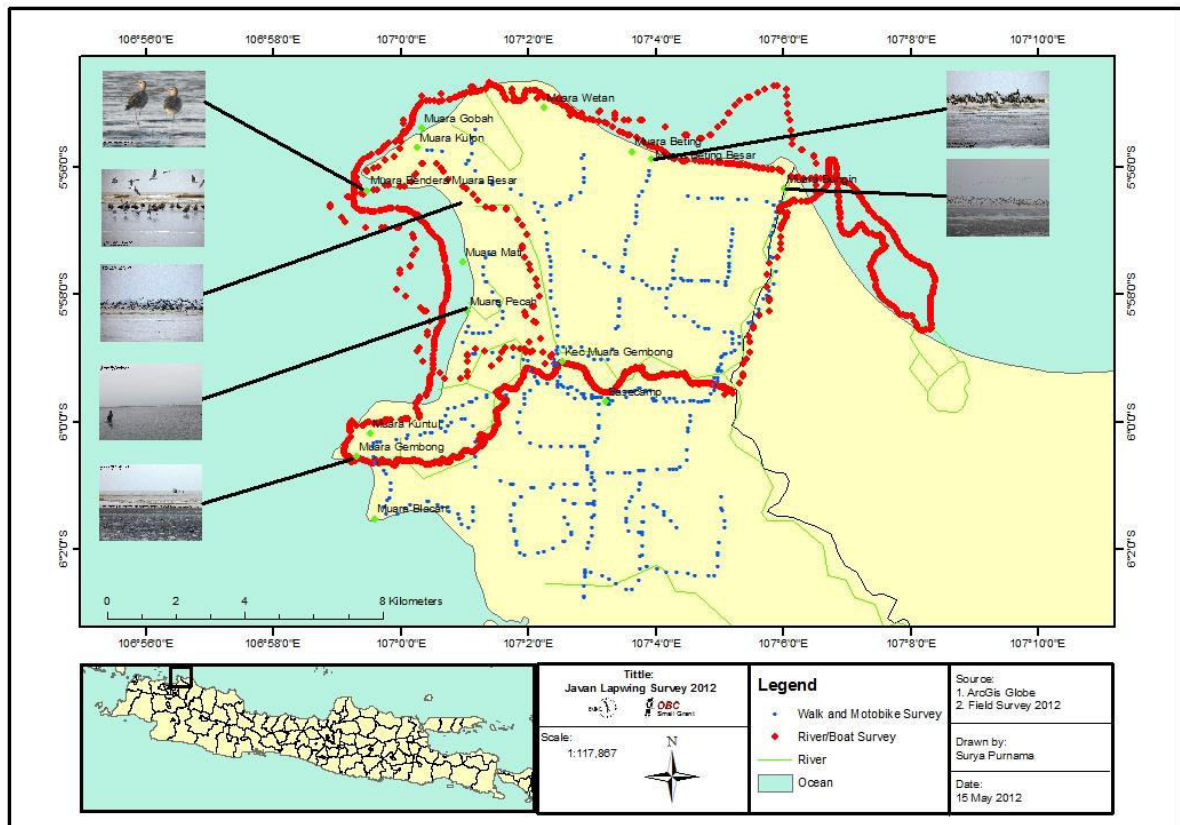


Javan Lapwing Wet Season Survey at Muara Gembong, Bekasi, Jawa Barat

Investigation and Searchings the “Mysterious” Bird of the World



Surya Purnama

Javan Lapwing Survey at Muara Gembong, Bekasi, Jawa Barat Investigation and Searchings the “Mysterious” Bird of the World

Background

Javan Lapwing was described as local and uncommon, apparently only ever encountered in scattered pairs. The bird is usually categorized as "critically endangered, possibly extinct", even though the last sighting dates as far back as 1940, when one was reported from West Java. The fact that it was reputedly impossible to overlook suggests very strongly that it is no longer present at any site studied in recent decades by ornithologists. However, there are areas that have not been recently surveyed and recent unconfirmed reports that require investigation, and recently translated observations from the 1920s suggest that its habitat requirements may have been less restricted than previously thought, perhaps providing some further hope for its continued existence.

