



# FINAL REPORT

## Continuing Monitoring the Threats of Christmas Island Frigatebirds



**Burung Laut Indonesia  
(Indonesian Seabird)**

Jl. Sempu Raya No. 43 Depok 16421



KEMENTERIAN NEGARA LINGKUNGAN HIDUP  
DAN KEHUTANAN  
REPUBLIK INDONESIA



Supported by



***Oriental  
BIRD CLUB***



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Picture cover : Cikalang Christmas adult male ©Khaleb Yordan

## Background

Christmas island Frigatebirds are threatened in Jakarta Bay by killings and as bycatch in local fisheries. This foraging and roosting area is threatened by severe pollution and in the near future by large reclamation of the coastal area. Continuing monitoring threats is important, and we want to expand the study area to entire Thousand Islands Marine National Park. Increasing awareness on threats and existing laws with fishermen, local people and government is an important part of reducing the threats. Seabirds get little attention in Indonesia. This project will start reduce threats to other species in the study area and to all seabirds in Indonesia in the future.

Christmas Island Frigatebird is Critically Endangered with a population estimated between 2,400-4,800 individuals, up to 10% of which has been roosting between 2011 until 2016 in Jakarta Bay. They use Jakarta Bay for foraging and Suaka Margasatwa Pulau Rambut as a roosting site. The need for activities to help protect foraging and non-breeding roosting areas in Indonesia has been identified as a priority by BirdLife International (Birdlife International, 2001) and the Australian Government (National Recovery Plan for the Christmas Island Frigatebird; Hill & Dunn 2005).

The objective from this research are:

1. To assess threats to Christmas Island Frigatebirds in the Jakarta Bay and Thousand Islands through direct observation and an interview-based survey of fishermen, fish trap owners, wildlife management authorities, harbour management authorities and boat operators.
2. To increase awareness on the importance of seabirds in general and Christmas Island Frigatebird in particular for fishermen, the local people and other stakeholders in Jakarta Bay and the Thousand Islands Marine National Park.

## Location

Lying to the north of the Indonesian capital, the Jakarta Bay covers around 500 km<sup>2</sup>. The sea is shallow (av. depth of 15 m) and dominated by wooden-frame fish traps. The coast line of around 40 km is predominately fish and shrimp ponds with small areas of relict coastal mangrove. A number of small islands lie within the bay, including the island of Pulau Rambut, a nature reserve protected for its sizeable heronry and identified as an IBA.

The Thousand Islands (officially Kepulauan Seribu) are a chain of islands to the north of Jakarta's coast. It forms the only regency of Jakarta, the capital of Indonesia. It consists of a string of 110 islands stretching 45 km north into the Java Sea at West Jakarta Bay and in fact north of Banten Province. An area of 107,489 hectares of land and sea was declared by the Minister of Agriculture in 1982 and designated by a Forestry Ministerial Decree in 2002 as the Taman Nasional Laut Kepulauan Seribu (Thousand Islands Marine National Park).



