrow is pointing at the tail of the sub-adult)

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**Remarks:** These two primates are identified as White-fronted Langur *Presbytis frontata* based on the white spot on the forehead, which distinguishes the species from other primates in the area, such as the Maroon Langur *Presbytis rubicunda* which were also observed in the area. This endemic primate is one of the little-known primate species in Borneo (Meijaard & Nijman, 2008).

Bukit Santuai appears to lie in the south and west of the historical known range of the White-fronted Langur (Phillipps & Phillipps, 2016, page 165). The southernmost parts of Bukit Santuai forest lie around 30 km northeast of the town of Sukamandang, Central Kalimantan (= Kalimantan Tengah). It is considered an area of High Conservation Value (HCV).

According to Roundtable on Sustainable Palm Oil (RSPO) criteria, Bukit Santuai fulfills the criteria to be included in several types of HCV i.e. HCV 1.2 (endangered species component), HCV 1.3 (areas that contain habitat for viable populations of endangered, restricted range or protected species), HCV 2.3 (areas that contain representative populations of most naturally occurring species), HCV 3 (rare or endangered ecosystems) and HCV 6 (areas critical for maintaining the cultural identity of local communities) (PT Agro Wana Lestari, 2014).

This is the first finding of these rare leaf monkeys in the Bukit Santuai area, which is close to a palm oil plantation. Based on IUCN assessment, this primate, which is listed as 'vulnerable', is found occasionally in secondary and plantation habitat (but the type of 'plantation' is not specified). Threats to this species come from habitat loss and hunting, both for meat and for traditional medicine.

This primate occurs in the patchy forest in central and eastern Borneo, from central Sarawak to the southern coast and is also found in the west (Meijaard & Nijman, 2008). Two individuals of these colobine monkeys were also sighted in the upper parts of the Telen River in East Kalimantan during a 2009 field survey (A. Setiawan, pers. comm., February 19, 2019). The species was also reported as occurring in Sungai Wain protection forest, near Balikpapan (Bersacola et.al, 2014), and in the upper parts of the Barito River, Central Kalimantan (van Berkel et.al., 2012).

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