The Javan Wattled Lapwing is usually categorized as "critically endangered, possibly extinct", even though the last sighting dates as far back as 1940, when one was reported from West Java. We have decided to continue the search survey in April 2010 in collaboration with Kutilang Indonesia Foundation and supported by OBC Small Grant. During our survey, many people who believed that they had seen Javan Lapwing before. Also in mid-2003 when Iwan Londo survey's in Lumajang, East Java. Local people reporting that they had seen the bird too.

Based to our interview on last survey, we found many people who believed that they had seen Javan Lapwing before. Interviewees also provided ecological and behavioural description that they claimed were of Javan Lapwing, saying that birds usually came out from hiding after White-breasted Waterhen (*Amaurornis phoenicurus*) or Lesser Coucal (*Centropus bengalensis*). They also claimed that during the dry season birds used the delta or small island near the shoreline as roosting areas. In Muara Pecah, the bird usually seen during wet season on fishpond and shoreline.

Methodology

Survey was conducted for 21 days during November – December 2011 and 12 days from March – April 2012 by 3 members of BIONIC UNY and 2 local people. We aimed to search and spend all day observations at several key locations that been informed as the Lapwing's location. Survey routes were recorded using GPS and habitat type was recorded together with photographs. Interviews with local people were also used extensively to seek information about the presence of Javan Lapwing. Field surveys began at 5.00 am and continued until 6.00 pm with a GPS, two cameras, five pairs of binoculars, a telescope and data forms. Boat was used to find the bird at shoreline between Muara Bungin until Muara Pecah (in about 15 km).

Results

1. Walk and Motobike Survey

Survey has doing by 2 motobike with 4 member of each motobike. We following road and fishpond-embankment. Sometimes, we stop in interesting area, like flocking of migratory and resident birds. We also waiting of the Lapwing on scrub, swamp-grass and delta which called *Beting* or *Gara-gara*. All the place that monitored are based to our survey report on first survey (2010).

2. Boat Survey

Other methode that used on this survey are boat survey. This method used to confirm the information from local people. We used two different line that is river and shoreline survey.

On river survey, we following the big river strip that confirmed as Lapwing habitat by local people. Two lines survey has done on November 2011, and two others on April 2012. Two big rivers in Muara Gembong has been monitored that is Citarum River and CBL River. Citarum has 3 different estuary, that is Muara Bungin (northern area, boundary of Bekasi and Karawang District), Muara Besar (biggest estuary of the river) and Muara Gembong (western area).

On shoreline survey, we search along the coastal lines, and particulary on estuary of the small river that is:

- a. Muara Pecah (S5 58.272 E107 01.056)
- b. Muara Gobah (S5 55.399 E107 00.336)
- c. Muara Beting (S5 55.765 E107 03.640)
- d. Muara Kulon (S5 55.703 E107 00.253)
- e. Muara Wetan (S5 55.073 E107 02.254)
- f. Muara Mati (S5 57.495 E107 00.973) and
- g. Muara Kuntul (S6 00.190 E106 59.516).

After all of our effort and work in the field, we can not confirm the Javan Lapwing presence in Muara Gembong.

3. Interview with local people

Other than field survey, we also doing interview record with local people who meet during our survey.

The man composed from many fields, but they are dominated by fisherman and fish-farmer. We used our field guide book to confirmed their sighting of the Lapwing. We asking first about the bird, in particular of the description without showing of the book. Their description about the bird are yellow wattles; black head, belly-patch, dark brown upperparts, breast and upper belly and yellow legs. When we showing the book, they look and pointed on Javan Lapwing's picture.

Due their information, many people believes that the Lapwing still presence in Muara Gembong. The bird observably on morning when sunrise in scrub. It came out from scrub after White-breasted Waterhen *Amaurornis phoenicurus*. The bird ever so often seen in Muara Pecah (S5 58.272 E107 01.056), Muara Mati (S5 57.495 E107 00.973) and Muara Besar (S5 56.374 E106 59.473). But when we

spending all day of each area, we can not find the bird. Sometimes, we change our location based to local people information.