Plate 1 Observation track from Jakarta Bay to the Thousand Island National Park

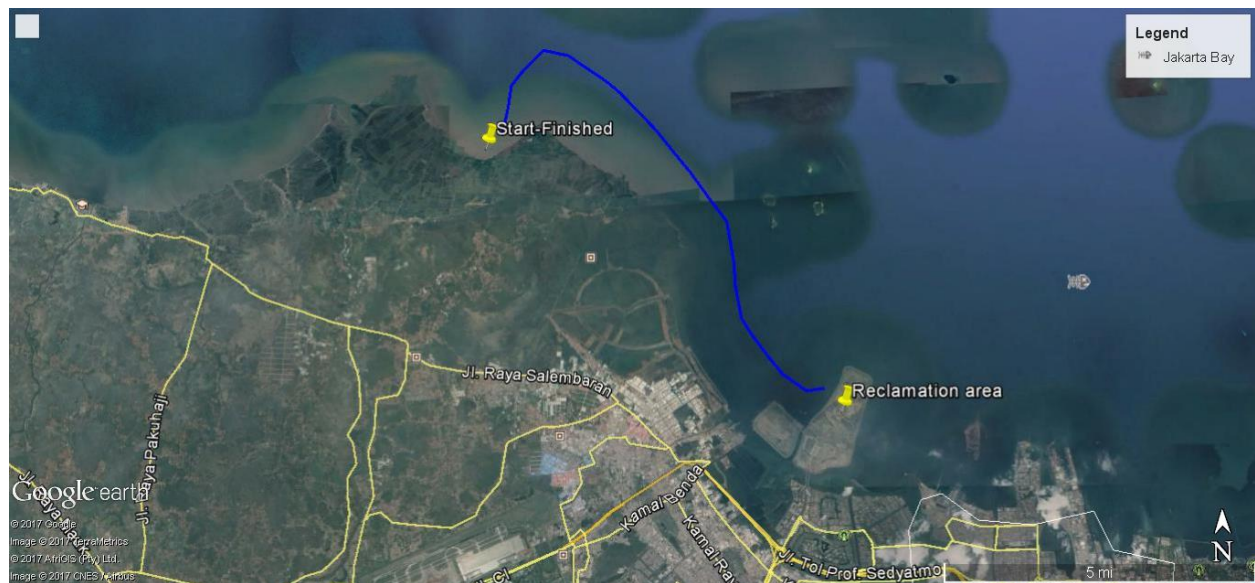


Plate 2 Observation track from Jakarta Bay to the Reclamation area

# Method

## 1. Survey

The survey was conducted in August, October, and November 2017 and used the transect method. In August and October the survey was conducted around the sero (fishing gear), the place for roosting and social for Christmas Frigatebird then headed to the Thousand Islands National Park. In November the survey was conducted around the sero and to the reclamation area. During count the numbers, ages, and sexes, the team also the threat from this species. We identified other seabirds during the transect.

## 2. Interview

We did the interview for find the information about the threats to the local people. We interviewed 11 the fishermen, two of the local community, one teacher in thousand island, one person as a coordinator of fishermen in Pulau Harapan, Thousand Island National Park

Interview Question in 2017	
Name	
Age	
Job	
a	Where did you find the fish?
b	Did you ever heard or see the Christmas Frigatebird?
c	(If yes), where did you see and how many ?
d	Did you ever caught this spesies?
e	(If yes) What you will do with this species? (eat, kill, release)

## 3. Awareness

In October, we did the awareness to the children in Lancang Island, Thousand Island National Park. The theme of this awareness in "Selamatkan Cikalang Christmas". This activity as a educational activities series conducted by Komunitas Inspirasi Jelajah Pulau (KIJP). During the activity, shared information about conservation through posters. We gave the calendar 2018 about Christmas Frigatebird.

# Result

## 1. Survey

### Christmas Island Frigatebird

Month	Juvenile	2 <sup>nd</sup> year	3 <sup>rd</sup> year Female	3 <sup>rd</sup> year Male	4 <sup>th</sup> year Female	4 <sup>th</sup> year Male	Female Adult	Male Adult
August 2017	-	7	11	1	4	-	27	36
October 2017	10	3	1	-	1	2	34	40
November 2017	1	3	-	-	1	-	16	4

### Other Birds

Month	Species	Numbers
August 2017	Lesser Frigatebird	16
	Great Frigatebird	0
	Little-backed Cormorant	629
	Greater Crested Tern	20
	Common Tern	4
	Lesser Crested Tern	1
	Black-naped Tern	34
October 2017	Lesser Frigatebird	11
	Great Frigatebird	1
	Aleutian Tern	2
	Lesser Crested Tern	38
	Common Tern	220
	Greater Crested Tern	74
	Black-naped Tern	65
	Little-backed Cormorant	482
November 2017	Swinhoe's Storm Petrel	3
	Lesser Frigatebird	0
	Great Frigatebird	0
	Aleutian Tern	2
	Common Tern	90
	Greater Crested Tern	4
	Lesser Frigatebird	135
	Little-backed Cormorant	551

## **2. Interview**

16 August 2017

Summary of interview with five local people from Tanjung Pasir, Tangerang:

- No local people hunt for Christmas Frigatebirds, tern, and cormorant. Local people knew all the birds in Jakarta Bay protected by law.
- The local people didn't hunt the birds because today all the birds as their income for tourist or research.
- The local people said that they didn't hear the local people from Tanjung Pasir hunt the birds, but maybe the people from outside.
- The local people never get the seabird by catch.

17 August 2017

Summary of interview with six local people from Harapan Island, Thousand Island National Park:

- The local people didn't know about the Christmas Frigatebird species. We showed the picture and video of the species but they said that species is duck.
- They only seen the tern, crow, and egret.
- Some people said that they seen the birds near Pulau Rambut and Tanjung Pasir.
- The local people didn't hear that birds as a bird by catch.
- The local people understand that all the birds protected by law.

