

The following two species can be easily confused. They can be recognized from other hornbill species by the yellow coloration around the head and neck in the males. The females have black heads and faces and blue throat pouches.

Wrinkled hornbill (*Aceros corrugatus*): A large, mainly black hornbill whose tail is mostly white with some black at the base. Males have a yellow bill and more prominent reddish casque while females have an all yellow bill and casque.



Wreathed hornbill (*Rhyticeros undulatus*): A large, primarily black hornbill whose tail is all white with no black at the base. Both sexes have a pale bill with a small casque and a dark streak/mark on the throat pouch.



If you want to support Hornbill Conservation in Sabah, please contact Marc Ancrenaz at Hutan Kinabatangan Orangutan Conservation Project: contactus@hutan.org



HORNBILLS OF BORNEO



SABAH MALAYSIA

The presence of hornbills in the Kinabatangan area is an indication that the surrounding habitat is healthy. Hornbills need forests for nesting and food. Forests need hornbills for dispersal of seeds. And the local people need the forests for wood products, clean water and clean air. They are all connected: people, hornbills and forests!

Eight different hornbill species occur in Borneo and all are found in Kinabatangan. All are protected from hunting and/or disturbance.

By fostering an awareness and concern of their presence in this region, hornbill conservation will be ensured for future generations.

Credits: Sabah Forest Department, Sabah Wildlife Department, Hutan Kinabatangan Orangutan Conservation Project (KOCP), Hornbill Research Foundation, Chester Zoo, Woodland Park Zoo.

Except where noted, all photos courtesy of Cede Prudente

Rhinoceros hornbill (*Buceros rhinoceros*): This large, mostly black bird is frequently seen flying over the river in pairs. They have a colorful red and yellow bill with a “banana-shaped” casque on top of the bill. The long white tail has a broad, black band near the center. They have a loud, barking-like call.



Helmeted hornbill (*Rhinoplax vigil*): Perhaps the most unique and least observed hornbill in the area. It is mostly dark brown with white and very long tail feathers that distinguish it from all other hornbills. The bill is short and red in color with a square-shaped solid casque. They sound like gibbons calling.



Black hornbill (*Anthracoceros malayanus*): This species is similar in size to the Oriental pied hornbill. Note the all black plumage with white tips on outer tail feathers. The males have a very large whitish-yellow bill; the females have black bills with smaller casques. Some birds have a streak of feathers on the side of their heads that is white/grey in color.



Oriental pied hornbill (*Anthracoceros albirostris*): This smaller hornbill is black with a white belly. The bill and casque are mostly pale yellow with black at the base. This is often the most frequently seen hornbill around villages and surrounding areas.



White-crowned hornbill (*Berenicornis comatus*): The most distinctive field marks of this species are the white, spiky, pointed crest atop the head and long white tail. Males have a white head, neck and belly whereas females are black in these areas. This hornbill is more secretive and keeps to the lower vegetation along the river. They are co-operative breeders and are frequently seen in small family groups.



Bushy-crested hornbill (*Anorrhinus galeritus*): This is a medium-size dark brown species with light brown base to the tail. Males have a black bill while that of females is mostly yellowish. Since they are co-operative breeders, they are frequently seen in small family groups averaging seven birds.