4. Migratory and Threatened Birds

We have recorded other bird during survey. Due data of the Yayasan Kutilang Indonesia (2006 – 2009), November – December was the pick season of the migratory bird in Muara Gembong, and dominated by wader. They found and spreading in all area, but biggest flocking are in fishpond which close with shoreline. Three area are identified as biggest colony of the Curlews, Whimbrell, Godwits, Sandpipers, Stints and Plovers.

Table 1. Migratory wader in Muara Gembong (Nov-Dec 2011)

No	Scientific Name	Local Name	English Name	IUCN	Local Law
1	<i>Pluvialis squatarola</i> (Linnaeus, 1758)	Cerek besar	Grey Plover		
2	<i>Pluvialis fulva</i> (Gmelin, 1789)	Cerek kernyut	Pacific Golden Plover		
3	<i>Charadrius dubius</i> Scopoli, 1786	Cerek kalung-kecil	Little Ringed Plover		
4	<i>Charadrius alexandrinus</i> Linnaeus, 1758	Cerek tilil	Kentish Plover		
5	<i>Charadrius leschenaultii</i> Lesson, 1826	Cerek-pasir besar	Greater Sand-plover		
6	<i>Numenius minutus</i> Gould, 1841	Gajahan kecil	Little Curlew		AB
7	<i>Numenius phaeopus</i> (Linnaeus, 1758)	Gajahan penggala	Whimbrel		AB
8	<i>Numenius arquata</i> (Linnaeus, 1758)	Gajahan besar	Eurasian Curlew		AB
9	<i>Limosa limosa</i> (Linnaeus, 1758)	Biru-laut ekor-hitam	Black-tailed Godwit		
10	<i>Limosa lapponica</i> (Linnaeus, 1758)	Biru-laut ekor-blorok	Bar-tailed Godwit		
11	<i>Tringa totanus</i> (Linnaeus, 1758)	Trinil kaki-merah	Common Redshank		
12	<i>Tringa stagnatilis</i> (Bechstein, 1803)	Trinil rawa	Marsh Sandpiper		
13	<i>Tringa nebularia</i> (Gunnerus, 1767)	Trinil kaki-hijau	Common Greenshank		
14	<i>Tringa guttifer</i> (Nordmann, 1835)	Trinil nordmann	Nordmann's Greenshank	EN	AB
15	<i>Tringa glareola</i> Linnaeus, 1758	Trinil semak	Wood Sandpiper		
16	<i>Xenus cinereus</i> (Güldenstaedt, 1774)	Trinil bedaran	Terek Sandpiper		
17	<i>Actitis hypoleucos</i> (Linnaeus, 1758)	Trinil pantai	Common Sandpiper		
18	<i>Heteroscelus brevipes</i> (Vieillot, 1816)	Trinil ekor-kelabu	Grey-tailed Tattler		
19	<i>Gallinago stenura</i> (Bonaparte, 1830)	Berkik ekor-lidi	Pintail Snipe		
20	<i>Gallinago megala</i> Swinhoe, 1861	Berkik rawa	Swinhoe's Snipe		
21	<i>Calidris tenuirostris</i> (Horsfield, 1821)	Kedidi besar	Great Knot		
22	<i>Calidris alba</i> (Pallas, 1764)	Kedidi putih	Sanderling		
23	<i>Calidris ruficollis</i> (Pallas, 1776)	Kedidi leher-merah	Rufous-necked Stint		
24	<i>Calidris ferruginea</i> (Pontoppidan, 1763)	Kedidi golgol	Curlew Sandpiper		

We also recorded 9 species of the birds as the threatened bird, that listed by IUCN. It means, one bird added to this list after 2010 survey that is Nordman's Greenshank *Tringa guttifer*.

Table 2. Threatened birds of Muara Gembong, April 2012

No	Scientific Name	Local Name	Common Name	IUCN status
1	<i>Fregata andrewsi</i>	Cikalang christmas	Christmas Frigatebird	CR
2	<i>Anhinga melanogaster</i>	Pecuk-ular asia	Oriental Darter	NT
3	<i>Mycteria cinerea</i>	Bangau bluwok	Milky Stork	VU
4	<i>Charadrius javanicus</i>	Cerek jawa	Javan Plover	NT
5	<i>Centropus nigrorufus</i>	Bubut jawa	Javan Coucal	VU
6	<i>Zosterops flavus</i>	Kacamata jawa	Javan White-eye	NT
7	<i>Padda oryzivora</i>	Gelatik jawa	Java Sparrow	VU
8	<i>Ploceus hypoxanthus</i>	Manyar emas	Asian Golden Weaver	NT
9	<i>Tringa guttifer</i>	Trinil Nordman	Nordmand's Greenshank	EN