14 October 2017

Summary of interview with three local people from Pulau Harapan, Thousand Island National Park:

- Interviewed with coordinator of fishermen (Pengelolaan Akses Area Perikanan-PAAP), one person from local people, one staff from national park.
- We share the information about what we did and the threats through presentation.
- They didn't know about the species and will help us by send the information if they get the birds catch in their fishing net.

During the activity, we didn't get any information or sighting the threats of Christmas Island Frigatebirds. Future activity and deep research should be done in the next activity.



### 3. Awareness

On October 2017, Burung Laut Indonesia helped by two volunteers, Irma Sutisna and Hadi Dana who joined the Komunitas Inspirasi Jelajah Pulau (KIJP) about environmental education on "Save Christmas Cikalang" in Lancang Island in thousand islands.

Irma provides information about Cikalang Christmas and seabirds in Indonesia through posters and decoy of Cikalang. They also play some games and distributed the calendar 2018.



Plate 5 Poster for Awareness

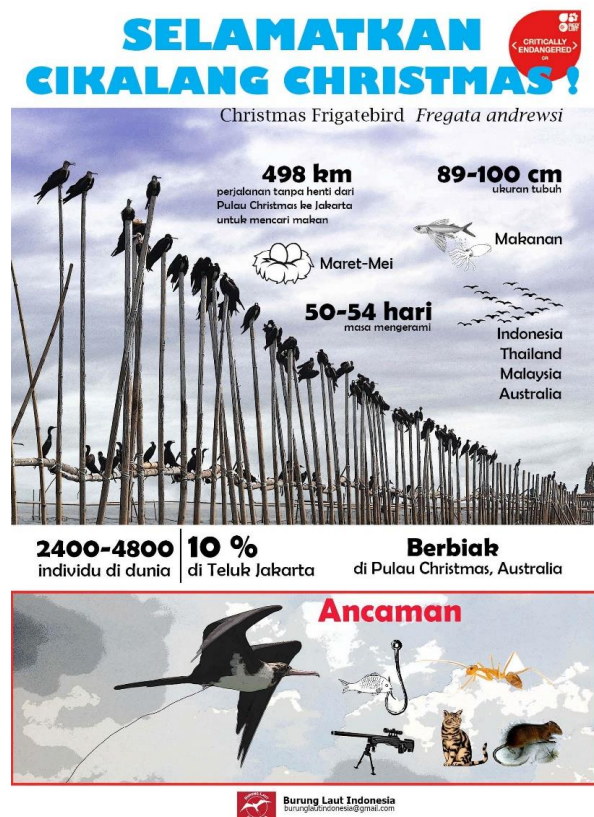


Plate 6 Poster for Awareness





Plate 7 Calendar 2018 will distribution for fishermen



Plate 8 Awareness for elementary school

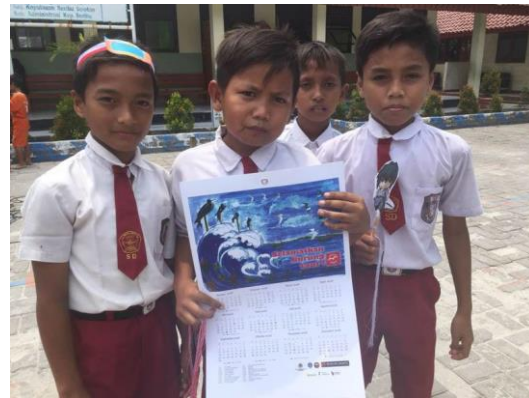


Plate 9 Awareness for elementary school

## Meeting with the local government

Meeting with BKSDA and Kepulauan Seribu National Park on 31 January 2018. Burung Laut Indonesia presented about the results during activity and working together in the future. There were 15 person who invited to this meeting. At least two hours we discussed about the results and what they can help for future monitoring.



Plate 3 Meeting with BKSDA and national park



Plate 4 Burung Laut Indonesia and some of staff from BKSDA and national park

## Summary

1. We didn't find any information or sighting about the threats of Christmas Island Frigatebird during activity
2. The awareness done for the fishermen, kids in school, the staff of BKSDA and national park

## Literature cited

Birdlife International. 2001. *Threatened birds of Asia : the Birdlife International Red Data Book*. Cambridge, UK : Birdlife International

Hill, R and Dunn A. 2004. National recovery plan for the Christmas Island Frigatebird (*Fregata andrews*). Commonwealth of Australia, Canberra.