

Name	Counterpart	Title
Yeni Aryati Mulyani	B09	Assessment of understory bird community using mist nets and capacity building by training novice bird banders

Background and Objectives

Until this study, there was only a little information on understory birds in urban forest parks in Jambi City. Furthermore, there is still little study of bird communities using mist nets in Indonesia because local researchers do not have the necessary skills. Therefore, the objectives of this project were to investigate the understory bird community in urban forest parks and, at the same time, improve the skills of local young researchers in Jambi in using mist nets in studying bird communities.

Methods

The activities consisted of a workshop, field practice, and data collection in Muhammad Sabki Urban Forest Park, Jambi City. The training workshop included topics such as bird banding ethics, the authorization of bird banding authority and the necessary permits, and simple methods of surveying birds. The field practice lasted for a total of five days. It included learning techniques of surveying birds, setting up mist nets (figure 1), bird identification, handling birds whilst taking morphometric measurements, and identifying molt status and brood patch presence. Bird surveys were also conducted between bird banding activities. Participants were required to make a short presentation at the end of activities in October 2017.

Results

A total of 23 bird species were recorded during the activities, although only 8 species from 10 individuals were captured and banded. Three of the species recorded are protected by Indonesian law, two of them were captured and banded (Collared Kingfisher and Blue-eared Kingfisher, figure 2). There were fourteen participants in total. They consisted of UNJA students and B09 assistants plus an observer from Kerinci Bird Club (figure 3). The UNJA students had no previous experience with mist netting and only limited knowledge of birds. But all were able to set up mist nets after the training in October. At the end of the training period, the participants established a bird study group that is still currently active. This project showed that the isolated urban park forest still holds a diverse bird community, which includes protected species, but only few species used understory vegetation. The activities improved the knowledge and awareness that the participants have about bird research methods and motivated them to be involved further in bird research.



Figure 1. Training participants practicing setting up mist nets

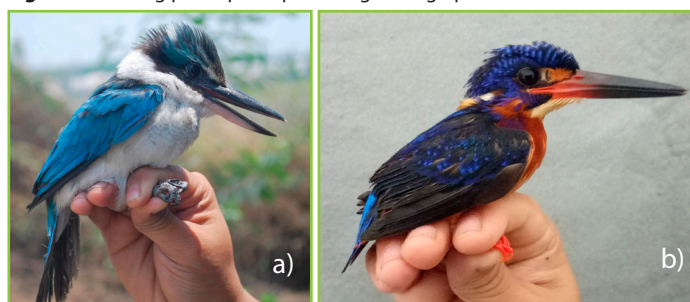


Figure 2. The two protected species that were captured and banded during the project: Collared Kingfisher (a), and Blue-eared Kingfisher (b)



Figure 3. Training workshop participants at Muhammad Sabki Urban Forest Park, Jambi