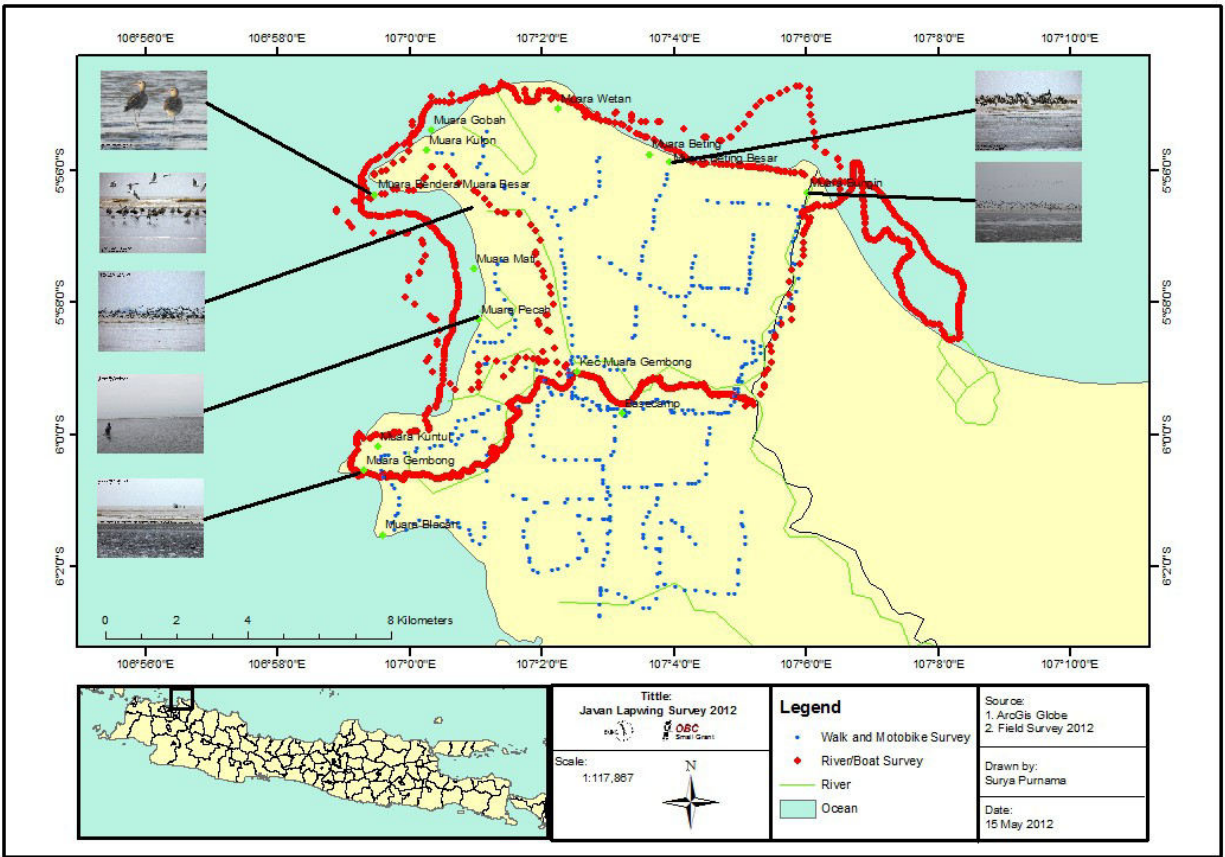
Acknowledgments

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Picture 1. Map of Javan Lapwing Survey 2012



Picture 2. Milky Stork

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Picture 3. Survey activity



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Picture 4. Christmas Frigatebird



Picture 5. Wader's flocking in Muara Mati



Picture 6. Migratory wader in colony



Picture 7. Wader in Muara Bendera/Besar



Picture 8. Wader in Muara Beting